

East Boston

TIMES-FREE PRESS

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Wednesday, August 26, 2020

Edwards seeks bikes on Blue Line

By John Lynds

For the past few years East Boston has suffered some of the worst gridlock in decades. Since the reconfiguration of the Sumner Tunnel toll plaza and a dramatic increase in North Shore motorists using Eastie streets during their morning commute, getting around the neighborhood has become a little less easy.

While the COVID-19 pandemic has kept the traffic at bay with many still working from home City Councilor Lydia Edwards is taking proactive steps to try and cut down on neighborhood traffic once things start returning to normal with a plan to promote more bike usage for commuters.

Edwards and her colleague, At-Large City Councilor Michelle Wu, filed a hearing order last week to explore increasing the transportation options for cyclists on the MBTA's Blue Line. Edwards explained riders are not currently able to bring their bicycles on the Blue Line during peak hours, which prevents commuters from being able to ride the T into the city and bike to their final destination.

"This is going to be the start of a conversation," said Edwards. "We need to have a conversation about access and equity across transportation modes for East Boston residents. We're separated from the rest of the city by the harbor and there's no way for cyclists to be able to safely ride into

See BLUE LINE Page 2



Tawakal Halal Cafe gets help from Boston's Outdoor Dining pilot initiative

works on getting his outdoor dining

section ready after receiving help from

When the state and city began lifting restrictions on restaurants dozens of East Boston eateries rushed to get a special 'outdoor' dining permit from City Hall serve food/drinks outside while allowing their patrons to practice social distancing

during the pandemic. However, some smaller restaurants needed a little extra help and got it thanks

By John Lynds to help reopen safely and to the Mayor's Office of Economic Development (OED).

Tawakal Halal Cafe's new outdoor

dining area on the Jeffries Street

side of the restaurant.

Through the Reopen Boston: Outdoor Dining pilot initiative, OED worked

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Veronica Robles and her all-female Mariachi band to perform at virtual Boston Harbor Now benefit

Award winning performer and East Boston commu-

nity leader Veronica Robles and her all-female Mariachi band recorded a performance in East Boston for



Veronica Robles and her all-female Mariachi band recorded a performance in East Boston for an upcoming virtual benefit for Boston Harbor Now's Our Harbor, Our Home.

an upcoming virtual benefit for Boston Harbor Now's Our Harbor, Our Home. The virtual event will be held on Thursday, August 27 and streamed on You-

Our Harbor, Our Home is a celebration of Boston's waterfront and Harbor Islands and the unique virtual experience will treat viewers to an exciting program highlighting the work of Boston Harbor Now.

Sponsors will enjoy a gourmet meal delivered to their home the day of the event along with a curated gift bag.

Funds raised through Our Harbor, Our Home will allow Boston Harbor Now to offer free and low cost access for underserved communities like Eastie to enjoy the Islands and waterfront, prepare for the impacts of climate change, and support Boston's working port.

Robles, well known by her fans as La Mera, Mera or 'The Real One,' has been performing since she was very young and is recognized as the most authentic representative of Mexican music and culture in the New England region.

See MARIACHI Page 2

Walsh, Cassellius lay out phased reopening plan

By John Lynds

At his daily press briefing last Thursday Mayor Martin Walsh, along with Boston Public School Superintendent Brenda Cassellius, laid out BPS's phased plan to reopen schools in the fall amid the continuing COVID-19 pandemic.

At the briefing, Mayor Walsh called the plan a "flexible model" and schools across the district will have unique circumstances that require somewhat different approaches to each phase.

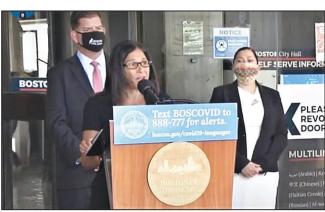
According to the plan all BPS students will begin with remote learning on September 21. Then, BPS will gradually introduce optional hybrid learning for all students, starting with the highest need students

and the youngest students. BPS will then introduce optional hybrid learning for additional grade levels, starting with the youngest students, and moving up into the higher grades.

Each new phase will be contingent upon the most up-to-date public health metrics.

"This is the best approach to educate our children," said Walsh. "It creates an on-ramp for students to return to the classroom, in a safe and careful way. This is the best way to tackle opportunity and achievement gaps in our city. We're going to make remote learning as high quality as we possibly can. I have a lot of faith in our teachers to do that, and we're going to support

See SCHOOLS Page 2



Mayor Martin Walsh and BPS Superintendent Brenda Cassellius brief the press last Thursday on BPS's phased reopening plan.

Early voting for Massachusetts Primary kicks off in Eastie

By John Lynds

The City of Boston Election Department kicked off 'Early Voting' in East Boston for the Massachusetts Primary over the weekend at East Boston High School

In Eastie, voters will head to the polls on Sept. 1 during the state primary and cast ballots for Senator in Congress, Representative in Congress, Governor's Councillors, Senator in General Court, Representative in General Court, and Register of Probate.

However, voters were able to cast early ballots at East Boston High on Saturday and Sunday and hundreds of registered voters did so over the weekend.

Eastie voters can continue to vote early through Friday, Aug. 28 at Boston City Hall between 9 a.m. and

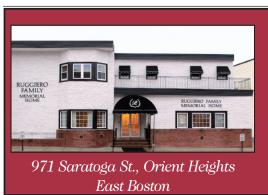
5 p.m. Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday and between 9 a.m. and 8 p.m. on Thursday.

In Eastie, voters will make their choice for Massachusetts U.S. Senincumbent between U.S. Senator Ed Markey or Congressman Joseph Kennedy III. Republican Shiva Ayyadurai is running against Kevin O'Connor on the Repulican side and the primary winner will face either Markey or Kennedy in the General Election.

U.S. Congresswoman Ayanna Pressley is running unopposed and there will be no Republican challenger for the General Election in the Massachusetts 7th Dis-

Also running unopposed is State Rep. Adrian Mada-

See VOTING Page 6



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Eastie remains a COVID-19 hotspot as cases continue to rise

By John Lynds week.

COVID-19 infection rate in East Boston increased by over five and a half percent, and residents testing positive for the virus increased by nearly 45 percent.

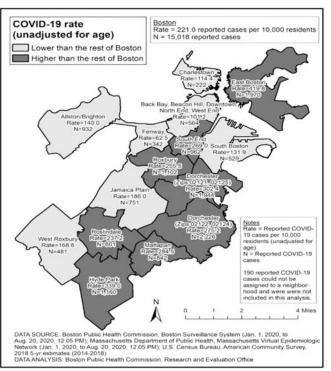
For a second week in a row the neighborhood has been at the top of the city's list as a virus transmission 'hotspots'. With COVID spikes in neighboring Revere, Chelsea, Lynn and Everett, Eastie's rise in infections mimics those happening on the North Shore more so than Boston.

The infection rate has steadily climbing since late July. The week over week infection rate rose by only 1.7 percent in early August but then jumped by 3.6 percent two weeks ago.

According to the latest data released by the Boston Public Health Commission (BPHC) on Friday, Eastie's COVID infection rate went from 397.2 cases per 10,000 residents to 419.8 cases per 10,000 residents. The citywide average is 221 cases per 10,000 residents, an increase of two percent from the 216.3 cases per 10,000 resident average reported last week.

As of Friday 106 more people became infected with the virus in Eastie and there were 1,970 confirmed COVID-19 cases. This was a 5.5 percent increase from the 1,864 cases reported by the BPHC two weeks ago.

As of Last week the BPHC reported that 11,659 residents were tested for COVID-19 and the data shows that 11.4 percent of those tested were COVID positive--an increase of 44 percent since last week when only 7.9 percent were testing positive for the vi-



On Friday the BPHC released its weekly COVID-19 stats by neighborhood that tracks infection rates and COVID testing results in Boston neighborhoods.

Overall since the pandemic began 17.7 percent of Eastie's population tested were found to be posi-

Last week, Mayor Martin Walsh reiterated how important it is for everyone in the Boston community to remain vigilant and continue to wash their hands frequently, avoid large gatherings, practice social distancing, and wear a mask. The Mayor said that the City of Boston will continue to be proactive in its efforts to contain the virus with testing, outreach, resources, and information in all needed languages and

However, while Mayor pointed out that Boston proper remains 'yellow' under the state's new maps that highlight COVID spikes, Eastie is surrounded by North Shore cities and towns that are

now in the 'red' according to the state map.

Some argue Eastie residents have been having more contact with residents living in places like Revere, Lynn, Chelsea and Everett (all in the red) than they would with residents in say West Roxbury thus providing more opportunity for exposure.

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

Citywide positive cases of coronavirus rose 2.1 percent last week from 14,916 cases to 15,232 cases. So far 11,418 Boston residents have fully recovered from the virus and two additional residents died last week bringing the total of fatalities in the city to 748.

Schools // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

them. But every day outside the classroom is a lost opportunity for many students. Schools mean more than learning. They mean essential services, care and mentoring, and social development. The other benefit is flexibility. We can adapt this plan to the health circumstances. We have more options for moving forward."

Walsh said this approach will give the city and BPS time to assess health data before each step with the Boston Public Health Commission. It will allow the City of Boston and BPS to address learning needs and opportunity gaps in person and by providing extra help for students learning online. In every step, families have the choice of whether to optin to hybrid learning or stay fully remote.

"The bottom line is this: We need to contain the virus and keep our communities safe," said Walsh. "Kids need to get back to school, in many cases for reasons of equity and safety. And we need to provide quality education, in whatever format is required. That's what this plan makes possible. Every step along the way will follow science and public health data. Every family will have the choice about when to send children into school. And we will continue the work that began long before COVID-19: to close opportunity and achievement gaps, and give every single child the quality edu-

cation that they deserve." Walsh and Cassellius said school facilities will be in full compliance with state public health guidelines from the first day anyone enters those buildings, staff or students, and that work is happening now. It will be complete and ongoing, as teachers and school leaders help identify additional

steps. Cassellius said teachers will begin professional

Each student's exact first day in school for BPS's hybrid learning will depend on which group they are placed in, the A or the B group, for their 2 days per week in school.

September 21: All students begin remote learning Thursday, October 1: Students with the highest needs start in hybrid

Thursday, October 15 (B) & Monday, October 19 (A): Grades K0, K1, K2 return

Thursday, October 22 (B) & Monday, October 26 (A): Grades 1 - 3 return

Thursday, November 5 (B) & Monday, November 9 (A): Grades 4 - 8 (secondary schools start grades

Monday, November 16 (A) & Thursday, November 19 (B): Grades 9 - 12 return

development on Tuesday, September 8 for teaching both the remote and hybrid models.

"Equity remains at the center of Boston Public Schools' planning for a safe and successful start to the school year," said Cassellius. "This plan prioritizes meeting the needs of our most vulnerable learners, respects family choice, and is thorough, thoughtful and responsive to the feedback we have received from families and teachers. We are excited for the new school year and will continue to support the social, emotional, and physical wellness of our students, staff and community as we lift up equity, promote health and safety, and ensure educators, staff, and families are prepared to support our students in their learning."

On October 1, the BPS plan outlines two options for families: the first is all remote learning continues with five days a week of online instruction and the second is a hybrid learning with two days a week of learning

in schools and three days of remote learning. Students in the hybrid model will be assigned into Group A or Group B. Students in Group A will attend schools on Mondays and

Tuesdays and students in

Group B will attend school on Thursdays and Fridays (see sidebar).

All will learn online on Wednesdays to allow for cleaning, disinfecting, and sanitizing of buildings. There are specific plans to work with students with disabilities, students who are working towards English language proficiency, and others who require additional time and care to support their learning.

'Science and data is at the forefront of every single plan as we work to gradually and safely reopen the City of Boston," said the city's Chief of Health and Human Services Marty Martinez. "By phasing grades in every two weeks, teachers and school staff will have the time they need to get comfortable with the safety of their buildings and classrooms before students arrive, and allow us to monitor for any COVID activity between phases. As we have said from the beginning, these dates are dependent on public health data, and we will be closely monitoring the public health situation while creating a safe space for Boston's students

to learn." To see the full plan with complete details about this plan, go to bostonpublicschools.org/Reopening.

Mariachi // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

This summer Robles, through her East Boston based Veronica Robles new project that is breaking down cultural barriers and empowering women through music.

