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Wednesday, July 28, 202 I

Second seaplane company to begin operations off Eastie's shore

By John Lynds

A second seaplane company operating off East Boston's shore will begin shuttling customers from Boston to New York City on August 3.

Tailwind Air recently received Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) and U.S. Coast Guard approval to take off and land just off the Hyatt Boston Harbor Hotel near Jeffries Point.

Costing \$395 per ticket for a one way trip to Manhattan, Tailwind will shuttle passengers from the South Boston waterfront to the seaplane for the 75-minute flight to a dock off East 23rd in Manhattan. The company plans to run three flights per day during the week down to New York.



One of Tailwind Air's seaplanes landing in the Boston Harbor off Eastie's shore. Tailwind will begin shuttling passengers between Boston and New York on August 3. (Photo courtesy of Tailwind Air.)

"By offering nonstop, weekday flights at peak hours to and from Manhattan and Boston Harbor, we present exclusive time savings over all other modes of transportation, at a reasonable price premium," CEO and Founder of Tailwind Air, Alan

Ram, explains. "Our service combines the accessibility of the train with the speed of a flight."

Peter Manice, Director of Scheduled Operations, called the flights a 'game changer' for travellers between Boston and New

While he added, 'no one else is doing this' that statement is a little mis-

Tailwind's rival, Cape Air, began testing seaplanes between the Harbor and New York back in

See SEAPLANES Page 2

Councilor Edwards endorses Michelle Wu for Mayor

By John Lynds

District 1 City Councilor Lydia Edwards, who represents East Boston, Charlestown and the North End said that Michelle Wu is a 'bold, brave woman who supports bold, brave women' and that is why she has endorsed her fellow colleague Michelle Wu's candidacy for Mayor of Boston.

At a press event last Wednesday at Lopresti Park, Edwards said in her time serving alongside Wu on the City Council she bore witness to her unflagging leadership for all Bostonians, of every neighborhood, background, and lived experi-

"That's why today, wholeheartedly proudly endorsed Michelle Wu, to be our next mayor," said Edwards. "We need Michelle's leadership. Boston is emerging from a pandemic and each and every single one of us is in some form of recovery. No one can say that they weren't impacted by 2020. Fewer and fewer of us can actually say that we've been made whole, or that things were fine. We watched George Floyd get murdered and we saw a racial reckoning emerge around the country. We were isolated from each other. We were angry. Some are financially crippled and many people still to this day have no



al Candidate Michelle Wu chat before Wednesday's press conference.

idea how they're going to care for their children. We have the right to question all systems and how things are going. So we

See WU Page 3

MRWA announce water quality grades for the Mystic and Charles Rivers

By John Lynds

For years Save the Harbor/Save the Bay has been releasing beach reports cards that rate the quality of the water at state-run beaches from Nahant to

Nantasket.

Now the Mystic River Water Watershed Association (MRWA) and the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) are getting in on the act.

For the first time the



MRWA and EPA teamed up on a river report card for the Mystic River.

According to the report, continuing patterns from recent years in the Mystic Watershed, the main stem of the Mystic River received grades in the "A" to "B" range, with several smaller local tributaries receiving poor grades, such as an "F" for Mill Creek in Chelsea.

"The good news is that the Mystic-like each of the three great rivers of Boston Harbor-is a relatively clean urban river, safe and accessible for a variety of recreation," said Executive Director of the Mystic River Watershed Association Patrick Herron. "This news represents a great success story of the Clean Water Act, and its 50-year history of imenvironmental proving and even economic conditions in cities. But there is still work to be done, and the report card we publish with EPA's collaboration shows where effort should be directed on the ground,"

During the past 30 years, the focus of improving water quality in Boston Harbor has transitioned from addressing major outflows of raw sewage being discharged into the Harbor to identifying and addressing numerous smaller sources of bacterial and other contamination further up the

See MRWA Page 2

Lt. Governor announces state grants for child care centers in East Boston

By John Lynds

Last Tuesday afternoon, Lt. Gov. Karyn Polito and Early Education and Care Commissioner Samantha Aigner-Treworgy stopped by the East Boston Social Centers (EBSC) in Central Square for a tour, and to announce \$7.5 million in Early Education and Out of School Time Capital Fund (EEOST) capital improvement grants to 36 organizations to renovate childcare facilities that serve primarily low-income families like EBSC.

Polito said the Baker-Polito Administration teamed up with the Children's Investment Fund (CIF) and its affiliate the Community Economic Development Assistance Corporation (CEDAC) for the \$227,000 in grant money towards the Social Centers. EBSC and the other thirty-five recipients all received grants between \$100,000 to \$250,000 to provide capital funding needed to address health and safety concerns related to COVID-19.

"These awards announced today - which mark the largest total amount awarded since the inception of the EEOST grants - will improve child care programs across the state" said Polito last week at the Social Centers. "Now more than ever, as families return to workplaces, investments in early education and care settings are vital to provide necessary resources to



Lt. Gov. Karyn Polito during last week's tour of the East **Boston Social Centers talks** with one of the 300 children the Social Centers serves.

children and their families through high-quality early childhood education and out-of-school time programs."

The capital grants will help continue to support major renovation and construction projects at EBSC and improve the quality of learning environments for the over 300 children they serve.

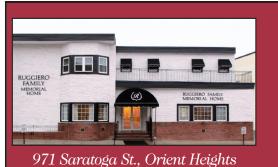
The Social Centers previously received an EEOST grant last July and EBSC Executive Director Justin Pasquariello was excited to show Polito how the previous round of funding helped improve the Social Centers' facilities. He also thanked the Lieutenant Governor for continuing to support

See POLITO Page 3

CONGRATULATIONS



Ariel and Adrian Madaro are thrilled to announce the birth of their first child, Matteo Glantz Madaro, born on May 17, 2021 at 7 lbs. 11 oz. and 20 inches long. Grandparents Debra Cave, Jacopo Madaro, Robbie Levy, Michael Glantz and (bonus grandma) Heidi Skolnik are very excited about Matteo's arrival and are already spoiling the little guy. Ariel and Adrian feel lucky to be surrounded by such loving friends and family, and look forward to raising Matteo in this diverse and vibrant community.



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EBT/SNAP benefits expanded to online purchases

By John Lynds

During the height of the pandemic, many East Boston residents did their food shopping from the comfort of their own

While the online grocery delivery service industry exploded because many were not comfortable venturing into crowded grocery stores, it exposed a significant inequity for those who receive Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits.

Many who received benefits found that many online food shopping services lacked the ability to checkout online and pay using their SNAP/EBT cards, especially on grocery delivery platforms like Instacart.

Last week, the Baker-Polito Administration closed that loophole and announced that residents who receive SNAP/EBT benefits can use their cards to buy fresh food and pantry staples online from a variety of participating stores for same-day delivery and pickup via Instacart, including Price Chopper, ALDI and newly added Stop & Shop and Hannaford. Walmart and Amazon are also federally approved SNAP online retailers in the state.

Massachusetts first launched the SNAP online purchasing program on May 29, 2020. To date, Massachusetts residents have spent over \$75 million in SNAP benefits in online grocery purchases across retailers. Similar to using SNAP/EBT benefits to purchase food in a store, benefits can be used to buy SNAP-eligible foods online, including fresh produce, frozen foods, dairy and eggs.

chasing is one of several tools the Administration has employed, alongside the state's national leadership in Pandemic EBT and continuation of SNAP Emergency Allotments, to combat food insecurity for Massachusetts individuals and families," said Secretary of Health and Human Services Marylou Sudders. "SNAP remains an important tool as we start to recover from the public health crisis by putting money to buy healthy food directly into the hands of hundreds of thousands of households and supporting our local communities."

The Department of Transitional Assistance Commissioner Amy Kershawa said as a result of the economic fallout of COVID-19, the state has seen a historic increase in SNAP participation, with 100,000 more households now utilizing the program for a total of approximate-

ly 550,000 households.

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"Massachusetts heavily invested in IT changes and maximized federal flexibilities make it easier than ever to apply for SNAP and conduct convenient business with the agency 24/7 online and over the phone," she said. "In addition to these changes, SNAP online purchasing is another tool bringing greater equity to how residents can "SNAP online pur-

utilize SNAP." Residents can shop for groceries from Stop & Shop, Hannaford, Price Chopper and ALDI via the Instacart online site and mobile app. Once an Instacart customer profile is created, customers can enter their EBT/SNAP card information as a form of payment. Customers can enter their zip code to determine if they are near a participating retailer, and begin shopping for retailers' EBT-eligible products. Once items are added to their cart, customers will be able to select how much of their benefits they would like to allocate to the order. Orders for delivery and pickup can be placed by customers for receipt in as fast as an hour or scheduled several days

in advance. To help subsidize costs for SNAP/EBT participants, Instacart will waive delivery or pickup fees through September 16, 2021, on up to the first three orders for each customer with a valid EBT card associated with their Instacart account. more information on EBT/ SNAP on Instacart, visit: https://www.instacart. com/ebt-snap.

"Providing people access to the food they love is at the core of Instacart's mission. We're proud to partner with Price Chopper, ALDI and now Hannaford and Stop & Shop to provide more families in Massachusetts with a convenient and accessible way to get their fresh food and pantry staples," said David Healy, Retail Partnerships at Instacart. "Expanding EBT/SNAP to reach same-day online grocery delivery and pickup is important to help people access the food they need, and we look forward to expanding this payment integration to even more retailers across

Massachusetts."

