

East Boston

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Wednesday, October 28, 2020



Early voting ends Friday in Boston

By John Lynds

Early voting in Boston will end on Friday, October 30, but East Boston voters can still vote early at Boston City Hall on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday between the hours of 9 a.m. and 5 p.m.

Eastie residents who would like to vote by mail but haven't submitted a ballot application yet, you can do so until Wednesday, October 28 and voters can apply online at the Secretary of State's website.

The Election Department started mailing out the first vote-by-mail ballots to those who requested for one earlier this month and will continue to do so as applications are received. "When you get your ballot, you should complete it, sign it, and return it with the envelope as soon as possible," said Mayor Martin Walsh. "It's important to follow the instructions, step by step. You can mail it in as long as it is postmarked by No-

vember 3 and received by the Election Department by November 6."

Voters can also deposit vote-by-mail ballots at Eastie's ballot dropbox. Eastie's ballot dropbox is located at the East Boston Branch Library, 365 Bremen Street. The dropbox will be available seven days a week until 8 p.m.

On the Nov. 3 ballot in Eastie are the following election and candidates:

President of the United States:

Republican Party
Donald Trump (Incumbent)
Mike Pence (Running mate)
Democratic Party
Joe Biden
Kamala D. Harris (Running mate)
Green Party
Howie Hawkins
Angela Nicole Walker (Running mate)
Libertarian Party
Jo Jorgensen
Spike Cohen (Running mate)

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MWRA's COVID Resurgence Study sees alarming trend

By John Lynds

Not everyone gets tested for COVID-19, but everyone goes to the bathroom, and scientists studying the recent data at the MWRA's Deer Island's waste treatment facility in neighboring Winthrop are seeing an alarming trend.

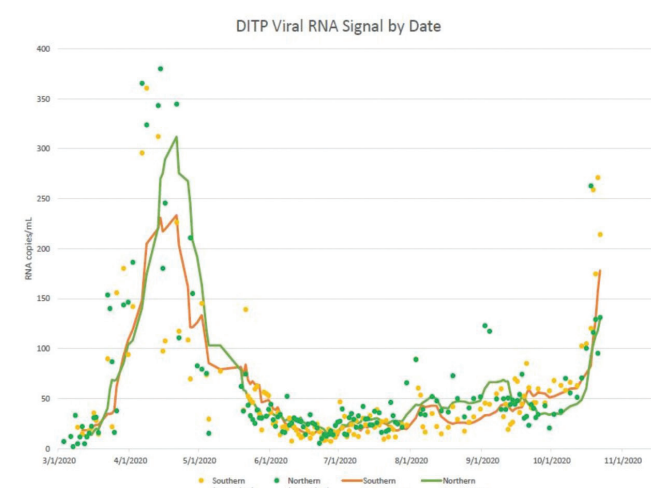
In June, the MWRA Board of Directors approved a \$200,000 contract with Biobot Analytics, Inc. for a six-month pilot study of wastewater at the Deer

Island Treatment Plant as an early warning system tracking trends and potentially predicting a second wave of COVID-19.

The Deer Island plant treats wastewater from 43 communities in eastern Massachusetts, including Boston, which have been representing 40 to 50 percent of the COVID cases in Massachusetts.

Infectious disease experts like Ashish Jha are

See MWRA Page 3



The graph released by the MWRA as part of its COVID Resurgence Study at the Deer Island plant shows a dramatic spike in COVID-19 viral RNA in tested wastewater.

EBNHC to celebrate 50th Anniversary

By John Lynds

A half-century ago, the late Dr. James Taylor's compassionate work with the elderly population on aging issues like hypertension, heart disease and diabetes brought him to East Boston. Dr. Taylor found

that many of his patients in Eastie had little or no access to quality health-care due to the neighborhood's geographic isolation from the rest of Boston. Neighbors were living with untreated conditions, pregnant women weren't getting prenatal

care early enough, and important health screenings were unavailable.

With only a medical relief station on Gove Street to care for the population, Dr. Taylor knew it was time for a full-fledged community health center in the neighborhood.

So in the late 1960s, Dr. Taylor worked with a group of Eastie mothers, and successfully lobbied city and state officials to dedicate funds for a bold expansion of the relief station to the full service East

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GBLN commission's report on status of Latinx-led nonprofits

By John Lynds

The Greater Boston Latino Network (GBLN), which includes the East Boston Ecumenical Community Council, recently commissioned one of two studies to assess the status of Latinx-led nonprofits in Boston and to better

understand the challenges facing this sector.

GBLN, along with Amplify Latinx—a non-partisan convener building Latinx economic and political power in Massachusetts, jointly released two studies earlier this month that also highlighted the critical role that Latino

Community Based Organizations (CBO) play in supporting the city's growing Latino community, especially during the COVID-19 pandemic.

"These organizations and their leaders have taken a first-responder role during the COVID-19 health and economic cri-

sis, requiring many Latinx nonprofits to pivot and provide basic human services and a critical safety net within their communities," said the report.

According to the reports, there are 80 Latino nonprofits in the Com-

See GBLN Page 2



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eastietimes.com

Councilor Edwards to host virtual East Boston Trivia and Comedy Night

By John Lynds

On Tuesday, November 10 at 6 p.m., City Councilor Lydia Edwards and the Edwards Empowerment Fund will host a virtual East Boston Trivia and Comedy Night to honor this year’s recipients of the Maverick Street Mothers Scholarship.

The winners of the scholarship have not been selected as of yet and qualified candidates wishing to submit an application can email edwardsempowermentfund@gmail.com.

The recipients will be announced ahead of the virtual event.

“To honor the Maverick Street mothers, we celebrate the legacy of leaders whose shoulders we stand on and helped shape the history of East Boston,” said Councilor Edwards. “Scholarship recipients will be shining examples of what it means to be involved and engaged members of the community. They are individuals who continue the important work of the original mothers by advocating for a better East Boston.”

The Maverick Street Mothers organized community protests in the late 1960’s against Logan Airport expansion construction. The protest was widely publicized as women, mostly mothers, formed a blockade using baby carriages to stop construction and delivery trucks on Maverick Street.

In honor of this movement, the Edwards Empowerment Fund, a registered 501(c)3 non-profit, was established by the District 1 Councilor to uplift, amplify, and empower residents by providing equitable access to edu-

cational and skill-building opportunities. The annual scholarship will be awarded to parents wanting to further their education or are attending Boston-area colleges.

Last year the Edwards Empowerment Fund dispersed over \$10,000 worth of scholarship money to five deserving parents in East Boston at a gala that was attended by 100 community members at Spinelli’s Banquet Hall.

Recipients of the inaugural Maverick Street Mothers Scholarship last year were Mary Luz Barrera, Dominique DiDomenicis, Lisa Melara, and Noemy Rodriguez.

The Maverick Street Mothers protest was in response to the construction trucks bringing fill for a Logan expansion project. The trucks drove very fast down the densely populated Maverick Street, creating an unsafe situation for children, the elderly and the mothers who took their children out for walks or to run errands.

On September 28, 1968, led by local legend the late Anna DeFronzo, a group of mothers in what was to become a historic protest against the Port Authority and airport expansion blocked the street.

The group became known as the ‘Maverick Street Mothers’ and their protest became the true beginning of environmental justice in Eastie and marked the opening salvo and first victory in the neighborhood’s famed transportation justice struggles.

After a series of clandestine community meetings it was decided that only women and children

would participate in the demonstration because many felt if men were involved it might lead to fights and violence. The group notified the media, put out a simple press release and the next day, September 28, the demonstration began.

As the dump trucks arrived the mothers, most pushing their children in baby carriages, blocked the street.

The State Police arrived to restore order to the street and when the Maverick Mothers refused to back down. The State Police began to drag and push the mothers to the sidewalk so the trucks could continue. However, former Mayor Kevin White, who was being kept abreast of the situation, sent in the Boston Police to counter the State Police’s use of force.

The Boston Police made the trucks stop and ordered the protest to continue.

That night the event was all over the evening news.

When Massport caught wind that the protests would not end, but continued the next day, Eastie’s elected officials pointed out that there were several other viable truck routes on Massport property that could be used.

After negotiations, Massport agreed to use the alternative truck routes and the Maverick Mothers scored a major victory during the era of Logan expansion.

For more information on how to purchase tickets or sponsor the event, please email edwardsempowermentfund@gmail.com or call (617) 943-4745.

GBLN // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

monwealth that focus on serving Latino residents, a demographic projected to reach 15.3 percent of the state’s population by 2035. These 80 Latino organizations constitute less than one percent of the state’s 9,223 non-profit organizations identified in a 2014 inventory of all non-profits in Massachusetts. The City of Boston has the largest number of Latino organizations at 37 but the organizations’ average of net resources is less than \$4 million.

“One out of every five Bostonians identifies as Latinx, and 43 percent of public school students in Boston are Latinx. But many people still think of Boston demographically along a Black/white binary,” said Karen Chacon, Co-Chair of GBLN. “Our report addresses this social reality and confirms the need to recognize Latinx-led and Latinx-serving nonprofits as vital anchor organizations.”

While Latinx-led nonprofits and their central contributions to Latinx communities and overall civic life are impressive the reports found that many Latinx organizations remain invisible to many power brokers and philanthropy in Boston and the state.

The reports found that existing Latino organizations are struggling with financial stability as funding remains sparse with less than two percent of philanthropic dollars be-

ing directly invested in Latino-based organizations. Ninety-seven of the total net assets of Latino organizations are concentrated in just six cities in Massachusetts--Boston, Chelsea, West Springfield, Lawrence, Holyoke, and Worcester--while the population that Latino nonprofits serve is swelling and requires more services.

