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Wednesday, November 10, 2021

#### RESEARCH STATION DEDICATED TO KERMIT NORRIS



The Friends of Belle Isle Marsh dedicated an Education and Research Station in memory of founding member, Kermit Norris. Pictured are members of the Friends of Belle Isle Marsh along with family and friends of Kermit Norris. Please see page 7 for more photos.

#### VRCC celebrates El Dia de los Muertos with over 300 residents

By John Lynds

For centuries in Mexico El Dia de los Muertos, of 'The Day of Dead'. has been celebrated on November 1 and 2 as a thoughtful celebration to honor ancestors and departed loved ones.

The tradition spread to the US where large Mexican populations resided like Southern California,

New Mexico and Arizona celebration of parades, and made its way north in recent decades as more and more Mexican Americans moved to the East

Years ago Veronica Robles, director of the Veronica Robles Cultural Center (VRCC) on Meridian Street, brought the annual tradition celebrated in neighboring communities her native Mexico to East Boston with a day-long

food and the building of the traditional "Ofrendas", or alter, that contains the favorite foods and beverages, as well as photos and memorabilia, of the departed.

On Saturday, October 30 over 300 Eastie residents and residents from participated in the VRCC Annual Dia de los Muer-

facilitated by artist in residency Ruth Kathyn. "The team decked out the Elote Bike and set up the tables under a tent

tos Parade and festival.

The day-long celebra-

tion started at 2 pm with

an art project led by the

VRCC Dancing Elotes

team and youth from the

VRCC "I Learn America"

where dozens of community members joined in to create and add art to the Elote Bike," said Robles. "They added tributes to their ancestors and departed loved ones while they tasted free Elotes (Mexican Street Corn). This part of the event is supported by Boston Housing Authority and Mass Hous-

At 5 pm, despite some rain, families wearing Catrina costumes hopped into two floats that included festive music while some adults decided to walk wearing Skull heads made of cardboard and paper by VROCC members Mayra Gutierrez and Veronica Robles. Neighbors United for a Better East Boston (NUBE), Eastie Mutual Aid and Eastie Farm also joined the parade driving decorated cars escorted by a community service officer of District A-7.

All participants greeted people along the parade route that made its way down Meridian Street to Maverick Square and ended in Central Square Park.

After the traditional pa-

See VRCC Page 6

# Eastie voters reject Eversource's plans on substation

By John Lynds

Should Eversource place an electric substation in East Eagle Square along the Chelsea Creek, near homes, parks, playgrounds, jet fuel storage, and in a flood risk area?

During last week's Boston Municipal Election a non-binding ballot question was posed to voters here and across the city asking that very question and an overwhelming thought Eversource should not build a substation in Eastie and seek a nearby alternative location such as non-residential Massport land at Logan Airport.

During last week's election 5,755 Eastie voters voted "NO" on Question 2 with only 600 voting "YES". A NO vote meant that the voter opposed building the substation at the proposed East Eagle Square location and favored locating the facility at a secure location such as Logan Airport.

Citywide 101,953 voters voted "NO" on the ballot question with only 19,797 voting "YES". At 101,953 NO votes against the substation received the

largest single vote total for any ballot measure or candidate in Boston over the last 17 municipal elections according to the City of Boston Election Department records.

"This is a decisive win for East Boston residents and brings us a big step closer to locating this substation at a safe alternative location", said Heather O'Brien, No on Question 2 campaign leader and Eastie resident.

According to state law, a non-binding public option question may be placed on the ballot for a regular municipal election by vote of the City Council with the approval of the mayor. The question was sponsored by 10 Eastie residents and supported by Councilor Lydia Edwards, local activists and Rep. Adrian Madaro. Both the Council and Acting Mayor Kim Janey approved the measure ahead of the election.

Historically, non-binding ballot question provides information to elected officials and the public of voter sentiment on a particular issue and

**See SUBSTATION Page 2** 

# **New Coastal Zoning** Overlay District in effect

By John Lynds

Late last month, Acting Mayor Kim Janey signed a new Coastal Zoning Overlay District into effect requiring new development in East Boston and other Boston coastal neighborhoods to take additional steps to limit the damage and displacement related to the impacts of coastal

storms and sea level rise. Based upon climate modeling, 40-inches of sea level rise in East Boston so the new Zoning Overlay (Article 25A of the Boston Zoning Code) will provide new definitions and standards for building dimensions and uses to facilitate flood resilient design for new projects and building retrofits.

In East Boston the areas subjected to the new zoning include the neighborhood's waterfront along the Boston Harbor in Jeffries Point and the bottom of Eagle Hill, the waterfront areas at the bottom of Eagle Hill along the Chelsea Creek, the entire

low-lying areas in the middle of the neighborhood along the Saratoga, Chelsea and Bennington Street corridors, Suffolk Downs and the Harbor View neighborhood Constitution Beach.

Janey said the new zoning goes beyond the areas identified in FEMA flood maps, applying to areas of East Boston and the City that could be inundated during a major coastal storm event, known as a 1 percent chance flood event with 40-inches of sea level rise and promotes resilient planning and design, provides consistent standards for the review of projects, and maximizes the benefits of investments in coastal resilience.

"We must take the steps that will better protect our neighborhoods from the increasing threat of coastal storms and sea level rise,' said Janey. "By requiring developers to do more in vulnerable areas, we are protecting our infrastruc-

See ZONING Page 2



On Saturday, October 30 over 300 Eastie residents and residents from neighboring communities participated in the Veronica Robles Cultural Center (VRCC) Annual Dia de los Muertos Parade and festival.

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# Eastie's Kannan Thiruvengadam hops on the Michelle Wu Train

Tuesday, May-On or-elect Michelle Wu announced her official transition Co-Chairs, along with an initial list of transition advisors that includes Eastie Farm founder and director Kannan Thiruvengadam.

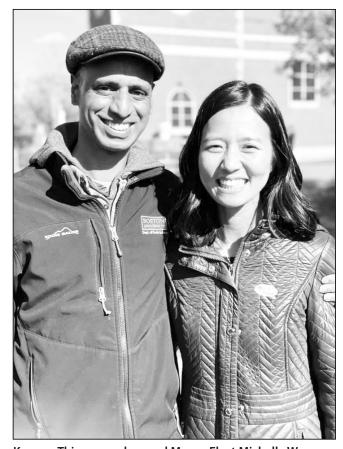
Thiruvengadam most recently appointed by Acting Mayor Kim Janey to serve on the Boston Conservation Commission (BCC) and was a featured speaker at the Massachusetts Democratic Party 2021 Platform Convention held in September. Thiruvengadam helped contribute to the party's platform, and has worked for years advocating for resiliency and sustainability across Eastie and the city.

Thiruvengadam joins a diverse group of transition advisors, who will bring a range of lived experiences, expertise, and perspectives to help advance key priorities during the condensed transition period, support the early days of the Wu Administration, and ensure close, collaborative ties to communities across Boston.

"I'm proud that the mayor elect is building her transition team ground up by choosing people from the communities so they can speak with the wisdom of all the regular folks that they can connect with," said Thiruvengadam. "So this is not like the usual elitist kind of group but it's really going out into the community and figuring out how to build equity. Being in East Boston has given me a good understanding of what an environmental justice and climate justice community needs, both in terms of protection of this community in the long term, and its economic uplifting in the short term so we can preserve the community. That knowledge, I think, is going to be helpful in providing useful input to the Mayor-Elect and her

Several years ago Thiruvengadam got a group of like-minded advocates together and lobbied for a community farm instead of another residential development.

The city handed over the land and Thiruvengad-



Kannan Thiruvengadam and Mayor-Elect Michelle Wu.

am and volunteers created Eastie Farm--a community garden that prides itself on sustainability. With Thiruvengadam as a mentor, volunteers learn about rainwater conservation, waste management, and other eco-friendly urban farming methods, all while getting to know their neighbors and having

Aside from his work at Eastie Farm, Thiruvengadam hosts "What's up Eastie?", a radio show about local issues in a larger context, at Zumix. Thiruvengadam is also a Climate Ready Boston Leader. He has a technology background, has studied climate science, permaculture, and community engagement, and is passionate about regenerative and sustainable practices in agriculture and urban design.

Aside from appointing Thiruvengadam as a key advisor, Wu appointed current Acting Mayor Kim Janey, the first woman and person of color to hold the position of Mayor in Boston, to serve as Honorary Chair of the transition. The transition Co-Chairs include former State Representative. Commissioner on the Massachusetts Commission Against Discrimination, and current Senior Vice President for public policy, advocacy and government relations for YouthBuild USA Charlotte Golar Richie; former

Massachusetts Secretary of Administration and Finance and current Partner at the law firm Hinckley Allen, Jav Gonzalez: and Noemi "Mimi" Ramos, community activist and current Executive Director of New England United 4 Justice (NEU4J).

"I am grateful to these community leaders and partners for sharing their wisdom and insight to our work in this important transition period," said Mayor-elect Wu. "This group represents just the beginning of our work to uplift bold solutions to the biggest challenges that await us, and to enlist community in the work of making them a reality. Their expertise and lived experiences are a reflection of the possibility and promise of our city, and I'm honored to have their partnership engaging residents across the city in these early days."

