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REAL ESTATE

East Boston

TIMES-FREE PRESS

Tuesday, December 31, 2019

East Boston Times 2019 Persons of the Year

Angela Atenco Lopez, Woman of the Year

By John Lynds

Angela's Café namesake, Angela Atenco Lopez, recently celebrated over a decade in business in East Boston. Lopez, whose mastery in the kitchen helped put Angela's Cafe on the corner of Lexington and Brooks streets on the culinary map, has been featured in numerous magazines, appeared on the Food Network's "Diners, Drive Ins and Dives' (twice) and has consistently made the short list of one of Boston's best Mexican restaurants among numerous food critics.

For her continued success and her recipes that have wowed us all, Angela Atenco Lopez is the East Boston Times 2019 Women of the Year.

Lopez was born in the State of Puebla where she started her culinary career at 8-years-old, follow-



Angela Atenco Lopez celebrating Angela's Café being in business for over a decade in business East Boston.

ing the guidance from her mother. After almost 50 years of professional cooking, Lopez moved to Boston and joined her two sons, Luis and Joel, as she pushed her career to a new level.

Lopez's cooking has been featured on the "Phantom Gourmet," has made numerous 'Best of Boston' lists in local nightlife and food magazines and

received international recognition after appearing on the Food Network.

The Food Network's popular show Diners, Drive Ins and Dives (Triple Ds) debuted its segment on Angela's and host Guy Fieri was beyond impressed by the Puebla/Mexican cuisine being served at the small

See LOPEZ Page 2

Phil Brangiforte, Man of the Year

By John Lynds

Since taking over the reigns at East Boston High School in 2014 Phil Brangiforte has elevated the school's profile and achievements not only in Eastie but the entire city.

The New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC) voted to award EBHS continued accreditation, MCAS scores on the rise and the four-year graduation rate has been increasing year after yearhovering at over 75 percent.

For this Phil Brangiforte is the East Boston Times 2019 Man of the Year.

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 perfor-

"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



Phil Brangiforte talks at EBHS graduation.

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

Brangiforte has not only made EBHS a place that embraces students from all ethnic, socioeconomic, and academic backgrounds, but also motivates them to achieve at the highest possible levels.

According to the Massachusetts Department of

See BRANGIFORTE Page 2

A year in review, a look back on the events and stories of 2019

By John Lynds

On Tuesday night the final seconds of 2019 will tick away and East Boston residents will join the world community and look to a new year with optimism and hope.

In this small community the year was filled with stories of triumph, victory, success, tragedy and adver-

This year marked a significant period of progress in East Boston from important construction developments to long-awaited projects to enhance the quality of life for residents to the recognition of long standing institutions that make Eastie one of Boston's more sought-after neighborhoods.

Some familiar faces and neighborhood businesses left the community in 2019

but were replaced by new faces and businesses dedicated to making Eastie a better place in which to live, work and play. The East Boston Times has compiled the stories that show why Eastie continues to be Boston's neighborhood on the

January

DOUGH EAST BOSTON SHUTTING ITS **DOORS FRIDAY**

When Kevin Curley and Michael Sanchez opened Dough East Boston 13 years ago, they were aiming to do something different. With a focus on gourmet pizzas like the Layla (pesto with artichoke hearts, goat cheese, red peppers and olives) or the R2 (ranch dressing, grilled chicken, bacon and spinach) Dough

quickly became known for decision so tough." its sandwiches.

However, last week fans of Dough, known as 'Dough Nation,' were shocked by a post on the restaurant's Facebook page.

"Dough Nation we have some bittersweet news to announce," wrote Curley. "Mike and I have decided to close Dough East Boston. In the past 13 years we have had a lot of fun, made very good friends and served a lot of good food. Mike and I both lived in Eastie for a few years and toiled for over a decade, so we feel like we have a piece of Eastie in our hearts. We would like to thank you, the customers for coming in excited everyday to try our food. That energy has driven us for 13 years. We truly appreciate the love that you've given us throughout the years, which makes this

'I AM GRATEFUL': **CONGRESSWOMAN AYANNA PRESSLEY HOLDS LOCAL SWEARING-IN**

CEREMONY After being officially sworn in to the 116th Congress by House Speaker Nancy Pelosi in Washington D.C., Congresswoman Ayanna Pressley held a local swearing in ceremony Saturday at Roxbury Com-

munity College. Pressley, who represents the 7th Congressional District that includes East Boston, unseated incumbent U.S. Rep. Michael Capuano during the Democratic Primary in September, and became the first African-American woman to serve the district.

After being sworn in by Attorney Massachusetts General Maura Healey, Pressley addressed the crowd.

"You are a glorious, glorious sight to behold,' Pressley began. "The manifestation of millions of steps, and a million more prayers. I am so grateful to be here with all of you today. To my family, to my fellow elected officials, to my dedicated A-Team, and most importantly to the res-

idents of the 7th Congressional District - thank you for making this moment, today possible."

KARINA HICKS NAMED **NEW CHAMBER EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT** The East Boston Cham-

ber of Commerce announced that Karina Hicks has been hired as the Chamber's new Executive Assis-

See REVIEW Page 3

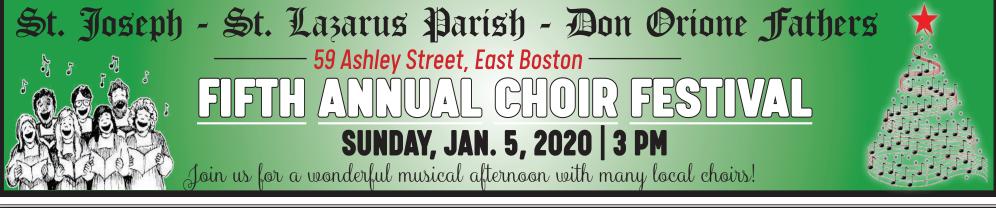
WE'LL SEE YOU NEXT YEAR!

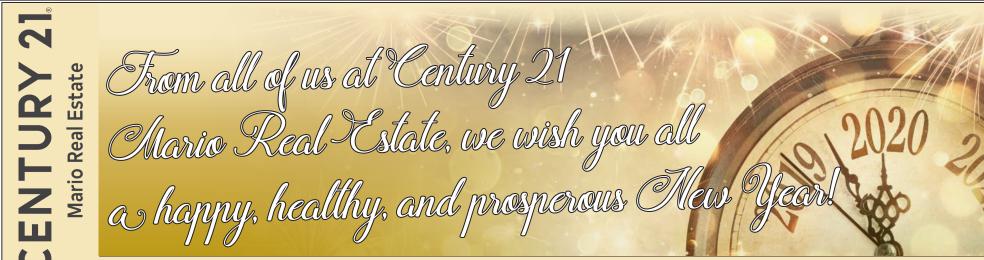
Due to the New Year's Day Holiday on

Wednesday, Jan. 1, 2020

Our offices will be closed.

We will reopen on Thursday, Jan. 2





CENTURY 2 CALL TODAY AND FIND OUT WHAT SETS US APART FROM THE REST! 617.569.6044 CENTURY21MARIO.COM 12/31

Lopez //continued from Page 1

corner restaurant on Eagle

Lopez dazzled Fieri with a traditional Puebla dish and staple among Mexican food enthusiasts.

The entire segment focused on Angela's Chilaquiles and the dish prepared by Lopez did not disap-After one bite Fieri was

propelled into food ecstasy that only a dish like Angela's Chilaquiles can cause.

"I'm coming back to get this tomorrow," said Fieri of the dish.

Fieri was also impressed by how quick Lopez makes her homemade tortillas, as well as Angela's Pepian Rojo and Mole Poblano.

that has dazzled food enthusiasts since Angela's

opened over a decade ago. Lopez says There are 50 to 60 ingredients in this sauce and among them are about 10 varieties of chili and takes her two days to make.

However it's loyal customers like Rep. Adrian Madaro and his wife, Ariel, that perfectly summed up why Angela's and Lopez's food has become such a popular destination in East-

"You feel like your home," Madaro said. "Angela and her son, Luis, have become like family to many of us here in East Boston. When you come in, sit down Angela comes right over and gives you a hug. She's such a wonderful person and makes ev-

The Mole is something eryone feel welcome here." Northgate Dental Center

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East Boston Chamber of Commerce announces the winners of 2019 'Deck the Windows' contest

The East Boston Chamber of Commerce held their 2019 "Deck the Windows" holiday window decorating contest the weekend of Dec. 13, 14, and 15. Businesses participated by decorating their storefront windows with decorations of the season, by calling the Chamber and having a



THE EAST BOSTON TIMES-FREE PRESS

First Prize winner - La Chiva Restaurant on Bennington Street.

Chamber Board member take the photos, or by having their decorations photographed by a Chamber Board member, or directly submitting pictures of their

From the many contest entries, three winners were chosen (first, second, and third place) to be the

best decorated windows by an East Boston business in 2019. Certificates were awarded to the three winners along with a congratulatory letter from the East Boston Chamber of Commerce thanking each winner for their decorating and for demonstrating the spirit of the holidays in our

Congratulations to: First Prize winner - La Chiva Restaurant on Bennington St. Second Prize winner Italian Express Pizzeria decorations at "Ianuzzi's square" on Bennington St. Third Prize winner - Jeveli's Italian Restaurant on Chelsea St.



Third Prize winner – Jeveli's Italian Restaurant on Chelsea Street.

Brangiforte //continued from page 1

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

"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.'

BLOOD DRIVE

appointment. Walk-ins are

welcome but you may ex-

perience a wait time.

EAST BOSTON

LANGUAGE

CLASSES

SOCIAL CENTER'S

SENIOR PROGRAM

OFFERING SPANISH

The Senior Program

at the East Boston Social

Centers is now offering

Spanish Language Class-

es for adults over 60 years

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

Second Prize winner – Italian Express

Pizzeria decorations at "lanuzzi's

square" on Bennington Street.

"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."

However, Brangiforte does not in any why think he alone is the reason for the school's success.

"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

The results? Higher student achievement, a welcoming educational environment, and a great atmosphere to work and learn."

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."

COMMUNITY NEWS

old. Classes are held every 617-846-8538. Wednesday at 10 a.m. in A Community Blood Room 209. All are wel-Drive will be held at the come to attend. Class is Winthrop Lodge of Elks on taught by Mr. Montaro. No Wednesday, Jan. 15, 2020 need to register, just come from 12:30 until 5:30 p.m. by on Wednesday at 10 The Elks is located at 191 a.m. for this fun class. The Washington Avenue, Win-East Boston Social Centhrop.Please call 1-800ters is located at 68 Central 733-2767 or visit redcross-Square. blood.org to schedule an

LEARN

ITALIAN FREE The class will be held at Robert DeLeo Senior Center, 35 Harvard Street Winthrop for residents age 60 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 2:45 p.m. For info call

GRACE CHURCH NEWS AND EVENTS

each and every school day.