MRWA // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

watersheds that discharge into Boston Harbor.

The three major watersheds--Mystic River, Charles River and Neponset River--make up a significant portion of the freshwater inputs to Boston Harbor, and all three have an impact on Boston Harbor water quality. Just as each watershed is unique, there are slight differences in how each watershed association calculates the grade.

However, the grades provide a science-based indication of what many Boston-area residents may not have realized - that bacteria concentrations in the harbor and the rivers are low in dry weather, but that there are significant problems during and after rainstorms, as well as localized problems in some of the tributaries to the rivers.

EPA New England Acting Regional Administrator Deborah Szaro said efforts by citizens and other stakeholders are continuing to tackle these remaining problems so that all residents of Greater Boston can enjoy the benefits of clean water.

"The contributions of citizen scientists to our efforts to improve water quality in these urban rivers cannot be overstated," said Szaro. "EPA is grateful to the three watershed associations for the scientific data collection that has helped us to direct our resources to the most critical areas in need of attention. By highlighting locations with water quality impairment, we find that we are also directing our action to improving environmental conditions for historically underserved environmental justice

neighborhoods." Szaro added that the EPA has also taken additional actions to address elevated levels of nutrients that are harming water quality throughout the Charles River Watershed, with an eye toward how a similar approach would work in the Mystic and Neponset Watersheds.

According to the report, last year the EPA conducted a wide-reaching process to gather stakeholder input about a potential path to address stormwater runoff from commercial, industrial, in-

stitutional, and residential properties in the Charles River Watershed that are not currently regulated. EPA is currently evaluating that input along with existing data and expects to make a decision by the

end of the year. "The Baker-Polito Administration remains committed to working with communities to address water quality issues," said Eric Worrall, MassDEP's Northeast Regional Director. "The investment of over \$225 million to improve wastewater, stormwater and combined sewer systems infrastructure in the Charles River, Neponset River, and Mystic River watersheds, has led to significant improvement in the water quality in all three of these important Commonwealth resources. We continue to be proud of our partnership with watershed associations and the EPA. The information we receive from citizen scientists helps to inform policy decisions that lead to cleaner waterways in the Common-

Seaplanes // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

2016 after receiving FAA FAA approved Tailwind's approval to land seaplanes in pretty much the same spot as Tailwind.

While Tailwind may be the first to begin flying a regular route between the two cities, Cape Air's plan to fly from Boston to New York is still on the horizon and soon there will be two seaplane operators landing in the harbor off Eastie.

There was some confusion over Tailwind's plans because Cape Air Senior Vice President Andrew Bonney repeatedly told the community at numerous meetings the takeoff and landing area in the waters off Eastie would be restricted by the FAA to only Cape Air operations. Bonney called this

landing area a "private, restricted sea base" and the residents wouldn't have to worry about other carriers using the area.

According to experts in the airline industry while Cape Air's sliver in the harbor is restricted the

sea base adjacent to Cape Air's.

This was the worry among residents when Cape Air was seeking community support for their sea base. Some in the Jeffries Point neighborhood feared allowing Cape Air to land seaplanes off Eastie would open a floodgate for other seaplane carriers to start using the landing area. However, Ram said at a community meeting that while he couldn't speak for Bonney or Cape Air, having one seaplane company monopolize a landing area in the Harbor would never have been considered by the FAA. Ram added that it would be anti-competitive for the FAA to award a monopoly to the first company that came through the door.

A look into FAA approvals for the water landing area shows Tailwind, as well as Cape Air, were both granted the right to plane operations.

wealth."

Tailwinds has two bases, one in Westchester, New York and another in Bridgeport, Connecticut and has been operating seaplanes in and out of New York City for about seven years.

Like Cape Air, Tailwind will be using the Cessna Caravan for seaplane operation to and from New York.

"This new route is breaking barriers," said Ram. "We are grateful for the tremendous local support in Boston we have received and aim to be good neighbors and an important addition to Boston's economic boom. We eliminate the time needed to travel to airport terminals, long security lines, check-in, board, and await the flight's turn on the runway. We are honored to be welcomed into the Boston community as well as see continued support from





205 Maverick Street

Monday, August 16

6:00 PM - 7:30 PM

Zoom Link: bit.ly/3rqGxea Toll Free: (833) 568 - 8864

Meeting ID: 161 453 0378

Project Description:

The Proposed Project consists of the demolition of an existing single story commercial structure which contains the Maverick Street Market and Swish & Swash Laundromat at 197-207 Maverick Street and the construction of a 5-story mixed-use building with approximately 3,237 square feet of ground floor retail space, 49 residential units, including 7 income restricted units, and approximately 34 off-street parking spaces.

La información de esta reunión es crucial para usted como residente y parte interesada de la ciudad de Boston. Los servicios de interpretación están disponibles para comunicar el contenido de estos documentos para usted sin costo adicional. Si necesita servicios de traducción, contáctese con: (makena.c.parker@boston.gov). La reunión está programada para el 8/16/2021 Por favor, solicite los servicios de interpretación a más tardar 5 días antes de la fechade la reunión.

mail to: Makena Parker

Boston Planning & Development Agency One City Hall Square, 9th Floor

Boston, MA 02201

phone: 339.832.7766

makena.c.parker@boston.gov

Close of Comment Period:

7/23/2021





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Teresa Polhemus, Executive Director/Secretary

\mathbf{Wu} // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

need a leader today that can see the moment and create a movement that brings us together. That leader is Michelle.'

Edwards said Wu has spent her eight years on the Boston City Council standing up for residents, families, and workers.

"She has a clear plan to end the ongoing housing crisis — one of the worst in Boston's history — and record-breaking amidst heat waves and floods, understands the urgency of tackling the climate crisis," said Edwards. "All that Michelle has done is based on her love of Boston. She is protective of our city. Protective of our city from Airbnb; protective of our city from irresponsible developers; protective of our city from those who want to threaten our clean air and water. She, like no one else I know, believes in what the government can do especially at the local level. So much of what the city is doing today is based on her legacy and ideas."

Edwards continued, "To those people who look at our government and wonder, "Are you hearing me? Are you seeing me? Do you value me?" and to those who are struggling with addiction, mental health, or struggle with childcare Michelle will never forget you. She will empower you. She will be there for you. Michelle is the best candidate for



1 City Councilor Lydia Edwards for her endorsement at Lopresti Park in East Boston Wednesday.

this moment, to create the movement that we need to bring us together."

Edwards' endorsement adds to the Michelle for Mayor campaign's coalition of multigenerational, multicultural grassroots supporters including leaders Senator Elizabeth Warren, State Senator and Assistant Majority Leader Sal DiDomenico, former State Representative and Assistant Majority Leader Byron Rushing; unions Teamsters Local 25, New England Joint Board of Unite Here!, Alliance of Unions at the MBTA, MBTA Inspectors Union Local 600, OPEIU Local 453; environmental organizations Sunrise Boston, Sierra Club, the Environmental League of Massachusetts, 350 Mass Action; Progressive West Roxbury/Roslindale; and fellow municipal elected officials from across Greater Boston and the

Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

"I'm honored to have the support of my friend and partner on the Council, Councilor Lydia Edwards," said Wu. "In the years that we've known each other, even before serving together on the Council, I've always respected her tenacity, empathy and leadership. It's been a delight to organize alongside her for economic justice, housing stability, and workers' rights, and I look forward to continuing our partnership to make Boston a city for everyone. So I couldn't be prouder today to stand with someone who I treasure, and to be in a community that I've worked with for so many years. We need to bring a sense of community building and a fierce relentless passion for what we could do together into City Hall and into the mayor's office.'

Polito // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

EBSC's capital improvements with the latest

round of funding. "We at the East Boston Social Centers were honored to host Lt. Gov. Karyn Polito and EEC Commissioner Samantha Aigner-Treworgy for a tour of our early education and school age programs," said Pasquariello. "We were grateful to show them the high-quality, safe facilities the EEOST grant has funded at the East Boston Social Centers. Commonwealth's recognition of the increased cost of providing high-quality, safe care during the COVID pandemic has been essential for our ability to be fully open for early education, school age programs, and full-day in-person remote learning support from July 2020. Their investments in our facilities, commitment to paying parent fees, additional grants, and investments in our workforce are critical as our essential sector continues to meet the needs of children and families across the commonwealth."

The Early Education and Out of School Time capital improvement grants are financed through the state's capital budget and provide matching funds that leverage private investment. More than \$200 million in public and private investments have been leveraged throughout the life of the grant program. The Baker-Polito Administration's FY21 Capital Budget Plan included funding for the Early Education and Out of School Time capital improvement grant

"Every child deserves the opportunity to learn in high-quality, safe, healthy, and joyous education environments," said Commissioner Aigner-Trewor-

program.



Lt. Gov. Karyn Polito during last week's tour of the East Boston Social Centers in Central Square. Polito announced \$7.5 million in Early Education and Out of School Time Capital Fund (EEOST) capital improvement grants to thirty-six organizations to renovate childcare facilities that serve primarily low-income families like EBSC.



