

# East Boston

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Wednesday, December 29, 2021



### CHRISTMAS CAROLING

PHOTOS BY DON HYMAN

Neighbors gathered for Christmas caroling, good cheer and chatting Thursday night in Brophy Park on Sumner Street. Music was provided by Alex DeFronzo, Brain Gannon and Matt Cameron.



## Thousands of at-home rapid COVID test kits distributed in Eastie

By John Lynds

Last week, ahead of the Christmas Holiday, the City of Boston began distributing free at-home rapid COVID test kits to the Bremen Street Branch of the Boston Public Library as well as the BCYF Paris Street Community Center in East Boston with plans in place to expand the program to all BCYF sites and library branches.

Eastie residents seeking a test kit were able to obtain kits for their immediate family, subject to availability. Boston Public School students in Eastie were also sent home with an at-home test kit last Thursday with two tests to

help ensure a safe return to school after winter break.

Additional test kit distribution will employ a targeted approach to reach specific vulnerable populations like here in Eastie where 1 out of every 10 people testing for the virus were found to be positive last week. Mayor Michelle Wu said the City will coordinate with service providers, community partners, and Vaccine Equity partners to ensure direct and timely distribution.

“We must rely on testing, vaccination and other safety practices to ensure the health of us and our loved ones,” said Wu.

See TEST KITS Page 2

## East Boston’s Gabriela Coletta announces her bid for District 1 City Councilor

By John Lynds

Lifelong East Boston resident Gabriela ‘Gigi’ Coletta officially announced her candidacy for her former boss’s District 1 City Council seat on Monday. Coletta, who served as District 1 City Councilor Lydia Edward’s Chief of Staff for three and a half years, will join a growing field of candidates for the district council seat that includes her home neighborhood of Eastie as well as the North End and Charlestown. Edwards recently won the state primary for the First Suffolk & Middlesex senate seat and will soon head from City Hall to Beacon Hill. A special election for Edward’s vacant seat will most likely take place in

the spring.

Coletta, who left Edward’s office over the summer to become the External Relations Manager at the New England Aquarium, has been leading efforts to ensure the downtown waterfront remains resilient, inclusive, and accessible for all Bostonians by expanding access to the Aquarium and its home on Central Wharf for BIPOC and non-English speaking individuals and families.

“District One faces unique challenges and this moment requires an experienced leader to tackle our most urgent issues,” said Coletta Monday. “We are dealing with a housing affordability

See COLETTA Page 3

## ZipRun will soon be delivering cannabis in Eastie

By John Lynds

A cannabis delivery service that is partnering with one of East Boston’s adult use dispensaries will soon be up and running and bringing marijuana products right to customers’ front door.

The Boston Cannabis

Board (BCB) approved the first “Delivery Operator License” for cannabis delivery within the city limits. The license was granted to local social equity company, Zip Run, at the BCB’s Dec. 15 Board meeting.

Zip Run recently partnered with Berkshire

Roots on Meridian Street and will become the state’s first-ever recreational cannabis “delivery-only” retailer. Zip Run was granted a Social Equity Membership from the state’s Cannabis Control Commission (CCC) and the company’s pre-certification application to legally deliver cannabis in Massachusetts was approved in May. These licenses were only available to social equity applicants in Massachusetts.

Zip Run’s direct-to-consumer cannabis deliveries from its downtown Boston warehouse could begin as early as March 2022. With its new facility, Zip Run

will maintain a large selection of cannabis products from top cultivators in the state including flower, edibles, concentrates, tinctures, pre-rolls, topicals and accessories.

Currently, consumers can order via Zip Run for pick up at Berkshire Roots and nine other dispensary partners in Massachusetts with delivery within the city limits will come after final city approvals of its warehouse located at 1170 William T. Morrissey Blvd, Dorchester.

“This latest approval means that consumers in Boston will soon be able

See ZIPRUN Page 2

THE INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER  
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FRIDAY, DEC. 31 IN OBSERVANCE OF THE NEW  
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Lifelong Eastie resident Gabriela Coletta officially announced her candidacy for District 1 City Council.



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## LOCAL STUDENTS EARN ACADEMIC HONORS

### MIRANDA NAMED TO DEAN'S LIST

Fred Miranda of East Boston was named to the Dean's List for the fall semester at University of Maryland Global Campus. To be eligible for the honor, a student must complete at least six credits during the term, earned a grade point average of at least 3.5 for the term, and maintained a cumulative

GPA of 3.5 at UMGC.

Established in 1947, University of Maryland Global Campus is a world leader in innovative educational models, with award-winning online programs in disciplines including biotechnology, cybersecurity, data analytics, and information technology that are in high demand in today's increasingly technical, global workplace.

With an enrollment of some 90,000 students, UMGC offers open access with a global footprint and a specific mission-to-meet the learning needs of students whose responsibilities may include jobs, family, and military service. The university offers both undergraduate and graduate degree and certificate programs, including doctoral programs.

## Coletta // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

and displacement crisis, inequities in our public education system, and a significant threat to our waterfront communities due to sea-level rise and climate change."

Coletta said she is running because she will be a "bold" and "effective" advocate the district deserves.

"I will fight for the community's best interest and protect the vitality of our neighborhoods from day one," she said. "I will hit the ground running to best represent a broad coalition of residents and utilize my experience to push for bold policy solutions while prioritizing constituent services to improve the quality of life for all residents."

Coletta said she intends to utilize her lived experience as a public servant, lifelong East Bostonian, and renter as anchors for her campaign.

"Over the last decade, I've seen my neighborhood become developed with units that many individuals in this district can't afford. As a renter in this community, I was rent-burdened up until last year when I moved into an apartment with my partner, Sebastian," said Coletta. "The real estate market is increasingly out of reach for many who would like to plant their roots and grow in this district and is displacing many of our neighbors who are struggling to make ends meet. Homeownership feels so far away to me and so many people in all three communities and across Boston. Whether your family has lived here for four generations like mine, or you just arrived four days ago, you should have access to affordable options for both homeownership and rental opportunities."

Coletta said she intends to also focus on her campaign on creating and maintaining equitable access to an excellent education for all children across the district, prioritizing excellent city services by reforming Boston's 311 for better transparency and accountability, and pushing the City of Boston for greater investments in coastline resiliency to protect the district from the dangers of flooding due to climate change.

Ahead of her announcement Coletta has been garnering broad support from voters in Eastie, the North End and Charlestown.

"While in her previous

capacity in City Hall, Gabriela has shown an understanding of the importance of immigrant families not just in Boston but in the nation," said Eastie resident Ana Alonzo, a National Temporary Protected Status (TPS) Alliance organizer. "She has supported immigrant families in their fight for justice and has helped uplift the stories of immigrants that have made Boston and enriched its communities."

Coleatta comes from a well known family of activists, volunteers and community leaders. Coletta's father, Ed, was the editor of the former East Boston Sun Transcript in the 1990s before heading to work at the Mass. Department of Environment Protection. For years Ed has been involved in the East Boston Kiwanis Club where he touched the lives of countless families through volunteerism and community service.

Coletta's mother, Nina, is the director of East Boston High School's Family Outreach Center where she's worked as an advocate for parents and students for a long time.

Coletta said she grew up attending civic association meetings, neighborhood events, and even multiple protests against airport runway expansion with her mom back in the early 2000s.

This upbringing helped shape Coletta's decision to dedicate her entire life working in service to others and giving back to what she calls, "a beautiful and diverse neighborhood that has given her so much",

Prior to becoming Edward's Chief of Staff, Coletta led Edward's successful and historic campaign in 2017 as campaign manager. As Campaign Manager Coletta activated and mobilized a grassroots campaign consisting of a broad coalition of residents, unions, volunteers, and advocacy groups numbering over 500 people - all of whom felt disenfranchised by the political establishment. In the end Coletta's work helped elect Edwards as the first African-American woman to represent District 1.

