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Wednesday, September 2, 2020



East Boston's Rick Cresta garden. Cresta finished second in the Medium Yard contest during the 24th Annual Mayor's Garden Contest.

Residents fare well in annual Mayor's Garden Contest

By John Lynds

Mayor Martin Walsh announced last week that two East Boston residents were honored during the 24th Annual Mayor's Garden Contest.

Eastie's Sarah Plowman won third place in the Small Yard garden contest category while Eastie's Rick Cresta finished second in

the Medium Yard contest.

This year's competition was held within current social distancing guidelines with the contest providing the perfect opportunity to recognize those who have taken advantage of the "safer at home" guidelines to hone their gardening skills.

Both Plowman and Cresta were awarded certificates from the Mayor

while first place winners were eligible for a drawing for a JetBlue Grand Prize consisting of roundtrip flights for two to any non-stop destination from Boston.

Gardener's gift bags were provided by Mahoney's Garden Centers to Plowman and Cresta and other top winners in each category as well as gift cer-

tificates.

For over two decades the Mayor's Garden Contest recognizes gardeners who have landscaped, planted flowers, trees, shrubs, and vegetables, and in the process, helped beautify Boston's neighborhoods. The safety of gardeners and contest judges was the

See GARDEN Page 3

EBNHC named as one of America's best employers

East Boston Neighborhood Health Center (EBNHC), the largest community health center in Massachusetts and among the largest community health centers in the country, has been named to the second annual list of America's Best Employers by State 2020, presented by Forbes and Statista.

"East Boston Neighborhood Health Center strives to be an employer of choice and we take pride in this recognition from Forbes, knowing that the award comes as a result of feedback from our valued employees," said Manny Lopes, President and CEO of EBNHC. "We want to thank our employees for

their passion and commitment to serving East Boston and the surrounding communities and promise to continue to work to make EBNHC a great place to work."

EBNHC was selected based on an independent survey of more than 80,000 U.S. employees working for companies employing

at least 500 people in their U.S. operations. The surveys were administered using a series of online panels and provide a representative sample of the U.S. workforce. The Health Center is also proud to be a five-time awardee of the Boston Globe's Top Places

See EBNHC Page 4

Walsh addresses Eastie's COVID crisis

By John Lynds

At his daily press briefing last Thursday, Mayor Martin Walsh addressed the ongoing COVID-19 crisis unfolding in East Boston, saying his administration

remains committed to monitoring and sharing neighborhood data and race and ethnicity data, and responding to any anticipated or emerging disparities.

Over the past month, Eastie has reemerged as a

COVID-19 'hotspot' in the city after a relatively quiet few months where positive test rates and infection rates remained stable.

Eastie now leads the city in infection rates and positive test rates by leaps and bounds with the positive infection rate here at nearly 11 percent last week against a citywide average of 2.3 percent.

Mayor Walsh said these numbers are concerning and the City is addressing the sharp rise through a multipronged approach.

Mayor Walsh has deployed a mobile testing site, in partnership with the East Boston Neighborhood Health Center (EBNHC), to Central Square through Saturday (see Eastie COVID Update story).

The city is also working

with the State to identify temporary isolation housing, so that people can quarantine away from their families if they test positive.

"We are working collaboratively on strategies and solutions with East Boston elected officials; cross-departmental City teams; medical and social service providers in the neighborhood; union leaders who represent East Boston res-



Mayor Walsh addresses Eastie's COVID crisis at his daily press briefing.

See WALSH Page 2

At-Risk

With COVID running wild in Eastie, the CDC has some recommendations for large households

By John Lynds

Rep. Adrian Madaro and Mayor Martin Walsh agree that more needs to be done in East Boston to contain the recently rapid spread of COVID-19 among residents.

Both have been briefed by healthcare experts that put some of the blame in the recent dramatic rise in infection rates and positive test rates (nearly 11 percent) among residents to overcrowding and density.

Madaro and Walsh have called on the state to expand access to isolation sites in at-risk communities like Eastie for residents and workers who cannot quarantine at home without putting their families at risk. Isolation sites will help reduce family spread - a ma-

ior component of COVID infection rates in East Boston. As housing in Eastie becomes more expensive and hard to find, Madaro said most Eastie workers live in apartments that are full of family or roommates, and short on space.

"People share rooms," he said recently. "When everyone's living together in a small space, there aren't many opportunities for social distance. This means that when a worker gets sick, they have nowhere to quarantine. This puts the rest of their household at higher risk of contracting COVID. Reports indicate that this kind of 'family spread' is one of the top ways that COVID is spreading in East Boston."

See COVID Page 2

Madaro helps pass legislation to boost telemedicine in Eastie

By John Lynds

When the East Boston Neighborhood Health Center (EBNHC) received the green light from the state to reopen some in-person doctor visits at a limited capacity due to the COVID-19 pandemic, new healthcare telemedicine technology like Telehealth has emerged as a lifeline for patients and doctors.

Over the course of the pandemic, the Health Center has relied heavily on

Telehealth technology to keep quality healthcare going while maintaining social distancing.

Last week, telemedicine got a boost from Rep. Adrian Madaro and his colleagues through a new House bill that will enable patients to access healthcare services via telemedicine and provide vital funding to community hospitals in the midst of COVID-19.

An Act to promote re-

See MADARO Page 2



The COVID-19 pandemic has made healthcare providers like EBNHC rely more on telemedicine technology. The House passed a bill last week to help support telemedicine technology like Telehealth.

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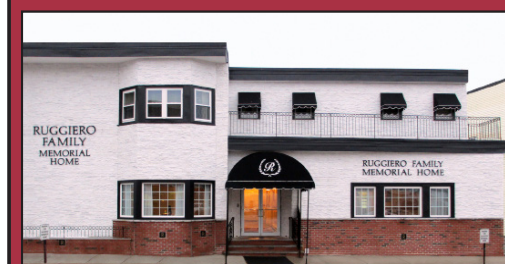
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Shooting leaves one man fighting for his life

By John Lynds

A man suffered life-threatening injuries after being shot in the head Sunday night in the park across the street from Holy Redeemer Church.

Police officers from East Boston’s District A-7 station responded to a radio call for a person shot at 10:42 p.m. Sunday at London Street and Cunard Way. The exact site of the shooting was Lombardi Park across the street from Holy Redeemer Church.

When police arrived officers observed a large group of people around the victim who was on the ground inside the park. Officers saw the victim had a gunshot wound to his head.

Officers immediately requested EMS to the scene who then transported the victim to Mass General where he remains in critical condition with life-threatening injuries.

Officers observed shell casings at the intersection of London Street and Cunard Way as well as ballistic damage to a home at 11 Cunard Way.



Police set up a crime scene at Lombardi Park across from Holy Redeemer Church where a man was shot Sunday night following a weekend-long basketball tournament.

The shooting occurred after a large weekend-long basketball tournament was held at nearby LoPresti Park. The tournament drew hundreds to LoPresti Park over a two-day period.

The crowd that lingered after the tournament and present during the shooting was so large that police had to call in backup from the State Police and neighboring Chelsea to help disperse the crowd.

Rep. Adrian Madaro said his office is looking into whether the two-day tournament that ended in violence was sanctioned by the city.

Madaro has been asking for additional city and state resources to help curb the spread of COVID in his district and was disappointed a tournament the size of the one that occurred over the weekend was allowed to happen.

COVID // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Until a plan is hatched to increase temporary isolation sites, the Center for Disease Control has released some recommendations on to isolate a sick household member when household space is limited

“If you cannot provide a separate room and bathroom for a person who is sick with COVID-19, try to separate them from other household members,” wrote the CDC in a multi-page bulletin. “Try to create adequate separation within your household to protect everyone, especially those people at higher risk (those over 65 years and those who have medical conditions).

Following key tips when isolating a household member who is sick may reduce other household members from catching the virus.

These tips from the CDC include:

- Keep six feet between the person who is sick and other household members.
- Cover coughs and sneezes; wash hands often; and don’t touch your eyes, nose, and mouth.
- Have the sick household member wear a mask when they are around other people at home and out (including before they enter a doctor’s office). But it should not be placed on children under age 2, anyone who has trouble breathing, or anyone who is not able to remove the covering without help.
- Keep people at higher risk separated from anyone who is sick. Have only one person in the household take care of the person who is sick. This caregiver should be someone who is not at higher risk for severe illness.

The caregiver should clean where the sick person has been, as well as their bedding and laundry. The caregiver should minimize contact with other people in the household, especially

- those who are at higher risk for severe illness. Have a caregiver for the person who is sick and a different caregiver for other members of the household who require help with cleaning, bathing, or other daily tasks.
- Clean and disinfect surfaces, doorknobs, and other commonly touched surfaces with EPA registered disinfectants daily.
- Limit visitors to those with an essential need to be in the home.
- Don’t share personal items like phones, dishes, bedding, or toys.
- Try to do the following if you need to share a bedroom with someone who is sick: Make sure the room has good airflow. Open a window and turn on a fan to bring in fresh air. Place beds at least six feet apart, if possible. Sleep head to toe. Put a curtain around or place another physical divider to separate the bed of the person who is sick from other beds. For example, you might use a shower curtain, room screen divider, large cardboard poster board, quilt, or large bedspread.
- Have the person who is sick clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces in a shared bathroom. If this is not possible, others who share the bathroom should wait as long as possible after the sick person uses the bathroom before entering it to clean and disinfect or

to use the bathroom. Make sure the room has good airflow. Open a window and turn on a fan (if possible) to bring in and circulate fresh air.

The CDC also included tips on how to eat meals together and feed a household member who is sick. The CDC recommends, if possible, make a plate for the sick household member to eat in the separate area they are staying in. If they cannot eat in the separate area they are staying in, they should stay at least 6 feet away from other members of the household during meals or they should eat at a different time than others in the household.