Lt. Gov. Karyn Polito was joined by Early Education and Care Commissioner Samantha Aigner-Treworgy during the tour of the East Boston Social Centers.

gy at last week's event. "Well-designed rooms and play spaces can greatly enhance early learning and support children to grow and thrive."

In a statement after the event Gov. Charlie Baker

said his administration is committed to supporting childcare providers like the Social Centers who have worked tirelessly throughout the COVID-19 pandemic to care for children and support families

returning to work. "Since the start of this grant program, we've invested more than \$39.2

million in capital funding at childcare programs that impact the learning expesaid.

riences of more than 9,000 children in communities across Massachusetts," he

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Wednesday, July 28 at 7:00pm The caucus will be held virtually

this year.

Register online at bit.ly/wardlcaucus

Eastie's weekly COVID positive test rate increases again by 20%

By John Lynds

For a second week in a row, East Boston's weekly positive test rate has increased according to the latest data released by the Boston Public Health Commission (BPHC).

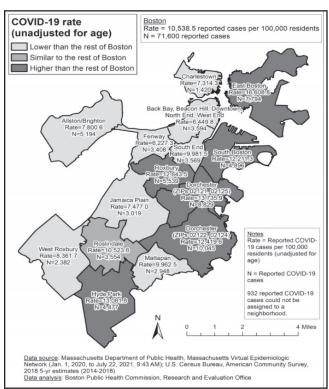
Earlier this month a COVID outbreak occurred in Provincetown with the Delta variant of the virus being confirmed among the cluster. The BPHC released an advisory on July 20 with new guidance to all residents of Boston who traveled to Provincetown during July until further notice. As of July 19, 2021, at least 35 COVID-19 cases in Boston residents have been traced back to this cluster and the overwhelming majority of those have been fully vaccinated.

Two weeks ago Eastie weekly positive test rate spiked 2,000 percent. This was the first time the weekly positive test rate increased to over one percent in nearly two months.

Last week, 1,008 Eastie residents were tested for the virus last week and 1.8 percent were positive--this was a 20 percent increase from the 1.5 percent reported by the BPHC two weeks ago.

Of the 44,565 Eastie residents tested for COVID since the pandemic began, 17.5 percent overall were found to be positive for the virus. This was a decrease of one percent from the 17.7 percent reported by the BPHC two weeks ago.

Citywide, the weekly positive test rate increased nearly 50 percent. According to the BPHC 13,702



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

residents were tested and 2.2 percent were COVID positive--this was a 47 percent increase from the 1.5 percent reported by the BPHC two weeks ago.

The BPHC urged all City of Boston residents who have traveled to Provincetown since July 1 to get tested for COVID-19 at least 5 days after returning, regardless of vaccination status or symptoms. The BPHC also said residents should self-isolate and avoid groups or gatherings for at least 5 days until a negative COVID-19 test, regardless of vaccination

Eastie's COVID infection rate increased only 0.2 percent and the rate went from 1,657.4 cases per 10,000 residents to 1,660.8 cases per 10,000 residents.

Sixteen additional residents contracted the virus between July 16 and July 23 and there are now 7,794 confirmed cases in the neighborhood since the start of the pandemic.

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

Citywide positive cases of coronavirus increased 0.62 percent since July 16 and went from 71,399 cases to 71,846 confirmed cases in a week. One additional Boston resident died from the virus in the past two weeks and there are now 1,396 total deaths in the city from COVID.

City Realty pitches changes to approved Maverick Street project

At Monday night's Gove Street Citizens Association Housing aspect." attorney Matt Eckel briefed members on changes his clients have made to the GSCA approved project.

City Realty purchased the parcels at 167-169 Maverick St. that once housed the Saints and Angels Ceramic Store and originally wanted to renovate the existing three-story brick structure and erect a five-story addition for a total of 28 housing units with 11 parking spaces at the ground level.

After several community and abutters meetings the developers reduced the overall unit count to nine. This change was accepted by GSCA members and the group voted in favor of the changes.

Eckel said after working with the Boston Planning and Development Agency (BPDA) as well as hearing from elected officials and residents on the lack of affordability City Realty decided to add two additional units and designate one of those two as affordable.

City Realty's James Caruso said, "We heard some feedback from the BPDA, elected officials and given the overall push around the city around affordable housing we feel

we found a solution with this project in a way that addresses the Affordable

(GSCA) meeting, zoning Under the BPDA's inclusionary policy, any development over 10 units must have an affordable component. Because the project was reduced to nine units the project was no longer subjected to the inclusionary policy.

"The good thing about this project is we did not have to change the square footage at all to fit the two additional units," said Caruso. "So a lot of times you have to make the building bigger to get additional units in there but with this one we didn't have to."

However, there was some discussion on hammering out whether or not the project would have to come back to the GSCA for a vote. While GSCA voted to approve the project they supported nine units and not

GSCA Chair Lorraine Curry was of the opinion that the group should take another vote on the project at their next meeting in September because of the addition of two additional units.

Meanwhile, seemed disappointed the group couldn't just take a vote Monday night so the team can move to the next phase of the zoning process with the city.

"I would think because you've made a change that is different from the original project presented, and you've increased the number of units a new vote should be taken," said Cur-



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YES, MISINFORMATION ON SOCIAL MEDIA IS KILLING **AMERICANS**

per office and told us that he had a "big story," the gist of which is that COVID-19 is a hoax. Or that vaccines for the coronavirus are part of a plan

Let's suppose that someone walked into our newspa-

by Bill Gates to inject Americans with microchips.

Or....insert any number of the other conspiracy theories about the virus and vaccinations that have been floating on social media platforms since the pandemic

The first thing we would do, as would any other responsible media organization, is to ask the person, "Where's your proof?"

And if -- and when -- the person invariably would be unable to produce the evidence for his claims, we would politely show him the door.

That's how journalism works. We try as best we can to provide facts and information to our readers, who then can make their own judgment about the issue at We don't always get it right, but we try our best.

That is not the case however, with social media plat-

forms. They do not even attempt to determine whether the information that gets distributed on their platforms is accurate. The result is that the millions of Americans who have

social media accounts are barraged daily with all kinds of misinformation on a host of subjects, of which the outright and preposterous lies about COVID-19 vaccines are only the latest example. A private investigative group recently reported that

65% of the misinformation about the vaccines is attributable to just 12 individuals. The reason for that is simple: Thanks to the algorithms of social media platforms, the statements of these 12 persons literally can go viral (no pun intended) along the misinformation electronic superhighway. To put it another way, the old adage often used by

Winston Churchill, "A lie gets halfway around the world before the truth has a chance to get its pants on," today is an understatement.

When President Joe Biden, speaking off-the-cuff in response to a reporter's question last week, suggested that the lies about vaccines on social media platforms are killing Americans, he was not wrong.

Yes, the problem of vaccine misinformation is bigger than social media companies, but they unquestionably are responsible for spreading more misinformation to ordinary Americans about the vaccines than any other

Our country is divided enough without the amplification of lies and misinformation that is being spread on the internet by social media. The virus, thanks to the Delta variant, tragically is spreading like wildfire across the country -- and the social media platforms, which make billions of dollars thanks to their algorithms, are throwing gasoline on the flames.

CONGRATULATIONS, RACHAEL ROLLINS

The announcement this week that President Joe Biden has nominated Suffolk County District Attorney Rachael Rollins to be the next United States Attorney for Massachusetts is welcome news for those who believe that our criminal justice system at all levels of government is poorly serving our nation. Beyond the achievement of becoming the first Black

woman to serve in that post, Rachael Rollins will bring a perspective of racial, social, and economic justice that has been lacking in the office of the U.S. Attorney.

We applaud President Biden's nomination of Ms. Rollins to this high post. We join with all of our fellow Massachusetts residents in offering our congratulations not only to Ms. Rollins personally, but also in her capacity as a trailblazer for Black women and others who for too long have been underrepresented in important offices such as this.

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Forum

GUEST OP-ED

City employees deserve our gratitude and respect

By John Barros

Public service is a calling, a passion for serving your neighbors, and a drive to create a better community now and for future generations. Almost all of the 18,000 women and men who work for the City of Boston share these values. Teachers, public works hokies, park designers, public safety officials, planners, tellers, parking enforcement attendants, schedulers, building inspectors, and more -- they love their city and take pride in their work. While some distrust government and think the worst of public employees, I know how hard they work, what they are up against, and that many of them are underpaid, overworked, and unappreciated.

When I left City Hall in March, I worried that I was leaving my colleagues just as they would be starting to struggle through a transition with an interim mayor, against the backdrop of an election. All after a 15-month period in which City employees continued working and serving residents during a pandemic in which we lost 1,400 lives, thousands of jobs, and hundreds of small businesses. Employees worked through emotional mental stress while juggling childcare, at-home learning, and family responsibilities. These same people worked around the clock to permit outdoor dining, distribute food and relief grants, and help keep residents as safe as possible. In those 15 months, I saw the true character of our city's workforce.