After the election Coletta was appointed by Edwards as her Chief of Staff. There she centered and amplified the lived experiences of those systematically overlooked in every policy discussion, constituent case, and civic engagement initiative.

She spent the entirety of her tenure in the neighborhoods of Eastie, the North End and Charlestown, understanding constituents' concerns to build bridges between differing populations.

"This enabled me to help ensure resources were available and policies were appropriately crafted to solve some of the hardest, long-term problems residents faced," said Coletta. "I'd like to think I exemplified collaborative leadership when tackling some of our district's biggest challenges like housing affordability and development, inequities in our public education system, and the impacts of climate change on our coastlines."

Prior to Edward's 2017 victory, Coletta was Rep. Adrian Madaro's Community Liaison where she sat shoulder-to-shoulder with community members for years listening and learning about their priorities. She served as Madaro field director during his successful and contentious 2015 special election campaign.

Coletta was elected as the Democratic State Committeewoman for the 1st Suffolk and Middlesex district in 2016 and to the Ward 1 Democratic Committee in 2020.

She was also the Associate Director of the Massachusetts Women's Political Caucus (MWPC), where she furthered MWPC's mission to recruit, elect, and train women to run for office across Massachusetts while creating strategies to elect endorsed candidates for its Political Action Committee. She has become a frequent guest trainer for Emerge Massachusetts, where she advises women seeking to run for office or manage campaigns for female candidates.

Coletta said she is a "proud" product of five Boston Public Schools and graduated from Boston Latin Academy. She received a degree in Political Science from the University of Massachusetts at Boston as well as a minor in Human Rights.

She currently lives in East Boston with her partner, Sebastian Zapata, and in her spare time loves to cook dishes that honor her Italian and Mexican heritage.

For more information on her campaign visit Facebook at @GigiforDistrictOne, and Twitter @Gigi4District1.

### GIVE A CHILD A HOME FOR THE NEW YEAR

The Home for Little Wanderers is offering a required education program for people interested in becoming adoptive or foster parents in the new year. People interested in becoming foster or adoptive parents can apply to attend the free, 30-hour Massachusetts Approach to Partnerships in Parenting (MAPP) education program from 5:30-8:30 PM every Monday and Thursdays starting on January 10, 2022 and ending on February 10, 2022.

In Massachusetts, there are over 2,800 children in foster care with a goal of adoption and over 1,200 of these children have no identified adoption resource such as a relative or foster parent.

"There is no better time to welcome a child in need of love and support into your home than the start of a new year," said Lesli Suggs, LICSW, President and CEO of The Home for Little Wanderers. "Children need to know that they have a permanent adult in their life to take care of them and to help them grow into well-rounded adults. Children who grow up without a permanent family and "age out" of the child welfare system are more likely to experience homelessness, substance abuse, and be involved in the criminal justice system. The love and support of a family can make all the difference."

According to the Chapin Hall University of Chicago Voices of Youth Count report, 56 percent of Suffolk County's

## News in Brief

homeless and unstably housed young people have been in the foster care and/or juvenile and criminal justice systems.

The Home's adoption and foster programs provide all the necessary training, licensing, matching, and supportive services for families to adopt or foster. The Home encourages adoptive and foster parents from all races, ethnicities, sexual orientations, gender identities, socio-economic backgrounds and religions. Adoptive or foster parents can be couples or single individuals. Children come from a variety of backgrounds and many have experienced multiple types of maltreatment such as neglect or abuse.

To learn more about becoming an adoptive or foster parent, visit [www.thehome.org/adoption](http://www.thehome.org/adoption) or contact The Home at (617)-288-7450, [adoptioninfo@thehome.org](mailto:adoptioninfo@thehome.org), or [fostercareinfo@thehome.org](mailto:fostercareinfo@thehome.org).

### HARBOR VIEW NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION MEETING

The next meeting of the Harbor View Neighborhood Association will be on Monday, January 3, 2022 at 6pm. Please note that the meeting will be a hybrid, In Person and on Zoom. The In Person meeting will be held in the Salesian Boys and Girls Club cafeteria, across from the Brooke Charter School on Byron Street. You can access the meeting from the front door on Byron Street or from the rear door on Wordsworth Street, which is the hand-

icap entry to avoid the stairs. Since we will be indoors masks will be worn and the cafeteria is large enough for social distancing. All presenters on the agenda are expected to present In Person.

We ask for your patience and understanding once again as we try to conduct this meeting safely, for those who enjoy the In Person format, as well as On Line via Zoom for those who prefer that format.

Our interpreter, Ricardo, will be present for our Spanish members.

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

Announcements (10min)  
180 Anniversary of Temple Ohabei Shalom, 94 Cowper Street, Grace Church Food Pantry donations, 200 Byron Street Abutters meeting scheduled, 134 Wordsworth Street renovation.

Station 7 Update (10 min)  
Sgt. Cintolo, Officer Domenico and Officer Mosley.

56 Byron Street. Presentation and VOTE, Attorney Vincent DePalo for owners Steven Winegar, Steven O'Brien and Lisa O'Brien. The owners propose to pave part of their backyard to add 2 off street parking spaces to the neighborhood. No curb cut is needed. (25min)

Cargo Ventures Update on McClellan High Way parcel of land. Mr. Citrin and Mary Berninger to present proposal update on this project. (30min).

Please stay safe and Have a Happy New Year!

The next meeting of the HVNA will be on February 7, 2022.

## Violent Part One Crime down 28 percent; other Part One Crimes down 13 percent

By John Lynds

Last week the Boston Police released its end of the year crime stats that compares January 1, 2021 through December 19, 2021 with the same time period last year and found both Violent Part One Crime and Non-violent Part One Crime to be down.

Part One Crimes are the more serious crimes that the Boston Police and other law enforcement agencies track and in East Boston the overall Violent Part One Crime is down 28 percent with a few days left in 2021 when compared to the same period in 2020.

According to the statistics, there were 2 Homicides reported in Eastie through December 19, 2021. This was a 100 percent increase due to there being zero homicides in 2020.

Robbery or Attempted Robbery was down 43 percent with 56 incidents reported in 2020 and 32 reported in 2021.

Domestic Aggravated Assault is down 33 percent with 52 incidents reported in 2020 and 35 reported so far this year.

Non-domestic Aggravated Assault is also down and dropped 18 percent with 65 incidents reported during 2020 and 53 incidents reported so far this year.

However, Rape and Attempted Rape is up 12.5 percent in the neighborhood with 8 being reported last year and 9 reported in 2021.

Overall there were a total of 131 Violent Part One Crimes between January 1, 2021 and December 19, 2021. This was down 28 [percent from the 181 Violent Part One Crimes reported during the same period last year.

As for Non-Violent Part One Crimes the numbers are down 13 percent in Eastie. These crimes include Commercial Burglary, Residential Burglary, Larceny From Motor Vehicle, Other Larceny and Auto Theft.

According to the report Commercial Burglary is down 48 percent and went from 29 incidents reported during 2020 to 15 incidents reported in 2021.

Residential Burglary is down 21 percent and went from 58 reported incidents during 2020 to 46 incidents reported in 2021.

Larceny From Motor Vehicles, which was a huge problem in Eastie last year, has dropped 39 percent with 206 incidents reported in 2020 and only 126 incidents reported this year.

However, Auto Theft is up 6 percent percent in Eastie with 50 incidents being reported during 2020 and 53 incidents reported this year.