Wu has also announced her official transition website, www.AllAboardBoston.com, where visitors can find additional information about transition events and announcements, as well as links to apply for roles in the new Administration and provide feedback about key priorities. More information about the transition Co-Chairs and advisors, specifically, can be found at https://allaboardboston. com/transition-committee.

# Substation// CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

it seems most Bostonians are on Eastie's side when it comes to this particular

Eastie residents were promised an athletic field and natural flood protection buffer on the Condor Street property, which was City land until Eversource was given the prime waterfront site in a hastily arranged land swap with the City to build the new Bremen Street Branch Library. Eversource owned the land the current library sits on but was given city land on the Chelsea Creek so the library could be

Prior to the land swap, the City's Inspectional Services Department granted Eversource a complete waiver on basic City review of the project. The City gave Eversource this rarely-given blanket waiver without any notice to neighbors or opportunity for comment.

"Practical alternative sites exist for this substation, such as on secure Massport land at Logan Airport." added O'Brien. "We trust the new Mayor of Boston will use all her available powers to resolve this serious issue."

Boston Mayor-elect Michelle Wu has consistently stated her opposition to the substation as a City Councilor, appearing with Councilor Edwards at events and rallies in Eastie against the facility at its proposed location. Wu also signed the joint letter with other elected leaders in December 2020.

Despite widespread community opposition as well as opposition from over a dozen Massachu-



GreenRoots leader and local environmental activist John Walkey protesting the proposed Eversource Substation at a rally in 2018. During last week's election 5,755 Eastie voters voted "NO" on Question 2. A NO vote meant that the voter opposed building the substation at the proposed East Eagle Square location and favored locating the facility at a secure location such as Logan Airport.

setts elected officials the state's Energy Facilities Siting Board (EFSB) unanimously approved Eversource's highly controversial plan to build a new substation back in February.

Despite state Energy and Environmental Affairs Secretary Kathleen Theoharides saying at Monday's hearing that the substation would be placed in a "heavily, heavily industrialized area within an environmental justice community that has historically suffered disproportionate environmental harms and a heavy burden of infrastructure" she still voted in favor of Eversource's plans as an EFSB board member.

Elected officials led by US Senators Edward Markey and Elizabeth Warren, Councilor Lydia Edwards, State Representative Adrian Madaro and Congresswoman Ayanna Pressley went on record in a joint letter affirming their support of East Boston residents and opposition to the proposed substation location.

The substation is the subject of numerous pending appeals and legal challenges at the state level from Eastie residents and organizations.

The environmental justice organization Green-Roots then filed suit challenging the Board approval in the state's Supreme Judicial Court. Attorney General Massachusetts Attorney General Maura Healy declined to defend the state Siting Board approval, and the Siting Board has been compelled to seek outside legal counsel to defend their decision.

The project is also the subject of parallel appeals and legal challenges in Suffolk County Superior Court and with the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection.

## **Zoning**// CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

homes."

Boston Planning and Development Agency Director Brian Golden said for Boston to grow and thrive for generations to come, the city must ensure that buildings constructed today are resilient and protected from the impacts of climate change.

"By updating our zoning code to go above and beyond the FEMA flood maps, Boston is leading the way in not only preparing for the storms of today, but the storms of tomorrow," said Golden.

All development projects subject to BPDA's Article 80 Large and Small Project review will be required to undergo Resilience Review, and comply with the Coastal Flood Resilience Design Guidelines. In 2019, the BPDA adopted Coastal Flood

ture, our jobs, and our Resilience Design Guidelines to provide clear strategies and best practices for developers, business owners, and residents to respond to climate change.

> The new guidelines are Intended to prevent flood damage by elevating building occupiable space, flood proofing areas beneath flood elevations, and promoting health and safety by preventing uses such as living space below the flood elevation.

> "In Boston, we know that our most vulnerable communities are disproportionately bearing the burden of the climate crisis," said Chief of Environment, Energy and Open SpaceReverend Mariama White-Hammond. "As a City, we must work together to take the crucial steps to protect all of our residents from the effects of climate change. I am grateful to Mayor Janey and the BPDA for updating zoning measures to enhance our collective resilience."

The new zoning regulations include:

Building Height: Projects undergoing Resilience Review will have their height measured from two feet above the Sea Level Rise Base Flood Elevation (SLR-BFE), rather than at grade, which is what current zoning requires.

Building Setbacks:

Projects will have allowances to extend into side yard, rear yard, and front yard setbacks for structures needed for vertical circulation, such as stairs or ramps to get from surrounding grade to a higher first floor elevation. There are also allowances for side yard and rear yard encroachments for new structures to house mechanical systems to ensure they are not located in basements or beneath the Sea Level Rise Design Flood Elevation (SLR-DFE), which consists of the SLR-BFE plus one to two feet based on type of

Lot Coverage and Required Open Space: The structures needed vertical circulation and mechanical systems referenced above will be excluded from measurement of lot coverage and open space

Gross Square Floor Area: Will exclude structures needed for vertical circulation and areas devoted to flood protection measures.

Limitations on Use Below the Sea Level Rise Design Flood Elevation: For health and safety purposes, uses beneath the SLR DFE are limited to access for vertical circulation structures; flood prevention measures, storage, and parking.

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#### NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING The East Boston Project Advisory Committee, Incorporated Notice is hereby given that on **Tuesday, November 16, 2021**, at 6:30 p.m. a public meeting of the East Boston Project Advisory Committee, Inc., (aka PIERPAC) will be held at: Cathy Leonard-McLean Community Roo Located on First Floor of the Rental Car Center 15 Transportation Way East Boston, MA 02128 It is the intention of the Committee to discuss in open meeting the following matter(s) REGULAR MEETING a. Attendance 6:30 pm b. Approval of Minutes, October 19, 2021 6:35 pm 6:45 pm – Massport - Phase II 7:30 pm – By-Law - Membership Terms 7:45 pm -- Treasurer's Report (Month Ending October, 2021) a. 7:50 pm - Update - Amendment to Operations, Security and Maintenance (OSM) Agreement (continued discussion) b. 7:55 pm - Update - Massport annual financial commitment (continued c. 8:00 pm – Anticipated adjournment At the conclusion of its regular business meeting and prior to adjournment, the Board, upon a motion duly made and seconded, the Board may hold an Executive Session pursuant to G. L. 30A.s.21 upon the conclusion of which, the Board will not resume its public meeting. MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC ARE INVITED AND WELCOMED TO ATTEND

Spanish to English translation will be available via the ZOOM link

East Boston Project Advisory Committee, Inc. By: Louise Montanino, President

**EMERGENCY** Members of the Public may also join the meeting via ZOOM by following the below link https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85298601898?pwd=N3I5b2NvMVInYVJLNzJQT2g5UEcwdz09 or by dialing 877853 5247 and entering Meeting ID: 852 9860 1898 and Passcode: 609846 A copy of this notice and above ZOOM Link will be posted on the organization's website at www.EBPierPAC.org
and has also been placed on file with the Regulations Division of the Secretary of the Commonwealth by mailing same via first class mail at least 5 days prior to the scheduled date of the meet-

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# EBNHC Maverick Square Pharmacy is back and offering retail prescriptions

By John Lynds

When the East Boston Neighborhood Health Center built its Maverick Square facility a decade ago it came with numerous amenities like a cafe, eyeglass store prescriptions and, like EBNHC's Gove Street location, a full service pharmacy for Health Center patients.

However, the in-house pharmacy in Maverick Square was bought out by CVS and closed for about a year until the Health Center decided to buy it back.

The good news is, you don't have to be a patient of the Health Center in order to have your prescriptions filled in Maverick Square according to head pharmacist Carla Petruccelli.

"The pharmacy was closed temporarily because CVS had purchased it," Petruccelli explained. "Until about a year ago the pharmacy was closed but the Health Center was

able to purchase it back and reopen it. The biggest difference between the Gove Street pharmacy and the Maverick Square pharmacy is that Maverick offers a retail side, which is beneficial to people living in the neighborhood."

Petruccelli said at Gove Street a patient has to be seen by a primary care physician, get a prescription in-house and then get that prescription filled at the Gove Street pharmacy.

"At Maverick, besides having a clinical pharmacy for EBHC patients we also have a retail side now," she said. "So basically, as long as you have a legitimate prescription from a doctor and you have insurance, you can fill it on that retail side."

Petrucelli, who worked under the tutelage of Harry Ofilos at Brown's Pharmacy in Winthrop for two decades until Ofilos passed away and the old-school neighborhood pharmacy

moving into the Maverick area and could benefit from a local pharmacy that they can walk to," she said. "Our pharmacy is run like a well oiled machine because you have anywhere from four to six pharmacists during a 12 hour day and anywhere from 10 to 15 technicians. So we have adequate people at each station. We're producing between six and seven thousand prescriptions a week. So I think we are actually in the top 10 pharmacies in the New England area. The volume

is crazy. It's crazy. But it's

was purchased by CVS,

said the retail side at Mav-

erick opened last fall and

"There's a lot of people

wants to spread the word.

so efficient."

The convenient pharmacy is right on street level in the first floor of the Health Center's Maverick Square building and is open Monday through Thursday from 8 am to 8 pm, Fridays from 8 am to 6 pm and Saturdays from 9 a. To 2 pm.