Grace Church Federated is an Episcopal/United Church of Christ church located at 760 Saratoga Street in East Boston. All are welcome. Please join us for Sunday morning worship at 9:30 a.m., followed by a coffee hour. We also have a food pantry on Saturdays from 10 a.m. until noon in the church basement. There are a number of ways you can help us to serve East Boston. Volunteer at or contribute to the food pantry. Sing with the Festival of Lessons and Carols choir. Bring a dish to the monthly Sunday evening community suppers. Participate in the Sunday worship service. Help with SundaySchool. Visit the Grace Church web

site at www.gracechurcheastie.org or call the church at 617-569-5358 for more information.

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 p.m. A suggested

donation of \$2 is asked. The East Boston Social Centers welcome seniors from our East Boston Community and surrounding ar-

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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.

Kiwanis Club of East Boston First and Third Tuesday of every month 6 p.m. at Spinelli's Restaurant in Day Square. New members welcome

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.

Ashley St. Friends of The East Boston Library

Second Thursday every month

6:30 p.m. at Ashley Street YMCA, 54

6:30 p.m. at the branch library, 365

Bremen Street

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

Maverick Central Neighborhood Asso-

Third Wednesday of every month 7 p.m. at Paris Street Community Center, 112 Paris St.

Gove Street Citizens Association Last Monday of every month 6:30 p.m. at the Noddle Island Community Room

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

Please visit eastietimes.com

Hicks, a native of Mexico City, Mexico, began her career working as an executive assistant for the Ministry of Interior in Mexico during the Chiapas Conflict. The conflict led to the Zapatista Uprising, as well as tensions between the indigenous peoples and subsistence farmers in the Mexican state of Chiapas beginning in the 1990s.

She moved to Kentucky in 2005 to attend the University of Kentucky and work as an interpreter. She, her husband and their two children then moved to Brazil because her husband's accounting firm relocated the family to the South American country.

"I like East Boston a lot and I'm just starting to meet all these wonderful people," said Hicks. "I would like to contribute to achieving the goals of the Chamber and keep the businesses and people here in East Boston informed about the events and opportunities that can help economic growth in the neighborhood. There a lot of opportunities for growth and I would like to see some of those larger corporations get involved," she said. "I'd also like to get more information out there about how the Chamber can help your small business through networking."

February

JIM KEARNEY **ELECTED AS NEW CHAMBER PRESIDENT**

The East Boston Chamber of Commerce held its elections and members elected Jim Kearney as the group's new president. Following the election, Kearney laid his vision for the

Chamber going forward. "We are going to try and reinvent the Chamber," said Kearney. "We want to get back into the business community and create a vibrant atmosphere were the residents of East Boston can wholly support our businesses-both in the restaurant and service industry."

FORMER JPNA CO-CHAIR RENEE SCALFANI HONORED

Longtime JPNA Chair Renee Scalfani was honored by Mayor Martin Walsh, City Councilor Lydia Edwards, Rep. Adrian Madaro and the JPNA

Walsh, along with JPNA Chair Mary Cole, presented Scalfani, one of the longest continuously serving members of any East Boston community group board, with a golden gavel.

"I just want to honor Renee (Scalfani) who served as co-chair of the JPNA for the past 10 years," said Walsh. "It is with great appreciation that we honor someone with her heart and soul who was truly the "Mayor" of Jeffries Point."

As the neighborhood's notable community groups like JPNA and Orient Heights have been taken over by new blood and newer community groups like Harbor View have emerged, Scalfani remained a fixture in Eastie's community process for as long as anyone can remember.

However, Scalfani announced she would be stepping down from the board she served with passion, distinction and dedication for many years.

"It is with great sadness

that I share with everyone that I decided to resign from Co Chair of the JPNA board," said Scalfani. "I was on the board many years and truly love our neighborhood. I feel that since I can't give 100 per-

cent of myself that it is best

Get

lugged I

Learn about a proposed substation

project in East Boston.

Eversource is in the process of finalizing the exterior

design of the proposed East Eagle Substation, part of the

Mystic - East Eagle - Chelsea Reliability Project. This project

will improve the electric system in the Greater Boston area,

so customers will continue to have reliable power to meet

their growing energy needs. As an important part of

the process, residents of the East Eagle community are

invited to attend and offer aesthetic design feedback

at an upcoming open house.

Open House: Tuesday, January 14, 2020 Drop in between 5:30–7:30 p.m.

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important part of our work in the community. The open

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next steps in the project.

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to leave and have my seat filled by someone with the same heart, dedication and love...someone who can give what I couldn't."

REP. MADARO IS APPOINTED VICE CHAIR OF TRANSPORTATION

With a major international airport, highway, toll plaza and the MBTA Blue Line in his district, it made sense for Speaker Robert DeLeo to appoint Rep. Adrian Madaro as the new House Vice Chair of the Joint Committee on Transportation.

Madaro now serves alongside the Committee's Chair Rep. William Straus (D-Mattapoisett) on the House side. Madaro and Straus works closely with their colleagues and the Committee's counterparts on the Senate side, Chair Joseph Boncore (D-WInthrop) and Vice Chair Eric Lesser (D-Longmeadow).

Since being elected in 2015, Madaro has taken the lead on issues related to Logan Airport impacts and mitigation, MBTA late night service and the Red Line/Blue LIne Connector, as well as issues facing his East Boston constituents like traffic and regional congestion.

Madaro's work on transportation is rooted in a commitment to the priorities of the Commonwealth, including his transit-heavy First Suffolk district, which encompasses stretches of both Interstate 90 and Route 1, five MBTA subway lines, Logan Airport, and the Boston Harbor.

Since being elected Madaro has advocated for a ferry in Eastie, improvements to the Sumner Tunnel toll plaza project, increase in Massport mitigation to

surrounding communities, late night MBTA service as well as addressing other transportation needs and improvements in the dis-

March

JOE GAETA NAMED **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR** OF THE EAST **BOSTON YMCA**

A familiar face returned to East Boston to lead the East Boston YMCA. Joe Gaeta, who served as the East Boston Y's Director of Teen Programs for several years before leaving to become Director of Operations for the Huntington Avenue YMCA, was named new East Boston Y's Executive Director.

Gaeta, a lifelong Eastie resident, replaced Ann Margaret Gutierrez, who led the East Boston Y since 2015.

'Working with the YMCA of Greater Boston has always been a rewarding experience for me," said Gaeta. "Making sure community needs are met no matter what the circumstance is part of the core of our mission. Being able to serve the community of East Boston has always been a passion of mine. Coming home and leading this extraordinary organization and team has always been a dream. I look forward to continuing the longstanding tradition of serving the community of East Boston as its next Executive Director.'

Gaeta is a 13-year YMCA veteran with a decade of service at the East Boston Y under his belt. Gaeta started as a part-time camp counselor during which he created and implemented education curriculum for youth, ages 5 through 13. In 2010 he advanced within his career to the association-wide

MT. CARMEL AND **NOAH PROJECTS** APPROVED BY BPDA

The Boston Planning and Development Agency (BPDA) board approved the slightly contentious

project to transform the former Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church and surrounding properties, which include the church, rectory, convent and a large vacant parcel, into housing.

At the BPDA hearing the board approved developers Timothy White and Richard Egan plan to transform the four Mount Carmel Church on Gove and parcels Frankfort streets in 112 residential units that include 12 income-restricted units.

In total the project will include 112 units and 84 parking spaces, 71 of which are located in a below-grade garage. The developer eliminated the development of the recorty and decided to raze that building to house 13 of the 84 parking spaces, as well as to create a new landscaped greenspace. The renovated Mount Carmel Church building will include 14 residential units.

The existing rectory and convent buildings will be razed and the vacant Frankfort Street parcel will include the construction of a new building that includes 98 condominium units. The rectory building located at 128-134 Gove Street, and the convent are both compromised structurally and are not suitable for human habitation, according to current Boston building codes.

TRAMELLI NAMED AS NEW EAST **BOSTON LIAISON**

Mayor Martin Walsh appointed of Lina Tramelli as the East Boston Neighborhood Liaison within the Mayor's Civic Engagement Cabinet. Tramelli replaced Jesús García-Mota who became Mayor Walsh's Citywide liaison to the Latino

community. "Lina has a fantastic background in public service and I couldn't be more excited for her to become the East Boston liaison,' said Walsh. "East Boston is a neighborhood full of tradition, growth and diversity and I know she will continue to be an advocate for the residents and businesses in

East Boston.' As the East Boston liaison, Tramelli will serve as the primary contact for constituents and businesses looking to connect with the Mayor's Office, and will facilitate the delivery of services in collaboration with City departments.

Born in Colombia, Tramelli received her bachelor's degree from the Universidad de Los Andes in Bogotá. She graduated from Harvard University with a master's in Liberal Arts last year.

HISTORIC NEW ENGLAND CASKET CO. **BURNS DOWN**

The 75-year-old East Boston business that Louis Tobia Jr.'s Italian grandfather founded may not return

to the neighborhood. The New England Casket Company, which has

See REVIEW Page 5

Director of Teen Programs Get One Free!! for which he supervised the teen fitness center and fam-Winter Warehouse Event ily programming and assisted in fundraising efforts for youth scholarships to camp.

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A NEW YEAR, A NEW DECADE

The arrival of a new year -- especially when it is the start of a new decade -- marks a time of reflection for all

We pause to think back to the decade that has come and gone, and wonder too, what our lives will be like 10 years

Each of us ponders the questions, "Where have I been? And where am I going?"

The latter asks us to foresee the future, which by definition is an impossible task. Though we may make our best guess to predict what may lie ahead -- and to plan accordingly -- none of us has a crystal ball. The vicissitudes of life more often than not throw us curve balls that lay waste to even the best-laid of our plans for the year -- let alone the decade -- to come.

However, coming up with an answer to the former question can be equally difficult. It requires both introspection and understanding, two qualities that are in short supply in our hurried lives. We barely have enough time to do all the things we need to do every day, let alone to try to figure out how we got to where we are, wherever it is we may be.

Life does not take a time-out. The years -- and decades -- will continue to march on. While we, individually and collectively, may have some control over our future, all of us inexorably will be swept along by the currents of time and fortune that will bring us to a destination that none of us can foresee.