The other spike in Non-Violent Part One Crimes was Other Larcenies, which has risen 30.5 percent during 2021. Last year there were 193 incidents reported but that number has grown to 252 reported incidents this year.

Overall there were 623 Non-Violent Part One Crimes, down 13 percent from the 717 reported during 2020.

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# East Boston

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## YES, LET’S RING OUT THE OLD AND RING IN THE NEW

We often quote a verse from Alfred Lord Tennyson’s “Ring Out Wild Bells” when we write our annual New Year’s editorial.

But after reading the poem in its entirety, we are printing the whole thing, because it sums up -- better than we ever could express -- our feelings about 2021 and our hopes for 2022.

Although it was published in 1850, its verses are timeless. Indeed, one could apply every stanza to something going on in the world today.

So we hope you take the time to read it and enjoy it, as we did the other day:

Ring out, wild bells, to the wild sky,  
The flying cloud, the frosty light;  
The year is dying in the night;  
Ring out, wild bells, and let him die.  
Ring out the old, ring in the new,  
Ring, happy bells, across the snow:  
The year is going, let him go;  
Ring out the false, ring in the true.  
Ring out the grief that saps the mind,  
For those that here we see no more,  
Ring out the feud of rich and poor,  
Ring in redress to all mankind.  
Ring out a slowly dying cause,  
And ancient forms of party strife;  
Ring in the nobler modes of life,  
With sweeter manners, purer laws.  
Ring out the want, the care, the sin,  
The faithless coldness of the times;  
Ring out, ring out thy mournful rhymes,  
But ring the fuller minstrel in.  
Ring out false pride in place and blood,  
The civic slander and the spite;  
Ring in the love of truth and right,  
Ring in the common love of good.  
Ring out old shapes of foul disease,  
Ring out the narrowing lust of gold;  
Ring out the thousand wars of old,  
Ring in the thousand years of peace.  
Ring in the valiant man and free,  
The larger heart, the kindlier hand;  
Ring out the darkness of the land,  
Ring in the Christ that is to be.

We wish all of our readers a Happy and Healthy New Year. Here’s hoping that 2022 brings health and happiness to all of us.



# Forum

## GUEST OP-ED

### Our most difficult decision for 2022

moving swiftly through the hourglass one grain or second at a time.

I’m thankful for time. I’m grateful for time with my wife and each family member. I’m grateful for this moment to sit here and type a few words out on my keyboard. I suppose one of my problems is how do I fit all I want to do into my time? I guess I enjoy doing too much. If I only enjoyed doing one or two things then my time spent might be a little easier. Each day and moment I would simply devote my full attention to one particular aspect of life. Actually, that might not be a bad idea. Could I devote 24 hours a day to my family? I could, but they really don’t want me in their hair 24/7. I could devote 24 hours a day to prayer and reading the Bible or reading other good books. But then, I don’t want to be an

isolated religious person who never enjoys this incredible world or people. I could devote 24 hours a day to my educational work and do a lot of the work that others do. However, institutions are stronger and better when the work is spread around to others. I could spend more time simply writing books or pursuing other hobbies I enjoy.

Somehow, we have to determine what is best. I heard about this farmer who hired a man to sort potatoes. The man’s job was to put the bad potatoes in one pile, the good potatoes in another pile and the best potatoes in another pile. The man agreed to the job. At the end of the day the farmer came to see how his new employee was doing and he had not done anything. He was simply standing looking back and forth at

two potatoes. The farmer bewildered asked? “Why haven’t you done what I asked you to do?” The hired man responded, “I just can’t decide between the good and the best potatoes.”

Our dilemma in 2022 may not be in deciding between good and bad but between good and best. There are a lot of good things we can do with our time in 2022. Using our time to do the best things may be our most difficult decision.

*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.*

Dr. Glenn Mollette

2022 will be over almost quicker than you can say Happy New Year! Just look how fast 2021 sped by us all. Time rarely feels as if it’s standing still unless we are waiting on something to happen. Time only drags when we need something to happen like a cure for a disease, a job to open or a relative to come home. When time drags, we make the mistake of wishing it away.

We only have a little bit of time. We all have the same in a day, a week or a year. Every year that we live we are extended the same number of days and minutes. We do all kinds of things with time. We waste time, kill time, try to make up time, lose track of time or don’t pay attention to time. Regardless of how we treat time it’s only doing one thing

## Holiday fire prevention tips issued following blaze

State Fire Marshal Peter J. Ostroskey issued a reminder to use extension cords, power strips, and electrical devices safely after two people were injured in an early morning fire that badly damaged a Nahant residence. Working smoke alarms were present in the home and activated.

“This would have been a worse tragedy if not for the quick action by Nahant Firefighters and Nahant Police to locate and remove two residents,” said Nahant Fire Chief Antrim. “Power strips and extension cords offer convenience, but they aren’t

intended for constant use. Powering many devices at once can overload and overheat them, causing an electrical fire. Always use a cord that’s rated for the wattage of whatever you’re powering, and if you’re using an extension cord outdoors be sure it’s marked for outdoor use.”

“Plugging one extension cord or power strip into another isn’t safe,” said State Fire Marshal Ostroskey. “Unplug devices that aren’t in use, and always plug heating and cooling appliances directly into a wall socket. Check the cords and discard them if the insulation

is cracked, worn, or damaged. It’s much easier to replace an extension cord than all the things that can burn in a fire.”

The exact cause of the fire remains under investigation by the Nahant Fire Department and the State Police Fire & Explosion Investigation Unit assigned to the State Fire Marshal’s office. Investigators determined that it began in the front left corner of the living room, where numerous power strips, extension cords, and electrical devices were observed.

While this fire did not involve a Christmas tree,

the flammability of trees in many homes during the holiday season presents an additional hazard at this time of year. Watering the tree daily and disposing of it early can reduce that hazard. Similarly, candles cause more fires in the winter holiday season than at any other time of year: always keep a one-foot “circle of safety” free of anything that can burn around candles, and always extinguish them before leaving a room.

For more holiday fire safety tips, visit the Department of Fire Services web page.

## CITY PAWS

# Winter grooming and paw care

By Penny & Ed Cherubino

As we dropped our Westie Poppy off for her November grooming, we asked that her groomer leave more fur on her body and ears, but less on her belly and legs so that they’d collect less snow and muck.

Now is an excellent opportunity to spend some time helping your dog adjust to having you touch and work around his feet. Many dogs don’t like anyone handling their paws. However, winter often means putting on boots and cleaning snow, salt, and chemicals from protesting toes.

The night our first puppy arrived home, a dog-loving friend stopped by with a basket of essentials we might not have. Before she left, she advised us to touch the puppy everywhere, all the time. Then, she said when we have to do something that might hurt, the dog will know that most of the time, touches don’t hurt.

### How Cold Is Too Cold?

We’ll let a Veterinarian answer this question. Jennifer Coates, DVM writing for the website PetMD.com advised, “In general, cold temperatures should not become a problem for most dogs



Here’s our Poppy dressed for a winter walk with a t-shirt to keep her clean and boots to protect her feet from salt and deicing chemicals.

until they fall below 45°F, at which point some cold-averse dogs might begin to feel uncomfortable. When temperatures fall below 32°F, owners of small breed dogs, dogs with thin coats, and/or very young, old, or sick dogs should pay close attention to their pet’s well-being. Once temperatures drop under 20°F, all owners need to be aware that their dogs could potentially develop cold-associated health problems like hypothermia and frostbite.”

### Dog Jackets

If you have a dog that needs some protection from the cold, there are certainly a wide variety of coats, sweaters, and jackets on the market. Your dog might do fine with a t-shirt

or a light fleece jacket for moderate days, need an insulated coat for cold days, and a waterproof raincoat for wet days.