Other eating tips include:

- Don’t help prepare food if you are sick.
- Wash your hands for at least 20 seconds with soap and water before eating.

This includes everyone in the household!

- Use clean utensils when placing food on every household member’s plate. Don’t eat from the same dishes or use the same utensils as someone else in the household.
- Wear gloves to handle dishes, drinking glasses, and utensils (food service items), if possible. Also, wash these non-disposable items with hot water and soap or in a dishwasher after you use them.
- Have only one person bring food to the sick person and cleanup the sick person’s food service items. This should be someone who is not at higher risk for severe illness.
- Wash your hands after handling used food service items.

Walsh // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

idents and workers; and clergy who have been helping to share messages at services,” said Walsh. “The Boston Public Health Commission (BPHC) has mobilized teams to provide safety materials and education to residents and businesses in multiple languages, including English, Spanish, and Arabic. They have been out at MBTA stations and key intersections, and will be expanding into neighborhood parks at times when people gather and play sports. They are distributing COVID care kits, sharing information about safety precautions, and answering questions that people may have about COVID-19. We are making clear that anyone can get tested, regardless of immigration status. No information about your status will be asked. And we are making clear that residents can file a confidential complaint with the BPHC if employers or businesses aren’t following safety guidelines.”

In addition, business outreach in Eastie began last week in multiple languages, to make sure management and staff know COVID regulations; have access to PPE, signage, and prevention efforts like social distancing and hygiene;

and know that they need to report to BPHC when they have an employee test positive.

The Mayor said that if case numbers don’t come down, the City will look at tightening regulations around gatherings and public spaces, but he hopes that it doesn’t come to that.

“The City will prioritize working collaboratively with residents to get the message out that COVID-19 is still with us and all the precautions we’ve been taking are still necessary,” he said.

The Mayor pointed out that economic conditions impact COVID numbers, and that Eastie has high rates of multi-generational housing, overcrowded housing, and breadwinners who can only work outside the home. He said bringing resources to those families and supporting them when workers need to stay home is a big part of the solution.

The Mayor concluded with a reflection on the ongoing psychological impact of COVID-19:

“Let’s remember what people are going through,” said Walsh. “People are experiencing illness in themselves and loved ones; fear of COVID that many have anxiety around; financial

stress around lost income, struggling small businesses, and people in fear of losing their home. And then there’s the toll of systemic racism. Many residents experience it personally and they also see continual footage of violence against Black and Brown people on social media. All of it together is taking a tremendous toll. It’s showing up in mental health concerns and physical health concerns. It’s playing a role in domestic violence and street violence. And people are struggling with substance use. For anyone in recovery or interested in recovery, recovery meetings are online and now some meetings are happening in person, outdoors. You can reach out to AA or NA to find a meeting, or contact our Office of Recovery Services by calling 311.”

Walsh reminded the public that these are not normal times and a tendency toward conflict will not serve us well in every situation right now.

“I ask everyone to work together in a spirit of unity and I urge everyone to be kind to yourself and others,” he said. “Let’s take it a day at a time.”

Madaro // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

silience in our health care system (H.4916) mandates telehealth coverage for primary care services, behavioral health and chronic disease management – all areas that have experienced success with remote care in recent months – for at-home patients.

According to Madaro, the bill authorizes the Health Policy Commission to issue recommendations on future telehealth services for at-home use. Under the bill, insurers must cover services delivered by a wide range of technologies, including audio-only telephone calls, but may also pay a greater rate for the use of audio-video technology like Telehealth.

Under the new Mass-Health enrollees must be reimbursed for telehealth services at the same rate as in-person services until July 31, 2021

“The COVID-19 emergency has highlighted both the effectiveness of telehealth in addressing barriers to care, as well as the effective role community

health centers play in delivering these vital services to the populations that need it most,” said Rep. Madaro. “East Boston Neighborhood Health Center, which has been recognized in the media as being a leader in telemedicine services, along with similar community health centers have provided essential care to residents using these new methods and technology throughout the COVID-19 emergency. This legislation provides critical funding to support these efforts, and helps enhance access to healthcare in our communities”.

EBNHC introduced Telehealth over a year ago in limited capacities, but the COVID-19 pandemic has moved the relatively new healthcare technology to the forefront.

There’s a lot of pent up demand for healthcare out there during the pandemic and Telehealth is a good way to check in with EBNHC providers while still practicing social distancing.

Telehealth is the remote

delivery of health care services and clinical information using communications technology, including the internet, wireless, satellite and phone media.

So far the Health Center has had thousands of Telehealth visits while patients remain safe in their homes.

Telehealth has become of paramount importance to ensure the safety of patients and health care providers. It allows patients the opportunity to seamlessly continue their care while practicing social distancing, remaining in their home, and minimizing their exposure to the virus.

“Telemedicine has transformed care at EBNHC, allowing us to care for patients in the comfort of their homes,” said CEO of East Boston Neighborhood Health Center Manny Lopes. “We appreciate our elected officials allowing us to continue this care and maintain the gains especially in primary care and behavioral health.”

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| Puerta, John J | Trodella, Angelo | 997-1003 Saratoga St #3 | \$330,000 |
| Holowachuk, Justin | A LLC | 154 Trenton St | \$700,000 |
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DEADLINE ANNOUNCEMENT

Grant Application Deadline will be Sept. 14, 2020

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The East Boston Project Advisory Committee, Incorporated

Notice is hereby given that on **Tuesday, September 15, 2020, at 6:30 p.m.** a public **MEETING** of the East Boston Project Advisory Committee, Inc., (aka **PIERPAC**) will be held via remote participation in light of the ongoing State of Emergency declared in connection with the COVID-19 Pandemic

A web link and Details on how to participate remotely shall be provided on the organization's website www.ebpierpac.org on or before **September 11, 2020** at which time you may register to participate

It is the intention of the Committee to discuss in open meeting the following matter(s):

REGULAR MEETING

a. Attendance 6:30

b. Approval of Minutes August 18, 2020 6:35 pm

New Business

c. Discussion of Structure and Terms for Board of Directors

d. Nominations for 1 Director to fill vacancy 6:50 pm

e. Nominations for Board of Officers 7:00 pm

President, Vice President, Treasurer, Clerk

Old Business

f. Amendment to Operations, Security and Maintenance (OSM) Agreement (continued discussion) 7:15

g. Update on Massport annual financial commitment (continued discussion) 7:30

h. Motion to adjourn

At the conclusion of its regular business meeting and prior to adjournment, the Board, upon a motion duly made and seconded, the Board may hold an Executive Session pursuant to G. L. 30A.s.21 upon the conclusion of which, the Board will not resume its public meeting.

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC ARE INVITED AND WELCOMED TO ATTEND

A copy of this notice has also been posted on the organization's website at: www.EBPierPAC.org and has also been placed on file with the Regulations Division of the Secretary of the Commonwealth by mailing same via first class mail at least 5 days prior to the scheduled date of the meeting.

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FRESH AND LOCAL

Garlic can whisper or shout

By Penny & Ed Cherubino

Some of us love garlic in all its many personalities. We love the shout of garlic bread slathered with garlic butter, garlic soup, or chicken with 40 cloves of garlic. Others prefer the faint whisper of garlic achieved by flavoring the oil for a dish with whole, crushed cloves of garlic that are then removed.

The way you cut, smash, slice, and cook garlic will change its flavor. Raw garlic is most often used in salad dressings, sauces, or marinades where it will be tamed by other ingredients or by cooking. Slow cooking in oil or roasting will give you a sweeter, milder flavor. Take care when you sauté or stir-fry garlic. Don't let it burn. That will release the allium's most bitter notes.

Local vs Imported

Keep an eye out for local garlic at farmers markets and farm stands. Most of the garlic sold in this country is imported from China. A 2017 investigation by the U.S. International Trade Commission confirmed that imported garlic must be free of roots. This means that if you see garlic where the root plate has been cut and no roots are evident, it may be imported. Few U.S. farms go to the expense of removing roots.

Garlic Gadgets

Put garlic tools into an Amazon search box and you'll come up with pages of gadgets recommended for garlic preparation. There are garlic presses, peelers, choppers, mincers, slicers, storage containers, and even goggles for those whose eyes water when they chop garlic.

We've never found a need for more than a cutting board, Microplane, knife, and a small jar with a loose-fitting lid. Actually, the cover would fit, but we added a few plastic bumpers to keep that lid ajar and let the garlic have some air. Airflow is important to keep garlic free of mold and rot. One garlic farmer suggests inverting a clay flower pot with a hole in the bottom to keep the bulbs from drying out. At the very least, you should store garlic in whole bulbs at room temperature and not in the refrigerator.

Health Aspects

The Center for the History of Medicine and Public Health at the New York Academy Of Medicine has an article titled, "The History of Garlic: From Medicine to Marinara." It confirms that the earliest uses of garlic were medicinal. Ancient Greek doctors, "... prescribed garlic as a strengthening food ..." Plague doctors wore masks

with beaks, "... filled with odorous herbs, garlic likely among them, designed to combat miasmas." Louis Pasteur declared garlic, "... a powerful antimicrobial in 1858."

Scientific research on the purported benefits of garlic has had mixed results. Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center's resource, "About Herbs, Botanicals & Other Products" has more warnings than endorsements of garlic as a remedy. Their findings say, "Patients taking warfarin or other blood thinners should ask their doctor before taking garlic supplements." And they explain, "Processing may reduce the active compounds found in garlic products. For example, garlic powder and garlic essential oil do not contain allicin or ajoene, the compounds believed to have cholesterol-reducing and blood-thinning properties."

That said, why not just enjoy garlic for what it brings to the final dish. Buy it fresh. Store it right. Slice, grate or crush it with care. Add more or less to your own taste and chew on some parsley or mint after you eat it to help rid yourself of garlic breath.