In the spirit of a new year -- and a new decade -- we offer our readers the enduring words of the poet Alfred Lord Tennyson:

Ring out the old, ring in the new,

Ring, happy bells, across the snow:

The year is going, let him go;

Ring out the false, ring in the true.

HAVE A HAPPY --AND SAFE -- NEW YEAR

Celebrating the New Year requires all of us to make sure not only that we ourselves do so safely, but also that we are vigilant regarding the safety of others.

Although most of us these days take precautions to ensure that we do not operate a motor vehicle while under the influence of alcohol (or anything else) on New Year's Eve -- whether by means of having a designated driver, or using Uber, or staying overnight in a hotel -- there still are too many among us who will get behind the wheel of a car after having had too much to drink.

The most important thing we can do at an individual level is to prevent our friends and loved ones from becoming another tragic story in the morning news by taking their keys or offering them a ride home if they appear incapable of driving soberly and safely.

New Year's Eve can be a time of joy -- it is up to all of us to make sure it does not turn into a tragedy.

We wish all of our readers a happy, healthy -- and safe - New Year.

Your opinions, please

The Times welcomes letters to the editor. Our mailing address is 385 Broadway, Revere, MA 02151. Our fax number is 781-485-1403.

Letters may also be e-mailed to editor@eastietimes.com. Letters must be signed.

We reserve the right to edit for length and content.

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GUEST OP-ED

The New Year's Noise Diet: Why you should cut the empty 'brain calories' in 2020

By Joe McCormack

If you're like most of us, you overindulged a bit too much in 2019. No, not on calories (well, maybe those too!), but on "noise." That's the name for the dizzying onslaught of information from work emails, app notifications, the 24/7 news cycle, social media updates, and other forms of screen time that leaves us unable to focus, listen, or do deep work.

A smidgen of noise now and again is okay. (We all have our guilty pleasures!) But consuming it mindlessly, all day long, is as bad as keeping a bag of chips, a monster-size soda, and a can of frosting at our desk and reaching for them every few minutes.

Too many empty brain calories won't make you fat but they will make you mentally anemic. Noise keeps you in a constant state of distraction. And like actual junk food, a high-noise digital diet is addictive, yet it never satisfies or nourishes you.

The real problem with giving into noise temptation isn't what you're doing; it's what you're not doing. You're tuning out what really matters. You're skimming the surface. When you're scrolling Facebook, for instance, you aren't learning a new language, refining that career-changing presentation, or engaging with your kids in a meaningful way. The new year is the per-

fect time to put yourself on a noise diet. To help with your calorie count, let's take a look at what noise junk food looks like: The irritating-yet ad-

dictive-parade of social media stock characters in your newsfeed. This band

- of noisemakers assaults your brain with their cries for attention. For instance: • The humble bragger. Your college rival who subtly slips into her post that
- she just got another promotion at her swanky company. #blessed #gag • The cryptic drama-stirrer. That self-righteous friend who calls out people

commenters.)

- The over-sharer. We don't need a play-byplay of your colonoscopy. Thanks.
- The drop-of-a-hat ranter. Whose day would be complete without a furious recounting of how the barista screwed up your nonfat, dairy-free, double-shot, decaf, extra-hot mochaccino with extra foam? The nerve!
- The overly zealous kid promoter. Yes, yes, we know Junior is the smartest, cutest, cleverest tot around—your other 15 posts this week made that perfectly clear.
- The amateur politics pundit. Do not engage... just don't.

Dumb@\$\$ shows on TV. You don't need to waste your precious attention span watching Jerry Springer, B-list celebrity lip-synch contests, or those morning talk shows. Substance-free television combined with the lure of a cozy couch can quickly turn into a lost day or eve-

The 24/7 news carousel-of-darkness. Sadly, most news is bad news, and during a controversial election year it can also be fodder for controversy, vitriol, and the loss of civility with friends, family, and neighbors. (Hint: You don't need to totally disengage, but it's good to be discerning about what you let in - and about how often you engage in debates with the people in your life.) Your work email. Your

boss just had to email you at 9:30 p.m...again. The moment you jump out of the bath to write back is the moment work email becomes yet another source of Are you feeling that

noise hangover settle in? Don't worry, you can kick off the new year with a different kind of diet-one that cuts the empty "brain calories" of digital distraction and gives you what you're really craving: a more intentional life. Join my "Just Say No to Noise" Movement and tip the scales in the other direc-

media is a pretty painless

tion. A few suggestions: Try going a week withanonymously for perceived out social media. (We slights or makes vague promise, you'll survive.) "poor me" pity posts. (Cue the wave of very concerned A short detox from social

way to unplug and reclaim a lot of lost time. When the week is over, you can see if you even want to go back to occasional scrolling.

Reduce temptation by "hiding" distracting devices from yourself. Okay, you probably can't hide your computer but you can shut the office door. As for cell phones and tablets, treat them like what they are: gateways to digital distraction (and it is a very slippery slope). Find an out-of-the-way place to charge and store your devices so you're not constantly reaching for them.

Break the idiot-hox "background noise" habit. It's easy to mindlessly turn on the TV when you get home. Problem is, it's broadcasting nonstop noise into your work-free hours. Instead, plan a time to watch your favorite shows. Daily exposure to the depressing litany of pain and conflict we call "news" isn't making your life better. Neither is watching the "Fatty McButterpants" episode of King of Queens for the 50th time. (Okay, we admit that one is pretty funny.)

Set some work/life boundaries with the 7-to-7 rule. The company won't crash if you stop answering emails around the clock. After 7 p.m., put away your devices for the night. Don't pick them up again until 7 a.m. the next day. Insist on phone-free

family dinners... Yes, the kids might whine at first, but soon enough they'll get used to conversing with the "Boomers" out-of-touch and "Karens" at the table. ...and screen-free fami-

ly fun days. For instance, make video games and TV completely off-limits every Wednesday and Friday. Yes, even if the kids swear they have no homework. Instead, do something fun or productive as a family. Play a board game. Go bowling or skating. Cook a great meal together. Volunteer at the local animal shelter. Heck...maybe even read. Learn to save your "ap-

up on headlines, emails,

petite" for the stuff that really matters... Your "appetite" is really your attention span, and it's your most precious resource. Filling

and social media means there's little left over for doing the deep and meaningful work that helps you reach big goals at work and in your personal life. Before you cozy into an hour of lurking on your ex's Facebook page, close the laptop and find something

productive to do. ...and choose some meaningful goals to pursue. When you are able to sharpen and aim your focus, you can do some pretty impressive &%\$#. Want to start a website? Get a better job? Learn to code? These "North Star" goals are the best incentive to rethink your relationship with noise and see how your life

changes. We don't realize that very often our addiction to information is the thing holding us back from getting a huge promotion, becoming valedictorian, or training for a marathon, but that's exactly what happens as time passes. Once you think of it this way, it's so much easier to put yourself on a noise diet. Make this the year you take back your time and use it to do something that matters.

Joseph McCormack is the author of NOISE: Living and Leading When Nobody Can Focus. He is passionate about helping people gain clarity when there is so much com¬peting for our attention. He is a success¬ful marketer, entrepreneur, and author. His first book, BRIEF: Make a Bigger Impact by Saying Less (Wiley, 2014), sets the standard for concise communication.

Joe is the founder and managing director of The BRIEF Lab, an organization dedicated to teaching professionals, military leaders, and entrepreneurs how to think and communicate clearly. His clients include Boeing, ley-Davidson, Microsoft, Mastercard, DuPont, and select military units and government agencies. He publishes a weekly podcast called "Just Saying" that helps people master the elusive skills of focus and

To learn more, visit www.noisethebook.com.

won numerous awards in the industry for its innovation and casket designs, suffered a devastating that completely destroyed the company's manufacturing warehouse on Bennington Street just past Orient Heights MBTA station.

On Friday, March 15 a nine-alarm fire ripped through the widely successful business that manufactures handmade caskets for sale to distributors that in turn sell them to funerals and families.

After the Boston Fire Dept. spent hours battling the fire all that was left of the longstanding local family-owned company that employed over 100 people was rubble.

Tobia is looking at locations like the former Malden Mills site in Lawrence, as well as a site in Chelsea.

The New England Casket Company was known as the inventor of the 'Concord Casket' designed by Tobia's grandfather, Retailing for around \$25,000 it became the casket of choice for the rich and famous and the likes of Muhammad Ali, Heath Ledger, Walter Cronkite, Joan Rivers and Tip O'Neill all were all reportedly interred in the Concord.

April

TWO EASTIE TEACHERS NAMED BPS EDUCATOR OF THE YEAR

Two East Boston teachers were honored by Boston Public Schools and the Boston Teachers Union (BTU) as an Educator of the Year. The two local teachers and nine teachers from other BPS schools in the city were invited to watch players warm up before the final home game of the Boston Celtics' regular season on Sunday, April 7. The 2019 winners were also honored at center court during halftime of the game.

In Eastie both Jillian Archer and Tanya Boone received this year's honors.

May

EBCCS'S KATHY CARBINE RECEIVES EXCELLENCE IN EDUCATION AWARD

The Archdiocese of Boston Catholic Schools Office honored East Boston Central Catholic School (EB-CCS) preschool teacher, Kathy Carbine as a 2018 Archdiocese of Boston Excellence in Education Award recipient.

Carbine was nominated for the award by administrators, staff, pastors, parents and students from the EBCCS community. The Excellence in Education Award Selection Committee then reviewed over 100 nominations and after an exhaustive process chose Carbine as one of ten finalists that will be honored at a luncheon in May hosted by Cardinal Sean O'Malley and Superintendent of the Archdiocese of Boston Catholic Schools Kathy Mears.

"East Boston Central Catholic School is very excited to announce that Kathy Carbine has been selected to receive the Archdiocese of Boston: Excellence in Education Award supported by the Catholic Schools Foundation," said EBCCS Principal Robert Casaletto. "Kathy's commitment to her students, her faith, her family, and our school are not only what made her an excellent candidate for the award but a deserving recipient as well. We are truly blessed to have her as part of the faculty at

EBCCS."

DR. BRENDA CASSELLIUS NAMED NEW BPS **SUPERINTENDENT**

Boston School Committee voted 5-2 to offer the position of Superintendent of the Boston Public Schools (BPS) to Dr. Brenda Cassellius, who most recently stepped down as Commissioner of Education for the state of Minne-

Cassellius, who served as Education Commissioner for Minnesota from 2011, succeed Laura Perille, the current Interim Superintendent and former CEO of the education improvement organization EdVestors. Perille became the Interim Superintendent last summer following the resignation of Dr. Tommy Chang, who held the Superintendent role for three years.