Coats not only keep a dog warm, but they also keep them clean. We put a toddler t-shirt under Poppy’s winter jacket to cover more of her fur. T-shirts are much easier to clean than a dog’s belly.

### Salt and Deicers

Deicers used on roads and sidewalks pose a different type of threat to our dogs. We’ve had two dogs who were very sensitive to salt and were subject to sore, irritated paws every winter. Ed washes our Westie Poppy’s feet whenever she has come into contact with salt or a deicer.

In addition to sore feet, salt and chemical deicers can also cause gastrointestinal upsets that could need veterinary care. In addition to cleaning your pet’s feet, ask your building, neighbors, and municipality to use sand and paw-safe deicers in place of salt.

### The Battle of the Boots

So many people tell us they just can’t get their dog to allow them to put on boots or adjust to walking in them. We advise them to go to a local pet supply store where the staff can show you boots that have worked for the dogs they know. They should also be able to show you how to put boots on your dog. We suggest you practice at home, and once your dog is booted, play some favorite games to distract from these new things on her feet.

One final word of advice, while keeping your dog or cat safe inside or on a leash is always smart it’s essential in winter. A lost housepet does not have the coat or skills needed to survive on its own in sub-freezing conditions.

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

## Your opinions, please

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

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

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REVERE/EVERETT HOCKEY 9-2 OVER EAST BOSTON

Revere/Everett topped East Boston, 9-2 in non-league hockey action Thursday, December 23.

PHOTOS BY BOB MARRA



BOARD DELAY: East Boston's (9) slows down Everett's Dylan MacCallum (2).



GET THE PUCK: Everett's Dylan MacCallum (2) and East Boston's (9) tangle as they fight for puck control.



ESCAPE ROUTE: East Boston's (23) has an Everett defender in front of him while chased by Everett's David Saia(22).



SLOW THE ACTION: (23) slows down Everett's David Saia(22).



CRASH COURSE: Everett's (9) and East Boston's (3) collide in pursuit of the puck.



BREAKOUT: East Boston's (6) breaks away from Everett's Jonathan Brandano (15) and Dylan MacCallum (2) while John Summer (10) has an ice-level view of the play.



CENTER OF ATTENTION: (16) tries to control the puck in between Everett's Austin Annunziata (17) and Jacob Cantone (14).



MAKING THE SAVE: East Boston goalie (35) makes a save on Everett's Jonathan Brandano(15).

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Celeste Pizza.....	10/	\$10.00
Chobani Greek Yogurt & Flips.....	10/	\$10.00
Annie's Macaroni & Cheese.....	10/	\$10.00
Prego Pasta Sauce.....	2/	\$4.00
Tuttorosso Canned Tomatoes.....	4/	\$5.00
Jif Peanut Butter.....	2/	\$4.00
Kellogg's Special K Cereal 10.5-13.10 oz...	2/	\$6.00
Bumble Bee Solid White Canned Tuna.....	2/	\$4.00
Gatorade 32 oz.....	3/	\$5.00
Hellmann's Mayonnaise 30 oz.....		\$3.99
Best Yet Garlic & Cheese Toast.....	2/	\$4.00
Eggo Waffles (ex: thick & fluffy ).....	2/	\$5.00
Hood Lactaid Milk 64 oz.....	2/	\$6.00
Breakstone Cottage Cheese Doubles.....	5/	\$5.00

#### Bakery

Ciabatta Bread .....	\$2.99
Cinnamon or Raspberry Elephant Ears 2pk	\$2.29
Variety Pack Mini Muffins.....	\$4.79
Assorted 4" Table Talk Pies .....	\$1.09

#### Deli

Swiss Lorraine Cheese .....	\$6.99	lb
Hans Kissle Red Bliss Potato Salad.....	\$3.99	lb
Russer Canadian Maple Ham .....	\$5.99	lb
Freirich Cooked Corned Beef.....	\$8.99	lb
Best Yet Smoked Turkey Breast .....	\$6.99	lb

#### Produce

Fresh Hot House Slicing Tomatoes .....	\$1.79	lb
All Purpose Yellow Onions 2 lb bag .....	\$0.99	
"Pick your Own" Red Potatoes.....	\$0.89	lb
Hot House Hydro Cucumbers.....	2/	\$3.00
California Sweet & Seedless Navel Oranges	\$1.29	lb

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Family Pack Specials

Assorted Bone-In Pork Chops .....	\$1.79	lb
Grade A Chicken Tenders .....	\$3.99	lb
London Broil Steaks .....	\$4.99	lb

---

Smithfield Bacon 16 oz .....	\$6.99	
Claussen Refrigerated Pickles .....	2/	\$7.00

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------------------------------------	--------

DELI

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PRODUCE

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Sweet & Crunchy Green Seedless Grapes	\$2.29	lb

MEAT

Family Pack Grade A Boneless Chicken Breast .....	\$2.99	lb
Fresh Haddock.....	\$10.99	lb

GROCERY

Maxwell House Canned Coffee.....	2/	\$6.00
Pepsi-Cola 12 pk .....	\$4.99	
plus deposit		

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# EBHS will partner with Zumix for “Art Room Poets” program

By John Lynds

Through a recent grant from the Mass Cultural Council, East Boston High School (EBHS) will partner with Zumix’s Kadahj Bennett for an “Art Room Poets” residency program.

EBHS was one of 244 recipients of this upcoming year’s “Students And Teachers Working with Artists, Scientists and Scholars”, or STARS, grant program.

Executive Director of Mass Cultural Council Michael J. Bobbitt said by investing \$1,158,550 into classrooms in Eastie and across the Commonwealth this year the Cultural Council is supporting cre-

ative learning through the arts, humanities, and sciences in the state.

“Nothing is more meaningful than watching a child’s excitement grow because they are introduced to a new way of thinking, creating, or expressing themselves,” said Bobbitt. “I love our STARS Residencies because of the impact they provide to thousands of Massachusetts children – and I cannot wait to see the outcomes of these exciting projects.”

Through the grant 400 freshmen at EBHS will embark on a creative learning experience that is not confined by the rules of conventional grammar and syntax next year

to increase their skills in communication, creativity, literacy, and social connection.

Zumix’s Bennett will help facilitate guest teaching artists who will visit classes to show students how poetry and literature can lead to successful career paths. All students will have the opportunity to share their work with their classmates at the end of the residency both in-class and through the 94.9 ZUMIX Radio station, where all student’s work is played for the public. Each poem will be compiled into a poetry journal at the end of the class.

Bennett is an award-winning actor, educator and performer in the Boston area. Bennett has been a Teaching Artist in the community for the past seven years with organizations such as Company One Theater, Actors Shakespeare Project and College Bound at Boston College. Bennett is a Luminary Artist at the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum and an Artist in Residence with the Freshman Arts Program at Harvard University.



EBHS will partner with Zumix songwriting and performance manager, Kadahj Bennett, for an “Art Room Poets” residency program through a Mass Cultural Council grant.

As a Zumix alum, Bennett has been involved with the nationally recognized Eastie music and performing arts program since 2003.

With programs like Street Program or Beatmakers, Bennett gained the tools to empower his own music career. As frontman and writer for the Downbeat Keys, a Brooklyn-based neon soul collective, Bennett has toured SXSW, the East Coast college circuit and shared a bill with Bon Jovi at the Best Buy Center in Times Square. His current Boston-based Berklee band, Dancelujah, brings electronic hip hop soul to the city’s music scene. A graduate of the Boston Arts Academy and recipient of the Posse scholarship to Hamilton College, Bennett has cultivated more young creators of color to tell their stories.