I had conversations with many anxious employees before leaving. I told them to continue working hard and delay any decisions until the long-term trajectory of the City, under the leadership of a duly elected mayor, became clearer. Four months later, hundreds of people have left and are leaving City Hall - a drain of talent and institutional knowledge that will have a grim impact on city services. Some were nervous about what was coming, and sought security in an environment where they wouldn't be subject to political whim. Some subscribe to the old wisdom that it's easier to find a job when you have a job. Some moved to the private sector, making more money working fewer hours and with less stress. Many spoke of an environment inside City Hall where they felt they were not part of the team anymore.

So, I want to address City employees who are still there. I see you. I know and appreciate you. I know how much you sacrificed throughout the pandemic, and I am proud of the work we did together. I ask you to stay in place if you can, for the good of the city. If I am able to earn the honor of being your next Mayor, I pledge to listen and explore options for increased flexibility and childcare resources. I pledge to invest in the technology and tools you need to do your jobs successfully. And I promise to invest in your well-being, professional development, and your family's future. Lastly, I pledge to work with you to unify the workforce, the city, and move us all forward to Boston's full po-

John Barros is a candidate for Mayor of Boston and former Chief of Economic Development for the City of Boston.

GUEST OP-ED

Massport's obligations to East Boston, Revere and Winthrop for environmental mitigation

By John Vitagliano

As the economy begins to recover from COVID-19, the nation's airports have experienced a dramatic increase in passenger travel, over 80 percent of total passenger throughput in July, 2021 compared to July, 2019 as measured by TSA data. This significant upward trend applies to Logan Airport as well. While the airline recovery is beneficial for the nation's economy its environmental implications are ominous, particularly for Logan Airport's neighboring communities of East Boston, Revere and Winthrop which have suffered for decades from the severe environmental impacts of Logan's aircraft operations which peaked at 427,176 in 2019 and are predicted to increase with Massports' approval of five new airline destinations in

Not only do East Boston, Revere and Winthrop suffer daily from Logan Airport's constant noise impacts, exceeding the DNL 65 dB sound level which is the federally defined level for residential land use incompatible with aircraft noise, but just as important if not more so are the severe health impacts associated with the pollutants from Logan airport, identified in a recent environmental study as a "known polluter", describing "the airspace of Logan Airport as a pollutant source".

Among Logan Airport pollutants are carbon monoxide, nitrogen oxides, ozone and particulate matter (PM), identified by epidemiologists as the most dangerous. PM particles are associated with the most adverse health outcomes, with ultrafine particles (UFPs) smaller than 100 nm in diameter the greatest threat. UFPs can penetrate deep into lungs, enter the bloodstream and cross the blood/brain bar-As Massport proceeds

with a 2.6 billion dollar capital program at Logan Airport, and the agency is on the verge of receiving a huge amount of federal infrastructure funding to complement the \$144 million in federal Care funds received last year, it is imperative that Massport acknowledge the severe environmental impacts endured by its neighboring communities of East Boston's Orient Heights and Eagle Hill, Revere's Beachmont and Winthrop's Point Shirley and Court Park sections. Massport must immediately proceed with the development of an effective. integrated environmental mitigation program for these three communities involving soundproofing and HEPA purifiers to cope with Logan Airport's deleterious environmental impacts. Massport should development this environmental remediation program regardless of the availability of federal funding, utilizing its own financing and bonding capability. The health of East Boston, Revere and Win-

throp requires it. John Vitagliano is a Former Massport Board Member and Boston Transportation Department Commissioner.

GUEST OP-ED

A return to normal for Jews of northern Greater Boston?

By Burton Figler Halfway through the

year 2021, the Coronavirus pandemic is finally winding down and the communities just north of Boston are "returning to normal". For Jews living in the cities and towns of northern Greater Boston – Chelsea, East Boston, Everett, Revere and Winthrop – the meaning of "normal", like elsewhere, is unclear. For many years prior to the pandemic, these Boston Suburbs had very large Jewish communities that included dozens of synagogues, temples and Hebrew Schools. Now, nearly all are gone. So, the questions arise: Where do the Jews of northern Greater Boston go for religious services? Where do they send their children for an education in Judaism? Where can Jewish families and individuals socialize and also obtain information on

Judaism, Israel, Zionism

Sadly, only one temple

remains in Chelsea and

and religion?

it only holds infrequent modern temple with officservices. One early 20th century synagogue is left in Chelsea as a national historic site. There are no Jewish institutions remaining in East Boston. In Everett, one synagogue remains and it holds services only one Friday night a month. Just prior to the pandemic, the last synagogue in Revere ceased operation. In all the northern sub-

urbs of Greater Boston, the one remaining organization that offers Jewish religious services on a weekly basis, on Jewish holidays and which also provides a Hebrew education for Jewish children is Temple Tifereth Israel of Winthrop. The Temple began its existence in September of 1912 under the name Tifereth Israel Congregation of Winthrop. In 1915, the corner stone of a new synagogue was laid and a year later, 1916, the

first services were held in a new synagogue. Some 50 years later, it was clear that a new and

larger facility was needed

and in a 1966, a bigger and

es, library, Hebrew School classrooms and other facilities was dedicated as Temple Tifereth Israel of Winthrop. Then, another 50 years

later, it was realized that an update was needed. This modernization was completed in 2013, a century of Tifereth Israel Congregation of Winthrop"

after the original creation As with most other religious institutions, the Coronavirus pandemic necessitated a drastic change in day-to-day operation. For many months, Temple Tifereth Israel was closed. The Hebrew School ceased to hold classes. Instead of on-site services, online services were conducted via Zoom. This continued through the Spring of 2021 when the pandemic began to ease. Slowly, the temple began its return to "normal", first with limited on-site services. Then the Covid-19 restrictions were lifted and now, Temple

Tifereth Israel has returned

to full operation. The Tem-

ple is now preparing for the Jewish New Year which begins on the evening of

Labor Day in September. With so many of the institutions of Jewish northern Great Boston having closed, Temple Tifereth Israel of Winthrop is committed to picking up the slack and providing a comprehensive Jewish resource, not just for Winthrop, but also for Winthrop's surrounding communities of Chelsea, East Boston, Everett, and Revere. The Temple is planning an open house for those interested to meet with temple members and staff, tour the facilities (93 Veterans Road, Winthrop) and learn about activities and programs. Information will be available at: 617-846-1390 (phone), jewish-winthrop.org (web site), ttiwintthrop@gmail. com (email), and facebook.com/ttiwinthrop (facebook). Burton Figler is from

Temple Tifereth Israel.

LaMattina endorses Murphy for City Council At-Large

Former Boston City Council Vice President Sal LaMattina, who represented East Boston, Charlestown, and North End during his time in office, announced his endorsement on Friday of Erin Murphy for an At-Large City Councilor seat, saying that Erin embodied the same spirit of public service he brought to his career.

"Erin is not only the type of public servant our city needs, she's the type of person we need more of," said LaMattina, who served on the Council from 2006 until 2017. "She understands that Boston's strength lies in our neighborhoods, all of them. And she knows that the best way to move Boston forward is for all of us to pull together. I can't imagine a better addition to the Council to represent all of our neighborhoods.

A lifelong resident of East Boston and Chair of the Ward 1 Democratic Committee, LaMattina served in the administrations of both Mayor Raymond L. Flynn and Mayor Thomas M. Menino before winning election to the Council in 2006.

"I'm honored by Councilor LaMattina's endorsement," Erin said. "There's



Former Boston City Council Vice President Sal LaMattina and Erin Murphy.

does and his confidence in me is a great feeling. When he stepped down from the Council, Councilor LaMattina made the point that he had been available 24/7 for his entire 30 years working for Boston. That's a tremendous commitment and an inspiring model, and that's the type of At-Large City Councilor I will be."

From 1985 until 1987. Councilor LaMattina worked at the Crossroads Family Shelter in East Boston, then joined the Mayor's Office of Neighborhood Services as the Neighborhood Liaison to work on the City of Boston Central Artery Team, helping mitigate construction impacts to Boston residents and businesses.

He served as Director of Operations in the Boston Transportation Department until winning election to the Council in 2006. He is a member of the East Boston Project Advisory Committee and is the Founder of Eastie Pride Day.

"Erin has already spent her life in service," Councilor LaMattina said. "She taught in the Boston Public Schools for 22 years and she raised her kids in the city as a single mother. Adding her voice to the Council would be an asset for all Bostonians, in every neighborhood."

Erin's campaign has been gathering steam this summer, with a string of high-profile endorsements and a surge in grassroots support and volunteerism across the city. Erin has also been endorsed by, among others, State Representatives Dan Hunt, Ed Coppinger, and Dan Ryan, City Councilor Frank Baker, Register of Deeds Stephen J. Murphy, the Massachusetts Nurs-Association, Boston Firefighters Local 718, Laborers Local 223, the ton EMS.

A lifelong Dorchester resident, Erin has centered her campaign around being Boston's go-to call at City Hall.