"With the selection of Dr. Cassellius, we're investing in a proven leader who knows what's right for kids and understands the value of community voice," said Mayor Martin Walsh. "The role of Superintendent of the Boston Public Schools is one of the most important and difficult jobs in the city. I'm pleased that the Boston School Committee selected someone with deep experience improving educational outcomes for students, and I congratulate Dr. Cassellius for her selection. All of the candidates were fully qualified and I would like to thank them for their time. I thank the Boston School Committee and the Superintendent Search Committee for conducting a thorough, transparent search process to make sure the right leader was selected for the Boston

DEDICATED LEADER: EBNHC CEO MANNY LOPES ELECTED **CHAIR OF BLUE CROSS BLUE SHIELD** OF MA

Public Schools.'

The Blue Cross Blue Shield of Massachusetts Foundation announced that President and CEO of East Boston Neighborhood Health Center Manny Lopes has been elected chair of its Board of Direc-

Lopes joined the Foundation board in 2016. In the chair role, he succeeds Philip W. Johnston, a state and national leader on health and human services policy.

"I look forward to leading the Foundation board as chair and continuing to collaborate with my fellow board members, Foundation president Audrey Shelto, and partners in the community as we work to expand access to health care for our most vulnerable residents," said Lopes. "Our newest board members add tremendous expertise in behavioral health treatment and health care policy. Their service on the board will further enable the Foundation to meet its mission to broaden coverage and reduce barriers to care at a time when systemic challenges continue to threaten access to quality health care."

EASTIE NATIVE RECEIVES **PRESTIGIOUS** JAMES BEARD **CULINARY AWARD**

East Boston's Tony Messina was announced as the 2019 winner of the prestigious James Beard Award. Messina, head chef and partner at UNI in Boston, was presented with the coveted award at the 28th Annual James Beard awards in Chicago.

nomination and third year as a semifinalist for Best Chef: Northeast.

"As someone who was born and raised in (East) Boston, I can't describe what this honor means to me," said Messina. "It's incredible to even be considered alongside such a talented list of local chefs, and I'm proud to represent New England cuisine from a global standpoint. I couldn't do it without my team at UNI; without them, this would never be possible."

Growing up in Eastie, Messina spent countless hours in his grandparents' kitchen cooking elaborate Italian feasts as a young boy, and has been a fixture on the line in Boston restaurants since he began working as a caterer and cook at 14. After a stint shucking oysters and mixing drinks at Legal Seafoods, Messina joined the team at Michael Schlow's Alta Strada. In 2009, he decided to formalize his culinary training and attend the Cambridge Culinary School. During this time, he staged at some of the best restaurants in Boston, including Radius, Hamersley's Bistro, Salts, No. 9 Park and Clio. He graduated as valedictorian of his class and returned to Alta Strada as Sous Chef. The food at Alta Strada really spoke to Messina's heritage - simple, clean Italian food using only the best in-

CITY OFFICIALS, **MASSPORT CUT** RIBBON ON NEW AMBULANCE BAY

gredients.

City officials, Massport cut the ribbon to officially open the new EMS station on Logan Airport property.

The chorus of demands for a second ambulance here has gotten louder in the community over the past year after Eastie resident Steve Holt waited nearly 30 minutes for a Boston EMS ambulance while his daughter suffered a seizure at their Jeffries Point home.

"Someone is going to die before an ambulance gets to them," said Holt at the time. "That's the way this ends unfortunately unless changes are made.'

In March 2018 Mayor Martin Walsh said he has heard enough of long wait times some Eastie residents, especially the sick and elderly, are reporting when it comes to Boston EMS and ordered a second dedicated ambulance to be stationed in the neighborhood. Walsh used overtime funds to pay for the second ambulance in Eastie for the remainder of this Fiscal Year. Walsh then earmarked

funds to have the second ambulance permanently stationed in the neighborhood through a deal with Massport. "This second ambulance

will bring major benefits," said Walsh. "It will help EMTs move more quickly and efficiently throughout East Boston, increasing capacity if there is an emergency happening at Logan Airport. It will reduce response times for our residents who need immediate medical care, saving even more lives."

June

DREAM COME TRUE **EASTIE'S ANGELINA BOTTICELLI HEADING** TO BERKLEE COLLEGE OF MUSIC ON FULL **SCHOLARSHIP**

Since joining Zumix as a young girl, Angelina Botticelli has grown to become

The lifelong Eastie resident

and Boston Arts Academy (BAA) High School graduate has written original music, started a band, released an album, helped co-write an original piece for the Boston Landmarks Orchestra and hosts a weekly radio show for Zumix radio.

In June 2019 life came full circle for Botticelli as her postgraduate dream has come true.

In June it was announced that Botticelli will be attending the prestigious Berklee College of Music on a full tuition scholarship in the fall. Botticelli was the only student to receive a full ride to Berklee from BAA in 2019.

"Angelina has been singing and playing music since she could walk," said Zumix Founder and Director Madeleine Steczynski. "As a soloist, ensemble member, and lead singer of the band Wild Painting, she writes and performs music that moves people and penetrates the soul. In addition to music, Angelina hosts a weekly radio show on 94.9 ZUMIX Radio, is actively involved in social justice efforts, and is always eager to give back to her community. We are so happy she received a full scholarship to Berklee College of Music, and can't wait to see what she produces next."

WALSH CUTS THE RIBBON ON THE **\$4.7 MILLION NOYES** PARK RENOVATIONS

Mayor Martin Walsh joins the community and members of the late Anthony 'Tony' Capozzi's family to cut the ribbon on the completed Noyes Park rehab. During his Neighbor-

hood Coffee Hour in June Mayor Martin J. Walsh and the Boston Parks and Recreation Department officially cut the ribbon on the new and improved Noyes Park. "Noyes Park has under-

gone major reconstruction

that went into this project with the East Boston community," said Mayor Walsh. "The new and improved Noyes Park will be a place that children and families will enjoy for many years to come, and I want to thank everyone involved for bringing this great new park to life."

The ribbon cutting also marked the naming of the park's baseball diamonds after the late Anthony 'Tony' Capozzi.

Capozzi, who worked for the city's Parks Department, served East Boston Little League for more than 35 years as a coach, umpire, groundskeeper, concessioners, or any other task that he had to for the children of Eastie. In many ways Capozzi, who died in 2009, was "East Boston Little League" and for over three decades Noyes Park was his second home.

JOHN NUCCI **CELEBRATES** HIS ONE-YEAR ANNIVERSARY OF LIFE-SAVING KIDNEY TRANSPLANT

In June a group of close friends and family were invited to a luncheon at Rino's Place in East Boston by John Nucci.

The day marked the one year anniversary of Nucci's life-saving kidney transplant. The former Boston City Councilor and current Suffolk University senior vice president wanted to bring a group of friends and family together to thank them for all their love and support during his battle against Polysystic Kidney Disease, his life-saving transplant surgery and subsequent recovery.

One person in the room, Kerri Abrams, who donated one of her kidneys to Nucci stood out among the crowd.

"There are really no words to explain the gratitude I feel towards my ful donor who gave me this second chance at life," said an emotional Nucci holding Abrams's hand. "Being surrounded by all of you today makes this already special day even more special and rewarding. The one anniversary gift that would make Kerri and I the most happy would be if everybody here spread the word about organ donation and how important it is. It literally saves lives."

July

EASTIE COMMENTS ON NEW MASSPORT CEO

The Massport Board voted 5-2 to confirm Massport's Port Director Lisa Weiland as the Port Authority's new CEO. Weiland replaced Thom-

as Glynn as CEO who stepped down in November. Massport's CFO John Pranckevicius has filled in as CEO since the nationwide search began last year.

In 2016 the Massport board voted to promote Weiland from Acting Port Director to Port Director.

Wieland has served as the Acting Port Director since March of 2015 and previously as Maritime's Chief Administrative Officer. As Port Director, she oversees planning, development, marketing, operations, security, financial management, administration and maintenance of all of Massport's non-aviation properties. Before joining the Maritime team, Wieland served in several roles at Massport, including the Director of HR Strategy & Employment and the Director of Corporate Planning and Analysis. Wieland has been with Massport

since 2006. Prior to her employment with Massport, Wieland worked as a consultant for Bain and Company serving health care and consumer products clients, and for

CBRE



This is Messina's second

SCENES OF 2019 IN EAST BOSTON



The Crazy NO PLASTIC LADY

























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political assignments. She received her B.A. from UCLA in Political Science, and her M.B.A. from the Harvard Business School.

REP. ADRIAN MADARO ANNOUNCES HIRE OF GLORIBEL RIVAS AS NEW LEGISLATIVE AIDE

At a community meeting in June, Rep. Adrian Madaro introduced his new legislative aide Gloribel Rivas to residents.

"She's an incredibly intelligent woman with a big heart who truly cares about the neighborhood," said Madaro to the crowd.

Rivas, 24, grew up in Eastie after immigrating to the United States from El Salvador with her family at the age of 5. As a child, she attended Boston Public Schools, graduating from Boston Latin School and then University of Massachusetts Boston.

Throughout college, she was an active and dedicated volunteer at the East Boston branch of City Life/Vida Urbana, a non-profit dedicated to helping people stay in their homes in the face of eviction or foreclosure.

Rivas also worked as a volunteer on the campaign of Boston City Councilor Lydia Edwards.

After graduating from college, she worked as a paralegal at FitzGerald Law Company, an immigration, personal injury, and criminal defense firm in Boston, where she was responsible for processing immigration cases, allowing her to gain a thorough understanding of the immigration process. Rivas is also a member of the Boston SPARK Council, Mayor Martin Walsh's millennial advisory group.

"I am incredibly grateful for the opportunity to work with Rep. Madaro," said Rivas. "I love East Boston, and I am proud to join a team that is dedicated to tirelessly advocating for the needs of everyone in our community".

August

EASTIE FARMS' THIRUVENGADAM NAMED VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR'

During August's Mayor on Main Streets event outside Sammy Carlo's Deli. Eastie Farms founder and director Kannan Thiruvengadam, was honored as the Boston Main Streets Volunteer of the Year.

"As I've mentioned be-

fore what is really important to the Main Streets program are the volunteers," said Mayor Martin Walsh. "These volunteers are vital to supporting Main Streets' mission in goals in the neighborhood. Today we have Kannan (Thiruvengadam) who is no stranger to Main Streets. I met Kannan when I first became Mayor and quickly realized he's not just a man that talks the talk but walks the walk."