"We are also offering mail order delivery as well for prescriptions," said Petruccelli. "It's through the US Postal Service and takes anywhere from two to five business days but it's free of charge. We would set you over the phone and you can leave your insurance and credit card information for payment processing and then we would mail it out to



The pharmacy is conveniently located on the ground floor of the Health Center's Maverick Square building.

you. We just started doing this about five or six months ago at Gove Street and it's been very success-

ful so we decided to add this service to Maverick as well and it seems to be doing very well here."

# Boston's official tree will arrive November 17

The annual gift of an Christmas evergreen tree from Nova Scotia is scheduled to arrive by police escort at Boston Common at approximately 11 a.m. on Wednesday, November 17. This is the 50th year that a tree has been donated and commemorates 104 years of friendship between Nova Scotia and the people of Boston after our city provided emergency assistance when Halifax, Nova Scotia's capital, was devastated by a maritime munitions explosion in the harbor in 1917. The first Tree for Boston was donated in 1971 by Joseph Slauenwhite from Lunen-

burg County. "Nova Scotia and Boston have shared a special bond for a century," said Boston Parks and Recreation Commissioner Ryan Woods. "This year marks 50 years that the province of Nova Scotia has gifted a tree, and it's the 80th year that the City has held a tree lighting event on Boston Common. I'm pleased we will come together after a challenging year to celebrate the friendship and connections between our two regions."

Boston's official 2021 Christmas tree is a 60-year-old, 48-foot white spruce tree from Orangedale, Municipality of the County of Inverness, Cape Breton. The tree is being donated by the landowner L'Arche Cape Breton Community, a non-profit organization that creates safe, supportive homes and meaningful work for people with disabilities.

"The Tree for Boston has been a symbol of appreciation, friendship and unity for 50 years," said Tory Rushton, Minister of Natural Resources and Renewables. "We will never forget the kindness the people of Boston showed Nova Scotia following the tragedy of the Halifax Explosion."

The tree-cutting ceremony will be held on November 10 on L'Arche Cape Breton's property in Orangedale. Members of the L'Arche community will attend to help celebrate the annual tradition. Due to the pandemic, the Province is partnering with Port of Halifax, container terminal PSA Halifax and transportation company Eimskip Canada to transport the tree on a container vessel. The tree will leave Halifax on November 15 and be delivered to its new home on Boston Common.

Boston Parks Commissioner Ryan Woods, an official Nova Scotian town crier, Santa Claus, and local school children including students from the Mather Elementary School in Dorchester will greet the tree at its final destination near the Boston Visitors Center at 139 Tremont Street. The tree will be lit at approximately 7:55 p.m. on Thursday, December 2, as the City of Boston's Official Tree Lighting is celebrated on Boston Common from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. The ceremony will be broadcast live on WCVB Channel 5 starting at 7 p.m.

The 80th annual Tree Lighting on Boston Common is co-sponsored by the Boston Parks and Recreation Department and the title sponsor, The Province of Nova Scotia. Amazon serves as our presenting sponsor while Bank of America and Exelon are supporting the event as key sponsors. Additional support provided by WCVB Channel 5 and the Boston Globe.

For further information, Boston.gov/Parks and follow our social channels @bostonparksdept on Twitter, Facebook, and Instagram. For more information about L'Arche Cape Breton, visit www.larchecapebreton.



An EBNHC pharmacy technician fills a prescription at the Maverick Square pharmacy that offers retail pharmacy options for non-Health Center patients.

# Eastie's weekly COVID infections increases

By John Lynds

East Boston's weekly COVID positive test rate decreased throughout the end of October but the positive test rate spiked last week according to the Boston Public Health Commission (BPHC).

Last week, 1,548 Eastie residents were tested for the virus last week and 2.9 percent were positive--this was a 32 percent increase from the 2.2 percent that tested positive as reported by the Boston Public Health Commission (BPHC) on November 1.

The citywide weekly positive test rate also increased last week. According to the BPHC 22,049 residents were tested and 2.6 percent were COVID positive--this was a 24 percent increase from the 2.1 percent reported by the

BPHC on November 1.

Forty-five additional residents contracted the virus between November 1 and November 8 and there are now 8,571 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 race.

Citywide positive cases of coronavirus increased 0.85 percent since November 1 and went from 83,646 cases to 84,353 confirmed cases in a week. There were three additional deaths in Boston from the virus in the past week and the total COVID deaths is now at 1,456.

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1	1BR	690 SF	\$1,900	120% AMI	-	-
4	3BR	1120 SF	\$1,617	60% AMI	4	2
7	3BR	1120 SF	\$2,173	80% AMI	-	-
3	3BR	1120 SF	\$2,634	110% AMI	-	-
2	3BR	1120 SF	\$2,634	120% AMI	-	-
1	4BR	1335 SF	\$1,796	60% AMI	1	-
1	4BR	1335 SF	\$2,416	80% AMI	-	-

Maximum Incomes (set by DND + based on the household size + Area Median Income (AMI))

HH size	30% AMI	50% AMI	60% AMI	80% AMI	110% AMI	120% AMI
1 person	\$28,200	\$47,000	\$56,400	\$67,700	\$93,050	\$101,500
2 people	\$32,200	\$53,700	\$64,440	\$77,350	\$106,350	\$116,000
3 people	\$36,250	\$60,400	\$72,480	\$87,000	\$119,650	\$130,500
4 people	\$40,250	\$67,100	\$80,520	\$96,650	\$132,900	\$144,950
5 people	\$43,500	\$72,500	\$87,000	\$104,400	\$143,550	\$156,550
6 people	\$46,700	\$77,850	\$93,420	\$112,150	\$154,200	\$168,150

Minimum Incomes (set by owner + based on # of bedrooms + Area Median Income (AMI))

	# of bedrooms	Minimum Income 30% AMI	Minimum Income 50% AMI	Minimum Income 60% AMI	Minimum Income 80% AMI	Minimum Income 110% AMI	Minimum Income 120% AMI
	1BR	\$0	\$0	\$42,408	\$56,880	\$68,400	\$68,400
	3BR	\$0	\$0	\$58,212	\$78,228	\$94,824	\$94,824
	4BR	N/A	N/A	\$64,656	\$86,976	N/A	N/A
nin	num Income	s Apply, Minimum i	ncomes do not appl	y to households wit	h housing assistan	ce (Section 8. MRV	P. VASH) or for the

units in this development that include a project-based housing assistance voucher. Applications are available from November 8th to December 7, 2021. To request an online application or to have one sent by email visit

www.flat9rox.com or call 617-318-5131 After careful consideration and an abundance of caution, the City of Boston has decided to cancel the in-person application distribution period. If you cannot complete the application online, please call us at 617-318-5131, to request that we mail you one and to ask us for any support or

guidance you might need to complete the application. We will be holding 2 virtual informational meetings on **Wednesday, November 10th** and **Wednesday, November 17** at 6:00 PM EST through the following link: <a href="https://www.flat9rox.com">www.flat9rox.com</a>

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# East Boston

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#### **VETERANS DAY --**HONOR OUR VETERANS

It was 103 years ago on November 11, 1918, that World War I formally came to a conclusion on the "11th hour, of the 11th day, of the 11th month."

Americans observed the first anniversary of the end of the war the following year when the holiday we now know as Veterans Day originated as Armistice Day in

The first world war was referred to at the time as "the war to end all wars." It was thought that never again would mankind engage in the sort of madness that resulted in the near-total destruction of Western Civilization and the loss of millions of lives for reasons that never have been entirely clear to anybody either before, during, or since.

Needless to say, history has shown us that such thinking was idealistically foolhardy. Just 21 years later, Hitler invaded Poland on September 1, 1939, and the world again became enmeshed in a global conflagration that made the first world war seem like a mere practice run for the mass annihilation that took place from 1939-45.

Even after that epic second world war, America has been involved in countless bloody conflicts in the 76 years since General Douglas MacArthur accepted the Japanese surrender on the Battleship USS Missouri. and millions of our fellow Americans have fought and died in our nation's numerous wars and military engagements since then.

"Peace is at hand" has been nothing but a meaningless slogan for most of the past 103 years.

Armistice Day officially became known as Veterans Day in 1954 so as to include those who served in WWII and the Korean War. All of our many veterans since then also have become part of the annual observance to express our nation's appreciation to the men and women who bravely have answered the call of duty to ensure that the freedoms we enjoy as Americans have been preserved against the many challenges we have overcome.

Although Veterans Day, as with all of our other national holidays, unfortunately has become commercialized, we urge our readers to take a moment, even if just quietly by ourselves, to contemplate the debt we owe to the veterans of all of our wars and to be grateful to them for allowing us to live freely in the greatest nation

If nothing else, Veterans Day should remind us that freedom isn't free and that maintaining our freedom since our nation's founding has required the personal sacrifice of the millions of our fellow Americans who have placed their lives on the line to preserve our ideals and our way of life.

# TIMES-FREE PRESS

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# Forum

#### GUEST OP-ED

# The experience to change things

By Anthony D'Ambrosio

The Covid-19 pandemic disrupted our community in virtually every way imaginable. It laid bare all our society's vulnerabilities and inequities, as well as the ways in which our leaders are failing in their obligations to Massachusetts residents. The pandemic also accelerated our country's shift to online learning, remote work, and virtual healthcare and legal services. Many of these changes are never going away, and we need leaders who thoroughly understand them. I am the right person to lead this district forward as we begin to not only recover from the pandemic but also rebuild for the 21st

At Yale and the University of Cambridge, I studied how periods of dramatic technological change altered America's culture and economy. My classes often drew comparisons between the present day and the Gilded Age, with our technology CEOs acting as glorified robber barons. Those comparisons are accurate but also inadequate; the rise of big

data and mega-monopolies within the technology industry today poses a truly unprecedented threat to jobs, privacy, and economic development. We have never seen anything like this before.