Do you have a question or topic for Fresh & Local? Send an email to Penny@BostonZest.com with your suggestion.



There are hundreds of gadgets designed for use with garlic. We have never found a need for more than a cutting board, Microplane, knife, and a small jar with a loose-fitting lid.

Artists for Oceans brings world-class public art and events to promote ocean advocacy

By John Lynds

Living on a sailboat at the Boston Harbor Shipyard and Marina on Marginal in East Boston Harbor Arts Director Matthew Pollock knows first hand the impacts of sea level rise and global warming.

"I live on a boat in East Boston and I see the impacts of climate change everyday from extreme tides to pollution in the water, as a coastal community we need to bring attention to these very real issues," said Pollock.

So in May of last year Pollock reached out to international nonprofit PangeaSeed Foundation to bring their globally renowned public art program, Sea Walls: Artists for Oceans, to Eastie.

Sea Walls: Artists for Oceans is part of global initiatives and over 400 murals in 16 countries calling attention to climate change have been painted around the world from New Zealand to Mexico to Indonesia to the Caribbean.

"I reached out to PangeaSeed Foundation around May 2019 and told them the community of East Boston deserves an amazing project like this," he said. "They got back to me right away and told me it would be a really good fit."

As Director of HarborArts, Pollock became the local project director for putting PangeaSeed Foundation's public art initiative at the Shipyard as well as the Mary Ellen Welch Greenway.

Curated by Linda Cabot, Sea Walls Boston will install six large-scale public murals throughout Eastie this month, as well as host a series of accompanying virtual community events.

"It's very exciting because this is the first time Sea Walls is coming to the Northeast and Eastie is home to Sea Walls Boston," said Pollock. "This is going to be part of a bigger pilot project that will involve more artists and more murals all in East Boston in the near future."

Sea Walls Boston kicked off on Tuesday with the creation of the first four of six large-scale ocean-themed murals at the Shipyard.

Participating talents are local ARTivists Silvia López Chavez, Julia "JULZ" Roth + Cedric "Vise1" Douglas, Josie Morway, IMAGINE, Sophy Tuttle, and Artists for Humanity featuring teen leaders from East Boston.

"We will start at the Shipyard on Sept. 1 through Sept. 99 and then do the next two murals at the Mary Ellen Welch Greenway from Sept. 14 to the 19," said Pollock. "By this weekend we will be in full force and the murals will start to take shape on the sides of buildings at the Shipyard."

Pollock said originally the project was to culminate into a ten-day public art festival in Eastie scheduled for this month. Planned by a team of community leaders, artists, and change-makers, the event was to feature 15 international and regional artists coming together to paint for a purpose giving East Boston's coastal communities a creative voice through public art and activism.

However, in the wake of COVID-19, the Sea Walls Boston team has rescheduled the main event to July of 2021 but will continue in the form of a pilot project next month. The Sea Walls Boston team has listened to the community and has received positive feedback that Eastie wants to see public art installed this year.

"Now more than ever, there is no better way to bring positivity to the community than to add fresh, bright colors to the neighborhood during an extraordinarily difficult time," said Pollock.

"Sea Walls Boston is working diligently to ensure that the program keeps artists, volunteers, and the community safe, following the guidelines from the State of Massachusetts, the City of Boston, and the CDC. For the safety of the artists and the general public, we will be hosting public events as part of Sea Walls Boston online. If the public chooses to visit the mural locations while they're in progress, the organizers ask that they wear a mask, social distance from other viewers, and respect the artists' safety by remaining at a distance."

Pollock said presenting Sea Walls Boston is long-time PangeaSeed Foundation supporter Linda Cabot. Cabot is a lifelong ocean advocate, sailor, and founder of Bow Seat Ocean Awareness Programs, a Boston-based nonprofit that challenges students to explore issues impacting the oceans through art. Sea Walls Boston is produced in partnership with Boston Harbor Now, Ocean Havens, East Boston Main Streets, the Davis Companies, the East Boston Foundation, ZUMIX, Artists for Humanity, the Donald McKay School, the Barr Foundation, the Friends of the Mary Ellen Welch Greenway (formerly the East Boston Greenway), and many members of the East Boston community. The project is also supporting local small businesses and restaurants impacted by COVID-19 by purchasing materials and food for the artists and volunteers.

Pollock said the project, which runs through September 20th in conjunction with Eastie Week, provides a series of opportunities for the community to get involved and learn more about how they can become stewards of our oceans.

"In addition to the new collection of monumental public art installations, Sea Walls Boston will bring a whole host of virtual educational programming including artist talks, panelist "conversations", and family activities like a free downloadable Coloring Companion that will engage local youth with the murals being painted in their neighborhood," said Pollock. "These murals are being painted with a purpose to give our oceans a creative voice, by serving as educational tools and conversation-starters about locally relevant key issues affecting our oceans, environment, and people. Four of the mural sites are located at Boston Harbor Shipyard & Marina, and two are located on the Mary Ellen Welch Greenway."

For more information on Sea Walls Boston, please visit seawalls.org or contact the local Sea Walls team at SeaWallsBoston@pangeaseed.org

Garden // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

top priority of the Boston Parks and Recreation Department and gardeners were instructed to follow all current advisories from the Boston Public Health Commission and the City of Boston. Judging was held with social distancing

and masks in use, as was the delivery of winner's certificates.

Traditionally, the awards ceremony is an outdoor celebration in the Boston Public Garden where each winner is announced and provided with their award

by Mayor Walsh. This year's ceremony was held virtually on August 25 with all winners' gardens showcased. As winners of each category were announced, photos of their gardens were shown on screen.

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.

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ENJOY A SAFE LABOR DAY WEEKEND

“Time and tide wait for no man,” wrote the poet.

The summer of 2020 is entering its final week as we approach the traditional Labor Day weekend and once again the summer season has flown by much faster than any of us would have liked, especially during a time when we find ourselves being held hostage by a microscopic virus.

But the calendar never lies and soon the summer of ‘20 will be just a memory.

Ordinarily, our end-of-summer editorial recalls the happiness and joy that the summer months have brought us. But this era of a pandemic has forced all of us to abandon almost every aspect of our traditional summer rituals, both big and small and on both communal and personal levels.

As this most awful of summer seasons winds down to just a few precious days, we certainly understand the desire on the part of many (if not all of us) to just let it all out, so to speak: “If this is the last, let’s make it a blast!”

But amidst the chaos in our lives, one thing that has not changed, and that requires even more urgency than usual, is our annual admonition to our readers to enjoy the Labor Day weekend safely.

We certainly do not wish to rain on anyone’s parade, so to speak, but we would be remiss if we failed to urge our readers that if they intend to have a good time, they should do so safely, both for themselves and their loved ones.

First and foremost, excessive drinking does not mix with anything -- whether it be boating, driving, water sports, hiking, bicycling, or just about any activity that requires some degree of coordination and observance of the rules of safety.

The news reports will be full of tragic stories over the weekend of those who died or were seriously injured in accidents that could have been avoided had excessive drinking not been involved.

In addition, though this is a holiday weekend for us, we must remember that the COVID-19 does not take a holiday. It always is lurking and seeking new victims who do not wear a face mask in public and who do not practice appropriate physical distancing at all times.

We must do our part to ensure that none of our loved ones -- let alone ourselves -- are among the inevitable, sad statistics.

We wish all of our readers a happy -- and safe -- Labor Day weekend.

A SUMMER OF CHAOS AND TRAGEDY

As America approached the Memorial Day weekend of 2020, the death toll from COVID-19 in the United States stood at just under 100,000 of our fellow Americans.

But now, three months later, that number soon will have doubled, as our nation’s death toll from the virus approaches an astonishing and tragic 200,000 persons.

On May 25, a Black man, George Floyd, was murdered by a white Minneapolis police officer, who kept his knee on Mr. Floyd’s neck for more than eight minutes while Mr. Floyd lay prone on the ground until Mr. Floyd stopped breathing.

Three months later, a white Kenosha, Wisconsin police officer shot a Black man, Jacob Blake, seven times in the back in front of his three young sons, leaving Mr. Blake paralyzed from the waist down.

Neither Mr. Floyd nor Mr. Blake posed a threat to any of the officers such that the officers were justified in using deadly force.

In May 2020, our national unemployment rate and number of business failures stood at levels not seen since the Great Depression. Three months later, the improvement has been minimal with the spectre of worse to come thanks to the inaction by our leaders in Washington.

The Summer of 2020 has been a tragic disaster in this country by any and every measure. But instead of learning from our mistakes in order to move forward, our national leadership has offered no plan to alleviate the many problems we are facing.

Instead of giving us hope that better days lie ahead, the present administration’s dysfunction has ensured that America will continue to spiral downward.