Aside from being a Main Streets volunteer and helping with such events as Taste of Eastie Thiruvengadam is the director of Eastie Farm on Sumner Street and of JP Green School, a sustainability education program at JP GreenHouse, a passive-solar and energy-positive house in Jamaica Plain. He also hosts "What's up

Eastie?"a radio show about local issues in a larger context, at Zumix, a youth organization in Eastie. Thiruvengadam is also

a Climate Ready Boston Leader. He has a technology background, has studied climate science, permaculture, and community engagement, and is passionate about regenerative and sustainable practices in agriculture and urban design. Last year the Boston City

Council confirmed Thiruvengadam to the Community Preservation Committee.

SAMMY CARLO'S **CATERING HONORED** BY WALSH AND **BOSTON MAIN STREETS**

Mayor Martin Walsh and Main Streets traveled to Sammy Carlo's to honor the Scire family as the Main Streets 'Business of the Year' and cut the ribbon on the business's restoration.

"If you haven't been inside and you haven't eaten something, go in there and taste the food, and you'll see why they're the Business of the Year," said Mayor Walsh. "We can talk about the beautiful new facade and the way it looks, but I tell you just go inside and taste the food. It's absolutely amazing. It's an old-school deli that were in all our neighborhoods years ago. It's an amazing place with amazing food run by an amazing family. Stevie and Kathy (Scire) are active members of the community and always give back and I want to congratulate them on being awarded this recognition."

EASTIE'S MICHAEL **SULPRIZIO TO** LEAVE BCYF DEPUTY **COMMISSIONER POST**

After nearly a decade working at Boston Centers for Youth & Families (BCYF), with the last few years spent as Deputy Commissioner, East Boston's Michael Sulprizio is moving on. "I am moving on to a

new role," said Sulprizio. "I am excited to say I am staying with the City of Boston and have accepted a position with the Property Management Department. I will be working as the Deputy Commissioner of Administration and Finance."

Sulprizio began his new job with the city on Monday August 26.

Sulprizio, who got his start in public service working as former State Rep. Carlo Basile's Legislative Aid, began working for BCYF a little over eight years ago when he replaced Fran Riley as Director of the Harborside Community Center in East Boston. Riley, a longtime fixture at the Harborside, had retired that year after decades of service to the program.

From there Sulprizio, who received his Masters in Public Affairs from UMass, quickly moved up in the BCYF ranks and most recently served as the agency's Deputy Commissioner.

"I have enjoyed my eight plus years at BCYF where I felt I was in a position to help bring investments to East Boston," he said. "Mayor Walsh has invested so much in East Boston and BCYF was no exception. Along with the Mayor's support we were able to complete the Paris Street Community Center Renovation and are about to begin work at Paris Street Pool in the coming months. We have also been able to purchase both the Paris Street and Martin Pino community center new vans, and are about to hire the first ever full-time computer instructor at Paris Street to provide computer instruction to the community."

MAYOR, CDC RIBBON ON PARIS VILLAGE In August Mayor Martin

CUT

Walsh joined the East Boston Community Development Corporation (CDC), residents and local elected officials to celebrate the ribbon-cutting for Paris Village last Tuesday.

Paris Village is a \$14 million residential community

that features 32 affordable

apartments for working families in Eastie. The new apartment building will be located on the former Salesian Boys & Girls Club site on Paris Street in the heart of the neighborhood. "As demand for housing

is increasing in East Boston and throughout the City, we're using all kinds of tools and resources to build new housing," said Mayor Walsh. "We'll continue to keep affordability at the heart of our work to make sure people can continue to live and work in the communities they love. I want to thank our many partners for making Paris Village possible, allowing new generations to live and raise their families here."

CORNER OF BYRON AND BENNINGTON **STREETS NAMED** AFTER WALLY BOWE

On a warm August afternoon, a group of friends and family members gathered outside the Salesian Boys & Girls Club in East Boston to officially rename the corner of Byron and Bennington streets 'Wally Bowe Corner'.

The new street sign is a testament to the work Bowe did inside the Club, shaping the lives of Eastie's youth during a career that spanned several decades. Bowe died suddenly in 2010 at the age of 53 years old but his memory lives on through the Wally Bowe fund that continues to help support Boys & Girls Club programs. The Wally Bowe Fund not only keeps his memory alive, but also continues the good work he did every day as a coach, teacher and role model for local youth.

Wally Bowe's wife, Darlene, and daughter, Janae, unveil the street sign at the corner of Byron and Bennington streets just outside the Salesians Boys & Girls Club in honor of Bowe's work at the club. The corner has been officially renamed 'Wally Bowe Corner.'

"Wally's influence is felt all throughout East Boston from the Point to Eagle Hill to up here in Orient Heights, said Jim Correale who knew Bowe since becoming a 'Club Kid' at 13-years-old. "This is one of the places he made his biggest impact working at the Boys & Girls Club and Savio High School where hundreds and hundreds of young people were influenced by him."

The event was also an opportunity for Bowe's family to present the Salesian with a check from the last Wally Bowe Fund fundraiser that was held earlier this sum-

The fund, administered by his daughters Jillian and Janae, wife Darlene, and others in the community, provides support to the Salesians Boys & Girls Club, a non-profit organization that Bowe attended as a young man and where he worked for 25 years.

September

COMMUNITY SAYS FAREWELL TO EASTIE **MAIN STREETS** DIRECTOR MAX GRUNER In September the Main

Streets board held a special farewell party for Max Gruner with dozens of Eastie residents, business leaders and friends paying tribute to the man that has had a positive impact on Eastie's future. "It's hard to believe

you were only here for six years," said East Boston Chamber President Jim Kearney. "It feels like a lot longer because of the mark you have left on this community and all you have done for us. Your reach went be-

yond the Main Streets Dis-

trict and your work had a ie-offering education, intremendous impact on the formation, recreational and business owners, residents, cultural events to promote homeowners and children diversity growth among our community. The orgathat live and work in East nization offered language Boston.' classes, computer classes,

chess classes for kids, citi-

zenship's classes as well as

immigration services, and

STANDING ROOM

ONLY: KENNEDY

CANDIDACY

EASTIE

ANNOUNCES SENATE

In front of a standing

room only crowd at the

East Boston Social Centers,

U.S. Congressman Joseph

P. Kennedy III announced

his candidacy for the U.S.

Senate taking on incumbent

cation was not by accident.

The Kennedy family's start

in America is very much the

same story as the hundreds

of immigrants that call

New Ross, Ireland and ab-

ject poverty for a better

life in the U.S. and mar-

ried Bridget Murphy at

Holy Redeemer Church in

the mid 1800s, just a few

blocks from the Social Cen-

ingful to me to be able to

do this, and announce this,

here, where in 1848, a

few steps from where this

building is today, my fa-

ther's family first arrived

in this country," Kennedy

began his speech. "Patrick

Kennedy came, fleeing op-

pression, starvation, and

he arrived here with liter-

ally nothing. He married

a woman named Bridget

Murphy. She ended up get-

ting a store just down the

road here over on Border

Street. They built a family.

young, from cholera. And

from sheer force of will,

and the help of a commu-

nity, she kept that family

Patrick's son, P.J. Ken-

nedv went on to become a

successful saloon owner,

ward boss and politician

in Eastie. His son, Joseph

P. Kennedy, the father of

President John F. Kenne-

dy and Joseph P. Kennedy

III's grandfather, the late

Robert Kennedy, started

what would become a fam-

ily dynasty in U.S. Politics

that spanned several gener-

"Her son owned a lo-

cal saloon, became a ward

boss, and served in the state

Senate," said Kennedy.

"His son, my great-grandfa-

ther, was born a few blocks

from here on Meridian

Street. His son served this

neighborhood in Congress,

and then went on to serve

as President of the United

States. I'm here because

my family has always ap-

preciated that story. Has

known what it meant to be

from a place and believe in

the promise of this country.

To know that their own his-

tory meant that not every

barrier was broken down,

not every hard path cleared,

but that here, in America,

there was that shot for any

striving family. The chance

to build a home, and to

make the most out of your

Two Mexican nationals

were arrested and charged

in federal court in Boston in

DRUG

dreams."

BUST

POLICE SEIZE

KILOGAM OF

FENTANYL IN

together."

ations.

Patrick passed away

"It is so extremely mean-

Patrick Kennedy fled

Eastie home.

Kennedy's choice of lo-

U.S. Sen. Ed Markey.

fitness.

Since coming to Eastie Gruner dedicated his work at Main Streets to providing an opportunity to showcase the rich cultural heritage, natural beauty, and vibrant business opportunities of a community that is ideally situated to truly becoming the Gateway to Boston.

LENDLEASE, WALSH **CUT RIBBON ON CLIPPERSHIP WHARF PROJECT**

Mayor Martin Walsh joined Lendlease and East Boston elected officials to cut the ribbon on one of the neighborhood's most highly anticipated waterfront development projects.

Clippership Wharf is \$300 million, 478-unit mixed-use waterfront project with climate resilient features including the restoration of a living shoreline and multi-modal transit access on one of Eastie's historic wharfs. The project also includes 22 affordable housing units and 30 mixed-income condominiums at the Boston Housing Authority's Heritage Apartments public housing community.

"We are celebrating over 400 new homes for individuals and families in East Boston," said Mayor Walsh. "This project brings much needed housing to East Boston and our city. We inherited a housing shortage and we see people being pushed out of the city. We put a housing goal out there and projects like this helps us towards our housing goal." Built to anticipate ex-

pected sea-level rise over the coming decades, Clippership Wharf uses technology that can be deployed up to 24 hours in advance to help keep storm surges at bay, and residential floors are 25 feet above-grade. The site also offers interaction with the water's edge through the reintroduction of a natural, living shoreline. A new series of salt marsh terraces, bracketing the daily tides, will result in a diverse new wetland community for flora and fauna.

GLADYS OLIVEROS ANNNOUNCED AS **NEW EAST BOSTON** MAIN STREETS **DIRECTOR**

Gladys Oliveros, who has been a fixture in East Boston since immigrating from Colombia 35 years ago, was announced as the new executive director of East Boston Main Streets. Oliveros replaced long-

time director, Max Gruner, who left his post last week for a new job in New Mex-

Oliveros, who has been working as a program supervisor at Boston Center for Youth and Families' Paris Street site for the past two years said she has some pretty big shoes to fill replacing Gruner. "It's going to be a chal-

lenge but together we can do it," Oliveros said. "East Boston has been my home and my community for 35 years and I have always looked for ways to help the neighborhood. I look forward to working with all of you. For those of you who know me know if you pick up the phone and call me I am there and it will be the same at Main Streets." Oliveros is a native of

working

BCYF Oliveros founded

Casa de la Cultura. Casa

de la Cultura is a Commu-

nity Center focused on the

Latino population of East-

decades ago.