In my private sector career, I have worked with some of the most innovative technology companies in the world. The integration of technology companies into our economy grows exponentially every day, which is why it is absolutely vital that we have representation that understands how these companies work and how their decisions impact our communities. I am the only person in this race with the experience to secure a real seat at the table with the CEOs, Boards of Directors, and key stakeholders of the organizations that are driving change within this state and country. I have sat across the table from technology executives before, and, if elected, I will do so again to fight for the interests of our residents. The power of workers will not be ignored.

I also have a deep background in education. I have served as an elected member of the Revere School Committee, and I played a pivotal role in guiding the City through the COVID-19 pandemic. At the height of pandemic turmoil last spring, my colleagues and I posited a data-oriented approach for determining how and when to re-open schools.

During the pandemic, I made it my mission to work directly with students and school administrators on developing new strategies to overcome the many psychological and physical challenges that children face today. I have observed many of these challenges firsthand while teaching public school classes on disability and mental health issues related to social media and academic performance. That is why I joined my School Committee colleagues in implementing enhanced districtwide mental health services for students. It is clear that many of our children are suffering.

On the School Committee, I also spearheaded the creation of a citywide Equity Advisory Board that brings together parents, teachers, students, and

other community stakeholders to develop creative solutions to address educational inequities. In developing the Board, I drew on my previous experience as the leader of Dwight Hall, a 3,500-person non-profit organization. Dwight Hall's mission is "to nurture and inspire students as leaders of social change and to advance justice and service." Dwight Hall's programs strive to form a more just society that meets the needs of the community in a fair and dignified way. I have sought to continue this mission through my work on the Revere School Committee.

ucation, technology, and finance, within both the private and public sectors, provides me the experience to ensure that our Commonwealth recovers fully and that our children are properly prepared for the jobs of the 21st centu-

My experience in ed-

Please join me in this

Anthony D'Ambrosio. BA Yale, MA University of Cambridge. Candidate for State Senate.

#### GUEST OP-ED

#### Honor and care for our Veterans

During World War II, on April 9, 1942, 75,000 United States soldiers and Filipino soldiers were surrendered to Japanese forces after months of battling in extreme-climate condi-

Dr. Glenn Mollette

Soon after the bombing of Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941, Japanese forces began the invasion of the Philippines. The capture of the Philippines was crucial to the Japanese. It would bring them one step closer to the control of the Southwest Pacific. The Philippines were just as important to the U.S. Having troops in the Philippines gave the U.S. footing in the Southwest Pacific. After the invasion of the Philippines, U.S.-Filipino troops defended the crucial lands.

These brave soldiers were responsible for the defense of the islands of Luzon, Corregidor, and the harbor-defense forts of the Philippines. They fought in a malaria-infested region, and survived on little portions of food. Some lived off of half or quarter rations. The soldiers lacked medical attention. U.S. medics did what they could to help their fellow soldiers. They fought with

outdated equipment and virtually no air power.

The soldiers retreated to the Philippine Peninsula when Japanese forces were reinforced and overwhelmed the U.S.-Filipino soldiers.

On April 9, 1942, the U.S. and Filipino soldiers surrendered after seven months of battle combined with exposure to the extreme elements, disease, and lack of vital supplies. The tens of thousands of U.S. and Filipino soldiers were forced to become prisoners of war to the Japanese. The soldiers faced horrifying conditions and treatment as POWs.

The soldiers were deprived of food, water, and medical attention, and were forced to march 65 miles to confinement camps throughout the Philippines.

The captive soldiers were marched for days, approximately 65 miles through the scorching jungles of the Philippines. Thousands died. Those who survived faced the hardships of prisoner of war camps and the brutality of their Japanese captors.

The POWs would not see freedom until 1945 when U.S.-Filipino forces recaptured the lost territo-

In 1945, U.S.-Filipino forces recaptured the Philippines and freed the captive soldiers who were suffering in the confinement camps. These soldiers would be impacted by the poor conditions of the camps and the mistreatment by their Japanese captors. About one-third of the prisoners died from health complications after they were freed. (The above information is from Bataan.com).

My wife's grandfather, Lyle C. Harlow, was one of the thousands who lived through the 65-mile march and almost four years as a prisoner of war. When he and the others who survived were freed, he came back to his wife in Kentucky who had also survived and a daughter born right after his departure overseas. He returned broken, weighing less than a hundred pounds and had to rebuild his life essentially from zero.

Harlow like thousands of others, never received a dime from the United States government after his release from the military. He received some VA medical benefits and would later die in a VA hospital. Until the last few years the VA has been a

very undesirable place for medical attention but there has been improvement in

recent years. He and so many others had to rebuild their lives with no help from our country. This makes it difficult to understand how our government can consider handing thousands of dollars to illegals pouring into our nation. Do we just hand them the American dream simply because they made

it across our border? Most Americans are charitable people. We do more than any nation to help others. Yet, when homeless Veterans are sleeping on America's streets while shelters, medical insurance and even cash are made available for those who are unwilling to salute our flag, hate our culture and despise many of our values, then something is seriously wrong.

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.

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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

# Your opinions, please

The Times welcomes letters to the editor. Our mailing address is 385 Broadway, Revere, MA 02151.

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Letters may also be e-mailed to

editor@eastietimes.com. Letters must be signed. We reserve the right to edit for length and content.

#### ON THE CAMPAIGN TRAIL

# Edwards receives more endorsements

#### **HEALEY AND UNITE LOCAL** 26 ENDORSE **EDWARDS**

Attorney General Maura Healey endorsed Lydia Edwards for Senate with a canvass kick-off at Lopresti Park in East Boston. The campaign was joined by Unite Local 26, which also formally endorsed Edwards today. Members and over 100 volunteers rallied their support and then hit the doors to ask voters across the district to cast their ballots for Lydia Edwards for Senate on December 14, 2021.

"Lydia always shows up for the people she serves, but most importantly, Lydia knows that good change comes from public policy rooted in humanity. It's not enough to protect workers' wages; she protects their dignity," said Attorney General Healey. "No one will fight harder for this District than Lydia Edwards. This election matters and we'll do everything we can to make sure she wins on December 14."

"Attorney General Healey is a champion for working people and beyond, and I am so grateful for her support and excitement about this campaign," said Edwards. "This energy is the perfect way to hit the ground for the final sprint to Election Day, and as I see the strong voices and leaders who have joined us today, I am overwhelmed by your faith in me. I am inspired everyday by the strength and character and grit of the people who live here and you are the reason why I am fired up to go to Beacon Hill as your

next senator!" Standing with Edwards and Attorney General Healey were dozens of members from UNITE HERE Local 26, representing workers in the hospitality industries of Massachusetts and Rhode Island. "For our members to recover from the pandemic, we need to elect Lydia Edwards to State Senate," said UNITE HERE Local 26 President Carlos Aramayo. "We have six weeks to change the lives of generations in Massachusetts with the courage and commitment of Lydia Edwards. When we endorse, we put in the work and we will be getting out the vote – for our moms, our kids, and our future."

Edwards was also joined by City Council colleagues Kenzie Bok and Ed Flynn, as well as State Representative Nika Elugardo. A number of organizations joined the rally and hit the streets in Winthrop, Revere, Boston and Cambridge, including: OPEIU Local 453; the North Atlantic States Regional Council of Carpenters; UFCW Local 1445; Iron Workers Local 7; Teamsters Local 25;



Attorney General Maura Healey annnouncing her endorsement for Lydia Edwards.

IBEW Local 103; SEIU 509; Massachusetts Nurses Association; the Brazilian Workers Center; and the Chinese Progressive Association.

UNITE HERE Local 26 represents workers in the hospitality industries of Massachusetts and Rhode Island. Its members work in Boston and Providence's best hotels, restaurants, and university dining halls in addition to the Boston Convention Centers, Fenway Park and Logan International Airport. Local 26 members clean hotel rooms, greet guests, and prepare and serve food for hundreds of thousands of travelers to Boston and the northeast.

Prior to entering the City Council, Councilor Edwards worked extensively in the legal field serving as a judicial law clerk with the Massachusetts Superior Court and the Massachusetts Appeals Court. Edwards worked as a public interest attorney with Greater Boston Legal Services focusing on labor issues such as fighting for access to unemployment insurance, back wages, fair treatment for domestic workers and combating human trafficking. She served as the statewide campaign coordinator for the Massachusetts Coalition for Domestic Workers, which advocated for the passage of the Domestic Workers Bill of Rights. In 2015, she was named Bostonian of the Year by

the Boston Globe. Lydia Edwards is a candidate for State Senate representing the First Suffolk and Middlesex District, following the departure of Senator Joseph A. Boncore. For a full and up-to-date list of endorsements, visit: LydiaEdwards.org/endorsements.