"This year, I made a big investment bringing five female mariachi musicians from Mexico to kick off my project 'Veronica Robles All Women Mariachi," said Robles. "It is an honor to have all these amazing ladies playing with me as part of my project presenting the first ever all woman mariachi band in New En-

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It was in Mexico City's Plaza Garibaldi, the cradle Eastie. Parts of the cultural Cultural Center, began a of Mariachi music, where center are innovative and Robles was introduced to Mariachi music as a teen. So it was here she tapped five Mexican nationals to be part of her project.

> Through a cultural grant from the City of Boston and raising money through a GoFundMe page Robles invested roughly \$13,000 in legal fees, flight tickets, food, lodging and a stipend for the musicians to bring her dream of an all-female mariachi band to the re-

With national anti-immigrant rhetoric being spewed constantly by conservatives, Robles hopes seeing an all female Mexican band performing songs that many people recognize will bring communities together through music.

Robles has been giving back to her community since arriving from Mexico in the 1990s and lat-

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er founded the Veronica Robles Cultural Center in educational after-school programs where students ultimately perform schools and community events that expose other vouths and adults to new cultures and traditions.

"Culture empowers youth and makes our communities stronger has been my mantra," she said.

In the long term, Robles hopes the all-female mariachi group will inspire more young girls to get involved in what has been historically a male-dominated musical scene.

"I hope someday I can open a mariachi music school and give youth the opportunity to learn the music and instruments within the mariachi genre like they would in other music schools," she said.

To learn more about the upcoming virtual show visit https://www.bostonharbornow.org/ourharborourhome/.

Cafe // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

closely with small businesses in Eastie, like Tawakal Halal Cafe, to navigate the application process for a temporary outdoor dining

The OED team did explicit outreach in Eastie to engage restaurants like Tawakal Halal Cafe experiencing barriers to completing the licensing process.

Tawakal Halal Cafe took full advantage of the pilot program and was granted a license for Extension of Premises through the Temporary Extension on Public Property.

The cafe, located on the corner of Maverick and Jeffries Streets, was able to expand their dining into the building backyard as well as place temporary Jersey Barriers on the street so customers can safely dine

While indoor dining with limited capacity is now allowed in Boston and the state many still opt to eat outside during the COVID-19 pandemic. The temporary extension of outdoor dining also allows restaurants recoup some of

the losses of having limited capacity inside dining establishments.

Some other restaurants that got help extended their outdoor dining capabilities included Mi Rancho Restaurant: the Cunard Tavern; La Cancun; Casa Colombia; Tutti Frutti; Maverick's; Napoles Restaurant; Bohemios Restaurant Bar; Rincon Limeno Restaurant; Barney's Grill; Pazza On Porter; Mi Pueblito; Luna's; and Renegade's Pub.

"Boston is committed to a safe, phased reopening process," said Walsh. "That includes helping our small businesses open safely and successfully, and we've been working wherever we can to remove barriers and provide new opportunities. The restaurant industry has been incredibly impacted by this global pandemic, and we've made helping the small businesses that make our neighborhoods and city so special a priority during this time."

The Licensing Board is actively issuing approvals for temporary extensions on private and public property, and applications will continue to be reviewed and approved on a rolling basis. Applications and guidance are available on boston. gov, the Licensing Board has been conducting outreach throughout Boston's neighborhoods to encourage restaurants to apply for

this program. Under the special licenses those outdoor spaces can remain open until 10 p.m. on weeknights and 11 p.m.

on weekends. Outdoor restaurant tables must be minimum six feet away, and tables can't seat more than six people. Workers must wear masks, and patrons must wear masks until they are seated at their tables.

Because bar areas still remain closed at neighborhood restaurants, the Licensing Board also voted last month to lift citywide the preexisting condition of "alcohol with food only" on outdoor space or any other similar condition that prohibits the sale and service of alcohol on outdoor space without the service of a food item.

Blue Line // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

lot program to allow them to bring their bikes onto one car on the train during peak hours. With the population of the neighborhood growing, it's important that we give residents as many transportation options as possible." An added benefit to Ed-

the city. I'm proposing a pi-

wards's plan is that Blue Line riders may spend less time on trains thus exposing themselves less to poten-

tial COVID exposure while commuting. Data shows that vehicu-

lar traffic in Eastie has in-

creased dramatically over

Shore commuters spilling onto city streets as they try to avoid traffic on Route 1A. The Suffolk Downs proposal includes miles of dedicated multi-modal infrastructure, but its effectiveness will be limited by the MB-TA's prohibition of bicycles during peak rush hour on the Blue Line. "If people want to bike

the last 10 years with North

to work from the Aquarium station, they should be able to do so," said Edwards.

"The more options we give

people to get from Point A

to Point B the fewer cars

there will be on our neigh-

borhood roads." Her plan has received

the support of transportation advocates like former Boston Transportation Secretary John Vitagliano who successfully lobbied for the Marty Coughlin By-Pass Road to Chelsea that significantly reduced Logan Airport-related traffic in Day "I strongly support Councilor Lydia Edward's excel-

north shore communities-to

lent recommendation that the MBTA provide sufficient capacity on the Blue Linewhich serves East Boston, Winthrop, Revere and other

bicyclists accommodate during rush hour periods as well as during current non-rush hour periods," he said. "There are a number of possible operational alternatives, including full and partial train car/ bike provisions, that are feasible but would need to be evaluated through a vigorous test program. The current pandemic downturn of Blue Line ridership provides the opportunity to perform such a test. East Boston and other north shore communities deserve equal bicycle access to Boston-now is the time to do it."



Phone: 617-561-6336

Exercise, Anyone?

Eastie native Graziani begins tennis and personal training business

By Cary Shuman

Giancarlo Graziani grew up in East Boston but he now calls Winthrop home.

A two-year resident of the Highlands section of Winthrop, Graziani is launching a new business, Graziani Fitness Training and Tennis.

has newly Graziani minted business cards, is developing a new website, designing a business logo, and signing up new clients.

"It's all happening very quickly," said Graziani.

Graziani, 31, was at work and in fine form at the Wallace B. McLean Tennis Courts in Winthrop last week giving a tennis lesson to Sarah Friend, who is employed as a social worker. Graziani instructed his student on techniques such as serving, forehand and backhand shots, footwork and stances along with the rules of tennis.

"This is my second tennis lesson and Giancarlo gives very clear instructions," said Friend. "He's very patient and good at

breaking tennis down into its simplest parts for a total beginner like myself. He's made the sport very approachable."

Graziani has an impressive background in the sport. He played six years of varsity tennis at Boston Latin School, leading the Wolfpack to the State Tournament and serving as a team captain. He continued his career at Temple University in Philadelphia where he earned a spot on the Owls' club team. He received his college degree in Geography and Urban

"I moved back to Boston two years ago and then moved to Winthrop and have been playing tennis on and off and now I'm starting to coach again," said Graziani, who has coached tennis in the Tenacity youth program in Boston.

Graziani currently works as a coach and personal trainer at Reebok whose headquarters are in the Seaport district in Boston.

"The tennis instruction is something I'm starting to do on the side and I'm enjoying it," said Graziani, "I have a few clients and I'm enjoying being around the game more besides just playing, and I like coaching people. So I'm working at Reebok in addition to inhome personal training and tennis coaching."

Fond memories of Eastie

The son of Paula Gravallese of East Boston and the late Giovanni Graziani, Giancarlo grew up in Orient Heights. He attended East Boston Central Catholic through the third grade, the Bradley School for fourth and fifth grade, and the Umana Barnes School for sixth grade.

He began attending Boston Latin in seventh grade. Boston Latin is the oldest public school in the United States founded in 1635, He became a varsity tennis player in his first year at

Giancarlo has fond memories of growing up and living in Eastie.

"I remember playing Little League games at Noyes



Tennis instructor Giancarlo Graziani works with Sarah Friend on her serving technique during a tennis lesson in Winthrop.

Park, walking in the Little League Opening Day parade from Maverick Square to Orient Heights, canning in uniform and asking for donations along Bennington Street for Lttle League, and then going for a slush at Lanzilli's," recalled Giancarlo.

Giancarlo also remembers attending summer sports camps at East Boston Stadium when Tom Menino was the mayor of Boston.

"He hosted a full week of camps and each week was for a different sport for the whole summer," said Gi-

He also enjoyed many of Eastie's well-known food establishments.

"We use to go to eat at Uncle Pete's BBQ in Day Square," said Giancarlo. "They had the best ribs. I would also choose to go there on my birthday."

Santarpio's was another family favorite. "I loved going to eat Santarpio's with my family: my mom, dad, brother Giacomo, Nana, Gramp, and Uncle Steve," said Giancarlo. "We would get so many pizzas and it always seemed like too much, but we would always eat them all."

He also recalled working for Tenacity "teaching summer tennis down on Constitution Beach."

and will continue to do so.

its egregious implications for Eastie.

Donald Trump's nuclear weapons funding proposal.

need him to continue his progressive agenda.

on the MBTA Blue Line.

He was a frequent rider

"I would take the Blue Line with my friends, literally everywhere, since we took it to go to Boston Latin School every day and I never bought a car - I would just borrow my dad's car when he would let me," he reflected.

Excited about his new venture

Graziani, who said he prides himself on his personal fitness, is excited about his new business venture and enjoying life as a Winthrop resident. He lives in town with his wife, Heather, and their two-yearold daughter, Madalina.

"I hope to get more people involved in the business and see where it grows,' said Graziani. "I love Winthrop. I live up in the Highlands just before you get to Seal Harbor. It's a great town."

People can contact Giancarlo Graziani for personal training or tennis instruction at: graziani.personaltraining@gmail.com.

AG Maura Healey endorses Terrence Kennedy for re-election to the Governor's Council

Governor's Councilor Terrence Kennedy is proud to announce he has received the endorsement of Massachusetts Attorney General Maura Healey in his bid for re-election. The Democratic Primary is Tuesday, September 1st.

"I am proud to endorse Terrence Kennedy re-election to the Governor's Council. During his time on the Council, he has advocated for appointing diverse judges that better reflect the makeup of our Commonwealth. And he has championed restorative

justice. He is exactly the voice we need representing us." Said Healey.

Kennedy said "I am honored to have the support of Attorney General Maura Healey"

The Democratic Primary is Tuesday, September 1st, Early Voting has already begun and Mail Ballots must be returned by Primary Election Day. Terrence Kennedy is a practicing attorney of 37 years. He has been married to his wife Chervl for 35 years. They have three grown children, Alyica, Julie and Peter.

Terrence Kennedy represents the 6th District of the Governor's Council which includes Lynn, Lynnfield, Marblehead, Nahant, Saugus and Swampscott of Essex County, Cambridge, Everett, Malden, Medford, Melrose, Reading, Somerville, Stoneham, Wakefield, Winchester of Middlesex County, Chelsea Revere Winthrop, Boston neighborhoods of East Boston, North End, Back Bay, Chinatown and Beacon Hill of Suffolk County.

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The September 1st primary election is critically important for East Boston's future. Our town needs the leadership and commitment to our se-

curity and economic vitality which Senator Ed Markey has long provided

Ed Markey is not a stranger to Eastie, supporting us on a host of import-

ant environmental issues, including vigorously opposing Logan Airport's serious noise and air pollution impacts. Ed's national leadership in creating the Green New Deal, in co-sponsorship with Representative Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez-his strong supporter-would significantly benefit East

Boston by providing additional environmental protections from not only noise and air pollution but also create substantial programs for addressing global warming issues, in particular the threat of sea level rise and

Ed Markey has been a leader in creating a top-level national program to

Ed Markey has always been on East Boston's side, win lose or draw. We

John Vitagliano

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East Boston

Times-Free Press

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BE SURE TO VOTE IN THE PRIMARY

This Tuesday, September 1, is primary election day in Massachusetts for both national and state legislative offices.

Primary elections in Massachusetts typically are of little or no consequence because of the overwhelming Democratic voting enrollment and because most Democrats run unopposed.

However, this year's primary election is different because of the hotly-contested U.S. Senate race between incumbent Ed Markey and Congressman Joseph Kennedy that will draw a larger-than-usual turnout for a primary.

In addition, there are two truly unique and important aspects to Tuesday's election.

This will be the first election in which we will be voting either early, by mail, or in person amidst the Covid-19 pandemic. Tuesday's primary will be a good test of the ability of Massachusetts' election officials to conduct an election under these difficult circumstances and thus will serve as excellent preparation, both for voters and officials alike, for the upcoming November Presidential election.