Erin's vision for Boston and her campaign are built on her core beliefs:

- Thriving, best-in-class public schools for every student in every neighbor-• A friendlier city for
- seniors, with a more compassionate policy focus • Stronger outreach to veterans, out of respect for
- their service and supporting their needs • Safer streets and policing across the City, priori-
- tizing community policing All hands-on-deck to pull us out of the pandem-
- ic, particularly our most vulnerable

• Reducing income inequality by promoting good jobs for all Bosto-

Erin and Councillor La-Mattina plan to campaign and hold events together prior to the Sept. 14th primary, when Boston voters can select four candidates to fill the four At-Large seats on the Boston City Council. And Erin will continue campaigning across the city as she works to Bring Boston

the North End and East Massachusetts Women's no one who knows city government better than he Boston. Then he went to Political Caucus, and Bos-Back. Together. Councilor Baker endorses Spillane for Boston City Council At-Large Boston City Councilor has been on the front-line ane becomes one of just

Frank Baker (District 3) announced his endorsement of Jon Spillane for Boston City Council At-Large.

"As someone who has been acutely focused on delivering services to unhoused Bostonians and those dealing with substance use disorders, I am proud to endorse Jon Spillane for Boston City Council due to his experience creating affordable housing and leading budget and constituent service initiatives at the City Council," Councilor Baker said. "Jon supports re-opening Long Island, Shattuck utilizing the Hospital, and building bridges with our state and federal government are crucial tools in our efforts to house our neighbors and deliver supportive services. Jon will be ready on day one to generate real solutions to the greatest issues facing our City at this critical moment."

"I am honored to earn Councilor Baker's endorsement," Jon Spillane said. "Councilor Baker

of addressing Boston's opioid crisis and related issues of homelessness and substance use disorders for decades, and I am ready to partner with him to ensure that the next City Council provides treatment and housing to all of

With Councilor Baker's endorsement, Jon Spill-

our neighbors in need."

two At-Large Boston City Council candidates to earn the support of more than one sitting City Councilor. Last week, Jon announced endorsements from Councilor Kenzie Bok, Representative Jay Livingstone, and Senator Joe Boncore.

In addition to the crowded Mayoral election, five of the Boston City Council's thirteen members are not running for re-election, leaving three district council seats and two At-Large seats open. The next Council will not only play a major role in the COVID-19 recovery, but will also be in charge of re-drawing council district lines based on the 2020 census results.



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



The Joys and Challenges of the "Sandwich Generation"

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2021 FESTIVAL HOURS



REVERE BEACH International Sand Sculpting FESTIVAL

FRIDAY, AUGUST 6

10:00AM - 10:00PM

SATURDAY, AUGUST 7

10:00AM - 10:00PM

FIREWORKS EXTRAVAGANZA - 9:00PM

SUNDAY, AUGUST 8

10:00AM - 8:00PM

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HED Secretary Mike Kennealy tours Eastie's business district

By John Lynds

East Boston's business district from Maverick to Central Square was the fifth stop on Housing and Economic Development Secretary Mike Kennealy and the Baker-Polito Administration's statewide small business conversation tour.

The purpose of the tour is to highlight the Commonwealth's reopening and discuss the Administration's \$2.9 billion proposal to support recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic through federal funding from the American Rescue Plan Act.

The tour started at Eastie's Cunard Tavern where Secretary Kennealy talked with owner Phil Frattaroli and ended with a roundtable discussion at El Jardin Restaurant in Central Square.

At the Cunard Tavern, Frattaroli discussed with Kennealy the biggest challenges restaurants like his face in a post-COVID economy.

Frattaroli said the biggest challenge now is hiring staff to fill the gaps left by the pandemic.

"We were lucky that we were open for the most part throughout the pandemic," Frattaroli told Kennealy. "The challenge now is hiring because some people have left the industry. With the additional outdoor seating we were able to provide and the restrictions on capacity over we really need even more staff now than we ever did."

Frattaroli added that the extensions to unemployment benefits have also kept some from returning to the industry.

"Luckily, everybody who wanted a job during the pandemic we were able to provide them with a job because we were still open and doing the pick up and delivery service at the start of the pandemic and gradually opened to outdoor seating," said Frattaroli. "But again, some decided to leave and now we need more staff."

After leaving the Cunard, Kenneally toured dozens of small businesses that make up the neighborhood's Main Streets District from Maverick to Central Square. There Kenneally received insight into the opportunities and challenges facing small businesses and entrepreneurs. He also discussed ways the Administration can partner with businesses to jumpstart the local economic recov-

At El Jardin Kenneally said over the summer he and the Administration will be doing, "a lot of listening and a lot of learning".

"As we go around the state and visit our small businesses and visit our downtowns we want to kind of celebrate the work we've done together to get through this okay," he said. "It's been an incredibly challenging 16 months. We all have worked together in a very focused way to help our small businesses grow capital and they have done a tremendous job. It's been a time of incredibly intense collaboration between the Administration and the Legislature to get things done. Together across the state we've literally saved thousands of small businesses so we

should all feel great about that."

Kennealy said now the conversation has sifted from recovery to 'what's next?".

"We are here to hear from you, the small business owners, on what are the next things we should focus on as we continue to support our small businesses," said Kenneally. "You have an incredible champion in Governor Baker and he was focused on us being the best, most engaged, most productive partner we can be to help our small business and help our main streets continue to grow and continue to get to the next level."

Kenneally said small businesses are an incredibly important part of the fabric of who we are as a neighborhood, city and state.

"You serve your customers, you pay our citizens and you invest in our communities," he told the crowd at El Jardin. "So this is really important work and we're here to listen. I'm here to learn and try to figure out the best way to help you going forward. I'm incredibly grateful and humbled that people come out and want to spend time with us and want to share their thoughts. I know you all have a lot going on running businesses and you all have things to do but it means the world to come out and have us listen to



Housing and Economic Development Secretary Mike Kennealy at El Jardin in Central Square during last week's stop in Eastie as part of the Baker-Polito Administration's statewide small business conversation tour.

your ideas and continue to work together."

Kenneally called the tour of Eastie 'terrific'.

"The best part of the job for me is getting out and getting into the communities and seeing what's happening," he said. "It's how we learn and how we develop policies and how we develop ideas in these unbelievably challenging times. The good news is that we all have worked together in different ways. We've created partnerships that weren't there before and so one of our big questions is how do we take those partnerships to the next level? How do we continue to be the best partner we can? So I loved hearing some of the ideas about what's worked and what hasn't worked. One of the things we need to focus on as we come out of this thing is growth of



Housing and Economic Development Secretary Mike Kennealy with East Boston Main Streets Director Gladys



Housing and Economic Development Secretary Mike Kennealy talks with staff at Jak's Pizza in Maverick Square.



Housing and Economic Development Secretary Mike Kennealy talks with NOAH's Latifa Ziyad.

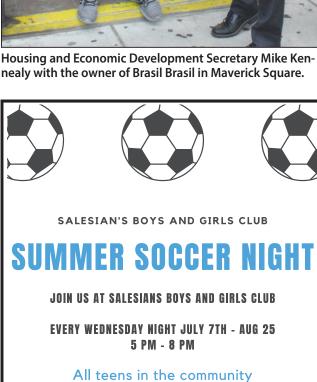


Housing and Economic Development Secretary Mike Kennealy shakes hands with members of Eastie's small business community.



Housing and Economic Development Secretary Mike Kennealy talks with Cunard Tavern owner, Phil Frattaroli, during the first stop on the Eastie small business tour.

Housing and Economic Development Secretary Mike Ken-



ages 13-19

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BBQ will be provided for all players

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Sweet Driscoll Raspberries	
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RMV announces 2021 Low-Plate Lottery

Massachusetts The Registry of Motor Vehicles (RMV) is announcing that applications for the 2021 Low Number Plate Lottery are now being accepted online at Mass. Gov/RMV using the Online Service Center. Applicants must apply by Aug. 27, and, if selected for a low number plate, will be notified after the virtual drawing takes place on Sept. 8.

This year, there are 200 plates available through the low plate lottery. Some of this year's low plate characters are 210, 2762, 1H, 24L, F1, J25 and X25. The complete list is online at Mass. Gov/RMV.

Applicants should note that there is no fee to apply. However, should the applicant be selected as a winner, there is a fee that will be required, as the fee is required of all new license plates, as well as a standard registration fee.

Customers are encouraged to visit the RMV's website or follow @ MassRMV on Twitter for upcoming details on the virtual low plate drawing. The drawing will be livestreamed and a link to the event will be made available soon. In addition, applicants will be sent a notification via email. The lottery results will be posted on the RMV's website.

Lottery Rules and Eligibility Requirements

- The 2021 Low Number Plate Lottery is online submission only.
- Only one entry per applicant will be accepted, regardless of the number of active registrations the applicant has. • An applicant must be
- a Massachusetts resident with a currently active, registered, and insured passenger vehicle.
- Companies/corporations may not apply.
- MassDOT (Registry of Motor Vehicles, Highway, Mass Transit, and Aeronautics) employees,

including contract employees, and their immediate family members are not eligible. ("Immediate family member" refers to one's parents, spouse, children, and brothers and

- Requests for specific plate numbers will not be honored. Eligible applicants will be considered for all plates listed. Plates will be awarded in the order in which they are listed on Mass.Gov/RMV.
- An applicant's registration and license cannot be in a non-renewal, suspended, or revoked status at the time of entry, the time of the drawing, or the time of the plate swap. As such, an applicant must not have any outstanding excise taxes, parking tickets, child support, warrants, or unpaid E-ZPass/ Fast Lane violations.
- Online entries must be completed by the end of day on Aug. 27.
- By law, lottery winners must be announced by Sept. 15. Lottery re-

sults will be available on the RMV website: Mass. Gov/RMV

- All winners will be notified by the RMV in writing with instructions on how to transfer their current registration to their new lottery plate. Winners will have until Dec. 31, to swap their plates. Unclaimed plates will be forfeited after Dec. 31 and the 25 selected alternate winners will then be notified as to what lottery plate they won. Plates will be registered to the winning applicant only.
- All plates remain the property of the RMV even after registration.
- All information received, including names of all applicants and the list of winners, is subject to release in accordance with the Massachusetts Public Records law.