Councilor Lydia Edwards is a career advocate, activist, and voice on behalf of society's most vulnerable. She is currently the Chair of the Committee on Government Operations and the Committee on Housing and Community Development in the Boston City Council. Learn more at Lydi-

#### REPS. AARON MICHLEWITZ, ADRIAN MADARO **ENDORSE EDWARDS**

aEdwards.org/meet-lydia.

In the special election

to State Senate, Lydia Edwards has been endorsed by House Chair of Ways & Means State Representative Aaron Michlewitz and State Representative Adrian Madaro. Primary Election Day is December 14, 2021. General Election Day is January 11, 2022.

Chairman Michlewitz said, "Lydia Edwards is an advocate who understands the power of good public policy. Just in her role as a City Councilor, she has crafted state legislation and built the coalitions around her work to secure real results for the people she serves. Lydia is an incredible public servant and I look forward to working with her in the State House."

Chairman Michlewitz serves as the State Representative for the Third Suffolk district, representing parts of Downtown Boston including the North End, Chinatown, Bay Village, Back Bay, Beacon Hill, and the South End. The current district geographic boundary overlaps with those of the Massachusetts Senate's 1st Suffolk and Middlesex district and 2nd Suffolk district. As a North End resident, he has been a constituent of Lydia Edwards since she was sworn in as a Boston City Councilor in January 2018.

In endorsing Lydia Edwards, Representative Madaro said: "I have worked side-by-side with Lydia Edwards for years now, and I have had a front-row seat to her strength, tenacity and determination. She understands the unique challenges facing East Boston and nearby waterfront communities and she has consistently used her role on the City Council to be a voice for the people. I am excited to partner with her again in the State House. Lydia has my vote on De-

cember 14." Representative Madaro had considered a run for this Special Senate election, but in mid-September, opted not to run to spend time with family, including his infant son Matteo. Rep. Madaro serves as the State Representative for the First Suffolk district, representing Boston's Ward 1 (East Boston). As a lifelong East Boston resident, he is also a City Council constituent and neighbor of Edwards.



Lydia was honored to also attend the 100th birthday party of Stanley Buonagurio at Spinelli's in East Boston.

# D'Ambrosio talking with voters





Anthony D'Ambrosio campaigning at Kelly's Pub in Eastie.

## Real Estate Transfers

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# VRCC // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

rade the VROCC offered indoor multigenerational art activities that included face painting and the making of head flowers for their Catrina and Catrines crowns and hats. Eagle Hill Civic Association members were offering a free Altar Kit to take home and printing pictures so attendees were able to place the photos of their love once on the community Altar.

The night ended up with the music of Banda DE-Zero and Ultimo Minuto, two local bands

The day-long celebration started at 2 pm with an art project led by the VRCC Dancing Elotes team and youth from the VRCC "I Learn America" facilitated by artist in residency

Some adults decided to walk wearing Skull heads made of cardboard and paper by VROCC members Mayra Gutierrez

Ruth Kathyn.

and singer Carlos Arturo that made young adults dance and sing along until 11:30 pm.

The event also included food and traditional Pan de Muerto (Bread of the Dead) and local vendors Colores de Mexico and Regalos Veroroli, The Trustees and Prestige Adult Foster Care.

"El Dia de los Muertos is one of my favorite Mexican traditions; you know why? Because it is the most thoughtful one," said Robles. "It allows us to reflect about our lives.

Also, we can share memories of our departed loved ones so we keep them alive in our hearts. This is a multi-day holiday that originated among Indigenous cultures of Mexico and is syncretized with Christianity's All Saints' Day and All Souls' Day on November 1st and 2nd."

VRCC member Daniela Gallegos added, "What they do is something so beautiful. I really feel lucky to be part of this organization and learn more about this beautiful culture, every day I fall more in love with it".

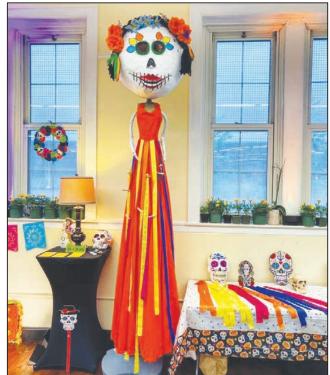
The overall intent of El Dia de los Muertos is to encourage visits by the souls, so the souls will hear the prayers and the words of the living directed to them.



Dozens of community members joined in to create and add art to the Elote Bike and participants added tributes to their ancestors and departed loved ones while they tasted free Elotes (Mexican Street Corn).



The traditional "Ofrendas", or altar, contains the favorite



of the departed. The intent of El Dia de los Muertos altar is to encourage



The night ended up with the music of Banda DE-Zero and Ultimo Minuto, two local bands and singer Carlos Arturo that made young adults dance and sing along until 11:30 pm.



Adriana Martinez, Physician Assistant

A SHORT STORY ABOUT GROWING UP WITH AN UNFAIR ADVANTAGE.

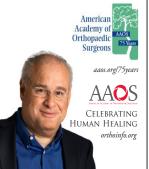
POLIO.

contract polio, Jeffrey Galpin grew up in a world of iron lungs and body casts, alone with his imagination. His story would be dramatic enough if it was just about his battle with this dreaded disease. But Jeffrey Galpin did more than survive

As one of the last American children to

polio. He went on to a list of achievements in medical research—including being the principal investigator in applying the first gene therapy for HIV/AIDS.

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





Despite some rain, families wearing Catrina costumes get

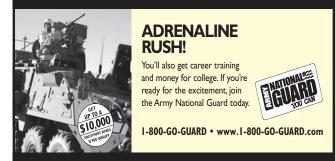


visits by the souls, so the souls will hear the prayers and the words of the living directed to them.

# Free Public talk on Eastie's "Bathtub Madonnas"

If you've walked around East Boston, you've noticed that the community has many front yard saint shrines, often housed inside of grotto-like protectors that look like bathtubs. That's because many of them are bathtubs! Most were erected by Italian immigrants and their descendants from the 1940s through the 1990s. As home to Boston's largest Italian-American population, East Boston has the city's highest prevalence of front yard shrines - most of them dedicated to the Virgin Mary (known in Italian as La Madonna). Come learn about the history and significance of these creative devotional expressions at a free online talk sponsored by the Friends of the East Boston Library on Nov. 18th at 6:30. The talk will feature

Rutgers Professor of Journalism and Media Studies, Regina Marchi, Ph.D., herself a fourth generation East Bostonian. She will speak about her research on these shrines and how their meanings have evolved over time, signifying different things for different people (ranging from religious faith and Italian pride, to nostalgia for the past). Dr. Marchi's research on East Boston's yard shrines has been published in Visual Communication Quarterly and the Fall 2021 edition of Primo magazine. This is a live, virtual talk that will take place over the video conferencing platform Zoom. Pre-registration is required. To register, please email the E.B. Public Library (Librarian Margaret Kelly) at: mkelly@bpl.org or call 617- 569-0271.



## Friends of Belle Isle Marsh dedicate research station to Kermit Norris

By Marianne Salza

The Friends of Belle Isle Marsh dedicated an Education and Research Station in memory of founding member, Kermit Norris, a pioneer advocate for the conservation of Belle Isle Marsh. Following the November 6 ceremony, friends and family joined for refreshments and a walk through the meadow.

"I wish Kermit could be here because the research station would give him extraordinary pleasure," said Norris' wife, Debbi, who generously donated funds to build the shed. "Kermit's relationship with Belle Isle Marsh and its importance to the local environment were ever-present in his mind. This is a reason to celebrate."

Norris, an East Boston resident, served as the president of Friends of Belle Isle Marsh during its conception in 1985, during a time when the land was abandoned and unhealthy. Belle Isle Marsh was surrounded by a dilapidated metal fence, and littered with beer cans and fast food wrappers. Plastic bags were stuck on the branches of trees.

Norris' friend and founding member, Gail

Miller, described him as warm, knowledgeable, and passionate about preserving the environment. Norris was committed to protecting the "finned, furry, and feathered friends" that live in the park's habitat.

"Kermit relished giving tours," said Miller, who remembers first meeting Norris during his presentation of exotic birds living in Belle Isle Marsh. "You felt his passion for this sacred environment, which he hoped to inspire others with. Kermit believed this place had to be protected for current residents and generations to follow."



Turning of Refinit Norths with members of the Friends of Belle Isle Marsh



band, Kermit.



Mary Mitchell, President of the Friends of Belle Isle Marsh Gail Miller, friend of Norris' and member of the Friends of Belle Isle Marsh.



Debbi Norris, wife of Kermit Norris, in front of The Belle Isle Marsh Education and Research Station.



Sean Riley, Forest and Park Supervisor for the Department of Conservation and Recreation.