“In spite of contributions critical for the well-being and economic mobility of the Latinx community and Boston as a whole, the sector of Latinx-led community-based organizations is facing enormous challenges that, if not resolved, can threaten the very existence of many of its organizations,” read the report. “Such challenges include a reality that organizations must provide a range of services and serve as political and civic advocates in the Latinx community. Further, Latinx-led nonprofits are being forced to do more with less. As the Latinx community grows amid persisting inequality, resources are dwindling or not keeping pace with increasing demands.”

In a time of public health and racial justice crises disproportionately affecting socially and economically marginalized communities of color, community-based Latinx organizations are first responders supporting and working directly with families, youth, and

elders.

“Many frontline workers are from the Latinx community,” read the report. “They are providing essential services across Greater Boston. Far too many are living in overcrowded conditions and experiencing housing and food insecurity. Immigration issues continue to present complex challenges for Latinx individuals and families living under the threat of detention and deportation. In this climate, the Latinx community is heavily dependent on the community-based organizations.”

According to the report, these organizations support and empower the Latinx community with culturally relevant and linguistically appropriate services and programming.


“Individually and collectively, Latinx-led and Latinxserving organizations are creating and providing a critical safety net anchoring and buoying the Latinx community,” read the reports. “It is time to acknowledge that Latinx community-based organizations play an essential role in Greater Boston.”

The two studies are not about the role and work of individual organizations but rather how, as a collectivity of organizations, this sector is implementing services and resources to enhance Latinx community-building and overall well-being.

Voting // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

| | |
|--------------------------------------|---|
| Congress: | Democratic Party |
| U.S. House Massachusetts District 7: | Edward J. Markey (Incumbent) |
| Democratic Party | Republican Party |
| Ayanna Pressley (Incumbent) | Kevin O’Connor |
| Republican Party | Massachusetts House of Representatives |
| Rayla Campbell (Write-in) | 1st Suffolk District: |
| Independent | Democratic Party |
| Roy Owens | Adrian Madaro (Incumbent) |
| Unenrolled | Suffolk County Register of Probate: |
| Janine Balistreri (Write-in) | Democratic Party |
| U.S. Senate | Felix Arroyo (Incumbent) |
| Massachusetts: | Independent |

| | |
|---|-------------|
| Althea Garrison | Independent |
| Melissa Tyler | |
| Massachusetts State Senate 1st Suffolk and Middlesex District: | |
| Democratic Party | |
| Joseph Boncore (Incumbent) | |
| Massachusetts Governor’s Council | |
| District 6: | |
| Democratic Party | |
| Terrence Kennedy (Incumbent) | |



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Eastie Chef Anthony Pino appears on Chopped

By John Lynds

East Boston native and Cunard Tavern’s Executive Chef Anthony Pino made his debut on the Food Network’s hit show Chopped last Tuesday night.

Chopped is a reality-based cooking television game show. The series pits four chefs against each other as they compete for a chance to win \$10,000.

While Pino was eliminated, or ‘Chopped’, during the show’s second round, the Eastie chef said it was a great opportunity that he had a lot of fun doing.

“What you see on the show is 100 percent legit,” said Pino. “You have no idea what ingredients they are going to give you until you open up the basket and start the timer.”

In the first round, Pino and the three other chefs were presented with long fries, baby cauliflower, Korean taco sauce and

frog legs. Pino presented the judges with beer-battered frog leg with baby cauliflower slaw. All the judges were impressed by the appetizer and commented that the frog legs were cooked perfectly and the slaw was flavorful. Chef and owner of Fox & Son in Philly, Rebecca Foxman, was the first chef to be chopped and Pino advanced to the second round.

Pino and the other chefs were presented with tornado fries, chicken thighs, okra and bubble tea as ingredients for their next course.

Pino presented the judges with oven-fried chicken thigh with red curry-bubble tea sauce. While the judges complimented Pino on his use of ingredients they felt the dish didn’t overwhelm them as much as the other two chef’s dishes.

“It’s a lot of rushing and you only have one shot to get it right,” said Pino. “It’s not like cooking in

the restaurant or at home where if you make a mistake you can start over.”

In the end Pino said he’d definitely give Chopped another shot and was glad to represent his hometown.

“It was a lot of fun and a little bit stressful but in a good way,” said Pino. “I was just glad to be able to represent Eastie and put the Cunard on national television. I hope that people that saw the show will come check us out next time they fly into Logan or check out the food scene in the neighborhood that is just as good as anywhere else in the city. I hate when people say Eastie’s food scene is ‘up and coming’ because it is already here and been here for a while.”

Born and raised in East Boston, Pino has been working in the local restaurant industry since his teenage years and then landed here as the executive chef at the Cunard after stints in New Hampshire.



Cunard Tavern Executive Chef Anthony Pino appeared on last week’s episode of Chopped on the Food Network.

Growing up just down the street from the current location of Cunard, Pino’s childhood was shaped by the East Boston restaurant community. A family man who was committed to serving his neighborhood, Pino’s father owned a popular East Boston ice cream shop where Pino remembers getting his first taste of the restaurant business and the passion that it en-

tails. After lending a hand in his father’s ice cream shop as a young boy, Pino landed his first restaurant job washing dishes and folding boxes at his uncle’s East Boston pizza shop.

Pino graduated from Johnson and Wales University with degrees in Culinary Arts and Food Service Management.

After graduation, Pino honed his culinary skills

in some of New England’s busiest restaurants, such as Spinelli’s in East Boston and as a line chef at Brooksby Village in Peabody before advancing to Chef de Cuisine at the Windsor Dining Room in Brooksby Village for several years.

Before coming to the Cunard in 2017 Pino served as Executive Chef at BAE Systems in Nashua, NH.

MWRA // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

seeing a dramatic spike in traces of the COVID-19 virus in wastewater at the Deer Island plant, numbers that have not been seen since the pandemic began in March.

“Every day, I stare at this wastewater data from Massachusetts and get more and more concerned,” said Jha on Twitter this week. Jha is dean

of the Brown University School of Public Health, “This is not about testing or cases. This is about how much infection there is in the community. In March, we could be excused for being blindsided. What’s our excuse for inaction now?”

MWRA’s COVID Re-surgence Study consists of analyzing wastewater

samples from flows coming into Deer Island from the north and south of the service area. Samples are collected three times a week with rapid analysis followed by upstream samples in order to inform public health officials if an increased signal for the virus that causes COVID-19 is detected.

Analysis of wastewater for the genetic signal (viral RNA) of the SARS-CoV-2 that causes

COVID-19 is proving to be a cost-effective approach to providing population-level screening for outbreaks of COVID-19. The first published report of this approach came from the Netherlands, where the analysis of wastewater was able to detect the genetic signal in advance of any known cases of COVID-19 in two cities.

Biobot Analytics released the first demonstra-

tion of this approach in the United States, using data from courtesy samples provided by MWRA in early March 2020. Subsequent studies from locations around the world have demonstrated the effectiveness of wastewater analyses to provide an early warning of COVID-19 outbreaks by up to seven days in advance of confirmed cases showing up in the public health data.

This pilot program will

take this approach a step further by continuing the regular analysis of the wastewater and trending of the signal from the MWRA service area through the end of the year. MWRA will likely use the lessons learned from this pilot program to establish a long-term program for 2021 and beyond for as long as COVID-19 continues to be a public health threat.

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Let’s get it Together - Together!

Save the Date for the East Boston Resiliency Assembly

Saturday, November 14 - 9:30 am -12:30 pm

Please save the date for the East Boston Resiliency Assembly, a virtual (ZOOM) meeting that will bring together East Boston Neighborhood Health Center, City health and emergency management leaders, first responders, non-profits, civic associations, LatinX groups, and residents to think about actions we can take to prepare for emergencies and disasters before they occur and actions we can take once disasters strike.

Opportunity for Action. The findings from our 2019 survey highlight the strengths of the East Boston community but also help identify ways to improve disaster preparedness, community cohesion and personal/cultural and community resilience. We have recommended possible opportunities for action in the community. We very much look forward to engaging the community for feedback and additional recommendations in this challenging moment which is focusing on fairness, equity and inclusion in our beloved neighborhood, City and nation.

- **Organize workshops to increase individual disaster preparedness.** individuals and families must plan ahead for possible disasters or traumatic events. For example, most respondents did not have an evacuation plan, a list of emergency phone numbers or have a comprehensive understanding of their flood insurance or even if they were enrolled. We recommend organizing workshops that can increase individual preparedness around these preparedness skills, and also help residents learn how to best protect their families and homes from future events.
- **Organize activities to increase community disaster preparedness.** Community preparedness is the ability of communities, cultures

and individuals to prepare for, withstand, and recover - in both the short and long terms - from public health incidents. We recommend organizing community-based disaster preparedness activities such as issues around equality. It is important that any planned activities are efficient and effective at preparing communities and building social cohesion in our very diverse neighborhood.

- **Grow the local climate knowledge of newer East Boston residents.** Those who have lived in East Boston for less than 5 years were not as likely to think that there was reason to be concerned with future climate and disaster events in their neighborhood. We suggest creating opportunities for longer-tenured East Boston residents to share their knowledge of these risks with newer East Boston residents, which can also

serve as a means of building community cohesion.

- **Improve social cohesion within our diverse community.** We must work together to develop a sense of community with a focus on Latinx or Spanish-speaking residents in East Boston - approximately half of the neighborhood’s population - to have the opportunity to engage in discussions and decisions around climate mitigation and adaptation strategies developed by policymakers. All residents should feel as though they are active members of our community and have a voice in planning no matter their racial, ethnic or cultural background.