Before

connection with selling two kilograms of cocaine after a major drug bust on Sumner Barranquilla, Colombia and moved to Eastie over three

Street. Through a search warrant federal agents also discovered enough fentanyl to kill everyone and then some in East Boston. Carlos Acosta Estrella, 31, and his mother, Ana

Guadalupe Acosta Graje-

da, 56, were arrested on

Thursday, Sept. 12, 2019 and charged in a criminal complaint with one count of possession with intent to distribute 500 grams or more of cocaine.

According to the criminal complaint, Estrella and Grajeda were arrested by law enforcement agents in Eastie after they were videotaped selling two kilograms of cocaine to a cooperating witness. Federal agents executed a search warrant of the East Boston apartment on Sumner Street where the defendants were located and seized one kilogram of suspected fentanyl, one kilogram of suspected heroin, numerous cell phones, a high-powered tactical shotgun with a laser sight, and a box of ammuni-

tion for the shotgun. According to the DEA officials, two milligrams of fentanyl will kill an adult. One kilogram of fentanyl is equivalent to 1 million milligrams. The amount seized could potentially kill over 300,000 adults.

October

COMMUNITY BREAKS GROUND ON NEW POLICE STATION

In October, Mayor Martin Walsh and Police Commissioner WIlliam Gross joined elected officials and the community to break ground on a new state-ofthe-art police station at the City Yards.

The \$30 million project will create a more efficient and better station for police and replace the aging District A-7 station on Meridian Street near Maverick Square. The station will be roughly 27,000 sq. ft. with an entrance on the corner of Condor and Trenton streets. There will be parking in the rear of the station for 50 vehicles and the building will be LEAD Silver Certified.

According to the city the public art will be placed on the future new Area A-7 Police Station in Eastie with the aim of creating a new public building that is welcoming to the community, while having a civic presence through public art and community space.

"In Boston, we put our community first, and this new police station is an investment in East Boston, and in public safety," said Mayor Walsh. "This station is our commitment to the next generation. We're dedicated to community policing, and that means interacting with residents, families and youth in a positive way. For our young people, this station is a place where they can learn about a career in law enforcement, join a youth group, or get mentoring. We will continue to invest in our values of trust and community, and create public spaces that help all residents." **COMMUNITY GATHERS**

TO OFFICIALLY **NAME GREENWAY** AFTER THE LATE MARY ELLEN WELCH The godmother of East

Boston community activism, the late Mary Ellen Welch, was not much for adulations, awards or honors. Instead, Welch prefered to quietly go about her daily commitment to improving the lives of all who called Eastie home and inspiring generations to become community leaders. Mayor Martin Walsh

joined Eastie's elected officials and Welch's friends and family to officially name the East Boston Greenway the Mary Ellen Welch Greenway. Yes, she was a force to

be reckoned with at community meetings when her beloved community was threatened in any way. And

See REVIEW Page 9

there are countless beautification and open space projects that dot the entire neighborhood that have her fingerprints all over them.

But when it came to honors or hero worship she shrugged them off as silly, especially in her later years when she preferred to work behind the scenes-writing hundreds of letters to decision makers expressing her opinion or offering sage advice to those who sought it.

MASSPORT UNVEILS **NEW RIDE APP AREA** IN CENTRAL GARAGE

Massport unveiled the Terminal A and C section of the new Ride App space in Central Parking. By creating a new Ride App area Massport hopes to reduce congestion at the airport and add amenities to improve the passenger experience that use these Ride

Starting in October the flying public landing and arriving at Terminals A and C that plan to use Ride Apps Uber and Lyft will meet their driver in Central Parking. Massport has placed multiple signs throughout the two terminals directing passengers to the new loca-

"Moving the Uber and Lyft operations to Central Parking does two main things – it helps us provide better customer service for all our passengers and it will help reduce the amount of congestion on our roadways and through the tunnels," said Massport CEO Lisa Wieland. "This is part of our Logan Forward initiative, and we're making improvements to create a better airport."

November

OUR LADY OF THE ASSUMPTION **CHURCH IN EAST BOSTON CELEBRATES** 150 YEARS

It was a special Mass for parishioners and clergy at Our Lady of the Assumption Church on Sumner Street in East Boston.

The church, which stood the test of time in Jeffries Point, turned 150 years old Sunday. To mark to occasion Cardinal Sean O'Malley, the Roman Catholic archbishop of Boston, said a special Mass at the church.

The service included music, prayer and a special homily by O'Malley.

"Each year we celebrate the birthday of the Church on Pentecost, recalling when Mary and the apostles gathered in prayer in the cenacle," said O'Malley Sunday. "Today we celebrate the 150th birthday of Our Lady of the Assumption Parish, with gratitude for the service given by the priests, religious sisters and parishioners during that history. Today Our Lady of the Assumption Parish welcomes people from many countries and cultures, giving witness to the presence of Christ in our midst here and now and trusting in the intercession of our Blessed Mother. May the good work of the parish continue for many years into the future as we confidently go forward in the name of the Lord."

MOST HOLY REDEEMER CELEBRATES 175TH ANNIVERSARY

The Holy Redeemer Church was Eastie's first Roman Catholic Church built by Irish Immigrants in 1844 and designed by renowned architect Patrick Keely, known for his work on the Cathedral of the Holy Cross in Brighton. Cardinal Sean O'Malley,

Archbishop of Boston, said a special Mass of Thanksgiving to celebrate the Most

Holy Redeemer Church's 175th Anniversary in East-

Five years after it was built the church hosted the 1849 wedding of President John F. Kennedy's great-grandparents. rick Kennedy and Bridget Murphy both immigrated to Eastie from New Ross, Ireland and their marriage and subsequent birth of their son, P.J. Kennedy, and grandson, Joseph P. Kennedy, began the Kennedy Family's political dynasty in America.

EBNHC'S **JOANNA CATALDO** NAMED ABCD **COMMUNITY HERO**

East Boston native and longtime East Boston Neighborhood Health Center (EBNHC) employee Joanna Cataldo was recently honored at ABCD's (Action for Boston Community Development) annual Com munity Heroes Celebration.

Cataldo grew up in Eastie and has worked here for the past 25 years, most of that time in various roles at the EBNHC. Her positions at the EBNHC include coordinator of the smoking cessation program, director of the Education and Training Institute, and for the past five years manager of the substance use and misuse prevention coalition.

"I truly enjoy connecting people to valuable resources that can put them on a path toward personal improvement and/or advancement-in a career, interpersonal relationships, better health, or in some other meaningful way," said Cataldo. "Over the course of 25 years of working and volunteering in East Boston, I have had the privilege of supporting and celebrating many residents as they fulfill these goals."

ISD CLOSES MAVERICK DUNKIN' DONUTS DUNKIN' DONUTS CORPORATE **FILES SUIT AGAINST** FRANCHISE OWNER The owner of two

Dunkin' Donuts franchises in East Boston is in some pretty hot water with the City of Boston and Dunkin' Donuts Corporate.

The city's Inspectional Services Department (ISD) shut down the Dunkin' Donuts in Maverick Square in November after video shot by Peter Wild surfaced on social media of a half dozen or so mice freeley scurrying around the inside of the popular coffee shop.

ISD then inspected the Dunkin' Donuts location and found a whole host of health code violations. D'Alelio Management Co., operating as RMG Donuts, operates the Dunkin' Donuts in Maverick as well as a second location on Bennington Street in Orient Heights.

During their inspection ISD inspectors found evidence of mice and roach infestations as well as small flies present in the dining area.

A second inspection the next day showed RMG Donuts had not remedied the health-code violations.

After the second ISD inspection Dunkin' Donuts Corporate had enough and filed a lawsuit in federal court seeking to strip RMG Donuts of its franchises in Eastie. In the suit Dunkin' Donuts Corporate argues that RMG Donuts is in violation of its franchise agreement, which requires clean

December

SEN. ED MARKEY **MAKES CAMPAIGN** STOP IN EASTIE

In his 43-year career, U.S. Sen. Ed Markey has rarely been the underdog in an election. Markey, who first served in the U.S. House from 1976 to 2013 before being elected to the U.S. Senate in 2013, has built an impressive resume as a champion of environmental issues, immigration rights, addressing opioid abuse, affordable health care and housing.

In September U.S. Congressman Joseph Kennedy III (D-Cape Cod) announced that he would challenge Markey in the 2020 election.

In response, Markey made a campaign stop last Tuesday at the East Boston Social Centers to rally his troops, and begin organizing his state campaign on the local level.

Markey was introduced by Rep. Adrian Madaro who has endorsed the U.S. Senator in his bid for reelection against the younger Kennedy. "Sen. Markey has been

a man that has been fighting for our community for decades, putting in the hard work on behalf of the people of Massachusetts," said Madaro. "He's been fighting to make important changes on the national level, changes that have transformed our communities for the better. There is no doubt he is a gifted leader and expert on policy. You can't mention the name Ed Markey without talking about climate change because he's been a stalwart champion of the environment for his entire career. He has a very strong record of fighting for progressive policies to address climate change and environmental justice that impacts coastal communities like East Bos-

Markey thanked the crowd of community organizers for coming to the Social Centers to be part of his reelection.

ton."

"I can feel the grassroots efforts happening all across the Commonwealth," said Markey "We have big issues that we have to fight for. That's what I do and have been doing every single day in the Senate. I stand up and fight for you. I stand up and fight for the people in East Boston and surrounding communities."

EASTIE'S NANTUCKET LIGHTSHIP RECEIVES **PRESTIGIOUS** FEDERAL GRANT

Since 2009, Eastie has played host to a national treasure. The giant red lightship docked on Marginal Street was declared a National Historic Landmark (NHL) in 1989. Since then there has been a push locally to restore the historic Lightship Nantucket, also known as Lightship No. 112 or simply LV-112.

Recently, the efforts to restore and preserve the Nantucket got a huge boost when it was awarded a Save America's Treasures (SAT) grant from the National Park Service, in partnership with the Institute of Museum and Library Services, the National Endowment of the Humanities, and the National Endowment for the Arts. Announced this

fall, a total of \$12.6 million in grants will help fund 41 projects in 23 states. The funds will support the preservation of nationally significant historic properties and collections throughout the country.

The U.S. Lightship Museum (USLM), the non-profit organization that has been overseeing the Nantucket's restoration, will receive a \$487,500 grant to restore internal structural components and provide general maintenance critical to maintaining the integrity of the ship's hull and ability to remain open to the general public for decades to come.