It is important that all of us participate in the democratic process on or before Tuesday so that both we and our election officials can be as knowledgeable as possible about the procedures that we will need to follow in November to ensure a successful final election.

In addition, thanks to the chaos that reigns throughout the country (for many reasons), it is not an understatement to say that the elections to be held this year -- both the primaries and the final -- have taken on more significance than any in our nation's history.

The Presidential elections of 1860 (prior to the start of the Civil War) and 1932 (when we were in the midst of the Great Depression) arguably were the most consequential elections since our founding, but the 2020 election cycle will be even more significant than both of those.

The pundits talk about the existential threat being posed to our democracy and institutions because of the situation in the White House. However, regardless of what one thinks of the current policies emanating from Washington, what undeniably is true is that our democracy certainly will come to an end if we fail to exercise the most important right we have as Americans -- the right to vote.

There is no greater threat to America's survival than our own apathy. A strong voter turnout in every election, including the primaries, will send the clearest possible message to our political leaders that we care about the future direction of our country.

We urge all of our readers to be sure to vote in the primary election -- it is more important than ever.

POLITICIZING THE **PANDEMIC**

This past Sunday evening, President Donald Trump held a news conference to announce that the use of blood plasma in treating patients who have contracted Covid-19 has been shown to reduce the death rate from Covid-19 by 35% -- a rather dramatic reduction -- and therefore the FDA was allowing for the emergency use of plasma throughout the country.

The FDA Commissioner, Dr. Stephen Hahn, also spoke at the news conference and appeared to support Trump's

The problem however, is that what both Trump and Dr. Hahn said was not accurate.

The following day, the New York Times published a story in which experts pointed out that the potential benefits of blood plasma treatment had not been proven by randomized clinical trials and certainly not to the extent claimed by Trump and Dr. Hahn.

When Dr. Hahn was contacted by the Times, he issued this statement via Twitter:

"I have been criticized for remarks I made Sunday night about the benefits of convalescent plasma. The criticism is entirely justified. What I should have said better is that the data show a relative risk reduction not an absolute risk reduction.'

In short, Dr. Hahn admitted that the claims made by Trump and himself on Sunday evening were wildly exaggerated.

We would remind our readers that the FDA previously had given emergency use authorization for hydroxychloroquine as a Covid-19 treatment after it had been touted by Trump -- only to withdraw that authorization when it was shown that hydroxychloroquine was both ineffective and dangerous.

It is clear that once again the work of the professional scientists and experts is being interfered with by the White House for political purposes.

With the pandemic still causing carnage across our nation (we continue to lead the world in Covid-19 cases and deaths), it is more essential than ever that we need facts based on science -- not on considerations of political grandstanding.

SEND US YOUR NEWS

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

deb@reverejournal.com



Forum



LETTER to the Editor

SUPPORTS EDWARDS

Dear Editor,

I strongly support Councilor Lydia Edward's excellent recommendation that the MBTA provide sufficient capacity on the Blue Line-which serves East Boston, Winthrop, Revere and other north shore communities-to accommodate bicyclists during rush hour periods as well as during current non-rush hour pe-

possible operational alternatives, including full and partial train car/ bike provisions, that are feasible but would need to be evaluated through a vigorous test program. The current pandemic downturn of Blue Line There are a number of ridership provides the opportunity to perform such a test.

East Boston and other north shore communities deserve equal bicycle access to Boston-now is the time to do it.

John Vitagliano

Speaker Nancy Pelosi endorses Joe Kennedy for U.S. Senate

Staff Report

Citing his commitment to the future of the Democratic Party and progressive causes, Speaker Nancy Pelosi last week endorsed Congressman Joe Kennedy III in his bid for U.S. Senate. Speaker Pelosi is the highest-ranking female elected official in the United States.

"Never before have the times demanded that we elect courageous leaders as today, which is why I'm pleased to join so many of my colleagues in endorsing Joe Kennedy III for Senate," said Speaker Pelosi. "In 2018, when we took back the House, Joe campaigned across America to make that victory possible

and that's why so many of his supporters are Freshman Members of Congress who Joe helped elect. He knows that to achieve progressive change, you must be on the front lines lead-Massachusetts and America need Joe Kennedy's courage and leadership in the Senate."

Speaker Pelosi continued: "We are at a watershed moment for our country. From climate change to health care to racial justice, Joe has been a leader in our Caucus organizing us around our core values. We need leaders who are willing to give every inch of themselves to the causes and concerns that unify Democrats. Joe Kenne-

dy represents this Party's future. He will help lead Democrats forward on the defining battles of our

A fierce leader, Speaker Nancy Pelosi has been ing movements of people. front and center in the fight against Donald Trump's dangerous agenda. She has led House Democrats for 17 years and has represented San Francisco in Congress for more than 33 years. Among her incredibly long list of achievements, Speaker Pelosi led the successful efforts to pass the Affordable Care Act and protect it from years of Republican efforts to repeal it. She did so by building a strong coalition of elected officials including Kennedy - to

mobilize and campaign to block House Republicans' efforts as we continue our fight to expand health care to all Americans.

"I am honored to have Speaker Pelosi's support in this race," said Kennedy. "There is no one who has stood up to Donald Trump and defended our Party's values and our country's future more. I've seen that bold leadership up close when she fought back against Republican's attempts to gut American's health care and then during impeachment in some of our country's darkest days. She is a force and a changemaker, and I'm beyond grateful to have her in my corner."

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GBR-Comp-Q3-SummerSale-V3

Large condo development breaks ground on Maverick Street

A Boston Planning and Development Agency (BPDA) approved mixeduse condo project on Maverick Street broke ground recently, and will bring 49 new units to East Boston.

The project at 205 Maverick St., dubbed EBO, was approved by the BPDA in 2018 after developer Joseph Nogueira made several changes to the design, scale and scope of the proposed building and cut down the number of total units. Originally the developer proposed a five story, 55 unit building with two commercial spaces.

The modifications to the proposal came after members of the Gove Street Citizens Association (GSCA) voted 12 to 12 at a community meeting in Sept. 2018. The tied vote meant GSCA would not send a letter of support or opposition for the project.

The plans approved by the BPDA call for the demolition of the existing single-story commercial structure that houses a laundromat and convenience store in order to construct a five-story, mixed-use building with 49 residential rental units, seven of which will be affordable units.

According to Nogueira, Nauset Construction has begun its work on the project that will consist of 12 studio units, 17 one-bedroom units, and 20 two-bedroom

"EBO condominiums are designed to fit in seamlessly with the character of the existing neighborhood, while providing much-needed housing to the City of Boston - including seven

affordable units – in close proximity to public transportation," said Nogueira. 'And bringing back the market and laundromat in upgraded space ensures that they will be able to continue to serve the community for years to come."

At community meetings regarding the project Nogueira called the project 'development without displacement' because he always planned to bring back the laundromat and convenience store after construction was completed. The two tenants, Maverick Street Market and Swish & Swash Laundromat, are popular businesses in the area and residents expressed a desire for both

The development will also include an enclosed parking garage with 34 parking spaces and an equal number of bicycle spaces. In addition, an outdoor courtyard that sets back the residential entry from the sidewalk will be constructed to create opportunities for informal neighborhood gathering and socializing that will further enliven the streetscape. In order to soften the garage the developer has planned a roof decked open space or 'green roof' concept over the garage in order to hide the cars from view from abutters living around the building on Maverick and Everett

"Constructing mid-size, mixed-use multifamily developments in tight urban infill locations is becoming a calling card for Nauset in recent years," said Nauset Construction President Anthony Papantonis. "Through repetition, we've been able to stream-



An artist's rendering of what the project at 205 Maverick St. will look like once construction is completed.

line processes to reduce construction time and improve procedures to ensure the safety of the surrounding neighborhood and our workforce."

As part of his BPDA approval Nogueira agreed to a \$20,000 contribution to fund a transportation analysis, and/or implement pedestrian safety enhancements, vehicle calming measures, and public realm improvements in and around the Maverick Street

The developer also plans to make donations to the Piers Park Sailing Center as well as the East Boston Social Centers.

USPS Board of Governors announces bipartisan election mail committee

Staff Report

The United States Postal Service Board of Governors last week announced the establishment of a bipartisan Election Mail Committee that will actively oversee the United States Postal Service's support of the mail-in voting process. The committee will be chaired by Governor Lee Moak, who will be joined on the committee by Gov. Ron Bloom and Gov. John

The Postal Service has a

long history of effectively helping Americans participate in elections via mail-in ballots, which are expected to account for less than two percent of all mail volume from mid-September until Election Day. However, because of the ongoing pandemic, many states are anticipating the expanded use of the mail for voting during the upcoming national election, and in some instances are allowing mail-in voting and no-excuse absentee voting for the first time under statute,

and each state has unique requirements and deadlines for ballots under state laws.

The Election Mail Committee will use its oversight role to reinforce the strong commitment of the Postal Service to the mail as an important part of the nation's democratic process, and will regularly monitor execution of USPS's work on election mail to ensure that our part of this election process is implemented in the most effective way pos-

In a joint statement, the

Governors announced: "The United States Postal Service will play an indispensable role in ensuring that those Americans who wish to vote by mail will be able to do so and have their votes counted. The Governors take our responsibility with the utmost gravity, and we will work to ensure that the Postal Service continues to perform for the American people this election season. "Postmaster General Louis DeJoy has the full support of the Governors. He was selected to help bring needed changes to the Postal Service, which has experienced over a decade of financial losses and faces the need for fundamental reform. The essential public service functions of the Postal Service must be maintained, and the Post-

master General's reform initiatives will help ensure that they can be for many years to come."

The Governors of the U.S. Postal Service:

•Robert M. Duncan,

Chairman of the Board John M. Barger

•Ron A. Bloom

Roman Martinez IV

•Donald L. Moak

•William D. Zollars

Markey for Senate campaign foregoes door

Staff Report

As COVID-19 cases continue to rise across Massachusetts and the country, the Ed Markey for U.S. Senate campaign is prioritizing the health and safety of voters and volunteers, and will continue the policy of not engaging in door knocking this election cy-

traditional statewide field operation includes thousands of volunteers and staff knocking on tens of thousands of doors over the course of a campaign. The Markey campaign made the decision that canvassing during Get-Out-The-Vote would be a danger to public health in the midst of a pandemic.

knocking during Get-Out-The-Vote this election

"For those who love campaigning, nothing compares to meeting up with fellow volunteers, consuming too much coffee, and heading out with clipboards and pens to talk to voters. But for now, public health trumps politicking. We will continue to organize person-to-person, neighbor-to-neighbor, friendto-friend, just not face-toface," Campaign Manager John Walsh said.

"Instead, the Markey campaign has developed a new way of reaching voters during this public health crisis through new and innovative digital tools, relational organizing strategies, and the growth of our online community. Together. we can connect with voters in all 351 cities and towns Massachusetts,' across Walsh added.

Mass. unemployment and job estimates for July

The state's July total unemployment rate is down 1.6 percentage points at 16.1 percent following a revision to the June rate of 17.7 percent, the Executive Office of Labor and Workforce Development announced Friday.

The Bureau of Labor Statistics' preliminary job estimates indicate Massachusetts added 72,100 jobs in July. This follows last month's revised gain of 94,600 jobs. Over the month, the private sector added 67,300 jobs as gains occurred in Leisure and Hospitality; Trade, Transportation, and Utilities; Education and Health Services; Other Services; Manufacturing; Construction; and Information. Losses occurred in Financial Activities and Professional, Scientific, and Business Services. Government added jobs over the month.

From July 2019 to July 2020, BLS estimates Massachusetts lost 452,600 jobs.

Losses occurred in each of the private sectors, with the largest percentage losses in Leisure and Hospitality; Other Services; Trade, Transportation, and Utilities; and Construction.

The July unemployment rate was 5.9 percentage points above the national rate of 10.2 percent reported by the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

The labor force decreased by 12,600 from 3,684,300 in June, as 50,300 more residents were employed and 62,900 fewer residents were unemployed over the month.

Over the year, the state's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate increased by 13.2 percentage points.

The state's labor force participation rate – the total number of residents 16 or older who worked or were unemployed and actively sought work in the last four weeks - dropped to 64.9 percent. Compared to July 2019, the labor force participation rate is down by 2.8 percentage points.