East Boston

Times-Free Press

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BE SURE TO VOTE

Okay -- this is it.
The long presidential campaign has come to an end and it will all be over by the time this newspaper is published next week.
Although a record-breaking number of Americans already have taken advantage of the availability of early-voting and voting by mail, there still are many voters who have not cast their ballots.
So here's a reminder:
-- Early voting in person is available in every city and town in Massachusetts through this Friday, October 30. Each town and city clerk will set its own hours each day for early voting, so every voter should check for their community's early-voting schedule.
-- Those who intend to vote by mail must have their ballot envelope postmarked by Election Day, November 3, AND it must be received by election officials by November 6.
-- For those who wish to vote the old-fashioned way on Election Day, Tuesday, November 3, the polls in every city and town across the state will be open from 7:00 AM to 8:00 PM.
Our democracy only works if we make it work -- and that means getting out to vote.

IT'S US VS. THE VIRUS

The stunning announcement this week by Trump administration officials that they will be doing nothing to halt the spread of the COVID-19 pandemic has grave implications both for the health of every American and for the U.S. economy.
With an average of 1000 Americans dying every day and record-high levels of sickness overwhelming hospitals all across the country, no one is safe from contracting the virus.
What does this mean?
First and foremost, both first and second-level responders -- police and firefighters are in the first category, hospital workers are in the second -- will be at huge risk for contracting the virus. COVID-19 already is the single-biggest cause of deaths among police officers this year and with the pandemic now completely out-of-control, the situation only will get worse.
Second, essential workers, such as teachers and certain retail employees, also will be at high risk for contracting the virus.
Third, senior citizens and those with pre-existing conditions basically will be confined to their homes until they receive a proven vaccine, which is not expected to be widely available until some time next in the late spring or early summer. Family gatherings for the holidays and other occasions simply are not safe for anybody, especially older Americans.
Fourth, the travel, entertainment, and hospitality industry will be all but finished without massive aid from the federal government. Small restaurants and businesses that were able to make it through the summer will face an impossible winter season.
Fifth, unemployment will remain exceedingly high and many Americans will struggle just to feed their families and pay their rent, mortgages, and car payments without massive government assistance.
Sixth, those who need urgent care for other health reasons -- such as heart attacks, cancer treatment, and accidents -- will be placed at risk because ICU and emergency rooms will be filled with COVID-19 patients.
Seventh, state and local governments will be facing huge deficits and will be unable to maintain essential services such as public transportation without massive federal aid.
President Trump has been saying at his rallies in recent days that we are "rounding the corner" in the battle against the virus, a phrase he has been using since last spring.
But at this point, we have rounded so many Trumpian corners, it is clear that we are just running in circles.



Forum



GUEST OP-ED

Let your heart drive you to vote, but put your mind into your voting

By Glenn Mollette

Most of the time people marry because at that moment that's where their hearts have led them to be. For better or worse many people stay in marriages most of their lives because they have given their heart to their spouse.
We sometimes pursue careers because we have a heart for the vocation. There is something about the vocation that inspires and motivates us. Because our heart is in the work, we stay with the occupation. Success is more likely to occur where the heart is centered.
We become very competent with our hobbies because we love them so much. We enjoy musical instruments, baking, sewing, wood work, painting, fishing, sports and whatever your hobby might be. People are often ready to retire from their jobs because they have hobbies, they love more.

The major emphasis of the greatest commandment is to love God with our hearts. Jesus knew no one would have any commitment to God without the full commitment of the heart.
The heart will take you places and keep you places where the mind would never consider. Too often what the mind will not consider the heart will not give up or waver from.
We often forget about the mind. Jesus told us to love God with our minds. Reason, commonsense, inquiry, thinking and education are all important. Sometimes the heart may cause us to be blind. We may love blindly. Stay with negative relationships that are destructive. Hang on to a job or career pursuit that ends up being negative, a dead end and a waste of time. We have to involve our minds in our lives. Life cannot be lived merely by the heart.

Heart will keep you someplace a long time. However, your mind will help you to decipher whether it's the right thing to do.
Americans are at the polls voting. Love for the country, ideas, political parties and candidates have Americans voting in masses. While you may love the Democratic party or the Republican party or either candidate hopefully you are considering all the reasons why you are voting.
What do you want for America? Good paying jobs? More Government involvement in your life? The removal of guns from society? The freedom to have guns? Less police security? More police security? More taxes? Less taxes? More jobs coming back to America? More jobs going back to China? Health care that pays for nothing? A better health care for every American? What about

our freedom? Freedom of speech? We love our freedom in America. Freedom to try. Freedom to fail. Freedom to try again. Freedom to succeed. Freedom to pursue owning a house, car and living an independent life. Maybe, you feel that every American should have the same, be the same and that the Government should take care of all us equally?
This election, think about it. Think about what you want for you and your grandchildren. Let your heart drive you to vote, but put your mind into your voting.
Glenn Mollette is the publisher of Newburgh Press, Liberty Torch and various other publishing imprints; a national columnist -- American Issues and Common Sense opinions, analysis, stories and features appear each week in over 500 newspapers, websites and blogs across the United States.

NEWS IN BRIEF

NOVEMBER HVNA MEETING AGENDA

The next meeting of the Harbor View Neighborhood Association (HVNA) will be on November 2, at 6 p.m. The meeting will be via Zoom.
Please check the website (harborvieweastboston.com) for instructions to participate by video or telephone. HVNA will continue to stream the meeting via Facebook live as well as at Facebook, <https://www.facebook.com/groups/harborview-naAgenda>
Welcome/Introduction (5min)
Boston Police Station 7 Update Officer Dan Simmons (10min)
Senior Center Construction Update Age Strong Commission (15min)

(5min)
85-87 Horace Street 2nd Presentation and VOTE. Attorney Jeff Drago for owners Adam & Deana Fetherson. Proposal to subdivide the existing parcel, (87 Horace), into two lots. The first, (87 Horace) will contain 3,817 SF and the second (85 Horace) will contain 2,433 SF. Proposal to erect a single family house with multiple variances required for both parcels. (15min).
97 Horace Street 3rd Presentation and VOTE. Attorney Richard Lynds for developer Joseph Trichilo. Subdivide the existing 5,000 SF parcel. New lot will contain 2,112 SF. Proposal to build a 3 Unit Condo with 4 parking spaces. All Units to have 2 beds and 2 baths. (15min)

647-649 Bennington Street 2nd Presentation and VOTE. Attorney Marc LaCasse for owner Barry Caine. Proposal to convert a three family to a two family and subdivide the driveway to construct a new three family on the subdivided lot. (15min).
95-97 Addison Street 2nd Presentation and VOTE. Attorney Mike Ross for developers, Nick Earls and Eric DiNicola. Proposal is to demolish existing home and build 10 Condo Units with 12 parking spaces on a 6,000 SF lot. Addison Street is not zoned for residential units but is for Executive Suites. (15min).
61-63 Horace Street 1st Presentation. Attorney Richard Lynds for owners Terese and Richard Riamondi. The proposal

is to build a 3 Unit building with parking. The new building would be built on previously subdivided land adjacent to the owners home. He has since acquired the lot next to the subdivision and has this new proposal for review. (25min)
747-749 Bennington Street 1st Presentation. Attorney Patrick Foley for owner Ken Hubbard. Change the occupancy from 3 residential units to 4 residential units. Legalize existing occupancy of studio apartment at garden level. Install new window and door. (15min)
Our next meeting is December 7, 2020
Visit us at: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/harborviewna/>

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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.

Local groups come together for tree giveaway and plantings

By John Lynds

Fall is the perfect time of year to plant trees, and Speak for Trees and Tree Eastie, two organizations that have been trying to rekindle the neighborhood's grassroots effort to get more trees planted in the neighborhood, collaborated with three other neighborhood groups to provide free trees to Eastie residents and plant trees in Liberty Plaza.

Last weekend the group of volunteers from Speak for the Trees, Tree Eastie, Eastie Farm, Mothers Out Front and NOAH gave away over 50 trees to local residents and planted another 20 around Liberty Plaza in Central Square.

"The program was the result of a grant from Accenture and organized by Boston based Speak for the Trees," said Tree Eastie's Bill Masterson. "Over 20 volunteers participated in the event which included planting 14 red oak trees along Border Street in Liberty Plaza. These trees will provide much needed shade in an area affected by urban heat island. Other trees were planted in the Urban Wilds behind the Samuel Adams School which will soon provide shade to the playground."

Rep. Adrian Madaro

filled up the back of his dad Jacapo's 1980's Toyota pickup truck and distributed trees to residents unable to pick up the free tree that they ordered.

"As an environmental justice community that bears the brunt of urban pollution due to our proximity to an International Airport and major highway trees are a proven way to reduce heat and air pollution," said Madaro. "Studies have shown the placement of trees in urban areas can cool the air between two and eight degrees. Large urban trees also help filter urban pollutants and fine particulates making the air cleaner to breathe."

Masterson said last weekend's event was a unique collaboration between several local environmental groups.

"East Boston was selected by Speak for the Trees' Teen Urban Tree Corps based on the low tree canopy and Eastie's designation as an environmental justice community," said Masterson. "In an effort to provide East Boston residents with relief from the summer heat and reduce the effects of noise and air pollution, the group is hoping to repeat the event next spring. Thanks to these groups,

we can all breathe a bit easier."

For the past year Tree Eastie, with the help of Speak for Trees, has been teaming up with NOAH's youth group and, more recently, Eastie Farm and MOF to document open tree pits, to care for street trees, and to get new trees planted in the neighborhood.