Your opinions, please

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

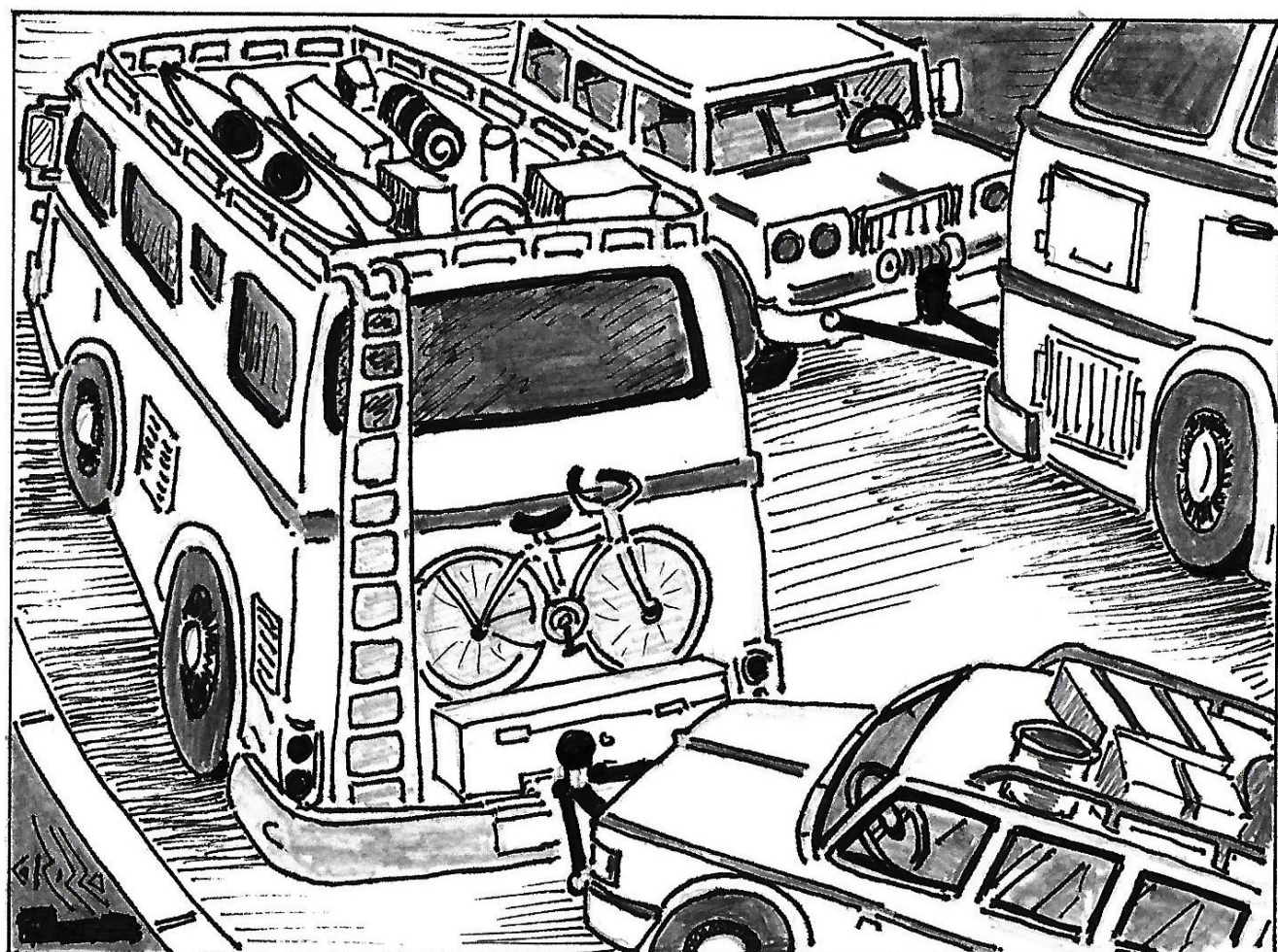
Letters may also be e-mailed to editor@eastietimes.com.

Letters must be signed.

We reserve the right to edit for length and content.



Forum



State announces policies to support families, expand childcare options while their children are remote learning

The Baker-Polito Administration on Friday announced new policies that will provide families who require childcare while their children are engaged in remote learning additional options by allowing programs to offer supervised care during regular school day hours.

Governor Charlie Baker signed an Executive Order that allows the Department of Early Education and Care (EEC) to authorize currently licensed after-school and out-of-school programs to operate during the school day while children are learning remotely.

As schools prepare to reopen, working parents need to find care and learning support for their school-aged children while they are engaged in remote learning. Current state

statute prohibits licensed after-school and out-of-school time programs for school-aged children from offering care during school hours. The Executive Order allows EEC to authorize childcare programs, like YMCAs, Boys and Girls Clubs, family childcare homes, and others, to care for school-age children while they participate in remote learning.

The Department will also exempt informal remote learning parent co-operative arrangements organized by families, if the groups are supervised by unpaid parents. These parent cooperatives are still subject to any state orders regulating gatherings in place under the COVID-19 state of emergency.

In addition, the Executive Order creates a temporary license exemption for

remote learning enrichment programs to provide supervision and care for school children up to age 14 while they participate in remote learning during the school day. These remote learning programs, which must meet specific criteria, will need to first be approved by their local municipality before they can apply for the license exemption. Programs run by a school district are already exempt from EEC licensure and do not need to apply for this exemption.

The Departments of Early Education and Care and Elementary and Secondary Education will issue joint guidance that details the minimum requirements for remote learning programs, including background record checks, health and safety standards, facilities checks, and child to staff ratios.

Municipalities will ensure programs, that are approved for the license exemption, comply with health and safety requirements.

“We all want our children to get back into school as soon as possible and we applaud the schools and districts that are making the extra effort to bring their students back in some form,” said Education Secretary James Peyser. “At the same time, we know that remote learning will be part of the educational experience for many students this fall, so it’s critical that we enable parents, after-school providers, and community organizations to offer additional childcare options and learning supports when students are unable to attend school in person.”

EBNHC // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

to Work.

By investing in its employees, EBNHC is able to carry out its mission to provide easily accessible, affordable, appropriate,

high-quality, personalized, coordinated primary care, for all who live and work in East Boston and the surrounding communities. EBNHC offers progressive

benefits, a variety of schedules, and the satisfaction of working with a diverse workforce whose unity of purpose is a real force for achievement. The Health Center’s Education & Training Institute is an important resource for many employees who seek to broaden their skill base and advance their careers.

“By providing education and training opportunities, we address both sides of a vital employment issue,” continued Lopes. “The Health Center provides employees and community members alike with the education and skills needed to obtain well-paying jobs in health care, providing a source of qualified employees for EBNHC that are part of the Health Center’s

service area while helping drive the local economy.”

For more information about EBNHC’s employment opportunities, please visit careers.ebnhc.org.

The East Boston Neighborhood Health Center (EBNHC) has been a vital part of its community for the last 50 years, providing easily accessible, high-quality health care to all who live and work in East Boston and the surrounding communities of Chelsea, Revere, Everett, and Winthrop. EBNHC supports over 1,000 employees and handles 300,000 visits per year – more than any other ambulatory care center in New England. For more information, please visit www.ebnhc.org.

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Eastie COVID-19 cases continue to rise, Mayor, EBNHC deploy mobile testing

By John Lynds

For the last three weeks East Boston has had the highest COVID-19 infection rate, and the highest percentage of residents testing positive for the virus leaving officials scrambling to get control of a public health emergency in the neighborhood.

Last week, Mayor Martin Walsh said the numbers in the neighborhood are alarming because every neighborhood except Eastie has a positive test rate at or below 3.9 percent. Eastie is off the charts with a positive test rate of nearly 11 percent last week.

In response Mayor Walsh said city officials moved its mobile testing team to Eastie on Tuesday. This is in addition to the testing site at the East Boston Neighborhood Health Center, which will continue to offer tests to anyone who wants one, regardless of symptoms, and at no cost.

The infection rate has been 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 three weeks ago but jumped again by 5.5 percent the following week.

According to the latest data released by the Boston Public Health Commission (BPHC) on Friday Eastie's COVID infection rate rose nearly seven percent and went from 419.8 cases per 10,000 residents to 448.6 cases per 10,000 residents. The citywide average is 226.3 cases per 10,000 residents, an increase of 2.2

percent from the 221 cases per 10,000 resident averages reported last week.

As of Friday 135 more people became infected with the virus in Eastie and there were 2,105 confirmed COVID-19 cases. This was a 6.8 percent increase from the 1,970 cases reported by the BPHC two weeks ago.

As of Last week the BPHC reported that 12,737 residents were tested for COVID-19 and the data shows that 10.8 percent of those tested were COVID positive--down slightly from the 11.4 percent reported two weeks ago. However, Dorchester has the second highest percentage of residents testing positive for COVID at only 3.9 percent and the citywide average is 2.3 percent.

Overall since the pandemic began 17.2 percent of Eastie's population tested was found to be positive.

The city's COVID mobile testing site, in partnership with the East Boston Neighborhood Health Center (EBNHC), will now be offering COVID-19 testing in East Boston's Central Square. This COVID-19 testing initiative will be available until Saturday, September 12 on Border Street at Liberty Plaza Shopping Center in East Boston. Testing will be available at no cost for both symptomatic and asymptomatic individuals. No appointment is needed but registration is required. To pre-register, please call 617-568-4500.