Low Number Plate Lottery rules and eligibility can also be found here - https://www.mass. gov/2021-low-plate-lot-

LOCAL STUDENTS

EARN ACADEMIC HONORS

LOCAL STUDENTS **RECEIVE BACHELOR'S DEGREES FROM UMASS AMHERST**

Approximately 5,500 students received bachelor's degrees in over 100 majors at the University of Massachusetts Amherst's Undergraduate Commencement on May 14, 2021 at the McGuirk Alumni Stadium.

Below is a list of students from your area who earned a degree.

Marlene Acuna Carde-Anthony Robert Catino

Samuel Costa Leslie Garcia Dariana Gerardi Bridget Eileen Higgins Herbert E Morales Jr Hansen Tjo

EMMANUEL COLLEGE **ANNOUNCES SPRING 2021 DEAN'S LIST**

In recognition of their outstanding academic achievement, Emmanuel College in Boston has named nearly 900 students to the Dean's List for the Spring 2021 semester. To earn a spot on the Dean's List, Emmanuel students must achieve a grade point average of 3.5 or higher for a 16-credit semester. Local students earning Dean's List include:

East Boston

Giuliana Barletta of Emmanuel College is a co-educational, residential institution with a 17-acre campus in the heart of Boston's educational, scientific, cultural and medical communities. Enrolling more than 2,000 undergraduate and graduate students, the College provides boundless opportunities for students to expand their worldview through rigorous coursework, significant internship and career opportunities throughout the Boston area and beyond, collaborations with distinguished and dedicated faculty, and participation in a dynamic campus community. Emmanuel's more than 70 programs in the sciences, liberal arts, business, nursing, and education foster spirited discourse and

substantive learning expe-

thousands of

readers!

2-COLOR

riences that honor the College's Catholic educational mission to educate the whole person and provide an ethical and relevant 21st-century education.

MALDEN CATHOLIC **STUDENTS ACHIEVE HONOR ROLL FOURTH** QUARTER Malden Catholic stu-

dents have completed the coursework required for the fourth quarter of the 2020 - 2021 school year. The school has three categories for outstanding academic performance honors: Headmaster's List (90 - 100 in all classes,) First Honors (85 to 89 in all classes) and Second Honors (80 to 84 in all classes.) Thew following students have achieved

Samantha Seeley First Honors

Rocio Cabarcas

Rodriguez Headmaster's List Since 1932, Malden Catholic High School has shaped emerging leaders in our community, claiming a Nobel Laureate, a Senator, two ambassadors and countless community and business heads among its alumni. Annually, graduates attend some of the nation's most renown universities including Harvard, Georgetown, Brown, Cornell, Tufts, Georgia Tech, Boston College and Amherst College. Foundational to student success is Malden Catholic's codivisional model which offers the best of both worlds, single-gender academics during the day and integrated social and extracurricular opportunities after school. Malden Catholic is known in the community for its rigorous academics, SFX Scholars Program and award-winning STEM program (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) with electives such as Robotics and Engineering Design. Malden Catholic curriculum is designed to improve individual growth mindset, leadership principles, success outcomes along with integrating the Xaverian values of trust, humility, compassion, simplicity and zeal. https://www. maldencatholic.org/

State announces new funding opportunity to support air-quality sensors in communities can cause serious health is administered by Massnities affected by air pollu-

Staff Report

The Baker-Polito Administration last week announced that \$200,000 in grants are now available to communities to place 10 air-quality sensors on homes, schools or businesses to measure fine particle pollution (PM2.5) throughout local neighborhoods.

These small sensors produce data that will be displayed on the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's AirNow Fire and Smoke Map online, along with data from PM2.5 monitoring stations operated by the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP).

"Massachusetts is committed to helping commution, especially those with Environmental Justice populations," said Energy and Environmental Affairs Secretary Kathleen Theoharides. "I encourage cities and towns to partner with residents, schools, and local community groups to apply for the sensors, which will provide communities a tool to better understand local air quality and increase local awareness of fine particle pollution."

PM2.5 is a mixture of solid particles made up of hundreds of different chemicals and liquid droplets found in the air. PM2.5 is so small that it can be inhaled deep into the lungs, may enter a person's bloodstream, and

problems.

particle "Breathing pollution can result in serious health conditions like asthma and respiratory illnesses, which has disproportionally affected Environmental Justice communities," said MassDEP Commissioner Martin Suuberg. "These sensors can be used to identify sources of particle pollution so that emissions reduction and mitigation strategies can be taken to protect residents' health. We look forward to providing air sensors to help communities collect data and develop measurable progress to ensure all families are breathing clean, healthy air."

The air sensor program

DEP, and the sensors made by PurpleAir - are available to municipalities. Applications for the program must be submitted by 5 p.m. on Oct. 1. Furthermore, the Mas-

sAir Online site provides up-to-date air quality information for Massachusetts, and the EPA's national AirNow Fire and Smoke Map provides air quality information for the nation. Additionally, MassDEP is responsible for ensuring clean air and water, safe management and recycling of solid and hazardous wastes, timely cleanup of hazardous waste sites and spills and the preservation of wetlands and coastal resourc-

Aug. 1 and move up the coast towards New Hampshire with a final docking currently planned on Aug.

Community events for the public are also planned throughout Expedition New England. On Saturday July 31, OCEARCH will host a virtual STEM Education camp allowing global students and teachers alike to join the expedition in a unique way. OCEARCH has also teamed up with Cisco Brewers to host white shark party community events that will help raise money for OCEARCH's research expeditions.

The public is encouraged to follow along with the expedition in real time on social media (@ocearch) and online at ocearch.org.

OCEARCH launches white shark research expedition

Staff Report

OCEARCH is embarking on its annual ocean research expedition to help solve the life history puzzle of the Northwest Atlantic white shark.

Alongside 42 scientists and 28 research institutions the organization will collect data to support 23 science projects that will help form a complete picture of the ecology, behavior and health of the white shark in the Northwest Atlantic Ocean.

OCEARCH is headed back to the area where they first began their Northwest Atlantic White Shark Study nine years ago, off the coast of Massachusetts. But they're also expanding their area of work to reach a new part of the Northeast US, the waters off of New Hampshire. "We know the area

around Cape Cod and Nantucket Island is a summer aggregation site for the white shark. But not all white sharks in the Northwest Atlantic spend their summers off Cape Cod. A large component migrates as far north as Newfoundland and the Grand Banks, where prey species also abound. In between, the productive waters of the Gulf of Maine support the movements of white sharks, but to what degree these sharks use the Gulf is not well understood. So for

our research this summer,

we are returning to Nan-

tucket and Cape Cod, and exploring the Gulf off New Hampshire, in our quest to understand the complete life cycle of the white shark in the Northwest Atlantic," stated OCEARCH's Chief Scientist Dr. Bob Hueter.

This 22-day expedition will aim to build on the research previously conducted by OCEARCH and their collaborating scientists, while also increasing their sample size and ultimately knowledge of the overall health of white sharks in the Northwest Atlantic. With full health assessments of each shark, electronic tag application to track longterm movements, and microbiological studies of white shark's teeth and mouth to determine the best antibiotics to administer if a white shark bites a swimmer, OCEARCH's Northwest Atlantic White Shark Study is the most comprehensive, multidisciplinary research effort for

white sharks in the world. "With 70 white sharks fully worked up, tagged, and released, OCEARCH's Northwest Atlantic White Shark Study is the most comprehensive research study that has ever been done on a white shark population. In just seven years of fieldwork in the Northwest Atlantic we have taken the NW Atlantic white shark population from one of the least understood populations to the most

well understood and com-

prehensively studied popu-

lations in the world.

Peer reviewed papers are steadily publishing with over 55 published so far and dozens more near completion. We are modernizing the approach to ocean research to make it more efficient, inclusive, collaborative and open sourced. We have brought the practical and academic together for the future, for our kids. It is a privilege to be a part of it and it is a great demonstration of individuals, companies and research institutions coming together for the future abundance of our oceans. It is going to take us all," stated Chris Fischer, OCEARCH Founder and Expedition Leader.

gland will depart from New Bedford, Mass., on

Expedition New En-

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Staff Report

The Massachusetts Association of REAL-TORS (MAR) reported that this month's data supports the sustained 2021 trend of increasing sale prices for the few homes available on the market. Closed sales on single-family homes rose a total of 27.1 percent while sales on condominiums increased 60.4 percent, compared to June of 2020.

MAR data provided the following key indicators for June:

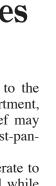
- Median sales prices hit record levels again in June; The median price for single-family homes was \$578,500, an increase of 27.1 percent, and condominium prices rose by 25 percent to \$500,000 as compared to June 2020
- Inventory for single-family homes are down 51.6 percent, a record low, and condos are down 37.9 percent from June of the previous year.
- With the steady decline in available properties, home builders are trying to meet demand; new residential construction projects housing starts are up 3.6 percent from April

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to May, according to the Commerce Department, indicating that relief may be in sight in the post-pandemic future.