The collaboration has been part of a years-long effort to increase Eastie's tree canopy and improve the health and beauty of the neighborhood.

Last year Tree Eastie and NOAH received a grant of \$10,000 to plant more trees in Eastie. The project is an effort to bring awareness to Eastie's lack of street trees with the goal of doubling the neighborhood's tree canopy coverage. Over 70 trees were planted last year, and another 40 trees are slated to be planted this year.

Studies show that ideally for a good urban tree canopy there is a tree every 20 to 25 feet.

The NOAH youth found there were 1,924 trees in Eastie and over 300,000 linear feet of sidewalk space. On average there is a tree every 167 feet. If a tree was planted every 25 feet Eastie could have over 12,500 trees.



A group of volunteers from Speak for the Trees, Tree Eastie, Eastie Farm, Mothers Out Front and NOAH gave away over 50 trees to local residents and planted another 20 around Liberty Plaza in Central Square.



The group of volunteers plant trees in Central Square's Liberty Plaza.



Rep. Adrian Madaro (right) used his father's pickup truck to deliver free trees to residents.



The group of volunteers pick up the free trees that were planted around Liberty Plaza and the Sam Adams School last weekend.

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Community Fund

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

EBNHC // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Boston Neighborhood Health Center (EBNHC) we know today.

Fifty years later EBNHC is going strong and has emerged as a national model for Community Health Centers across the country—providing easily accessible, high-quality health care to all who live and work in Eastie and the surrounding communities of Chelsea, Revere, Everett, and Winthrop. Since that launch in 1970, the Health Center has operated 24 hours a day, seven days a week and is the only health center in New England, and one of the few in the country, to provide continuous care.

On Thursday, Oct 29 EBNHC will hold a virtual celebration to mark the Health Center’s 50th Anniversary. The event will be live streamed on Youtube, Facebook and Twitter.

“It’s definitely a challenging time to celebrate with all that is going on with the COVID-19 pandemic,” said EBNHC President and CEO Manny Lopes, who began his career at the Health Center in his teens. “But we felt there was still an opportunity virtually to recognize all the hard work the Health Center has done over these past 50 years and continues to do for this community and the surrounding communities we serve.”

Lopes said over the past 50 years the EBNHC has been a leader and trailblazer in community health and a model for how high-quality health-care and other programs can be delivered regardless of a patient’s ability to pay, immigration status, religion or cultural background.

“For me standing on the shoulders of the giants that started our mission 50 years ago is an honor,” said Lopes. “From the mothers that worked with Dr. Taylor in the 1960’s and first advocated for the relief station to be a community health center to the original and current board members like Rita Sorrento who dedicated their time to our mission for decades and to people like our former President and CEO Jack Cradock who, in 1978, helped to begin an era of growth that helped us emerge as a nationally recognized institution—it is really an honor and privilege to continue their work at EBNHC.”

Lopes said on the local level, the community sometimes forgets how EBNHC’s national presence and recognition has helped improve the delivery of healthcare across the country.

“We set the standard in many ways and were the first community health center in the nation to im-

plement electronic medical records through EPIC, the first to implement a PACE program that help elderly patients age safely at home and the first and only community health center to have a 24 hour emergency department that is one of the largest in the country,” said Lopes. “The key to our success over the years has been our focus on the needs of the community and how we can use innovation and growth to deliver quality healthcare and address these needs. Over the past half century we have been creative and innovative in developing plans and programs that have helped our communities live healthy lives.”

Lopes said the ongoing pandemic has really highlighted the ongoing needs in the community.

“This current pandemic has put the greatest spotlight on the inequities that continue to exist in our healthcare system and the work we still have to do for people,” said Lopes. “Many are not getting the healthcare that they need at a time when they need it the most. These people are challenged by socioeconomic factors like housing, income, food insecurity, race, and the COVID pandemic has only amplified our need to do more. We’ve done a lot but we still have a lot of work to do.”

Maria Valentini-Brito

Maria Valentini-Brito is currently the HRIS/Benefits Manager at East Boston Neighborhood Health Center. Valentini has worked nearly three decades at the Health Center and began her career in 1989 serving as an Executive Secretary.

“Throughout my tenure at EBNHC, I have seen so many changes and growth, both within the organization, as well as the communities we serve. The one constant, however, is our team of dedicated, compassionate, diverse and caring staff. From the CEO’s office, to the clinical departments, the office workers, maintenance and our custodial staff – each EBNHC hero is valued and appreciated – and this is what makes this organization special and why I have worked here for this long.”



Deirdre A. Alba

Deirdre A. Alba is currently the Facilities Manager at East Boston Neighborhood Health Center. Alba has worked over 49 years at the Health Center and began her career in 1979 serving as a Medical Records Clerk on Gove Street.

“East Boston is my hometown and even though I do not live here anymore, when asked where I live the answer is always, ‘I’m from East Boston originally’. Growing up here the sense of family and community was so very strong and tight knit. That unbreakable bond, which was instilled in me growing up is what has kept me here at EBNHC for over 40 years. No matter how EBNHC grew, one constant is family and community.”



Jeanne Sinatra

Jeanne Sinatra is currently a Program Manager at East Boston Neighborhood Health Center but began her career at the Health Center 30 years ago in 1980 when she started as an Administrative Secretary.

“EBNHC has truly been a special place to work since my first day. I have had the pleasure of interacting with so many caring, compassionate and truly dedicated professionals over the years who have enriched my life in many ways. I take pride in supporting EBNHC’s mission to provide excellent health care to East Boston and area residents in a way that is welcoming to all who seek our help. I am privileged to have had the opportunity to work with both Past and Present Leadership and am proud to have contributed to EBNHC’s growth and accomplishments in the last 50 years. I’m truly looking forward to the next chapter at EBNHC.”



The staff at EBNHC has consistently called the Health Center one of the best places to work. Many staffers have worked for decades at the Health Center.



When childhood obesity and diabetes emerged as an issue in the community EBNHC Let’s Get Movin’ program helped youth lead more healthy lives by teaching about nutrition and physical fitness.



The EBNHC was the first and only community health center to run a 24-hour, seven-day-a-week emergency department that is the largest in the nation.



Aside from delivering high-quality healthcare to all who walk through its doors, the EBNHC has emerged as a national leader with programs that address a wide range of issues.

EBNHC TO CELEBRATE 50TH ANNIVERSARY



For 50 years the Health Center has addressed the needs of the community of all ages.



The late Dr. James Taylor, one of the founding physicians of EBNHC who served as the Health Centers Chief Medical Officer for decades.



Former EBNHC President and CEO Jack Cradock, who in 1978 oversaw the growth and expansion of the Health Center into a nationally recognized institution.



The groundbreaking of the EBNHC five decades ago. The Health Center replaced the old East Boston Relief Station on Gove Street.



On Thursday, Oct 29 EBNHC will hold a virtual celebration to mark the Health Center's 50th Anniversary. The event will be live streamed on Youtube, Facebook and Twitter.



EBNHC staff celebrates a birthday at the Health Center's PACE program that helps elderly patients age at home.

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U.S. Attorney Lelling announces the creation of Civil Rights Task Force

United States Attorney Andrew Lelling announces the creation of a statewide Civil Rights Task Force, which will coordinate with, and support, local and state law enforcement in preventing, investigating and prosecuting civil rights violations in Massachusetts. The Task Force will enhance collaboration among federal, state and local law enforcement to better identify and deter threats, work to strengthen relationships between law enforcement and community members, and provide training and support to local police departments confronting civil rights issues.

“The current intensity of public concern with issues of racial equity, persecution of minorities, and relations between minority communities and law enforcement, demands a coordinated law enforcement response,” said U.S. Attorney Lelling. “In short, we need to do something and, in the interest of bolstering the public’s trust, the public needs to see that we take these issues seriously and will be accountable for our success or failure. I want to thank the state and local officials joining me today to launch this effort.”


Today, U.S. Attorney Lelling hosted the Task Force’s initial leadership meeting. The leadership team is charged with choosing representatives for the Task Force’s primary working group and will set priorities for the group. The leadership members in attendance at today’s meeting included: Terrence Reidy, Undersecretary for Law Enforcement, Executive Office of Public Safety and Security, Commonwealth of Massachusetts; William Gross, Commissioner of the Boston Police Department; Jeff W. Farnsworth, the Chief of Police for the Hampden Police Department and the President of the Massachusetts Chiefs of Police Association; and Gina Kwon, Chief of the Criminal Bureau, Massachusetts Attorney General’s Office.

U.S. Attorney Lelling and the leadership team outlined the importance of a statewide collective focused on providing support and resources to local and state law enforcement on civil rights issues. They also provided details surrounding the structure of the new Civil Rights Task Force, and the selection process for appointing members. The general Task Force membership is expected to meet and begin providing resources to local police departments, community organizations and police chiefs in January 2021.