"Since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic, we have been dedicated to monitoring and making decisions based on the

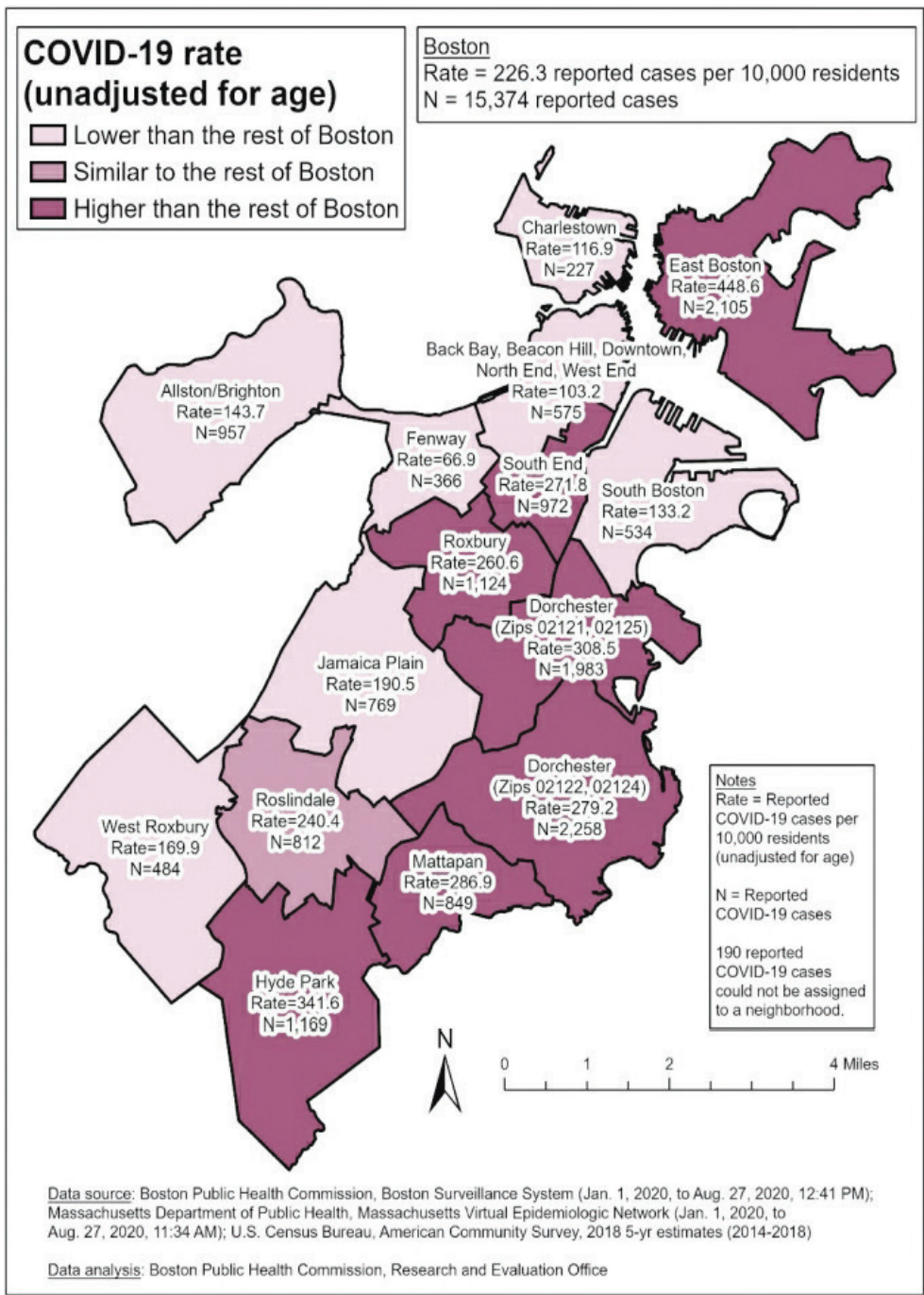
latest COVID-19 data. With the increase in cases in East Boston, we are expanding testing access there to ensure that all residents can get tested," said Walsh. "Thank you to the East Boston Neighborhood Health Center for your continued partnership in helping Bostonians stay safe and healthy."

Walsh announced this mobile site testing initiative back in May as a way to help fill any gaps in testing availability, prioritizing neighborhoods and populations that need dedicated testing efforts to create equitable access to testing.

"East Boston has seen an alarming rise in COVID-19 rates and it's critical that we take immediate actions to stop the spread of the virus," said EBNHC president and CEO Manny Lopes. "Testing is one of the most important infectious disease control tools in our arsenal and we are glad to be partnering with the City of Boston to provide pop-up testing sites throughout the city."

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

Citywide positive cases of coronavirus rose 2.2 percent last week from 15,232 cases to 15,573 cases. So far 11,872 Boston residents have fully recovered from the virus and five additional residents died last week bringing the total of fatalities in the city to 753.



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

Local doctors launch ‘Fight the Twindemic!’ campaign

Local doctors warn you need a flu shot this year more than ever before because of the looming ‘Twindemic’ about to strike here and across the country.

They’re talking about the double whammy of flu and COVID 19 hitting at the same time, threatening to sicken more of us and overwhelm our medical facilities and resources.

That’s why physicians with American Family Care, a national healthcare network with a local clinic, have launched a crusade called ‘Fight the Twindemic’ to educate families about the importance of flu vaccines and the differences between the flu and COVID-19.

Our local docs will answer:

- Who should get a flu shot and where do you get it?
- How can you tell the difference between the flu and COVID -19?
- Can you get both?
- Interviews can be done virtually (Zoom, Skype, Facetime) or you are wel-

come to come to our clinic to interview docs and possibly patients.

‘Fight The Twindemic!’ Education Campaign

- 1 Protect Yourself
 - Flu season runs from December through February. Unlike Covid, with no proven vaccine available yet, the flu has a vaccine that can protect you from getting the virus or at least reduce the severity of your symptoms – by 40 to 60 percent.
 - While the race to come up with a Covid-19 vaccine continues, companies that make flu vaccines are boosting supplies to meet what they expect will be higher demand this year.
 - The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommends that everyone 6 months and older get a flu vaccine by the end of October – because it takes a few weeks for the vaccine to provide protection.
- 2 Understand Virus Variations
 - The flu and COVID-19 are both contagious respiratory illnesses that share

many of the same signs and symptoms such as dry cough, fever, and shortness of breath.

So what are the differences?

There are some distinct differences that set them apart.

- A loss of smell and taste is a symptom connected to Covid-19 and is considered rare among flu sufferers.
- Flu symptoms come on rapidly, whereas symptoms for COVID-19 can take upwards of 14 days to appear.

3 Don’t Double Your Trouble

- It is possible to get sick with both the flu and Covid-19 at the same time.
- Although both viruses are spread through droplets from an infected person and share similar symptoms, they use different receptors on our cells once inside the body. So, yes, this allows for a double infection in the same person.
- Cases are rare right now and experts want to keep it that way by warning Americans to get a flu shot.

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Zenith Lodge #42 Odd Fellows of Winthrop hosts a Flu Vaccine Clinic

Zenith Lodge #42 Odd Fellows of Winthrop, located at 196 Winthrop Street in Winthrop, will be hosting a Flu Vaccine Clinic, sponsored by CVS of Winthrop at 3 Woodside Avenue. The clinic is open to the general public, and will be held on Saturday, September 12, from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m. at the

Lodge located at 196 Winthrop Street in Winthrop. For further information on this event, contact Gerri Gatchell at 617-455-8212 or Kelly McCorry at CVS 617-846-9155. The vaccines are covered by most of the individuals health insurance plans, please check prior to arrival on the day of the clinic.

Visit eastietimes.com

Sports

High-Flying Jets

East Boston LL Seniors take top spot in area tournament

Special to the Times-Free Press

The East Boston Little League Senior Division All Stars participated in a tournament involving senior teams from the North Shore, including Lynnfield and Peabody.

The Eastie contingent acquitted itself well, finishing on top by taking two out of the three games versus the best high school players from these communities.

In Game 1, Eastie came back from an early six-run deficit to defeat Lynnfield, 7-6, in a thriller.

Yohanxi Alcantar closed the game pitching four solid innings for East Boston

while Luis Ortiz and Robert Gilbride drove in the winning runs in a three-run final inning.

In Game 2, the East Boston team once again showed its resiliency coming back from another early six-run deficit to win an 11-10 nail biter versus Peabody. This time it was Johanxi Amparo closing on the mound for East Boston with four solid innings. Cam Martin and Miguel Pimental had keys hits while Joe Ferullo scored the winning run on a close play at the plate in the bottom of the seventh.

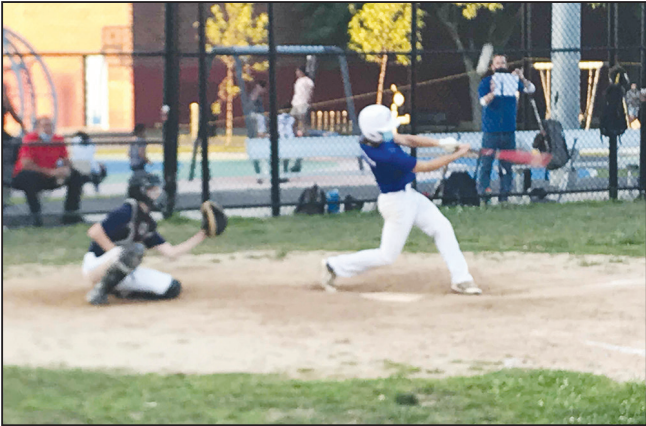
Lynnfield came back in Game 3 to win a close 9-8 back-and-forth game but it wasn't enough as East

Boston captured the tournament.

Manager Chuckie Cassaro was proud of the team's success. "East Boston Little League was happy to provide the players with an opportunity to play against other cities in different parks against top competition. It's always exciting to play versus other communities and even more so, when you're successful. We're very proud of the accomplishment and of the fact that our East Boston Little League organization was able to put this together with other leagues under these current conditions", Cassaro said.



The East Boston Little League Senior Division All-Star team took home the title in a recent tournament. Front row, from left, are Robert Gilbride, Cam Martin, Chris Frazier, Jason DaSilva, and Brian Kelly. Back row, from left, are Coach Brian Troville, Luis Ortiz, Yohanxi Alcantar, Matt DeCarney, Johanxi Amparo, Joe Ferullo, Coach Chuckie Cassaro, and his son, CJ Cassaro. Missing from photo: Sammie Santiago, Miguel Pimental and Coaches Daryl Martin and Len Cambria.



East Boston's Robert Gilbride takes a swing in a tournament game against Lynnfield.



East Boston's Miguel Pimental throws a pitch versus Peabody.



East Boston's Cam Martin gets his lead at first base before a successful stealing attempt.