The STARS awards are between \$700 and \$5,500 and go to schools to support creative learning residencies. They bring students and teachers together with practicing artists, scientists, and scholars to create rich cultural experiences of three days or more, resulting in vibrant learning opportunities. STARS Residencies help youth build confidence, discover hidden talents, explore the natural world, understand their place in history, and rise as leaders in their community.

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This product has not been analyzed or approved by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA). There is limited information on the side effects of using this product, and there may be associated health risks. Marijuana use during pregnancy and breast-feeding may pose potential harms. It is against the law to drive or operate machinery when under the influence of this product. KEEP THIS PRODUCT AWAY FROM CHILDREN. There may be health risks associated with consumption of this product. Marijuana can impair concentration, coordination, and judgment. The impairment effects of Edibles may be delayed by two hours or more. In case of accidental ingestion, contact poison control hotline 1-800-222-1222 or 9-1-1. This product may be illegal outside of MA.

Marijuana is available under Massachusetts State Law; however it is illegal under Federal law. Marijuana products may be purchased or possessed only by persons 21 years of age or older. Keep out of reach of children. Marijuana can impair concentration, coordination and judgement. Do not operate a vehicle or machinery under the influence of marijuana. This product has intoxicating effects and may be habit forming. There may be health risks associated with consumption of this product. National Poison Control Center 1-800-222-1222. Massachusetts State License No. MRN 282297 Maynard, MRN 282048 Dracut, MRN 282034 Chelsea.



## RECOVERY SUPPORT HOTLINE

Call or Text **1-844-NSPEERS** 844-677-3377

**Support for anyone affected by addiction. Any time. Any place.**

**North Suffolk Mental Health Association** has added a free, around-the-clock Recovery Support Hotline to its Addiction and Recovery Services. The hotline is answered 24 hours a day, 7 days a week by experienced Recovery Coaches who understand the challenges faced by individuals with substance use disorder who are doing everything they can to maintain their sobriety.

### WHO'S CALLING

**People in Recovery**  
For individuals seeking peer support from Recovery Coaches with lived experience, information about meetings, shelter, or any community recovery support service.

**Family, Friends & Loved Ones**  
Substance use disorder affects more than the individual with SUD. Family, friends, loved ones and others can call when they need support or information.

**People Considering Treatment**  
Individuals struggling with active use who want information about treatment options: a referral to treatment or detox; or information about meetings, shelter or any community recovery support service.

**Adults & Adolescents**  
**Translation Capability**

### WHO'S ANSWERING

**NSMHA Recovery Coaches**  
Our experienced Recovery Coaches and peers in long-term recovery understand the challenges that can come with anyone facing addiction. These individuals are equipped with the knowledge, resources and tools to help those who are struggling to access the supports necessary to begin or maintain their own journey to recovery.

Coaches are also able to help loved ones and family members of individuals with SUD navigate what they're experiencing and provide support.

**CALL FOR**  
**Emotional, Social, Practical Support**  
+  
**Referrals to treatment**  
**Meeting locations**  
**Shelter locations**  
**Connections to coaches**  
**Information about a variety of treatment options**

## Peer into recovery.

The Recovery Support Hotline is a program of North Suffolk Mental Health Association, funded in part by a grant from the national Substance Addiction and Mental Health Services Agency.



# OBITUARIES

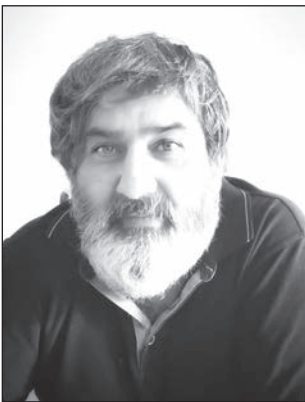
## Francesco Recupero

Dog Handler and former employee of Wonderland Dog Track

Francesco Recupero, late resident of East Boston, passed away unexpectedly on Thursday morning, December 23 at the Cambridge Health Alliance Hospital in Everett. He was 64 years old.

Born in Sicily, Italy, the son of Giuseppe Recupero and the late Anna (Rizzo), Francesco came to the United States with his family when he was a small child. He served time in the Italian Army but dedicated his working career here in the United States as a dog handler. Francesco worked for a number of years at Wonderland Dog Track in Revere and six years at a veterinary clinic that cared for the dogs that raced at Wonderland. He will be forever missed by all who loved him.

The beloved father of Giuseppe Recupero and his wife, Ladeane and Giovanni Recupero, all of Italy, he was the dear brother of Giovanni Recupero and his wife, Anna of Chelsea and Giuseppe Recupero and his wife, Carol of Chelsea. He is also



lovingly survived by two grandchildren, Francesco and Eddie Recupero of Italy, 17 nieces and nephews, 32 great nieces and nephews and eight great-great nieces and nephews.

Relatives and friends are kindly invited to attend Francesco's visiting hours in the Carafa Family Funeral Home, 389 Washington Ave., Chelsea on Friday, December 31 from 7:30 to 9:15 a.m. A Mass of Christian Burial will follow the visitation at Blessed Mother of the Morning Star Parish/ Our Lady of Grace Church, 59 Nichols St., Chelsea at 10 a.m. Services will conclude with interment at Holy Cross Cemetery in Malden.

## Jose Echevarria

Dana-Farber Cancer Institute Research Support Specialist

Jose A. Echevarria of East Boston passed away at the Brigham and Women's Faulkner Hospital in Boston on December 19 at 47 years of age. He was born in Boston, grew up in the South End and worked at the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute in the Department of Pediatric Oncology as a Research Support Specialist for 19 years.

He was the devoted husband of Liza and loving stepfather of Nicholas and Ryder; son of Margarita (Ortiz) and the late Pedro Echevarria; dear brother of Diana Shea and her husband, Mark, Myrna Echevarria and Pedro Echevarria and beloved uncle of Daniel, Emmari, Alex, Jason, and Jerry and dear brother-in-law of Mark, Susana, Greg and Josephine.



The funeral was held in the Caggiano-O'Malley-Frazier Funeral Home, Winthrop on Tuesday, December 28. Services concluded with the interment in the Oak Lawn Cemetery in Roslindale.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be sent to Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, Department of Pediatric Oncology, 450 Brookline Ave, Dana 1642, Boston, MA 02215.

## Dorothy Merchant

Of East Boston

Dorothy "Dotty" Merchant of East Boston passed away peacefully on Thursday, December 23.

She was the dear sister of Margaret Cordeau and her husband, Richard of Lynn and the late Harold Merchant, Edward Merchant, James Merchant and his surviving wife, Catherine and Robert Merchant and his surviving wife, Elaine. She is also survived by many loving nieces and nephews.

Family and friends honored Dotty's life by gathering at the Ruggiero Family Memorial Home, 971 Saratoga Street, (Orient Heights) East Boston, on Tuesday, December 28 before leaving in procession to the Most Holy Redeemer Parish, East Boston, for a Funeral Mass celebrat-



ing Dotty's life. Dotty was laid to rest at Pine Grove Cemetery, Lynn. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made in Dorothy's name to Most Holy Redeemer Parish Rectory, 65 London Street, Boston, MA 02128 ; St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, 262 Danny Thomas Place, Memphis, TN 38105; or to a charity of your choice. To leave an online condolence, please visit [www.ruggieromh.com](http://www.ruggieromh.com).

## Marianna Buccieri

July 29, 1931 - December 23, 2021

Marianna (Cardello) Buccieri of Revere, born in Mineo, Sicily on July 29, 1931 to the late Giovanni and Giuseppa Cardello, died December 23, 2021.

Marianna's family immigrated through Ellis Island, New York in 1951 and made their way to East Boston. After her marriage to Salvatore Buccieri, the couple moved to Revere where they resided for over 50 years until a recent move to be closer to their daughter.