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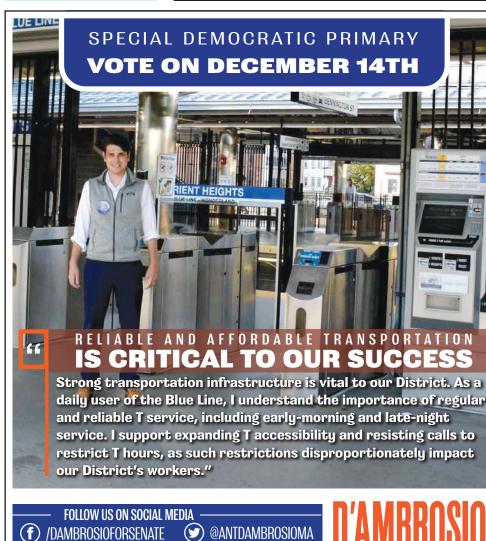
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#### HAPPY 100TH, FLORENCE





Florence (DeAngelis) D'Avella celebrated her 100th Birthday on November 8. There was a big family reunion at the Antique Table. Special guest Lydia Edwards arrived to present Florence with two proclamations from Boston and

#### "BEAM ME TO RINO'S, SCOTTY!"



Legendary Star Trek actor William Shatner poses with staff from Rino's Restaurant over the weekend. The longtime actor who portrayed Captain Kirk fame was in town for Comic Con in Rhode Island but stopped in for an Italian meal at the famed Eastie restaurant before heading to tLogan Airport.

# Star Trek legend William Shatner dines at Rino's

By John Lynds

William Shatner, aka Captain Kirk to the legions of Star Trek fans, was in New England over the weekend and appeared at Rhode Island's Comic Con.

However, before his flight out of Boston from Logan Airport the longtime Star Trek actor dined

at the famed Boston Italian Restaurant Rino's Place on Saratoga Street.

Shatner, who also played TJ Hooker and hosted the long-running reality TV show "Rescue 911" in the 80s and 90s, ordered grilled octopus, littlenecks in red sauce, stuffed eggplant, and pasta primavera before departing for his flight out of town.

Rino's manager Cheryl Breault said Shatner was the 'nicest man' and posed for photos with staff and fans after coffee and des-

Shatner played the beloved space captain James T. Kirk alongside Boston native Leonard Nimoy as Spock during the original Star Trek TV show in the

1960s. Shatner reprised his role during several motion pictures from the late 1970s to the early 1990s.

Shatner was recently back in the news as he became the oldest person in space during the Oct. 13 flight aboard a fully automated capsule built by Amazon founder Jeff Bezos's Blue Origin company.

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#### News in Brief

#### NO MAIL ON **THURSDAY**

There will be no regular mail delivery or retail services available on Thursday, November 11, as postal employees across the commonwealth celebrate Veterans Day, but our carriers will be delivering Priority Express and other guaranteed next day services.

As one of the nation's largest employers of veterans, the Postal Service is proud to honor the men and women who have served our country in the armed services abroad and at home and stand ready to assist them with re-entry into the workforce. Visit usps.com/careers for details.

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

#### WINARC ANNUAL **OPEN MEETING**

WINARC is an organization that strives to enhance the lives of individuals with disabilities who live in Winthrop, Revere, East Boston, and Chelsea. It offers several programs: Special Olympics, WINARC on the Road, basketball, soccer, T-Ball, bowling, Fun Friday events, dances, and outings.

It will be holding its annual meeting on Zoom on Thursday, November 18 at 7PM. Participants can learn about current programs, meet WINARC board members, and make suggestions on ways to improve WINARC. The meeting is open to everyone: parents, guardians,

group home staff, volunteers, and participants. WINARC would like to hear from members of the community and respond to their input.

To join the Zoom meeting, send an email in advance to winarc1@gmail. com. You will be sent an email invite to join the

#### DANCE-A-THON

On Sunday, November 21, local dancing schools and teams will join together to host the fifth Annual "Dance for Dana" Dance-A-Thon to benefit Dana-Farber Cancer Institute. Nicole Paolo founded the event in 2017 in honor of those who courageously fight or have lost their battle to cancer. The event exemplifies dancing for a purpose, an important philosophy for the "Dance for Dana" team.

The "Dance for Dana"

Dance-A-Thon is a fun, finessed-based event for dancers of all ages and levels that instills the importance of coming together as a community to help others. The event will be held virtually this year to ensure the safety of all dancers and instructors. There will be live dance performances, follow-along routines, event day drawings, and prizes for the top earning dancing schools.

Over the last four years, the event collectively raised over \$99,000 for vital cancer care and research at Dana-Farber Cancer Institute.

"Dance for Dana" was also awarded the "Team Spirit Award" by the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute Event Fundraising team. This award is given in recognition of the event's outstanding contributions to Dana-Farber and the Jimmy Fund. The Team Spirit Award is awarded to an event in recognition of its mission to move and to inspire members of the community to support the mission of Dana-Farber. As we embark upon

the holiday season, please consider giving back by making a monetary donation or donating an auction item to the event. Cancer patients need our help now more than ever as they face new pressures and vulnerabilities brought forth by COVID-19. Dana-Farber is continuing to do everything it can to ensure patients and families - and the brave staff who care for them - are kept as safe as possible.

You can register to participate and or donate directly by visiting: https:// dancefordana.weebly. com. All donations are appreciated immensely, and one hundred percent of all money raised is given directly to Dana-Far-

For more information, please email dancefordanafarber@gmail.com.

#### EAST BOSTON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE COMMEMORATES VETERANS DAY

The East Boston Chamber of Commerce will be placing a display of American flags to commemorate the upcoming Veterans Day on Thursday, November 11, at the Daniel H. Solari Square outside the Chamber of Commerce office at 464

Bremen Street.

Veterans Day celebrates

the bravery and sacrifice of all United States' veterans. It was originally known as "Armistice Day" which began on the one-year anniversary of when the agreement to cease fire was made to end World War I. Please note that the flags are for display purposes. If anyone wishes to obtain a flag, please feel free to contact the Chamber at eastbostonchamber. com to purchase a flag. You can take a selfie of yourself or others with the flag display and post it on social media with the hashtag #eastbostonchamber to enter in a raffle for a free US flag like those found in the display.

We will nounce the winner on the East Boston Chamber of Commerce Facebook Page.

#### YOU ARE INVITED TO A TIMELY BOOK DISCUSSION

When the planes hit the twin towers on 911, a world-famous English theologian, Rowan Williams, was preparing a lecture in a church 2 blocks

His experiences that day and in days day following, led to Writings In the Dust, a slender book in which he anguishes over how we will respond.

His wrestlings foreshadow all that has happened since. In the words of one commentator "Writing in the Dust" offers spiritual direction to all who struggle to discern "how faith might begin to think and feel its way through the nightmare." Another said the book probes whether

"would we be able to let some of our demons walk away?"

The U.S recent exit from Afghanistan offers a timely moment to look back through Wiliams' prescient reflections in Writings in the Dust.

Order your copy now - probably kindlegather with others for 2-3 sessions of looking back at our 20 years since with the questions he raised. We will meet on TUES-

DAY evenings starting NOVEMBER 30 at 7:30 ZOOM address will be provided. Contact

28 Paris Street East Boston. (857)

Don Nanstad, Pastor

Our Saviour's Lutheran

210-3634 denanstad@ gmail.com

#### SACRED HEART PARISH ANNUAL **BAZAAR**

Sacred Heart Parish is hosting its annual bazaar on Nov 20. Can you place the following info in the community briefing section fir the next two weeks?

Sacred Heart Parish will host its annual Christmas Bazaar on Saturday, November 20 from 11: 00 a.m to 5:00 p.m in the parish hall at 303 Paris Street, East Boston. Pancake breakfast

with Santa Claus from 11:00a.m. to noon.

Delicious food, raffles, 50/50, vendor tables with handmade crafts, toy game, homemade baked items, second hand items for sale and big ticket raffles with some great priz-

#### **JEFFRIES POINT MEETING AGENDA**

AGENDA (subject to

Greetings & Announce-

Boston Police Update Sheriff Steve Tompkins - Update on Mass & Cass

State Senate Candidates - Anthony D'Ambrosio & Lydia Edwards 362 Sumner St - VOTE

- Confirm occupancy as a one family dwelling and change to a three family dwelling. Extend living space to the basement, erect a third story and rear addition, and renovate. Property Owner: Stan Kelbaner. Represented by: Jeff Drago, Esq. & GCD

Architects. 2-12 Jeffries Street -VOTE - Erect a (4) story, LEED certified, commercial building with parking. Jeffries Yacht Club -VOTE - Liquor License,

2nd presentation As a reminder, all questions will be handled via the Zoom chat feature. We

ask all attendees to remain muted unless called upon to speak. Looking forward to "seeing" you all there! We are using eBal-

lot to manage the voting process. Within 48 hours after the meeting, eligible voters will be emailed a link that will allow them to vote online. All votes must be cast by Friday, November 12th at 7pm. Late votes will not be accepted, no exceptions.

We hope you and your loved ones are well. We are all in this together as neighbors and friends. Please don't be afraid to reach out.

2021 meeting dates are posted at jeffriespoint.org.

#### **NEWS FROM AROUND** THE REGION

#### **SUBCOMMITTEE HEARS ABOUT** ARPA SPENDING

CHELSEA - A City Council subcommittee met to hear more about Chelsea's American Recovery Plan Act (ARPA) Community Advisory Committee, a 20-member board that will help dictate how the city can best use \$15 million in federal Covid-19 relief funds.

Most of the questions from the councillors, however, were about the balance of the federal relief funds, about \$25 million, that City Manager Thomas Ambrosino said he is earmarking for future capital improvement projects.

Ambrosino said he anticipates the \$25 million will fall under the "lost revenue" portion of the ARPA relief funding, while the advisory council will make recommendations on priorities and strategies to spend the \$15 million on areas such as home ownership and rental assistance, small business programs, and mental and behavioral health programs.