Real Estate Transfers


| BUYER 1 | SELLER 1 | ADDRESS | PRICE |
|-------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------|-------------|
| DeLosSantos, Samantha M | Boardman Holdings LLC | 16 Boardman St #206 | \$221,900 |
| Sudenfield, Nathan | Boardman Holdings LLC | 16 Boardman St #304 | \$288,700 |
| DMJ 159 LLC | 159 Cowper Street LLC | 159 Cowper St | \$1,220,000 |
| Kalo, Daniel | NBC Properties LLC | 36 Eutaw St #38 | \$480,000 |
| Snyder, Nicholas | Snyder, Thomas J | 433 Frankfort St | \$220,000 |
| Kravitz, Mackenzie | Haynes Dev Partners LLC | 20 Haynes St #102 | \$649,000 |
| Zhao, Xi | Creative Invest&Hldg LLC | 286 Princeton St | \$803,000 |
| Powers, Matthew | Arhab, Amel | 1052 Saratoga St | \$1,200,000 |
| Kane, John | Brady, Sean | 867 Saratoga St #1 | \$508,000 |
| Hoffman, Drake | Zabbo, August J | 113 Sumner St #52 | \$331,528 |
| Szymanski, Gina | Santosuosso, Gladys J | 138-140 Webster St | \$1,060,000 |
| Harrison, Maray E | Hurley, Dominique E | 263 Webster St #1 | \$870,000 |

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NOAH



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Call Anthony D’Andrea at NOAH at 617-418-8265 for more info.

To be eligible you must:

- Own and reside in your own one-to-four family home in Boston
- Have a household income not exceeding 80% of the HUD AMI (limits below)**
- Be 60 or older.
- Have a heating system/boiler that needs repair or replacement

Anthony will contact you to get your information and help you fill out an application.

This **no-cost** City of Boston Department of Neighborhood Development Boston Home Center program is designed to help low /moderate income homeowners who have older, ineffective heating systems/boilers. Inefficient heating systems can contribute to climate change and sea-level rise. They also waste a family’s money on fuel, which robs them much-needed income, An approved, licensed and insured contractor will perform all work.

**Income Eligibility Requirements


| | | | | | | |
|---------------------------|----------|----------|----------|----------|-----------|-----------|
| # of persons in household | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
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Neighborhood of Affordable Housing

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617-418-8265

www.noahcdc.org



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 GENERAL PROBATE PETITION

Docket No. SU489378
Estate of: Angelo Staffieri
Date of Death: 03/14/1975

To all interested persons:
A Petition has been filed by: William F. Maradei Et. Al of Boston, MA requesting This Court to Issue an Order Confirming and Ratifying the Act of the Executor Ralph A. Staffieri, by his Action in Executing the Deed of the Premises to Himself for a Nominal Consideration, said deed being dated March 16, 1976 Nunc Pro Tunc and to Ratify that said deed of the Premises is not Defective by Reason of Failure to list the Consideration of Fifteen Thousand and 00/100 Dollars being the Amount in the Licenses to Sell. 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 11/19/2020. 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 date, action may be taken without further notice to you. WITNESS, Hon. Brian J. Dunn, First Justice of this Court.
Date: October 19, 2020
Felix D. Arroyo, Register of Probate

10/28/20
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
ORDER FOR SERVICE BY PUBLICATION AND MAILING
Docket No. SU20D1284DR
Yanique Richards vs. David Richards
Upon motion of plaintiff(s) for an order directing 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 December 31, 2020. If you fail to do so this Court will proceed to a hearing and adjudication of this matter. Date: October 16, 2020
Hon. Frances M. Giordano Justice of Probate and Family Court

10/28/20
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. SU20P1887EA
Estate of: Rose P. Viola
Date of Death: 06/10/2020

To all interested persons: A Petition for Formal Adjudication of Intestacy and Appointment of Personal Representative has been filed by Mary E. Gillis of Winthrop, 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: Mary E. Gillis of Winthrop, 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 11/19/2020. 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: October 15, 2020
Felix D. Arroyo Register of Probate

10/28/20
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U.S. Attorney announces appointment of District Election Officer to monitor integrity of election polls

United States Attorney Andrew Lelling announced that Assistant United States Attorney (AUSA) Eugenia Carris will lead the efforts of his Office in connection with the Justice Department's nationwide Election Day Program for the upcoming Nov. 3, 2020, general

election.

AUSA Carris has been appointed to serve as the District Election Officer (DEO) for the District of Massachusetts, and in that capacity is responsible for overseeing the District's handling of complaints of election fraud and voting rights concerns in con-

sultation with Justice Department Headquarters in Washington.

“Fair elections are the foundation of our democracy,” said U.S. Attorney Lelling. “Every citizen has the Constitutional right to cast his or her vote on election day free from intimidation, harassment and discrimination. The Department of Justice will do its part to ensure the integrity of the election process by enforcing federal laws that protect voters and investigating reports of fraud. We encourage the public to report concerns to us.”

The Department of Justice has an important role in deterring election fraud and discrimination at the polls, and combating these violations whenever and wherever they occur. The Department's long-standing Election Day Program furthers these goals, and also seeks to ensure public

confidence in the integrity of the election process by providing local points of contact within the Department for the public to report possible election fraud and voting rights violations while the polls are open through Election Day.

Federal law protects against such crimes as intimidating or bribing voters, buying and selling votes, impersonating voters, altering vote tallies, stuffing ballot boxes, and marking ballots for voters against their wishes or without their input. It also contains special protections for the rights of voters, and provides that they can vote free from acts that intimidate or harass them. For example, actions of persons designed to interrupt or intimidate voters at polling places by questioning or challenging them, or by photographing or videotaping them, un-

der the pretext that these are actions to uncover illegal voting may violate federal voting rights law. Further, federal law protects the right of voters to mark their own ballot or to be assisted by a person of their choice (where voters need assistance because of disability or illiteracy).

The franchise is the cornerstone of American democracy. We all must ensure that those who are entitled to the franchise exercise it if they choose, and that those who seek to corrupt it are brought to justice.

In order to respond to complaints of election fraud or voting rights concerns during the voting period that ends on Nov. 3, 2020, and to ensure that such complaints are directed to the appropriate authorities, AUSA/DEO Carris will be on duty in Massachusetts while the polls are open and can be

reached by the public at 617-748-3363.

In addition, the FBI will have special agents available in each field office and resident agency throughout the country to receive allegations of election fraud and other election abuses on Election Day. The local FBI field office can be reached at 857-386-2000.

Complaints about possible violations of the federal voting rights laws can also be made to the Civil Rights Division in Washington, DC by phone at 800-253-3931 or at <https://civilrights.justice.gov/>.

In the case of a crime of violence or intimidation, please call 911 immediately and before contacting federal authorities. State and local police have primary jurisdiction over polling places, and are equipped to respond to an emergency.

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NOVEMBER 3, 2020

BALLOT

QUESTIONS

INFO FOR VOTERS

Question 2 is on page 11

Motor Vehicle Mechanical Data

This proposed law would require that motor vehicle owners and independent repair facilities be provided with expanded access to mechanical data related to

vehicle maintenance and repair.

Starting with model year 2022, the proposed law would require manufacturers of motor vehicles sold in Massachusetts to equip any such vehicles that use telematics systems -- systems that collect and wirelessly transmit mechanical data to a remote server -- with a standardized open access data platform. Owners of motor vehicles with telematics systems would get access to mechanical data through a mobile device

application. With vehicle owner authorization, independent repair facilities (those not affiliated with a manufacturer) and independent dealerships would be able to retrieve mechanical data from, and send commands to, the vehicle for repair, maintenance, and diagnostic testing. Under the proposed law, manufacturers would not be allowed to require authorization before owners or repair facilities could access mechanical data stored in a motor vehicle's on-board diagnostic system, except through an authorization process standardized across all makes and models and administered by an entity unaffiliated with the manufacturer. The proposed law would require the Attorney General to prepare a notice for prospective

motor vehicle owners and lessees explaining telematics systems and the proposed law's requirements concerning access to the vehicle's mechanical data. Under the proposed law, dealers would have to provide prospective owners with, and prospective owners would have to acknowledge receipt of, the notice before buying or leasing a vehicle. Failure to comply with these notice requirements would subject motor vehicle dealers to sanctions by the applicable licensing authority. Motor vehicle owners and independent repair facilities could enforce this law through state consumer protection laws and recover civil penalties of the greater of treble damages or \$10,000 per violation.

A YES VOTE would provide motor vehicle owners and independent repair facilities with expanded access to wirelessly transmitted mechanical data related to their vehicles' maintenance and repair.

A NO VOTE would make no change in the law governing access to vehicles' wirelessly transmitted mechanical data.

ARGUMENTS

IN FAVOR: A YES VOTE for Right to Repair will guarantee that as technology advances, drivers can continue to get their cars repaired where they want.

We passed the first Right to Repair law in 2012, but as new cars become more computerized auto manufacturers are using a loophole to restrict access to data needed to diagnose problems, make repairs, and perform maintenance.

This means car owners are steered toward more expensive dealer repair options. Vote YES to protect independent repair shops and preserve your ability to shop around.

Voting YES provides access ONLY to mechanical and repair information, not personal information.

A YES vote ensures that YOU will have the choice to provide access to the repair information necessary to fix your car to your local independent repair shop even as cars become more computerized.

It's your car, you paid for it, you should get it fixed where you want.

Tommy Hickey
Massachusetts Right to Repair
9 Park Street, #5
Boston, MA 02108
617-248-9772
massrighttorepair.org

AGAINST: VOTE NO on Question 1 to protect your privacy, your safety, and your family.

Question 1 has nothing to do with fixing cars. Question 1 is a data grab by third parties who want to gather your personal vehicle information and access it remotely, including location data in real time.

Domestic violence advocates warn how dangerous this information could be. Jane Doe, the Massachusetts Coalition Against Sexual Assault and Domestic Violence, wrote, “Access to vehicle data, particularly call logs and GPS location, enables persons who perpetrate abuse to possess the tools necessary to track and monitor their victim.” A similar proposal failed in California after the California Coalition Against Sexual Assault warned, “from this information, a third party, such as a sexual predator, could stalk and or harm victims.”

Privacy advocates, cybersecurity experts, and domestic violence advocacy groups urge you to vote NO on Question 1.