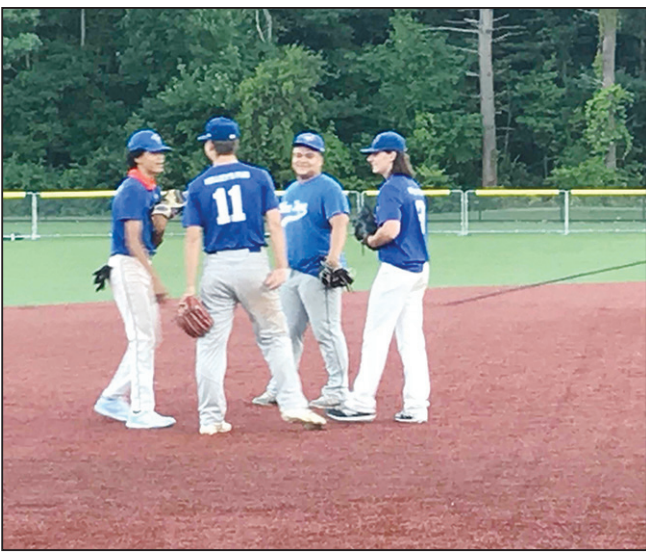
East Boston's Robert Gilbride is in position for a possible pickoff throw to first base.



East Boston's Luiz Ortiz make a play at shortstop.



East Boston's Johanxi Amparo fires a pitch.



East Boston's Luis Ortiz, Joe Ferullo, Sammie Santiago, and Robert Gilbride confer on the field during the game against Peabody.

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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Region

// CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8

at the Sept. 12 Everett Planning Board meeting, which is an online Zoom meeting. The Grossman Companies purchased the site in 2018 for around \$16 million.

AUDITORIUM
POSSIBLY BE
RENAMED

EVERETT - The Frederick Forestreire Center for Performing Arts at Everett High School – otherwise known as the auditorium – is before the School Committee this month on a request by Mayor Carlo DeMaria to rename the facility after the late Dorothy Martin Long.

At Monday’s School Committee meeting, the Committee by a unanimous vote accepted a request from the mayor for the renaming and sent it to the Subcommittee on Property for further evaluation.

There was no immediate comment from anyone on the Committee and Mayor DeMaria did not wish to comment at this time either. He submitted the item in his role as an ex officio member of the Committee.

The Center was named after former Supt. Fred Forestreire when he was still at the helm of the schools and shortly after the new Everett High was completed so many years ago. However, criminal allegations of improper conduct against him prompted his resignation in December 2018 and charges were filed in court in early 2019. The case is still pending and has been delayed by COVID-19 court shutdowns. He is charged with seven counts of misconduct, but hasn’t yet been convicted of anything.

That said, many have asked numerous times if the Performing Arts Center would be renamed given the negative publicity surrounding the former superintendent. Nothing, however, was done as the School Committee said it was waiting until the resolution of the court case before taking any action on renaming things that carry the name of Forestreire – including the Center.

On Monday, in what was a surprise to observers, Mayor DeMaria moved to have the Committee go ahead now and consider the renaming.

Dorothy Martin Long was a long-time community and education advocate in Everett, serving in numerous capacities before her unexpected passing earlier this summer. She was prominent on the Superintendent Search Committee that met many times in 2019 before picking new Supt. Priya Tahliliani.

The matter was voted to Committee on an 8-0 vote.

FALL SEASON
CANCELED
IN LYNN

LYNN - Lynn English Director of Athletics Dick Newton and Lynn Classical Director of Athletics Bill Devin both voted with the majority to cancel the entire Northeastern Conference fall sports season.

The NEC ADs voted by a 7-5 margin to recommend to cancel the season and push it back to the spring of 2021. The NEC school principals, including Classical Principal Amy Dunn and English Interim Principal Anastasia Tessie Mower, voted 9-0-3 Monday to cancel the season, with the Gloucester, Danvers, and Beverly principals abstaining.

Newton spoke about the proposal that he authored.

“I think the buzzword was ‘equity’ and if five schools are not able to play at all, are we going to stay together as a league or are

we going to branch off and do our own thing?” said Newton. “I think the main objective of school systems is to get students back in the classroom first.”

The decision affects Lynn high school football (which had already been moved to the spring season, (which is called the “Fall 2” season), volleyball, boys and girls soccer, boys and girls cross country, golf, and cheerleading.

“It is my job as an athletic director to look out for my kids and at this point in time where we’re in waters that we haven’t been in before when it comes to COVID-19 and virtual learning – it’s made things very difficult for everybody and my job is to look out for Lynn English and Lynn kids.”

Devin said Lynn was deemed to be in “red” for COVID-19 cases, “so weren’t going to be allowed to play anywhere.”

“This decision gives us a ray of hope that we can salvage the entire fall season and play it in the Fall 2 floating wedge season created by the MIAA,” said Devin.

Devin said he is “100 percent optimistic” that the Fall 2 season can happen this spring.

“There are some obstacles with the weather and the availability of venues and other issues, but I think all of those things can be overcome,” said Devin. “My thought is that the late February dates will be used for tryouts and indoor practices and then gradually make our way out to the golf course, the cross country course, and the football and soccer fields.”

Devin said he is excited about an interesting scenario that could find the Lynn Classical and Lynn English football teams playing their annual “Thanksgiving” game in April.

“I am excited about playing the Bulldogs on a warm, crisp Saturday afternoon in April at Manning Field,” said Devin. “We’re going to have a sell-out crowd, 10,000-plus fans there.”

In other news, Devin and Newton have agreed that the Lynn flag football (Powder Puff) game between Lynn Classical and Lynn English seniors will be played in the spring at Manning Field.

McKENNA’S HOME
IS TESTING SITE

REVERE - Ward 1 Councillor Joanne McKenna is well known for looking out for her constituents’ best interests on the streets of Beachmont and as it now turns out, officially in the air up above the neighborhood as well.

McKenna’s home and yard on Winthrop Avenue will be the site for a machine that will measure the emissions from airplanes landing and taking off from Logan Airport.

Dr. John Durant, environmental engineering professor at Tufts University, is leading the one-year study in collaboration with the Boston University School of Public Health “to better understand aviation impacts in communities near Logan Airport.”

The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) is funding the research that will determine air pollution (chemical pollution and noise pollution) impacts of aviation and how to mitigate pollution from those impacts.

How did Tufts and BU officials happen to choose the home of Councillor Joanne McKenna for the placement of the machine?

“We are doing a yearlong characterization of impacts near the major runways,” said Durant. “We wanted a

site to the north in line with the major runway configurations, and through the Logan noise study group, I was referred to Joanne by Gina Cassetta (of the Winthrop Airport Hazards Committee).”

Durant credited McKenna for responding immediately to the request to use her home as an emissions testing site.

“Joanne volunteered and she was quite enthusiastic,” said Durant. “So we’ve installed a water-tight, weather-proof box on her residential property and putting three instruments inside that will measure three different kinds of pollution: nitrogen dioxide, black carbon, and ultra-fine particles. These are all combustion byproducts of the airplane engine, just like they come out of the tailpipe of a car.”

The testing mechanisms will be on 24 hours a day, according to Durant. Winthrop, Chelsea, and South Boston will be the other testing locations.

McKenna has been involved in regular communications with Massport during her tenure on the City Council.

“But this study just fell in my lap,” said McKenna humbly. “Tufts and BU are doing a study on the quality of the air over Beachmont and my property is one of the highest points on the hill. Gina Cassetta suggested my house for the study. They [Tufts and BU officials] came to my house a few weeks ago and thought it was a wonderful location. The machine will be in my yard for a year and test the quality and the emissions of the airplanes. It’s a great step for Beachmont. Finally we’re going to get a study to see how the emissions of the airplanes landing at and departing from Logan affect the health of Beachmont residents.”

ESPOSITO’S
BAKERY TO CLOSE
REVERE LOCATION

REVERE - Esposito Bakery, an institution that has stood proudly for Italian pastry excellence in Revere since 1963, will close its Revere location after 57 years in the business but continue operations at its current stores in Saugus and Danvers.

Owners Charlie Pema and Zamira Pema and their daughters Ada Pema and Jennifer Pema have owned and operated the popular bakery at 154 Squire Road for the last 25 years.

“It’s really been a family affair,” said Ada Pema. “My mom and dad worked there for a number of years before owning it. They really have managed all operations for the bakery. And my sister and I grew up there making cannolis and decorating cakes and managing inventory since we were young.”

Through the support of their many loyal customers at their Revere store, the Pemas were able to expand the business to locations in Saugus and Danvers.

The Pemas were known for their distinct personal touch and congenial manner with each customer, building a strong relationship with them. Often arriving early in the morning to begin their days, Charlie and Zamira Pema worked hard to put out a great product and customers flocked to the door not only for weekly purchases for the family dinners but for special occasions.

“We put so much love and effort into it,” said Ada. “We kept all of the original recipes from the Esposito family who originally owned it. It’s just been a family effort and we’re so lucky to have been able to have grown the business as

well.”

Why is the Pema family ending its legendary existence in Revere pastry-land?

“It’s bittersweet, but for us, I think it’s really been time to go,” said Ada. “I think the situation with the landlord was no longer giving us an ability to grow and scale the business and invest in the business the way how we wanted to. After a few years of going back and forth, we decided to take our investments and grow the business in Saugus where we have more space. We’re just excited to have revamped and grown the business over there.”

Jennifer Pema agreed with her sister, stating, “It definitely is a bittersweet transition. The Revere community was a backbone and a staple of the business. We’re going to miss Revere but we’re not going far.”

Ada also noted that the Saugus store is not far from the Revere border and that many former Revere residents – who patronized the store in this city – are now customers at the Saugus store.

“We see familiar faces all the time,” said Ada. “It’s the next town over and we’re excited to renovate the space, grow it, and set it up for the future. We hope that Revere residents will come over to Saugus. We’re really excited to continue the Esposito tradition there.”