July 2020 Employment Overview

•Leisure and Hospitality gained 35,300 (+18.9%) jobs over the month. Over the year, Leisure and Hospitality lost 156,100 (-41.3%) jobs.

•Trade, Transportation and Utilities added 15,000 (+3.1%) jobs over the month. Over the year, Trade, Transportation and Utilities lost 73,900 (-12.8%) jobs.

•Education and Health Services gained 7,300 (+1.0%) jobs over the month. Over the year, Education and Health Services lost 77,700 (-9.6%) jobs.

•Other Services gained 6,300 (+6.5%) jobs over the month. Over the year, Other Services are down 36,300 (-26.0%) jobs.

 Manufacturing ed 2,300 (+1.0%) jobs over the month. Over the year, Manufacturing lost 12,900 (-5.3%) jobs.

•Construction 1,900 (+1.4%) jobs over the month. Over the year, Construction has lost 19,500 (-12.0%) jobs.

 Information 600 (+0.7%) jobs over the month. Over the year, Information lost 4,800 (-5.1%)

 Financial Activities lost 600 (-0.3%) jobs over the month. Over the year, Financial Activities lost 5,900 (-2.6%) jobs.

•Professional, Scientific and Business Services lost 800 (-0.1%) jobs over the month. Over the year, Professional, Scientific and Business Services 37,000 (-6.1%) jobs.

Government 4,800 (+1.1%) jobs over the month. Over the year, Government lost 28,300 (-6.2%) jobs.

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Voting // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

ro and State Sen. Joseph Boncore.

Suffolk Incumbent County Register of Probate Felix Arroyo will square off against Kerby Roberson in the state primary and incumbent representing the Massachusetts 6th District on the Governor's Council Terrence Kennedy will take on Helina Fontes.

On Saturday, Kennedy stopped by early voting at East Boston High as part of several pop-up events to greet voters outside early voting locations throughout the Commonwealth. Kennedy cast his own ballot early alongside his wife Lauren in his hometown of Newton before heading over to Eastie. Kennedy

also visited early voting lo-

cations in Worcester, Rox-

bury, Quincy, Weymouth, and Brockton.

Due to COVID-19, health and safety protocols during the early voting period and on Election Day will be implemented at polling locations. All poll workers will receive face shields, face masks, gloves, disinfectant wipes, disinfectant spray and hand sanitizer. Cleaning will take place at each site every two to three hours. Voters waiting in line will be instructed to stand and wear a face covering.

six feet away from others Ballots will be available in English, Spanish, Chinese and Vietnamese. Language assistance will be available on Election Day by translators at polling

locations or by contacting

the Election Department's



early ballot at East Boston High School on Saturday.

translation phone bank. For more information on

how to participate in this year's elections, please visit boston.gov/election.

Department of Early Education announces regulations for child care

Staff Report

The Department of Early Education and Care (EEC) announced last week revised Minimum Requirements for Health and Safety outlining expectations for child care providers as the Commonwealth continues to navigate reopening child care programs in the COVID-19 environment.

Effective Sept. 1, these new requirements align with guidance previously issued by the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) and ease restrictions on classroom group sizes and ratios. They allow limited on-site services for children with special needs to occur safely in child care facilities. The updates will provide flexibility for programs, while providing necessary space to maintain physical distancing between children.

Minimum The quirements for Health and Safety, developed in coordination with medical experts as well as child care providers from across the Commonwealth, apply to all child and youth serving programs, including homebased child care and center-based child care.

"While we all must remain vigilant against the transmission of COVID-19, the updates to our requirements will ensure children and families can remain healthy and safe when relying on child care to go to work," said Commissioner Samantha Aigner-Treworgy. "We are confident in our providers' ability to continue safely meeting the needs of children and families in their communities while supporting children's learning and development."

The Department's mission in reopening child care is to increase access to child and youth serving programs while continuing to protect children and staff and prevent the spread of COVID-19. EEC and the Department of Public Health (DPH) are working closely with stakeholders and experts in the field of epidemiology and pediatrics to develop solutions that balance the needs of children and families with public health and safety.

The Minimum Requirements for Health and Safety include, but are not limited

•Returning center-based classroom group sizes to pre-pandemic limits.

•Allowing home-based child care providers flexibility in their maximum group size when their own children are at home and engaged in virtual learning.

Governor Baker issued an Executive Order requiring all early education centers and family childcare providers to close on March 23 to mitigate the spread of COVID-19. The Depart-

ment of Early Education and Care (EEC) also issued emergency procedures to open Exempt Emergency Child Care Programs during the COVID-19 outbreak to give priority access for families of emergency personnel, medical staff, and others critical to confronting COVID-19.

Child care programs began the reopening process on June 22 when the Commonwealth moved to Step 2 of Phase 2. Providers had to submit plans to reopen to ensure they were prepared to implement the health and safety requirements.

Before child care was temporarily closed by Executive Order in March, Massachusetts had approximately 8,200 licensed child care programs in operation. To date, more than 5,300 child care programs have reopened, and another 1,000 are currently completing their health and safety plans to be approved to reopen.

U.S. Department of Labor finds OSHA falling short when needed most

Staff Report

With unjust firings resulting from requesting a mask, reporting feeling sick, or suggesting safer work protocols to reduce the risk of COVID-19 infection, thousands of workers are finding their rights on the job being violated without consequence, according to MassCOSH.

As complaints of retaliation against whistleblowers skyrocket during the COVID-19 pandemic and the U.S. Department of Labor's Office of Inspector General (OIG) reporting workers suffering emotionally and financially, the Massachusetts Coalition of Occupational Safety and Health (MassCOSH) and its partners say workers' lives are at risk due to a slow and inadequate response from the U.S. Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA).

According to an Aug. 14 investigative report from the U.S. Department of Labor's OIG, OSHA received more than 4,100 complaints of illegal retaliation against whistleblowers during the first months of the COVID-19 pandemic, from Feb. 1, 2020, through May

31, 2020. This is a 30-percent increase compared to complaints received during the same four-month period in 2019.

Despite the urgency of enforcing public health and safety laws to stop the spread of a deadly virus, OSHA has reduced the number of whistleblower inspectors. It now takes 279 days for OSHA to complete a whistleblower investigation, an 86 percent increase from 2010.

"OSHA was challenged to complete investigations in a timely manner before the pandemic and the potential exists for even greater delays now," states the OIG report. "As COVID-19 illnesses and deaths continue to rise, OSHA needs to act quickly to investigate whistleblower complaints so employees feel protected when reporting unsafe working conditions."

"The reality of the situation is people are getting sick and some are dying because of a disease they acquired on the job," said MassCOSH Communications Director Jeff Newton. "But due to a botched government response, when workers speak up to demand better safety, they are

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finding themselves without protection and can become targets for retaliation. OSHA is failing to give workers the protection they urgently need when they report dangers that put their lives, their families, and the public at grave risk."

This past June, the National Employment Law Project surveyed more than 1,100 workers nationwide and found that one in eight reported "possible retaliatory actions by employers against workers in their company who have raised health and safety concerns during the pandemic.' Black workers were more than twice as likely as their white counterparts to report possible acts of employer retaliation.

"U.S. OSHA must act immediately implement the inspector general's recommendations," said Marcy Goldstein-Gelb, co-director of the National Council for Occupational Safety and Health, a close MassCOSH partner. "Add staff. Cut red tape. Do whatever it takes to make protecting whistleblowers a priority. When workers can safely speak out, we can save lives in the workplace, and protect our families and communities.'

USPS launches election mail website

Staff Report

As part of its ongoing effort to ensure that voters and election officials have the information they need to successfully use the U.S. Mail to vote in the November general elections, the U.S. Postal Service has launched a new Election Mail website. The website, which provides clear and concise information about voting by mail, is available 24/7 by going to: usps.com/ votinginfo.

The Postal Service recognizes that many states are choosing to expand mail-in voting options in the upcoming elections and that there will likely be a significant increase in demand among postal customers to participate in those elections by using the mail. In response, the Postal Service has updated its website to serve both voting customers seeking information on how to use the mail to vote and election officials seeking resources to help make their administration of the upcoming elections a suc-

For domestic voters, the website provides direct links to federal election resources as well as links to state-specific resources. For overseas and military voters, the new site provides additional information, including links to resources supporting their election participation.

The site also highlights what the Postal Service views as the most critical information for voters who opt to vote through the U.S. Mail: that, in requesting or casting a mail-in ballot, they not only must comply with their local jurisdictions' requirements, but also should start the process early. To allow sufficient time for voters to receive, complete and return ballots via the mail, the Postal Service strongly recommends that voters request ballots at the earliest point allowable, but no later than 15 days prior to the election date. The Postal Service also recommends that voters mail their ballots at least one week prior to their states' due dates to allow for timely receipt by election officials. Voters should contact their local election officials for further information

In addition, the site provides resources to state and local election officials as part of the Postal Service's ongoing efforts to partner with such officials to make the elections a success. The site guides election officials in contacting Postal Service personnel to discuss how they can design their mailings in a manner that comports with postal regulations, improves mail piece visibility and ensures efficient processing as well as timely delivery. The site

about deadlines and other

requirements.

also provides links to information, such as the official 2020 Official Election Mail Kit (Kit 600) and the State and Local Election Officials User's Guide (Publication 632), both of which were distributed to 11,500 election officials earlier this

The U.S. Postal Service remains fully committed to fulfilling its role in the electoral process when policymakers choose to use our services in administering elections. The Postal Service can fully handle and deliver the anticipated increase in Election Mail volume and is continuing to coordinate with state and local election officials through November. Election officials and voters are being asked to be mindful of the Postal Service's established delivery standards and consider how the mail actually works, so that voters have adequate time to request, receive, complete and send their mail-in ballots. The Postal Service will continue to do everything in its power to efficiently handle and deliver Election Mail, including ballots, in a manner consistent with the proven processes and procedures that have been

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

relied upon for years.

Congresswoman Pressley leads lawmakers in standing firm on postal service funding

Staff Report

Congresswoman Ayanna Pressley sent a letter urging House Speaker Nancy Pelosi and Senate Minority Leader Chuck Schumer to "stand firm" in their fight to protect the United States Postal Service (USPS) from Trump Administration attacks and secure billions in emergency funding for the USPS. The U.S. House of Representatives will vote on a bill tomorrow to provide \$25 billion in emergency funds to the Postal Service to improve mail delivery and service ahead of the 2020 election.

Congresswoman Press-Congressman and Payne were joined by 101 House colleagues in sending the letter. "The United States Post-

al Service provides essential jobs and services to our communities and is critical to our democracy and our economy," said Congresswoman Ayanna Pressley. "As the Trump administration and their handpicked

accomplices Republican work to undermine and sabotage the USPS, it's critical that we stand firm in our demand to provide the Postal Service with the resources and support it needs to remain the strong, secure, and reliable public service

agency that it is." "We need the Post Office to guarantee that everything from ballots to Census forms arrive on time," said Congressman Donald M. Payne, Jr. "Usually, support for this critical American institution is not a political issue. Unfortunately, President Trump has decided to try and limit service to improve his re-election chances in November. Now, the Post Office needs every dime of this money to thrive. I wanted to write this letter to encourage House and Senate leadership not to negotiate on the

final funding figures when

it comes to something as

important to Americans as

The letter comes before a

crucial vote on the Deliver-

mail delivery."

ing for America Act. Along with providing the \$25 billion in emergency funding, the bill (H.R. 8015) would halt post office closures, consolidations and stop the reduction of hours at postal locations, prohibit the removal of mail sorting machines and mailboxes, ensure that employees receive overtime pay for overtime hours, and return postal service to the level Americans experienced on Jan. 1, 2020, before the coronavirus public health crisis gripped the nation.

Earlier this week, Congresswoman Pressley joined members of the Massachusetts House delegation at a press conference to discuss Congress' response to President Trump's and Postmaster General De-Joy's actions to sabotage the USPS.

Congresswoman Pressley also joined her colleagues this week in demanding that Postmaster General Louis DeJoy be

removed from his position

immediately.

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EAST BOSTON WAVES CONCLUDE SUCCESSFUL 9-1 SEASON

The East Boston Waves travel girls softball team just concluded another successful season with a 9-1 record, good enough for a second place finish in the 15team USA Softball Eastern Mass 18-Under division.

Now in their tenth year and coached by Dr. Robert Gilbride and Daryl Martin, the Waves followed their previous years of first-place finishes with another strong showing in the highly competitive league.