Steve McElhinney
Coalition for Safe and Secure Data
177 Milk Street, Suite 610
Boston, MA 02109
617-398-0281
Safeandsecuredata.org

Greater Boston Food Bank, Citizens, and Boston Medical Center team up to ‘Stop Hunger Now’

Proceeds from a new Massachusetts charity license plate now available at www.stophungerma.org will benefit the Greater Boston Food Bank, and Boston Medical Center. The plate, sponsored in part by Citizens, features an image of a stop light – formed from healthy fruits and vegetables - which is designed to highlight the hundreds of children and families who go hungry every day.

Charity license plates can be pre-ordered online at www.stophungerma.org.

“The “Stop Hunger Now” license plate will provide essential support to BMC’s food and nutrition programs at a time when the COVID-19



pandemic is causing even more families to struggle with hunger,” said Kate Walsh, President and CEO of Boston Medical Center Health System. “BMC started the first hospital-based food pantry in the nation two decades ago because many of our patients needed food as much as medical care to stay healthy. Thanks to our partnership with the Greater Boston Food Bank, we can focus on ways to improve health

and eliminate hunger.” Revenue from the plate will be split evenly between the two organizations. A charity plate costs an additional \$40 above the standard registration fee. Of the initial \$40 fee, \$28 will be retained by the charities, with the remaining \$12 going to the RMV. When the plate is renewed, the entire plate fee goes to the charities. “The launch of the ‘Stop Hunger Now’ license plate is extremely timely,” said

GBFB President Catherine D’Amato. “Because of the economic impact of COVID-19, the need has never been greater. With winter approaching and the crisis lingering on, we hope that people will consider purchasing a plate to not only support our collective efforts, but as a way to remind others that hunger is an ongoing, urgent problem in our state.”

Though its Citizens Helping Citizens community engagement platform, Citizens continues its support to end hunger and drive awareness of the urgent need for food security for all our neighbors.

“Working with the team at Boston Medical Center and The Greater Boston Food Bank was a natural

progression of the collaborative work to fight hunger that we embarked on together many years ago,” said Jerry Sargent, President of Citizens in Massachusetts, “By association,


this stop light image will remind drivers of families who go hungry every day, and hopefully encourage them to act, and give, and join us in the fight, so that one day we beat this.”

A SHORT STORY ABOUT A MOTORCYCLE. AND A SUDDEN TURN.

When she was a young college student, Elisabeth Marra had a serious motorcycle accident that ultimately changed her life. Two years after the crash, her painful open fractures had failed to heal. Then she heard about a new and complex surgery pioneered by a surgeon who used a patient’s own stem cells to concentrate the healing process. This time, her surgery and subsequent therapy were successful.


Elisabeth’s experience caused her to re-direct her own career aspirations. Inspired by the medical professionals who helped her reclaim her active lifestyle, she changed her major to study physical therapy—a profession where her own experience could help other patients prevail through difficult recoveries.

We tell Elisabeth Marra’s story here to illustrate two of the most profound messages we know. Don’t give up, and remember to give back. If reading it inspires just one more person to achieve something special, then its telling here has been well worth while.



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NOVEMBER 3, 2020

BALLOT

QUESTIONS

INFO FOR VOTERS

2. Ranked-Choice Voting

This proposed law would implement a voting system known as “ranked-choice voting,” in which voters rank one or more candidates by order of preference. Ranked-choice voting would be used in primary and general elections for all Massachusetts statewide offices, state legislative offices, federal congressional offices, and certain other offices beginning in 2022. Ranked-choice voting would not be used in elections for president, county commissioner, or regional district school committee member. Under the proposed law, votes would be counted in a series of rounds. In the first round, if one candidate received more than 50 percent of the first-place votes, that candidate would be declared the winner and no other rounds would

be necessary. If no candidate received more than 50 percent of the first-place votes, then the candidate or candidates who received the fewest first-place votes would be eliminated and, in the next round, each vote for an eliminated candidate would instead be counted toward the next highest-ranked candidate on that voter’s ballot. Depending on the number of candidates, additional rounds of counting could occur, with the last-place candidate or candidates in each round being eliminated and the votes for an eliminated candidate going to the voter’s next choice out of the remaining candidates. A tie for last place in any round would be broken by comparing the tied candidates’ support in earlier rounds. Ultimately, the candidate who was, out of the remaining candidates, the preference of a majority of voters would be declared the winner. Ranked-choice voting would be used only in

races where a single candidate is to be declared the winner and not in races where more than one person is to be elected. Under the proposed law, if no candidate received more than 50 percent of first-place votes in the first round, the rounds of ballot-counting necessary for ranked-choice voting would be conducted at a central tabulation facility. At the facility, voters’ rankings would be entered into a computer, which would then be used to calculate the results of each round of the counting process. The proposed law provides that candidates in a statewide or district election would have at least three days to request a recount. The Secretary of State would be required to issue regulations to implement the proposed law and conduct a voter education campaign about the ranked-choice voting process. The proposed law would take effect on January 1, 2022.

- A YES VOTE** would create a system of ranked-choice voting in which voters would have the option to rank candidates in order of preference and votes would be counted in rounds, eliminating candidates with the lowest votes until one candidate has received a majority.
- A NO VOTE** would make no change in the laws governing voting and how votes are counted.

ARGUMENTS

IN FAVOR: A YES VOTE adopts ranked choice voting, a common-sense reform that puts more power in the hands of voters. Ranked choice voting addresses three problems:

- Big money and corrupt special interests have too much control over our democracy
- Politicians can win with less than a majority, and independents are shut out
- Politics are tearing us apart, preventing solutions to major challenges

It works by giving voters the option to rank candidates in order of preference. You can vote for just one candidate like you always have, or you can rank your first, second and third choice. If your favorite candidate doesn’t win, your vote is instantly counted for your second choice so candidates must compete for every vote. Ranked choice voting ensures the winner has majority support and reflects the true will of the people. A YES VOTE gives voters more voice and will help make our democracy stronger.

Shauna Hamilton
Voter Choice for Massachusetts
44 Temple Place
Boston, MA 02111
617-906-8166
www.voterchoice2020.org

AGAINST: Two Democratic Governors rejected ranked choice voting because it was confusing and denied voters informed choice. Democratic Governor Jerry Brown witnessed a mayoral election in Oakland where the winner won with voters’ seventh and eighth place rankings. Governor Brown said, “Ranked-choice voting is overly complicated and confusing. I believe it deprives voters of genuinely informed choice.” Democratic Governor Gavin Newsom said Ranked Choice Voting “has often led to voter confusion and the promise that ranked choice voting leads to greater democracy is not necessarily fulfilled.” Ranked Choice Voting ballots force voters to guess the candidates who will remain standing in multiple voting rounds and cast their votes in the dark. If they guess wrong and vote for eliminated candidates, their ballots are not counted in the final vote. Winners win a false “majority” of remaining ballots, not a true majority of all the voters voting in the election.

Massachusetts Fiscal Alliance
18 Tremont St., Suite 527
Boston, MA 02108
617-553-4115
<https://www.massfiscal.org>

OBITUARIES

Paula Ciulla

Of East Boston

Paula (Sarcone) Ciulla of East Boston passed away on October 26.

The beloved wife of the late John Ciulla, she was the loving mother of Annette Ciulla Favale of Tewksbury, Angela Ciulla and MaryJane Ciulla, both of East Boston and the late Paula Hubert and Joseph Ciulla. Paula was predeceased by three sisters and three brothers, all who lived in Italy. She was the cherished grandmother of five grandchildren, adored great-grandmother of 10 great-grandchildren and is also survived by many loving nieces and nephews.


Family and friends will honor Paula's life by gathering at the Ruggiero Family Memorial Home, 971 Saratoga Street, East Boston on November 2 from 9 a.m. to 12 noon



followed by a prayer service in our serenity chapel. Services will conclude with Paula being laid to rest at Holy Cross Cemetery in Malden. All services will be held in accordance with Phase-3 of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts phased reopening plan due to COVID-19. Face coverings are required to be worn and social distancing measures are encouraged. For more information, please visit www.ruggieromh.com.

Derick Watson

Loved traveling to see new places and spending time with family

 Derick Watson of South Carolina, passed away unexpectedly in Boston on Tuesday, September 22, 2020.

Derick loved traveling and seeing new places. He enjoyed spending time with his family. He liked being outdoors whether he was hiking, boating, fishing or camping. Derick worked a variety of jobs including masonry, brain injury technician and a salesman. He also served in the United States Army.

He was the loving son of Ernest and Evelyn Watson of Maine, beloved husband of Tracy Watson of South Carolina, devoted father of Erick and Dylan Watson of Lowell, Elijah Watson of New Hampshire and Aiden and Destiny Rossignol of South Carolina; dear brother of Doreen Iasbarrone and her long-time partner, Michael Bernard of Revere, Timothy Watson and his wife, Brenda of Revere, George Iasbarrone of Melrose, Ernie Watson



of Beverly, Susan Guthro and her husband, Ed, Lisa Iasbarrone and David Watson all of Maine and the late Scott Watson and cherished grandfather of Matthew Watson. Derick was predeceased by his grandparents, Thomas and Dorothy Watson and Karl and Rose Stromses.

Family and friends honored Derick's life by gathering at the Ruggiero Family Memorial Home, 971 Saratoga St. East Boston on Tuesday October 27. Services concluded with Derick being laid to rest at Woodlawn Cemetery in Everett. All services were held in accordance with Phase-3 of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts phased reopening plan due to COVID-19. For more information, Plase visit www.ruggieromh.com.