WINTHROP
MOVED TO
COVID
RED ZONE

WINTHROP - The Town of Winthrop has been moved to the Red Zone designation, the highest level of risk by state officials due to the increase in positive COVID-19 cases. Winthrop joins 21 other communities, including Revere, Chelsea, Lynn and Everett that also have been moved to the Red Zone.

While Boston has not been designated in the Red Zone, East Boston has the highest infection rate in the City and the highest percentage of residents testing positive. As of this week, East Boston is at 11% for those being tested positive for the virus.

The Town of Winthrop is taking multiple steps to stop the spread of COVID-19 in our community. The Massachusetts Department of Public Health had notified Winthrop officials of eight new cases on Friday and one additional resident affected by COVID-19 on Tuesday. The new Winthrop totals as of Tuesday are as follows: 350 confirmed cases: 24 deceased, 22 isolated and 304 recovered.

The Town of Winthrop has reactivated its Emergency Operations Center on Wednesday, Aug. 26, in order to centralize the response effort to the recent uptick in COVID-19 cases. Those with questions about the COVID-19 situation in town are encouraged to call the COVID-19 information line at 617-539-5848 between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. Monday through Friday, or email COVID19info@town.winthrop.ma.us.

In response to the recent designation by the state as a “high risk” community, Winthrop officials have partnered with state leaders to establish “Stop the Spread” testing site seven days a week at the E.B. Newton School, as well as additional limited “pop-up” sites. Testing is free for all at each testing site in Winthrop. The testing at the E.B. Newton School and the pop-up sites will continue through at least Sept. 12.

Testing will be available at E.B. Newton School in Winthrop on the following days and times until further notice:

Monday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday from 2-7 p.m. (drive-through)

Tuesday and Thursday

from 2-7 p.m. (walk-up)

Testing providers are able to provide information in English and Spanish.

Additional pop-up testing location details will be provided as soon as they are available.

“The only way to truly stop the spread of COVID-19 in our community is for everyone to get tested, learn their results and take the appropriate steps if they test positive,” Public Health Director Meredith Hurley said. “Testing lets us know where the virus is in our community, who is carrying it even without symptoms, and who’s at risk of contracting the virus through close contact with those that have it.”

The virus that causes COVID-19 primarily spreads through the exchange of respiratory droplets that find their way into the air when people breathe, cough or sneeze. Spread can be significantly limited through the use of face coverings when in public, and through the practice of social distancing -- remaining at least six feet away from people who don’t live in your household at all times.

“Residents who live with or have close contact with more vulnerable members of our population -- such as their elderly parents and grandparents or individuals with compromised immune systems -- are especially encouraged to get tested,” Town Manager Austin Faison said. “Still, everyone should get tested regardless of their risk factors so that we can have a fuller understanding of how far COVID-19 has spread in our community and put a stop to it so that we can all stay safe and healthy.”

Between Aug. 2 and 15, Winthrop’s average daily COVID-19 incidence rate per 100,000 residents was 11.37, trending higher than the community’s previous case count period.

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Coalition to safely reopen schools citing serious occupational health concerns to be addressed

Staff Report

In response to the statewide push to reopen schools for in-person education, the recently formed Coalition to Safely Reopen Schools, has issued its position statement citing a number of issues that need to be addressed to ensure that schools can be reopened without jeopardizing the health and safety of students, staff, or the communities schools serve. As a result of that analysis, the Coalition is calling for a phased approach to reopening, with no in-person learning unless and until those issues are resolved.

The Coalition is a statewide collaboration of school nurses, teachers, parents, bus drivers, cafeteria workers, librarians, school support staff, janitorial staff, labor, occupational health and community advocates, who came together to provide a front-line perspective and concrete medically-informed

recommendations for what is needed to safely reopen for in-person learning. The group complements and builds on a number of other position statements issued by local and national teachers associations, including the Massachusetts Teachers Association, and American Federation of Teachers Massachusetts, as well as expert analysis and reports provided by the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health, the Massachusetts Education Equity Partnership and the Massachusetts Coalition for Occupational Safety and Health. It also relies on the perspective of school nurses from throughout the state, who are responsible for the health and well-being of students and every member of the school staff, all of whom will be placing their own well-being and that of their families and communities at risk as a result of reopening during this unprecedented pandemic.

“This process represents

one of the most consequential decisions our communities and our state will make as our state and nation construe to grapple with a pandemic that is still surging across the nation, showing signs of a second wave in our state, with the threat of the flu season looming,” said Patty Comeau, RN, a member of the Coalition, the Massachusetts Nurses Association and a school nurse in Methuen. “In confronting this challenge a safe, scientifically guided, well planned, adequately funded and appropriately resourced process must be the priority for all involved, as the stakes couldn’t be higher and the outcome of our decisions truly have life and death consequences.”

The statement also highlights the need to keep equity as the central focus of reopening in order to address the needs of families, and communities; particularly Black, Latino and those residents of disadvantaged communities across the

Commonwealth, who have been hardest hit by the pandemic, and whose communities often lack the funding and school infrastructure to support a safe reopening at this time.

The position statement addresses 16 different areas of concern that need to be considered and addressed appropriately to ensure a safe reopening of schools for in-person learning, including:

- Proper ventilation and circulation of air;
- Assessing community resources for alternative school settings;
- Ensuring proper social distancing;
- Standardization and availability of PPE for all staff and students
- Resources and infrastructure to support hand hygiene and mask wearing;
- Safe cleaning practices;
- Addressing the health and safety of students with special needs;
- Access to rapid testing;
- Clear guidelines for

contact tracing;

- Appropriate school nurse staffing;
- Space to isolate and monitor suspected or positive cases;
- Resources for safe transportation of students;
- Safe re-entry into school protocols;
- Comprehensive education and training of staff prior to reopening;
- Disparities in access to in-person learning;
- Preserving school staff pay and benefits.

The position statement clearly describes each specific area of concern as well as how each must be addressed to ensure a safe reopening. After completing this review, the Coalition position statement concludes:

“In light of all the issues we have presented, the current lack of funding appropriated to address these issues, and the increased need for staff, PPE, testing and other resources to implement a safe reopening, at

this time; we don’t believe our State is ready to pursue in-person learning safely. And until these issues are resolved, it is also not safe to have staff stationed in these schools to conduct remote learning for students.”

The Coalition calls for the state and school districts to reopen for remote learning, while taking the time to develop comprehensive plans with the infrastructure, protocols, staffing, funding and training “to safely institute in-person learning that we all know our students deserve.”


The organizations that have endorsed the document to date include: American Federation of Teachers Massachusetts, Massachusetts Association for the Chemically Injured, Massachusetts Coalition for Safety and Health, Massachusetts Jobs with Justice, Massachusetts Nurses Association, Massachusetts Teachers Association and Service Employees International Union Local 888.

OBITUARIES

RMV to offer designated service hours for customers 75 or older

Eleanor Cambria

Lifelong East Boston resident



Eleanor P. (Ferullo) Cambria, 91, a life-long resident of East Boston, passed away on Sunday, Aug. 30.

The cherished daughter of the late William and Lucy (Deltorto) Ferullo, she was the beloved wife of the late Leo Cambria, Sr., loving mother of Leona Bianchi and her husband, Richard, Leonard Cambria Sr. and his wife, Sherry and the late Leo Cambria Jr.; adored grandmother of Joshua, Robert, Leonard Jr. and his wife, Desiree, Leo III, Shayne, Devin, Justin and Gianna; great-grandmother of R.J.; caring sister of the late Joseph, Aldolf, Arnold, William, Donald, Ralph, Richard, Marion and Lucille and is also survived by many loving nieces, nephews, cousins and many friends.

Family and friends

Camille Sacco

Strong faith and love of family were the hallmarks of her life



Family and friends are invited to attend a visitation on Thursday, September 3 from at 9 a.m. through 11:15 a.m. in the Vertuccio & Smith, Home for Funerals, 773 Broadway (Rte. 107) Revere for Camille R. Sacco, 84, who passed following a long illness and struggle with the complications of metastatic brain cancer on Sunday, August 30 at her beloved Revere residence. A brief funeral service will be held in the funeral home following the visitation at 11:30 a.m. and a graveside service at Woodlawn Cemetery, Everett will be at 12 (Noon) with interment to follow. In accordance with the ongoing pandemic protocol, masks must be worn at all times and social distancing observed.

Born in East Boston on December 6, 1936, she was raised in East Boston, attended East Boston schools and was a graduate of East Boston High School, Class of 1954. In 1970, she moved to Saugus before coming to Revere, 50 years ago.

After high school, she began a career with Boston Mutual Insurance Co. of Boston as clerk-stenographer for about 15 years. She worked most briefly with her late husband, Peter J. Sacco, Jr., as a bookbinder at the former “Seaboard Bindery” of Boston. Soon, she began her family and became a stay-at-home mom, taking care of Peter, her two children and later in life, her grandson. “TJ” (Anthony J. Godino, Jr.)

Strong faith and love of family were the hallmarks of her life. However, her goodness and outstanding humanity did not confine her passion for humanity at that point. She was a genuine “Fred Rogers neighbor and friend, always extending a helping hand to those who suddenly found themselves in need of assistance of any kind.

Not only did Camille thrive on the excitement of the holidays, she had her own repertoire of traditional observances. At

Staff Report

The Massachusetts Registry of Motor Vehicles (RMV) is announcing that it will begin offering dedicated service hours for customers who are 75 years of age or older and are required to renew their Massachusetts driver’s license in person.

The new designated service hours will be by appointment only and will be offered on Wednesdays through the month of September at select service center locations. The services will begin on Wednesday, Sept. 2, at the Watertown Service Center with additional locations in Danvers, Leominster, New Bedford, and South Yarmouth to follow beginning on Wednesday, Sept. 9. The RMV is offering this new customer service option to facilitate proper “social-distancing” protocols to keep customers and staff safe and healthy.