Marianna was a seamstress who began her career making sample dresses and suits in Boston and in later years, she was the head seamstress for the Hilton Hotels. She is fondly remembered by family and friends for her wonderful cooking which she generously shared with everyone who entered her home. She will be sorely missed by all who knew her.

The beloved wife of 66 years to Salvatore Buccieri, she was the devoted mother of Maria Salvatore and her husband, John of Westwood, cherished grandmother of Jake, Georgia and Zachary, dear



sister of the late Giovanni and Mario, adored aunt of Gino Cardello and the late Josephine Simili, Lina Sarnacchiaro and Giuseppe Cardello and she is also survived by many loving nieces, nephews, great nieces and nephews, and great, great nieces and nephews.

A visitation at the Paul Buonfiglio & Sons- Bruno Funeral Home, 128 Revere St, Revere on Tuesday, December 28 was followed by a 12 noon Mass at Immaculate Conception Church in Revere. Entombment was at Woodlawn Mausoleum. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to Care Dimensions Hospice, 75 Sylvan St, Ste. B-102, Danvers, MA 01923. For guest book please visit [www.buonfiglio.com](http://www.buonfiglio.com).

## Clifford Burri, Jr.

Member of St. Mary's Star of the Sea Men's Club, the 174 Club and the Boston Carmen's Union

Clifford "Cliffy" Burri, Jr., 70, of East Boston, passed away on Sunday, December 5.



Cliffy was a member of Saint Mary's Star of the Sea Men's Club, the 714

Club and Local #589 Boston Carmen's Union. He was also a US Navy Veteran.

The beloved husband of the late Evelyn (Grieco) Burri, he was the loving son of the late Clifford Sr. and Jessie (Guarino) Burri; devoted father of Evelyn Burri Chianca and her husband, Lou of Revere and Michael Burri and his wife, Jennafa of East Boston; dear brother of Gina Beatrice and her husband, Michael of California, and Steven Burri and his wife, Lorraine of East Boston; cherished grandfather of Gianna, Antonia, Michael, and Melia; loving brother-in-law of Jean Fafiella and her late husband, Phil. He is also survived by many treasured nieces



and nephews.

Family and friends gathered at Saint Joseph - Saint Lazarus Church, East Boston, on Thursday, December 9 and again on Friday morning, December 10 for a Funeral Mass celebrating Cliff's life. Services concluded with Cliff being laid to rest with his beloved wife, Evelyn, at Holy Cross Cemetery, Malden.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made in Cliff's name to Boston's Wounded Veterans, ATTN: Vet Ride, ITAM Post 6, 60 Paris Street, Boston, MA 02128 (Point of Contact - Andrew.)

## Water // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

to 2 minutes or until the water feels cold prior to using the water for drinking or cooking.

In 2019, during a BWSC project to repair water, sewer and drain pipes in Orient Heights, the BWSC replaced lead pipes with copper pipes from the water mains to the property lines of dozens of homes. If lead was found on the property residents were provided with documents on the BWSC Lead Replacement Program.

The BWSC continues to work with Eastie property owners and recently increased the financial assistance it provides to property owners toward the cost of lead removal through its Lead Replacement Incentive Program. The Program provides owners with up to \$4,000.00 towards the cost of removal of the private lead service lines. In keeping with regulatory requirements, the Commission is expanding its Public Education Outreach campaign to advise all consumers of the dangers of

lead in drinking water and the general environment and to inform them of the steps to take to avoid lead exposure.

This past year, BWSC has replaced over 400 lead service lines through its Lead Replacement Incentive Program. The goal of the outreach program is to continue these efforts towards the removal of all lead service lines in Eastie.

For more information about lead in drinking water and to find out how to test tap water for lead, Boston residents may contact the Commission at the Lead Hotline at (617) 989-7888 or (617) 989-7000. Customers may also visit the Commission's website at [bwsc.org](http://bwsc.org) with any questions and obtain free brochures about lead in drinking water. The website also has the Lead Service Map (<https://www.bwsc.org/environment-education/map-room/lead-service-map>) where residents can see if their home has a lead service line.

## LEGAL NOTICE

### LEGAL NOTICE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS THE TRIAL COURT PROBATE AND FAMILY COURT

Suffolk Probate and Family Court  
24 New Chardon St.  
Boston, MA 02114  
(617)788-8300  
CITATION ON PETITION FOR SALE OF REAL ESTATE BY A PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE  
Docket No. SU21PO132EA  
Estate of:  
John A. DiGirolamo  
Date of Death: 11/17/2020  
To all interested persons:  
A Petition for Sale of Real Estate has been filed by: Maria A. Day of Saugus, MA and Joseph DiGirolamo of North Andover, MA requesting that the Court authorize the Personal Representative to sell the decedent's real estate at a private sale.  
IMPORTANT NOTICE  
You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner

or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before 10:00 a.m. on 01/20/2022. This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an Affidavit of Objections within thirty (30) days of the return date, action may be taken without further notice to you.  
WITNESS, Hon. Brian J. Dunn, First Justice of this Court.  
Date: December 10, 2021  
Felix D. Arroyo, Register of Probate  
12/29/21  
EB

LEGAL NOTICE  
COMMONWEALTH  
OF MASSACHUSETTS  
THE TRIAL COURT  
PROBATE AND  
FAMILY COURT  
Suffolk Probate And Family Court

24 New Chardon St. Boston, MA 02114  
(617)788-8300  
CITATION ON PETITION TO CHANGE NAME  
Docket No. SU21CO496CA  
In the matter of: Santa A. Sanchez  
A Petition to Change Name of Adult has been filed by Santa A. Sanchez of E. Boston, MA requesting that the court enter a Decree changing their name to: Santa Aurelina Pimental-Jimenez  
Any person may appear for purposes of objecting to the petition by filing an appearance at: Suffolk Probate and Family Court before 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 01/07/2022. 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: December 20, 2021  
Felix D. Arroyo, Register of Probate  
12/29/21  
EB

## Daniel A. D'Amelio

Of East Boston

Daniel A. D'Amelio of East Boston, died on December 28, 2021. Beloved son of the late Emma (Cucumarullo) and Eugenio D'Amelio.

Loving brother of Annette Lynch and Robert D'Amelio, both of East Boston. Uncle of Donna Martingnetti of Stoneham, John Lynch and Tiffani Couldren, both of East Boston. Relatives and

friends invited to attend his Funeral Mass in the Sacred Heart Church, 45 Brooks St., East Boston on Thursday, December 30, at 10 AM. Interment will be private. Daniel was retired from Delta Airlines after many years of service. Please leave messages of condolence on his Tribute Page at [MagrathFuneralHome.com](http://MagrathFuneralHome.com).

## OBITUARIES

All obituaries and death notices will be at a cost of \$150.00 per paper.

Includes photo.No word Limit.

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NEWS FROM AROUND THE REGION

COUNCIL FINISHES UP YEAR

CHELSEA - The City Council quickly took care of business during its last meeting of the year, approving funding for several community preservation projects as well as a cost of living raise for City Manager Thomas Ambrosino.

The council unanimously approved a 3 percent cost of living raise for Ambrosino that backdates to July 1 of this year. He is due for another 3 percent cost of living raise effective July 1, 2022.

The raises come as a result of the recent City Manager evaluation process by the council.

A special subcommittee gave Ambrosino high marks for his job performance.

The city manager signed his most recent five-year contract with the city in 2019 at a salary of just under \$190,000 annually.

“In summary, the final rating by the committee was that the city manager did an incredible job managing city business and the covid response during one of the most stressful and difficult times in recent memory,” said Council President Roy Avellana. “The evaluation committee is aware that this is most likely the last two years that the city manager is working, and expects that the same professional effort shown previously will continue.”