Josephine 'Jo' Cicatelli

An extraordinary woman who will be missed by all who knew her

Josephine "Jo" Cicatelli, 96, a lifelong resident of Revere, passed away on October 23 at home, the house she has lived in since she was born, surrounded by her loving family.

Jo worked in the Charlestown Navy Yard during World War II. After the war, she attended Mansfield Beauty Academy and then worked as a hairstylist for 25 years at the Hollywood Hair Salon on Shirley Avenue owned by her sister, Jean. Jo worked as an instructor at the Blaine Hair School eventually becoming the educational director of all the Blaine Hair Schools.

Jo loved spending time with family and friends and her beloved dog, Molly. She loved to cook and was a talented painter and seamstress. She enjoyed gardening and traveling with family and friends. She was an extraordinary woman who will be greatly missed by all who knew her.

Born in Revere on March 5, 1924 to the late Joseph and Antoinette Lamberti (Scalia), she was the beloved wife of 26 years to the late Anthony Cicatelli; devoted mother of Joyce Collier and her husband, Richard

of Venice, FL, and Jean Shea and her husband, Gerald of Topsfield; dear sister of the late Mary Cerbone, Jerry Lamberti, Jean Kelfer, Anthony Lamberti and Constance "Connie" Caldwell; dear aunt of Dr. Karen Caldwell, Linda McCormick, Brenda Gemellaro, Joel Kelfer, Annette Scopelito, Paul Lamberti, Dr. Gerald Lamberti, and the late Peter Cerbone, Anthony Cerbone, Vivian Klundt, Joseph Lamberti and Robert Lamberti.

Due to the current spike in COVID-19, the guidelines issued by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and local officials, funeral services will be privately held for the immediate family under the direction of Paul Buonfiglio & Sons - Bruno Funeral Home, 128 Revere Street, Revere, MA 02151. Interment at Woodlawn Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in Josephine's name to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, 501 St. Jude Place, Memphis, TN 38105-9959 or the Greater Boston Food Bank, 70 South Bay Avenue, Boston, MA 02118 at my.gbfb.org. For guest book please visit www.buonfiglio.com.

Rita Todisco

Lifelong resident of Eagle Hill East Boston

Rita A. Todisco, a lifelong resident of Eagle Hill East Boston, passed away at her home surrounded by her loving family of October 26 at the age of 79.

She was the beloved wife of the late William Todisco, devoted mother of William Todisco of Chelsea, Steve Todisco of New York, Robert Todisco of Revere, John Todisco of East Boston, Rita Elliott and her husband, Robert of East Boston, Rhonda Lauletta and her husband, Michael of Revere, Scott Todisco of East Boston, Robin Cinelli and her husband, Tommy of East Boston, Denise Warwick and her husband, Michael of Swampscott, Joseph

Todisco of East Boston and the late Kenny and Jimmy Todisco. She was the adored grandmother of 20 grandchildren and five great-grandchildren and is also survived by many loving nieces and nephews.

Family and friends will honor Rita's life by gathering at the Ruggiero Family Memorial Home, 971 Saratoga St., East Boston on Saturday, October 31 from 8:30 to 10:30 a.m. before leaving in funeral procession to Sacred Heart Church Brooks St., East Boston for an 11 a.m. Funeral Mass. Services will conclude with Rita being laid to rest in Holy Cross Cemetery.

OBITUARIES

All obituaries and death notices

will be at a cost of

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Please send to

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or call 781-485-0588

Dolores Russo

Will be dearly missed

Dolores Russo of the North End, formerly of South Boston, passed away peacefully on Tuesday, October 20.

Dolores loved being a part of the North End, particularly sitting at Caffè Vittoria with her neighbors and lifelong friends. She will be missed dearly by all.

The daughter of the late Antoinette "Tootsie" Coviello and the late Charles Russo, she was the sister of the late Robert Coviello, the loving cousin of the Imbruglia family, the Abruzzio family, Havanidis family and the Gallo family, devoted godmother of Thais Gassiraro and cherished friend of Terri Gassiraro.

Family and friends



honored Dolores's life by gathering at Saint Leonard of Port Maurice Parish, North End on October 26 when her Funeral Mass was celebrated. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in Dolores's name to Saint Leonard of Port Maurice Parish, 320 Hanover Street, Boston, MA 02113. For more information, please visit www.ruggieromh.com.

Anna Daly

Of Revere, formerly of the North End

Anna (Macri) Daly of Revere formerly of the North End, passed away on October 22 at the age of 86 surrounded by her loving family.

The beloved wife of 63 years to the late James Patrick Daly, she was the devoted mother of Janet Daly of Revere, Linda Daly of Florida and Kathleen Ginsburg and her husband, Gordon of Billerica; cherished grandmother of Anthony Delio, James Delio, Cristina D'Amore, Michael D'Amore, Paul Ginsburg and his wife, Michelle, and Samantha Ginsburg and adored great grandmother of Milana Delio; dear sister of the late Frank Macri, Lucy Papa, and Carmen Macri. She is also survived by



many loving nieces and nephews.

A Funeral Mass was celebrated at Saint Leonard of Port Maurice Parish, Interment at Holy Cross Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in Anna's name to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, 501 St. Jude PL, Memphis, TN 38105-9959. For guest book please visit www.buonfiglio.com.

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State announces Partnerships for Recovery, \$774 million economic recovery plan

The state announced last week a \$774 million comprehensive plan to stabilize and grow the Massachusetts economy.

The plan focuses on getting people back to work, supporting small businesses, fostering innovation, revitalizing downtowns and ensuring housing stability. Partnerships for Recovery begins today by directing \$115 million in new funding to small businesses and Main Streets hardest hit by the COVID-19 pandemic and for workforce training efforts. Additionally, the Administration is aligning multiple funding sources, both existing and proposed, to appropriately respond to the crisis.

Partnerships for Recovery supports five key recovery efforts:

- Getting Massachusetts back to work
- Supporting small businesses
- Revitalizing downtowns
- Supporting housing equity and stability
- Fostering innovation

Gov. Charlie Baker, Lt. Gov. Karyn Polito, Housing and Economic Development Secretary Mike Kennealy, Labor and Workforce Secretary Rosalin Acosta, and Administration and Finance Secretary Michael J. Hefernan joined Joe Kriesberg, President and CEO of the Massachusetts Association of Community Development Corporations to announce the plan at the Gardner Auditorium.

“This plan represents a comprehensive strategy to get people back to work and to support the small businesses hit the hardest by the pandemic, putting the Commonwealth on a path to recovery,” said Gov. Baker. “By leveraging existing tools and programs and implementing new ones this plan will allow us to make critical resources and assistance to those who need it most available now.”

The plan includes:

- Putting \$115 million to work right away for small

businesses and workforce training, including more than \$25 million to get people back to work;

- Directing \$323 million in existing capital programs as part of the response to continue doing more of what works;
- Filing for \$122 million through the Revised H.2 budget to supplement existing funding in support of struggling Main Street businesses and skill building for residents;
- Steering \$43 million in Federal, trust and other state funding toward our most critical needs; and
- Committing \$171 million to keep people safely housed during the pandemic.

Getting People Back to Work

In order to get people back to work, new investments are being made to build workforce skills, growing training programs and pathways, forging new partnerships between employers and workers, and supporting internet connectivity to facilitate remote work and online career advancement. The more than \$25 million available now includes:

- \$10.4 million to engage Massachusetts employers by expanding workforce partnerships with large employers in target sectors to create aligned statewide training-employment pathways;
- \$9.2 million to subsidize internet for low-income populations, and to expand hot spots in unserved and underserved communities;
- \$3.2 million to modernize MassHire virtual pathways to assess and connect UI claimants to appropriate services and supports;
- \$2 million to bolster manufacturing training by purchasing a standardized virtual training program to increase workforce for the manufacturing sector; and
- \$300,000 to supplement \$8.4 million toward Career Technical Institutes in H.2 to help close the skills gap for skilled

technician jobs and align training to industry needs.

An additional \$54 million is available to support workforce recovery efforts through existing programming such as the Skills Capital Grants program, the Workforce Competitiveness Trust Fund, and the Workforce Training Trust Fund.

Revised House 2 also proposes \$17.9 million in workforce funding, including \$8.4 million in funding to transform vocational high schools into Career Technical Institutes running three shifts per day. This initiative is designed to train 20,000 new workers over four years in skilled trades and technical fields including plumbing, HVAC, manufacturing, and robotics. This will consist of a combination of enrolling more high school students in high-impact vocational trade programs and expanding capacity for adults to earn industry-based credentials, aligned to apprenticeships and post-secondary degrees.

Direct Support to Small Business and Main Street

To generate economic growth amidst the COVID-19 pandemic and support Main Streets across Massachusetts, the Administration is investing \$322.8 million in direct support of small and diverse businesses and local communities. This funding includes grants to the hardest hit small businesses, especially small businesses owned by women, minorities, veterans, or members of other underrepresented groups. These grant awards will allow small businesses to cover expenses such as rent, payroll, and utilities as they get back on their feet. Additional funding will support small businesses through hands-on and personalized technical assistance, including targeted support for women- and minority-owned businesses around digital and online technology as their business model pivots away from a brick-

and-mortar location.

Many communities have seen their Main Streets and downtown districts hit particularly hard by the pandemic, and new funding aims to help cities and towns plan for short-term innovations and long-term recovery. A new \$10 million round of the Shared Streets and Spaces Grant Program will continue to help cities and towns quickly implement or expand improvements to sidewalks, curbs, streets, on-street parking spaces and off-street parking lots in support of public health, safe mobility, and renewed commerce in their communities. Separately, local recovery planning grants will soon be available to cities and towns to assist with long-term planning for their business districts. A total of \$10 million is available for this program.