Throughout September, certain service centers will dedicate Wednesdays (hours vary by location) to customers 75 years of age or older whose driver’s license or ID card expires in September, including customers whose licenses/IDs were extended until September (March, April, and May expirations).

The following service centers will exclusively serve these customers who make renewal appointments:

- Danvers Service Center (starting Sept. 9)
- Leominster Service Center (starting Sept. 9)
- New Bedford Service Center (starting Sept. 9)
- South Yarmouth Service Center (starting Sept. 9)

Below are the options for seniors to renew by appointment:

- If you are a AAA member, you may make a reservation now to renew your driver’s license/ID at a AAA location. Visit aaa.com/appointments to schedule your visit.
- If you are not a AAA member, visit Mass.Gov/RMV to make a reservation to renew at an RMV Service Center. Select the Seniors License Renewal option on the Make/Cancel a Reservation transaction.
- Email the RMV for assistance to renew at Mass-DOTRMVSeniors@dot.state.ma.us email address.
- Call the RMV at 857-368-8005.

License and ID renewal appointments are also available at our other open RMV Service Centers that offer general appointments to the public. Select Renew My Driver’s License or Mass ID option on the Make/Cancel a Reservation at Mass.Gov/RMV to view availability and make a reservation at one of these locations.

The RMV is introducing this service channel alternative in light of the COVID-19 public health emergency to encourage ‘social-distancing’ in its Service Centers and prioritize other essential in-person needs by appointment-only. All RMV customers are encouraged to visit www.Mass.Gov/RMV to complete one of over 40 other transactions available online, by mail, or by phone.

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LEGAL NOTICE

LEGAL NOTICE
COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS THE TRIAL COURT PROBATE AND FAMILY COURT CITATION GIVING NOTICE OF PETITION FOR APPOINTMENT OF A GUARDIAN FOR INCAPACITATED PERSON PURSUANT TO G.L. c. 190B, §5-304 Docket No. SU20P1488GD In the matter of: Abdirashid Abdulrahman RESPONDENT Alleged Incapacitated Person Of: East Boston, MA To the named Respondent and all other interested persons, a petition has been filed by Mass. Dept. Of Mental Health of Westborough, MA in the above captioned matter alleging Abdirashid Abdulrahman is in need of a Guardian and requesting that Sahra Warsame of Boston, MA (or some other suitable person) be appointed as Guardian to serve on the bond. The petition asks the court to determine that the Respondent is incapacitated, that the appointment of a Guardian is necessary, and that the proposed Guardian is appropriate. The petition is on file with this court and may contain a request for certain specific authority. You have the right to object to this proceeding. If you wish to do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance at this court on or before 10:00 A.M. on the return date of 10/01/2020. This day is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline date by which you have to file the written appearance if you object to the petition. If you fail to file the written appearance by the return date, action may be taken in this matter

without further notice to you. In addition to filing the written appearance, you or your attorney must file a written affidavit stating the specific facts and grounds of your objection within 30 days after the return date. **IMPORTANT NOTICE** The outcome of this proceeding may limit or completely take away the above-named person's right to make decisions about personal affairs or financial affairs or both. The above-named person has the right to ask for a lawyer. Anyone may make this request on behalf of the above-named person. If the above-named person cannot afford a lawyer, one may be appointed at State expense. **WITNESS**, Hon. Brian J. Dunn, First Justice of this Court. Date: August 20, 2020 Felix D. Arroyo, Register of Probate 9/02/20 EB

LEGAL NOTICE
COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS THE TRIAL COURT PROBATE AND FAMILY COURT Suffolk Probate And Family Court 24 New Chardon St. Boston, MA 02114 (617)788-8300 CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION Docket No. SU19P2088EA Estate of: Evelyn D. Morash Date of Death: 05/12/2019 To all interested persons: A (Amended) Petition for Formal Probate of Will with Appointment of Personal Representative has been filed by Stephen A. Morash of South Dartmouth, MA requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such

other relief as requested in the Petition. The Petitioner requests that: Stephen A. Morash of South Dartmouth, MA be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve Without Surety on the bond in an unsupervised administration. **IMPORTANT NOTICE** You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 10/01/2020. This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you. **UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC)** A Personal Representative appointed under the MUPC in an unsupervised administration is not required to file an inventory or annual accounts with the Court. Persons interested in the estate are entitled to notice regarding the administration directly from the Personal Representative and may petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including the distribution of assets and expenses of administration. **WITNESS**, Hon. Brian J. Dunn, First Justice of this Court. Date: August 24, 2020 Felix D. Arroyo Register of Probate 9/02/20 EB

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PRIMARY DAY IN EASTIE

Rep. Adrian Madaro and his wife, Ariel, (photo right) were out at the polls Tuesday after noon during the Massachusetts State Primary while City Councilor Lydia Edwards (below) met up with longtime Eastie resident and community activist Nina Coletta at East Boston High School's polling location Tuesday.



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



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OHNC hears info on four projects

By John Lynds

Members of the Orient Heights Neighborhood Council (OHNC) heard informational presentations on four development projects at the group's August meeting.

The group received presentations on projects at 917 Bennington St., 1201 Saratoga St, 137 Leyden St and 1088 Saratoga St.

At 917 Bennington St., Attorney James Christopher said his client is proposing to add commercial spaces at the garage level of the building currently being constructed at the former Kirby Rapino Funeral Home site.

The BPDA approved project consists of 42 units with 31 spaces. Christopher said the original permitting and zoning was done under a different owner/developer and

his client has decided to add commercial space to enhance the project.

The second proposal at 1201 Saratoga St proposes a six unit building on a 6000 sq ft. parcel. Attorney Mike Ross said his client has recently decided to reduce the number of units from 7 to 6.

However, abutters unanimously decided that they only want 1 or 2 family dwelling there. Abbutters reminded OHNC members of a pledge Mayor Martin Walsh made to the group when he stopped by a meeting last year that when a 1 or 2 family building is sold it should remain a 1 to 2 family building.

The third project was at 137 Leyden St. where Architect Arthur Choo said his client wants to erect a 7 unit building at the same height as surrounding buildings.

Choo said the developer has met multiple times with the abutters and has reduced the size of the building and made significant changes to the design as a result.

Finally the group heard from the developer at 1088 Saratoga St. Attorney Richard Lynds said his client would like to erect an addition and change occupancy to a 5 unit building with 3 parking spaces.

However, some felt the building was too tall and lacked sufficient off street parking.

Lynds said his client was looking to remove the penthouse level and doing a roof deck instead. Lynds said this was in response to some concerns from abutters and this would make the height of the building more consistent with the area on Saratoga St.

Save the Harbor and Brain Arts bring you Beats on the Beach virtual music contest

The environmental advocacy organization Save the Harbor/Save the Bay and the non-profit Brain Arts Organization have teamed up this summer to connect people to the region's public beaches during the pandemic through free virtual arts and wellness programs that amplify the voices of area BIPOC artists as part of their Better Beaches Program Partnership.

"We think that the best way to save the harbor is to share the harbor with free events and programs for everyone to enjoy," said Save the Harbor Executive Director Chris Mancini. "But the truth is that not everyone feels welcome on some of our region's most spectacular, and cleanest, public beaches. After the murder of George Floyd and in the face of ongoing violence and oppression faced by BIPOC communities across the country, Save the Harbor is emphasizing our commitment to marginalized groups by working with our current and new partners to make sure that everyone feels welcome on our beaches."

This new collaboration with the Dorchester based Brain Arts Organization features a nature-based wellness and healing series and a beach soundscape music competition hosted by local Black artists and producers LDER and Rilla Force, and judged

by Boston-born poet, rapper and educator, Oompa. Participants will create a beat from a series of sounds recorded by the producers on Boston's beaches, and Oompa will select the best beat and create an original song using it. The competition began on August 17 and will close on September 7. The winner will receive a cash prize of \$200.

The Harbor Healing series features virtual meditation, healing and wellness guides from the Sistahs of the Calabash, Joye Williams from Joyefully Natural and You Good Sis.

"Community members enjoy and connect to the beach in many different ways" said Joye Williams, Save the Harbor's Senior Staff Assistant and Founder and herbalist at Joyefully Natural. "Whether you prefer guided meditation or simply swim in the clean water, enjoying the beach enhances your mood and improves your mental, physical and spiritual well being. Understanding the different ways people enjoy and experience the beach increases our understanding of each other, our communities and the natural world."

The Brain Arts Organization and all of the artists taking part in Harbor Healing and Beats On The Beach are part of a crucial effort to help welcome all community members

to the beaches and encourage everyone to take ownership of the public beaches near them.

"Part of our mission is to foster a culture where individuals can create their own power and opportunities, so reclaiming our city's beaches for Black wellness and creativity is a very exciting project for us," says Emma Leavitt, the director of the Brain Arts Organization. "We are grateful for the opportunity to creatively activate this space with our community and we hope that this becomes a sustaining relationship that builds from year to year."

"Amplifying the voices of Black, Brown, and Indigenous folks is a priority as these marginalized communities continue to fight for their lives," said Save the Harbor's Community Engagement Coordinator Maya Smith. "We hope that creating this engaging community arts project with Black and POC voices at the forefront will continue making our beaches more welcoming to all of our diverse community members."

To enter the music competition, visit the Beats on the Beach webpage at savetheharbor.org/beats. To learn more about Save the Harbor/Save the Bay or the Brain Arts Organization, visit their websites at savetheharbor.org and brain-arts.org

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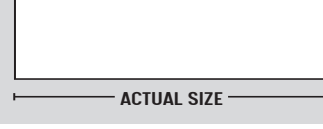
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