Buyers are desperate to get into homes and while some are forced to wait this market out, those who are able to often bid thousands over asking. Low interest rates and limited inventory continue to fuel record high sales prices.

"The current market is creating barriers for firsttime homebuyers, who are new to this process and find themselves making multiple offers before securing a home," said Steve Medeiros, 2021 President of MAR and REALTOR at Keller Williams Realty. "For reasons such as the market conditions listed above, MAR is a strong advocate for wider adoption of First-Time Homebuyers Savings Accounts (FHSAs), which can save homebuyers an average of \$50,000 and encourage prospective buyers to be safe when making offers and avoid settling due to minimal choices. This record low affordability is precisely why MAR lobbies for fair legislation and home buyers' rights."



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John Zucarro, Sr.

East Boston AmVets member

John E. Zuccaro, Sr. of East Boston passed away on July 14.



John a US Army veteran of Korean Conflict who served with

the 24th Infantry Division. He was also part of the East Boston AmVets.

The beloved husband of the late Grace Luongo, he was the loving father of John Zuccaro, Jr. and Catherine of Billerica, Richard Zuccaro and Mary Beth of Saugus, and David Zuccaro of Boston; adored grandfather of John Zuccaro III, Richard Zuccaro and Kyle Zuccaro. John was predeceased by eight siblings.

friends Family and honored John's life by gathering at the Ruggiero Family Memorial Home, 971 Saratoga Street (Ori-



ent Heights) East Boston on Sunday, July 18 and again Monday morning, July 19 before leaving in procession to St. Joseph- St. Lazarus Church, East Boston for a Funeral Mass. Services concluded with burial at Woodlawn Cemetery.

For more information or to leave an online condolence, please visit www. ruggieromh.com.

Ariana Josephine Spagnuolo

Of Saugus

Ariana Josephine Spagnuolo of Saugus, formerly of the North End of Boston, passed away unexpectedly on July 22.

The loving daughter of

Robert Spagnuolo and his wife, Daria of Saugus, formerly of the North End, and the late Andrea "Abby"(Petrigno) Spagnuolo, she was the beloved sister of Robert, Alexandria and Nicole, all of Saugus; cherished granddaughter of Josephine and Buddy Spagnuolo of the North End of Boston and the late Josephine and Giusto Petrigno. She is also survived by many loving aunts, uncles, cousins and

Family and friends honored Ariana's life by gathering in St. Leonard Church, Hanover St. North End of Boston on Tuesday, July 27 for a Fu-



cluded with Ariana being laid to rest in Woodlawn Cemetery in Everett.

Ariana's family has requested that in lieu of flowers, memorial donations be made to St Jude Children Hospital, 262 Danny Thomas Pl., Memphis TN. 38105. For more information or to send an online condolence, please visit www.ruggieromh.



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guide, and although we cannot see you, you are always by our side. Our family chain is broken,

and nothing seems the same, but as God calls us one by one, the chain will link again.

Ma, Mark, Buster & Patti

Loved & Sadly Missed

Elaine Najaryan

OBITUARIES

Former East Boston resident

Elaine Najaryan of Lynn and Peabody, formerly of East Boston, passed away peacefully on July 21.

The loving daughter

of the late Peter and Elena (Catarozola) Najaryan and the cherished niece of Anna Kavjian of Lynn, formerly East Boston, she was predeceased by many loving aunts and uncles and is survived by many beloved cousins and friends.

Family and friends are respectfully invited to a memorial visitation at St. Joseph - St. Lazarus Church, 59 Ashley Street, East Boston on Friday, July 30 from 10 to 11 a.m. followed by a Memorial Mass in celebration of Elaine's life at 11 a.m. Services will conclude with Elaine's ashes being laid to rest in Woodlawn Cemetery, Everett.

In honoring Elaine's life and in lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, 520 8th Avenue 7th floor, New York, New York 10018, 800-628-0028, https:// secure.aspca.org/donate/ donate. For more information or to leave an online condolence, please visit www.ruggieromh.com.

Grazia Gangi Of East Boston

(Mattaliano) Grazia Gangi of East Boston passed away on July 20.

The beloved wife of the late Giuseppe Gangi, she was the loving mother of Grazia Gioioso and her late husband, Luigi of Walpole, Michelina Messina and her husband, Salvatore of Saugus and Josephine Maroun and her husband, Joseph of Walpole; cherished grandmother of Gino, Marco, Lora, Patrizia, Daniela, Salvatore, Davide, Victoria, Veronica and Amanda and great-grandmother of Lindsay, Ashley, Gracey, Gino Jr, Marco Jr, Daniel, Ava, Alexa, Jacob, Logan, Isabella, Sophia, Dominic and Luca. She was predeceased by brothers and sisters and is also survived by many loving nieces and nephews. The family received visitors in the J.S. Waterman-Langone Chapel, 580 Commercial St., Boston and a Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated in Sacred Heart Church, Brooks St., East Boston. Services concluded with interment in Woodlawn Cemetery, Everett. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to: St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, 501 St. Jude Place, Memphis, TN 38105. For online condolences, please visit: www. watermanboston.com.

OBITUARIES

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Henry Vitale, Sr.

April 20, 1935 ~ June 17, 2021

Henry F. Vitale Sr., 86, of Revere and East Boston, passed away at Mass General & Brigham Hospital on Thursday June 17 surrounded by his loving family.



A US Army veteran, started his career as a printer and worked

several years as union representative at National Press in Boston. On August 4, 1973,

Henry was elected President of the Boston Typographical Union, responsible for over ten thousand members. He led with courage, served with integrity and always acted with concern and respect for all union members. Henry was the Union President for 41 years and a member of the Executive Board in the Typographical Union. He also was a member of the Wage and Scale Negotiating Committee, as well as the Union's delegate to multiple International Conventions, President of The Allied Printing Trades Council and a certified AFL-CIO Union counselor. Henry acted as labor representative on the Massachusetts Correctional Association and served as a notary public for union members, elderly and people in need.

Henry was recorded as sole recipient of the Guttenberg Award in the history of the Typographical Union for his achievein Labor-Management Relations. This award represented his moral character, kindness and compassion for others. He lived by the philosophy to "always do the right thing, to the best of your ability." Henry was an empathetic man who related to all people, regardless of status in life.

He was predeceased



his wife, Concetta (Connie) D'Ambrosio and brother, Reynold Vitale. Henry was married for 40 years to his beloved wife. He laughed, cried and loved her with all of his heart. He was a loyal and devoted husband for all of those years, truly a beautiful person.

Henry is survived by his loving sons: Henry F. Vitale and his wife, JoAnne Shire-Vitale and John Vitale and his wife, Muna Vitale and four loving granddaughters: Bianca, Gabriella, Concetta and Sabah; his sisters: Annette Thompson and her husband, Bernie of Cape Coral Florida, Elaine Bougiouris and her husband, Koulis of Revere; his brother, Russell Vitale and Beverly Rogers of Revere and many nieces and nephews.

In accordance with Mr. Vitale's wishes, a private service was held at Ruggiero Family Memorial Home on Wednesday morning, June 23 followed by a Christian Burial Mass at St. Anthony's Church in Revere celebrated by Rev. Thomas Conway, Executive Director of Saint Anthony Shrine of Boston. Interment was at Holy Cross Cemetery in Mal-

To send flowers to the family or plant a tree in his memory, please visit our floral store: https://www. ruggieromh.com/obituary/

LEGAL NOTICES

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 TO CHANGE NAME Docket No.

SU21C0140CA

In the matter of: Kyle David Westberg A Petition to Change Name of Adult has been filed by Kyle David Westberg of Boston, MA requesting that the court enter a Decree changing their name to: Any person may appear for purposes of objecting to the petition by filing an appearance at: Suffolk Probate and Fam-

ily Court before 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 08/12/2021. This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance if you object to this proceeding. WITNESS, Hon. Brian J. Dunn, First Justice of this Court. Date: July 7, 2021 Felix D. Arroyo, Register of Probate 7/28/21

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Birthday Remembrance

Charles F. Moore "Pee Wee"

— July 17, 1936 —



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If we could only

could tell you, on this your special day. Forever in Our Hearts on this Special Day and ALWAYS

We Love You and Miss You, Your Loving Wife, Children, Grandchildren and Great-grandchildren

Davis Companies, EBNHC hold first community meeting since partnering with East Boston CD

Monday night's Αt Gove Street Citizens Association (GSCA) meeting the development team trying to construct over 400 units of housing on a series of parking lots owned by the East Boston Neighborhood Health Center (EBNHC) held its first meeting since announcing a new partnership with the East Boston Community Development Corporation (CDC).

The Davis Company and EBNHC entered into partnership to redevelop four parcels along Breman and Orleans Streets used for Health Center employee parking into a mixed-use development. The four parcels of land are located at 75-115 Bremen Street, 135B Bremen Street, 147-163 Orleans Street, and 164 Orleans Street, respectively.