Playing the best high school and college players from cities such as Bedford, Gloucester, Billerica, Marblehead, Newton, Andover, Lowell, and several other communities, the Waves once again met the high bar they've set for themselves over the years.

"Every year these girls exhibit such dedication, effort, and skill to play at this level. They're a great group and a pleasure to coach," said Coach Gilbride.

Coach Martin added "This year particularly is such an accomplishment just to get on the field playing that the results were almost secondary."

Coach Gilbride concluded, "We're thankful to the girls, the league, and all those involved in making this happen this summer".



Waves third baseman Bella Perotti throws out the runner at first base.



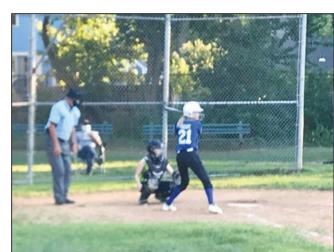
Brianna Meroli makes a nice play at first base.



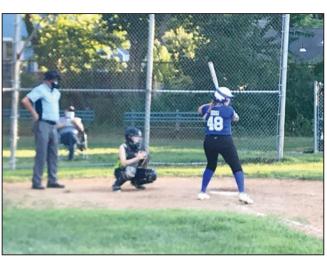
Lyndsay Baxter and Kelly Joyce on the bases.



Waves pitcher Serena Gilbride at the plate ready to bat.



Waves catcher Morgan Vigeant at the plate.



Brianna Meroli gets ready to hit.



Jessica Martin getting ready to hit.



Serena Gilbride of the Waves fires a pitch.

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The East Boston Waves girls softball team. Front row, from left, are Morgan Vigeant, Serena Gilbride, Bella Perotti, and Jessica Martin. Back row, from left, are Avery Badger, Kelly Joyce, Lyndsay Baxter, Briana Meroli, and Jodee Domey.



the health center for regular vaccines. Vaccines are more important now than ever, and without them, your baby is at risk for serious and

sometimes fatal diseases. We are safely seeing babies and children in our Family Medicine and Pediatrics departments. All visits are limited to one child and one parent or caregiver. If you are unwell, please do not come to the health center yourself. If you have questions, please call us at 617-569-5800.





A SHORT STORY ABOUT GROWING UP WITH AN UNFAIR ADVANTAGE.

Polio.

As one of the last American children to contract polio, Jeffrey Galpin grew up in a world of iron lungs and body casts, alone with his imagination. His story would be dramatic enough if it was just about his battle with this dreaded disease.

But Jeffrey Galpin did more than survive polio. He went on to a list of achievements in medical research—including being the principal investigator in applying the first gene therapy for HIV/AIDS.

Dr. Galpin actually credits his own

incurable condition for giving him the focus that made him so passionate in his research. His story leaves us with two of the most contagious messages we know. Don't give up, and remember to give back. If Dr. Galpin's story inspires just one more person to make a difference, then its telling here has been well worth while.



Sports

East Boston Expos have 4-2 victory over Charlestown in championship series

The Yawkey Baseball League championship series got underway when the unbeaten East Boston Expos hung on for a 4-2 win over the Charlestown Townies at Alumni Field in Lowell in the first of a bestof-five matchup.

Matt Costanza provided the offensive punch for the Expos with a pair of hits that keyed rallies to buttress righthander Scott Hall's complete game on the mound. Costanza's double in the sixth inning proved crucial. The Townies, who been held hitless through six innings, came to life in the seventh (last) inning with a pair of runs and threatened to torpedo Hall's effort.

East Boston jumped out to a 2-0 lead in the first inning. Leadoff hitter Ryan Petrone singled off Townie starter Billy Sullivan then stole second. After Philip Gaines walked, Costanza, who tied for the league batting title with a .513 average, rapped a single to right center to load the bases. Derek Adamson grounded to third to score Petrone and Gaines put East Boston

up 2-0 on Brett Samboy's groundout to first base.

Sullivan quickly settled down, however, and the contest turned into a pitching duel after that. Only Expo Matt Ferro reached base over the next three innings. Meanwhile, Hall ruled from the start as he struck out Townies Ben Adams, Devin Santilli, and Brandon Grover in the first inning and then allowed just one hit, a one-out second inning single by Kyle Halloran, until running into trouble in the seventh.

The Expos stretched

their 2-0 lead to 4-0 in the fifth. With one out, Mike Oliveira doubled to left but was erased in a rundown between second and third when Petrone hit into a fielder's choice. Gaines walked, setting up Costanza once more. Again, the lanky left-handed hitter responded, lacing a double to left-center that pushed Petrone across the plate. Derek Adamson walked to load the bases, then Samboy walked to push Gaines home with the Expos fourth

The two extra runs

saved the day for the Expos. Down 4-0, the Townies staged an uprising in the seventh that started innocently enough when Santilli tapped a slow roller down the third base line

that Hall fielded as Santilli legged his swing into an infield single. Jack Vaccari walked, then a Hall fastball got away and glanced off

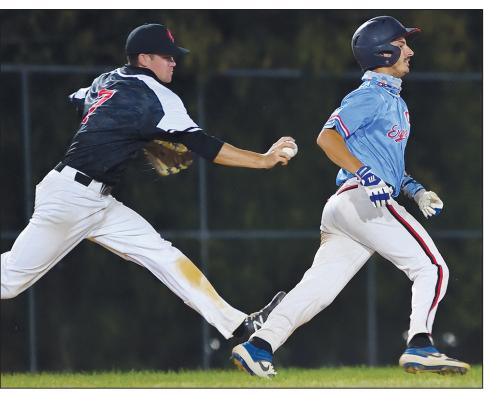
See EXPOS Page 11



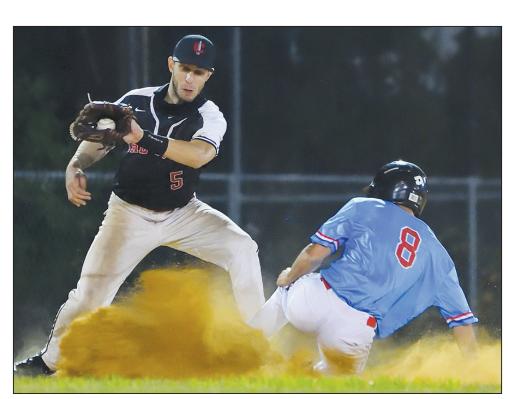
IT ENDS HERE: Expos third baseman Matt Costanza is framed by Townies batter Mike Barlett as Costanza fields Bartlett's grounder that led to the final out of East Boston's 4-2 win over Charlestown.



COMPLETE EFFORT: East Boston's Scott Hall went the distance and struck out 11 en route to a 4-2 win over Charles-



Boston's Mike Oliveira who got caught in a rundown between second and third base.



ton runner.



MAKING IT CLOSE: Jack Vaccari crosses home plate with Charlestown's second run as the Townies attempted a comeback in the final inning of their opening round game against East Boston in the Yawkey Baseball League championship series. The rally fell short as East Boston topped Charlestown 4-2.



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WINTHROP MARKETPLACE

Your Independent Grocer, Where Old Friends Meet And New Ones Are Made SALE DAYS THURSDAY, AUGUST 27TH THR WHILE SU

Great grocery specials			
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	(ex gluten free-protein-tortellini-pasta ready)		
В	ushs Baked Beans 16 oz		
A	nnie's Macaroni & Cheese 10/\$10.00		
single box			
C	ool Whip 8oz10/€10.00		
G	atorade 8pk 2/÷9.00		
	uaker Life Cereal or Cap'n Crunch Cereal 2/\$5.00		
	weet Baby Ray's Barbecue Sauce 2/\$3.00		
C	lassico Pasta Sauce		
	-8 Splash 64oz		
Н	ellmann's Mayonnaise 30oz 2/\$7.00		
	ggo Waffles (ex thick & fluffy) 2/\$4.00		
	reen Giant Steamers 16oz4/\$5.00		
	ood Sour Cream 16 oz		
	raft Cracker Barrel Cheese		
(ex cracker cuts)			

Deli	
Carolina Deluxe Turkey Breast	∳4.99/lb
Best Yet Cooked Ham	<i>\$3.</i> 69∕lb
Swiss Lorraine Cheese	∳6.99/lb
Hans Kissle Red Bliss Potato Salad	∳3.99/lb
Kayem Natural Casing Franks	∳6.99/lb

Produce
Tropical Sweet Golden Pineapples \$2.99
Fresh & Juicy Lemons or Limes 2/\$1.00
Locally Grown Cucumbers2/\$1.00
Green Giant Baby Carrots 11b pkg 10/€10.00
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SALE DAYS THURSDAY, AUGUST 27TH THROUGH WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 2ND 2020			
WHILE SUPPLIES LAST			
Grocery	Bakery		
Creat grocery specials Ronzoni Pasta	Assorted Bagels 4 pk		
Annie's Macaroni & Cheese	### The street of the street o		
(ex cracker cuts) Hood Cottage Cheese 16oz2/\$5.00	Weekend Specials Friday, August 28th through Sunday Aug. 30th		
Deli	"while supplies last"		
Carolina Deluxe Turkey Breast	BAKERY Assorted Danish		
Swiss Lorraine Cheese	Land O'Lakes American Cheese		
Rayem Natural Casing Franks	Premium Green Grapes		
Tropical Sweet Golden Pineapples \$2.99	Family Pack Boneless Country Style Ribs		
Fresh & Juicy Lemons or Limes 2/\$1.00 Locally Grown Cucumbers 2/\$1.00	Family Pack Split Chicken Breast		
Green Giant Baby Carrots 1lb pkg 10/\$10.00	Hood Ice Cream		

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Friends of Mary Ellen Greenway circulating greenway extension survey

By John Lynds

Last year Rep. Adrian Madaro secured \$100,000 in the state budget for an engineering, environmental and feasibility study to extend the Mary Ellen Welch Greenway past Constitution Beach to Belle Isle Marsh and eventually to Winthrop and Revere.

Support for the decades-old plan to connect the Greenway with neighborhoods north of Eastie is now gaining some speed and the Friends of the Mary Ellen Welch Greenway (Fo-MEWG) have been circulating an online survey on the future extension.

The survey, which can be found at https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/MHRN-VCQ, asks residents to rate how they would use a fu-

ture greenway extension.

The group is trying to gauge the number of residents that would use any

future extension of the park system for commuting, running, biking, leisurely strolls, walks with family members or simply a route to access businesses and amenities in places like Winthrop or Revere.

The FoMEWG have been working for years on extending the Greenway further to the north to Revere and east to Winthrop, allowing more people to enjoy this amenity and access the open space and safe, beautiful, low-stress corridor for active transportation that it affords.

There are several proposed extensions to the existing Mary Ellen Welch Greenway. Four proposed extensions include:

- Winthrop Extension: Mary Ellen Welch Greenway to Winthrop
- Revere Extension: Constitution Beach to Revere
- Chelsea Creek: Chelsea St to Revere Beach Park-

• Chelsea Spur: Wood Island Station to Chelsea

The extensions to Winthrop, Revere, and Chelsea would create a regional greenway network like that connects Lynn, Everett, and Malden. With the greenway extensions, residents and visitors alike will be able to walk and bike to beaches, wetlands, and destinations throughout these nearby but currently disconnected communities, while also

Perhaps one of the easiest visions and the one most likely to take the least amount of time in terms of planning and development is the proposed greenway bridge across Belle Isle Marsh into Winthrop.

The vision to create a

gaining new levels of ac-

cess to Eastie and beyond.

"Winthrop Greenway" has existed for a couple of decades. There has been a strong interest from East

The site of the proposed Mary Ellen Welch Greenway extension bridge across Belle Isle Marsh into Winthrop.

Boston and Winthrop residents, the Greenway Council, Bike Winthrop, the Winthrop Transportation Advisory Committee, and Friends of Belle Isle Marsh to extend the Greenway to Winthrop through an offroad multi-use path.

An extension of the Mary Ellen Welch Greenway to

Revere is also actively being discussed. The two greenway extensions will need to be connected at Orient Heights Station. The developer of Suffolk Downs, HYM Investment Group, has committed to building the Greenway connection from Constitution Beach via Bennington and Walley

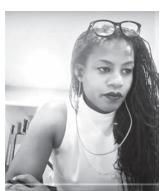
Street as a part of the mitigation package for the Suffolk Downs Development. Coordination between the consultants and the community will be beneficial to ensure that extensions link together seamlessly for walkers and bikers.