PRESSLEY TAKES A TOUR OF EBNHC **DEPARTMENT**

A week after leading a fight to secure strong investments in community health centers as part of the late Rep. Elijah Cummings's Lower Drug Costs Now Act in the U.S. House, Congresswoman Ayanna Pressley decided to visit one community Health Center that has become a model for others across the nation.

Pressley toured East Boston Neighborhood Health Center's (EBNHC) emergency department and then participated in a roundtable discussion with heads of the Health Center's various departments. EBNHC and the other 51

Community Health Centers in Massachusetts provide life-saving, affordable, and patient-centered resources to over 300,000 children, people experiencing homelessness, immigrants and veterans. Pressley, a longtime

advocate for community-based health care programs and, member of the Congressional Community Health Centers Caucus, helped secure \$1.6 billion in funding for the Health Center program-including \$5 million to support school-based health centers earlier this year. EBNHC runs a school-based health center at East Boston High School for students that are most at risk of not having easy access to primary care and other health care needs.

COUNCILOR EDWARDS' **AFFORDABLE** HOUSING HOME RULE **PETITION SIGNED** BY WALSH

It was a huge win for District 1 City Councilor Lydia Edwards, her colleague Councilor Kim Janey and affordable housing advocates across the city.

Mayor Martin Walsh signed Edwards and Janey's Home Rule Petition to impose a real estate transfer fee of 2 percent on the purchase price of any private real estate sale over \$2 million and dedicate all revenues to affordable housing. The 2 percent fee will be used to generate additional funding to create and preserve affordable housing in Boston. The City Council approved the measure by a vote of 10-3.

The signing by Walsh

now moves Edwards and Jayne's Home Rule Petition to the Massachusetts Legislature for approval. If approved by the state, the City would have the ability to determine the final rate for the fee, collection method and any exemptions that would exist. "Housing is the biggest economic challenge facing

the residents of Boston and people across our region," said Mayor Walsh. "That's why it's critically important that we do everything we can to support the creation of homes that are affordable, while also preserving our existing housing stock. I am proud to sign this Home Rule Petition that is a significant step forward in our work, by giving Boston the ability to impose a modest fee on the sale of private property, which will collectively do a world of good towards our efforts to make Boston a more affordable

DAMIEN MARGARDO LEAVES BCYF AFTER 31

place to live."

Damien Margardo grew up a typical East Boston youth. He played sports, hung out at the community's recreation centers with friends, and during the summer months, headed to the East Boston Camps in Westford with hundreds of

other Eastie kids. As a youth mentors like Marty Pino, John Forbes Sr. and Joe Weddelton shaped Margardo's trajectory in life. As young adult Maragrdo embarked on a long career as a youth worker for the Boston Centers for Youth and Families.

However, after 31 years of service to the BCYF Marty Pino and Paris Street sites Margardo announced he was leaving BCYF to take on a new role at the Parks Department.

"I started working for BCYF in August 1988 as a lifeguard at the Paris Street Pool," said Margardo at the party. "Since then I moved into working with youth and was most recently a BCYF Program Supervisor. I'm looking forward to the new challenges at Parks and Rec. What I'm going to miss most leaving BCYF will be all of the great seniors, youth and the families that I have worked with directly all these years."

NEWS FROM AROUND THE REGION

PLASTIC BAG ORDINANCE TO BE **ENFORCED**

CHELSEA - The ban on plastic bags officially went into place on Dec. 17, but City officials will use the holiday season to inform shop owners and supermarkets of the new ordinance - with a major effort to enforce the ordinance starting on Jan. 6. The ordinance has been highly-anticipated for al-

most a year, and there have been loads of preparations conducted by the City and the business community. However, many felt that beginning the enforcement

in the heart of the holiday shopping season might not have been such a wise move. The City agreed and has come up with an alternate "In early December we

plan. were approached by a few businesses that felt starting enforcement on Dec. 17 would be tricky because it would be the peak sales time for the holidays," said Fidel Maltez, of the DPW. "We worked internally with City Manager Tom Ambrosino and decided to do a soft enforcement in December. This past week we've been going around informing everyone and answering questions. It's more of an informational roll out and actual enforcement will start on Jan. 6 when everything slows down." Maltez said on Jan. 6,

inspectors from DPW and Inspectional Services will go out to the stores and begin enforcing the ordinance. If any business is found in non-compliance, they will have 14 days to correct the problem. He said the biggest sup-

plier of the plastic bags in question is Market Basket. The store, he said, believes

it can make the change by 'We had a meeting with Market Basket's leadership

and shared the approach and

they are confident they will be ready to fully roll out the ban by Jan. 6," he said. The bag ban was passed

earlier in 2019, but was delayed until Dec. 17 for implementation. The ban was passed as a measure to help the environment with reducing the use of single-use plastics, and also to control litter in Chelsea.

"Single-use plastic is not good and is controllable and can't be recycled or repurposed," he said. "By eliminating single-use plastic bags, we're hoping to lead the change from an environmental standpoint. It can also reduce litter. You travel Broadway and there are always the white and black plastic bags all over the sidewalk. Maybe with the implementation of this, we can re-

There are some excep-

The plastic bags used for

produce and other loose arti-

cles are exempt, as are news-

tions to the rule.

duce that and you won't see these bags anymore."

ty with new public housing units and new market rate units - along with parking and some retail portions. The TIF has been said for some time to be the most

the deal complete.

specified price for them. **COUNCIL LOOKS** AT TIF CONTRACT

paper bags. A thicker, reus-

able plastic bag will be for

sale at most all stores under

the ordinance, but there is no

CHELSEA - Several Chelsea City Councillors

had asked for a pause in the Tax Incremental Financing (TIF) agreement this month in order to completely review the details of a state-reviewed contract between the Housing Authority, a private developer and the City. The TIF would allow the Corcoran Companies and

critical piece left to getting

the Chelsea Housing Au-Committee of the Whole thority to re-develop the meeting on Dec. 16, coun-Innes Apartments into a cillors said they wanted a mixed-income communipause to review the contract terms that had just been delivered to them. "Since March, we've been negotiating the TIF

The terms of the 15-year TIF include an 80 percent reduction in new value the first five years, 6 percent the second five years and 50 percent for the final five years. The TIF agreement

has been public for many months, with the most important financial details becoming public last summer. However, when brought before the Council earlier this month, there were unexpected questions from many in the Council. Instead of moving it to a

vote, it was moved to Committee. Some objected, but at that

(DHCD)," said City Man-

and plan with the state Department of Housing and Community Development

ager Tom Ambrosino. "The terms were disclosed during the Smart Growth District presentation. The detailed documents weren't presented until recently because it took awhile to negotiate and it had to go to DHCD before it could come to the Council. That just took a long time." Those negotiations in-

cluded many minor details that fulfilled legal obligations, he said, such as how the agreement would be administered and how the apartments would be done. "The financial terms are the most significant thing

but they are only one paragraph in the document," he said. "DHCD has much greater concerns about how it will be administrated. Those details took time." Council President Dama-

li Vidot said the Council shouldn't have been handed the contract in short order before being expected to take such a major vote.

"It's clear that the Coun-

See REGION Page 10

OBITUARIES

Patricia Horn

Member of ITAM Post 6 East Boston

Patricia A. (Conville) Horn of East Boston died on Dec. 26.

She was a member of ITAM Post 6 of East Bos-

The beloved wife of the late William H. Horn, she was the mother of Sean Horn of East Boston, sister of the late Mary T. Goebel, Alice Opideee, James, William, Francis, John, Thomas and Charles Conville and is also survived by many nieces and nephews.

Her Funeral will be held from the Magrath Funeral Home, 336 Chelsea St. NEW LOCATION, [at Day Sq] East Boston on Saturday morning, Jan. 4, 2020 at 9 a.m. followed by a Funeral Mass in the Most Holy Redeemer Church, 72 Maverick St., East Boston at 10 o'clock. Relatives



and friends are invited. Visiting hours Friday, Jan. 3 from 4 to 8 p.m. Parking assistance available. Interment will be at Mt. Hope Cemetery, Mattapan.

At her request, donations in her memory to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital would be appreciated.

MagrathFuneralHome.

Vittoria Fazzolari

Of Revere, formerly of East Boston

Vittoria (Palermo) Fazzolari, 91, of Revere and formerly of East Boston, passed away on Dec. 25 surrounded by her loving

She was the beloved wife of the late Francesco Fazzolari, loving mother of Rosa Napoli and her husband, Giuseppe of Revere, Rocco Fazzolari and his wife, Teresa of Abington, Teresa Schirripa and her husband, Francesco of Winthrop, Frank Fazzolari and Nancy Giangregorio and her husband, Pasquale of Revere; cherished Nonna of 10 grandchildren and 13 great-grandchildren and the dear sister of the late Domenic Palermo, Adolfo Palermo and Immacolata Fazzolari. She is also survived by many loving nieces and nephews.

Her Funeral was held from the Magrath Funeral Home, 336 Chelsea St. NEW LOCATION [at Day Sq], EAST BOSTON followed by a Mass of Christian Burial in Sacred Heart Church, East Boston. Entombment was in Woodlawn Cemetery, Everett.

Donations in Vittoria's memory may be made to either: Care Dimensions at give.caredimensions.org or Dementia Association www.dementiasociety. org/donate. For additional information, please vis-MagrathFuneralHome.

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OBITUARIES

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Region //continued from Page 9

cil wants this project to happen and no one has a problem with that," she said. "The problem I have is you drop a 100-page document at a Council meeting and expect a vote...No one is talking to us about what this other stuff is and we're expected to vote on it. The Council deserves a little bit more respect and ore information up front. It starts at

Some of the details in the contract that were not previously known include the City's dedication of about \$5 million in state MassWorks grants to help with infrastructure like new drainage, new sewers and new roadways. Such a precedent exists already with the work done on Everett Avenue and around the One North developments. Some of those state grants, however, have not yet been received and there is hope they would come this summer.

The City Council was expected to vote on the TIF agreement Monday night at its last regular meeting of 2019, which came beyond Record deadlines.

COMMITTEE **UNANIMOUS** ON NEW **SUPERINTENDENT**

EVERETT -A unanimous vote most of the time signals that everyone is on board with the decision.

That might be the case with the School Committee in their 7-0 vote on Thursday, Dec. 19, for Priya Tahiliani, but it doesn't mean that the rest of the community is board. After the decision, and even beforehand, there was a great deal of dissatisfaction with the choice.

Before the vote, many including Mayor Carlo De-Maria and School Committeeman Lester MacLaughlin disparaged the process as it didn't contain any internal, Everett candidates.

After Thursday's choice, many took to social media or other platforms to say they wouldn't support the new superintendent, with others saying the school system had "been given away to a graduate student, alluding to the fact that Tahiliani is still working to complete her doctorate in education - though she is a licensed superintendent.