The council also unanimously approved three community preservation expenditures recommended by the Community Preservation Committee.

Those grant proposals from the Community Preservation Fund include \$25,000 for Temple Emmanuel for a historic building exterior conditions assessment, \$252,000 for the rehabilitation of the Mace Basketball Court, and \$400,000 for pre-development funding for the Affordable Housing Trust Fund.

In the 2016 general election, Chelsea voters voted to adopt the Community Preservation Act and impose a 1.5 percent surcharge on residential and commercial properties with exemptions for low- and moderate-income homeowners.

Temple Emmanuel is seeking support for an on-site assessment during which historic preservation consultants will examine, investigate, and analyze all areas of the building’s exterior envelope and document the existing conditions. The consultant will then recommend next steps for stabilization, rehabilitation, preservation, and maintenance of the histor-

ic building.

The basketball court rehabilitation project seeks to repair and bring back into use a court that has severely deteriorated over the past years so that it can once again be used as a neighborhood asset.

Chelsea’s Affordable Housing Trust Fund Board is seeking a \$400,000 grant to help fund the pre-development aspects of its recent investment in affordable housing development.

COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS RECEIVE GRANTS

REVERE - Mayor Arrigo and representatives from both Amazon and United Way of Massachusetts Bay and Merrimack Valley presented three grant awards to community-based organizations who continue to go above and beyond for Revere residents. The Raise Up Revere fund, which was established in April of 2020, is focused on meeting the immediate needs of Revere families and small businesses that have been most severely impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic, as well as longer-term strategies and innovative ideas that will continue to move Revere forward as a community. Recipients this year include HarborCOV, CAPIC, and the First Congregational Church Food Pantry.

“The three organizations chosen today continue to step up to the plate when our residents need them the most,” said Mayor Brian Arrigo. “We started the Raise Up Revere fund at the beginning of the pandemic to support community-driven organizations that work to give back to our residents. I’m proud of how we’ve utilized these connections so far and am excited to see the fund continue to build capacity over the coming years.”

In 2020, four nonprofits and organizations were awarded grants through the fund. This year, due to a generous \$35,000 donation from Amazon and supplemented funds through an anonymous donor, the fund is able to award each organization with a \$20,000 grant – totaling \$60,000 that will be reflected through community-based work. Existing partners who have received the award in the past include The Neighborhood Developers (TND), Union Capital Boston, Moroccan American Connections in Revere (MACIR), Women Encouraging Empowerment (WEE) Revere, and The First Congressional Church of Revere Food Pantry. The Raise Up Re-

vere Fund also funded five \$10,000 “Shot at a Healthy Future” scholarships – awarded to fully-vaccinated residents to boost incentive around the vaccine.

“The Raise Up Revere Fund has been instrumental in helping our community weather the pandemic and its ensuing economic hardship,” said Jerome Smith, Amazon’s Sr. Manager of External Affairs. “As a company, we’re thrilled to partner with them and ensure their funding can go even further in assisting our most vulnerable neighbors.”

One recipient of the grant this year is HarborCOV, a non-profit organization that provides free safety and support services, along with housing and economic opportunities for those affected by domestic violence and abuse. Executive Director Kourou Pich plans to use the \$20,000 grant for emergency housing – one of the most visible and critical needs experienced by survivors of domestic violence.

“Partnerships like the Raise Up Revere fund are key to ensuring our communities emerge from this crisis stronger and more resilient than before,” said Bob Giannino, President and Chief Executive Officer at United Way of Massachusetts Bay and Merrimack Valley. “Throughout the Covid-19 pandemic, we have seen the power of municipal, business and community leaders coming together to raise up the needs of their residents and catalyze the resources needed to address them. We’re grateful to Mayor Arrigo for his continued partnership and to Amazon for the generosity they have demonstrated throughout our region.”

The First Congregational Church Food Pantry is another 2021 recipient – the \$20,000 grant will be used to further efforts at the weekly Food Pantry by assisting in IT and computer relief. Throughout the course of the pandemic, the First Congregational Church Food Pantry operation grew exponentially. Now the Food Pantry is combined with the City of Revere “Food Hub” team and operates out of the Food Hub at 200 Winthrop Ave (the previous League for Special Needs building). The pantry continues to see a record number of families during their weekly food events.

CAPIC (Community Action Programs Inter-City, Inc), is the third and final recipient of this year’s award. Through the utilization of \$20,000 in Raise Up Revere funding, CAPIC will provide comprehensive emergen-

COVID test kits now available for residents



Members of the Martinez family receive their rapid test kits from Julie Thistle (left) and Antoinette Blanchard at Everett City Hall.

cy support services to at-risk Revere individuals and families who are in crisis mode; specifically, temporary emergency placements, such as hotel placements. CAPIC’s Emergency Assistance Program will also provide support to individuals and families once they obtain permanent housing, such as gift cards to purchase food, furniture, and basic household items.

Donations to the fund can be made online or via your Donor Advised Fund by including “The Raise Up Revere Fund” in your recommendation details. Our tax ID number is 04-2382233. You can also send a check to the following address: United Way of Massachusetts Bay, PO Box 51381, Boston, MA 02205-1381. Please make checks out to “United Way of Massachusetts Bay and Merrimack Valley” and include “The Raise Up Revere Fund” in the memo of your check.

COMMITTEE DOES NOT CHANGE CONTRACT

EVERETT - Superintendent Priya Tahiliani made it very clear in her remarks at the School Committee meeting last week that she “has no intention of leaving this district.”

Tahiliani’s comments came before the committee took a vote on whether to extend her contract from February 28, 2024, to June 30, 2025.

She went on to say, “I am not looking for another job, I am proud of what I have accomplished and becoming part of a larger education community. There is still much work to be done.”

Tahiliani took over the reins of the Everett school system in the midst of the pandemic.

As a result, many of the goals for the local schools that Tahiliani had outlined to the search committee were delayed as she focused on COVID-related issues, including remote learning for students.

At the last meeting of the School Committee on December 6, the issue of making changes to the superintendent’s current contract was objected to by the incoming new members of the School Committee who will take office on January 3.

They made clear in no uncertain terms their view that the present School Committee should leave the matter of extending Tahiliani’s contract to the

new committee.

Although the committee approved some technical changes to the superintendent’s contract two weeks ago, they postponed taking action on the contract extension until their meeting on Monday night.

Several members of the School Committee expressed the view that because of COVID and the basic upending of the school learning process, Tahiliani essentially had lost a year and that the extension of the contract end date would give her the opportunity to try to meet the goals that she had proposed during her interview.

In addition, members pointed out that the end date in the original contract of February 28, 2024, could be disruptive to the entire school system since it would mean a possible departure in the middle of the school year.

Before the vote on extending the date, Ward 6 School Committee member Tom Abruzzese said, “I could not agree more with the superintendent. We have found the top candidate in the state and perhaps the country.”

“The extension would allow (Tahiliani’s ) full vision to come to fruition,” said committee member Samantha Lambert.

School Committee member Dana Murray, commenting on the February 28 end date, said, “It’s not a good idea to have kids with an interim superintendent.”

However, School Committee member Millie Cardillo noted that in the contract, the end date could be extended to June 2024 and “would not leave students high and dry.”

The committee then voted on the motion to extend the contract and it failed on a 5-5 vote. A vote was then taken on reconsideration and it lost again, 5-5.

NICHOLSON ANNOUNCES TEAM

LYNN - Lynn Mayor-Elect Jared Nicholson has announced the first staff members that will be working in his office starting January 4, 2022.

“We are thrilled about the team that is coming together,” Nicholson said. “We have a lot of ideas about how to hit the ground running and this group starts to bring in the skills we will need to make sure that happens.”