"I have carved that amount (\$25 million) out to put in the lost revenue bucket, with a commitment to the (city) council that will be recommending that we spend that on capital projects," said Ambrosino. "We have hundreds of millions of dollars of capital projects."

In the FY 23 Capital Improvement Plan, Ambrosino said there is currently \$17 million anticipated in capital improvement proj-

"It will be a real benefit to the city to use cash views with city residents

as opposed to borrowing; it will make our financial position much better in the future," said Ambrosino.

The money that falls under the purview of the community advisory council is reasonably broad and falls in line with many of the things the City Council has already agreed to spend Covid relief funds on, said the City Manager. "To engage the commu-

nity, we've put together this ARPA community engagement process and created this ARPA Community Advisory Committee for the purpose of having that committee oversee a process and eventually make recommendations to me for how they wish to spend that money," said Ambrosino. "Frankly, I don't expect any real surprises. I do expect they are going to make recommendations to spend those dollars in some of the same broad categories that the council previously recommended, with some minor tweaks here and there." While the advisory

committee can make recommendations on what areas it would like to see the money spent on, such as rental assistance or behavioral health programs, Ambrosino said it can not recommend specific organizations that can receive the money. Those recommendations will be made by Ambrosino and approved by the City Coun-

The advisory committee recently held its first meeting, and plans to hold a total of seven meetings, along with several community forums and inter-

and agencies, before presenting its findings by the end of February. Council President Roy

Avellaneda circled back to the \$25 million in Covid funds that will be used for capital projects, and asked Ambrosino what projects were on the table.

Ambrosino said when the next five-year capital improvement plan is presented to the City Council next year, there will be a column that designates projects that will be paid for through the ARPA

Some of those potential projects include upgrades at Veterans Field and Car-"There are all these

things the school department has wanted to do, and we've held off because we really can't afford these things, and now some of these things will be affordable," said Am-District 1 Councillor

Todd Taylor brought up the possibility of funding a long talked about municipal parking garage. Ambrosino said that

while that project might not be at the top of the list, the ability to pay cash for other capital projects could help make a parking project a reality sooner rather than later. He also noted that if the City Council decides it wants to use some of the \$25 million for programs outside of capital projects, he would listen to that. However, Ambrosino

said he believes many of the items outside of capital projects can be addressed by the advisory committee's recommendations for the use of the \$15 million

in ARPA funds.

#### **DEMARIA RE-ELECTED** AS MAYOR

**EVERETT** More than 31% or 7,298 eligible Everett voters went to the polls on Tuesday and gave a vote of approval to incumbent Mayor Carlo DeMaria in his bid for re-election.

With a 51% to 48% margin, DeMaria with 3,735 votes, cruised to his sixth term in the corner office on the third floor at City Hall, topping Ward One Councilor Fred Capone with 3,525, who was seeking to unseat DeMaria.

In other election results, both incumbent City Councillors at Large, MIchael Marchese with 3,402 and John Hanlon with 3,248 were returned to the City Hall Chamber and will be joined by new councillors Stephanie Smith with 3,421, Richard Dellisola, Jr. with 2,104 and Irene Cardillo with 1,987 votes. In the Council Ward

races, both Councillor at-Large Wayne Matewsky with 691 votes, who was running in Ward 1, and Ward 2 Councillor Stephanie Martins with 772 votes were unopposed. In Ward 3, Councillor

Anthony DiPierro with 791 votes handily topped Darren Costa with 428 votes. In Ward 4, Councillor Jimmy Tri Le also easily defeated challenger Holly Garcia with 754 to 461 votes. In Ward 5, Vivian Nguyen took the Ward 5 Council Race with 711 to incumbent Councilor Councilor Rosa DiFlo-

rio 442 votes. In Ward 6,

longtime business owner Alfred Lattanzi easily beat Ross Pietrantonio with 737 to 385 votes.

The School Committee at Large race saw incumbents Cynthia Sarnie with 2.997 votes and Samantha Lambert with 2,584 votes returned to office. They will be joined by newcomer Joseph LaMonica with 2,503 votes.

In the School Committee Ward races, both of the incumbents, Ward 1 School Committeewoman Millie Cardillo with 657 votes and Ward 5 Committeeman Marcony Almeida Barros with 806 votes ran unopposed. Committee School

Ward 2 had an open seat and was being sought by Caitlin Steinberg and Jason Marcus. Marcus took the top vote, 492 to 468. In Ward 3, another open seat was being contested by Samantha Hurley and Jeanne Cristiano who went on to win the vote, 598 to 569. In the Ward 4 School

Committee contest, incumbent Dana Murray was being challenged by Michael Mangan who took the seat with a vote of 637 to 506. In Ward 6, where an open seat existed, Michael McLaughlin and Catherine Tomassi Hicks were vying for the seat, with McLaughlin winning the vote 603 to

#### **NICHOLSON ELECTED MAYOR**

LYNN - Jared Nicholson came to Lynn in 2014 after graduating from Harvard Law School and prior to that, Princeton Univer-

sity, with highest honors. He founded a legal aid practice in Lynn that provided free legal advice to low-income entrepreneurs

and small businesses. Seven years later, Nicholson has been elected the new mayor of Lynn, having earned an impressive victory in the city election Tuesday.

Nicholson, 35, received 7,962 votes to defeat Darren Cyr, a long-time Ward 3 city councillor and current president of the City Council, who received 4,532 votes.

Nicholson will be inaugurated as mayor of Lynn in January, succeeding Mayor Thomas McGee, who decided not to see re-election to a second

Nicholson celebrated his victory with his supporters at Trio's Restaurant on Market Street. "It feels amazing to be

elected mayor," said Nicholson. "We had a great time [at Trio's], and it was such a great opportunity to thank our supporters and to celebrate a really exciting result." Nicholson, who is

in his third term on the Lynn School Committee, launched his campaign for mayor in March. He finished first in the Sept. 14 preliminary election, with Cyr taking second place. School Committee member Michael Satterwhite finished third in the elec-"When I found out Tom

wasn't running, I felt like it was the right moment for me to step up," said Nicholson. Nicholson assembled a

See REGION Page 10

# Baker nominates McClenon as Associate Justice of the Boston Municipal Court

Governor Charlie Baker nominated Stephen W. McClenon as Associate Justice of the Boston Municipal Court. Attorney McClenon has over 25 years of legal experi-

"Attorney McClenon possesses decades of experience at trial both as a defense attorney and as a prosecutor, " said Governor Charlie Baker. "I am pleased to submit this qualified candidate to the Governor's Council for their advice and consent."

"Throughout his career,

Attorney McClenon has shown a deep commitment to criminal justice," said Lt. Governor Karyn Polito. "If confirmed by the Governor's Council, I am confident that he will continue to serve the Commonwealth well as an Associate Justice of the Boston Municipal Court."

The Boston Municipal Court Department has 30 judges serving the City of Boston in 8 court divisions located in Brighton, Central (downtown), Charlestown, Dorchester, East Boston, Roxbury,

South Boston, and West Roxbury. Besides both criminal and civil cases, the Boston Municipal Court Department also has jurisdiction to review some government agency actions, such as unemployment compensation appeals and firearms license appeals.

Judicial nominations are subject to the advice and consent of the Governor's Council. Applicants for judicial openings are reviewed by the Judicial Nominating Commission (JNC) and recommended

to the governor. Governor Baker established the JNC in February 2015 pursuant to Executive Order 558, a non-partisan, non-political Commission composed of volunteers from a cross-section of the Commonwealth's diverse population to screen judicial applications. Twenty-one members were later appointed to the JNC in April 2015.

About Stephen W. Mc-

Stephen W. McClenon began his legal career in 1993 when he joined the Office of the Middlesex County District Attorney as an Assistant District Attorney where he prosecuted misdemeanor and felony criminal offenses, developed and implemented trial strategy, prepared witnesses, recommended sample jury instructions, and conducted both bench and jury trials. In 1996, Attorney McClenon entered his own private practice, where he has practiced both criminal law and general civil law for more than 20 years. Prior to earning his law degree, Attorney McClenon worked as an environmental engineer at the Dow Chemical Company in Freeport, Texas. Attorney McClenon is a member of Middlesex Defense Attorneys, serving on the Board of Directors since 2010 and as its Vice President since 2017. Attorney Mc-Clenon received his Bachelor's degree in chemical engineering from Howard University in 1988 and received his Juris Doctorate from Boston College Law School in 1993.

# **OBITUARIES**

#### **Diane Nancy Serra**

Lifelong East Boston Resident

Diane Nancy (Cantalupo) Serra, a life-long resident of East Boston, passed away peacefully surrounded by her loving family on November 6 at the age of 78.

The beloved wife of the late Frank "Buster" Serra, she was the devoted mother of Rhonda DeStasio and Stacy Quinones, both of East Boston and Lisa DeLuca and her husband, Joel of Lynn; cherished grandmother of Natasha and Cassandra Quinones and adored great-grandmother of Nico and Roma.

Family and friends will honor Diane's life by gathering on Friday, November 12 at St. Joseph - St. Lazarus Church, 59 Ashley St., East Boston for a 10 a.m. Memorial Mass in celebration of Diane's life followed by a funeral procession to Woodlawn Cemetery where Diane will be laid to rest with her

beloved husband, Buster. For more information or to send an online condolence, visit ruggieromh.