At Monday night's meeting the team said they have reduced the overall number of market rate units to 356 market rate units and the CDC will now develop 70 'deeply' affordable units at the 164 Orleans St. parcel.

According to EBN-

HC's General Counsel Ernani DeAruajo, under the agreement with the Davis Company the Health Center will make around \$80,000 per unit off the sale of the market rate units. These proceeds will be used to expand and enhance EBNHC programs throughout Eastie and the other communities the Health Center serves.

DeAraujo said in return the Health Center will commit \$2.4 million in proceeds back to helping the CDC create the 70 affordable units on Orleans Street. While upping the af-

fordable component of the overall project was met with open arms at the meeting the parcels' close proximity to the Mary Ellen Welch Greenway has had community activists worried that the proposed height of the buildings would cast a portion of the bright and sunny greenway into darkness.

At Monday night's meeting the development team said they were committed to working with the Friends of the Mary Ellen Greenway and other stakeholders on how to best address those concerns.

"A big part of our focus is on what we call the Green Heart of the project which is the Mary Ellen Welch Greenway," said Pat Noone. "The Greenway is sort of the essential heart of the development and we want to be good neighbors and treat it with respect. I also want to just point out that we're still early in the process and we welcome feedback and look forward to our continuing discussions with the Friends of the Greenway as well as our upcoming discussions that we'll have with the Parks Department."

At the meeting longtime activist and member of the Friends of the Mary Ellen Greenway Karen Maddelena said one of the main concerns for Greenway members is potential shading from the larger building being proposed that is five to six stories. The development team

pledged to look at how

shading from the building would impact the Greenway and work with the community on addressing where, along the park, shading would be appropriate and less impactful.

News in Brief

PARKS DEPARTMENT HOSTS WILLIE O'REE STREET **HOCKEY CLINIC SERIES**

The Boston Parks and Recreation Department is teaming up with the Boston Bruins Foundation to host the Willie O'Ree Street Hockey Clinic Series for boys and girls ages 12 and under at five Boston parks. Learn or hone your street hockey skills at these free clinics featuring giveaways with all equipment provided. All clinics begin at 3:00

Dates and locations are as follows: Tuesday, August 17

Langone Park 529 Commercial Street, North End

Tuesday, August 24 Noyes Playground

86 Boardman Street, East Boston To register, call Damien

Margardo at (617) 961-3083 or email damien. margardo@boston.gov, or Mavrick Afonso at (617) 961-3039 or mavrick. afonso@boston.gov. The rink at Smith Play-

ground is named in Willie O'Ree's honor. The first Black player in the

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NHL, O'Ree was recently named to the Hockey Hall of Fame. Hailing from New Brunswick, Canada, he became the first Black player to compete in the National Hockey League when he took the ice for the Boston Bruins on Janu

HARBOR VIEW NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION **MEETING AGENDA** The next meeting of

the Harbor View Neighborhood Association will be on Monday, August 2 at 6 p.m. Good news for our membership as the meeting will be in person, once again, in the Salesian Boys and Girls Club Parking Lot, across from the Brooke Charter School on Byron Street.

We will also be online using Zoom for those who may not feel ready to attend in person. Please note we will not be able to broadcast our meeting via Facebook. Our meeting will be presented in English and Spanish.

Agenda is as follows: Welcome/ Introduction (5min) Announcements (5min)

Station Update (10min) Special Appreciation

Real Estate Transfers

Award to Officer Dan Simons (10min)

McLean Park Mary's Park) Update Bar-

bie Puopolo (10min) Coleridge Street residents proposal for resident parking signs. (10min)

80-84 Moore Street 3rd Presentation and VOTE. Attorney Richard Lynds for Trichilo Development, LLC. Demolish the existing two family home and erect 6 Units with 9 parking spaces. (30min)

68 Horace Street 1st Whitney Presentation Zelee owner. Proposal to renovate existing attic bathroom and frame new bedroom and closets per drawing. (20min)

1 Short Street (aka 114 Coleridge Street), 3rd Presentation by Attorney Jeff Drago for owner Joseph Ricupero. Demolish single family home and erect 9 Units with 8 parking spaces. (30min).

Our next meeting will be on September 13, 2021. Please note this is the second Monday of the month, as the first Monday September 6th is the Labor Day Holiday. Visit us at http://www.facebook.com/groups/harborviewna or check our website:(harborvieweastboston.com).

Nearly 500,000 hotel jobs won't return by year's end over the past two years AHLA. "Hotels and their

Midway through 2021, a new report and stateby-state job loss breakdown released by the American Hotel and Lodging Association (AHLA) found that while leisure travel is starting to return, the hotel industry's road to recovery from the pandemic is long and uneven, with urban markets disproportionately impacted.

Industry projections have improved since January with the uptick in leisure travel, but the industry remains well below pre-pandemic levels. Key findings include:

- 1. More than one in five direct hotel operations jobs lost during the pandemic—nearly 500,000 in total—will not have returned by the end of the year
- 2. Hotel occupancy is projected to drop ten percentage points from 2019 levels 3. Hotel room revenue

will be down \$44 bil-

lion this year compared to

4. States and localities will have lost more than \$20 billion in unrealized tax revenues from hotels

The findings come as

AHLA and the Asian American Hotel Owners Association host their Virtual Action Summit (July 20-22), where hoteliers from nearly every state across the country are scheduled to meet with members of Congress to share how COVID-19 impacted the industry and call for additional aid by urging Congress to:

- Cosponsor and pass Save Hotel Jobs Act (S.1519/H.R.3093)
- Cosponsor and bills to estabdiem fair per rates (H.R.2104/S.2160)
- Help provide hoteliers access to the Employee Retention Tax Credit, which currently excludes many hoteliers "Despite an uptick in

leisure travel, midway through 2021 we're still seeing that the road to a full recovery for America's hotels is long and uneven. These findings show the economic devastation still facing hotel markets and underscore the need for targeted relief from Congress for hotel workers and small businesses," said Chip Rogers, president and CEO of

employees have displayed extraordinary resilience in the face of unprecedented economic challenges, but whether it's the Save Hotel Jobs Act, fair per diem rates, or expanding the aperture on the Employee Retention Tax Credit, we need Congress' help on the way to a full recovery. That's why the industry is united behind our Virtual Action Summit."

COVID-19 is the single worst economic event in the history of the American hotel industry. While the recent uptick in leisure travel for summer is encouraging, business and group travel, the industry's largest source of revenue, will take significantly longer to recover. Business travel is down and not expected to return to 2019 levels until at least 2023 or 2024. Major events, conventions and business meetings have also already been canceled or postponed until at least 2022.

the hardest hit by the pandemic, hotels are the only segment of the hospitality and leisure industry yet to receive direct COVID-related aid.

Despite being among

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EAST BOSTON SUPPORTS AT-LARGE CITY COUNCIL CANDIDATE RUTHEEZ LOUIJEUNE

Last Wednesday evening at the Cunard Tavern residents from all over East Boston came out to support At-Large City Council Candidate Rutheez Louijeune.

The event was hosted by the East Boston Friends of Louijeune which included Larry Keegan, Max Tassianri, Sandra Nijjar, Tiana Tassinari, and Anthony Gesualdi. The event also included support from Sen. Joseph Boncore, Rep. Adrian Madaro, former Rep. Carlo Basile, and former City Councilors Sal LaMattina and Paul Scapicchio.

Louijeune, a Boston Latin and Harvard graduate from Mattapan, brings seven years' experience

working on political and advocacy campaigns, fighting for working people and Black and Latinx communities on issues of housing, education access, and voting rights. Most recently, Louijeune started her own legal and advocacy business, The Opening PLLC. Previously, Louijeune served as Senior Counsel for U.S. Senator Elizabeth Warren's presidential campaign. Prior to that, she was a lawyer at Perkins Coie LLP.

The daughter of Haitian immigrants, fluent in Haitian Creole, French, and conversant in Spanish, Louijeune would be the first Haitian-American to hold elected office in Boston city government.



Rutheez Louijeune and City Councilor Lydia Edwards.



Former City Councilor Sal LaMattina introduces At-Large City Council Candidate Rutheez Louijeune.



Steve Gingras, Sebastian Zapata and Veronica Robles.



At-Large City Council Candidate Rutheez Louijeune with NOAH's Phil Giffee and Jack Scalcione.



Dave Arinella, At-Large City Council Candidate Rutheez Louijeune and Cynthia Rozzi.



Larry Keegan and At-Large City Council Candidate Rutheez Louijeune.



At-Large City Council Candidate Rutheez Louijeune and former Boston City Councilor Paul Scapicchio.



Supporters from Sen. Joseph Boncore's office turned out to support At-Large City Council Candidate Rutheez Louijeune.



Jim Kearney and At-Large City Council Candidate Rutheez Louijeune.



Jason Ruggiero, Paul Franzese, Tiana Tassinari and Joseph Ruggiero III.



Photos should be at a beach or swimming pool setting.

Please include your child's name and the paper you wish to be published in.

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date Rutheez Louijeune and Paul Travaglini.

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

But Jeffrey Galpin did more than survive

A SHORT STORY ABOUT

polio. He went on to a list of achievements in medical research—including being the

in medical research—including being the principal investigator in applying the first gene therapy for HIV/AIDS.

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