Councilor Edwards hold hearing on city's cannabis equity ordinance

By John Lynds

Last week, City Councilor Lydia Edwards held a City Council hearing with the Committee of Government Operations aiming to close a city loophole in the granting of marijuana licenses that have left some local cannabis entrepreneurs in the lurch and disenfranchised.

At the hearing Edwards said there's been a lack of transparency in the city's approval process with both the Boston Cannabis Board (BCB) and the city's Office of Emerging Industries (OEI) involved in the decision-making. However, OEI has been dragging their feet on many local applicants waiting to get



City Councilor Lydia Edwards during last week's online hearing.

into the lucrative cannabis game even after licenses are granted by BCB.

The problem, said Edwards, surrounds the city's Host Community Agreement (HCA). The BCB adopted its final rules and

regulations on July 22 and under those rules and regulations, the HCA negotiated with OEI after approval by the BCB and there is no set timeline for their execution.

"While the BCB is doing the licensing, OEI makes the final decision on who gets a license," said Edwards at the hearing.

What Edwards is hoping to do is create a more robust community process when it comes to future HCA and establishing a solid timeline between a signed HCA and the granting of a license by BCB.

To Edwards this would make more sense than granting a license and then negotiating a HCA after the fact with no input from residents impacted by such a business. She said the BCB approval should be the last stop before state approval by the Cannabis Control Commission (CCC).

It would also give applicants a more clear roadmap from applying for a license to actually receiving one.

"If host community agreements are still being negotiated behind closed doors and there is no firm timeline on when they will be executed, entrepreneurs will continue to struggle with the lack of predictability that we have had for the last three years," she said.

Edwards said the process has frustrated many applicants who have refurbished commercial spaces and are either paying hefty mortgages or rents waiting

ACROSS

1 "Coming of Age in __ 6 Manipulator

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for the city to give them the okay to get final approval from the state.

Under the proposed changes, the host community agreement negotiations would start within three days of the required community outreach meeting and a draft version of the agreement would be given to the applicant within 10 business days of that meet-

The negotiated agreement would then be reviewed by the BCB as part of its review of a complete application. If the application is approved the agreement would be executed.

tion is approved the agreement would be executed. In addition to changes to the HCAs, Edwards' proposal also establishes the

1:1 minimum ratio of equi-

ty to non-equity licenses for the various license types issued by the CCC. The CCC is only issuing delivery licenses to equity applicants for a two-year period.

"We need to make sure that equity applicants are going to have the same opportunities to open dispensaries as non-equity applicants," said Edwards. "My concern is that the BCB will be issuing equity licenses to delivery businesses over the next few years and if we don't adjust the 1:1 ratio to include different types of businesses, non-equity applicants could get a much higher number of licenses to operate dispensaries than equity applicants."

COVID-19 has changed everything.

Connect with our readers of **The Revere Journal**, **The Winthrop Sun Transcript**, **The East Boston Times Free Press**,

Chelsea Record, Everett Independent, and **Lynn Journal** who are looking for options in light of the current crisis in our Sept. 2+3 and 9+10 editions:



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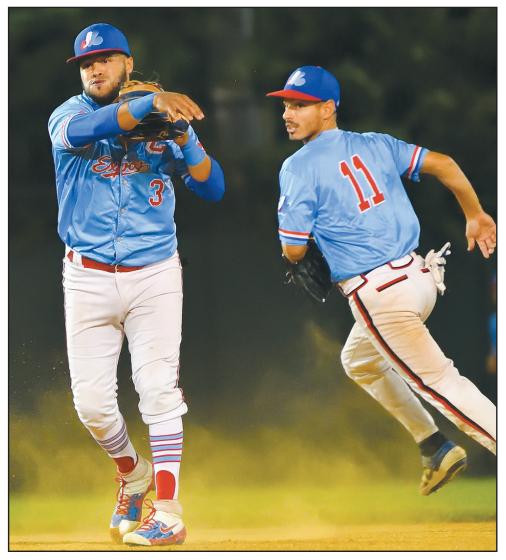
Expos // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9

Halloran's helmet to load the bases. First baseman Mike Martignetti singled to score Santilli and Vaccari, and the Townies had the goahead run at the plate with no outs.

But Hall regained his composure, striking out Charles Auditore and Sean McGivern before Mike Bartlett knocked a grounder to third base that Costanza gobbled up and fired to first for the out, preserving the Expos 4-2 win.

The Expos (14-0) and the Townies (10-3-1) finished 1-2 in the League's pandemic-shortened season and advanced to the championship round after sweeping their semi-final series 3-0 over the Brighton

Black Sox (East Boston) and the Stoneham Sabers (Charlestown). The Expos are new to the Yawkey Baseball League in 2020. The Townies return to the Championship series after a heartbreaking 4-2 series loss to the Revere Rockies that ended on a stunning, walk-off three run homer in Game Six in 2019.



TURNING TWO: Shortstop Jose Paulino (3) follows through as second baseman Mike Oliveira watches his teammates complete a 4-6-3 double play that squelched a Townie's threat in the second inning of the East Boston Expos 4-2 win over the Charlestown Townies in the opening game of the Yawkey Baseball League championship series Monday night.



SUMMIT MEETING: East Boston Expos (left to right) third baseman Matt Costanza, catcher Derek Adamson, shortstop Jose Paulino, pitcher Scott Hall (29) second baseman Mike Oliveira, and first baseman Brett Samboy gather their thoughts after the Charlestown Townies make it a 4-2 game with no outs and the go-ahead run coming to the plate. The discussion paid off as Hall struck out the next two hitters and coaxed a groundout to end the game.



WHAT'S THE CALL? East Boston's Mike Oliveira and Charlestown's Sean McGivern await the umpire's call on McGivern's attempt to steal second base. The call was "safe" slid under the tag.

Winthrop shop got the best!

Robin's Nest voted best giftshop north of Boston

If you are looking for that special gift or a treat for yourself, then you do not have to go further than Robin's Nest at 79 Jefferson

Street in Winthrop Center.
Robin's Nest recently
won North Shore Magazine's Readers' Choice
Award for Best Gift Shop.
Robin's Nest founder, Rob-

in Gerolamo, said in a recent interview, "we carry a wide selection of items ranging from jewelry to home decor, children's gifts, and even items for your pets...we focus on finding items made in the USA. Customers love our personalized gifts and items like pillows, glasses, jewel-

ry, frames and more can be customized for Winthrop or anywhere in the world!"

This year's award is not the first time that Robin's store has been honored. In 2019, Robin's Nest was named the Business of the Year by the Winthrop Chamber of Commerce, and has also been recog-





Robin's Nest offers a wide variety of crafts, trinkets, home decor, jewelry and more. Shown above and to the left are just some of the items on display at the boutique.

nized with awards in North Shore Magazine's Home and Wedding editions.

In receiving this year's BONS 2020 Award, Robin said, "We want to acknowledge the loyalty of our customers and we are grateful for the support of the community. We send a heartfelt thank you to everyone who voted for us this year."

Robin's Nest began with a small shop in the Highlands, open just part-time, in 2016. After a positive response from the community, Robin's Nest moved to their current location in Winthrop Center and began full-time hours in June 2017.

In closing Robin said,

"many of our customers

come in to find that special gift for others, and also end up buying something for themselves."

Robin's Nest will be celebrating their BONS 2020 win with a special event this weekend, August 20-23, including a storewide sale, raffles, giveaways and more!!

SEND US YOUR NEWS

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



Give now.



NEWS FROM AROUND THE REGION

CLARK SCHOOL NAMED AFTER MORRIE SEIGAL

CHELSEA - The City of Chelsea and the Chelsea School Committee would like to recognize and acknowledge that the Clark Avenue Middle School has been dedicated to Morris H. "Morrie" Seigal and will be forever designated as the Morris H. Seigal Clark Avenue Middle School.

The Chelsea School Committee recommended this dedication by vote on Feb. 7, 2019. However, due to COVID-19 in May, the formal dedication of the school is postponed.

Morris Henry Seigal was a lifelong resident of the City of Chelsea, and his contributions to the Chelsea Public Schools are to be

commended. Morris Henry Seigal lived his 92 years as a lifelong resident of Chelsea. He graduated from Chelsea High School before going on to receive his undergraduate degree from Salem State College and his graduate degree from Boston University. Seigal served a three-year tour in the U.S. Army during WWII, including 18 months of combat service in the South Pacific. During his 36-year career in the Chelsea school system. Seigal was a teacher, master's assistant for grades 1-6, submaster at the Williams School, and lastly the headmaster at the Mary C. Burke School. He also served as president of the Chelsea Teacher's Union for several years. Morris served for 29 years on the Chelsea School Committee, elected in 1983 and was twice elected as School Committee Chairman. He was a youth director at the Young Men's Hebrew Association (YMHS) for 21 years and also served as the assistant director of Camp Menorah. Mr. Seigel sponsored the motion that led to the Boston University/ Chelsea Partnership, which resulted in the construction of four new schools in Chelsea. He was instrumental in

the motion that resulted in the naming of these schools after Chelsea residents who had lost their lives while serving their country.

NEW BUS LANE CONSTRUCTION TO START

CHELSEA - A dynamic, new dedicated bus and bike lane will start construction in the Broadway business district in September, with an eye to finishing up the project in three to four weeks before the end of the construction season.

Planner Alex Train and Public Works Director Fidel Maltez said they have all of the designs ready and approvals from the City Council and Traffic/Parking Commission.

"We've fully designed the bus lane project and are proceeding with construction in September," said Train. "We've had a lot of conversations with business owners concerning the implementation. But we're extremely excited for this and it's a positive and a great step in the right direction for mobility. Route 112 carries 12,000 people a day, and the Route 116 and 117 use the same route and carry more people every day. This bus lane will really improve these three big bus routes and create better

waiting areas, too." The bus lane will run along the western side of the Broadway and will be delineated by distinctive red paint to let drivers know to stay out of that lane when driving or parking. The lane will go from Bellingham Square southbound to Third Street/Everett Avenue. It will also accommodate bicyclists and provide a safer way for them to travel down Broadway as well. Meanwhile, the Fourth and Broadway bus stop will be widened and improved for those waiting there. The project is expected to cost \$570,000, and there is an online public meeting about the upcoming construction on Aug. 26 at 6 p.m.

One of the keys, Maltez said, is to make sure the Chelsea Police and City officials enforce the dedicated lane, which will not be separated with dividers or other traffic posts. He said that will be key, and that the Police are on board with it.

"That was one of the first challenges we wanted to take on," he said. "Enforcement is going to be the key...We want it ticketed and enforced. The red paint we believe will make a difference. We've seen it work in two places, including City Hall and Park Square. Having the red paint tells people not to go there. Just the red paint itself is a deterrent."

He also said they have begun to add more shortterm parking zones along Broadway, and Train said they looked at frequent double parking spots and tried to home in on those areas for the short-term parking.

Those five-minute zones were unveiled along Broadway two weeks ago, and have been working well initially.

The Broadway bus and bike lane could also tie in to other routes too.

Maltez said for the bus aspect, there has been talk at the state level about adding a dedicated bus lane to the Mystic/Tobin Bridge. There is also a dedicated bus lane included in the re-design of Rutherford Avenue and the North Washington Street Bridge in Charlestown. With all those pieces working together, it could mean a seamless and quick ride to downtown Boston from Bellingham Square, he said.

"The Route 111 in particular would have a dedicated bus lane from Bellingham Square all the way to Boston if that dedicated lane come into effect on the Tobin in the future," he said.

Train said the bike lane aspect would tie into upcoming lanes on Williams and Beacham Streets, as well as a planned bike lane on Upper Broadway to the Revere line.

MASSIVE UPPER BROADWAY RECONSTRUCTION PROJECT STARTED



The massive Upper Broadway infrastructure and roadway project began on Monday at City Hall. Aqualine contractors will work the next two years to replace water and sewer pipes from City Hall to the Revere line. After that, the City will reconstruct the roadway, sidewalks and drainage. The project is expected to wrap up in 2025.

Looking to the long-term future, Train said there is a much larger project being designed with MassDOT to fully revamp downtown including new utilities, sidewalks, paving, traffic signals and new public spaces. That has an estimated start date of 2025.