"To the naysayers, good luck," said School Committee Chair Tom Abruzzese. "Believe me, I'm completely at peace with this whole process right now. Priya Tahiliani will prove all the naysayers wrong. I'll stake my reputation on that. I think I'm a pretty good judge of people and I couldn't be more happy with the selection. Priya has tremendous energy, a lot of experience, and going back to the public meeting at the Parlin Library, most everybody said they wanted a former teacher. At our meeting on Dec. 14, when she talked to us, it was a teacher talking to us. I think that's vital. I think the superintendent and administrators still are teachers and should not be so distant from teaching. She came across that way to me, and obviously I wasn't alone."

School Committeeman Frank Parker said Tahiliani was a great choice, and people should try to get on board and support her. He said comments that she is a "grad student" just aren't

"Of the internal candidates, Mrs. Gauthier doesn't have a doctorate, and Charlie Obremski doesn't have a doctorate," he said. "Dr. Easy has a doctorate, but it's in philosophy with a minor in educational leadership. Ms. Tahiliani in her current role as assistant superintendent...went into a hostile environment and yet three years later when you talk to her colleagues they say she has done a great job... She can do the same in Everett if people are willing to cooperate...She is part of a lawsuit challenging inequality of pay and at the same time we've had three MCAD complaints against us for harassment. Maybe if we had the courage that Priya had three years ago, we wouldn't be in this situation today."

Councilor Michael Mc-Laughlin said he would support the decision, but is disappointed with it.

"I have watched the process from afar and have been very disappointed throughout the process," he said. "Although I thank the 15 volunteers who served on the Search Committee, I absolutely believe it was a mistake to disqualify any individual currently working in the school system based on the past in which they were not directly involved in. These individuals that were considered insiders of Everett are individuals that have dedicated their whole entire lives to the City of Everett and having a positive impact on countless amounts of children's lives including mine throughout the Everett public school system. After decades of positive employment they were not qualified to at least have an interview in my eyes is shortsighted leadership for our community."

He said, though, he wil support Tahiliani in her new

"We as a community should come together now and support Ms. Tahiliani; it's a fact that if she is successful as the new leader of the school system the students will be the benefit of this transition."

Mayor Carlo DeMaria, who had been an outspoken critic of the process to choose a new superintendent, posted on Facebook last week his support of the new choice. He also thanked Interim Supt. Janice Gauthier for her work in stepping up over the past

"It is with great pleasure and honor to welcome Priya Tahiliani as the new Superintendent of Everett Public Schools," he wrote. "I look forward to working closely with her as we continue to grow and develop a strong school system for our com-

Jessica Gold Boots of the Everett Educational Coalition (EEC) said she felt those looking to discredit Tahiliani before she arrives are misguided.

"I think that would be

very misguided because I think all three candidates were vetted by more than 350 hours of work by the Search Committee," she said. "They wouldn't have been put forward if not qualified. If people are saying they won't support her, I am very disappointed. This isn't about looking back, but moving forward and giving Ms. Tahiliani a chance. It's time to move on, especially since before this, Everett was led for 30 years by an alleged sex offender."

She said it isn't a job for life, and she hopes the School Committee will do their due diligence and make sure Tahiliani lives up to expectations.

There were rumors that the Everett Teacher's Association (ETA) was disappointed with the choice, but President Kim Auger said that wasn't the case. She said they support the choice and will work with Supt. Tahiliani.

For her part, Tahiliani said she won't fight against the sentiment, but work to gain trust. She said she has been in the situation before at Boston Public Schools where others didn't agree with her being chosen. Likewise, she said she has also found herself on the other side of the argument, where she didn't agree with a choice made by others.

"Basically, I don't want to dismiss that," she said. "It's a valid feeling for those folks that were not considered and those that folks that supported them... I'm coming in and trying to communicate with them and build relationships and trust...Unfortunately, I'm not here to question the decision of the School Committee, especially with everything everyone has been through. I thought they made an important decision and I'm here to try to work with those who may be unhappy with that decision.

"My hope is these people will stay and want to be part of this new thing, even if it wasn't exactly what they expected it would be," she continued.

Abruzzese said the decision is put in context, as one year ago this week, the former superintendent resigned amidst a flurry of accusations - leaving the School Committee to put the pieces together for the past 12 months.

"People are going to have concerns," he said. "Even with this selection, there are naysayers criticizing our selection. All I can say is a lot has happened in a year and I think we're ending 2019 on a high note, and on a much better note than the end of 2018."

\$1M GRANT **EARMARKED FOR OCEAN AVENUE** REVERE - On Decem-

ber 18, at the State Police Barracks on Revere Beach Mayor Brian Arrigo joined Economic Development Secretary Mike Kennealy, House Speaker Robert A. DeLeo and Revere's elected officials to accept a \$1 million MassWorks Infrastructure Program grant. The grant will be used for the Ocean Avenue Gateway project, which calls for infrastructure improvements ahead of the construction of two hotels planned for Revere Beach.

The \$1 million grant will relocate overhead utilities and make intersection im-

provements on Ocean Avenue, clearing the way for the two planned hotels. According to Mayor Ar-

rigo the project will also

include the resurfacing of approximately 2,000 feet of roadway, and the reconfiguration and resignalization of the intersection at Revere Beach Parkway. Collectively, the two permitted hotel sites will generate over 300 rooms and an 80-seat restaurant, with the larger of the two developments valued at \$40 million.

"The infrastructure improvements will help advance the long-term goal of a well-conceived Revere Beach Transit-Oriented Development District," said Mayor Arrigo. "Thanks to the support of Gov. Baker, Speaker DeLeo, Sen. Boncore, and Rep. Vincent, this will fuel the momentum happening in Revere, benefiting residents, visitors, and businesses along Ocean Avenue."

Arrigo added that these grant monies will support the growth of Revere's local economy by creating walkable space between the mixed-use community, centered between two T-stops. "Infrastructure improvements that advance transit-oriented development is key to a vibrant, sustainable, and attractive community that encourages residents and visitors alike to utilize public transit," he said at the

Secretary Mike Kennealy said these MassWorks improvements in Revere will also support increased multi-modal safety and connectivity between two prior MassWorks Infrastructure Projects at Shirley Avenue and Revere Beach Parkway. Additionally, the project will provide ancillary benefits for an adjacent 200-unit, multi-family housing development, which is currently under construction. All three private developments are located within a half mile of the Revere Beach MBTA Subway Station, and all three will advance the goals and vision of the city's Revere Beach Transit-Oriented Development (TOD) Dis-

"This administration recognizes the importance of reliable, modern infrastructure to the safety and success of communities of all sizes," said Secretary Kennealy. "This new Mass-Works award builds on past grants and supports Revere's vision for Ocean Avenue by unlocking new hotels and housing and benefiting the restaurants and businesses

Speaker DeLeo called Ocean Avenue an important corridor in Revere, and the MassWorks grant will play an important role in improving and maintaining access to this community's most precious natural resources - Revere Beach - as well as develop the surrounding area for current and future residents and visitors.

along Revere Beach."

"The House has a long history in supporting infrastructure investments across the Commonwealth draw visitors and support local business growth and develop housing in close proximity to public transit and public recreational spaces," said DeLeo. Revere State Rep. RoseL-

ee Vincent thanked the Baker Administration and Speaker DeLeo for his advocacy for this MassWorks Grant. "These upgrades from El-

iot Circle to Shirley Avenue will enhance the quality of life for residents and visitors to Revere Beach alike," she said. "The project the City and DCR seek to undertake includes new lighting fixtures, new crosswalks, upgraded sidewalks and a resurfaced street. Oftentimes, constituents contact my office concerned about the state of the sidewalks along Ocean Avenue, as well as the condition of the street itself. I believe these targeted up-

grades will be a great step

toward improving Ocean

Ave."

Rosemarie Y. (Mona) Leone Dec. 23rd, 1935 — Dec. 23rd, 2019 Another Birthday year has come where

Birthday Remembrance



we're not able to celebrate your birthday with you. The days, years, minutes get harder and harder without you, but you are at peace, and knowing that gives us all some relief.

We miss you beautiful smile, voice, but most of all your love, and nurture that you showed to each and everyone of us. Since you left us,

our lives changed and we will never be the same. Today is your birthday, and we'd give anything to kiss, hug and celebrate with you. You will always be in our hearts and prayers and hope

Ma, Happy Heavenly Birthday our Beautiful Angel

Children & Grandchildren

We Miss and Love You Always! Your Loving Husband,

your celebrating with your loved ones in Heaven.

LEGAL NOTICE PUBLIC NOTICE

"Notice is hereby given that a

Community Outreach Meeting

for a proposed Marijuana Establishment is scheduled for Monday, January 27th, 2020 at 5:30 PM at the East Boston Public Library, 365 S. Bremen St., Boston, MA 02128. The proposed Marijuana Retail Establishment is anticipated to be located at 69-71 Maverick Square, East Boston, MA

02128. There will be an opportunity for the public to ask questions."

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Searching for Marie Madeleine Murphy (original surname Carré and married to William Frew at one time). Marie arrived in Wintrhop, MA in 1952. She was born Dec 17th, 1927, originally from La Tranche-sur-Mer, France and lived at 26 Cutler St., Winthrop in 1952-53. If you have any information about her whereabouts or that of her children, please contact me at: robert frew@yahoo.com

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COUNCILOR EDWARDS HOSTS RE-ELECTION CELEBRATION, BIRTHDAY PARTY FUNDRAISER

Councilor Lydia Edwards hosted a re-election celebration and birthday party fundraiser on Friday, Dec. 13, at Filippo Ristorante in the North End. Loads of Charlestown friends made the walk over the North Washington Street Bridge to the restaurant to support Councilor Edwards. She was introduced by State Rep. Aaron Michlewitz - the chair of the powerful House Ways & Means Committee.



Performers from the Veronica Robles Cultural Center.



Payton Corbett, City Councilor Lydia Edwards, and Somerville City Councilor Jesse Clingan.



Jason Taggart, City Councilor Lydia Edwards, and James Rasza (Jason and James are the owners of Democracy Brewing)



State Rep. Dan Ryan, State Rep. Aaron Michlewitz, City Councilor Lydia Edwards, State Rep. Adrian Madaro, and State Rep. Mike Moran



City Councilor Lydia Edwards and Luz Oliveros (Executive Director of East Boston Main Streets).







City Councilor Lydia Edwards and Jack Kelly III.



City Councilors Josh Zakim and Lydia Edwards.



State Rep. Aaron Michlewitz.