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# First Year Anniversary



# **Charles** (Charlie) **DiPerri**

December 28, 1943 -November 14, 2020

Our Lives go on without you But nothing is the same We have to hide our heartache When someone speaks your name

Sad are the hearts that love you Silent are the tears that fall Living without you Is the hardest part of all

You did so many things for us Your heart was so kind and true

And when we needed someone We could always count on you The special years will not return

When we are all together But with the love in our hearts You walk with us forever

Loved and missed every day, Your loving Wife, Children & Grandchildren

# Rose Phyllis Hughes

Of East Boston

Rose Phyllis (Marshall) Hughes of East Boston passed away peacefully surrounded by her loving family on November 7 at the age of 90.

The beloved wife of the late John Hughes, she was the devoted mother of Barbara Hughes and her loving companion, Joseph Guarino of East Boston, John Hughes and his late wife, Sandra of Revere, Jodie Hughes and her husband, Alessandro Grutti of Billerica and the late Rose Patricia Hughes and Mary Jane Beamer; dear sister of Richard Marshall and his wife, Anna of Revere, Ruth Kennedy of Saugus, William Marshall of Florida, John Marshall and his wife, Nora of New Hampshire and the late Mary, Alice, Alexander, Irene, Clotilda, James, George, Robert, Mary, Eatha and Dorothy; cherished grandmother of Michael, Jenae, Christopher, Alessandro Jr. and John and adored great grandmother of Mi-



chael and Connor. She is also survived by many loving nieces and neph-

ews. Family and friends will honor Rose's life by gathering at the Ruggiero Family Memorial Home, 971 Saratoga St., East Boston today, Wednesday, November 10 from 4 to 8 p.m. and again on Thursday morning at 11:30 a.m. for a funeral service in the Serenity Chapel of the Memorial Home at 12 noon. Services will conclude with Rose being laid to rest at Puritan Lawn Memorial Park in Peabody. For more information, visit ruggieromh.com.

# **OBITUARIES**

Effective Jan. 1, 2021 All obituaries and death notices will be at a cost of \$150.00 per paper. Includes photo. No word Limit. Please send to obits@reverejournal.com

# 4<sup>th</sup> Year Anniversary <sup>[</sup>

or call 781-485-0588



Josephine (Josie) Chianca

November 12, 2017

The day you left and gained your wings My heart just broke in two *I wish you could have stayed with me* But heaven needed you

You left me with the memories And I love you dearly still No matter how much time goes by You know I always will

You were a very special person With kindness in your heart And the love we had together

Grows stronger now we're apart I know I cannot bring you back Although I wish it everyday

But a piece of me went with you The day you went away Loved & Missed by

Your loving family

# Region // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9

large team of Lynn residents for his mayoral campaign. "We put together a broad coalition and, in the end, there were hundreds of volunteers," said Nicholson. "As a team overall, in the campaign we knocked on close to 20,000 doors. I personally knocked on almost 6,000 doors.

"The response was so positive," he added. "I was always grateful for that opportunity to have that really brief window into folks' lives and what they care about and their vision for the future."

Nicholson participated in numerous debates and forums with Cyr during the campaign.

"I have a lot of respect for Councillor Cyr and his team, and appreciate his contributions to the city," said Nicholson.

Nicholson said he has begun the transition process to form his mayoral administration. As mayor, Nicholson will also serve as chair of the Lynn School Committee.

#### RIZZO TOP VOTE **GETTER IN COUNCIL RACE**

REVERE - Election night in Revere brought a few changes and some new faces to both the City Council and the School Committee.

Cogliandro Anthony wins Ward 3 seat

Anthony Cogliandro defeated Albert J. Terminiello in the Ward 3 councillor election Tuesday.

Cogliandro received votes while Terminiello received votes.

celebrat-Cogliandro ed his impressive victory with his supporters at his family's well-known martial arts studio, Revere Karate Academy.

"I'm just so proud of what my team accomplished," said Cogliandro. "We set out to do a very vigorous schedule of campaigning, and my people and I worked tirelessly, and I'm so thankful to them. I wouldn't have been able to do this without them."

The two candidates were seeking the seat currently held by Ward 3 Councillor Arthur Guinasso, who decided to not seek re-election.

Cogliandro, who began his campaign for the seat in April, said he is looking forward to taking office as the new Ward 3 councillor in January. Following the final re-

sults of the election, Cogliandro proposed to his girlfriend, Andrea, and she said yes.

Al Fiore wins Ward 5 election

Al Fiore defeated longtime Ward 5 Councillor John Powers to win the Ward 5 councillor election Tuesday.

A former councillor-at-large, Fiore ceived 908 votes while Powers 674 votes.

Ira Novoselsky Ward 2 election Ward 2 Councillor

Ira Novoselsky defeated Manuel Carrero Jr. to win re-election to the Re-vere City Council Tuesday.

Novoselsky received 300 votes while Carrero received 267 votes.

At-Large results

Former Mayor Councillor-at-Large Dan Rizzo topped the ticket in the councillor-at-large election Tuesday while Councillors-at-Large Steve Morabito, Gerry Visconti, and George Rotondo were re-elected to the City Council. Revere's Director of Veterans Services Marc Silvestri was also elected to the Revere City Council, taking a

strong third place overall. Current Council President Anthony Zambuto was defeated in his bid for re-election as a councillor-at-large, finishing sixth in the field of six

candidates.

2,186 votes.

Always a prolific vote getter in citywide elections, Rizzo received 3,184 votes to finish in first place. Morabito took second place with 2,666 votes. Sil-vestri received 2,631 votes. Visconti received 2,342 votes while Rotondo received 2,249 votes. Zambuto received

"I'm grateful for the tremendous response by the voters, and I'm happy to be able to once again serve our city and serve the various neighborhoods that make up our city and the residents who live there," Rizzo told Revere TV during its Election Re-

sults show. School Committee

Race Revere School Committee members Carol Tye, Michael Ferrante, Susan Gravellese, and Stacey Bronsdon-Rizzo were re-elected to their positions Tuesday, while John Kingston and Aisha Milbury-Ellis were elected to the Committee.

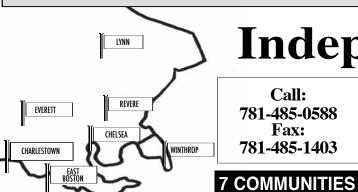
Tye, a former teacher and superintendent of Revere schools, topped the ticket with 2,482 votes. Kingston had a very impressive second-place finish with 2,274 votes.

Ferrante received 2,059 votes, followed by Gravellese with 2,051 votes, Milbury Ellis with 2,066 votes, and Bronsdon-Rizzo with 1,889 votes. Jacqueline Chavez was

seventh with 1,768, followed by current, longtime School Committee member Frederick Sannella with 1,741 votes, and Vanessa Biasella with 1,554 votes.

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#### 2021 BOSTON VETERANS PARADE

The annual Boston Veterans Day Parade, held by the American Legion and the City of Boston Office of Veterans' Services, took place on Saturday, November 6.

In previous years, the pa-

rade has been held on the Veterans Day holiday, November 11. The traditional ceremonies that the City of Boston Office of Veterans' Services supports will still take place on November 11 and throughout the en-

tire month of November, but the parade took place on November 6, to kick off Veterans Month.

The parade began at 12:00 p.m. at the corner of Charles Street and Boylston Street (Boston Common),

and then marched to Government Center. It proceeded down Boylston St. to Tremont St., then on Tremont St. to Government Center. The parade route ended at Boston City Hall.



The BU ROTC Joint Color Guard marches under a giant American flag positioned above Tremont Street.



Members of the Falcons Marching Band from Danvers High School practive flag tossing in the baseball field at Boston



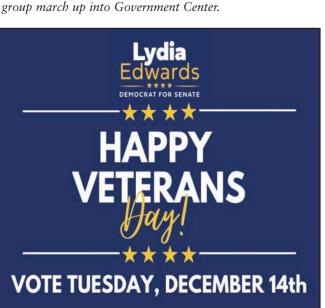
Members of the East Boston High School ROTC march into Boston City Hall Plaza, the end of the Parade route.



Members of the Massachusetts 54th Company A historical

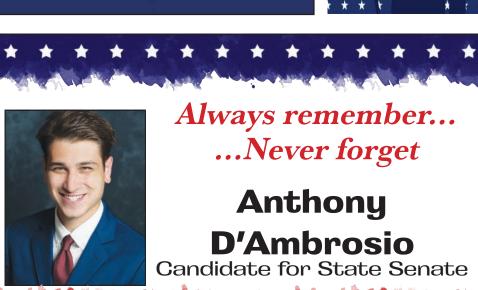


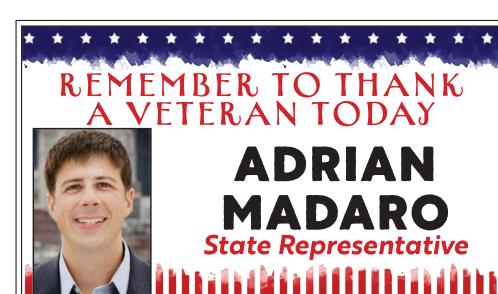
Members of the ROC Veterans Association In Boston pose in Boston City Hall Plaza.













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