NOT A LOT OF **FUNDRAISING IN** STATE REP. RACE

EVERETT - While the race for state representative in Everett this summer has had a good deal of interest and debate - at a social distance of course - it hasn't generated a lot of fundraising or spending compared to other nearby races for state representative.

State records from the Office of Campaign and Political Finance (OCPF) have been revamped during this election cycle to require candidates to submit campaign reports every month - giving those on the outside a clearer look at how campaigns are running from month to month.

It, of course, has been a brave new world trying to campaign and raise money within the confines of COVID-19 restrictions, which means there are no in-person fundraising events or rallies or numerous house parties bent on raising money for campaigns. In all, incumbents have led the way due to their network of established donors from the past, and that was no exception in Everett where State Rep. Joe McGonagle outpaced his challenger, Councilor Michael McLaughlin in fundraising last month.

McGonagle and Mc-Laughlin started June in relatively similar spots when it came to fundraising and capital available. However, McGonagle raised \$19,901 in July to bring his cash on hand to \$21,102 on July 31.

Some of his notable donations came from Councilors Anthony DiPierro and John Hanlon, as well School Committeeman Frank Parker. Former House Speaker Tom Finneran, and his wife, Donna, also contributed to the campaign \$200 each in July. The Everett Superior Officers Union also contributed \$500 in July.

Maximum donations of \$1,000 came from the owner of Capitol Waste, EM Duggan's Executive Vice President and his wife, the owner of JK Glass Compa-

Of the 82 donors to the

campaign, 22 were from

Everett – or about 27 per-

ny, Natick Attorney Cheryl Kimball and June Corry of the South Shore.

It was a big month for the McGonagle campaign in July, though, as it only raised \$2,900 in June, showing that the campaign hit its stride with fundraising just last month. There were only seven donors to the campaign in June, and one was from Everett.

Meanwhile, for challenger Michael McLaughlin, July was also his biggest fundraising month, but he fell far short of the McGonagle war chest.

McLaughlin raised \$4,500 in July, and has \$4,887 on hand as of July 31.

Of his eight donations, four were from Everett and another two had extensive business in Everett - including Frank Mastrocola and Attorney Anthony Ros-

Those giving the maximum donation of \$1,000 were Mastrocola, Lidia Rossi, Attorney Rossi, and Anthony Rossi Sr. of Everett.

The McLaughlin campaign did not show any fundraising in June.

On the expenditure side of things, July had nothing really to speak of from either candidate when it came to spending - though anecdotally the spending has seemed to pick up in August. Those numbers, however, will not be out until after the Sept. 1 Primary Election.

The largest expenditure in the campaign thus far has been from McGonagle to Somerville political consultant Feargal O'Toole. He was paid \$8,897 from the McGonagle Campaign in

The only other expenditures of note were \$500 in ads in June and \$450 in ads in July to Advocate Newspapers. There was also \$1,000 in printing costs in June to Connolly Printing of Woburn.

For McLaughlin, the only expenditures in July were \$125 to Independent News Group, and in June \$1,100 to Connolly Printing of Woburn.

Other state representative races in surrounding cities have far outpaced the Everett race, with incumbents and challengers raising significantly more money and spending it as well.

U.S. AMBASSADOR CARRINGTON DEAD AT AGE 90 EVERETT -

not as an oppressive envi-

ronment for a young black

Former U.S. Ambassador Walter Carrington often described growing up in Everett Grand Marshal and as we during the 1930s and 1940s rode down the streets in an

boy like himself - which would have been the norm in America at the time – but rather a "racial cocoon" where he was welcomed everywhere and felt no hint of racial discrimination or prejudice from his friends

or his teachers. It was, as he described it in a heartwarming essay a few years back, "an Atypical Black American Boyhood." Carrington, 90, grew up in Everett, attended Everett public schools, then went on to Harvard University - preparing him for a distinguished role in the Civil Rights Movement and as ambassador to Sene-

gal and Nigeria. Locally, in 2017, he was the Grand Marshal of the City of Everett's colossal 125th anniversary celebration, and last year he was an honored guest in attendance on the opening morning of

Encore Boston Harbor.

"Everett then was a very

unique city," he said. "We

had a population of 50,000 and only about 50 black families and those black families were scattered throughout the city," he told the Independent in 2017. "There was no black area. It was very integrated. Later, I learned the National Urban League had done a study and found that Everett was the most integrated city of its kind in the country. I grew up in a very integrated community, which was

"In fact, I grew up in an area with mostly Irish and Italian kids," he continued. "I was the only black and I would tell people I could swear in Italian with a Sicilian accent before I had ever learned to swear in English. It was a great place to grow up in the 1930s and 1940s. That gave me the ability to thrive and go on and do things I wanted to do."

unique for those times.

Carrington, now of Newton, left behind his wife and constant companion, Arese Carrington.

This week, she said her heart was broken and she was honored to have been by his side.

"My heart is heavy and broken with the passing of my beloved husband Ambassador Walter Carrington," she said this week. "He was a brilliant, loving gentle husband. We shared a great love and bond, unity, trust and respect for each other. I remember him showing me his childhood home in Everett and going down memory lane of his high school days at Everett High. He was so happy to have been the Everett's

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See REGION Page 13

Region // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 12

open car, he was pointing out places to me.

It was such an honor for me to be by his side on his courageous journey of selflessness in the service of humanity especially as he fought for human rights and democracy in Nigeria.

"He was such a great man, an activist to the core who did so much for civil rights, human rights, democracy, rule of law and social justice," she continued. "He was passionate about the important things in life and always showed such humility and compassion. Heartwarming tributes have been pouring in from around the world. He touched so many lives and had an impact on so many countries. His legacies will live on forever.

Arese Carrington said her husband will be laid to rest in the place he regarded as his hometown - Everett. Despite his sojourn round the world, his wishes were to be returned to his home that he cherished so much.

His time at Harvard was a special one, and he was talented in debate and public speaking – something he credited to mentors in Everett like Lt. Gov. Sumner Whittier. After Harvard, he became the youngest member ever of the Massachusetts Commission Against Discrimination (MCAD). It was there he was instrumental in deciding a case against the Boston Red Sox that forced the team to integrate racially more than a decade after Jackie Robinson had broken the color barrier.

He was a member of the Peace Corps in Africa, which is what eventually drew him back there as an Ambassador to Senegal and, later, Nigeria.

A stint of four years in Nigeria as Ambassador was truly a life-changing, and life-threatening, stretch of service – and something that defined his renowned

Facing a harsh military dictatorship, Carrington decided he would stand up for his values and for American values - things he learned to be dear to him while growing up in Everett. Speaking up was a dangerous thing, but he said he had been resolved to continue calling for democracy in Nigeria.

"That entire experience was something important for me and gave me a chance to speak up in defense of the values I believed in," he said during the 2017 interview.

Later, after democracy came to the country of Nigeria, the government surprised Carrington by naming the diplomatic area of the capital after him.

Still today, the Water Carrington Crescent exists as the area where more than 12 diplomatic missions call their home in Lagos, Nige-

Not bad for a humble kid from Everett who formed those values in the schools and on the streets of Everett, Massachusetts.

BIKE PATROL IN CBD

LYNN - If you have visited the downtown area recently you may have seen our newly formed Central Business District (CBD) Bike Patrol Team in action. The team's neon green uniform makes them easily recognizable. As the population of the downtown area continues to grow, we recognized a greater need for a unit to specifically address the diverse concerns of the residents and business owners. The CBD team is designed to patrol the downtown and deal with issues, such as anti-social behavior, that people visiting or residing in the area. The unit's primary mode of transportation is the bike, which allows them to move around quickly but still have the ability to easily interact with people. The team consists of five officers and a sergeant who utilize a variety of solutions to the problems that they encounter. The officers frequently refer people or problems to other agencies that can provide additional assistance. The officers then have the opportunity to follow-up on the issues to make sure that they are resolved. The team is frequently accompanied by a member of our Behavioral Health Unit (BHU) who can offer a wide variety of services. Many of the individuals that the officers' encounter need help with issues such as mental health or addiction and BHU is there, meeting people where they are, to offer immediate assistance.

affect the quality of life for

ELECTION DEPARTMENT IS READY FOR VOTE

REVERE - The City of Revere Elections Department is preparing for record voter turnout ahead of this year's Sept. 1 State Primaries and Nov. 3 State Election. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, many residents' polling locations have changed and new Vote-By-Mail procedures have been implemented.

The Election Commission has already processed 4334 Vote by Mail ballots and 444 Absentee ballots. "In September 2016, which is comparable to September 2020, only 2,138 voters cast a ballot. We have already tripled that number," said Diane Colella, Revere's Election Commissioner. "In my 20 years on the Election Commission that number has never been so high during a State Primary in an election year."

Due to the Covid-19 Pandemic, the Massachusetts legislature has approved no-excuse Vote By Mail for all 2020 elections. Registered voters can complete the application, available on the Elections Department website, and mail or bring it to the Elections Department. The deadline to submit a Vote by Mail application or an absentee ballot application for a mailed ballot for the September 1 primaries is 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday, August 26, 2020. In person early voting for the State Primaries will be held from Saturday, August 22, 2020 through Friday, August 28, 2020. The hours of early voting on Saturday, August 22, 2020 and Sunday, August 23, 2020 is 9:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. The hours of early voting from Monday through Thursday is 8:15 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. and on Friday from 8:15 a.m. until noon. Early voting will be held at St. Anthony's Church, 250 Revere Street, Revere, MA 02151 Bingo hall, rear entrance.

The City will also install a secure drop-box for ballots with a camera monitor next to City Hall to give voters another chance to avoid in-person-voting. All votes placed in these secure ballot boxes will be counted if dropped off before 8:00 p.m. on Election Day.

The Elections Commission website has been updated to include all new polling locations and early voting information (available here), information about what will be included on ballots at each election, and all deadlines (available at https://www.revere.org/ departments/election-commission/ballot).

RTA WANTS FULLY REMOTE MODEL

REVERE - President Revere Teachers Association (RTA) Gina Garro said this week that the RTA believes the only safe start to school is in a fully remote model for all educators, staff and students.

"We fully acknowledge the difficult situation the community is in, and despite our strong desire to be in school with our students we know that it is not currently safe to do so," said Garro. She added, "The positivity rate for COVID-19 in Revere recently caused Mayor Arrigo to call for a remote start to school this coming September. Remote learning means that all students and educators learn and teach from home until it is safe to return to the buildings."

Garro said educators should not be mandated to teach from their classrooms, nor should the city's most vulnerable students be back in their class-

"Any gathering of educators or students puts the entire community at risk." said Garro. "We will know that it is safe to phase in a return to school buildings when community health and safety benchmarks are met and the infrastructure of all school buildings are proven to be up to standard."

Garro said the RTA stands together with members of the community, students and their families to demand a safe learning experience for all.

Last week the Parent Teacher Safe Reopening Committee placed black balloons at four schools across the city--Revere High School, Sergeant James J. Hill Elementary School, Rumney Marsh Academy and Beachmont Veterans Memorial School.

"These balloons represent the pain and loss our community has suffered as a result of COVID-19 as well as the potential additional suffering and death that could result from sending educators and students back into the school buildings before it is safe," said Garro. "We must not allow for a single preventable case of illness or death to result from being back in the buildings too soon. One death is too many. We must return to the buildings only when it is safe."

This week the Massachusetts Association of School Superintendents (MASS) commented on school reopening plans here and across the state.

Revere Public School Superintendent Dr. Dianne Kelly serves on MASS's Executive Committee as their Urban Schools repre-

In an Op-Ed penned by MASS members the group said some communities, like Revere, are choosing not to reopen school buildings, opting instead for full distance learning for all students. Other communities are moving forward with a "hybrid" model, in which some groups of students alternate between in-person learning and distance learning, in order to ensure physical distancing in schools.

"Neither of these approaches is being met with universal acclaim," wrote MASS. "Superintendents and School Committees find themselves caught between the impassioned viewpoints of two opposing camps. They are hearing from parents who advocate for at least some return to in-person schooling, in part because of fears about the long-term effects of students being out of school, without the support and interactions they need to thrive. They're also hearing from constituents, including many teachers' union leaders, who insist that school buildings should remain closed altogether to protect students and staff and to prevent the spread of the virus."

Like Revere, many of the 275 members of MASS were eager and hopeful to have their School Committee approve a hybrid model.