To support the museums and other cultural facilities that have faced a particularly challenging reality this year, but remain a cornerstone of what Massachusetts offers to visitors, these institutions will be eligible for \$10 million in Cultural Facilities Operating Grants. This funding will help these organizations to make safety improvements and other upgrades to allow them to continue to offer their unique attractions and exhibits.

As part of this recovery plan, the Governor’s recently filed revised budget proposal recommends over \$100 million in additional funding for economic recovery and development efforts, including \$35 million for community development financial institutions (CDFI) grants and loans, and \$15 million for matching grants for capital investments by businesses with 20 or fewer employees. Additionally, more than \$115 million in existing capital through programs such as MassWorks, and those in the MassDevelopment portfolio (Brownfields Redevelopment Fund, Site Readiness Program,

Transformative Development Initiative, and Collaborative Workspaces), will be leveraged in support of economic recovery. This recovery plan complements the Administration’s \$275 million economic recovery package, which was announced in June.

Small Business and Main Street Highlights (new funding):

- \$50.8 million in Small Business Grants to help the hardest hit businesses;
- \$10 million to continue funding the Shared Streets and Spaces Program;
- \$10 million for local recovery planning grants to support cities and towns;
- \$10 million to support cultural facilities such as museums;
- \$8.3 million in small business technical assistance to help businesses access grant programs and loans, as well as help build business management skills, resilience, and other support in navigating pandemic impacts;
- *Including \$2.3 million to provide personalized technical assistance to woman- and minority-owned businesses;

“Our current circumstances call for a plan with the size and scope to match the urgency we need to address the most pressing challenges we now face,” said Secretary of Housing and Economic Development Mike Kennealy. “By targeting vital resources toward these key areas, this strategy will allow us to lay a solid foundation for our path to recovery.”

Additional Investments

In order to keep people safely in their homes during the pandemic and support small landlords with expenses, the Administration recently announced \$171 million in support of the Eviction Diversion Initiative. This comprehensive strategy includes funding to help to cover housing costs such as rent and mortgage payments, invest in new programs around mediation and legal representa-

tion, and provide repaid rehousing when a tenant is evicted. Additionally, the Administration continues to invest in the Commonwealth’s stock of affordable rental housing with \$121 million in direct subsidies.

Massachusetts has long been a hotbed of innovation and creativity in science and technology, and sectors such as the life sciences and advanced manufacturing are not only critical to the innovation economy, but also continue to contribute to the response to the coronavirus. To ensure we continue to lead in this space, \$62 million in existing capital funding through the Massachusetts Life Sciences Center, the Massachusetts Technology Collaborative, and MassVentures is available to support recovery and growth.

Small Business Grant Program Details

Massachusetts Growth Capital Corporation (MGCC) is administering the Small Business Grants program, with \$50.8 million available beginning today. Grant awards range between \$25,000 – \$75,000.


As part of this grant program, preference is given to small businesses whose owners are women, minorities, veterans, members of other underrepresented groups, or focused on serving the Gateway Cities of Massachusetts, who have been unable to open and those most adversely impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. Preference is also given to applicants that have not been able to receive aid from other federal programs, including PPP and other relief related to COVID-19.

The program has two distinct funding “doors” based on business size, with different eligibility criteria. Applicants must review the information to determine which program to proceed with applying.

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KO Pies celebrates a decade on Eastie’s waterfront

By John Lynds

Ten years ago KO Pies Chef and Owner Sam Jackson took a gamble and decided to bring a staple of Australian comfort food to Eastie’s shores.

Inside the brick building within the industrial setting of the Boston Harbor Shipyard and Marina on Marginal Street, Jackson’s KO Pies opened in 2010, and as word began to spread like an unchecked wildfire in the Outback about his savory Australian meat pies.

“Bringing meat pies to Boston and New England for the first time wasn’t lost on us,” said Jackson this week. “It was a big deal. We were essentially representing one of, if not THE most beloved, quintessential comfort foods of the homeland. Everyone has a bloody opinion on a pie in Australia.”

This week Jackson and KO Pies staff celebrated 10 years in the community by not only serving up delicious Aussie fare but also giving back to the community by supporting schools and a whole host of local organizations.

“We knew that in order to succeed, we had to not only have the Aussie approval but most importantly, if we were to survive, we needed to have the local American crowd get it,” said Jackson. “There’re only so many Aussie , Kiwi, South African, British and Irish pie lovers after all.”

A decade and two KO Pies later (the Southie location closed a few years back) has served over 800,000 pies to the masses.

“To all the staff that have become de facto Aussies over those years, the hours logged, the at-

tention to detail on a new concept to Boston, the belief that we always have to be consistent each and every bloody day, thank you,” said Jackson. .To all the vendors and landlords, thank you. To the customers who have made 10 years possible. To return, weekly, monthly, yearly, we are grateful. Even during a pandemic, when we made the decision to stick with the take-out only option. Whether it be for a snack, your weekly meal, a first date, wedding, birthday, office catering or just because you wanted to give us a go, thank you.”

Jackson said one thing any successful food establishment owner will likely agree on is in order to make a restaurant work, you need to have your own ‘thing’.

“You need the next new customer to under-

stand exactly what it is that you are offering,” he said. “You don’t set out to please everyone. That is impossible, and over 10 years I’ve learned that’s certainly the case. And that’s ok. As long as there’s enough people who get it, then you’ve done something pretty cool. It worked. So with that in mind, it’s safe to say here we are 10 years later. We’ve done our job. Cheers to every bloody one of you. It’s going to be one hell of a week and we hope to get to say it in-person with as many of you that swing by the shipyard.”

It’s safe to say all of KO Pies’s customers and fans are hoping for another 10 years of Aussie goodness and the chance to crack a cold one and celebrate with Jackson once the pandemic ends.



KO Pies Chef and Owner Sam Jackson. KO Pies celebrated its 10 year anniversary this week at the Boston Harbor Shipyard and Marina on Marginal Street in Eastie.



Eastie COVID-19 cases explode once again; positive test rate jumps 120 percent

By John Lynds

COVID-19 infections are once again on the rise in East Boston according to the latest data released by the Boston Public Health Commission (BPHC).

While Eastie’s COVID-19 positive test rate was decreasing steadily for the past few weeks, the numbers have once again exploded in the neighborhood and increased 120 percent since last week, fulfilling the prophecy of health care experts that a citywide spike would occur.

Of the 19,730 Eastie residents tested for

COVID last week 11.9 percent were found to be positive for the virus, a 120 percent increase from the 5.4 percent reported two weeks ago. Overall since the pandemic began 13.6 percent of Eastie residents here have been found to be positive.

The numbers posted last Friday are slightly above the 11.8 percent positive test rate reported back in August, which at the time was considered an ‘all time high’ for the neighborhood. However, efforts by the city and health officials at the time brought that number down to 5.1 percent before the

end of the summer.

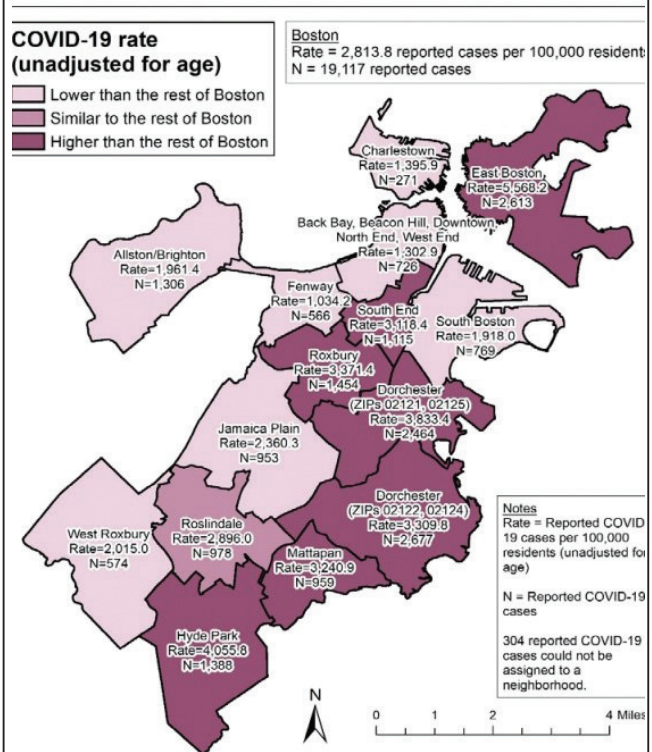
The citywide positive test rate was up 38 percent and went from 4.5 percent of Boston residents testing positive for the virus to 6.2 percent.

Eastie’s infection rate rose by 3.35 percent according to the data released by the BPHC last Friday. Eastie’s COVID infection rate went from 538.7 cases per 10,000 residents to 556.8 cases per 10,000 residents. The last increase two weeks ago was 2.6 percent. The citywide average is 281.3 cases per 10,000 residents and Eastie still has one of the highest infection rates

in all of Boston.

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 by 4.8 percent last week from 18,834 cases to 19,754 confirmed cases. So far 16,986 Boston residents have fully recovered from the virus and 6 additional Boston residents died last week--bringing the total number of fatalities in the city remains to 777.



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

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with our thousands of readers

Thanksgiving is a time of reflection: Both on the things in our lives we are thankful for and the people we appreciate too. We all have those few who fill our hearts, who have made a noticeable impact on our lives that we are forever grateful for.

I am Thankful for

We will be choosing 3 winners from the community

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