However, the Revere School Committee who voted for a 'remote' learning model to start off the school year last week despite an outline of precautions that would have been implemented in a 'hybrid' learning model.

"Despite these precautions, some communities ultimately will decide, as some already have, that even a partial reopening is not worth the risk, and begin the year with all students learning from home," said MASS. "In those communities, Superintendents will work with teachers' unions to design and implement distance learning plans that reflect lessons learned last spring about what worked well and what needs improvement."

MASS said districts will have to find creative ways for students and families to "meet" their new teachers, even if not in person, to establish relationships at the start of the school year. Districts operating fully remote models also will have to devise strategies to serve students with the greatest needs, particularly students with disabilities, English learners, children living in poverty, and others who were not fully engaged in distance learning from March to June. Challenging questions remain about how schools can provide additional services remotely to address students' social-emotional especially their mental and physical health.

There is no shortage of opinions about what is the "right" way to approach the new school year," wrote MASS. "While superintendents have urged State officials to provide more clear direction for school opening, unless State officials change their position in the days ahead, these decisions are left solely in the hands of the superintendents and school committees. Therefore, each Superintendent has a weighty responsibility to cut through the noise, examine the facts, weigh the pros and cons, and recommend a plan that best protects and educates the students in their community. Ultimately, each proposal must be approved by the School Committee, but even their decision is not final unless the terms are negotiated with the local teachers' union." MASS said no matter

how the school year starts in Revere the new school year can begin successfully only if everyone involved is committed to working together for the benefit of students.

"In the remaining weeks before students resume learning, we have a critical opportunity for parents, educators, union leaders, and community partners - regardless of the model they each wanted to see adopted – to move forward with a shared sense of purpose," wrote MASS. "We are living in imperfect times, to say the least, so while no plan can achieve a "perfect" result, let's all strive to be creative, open-minded, resilient, and unequivocally determined to get our students back to learning."

MANAGER **OUTLINES STATE** OF THE TOWN

WINTHROP - The Winthrop Town Council met remotely on Aug. 18 for its regularly scheduled weekly meeting where it heard updates on COVID and its impact on the school reopening and the library.

COVID-19

Health Director Meredith Hurley reported 334 documented COVID cases in Winthrop, with 24 deceased, 19 in isolation and 291 recovered. The majority of new cases are in the age range of 21 to 40. According to Gov. Baker's new COVID color chart of Mass. cities and towns, Winthrop is currently a Yellow Zone trending toward a Red Zone, which is the most critical.

Town Manager Austin Faison drove home the severity of Winthrop's current situation, saying the governor called him personally to address Winthrop's climbing numbers.

"We are not in a good place," he said. shouldn't be looking for the light at the end of the tunnel. We are in the midst of it right now. This is very serious and it's not going away."

Faison reported that Gov. Charlie Baker is willing to provide resources to the town, such as increased testing and possibly opening a testing facility.

Caller Kurt claimed the Winthrop Ferry was available for two-hour rentals for BYOB parties, which he said "sends a mixed message" to the community regarding social distancing.

School Reopening

The School Committee met on Aug. 17, where it decided the district would be abandoning its previously agreed-upon hybrid model of in-person and remote learning in favor of a fully remote curriculum for the fall. The decision came after Gov. Baker released the new COVID chart of Mass. towns that put Winthrop in a zone requiring remote learning. Council President Phil

Boncore was at the meeting, which he called "long and intense." He blamed the current situation on Winthrop residents not taking social distancing and

mask-wearing seriously.

"We've not been great," he said. "We need to distance. We need to stay apart. People's lives depend on it. If socializing stops, kids can go back to school.'

Town Manager Faison added that if the town had taken safety protocols more seriously for the past several months that "we might have been ready to send our kids to school."

Councilor Rob DeMarco expressed his disappointment in the committee's decision, saying the hybrid model had a remote fallback plan that could have been implemented if needed. He alleged that the decision was made to benefit the administration more than the students.

Library

The library is currently offering pickup and dropoff service for physical media. In addition, it is enhancing its collection of digital materials. The Council has requested more creative ways to expand library services. Town Manager Faison

reported that his office is currently working on virtual learning opportunities and getting Chromebooks and internet into the homes of children.

"[The library] can't be a community center. It can't be what it was," he said. "We're not close to being open to the public. We're trying to keep people safe.'

He added that the town is currently engaging with the union to "make the community happy."

Asst. Town Manager Anna Freedman added that the plan is to bring back all of the furloughed library employees. She emphasized that their salaries cannot be moved to any other Town departments.

"Those funds will remain at the library," she said.

Council asked that a library representative attend the next council meeting.

General Updates

- The Councilors unanimously voted to name the new fieldhouse at Miller Field after Anthony Fucillo, who coached at Winthrop High School for 35 years.
- Early voting will be available in the Harvey Hearing Room at Town Hall from Aug. 22 to 28.
- · The contractor for the CBD redevelopment project has asked to extend work into December. The town is researching whether or not this will be possible. The CBD will feature parklets for increased seat-

An outside engineer has completed a bike study of the town that has been passed to the DPW for review. The plans create a network of bike paths around town. In addition, a group wants to extend the Greenway into Winthrop.

Resident Bill claimed that there was a large number of complaints from residents about a lack of enforcement of illegally parked vehicles on Point Shirley.

Real Estate Transfers

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CITY PAWS

Socialization as a part of training

By Penny & Ed Cherubino

While the puppy class of 2020 has had more time to bond with their families, they have had fewer opportunities to socialize with other dogs and human strangers. Socialization is an important part of a dog's training and lack of it can lead to fear of those people, dogs, and situations the pup hasn't had an opportunity to explore.

Socializing Options

We often recommend puppy kindergarten as a perfect way to combine basic training for the dog and human with safe, early socialization. The good news is that last month those classes began opening with new safety guidelines at both the Animal Rescue League of Boston and MSPCA. Your comfort level with group settings, your schedule, or lack of openings in these limited space classes could prevent you from taking this option.

If that is the case, we suggest you ask friends and neighbors to recommend a great dog walker. The best of these professionals have extensive experience in so-

cializing dogs to walk with other dogs. Many people with a dog who is reactive to other dogs when with their own human are amazed to see that same dog quietly walking away with a canine pack under the direction of a great walker!

Husbandry Training

When we say husbandry training, we mean you should train your dog to behave politely when you, a groomer, or your veterinary professionals work with your dog. Since most of us have kept contact with the professionals in our dog's lives to a minimum since March, all of us can do some additional husbandry work with our dogs.

For those with new pup-

pies, we'll suggest you fol-

low the advice given to us by a very experienced dog person when we brought our first Westie home. She said, "Touch everywhere on the dog all the time. Hold the puppy's paws and examine them. Open her mouth and look inside. Check her ears. Run your hands all over her body." Her reasoning was that the first time something you

have to touch hurts, your

dog will know that touches that hurt are rare, and not every touch will hurt.

We've learned a lot over the years sharing the lives of three dogs and have a few tips to add. Brush your dog's teeth. With a puppy that might begin as a wipe with a piece of gauze wrapped around your fin-

Pretend to clip your dog's nails. Hold each paw and do a mock run with a nail trimmer or file. You don't have to snip or file, just let the pup get used to the idea of you working near his nails.

Brush and comb your dog so he's used to the process. Wash her paws when you return home from outside. Give him a quick bath when he's muddy. All of this is best begun with someone they already trust and the pup can then transfer that trust to others.

The good news is that older puppies just like older dogs can learn new things. Just think of all the rescue dogs you know who came to live in an urban area and had to get used to walks on sidewalks and in parks. Most of them have come to accept the traffic, noise, and



The puppy class of 2020 has had fewer socialization opportunities, but these wee pups had a fun tussle while their humans stayed safe.

other canine aspects of city life. Your member of the puppy class of 2020 can do the same with the right kind of training.

Do you have a question or topic for City Paws? Send an email to Penny@ BostonZest.com with your

OBITUARIES

Colleen McGillicuddy Of Winthrop

Colleen M. (Brems) McGillicuddy of Winthrop passed away at home surrounded by her loving family on Wednesday, August

The cherished daughter of the late Phillip and Stella (Roach) Brems, she was the beloved wife of the late Sean McGillicuddy, devoted mother of Sean, Brian and Erin McGillicuddy, dear sister of Philip, Kevin, Dennis and Patrick Brems and treasured grandmother of Brian, Kathleen and Sean. She is also survived by many loving nieces, nephews and friends.

Family and friends honored Colleen's life by gathering at the Ruggiero Family Memorial Home, 971 Saratoga Street, (Orient Heights) East Boston on Tuesday and she will be laid to rest, Wednesday, August 26, at a graveside service at Winthrop Cemetery, Belle Isle Section. Please



meet directly at the cemetery at 12:15 p.m.

All services will be held in accordance with Phase-3 the Commonwealth of Massachusetts phased reopening plan due to COVID-19. Face coverings are required to be worn in the funeral home and social distancing measures are encouraged. For more information or to leave an online condolence please visit: www.ruggieromh.com

Eastie residents on Jimmy Fund Walk team raising money for Dana-Farber

By John Lynds

The annual Boston Marathon Jimmy Fund Walk to raise money for the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute will look a lot different this vear due to the COVID-19 pandemic for three East Boston residents who are part of 'Team Richie', and will take part in the 'virtual' fundraising effort.

Eastie's Patricia Grifoni, Donny Grifoni, and Dottie Marcella will participate in virtual programming during the Walk that aims to recreate the most inspiring elements of Walk day. While the event will not physically bring the three Eastie walkers together along the famed Boston Marathon course, the Grifonis and Marcella will choose their own route on October 4 for the annual event.

The Grifonis and Marcella are encouraged to walk

wherever they choose-around their neighborhood, a local hiking trail, a treadmill, or anywhere else they are comfortable to help raise funds to support all forms of adult and pediatric care and cancer research at the nation's premier cancer center. "You will be helping to

support my goal of raising \$500 for Team Ritchie," said Marcella. "Ritchie Strangie lost his battle to cancer in June of 2018, but not without waging a courageous fight. When you make a gift to my walk, you're directly supporting Dana-Farber Cancer Institute's unique 50-50 balance between cutting-edge science and highly compassionate cancer care. Your support allows Dana-Farber leaders to enhance programs and initiatives that serve pediatric and adult patients and their families.

Thank you for supporting my participation in the Boston Marathon Jimmy Fund Walk. Together, we can conquer cancer."

This year's event will have a lower fundraising requirement--\$100 adults and \$25 for those 12 years old and younger-and everyone will pay just a \$5 registration fee. Each walker who registers will receive a bib, and medal and the first 5,000 walkers to register will receive a commemorative Jimmy Fund Walk T-shirt.

'While we can't see everyone in person this year, we are excited for the virtual programing which will give participants the opportunity to support breakthroughs in cancer care and research at Dana-Farber Cancer Institute," said Zack Blackburn, Director of the Boston Marathon Jimmy Fund Walk. "To-

gether, from a safe distance, we will take critical strides in the journey to conquer cancer.

To register to walk (#JimmyFundWalk) to support a walker visit www.JimmyFundWalk. org or call (866) 531-9255. You can also download The Jimmy Fund Walk App in Charity Miles. The app will allow you to track the miles you walk leading up to, and on Walk day, create a team and walk with your friends, family, and teammates, share your miles and activities via social media to boost fundraising, and see important Walk day news, content, training and fundraising challenges

Anyone interested in additional information can reference the Jimmy Fund Walk: Your Way frequently asked questions or can send an email to JimmyFund-Walk@DFCI.Harvard.edu.

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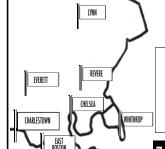
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recting the defendant(s), to appear, plead, or answer, in accordance with Mass.R.Civ.P./ Mass.R.Dom.Rel.P. Rule 4, it appearing to the court that this is an action for Divorce 1B. Pursuant to Supplemental Probate Court Rule 411, an Automatic Restraining Order has been entered against the above named parties. Defendant cannot be found within the Commonwealth and his/her present whereabouts are unknown. Personal service on defendant is therefore not practicable,

and the defendant has not voluntarily appeared in this action. It is Ordered that defendant is directed to appear, plead, answer, or otherwise move with respect to the amended complaint herein on or before the return day of September 17, 2020. If you fail to do so this Court will proceed to a hearing and adjudication of this matter. Date: August 5, 2020 Felix D. Arroyo,

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