Following his election, Nicholson immediately

got to work putting together a Transition Committee consisting of 10 people to help him prepare for the role and find the right staff for his new administration. A subcommittee of Magnolia Contreras, Faustina Cuevas, Charlie Gaeta, and Drew Russo has helped Nicholson interview candidates and advise him on hiring decisions.

Contreras, co-chair of the Transition Committee, said, “we have been impressed by the field of candidates and the process that the Mayor-Elect has led to make these decisions.”

Jon Thibault will take on the role of Chief of Staff. Thibault is currently the Chief of Staff to State Senator Brendan P. Crighton and worked as Crighton’s Legislative Director before being appointed Chief in 2019. Born and raised in Lynn, Thibault attended Lynn English High School and went on to graduate from Boston University in 2009. Jon gained extensive knowledge of Lynn’s municipal government as the Assistant to LHAND Executive Director, Charlie Gaeta. With Nicholson, Thibault will be responsible with overseeing and administering the day-to-day operations within the Mayor’s Office and will serve as the liaison between the Mayor’s Office, city department heads, and local, state, and federal officials.

“I believe in Mayor Nicholson’s vision and goals for the city,” said Thibault. “I look forward to working with him, this team, and the departments in City Hall to deliver great results for the residents of Lynn.”

Jean Michael Fana, who managed Nicholson’s mayoral campaign, has been selected as the Outreach Director for the Mayor’s Office. Jean returned to Lynn last spring after serving as an Army JAG Corps Paralegal. He served as a Trial Defense Paralegal at Camp Humphreys, South Korea and later was assigned to Fort Leavenworth, Kansas. Jean graduated from Lynn Classical High School prior to joining the Army. Jean was Honorably Discharged at the rank of Sergeant. As the Outreach Director, Jean will be responsible for constituent services and community affairs on behalf of the office.

“Jared has given me a wonderful opportunity to continue to work directly

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CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8

for the people of Lynn,” said Fana. “Our goal is to make this administration active and responsive to the needs of the people and I’m excited to join the team in supporting that goal.”

Valerie Vong, who was the Nicholson campaign’s Digital Director, will also be joining Mayor Nicholson’s office as Communications Manager. Vong proudly represents her Asian-American roots—especially as the eldest daughter and granddaughter of Khmer refugees. She graduated at the top of her class from Lynn English High School in 2018 with National Honor Society recognition and was an awardee of the President’s Education Program. She is currently a fourth-year first-generation college student at Clark University, pursuing a double major in English and Environmental Science, with concentrations in public policy, environmental policy, and pre-law. At school, Valerie is the Publicist of Korean Culture Club, a member of Sigma Tau Delta, a member of the Pre-Law Society, and on the e-board of Clark Sustainability Action. Outside of school, she currently interns for New American Leaders, YDMA, and MASSPIRG Students. Valerie will work to support the Mayor’s communication efforts and ensure that all residents have access to the office so that their voices can be heard.

“I had the privilege to work with Jared on the campaign trail,” said Vong. “And throughout the months I served as both an intern and the Digital Director, I was incredibly moved and inspired by his vision, tenacity, and our shared aim to uplift the city of Lynn through a

more equitable approach. I look forward to continuing my work alongside Jared.”

Mayor-elect Nicholson is also pleased to announce that two integral members of the current administration will continue serving after he takes office in January.

Faustina Cuevas, the City’s first Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Officer, assumed her position this past June and quickly established herself as a key member of the Mayor’s staff. As DEI officer, Cuevas is responsible for implementing and overseeing initiatives to ensure greater diversity, equity, and inclusion throughout city government and the community at large. Cuevas is also co-chair of the Mayor-elect’s Transition Committee tasked with advising the incoming administration.

Meaghen Hamill, Chief of Staff to Mayor Thomas McGee, will be staying on for a two-month period in the role of Senior Adviser to complete the transition between the McGee and Nicholson administrations. Hamill, a Boston University graduate, has worked with Mayor McGee since 2010 rising to the position of Chief of Staff in his Senate office and serving in that capacity during his four years as Mayor.

**OUTGOING MEMBERS HONORED**

WINTHROP - The Winthrop School Committee met on Dec. 20 in the Harvey Hearing Room of Town Hall, where it honored outgoing Chairman Brian Perrin and outgoing member Phil Boncore.

The committee pre-

sented distinguished service awards to outgoing Chairman Brian Perrin and outgoing member Phil Boncore. Perrin sat on the School Committee for the past 12 years, and Boncore for the past two.

The men were praised for their “strong positive impact” on education in the town of Winthrop, and for their “genuine concern for young people.”

“We’re lucky to have these guys,” said Committee Member Gus Martucci. “I feel fortunate to have worked with them. We’re going to miss them.”

“I’ve learned a lot from them,” said Supt. Lisa Howard. “They’ve never given up on this town.”

Perrin, who has served on numerous boards and committees over the past 33 years, said his tenure on the School Committee was one of the most challenging.

“I want to recognize Supt. Howard and her faculty for all they do every day to make Winthrop the best school system it can be,” he said.

Perrin also congratulated the incoming members of the School Committee, and encouraged them to collaborate with respect and to listen to their constituents.

School Committee Vacancy

A joint meeting of the School Committee and the Town Council will be held in the new year, which will allow for newly elected members of both boards to vote on the empty School Committee seat.

Boncore originally scheduled the meeting for Dec. 21, but this meeting failed to reach a quorum. He argued that the new councilors haven’t had the opportunity to hear from constituents as far as who they should vote for to fill

the seat, and that the decision should fall to outgoing councilors. However, School Committee members pushed back.

“It’s unreasonable to expect outgoing members to vote on incoming members,” said Julie Barry, and claimed that Boncore scheduled the meeting after the School Committee made it clear it couldn’t convene on that date.

Committee Vice-Chair Jennifer Powell agreed, adding that committee members should have the chance to vote for the people they will be serving alongside.

**COVID**

In an unexpected spike, seven school staff tested positive for COVID-19. Supt. Howard reported

that the district is “trying to be as creative as possible” to manage teacher absences, with principals taking over classes and staff being shared across schools. The district is working closely with the Dept. of Public Health on contact tracing and updating parents on potential exposure.

Supt. Howard urged families to “stay as safe as possible” during the upcoming holiday break, so as not to delay a return to full-time school.

“The goal is for students to come back and not lose learning time,” she said. “As much as families can help, we would appreciate that.”


Supt. Howard also reminded parents to submit

their children’s vaccinations records to the district as soon as possible.

**General Updates**

There is an immediate opening for an Extra Support Person (ESP) at the elementary school due to an illness unrelated to COVID-19.

The Shore Collaborative received a clean audit, showing a budget surplus of over \$200,000. The school remains more affordable than other collaboratives. It is currently working on crafting its mission statement, to be reported at its next meeting. Six Winthrop students currently attend the Shore Collaborative.




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First prize winner – Ana's Beauty Salon on Bennington Street.



Second prize winner – La Casa del Pandebono Bakery & Café on Meridian Street.



Third prize winner – La Chiva Restaurant on Bennington Street.

## The East Boston Chamber of Commerce announces the winners of their 2021 Deck the Windows holiday decorating contest

The East Boston Chamber of Commerce held their 2021 Deck the Windows holiday decorating contest over the weekdays of December 17, 18, and 19. Businesses participated by decorating their storefront windows with decorations of the season and by having their decorations photographed and submitted to the Chamber. From the many decorations, three winners were chosen (first, second, and

third place) as the best decorated windows by an East Boston business in 2021. Certificates will be awarded to the three winners along with a congratulatory letter from the East Boston Chamber of Commerce. Additionally, the 1st place winner will receive the following: \$1,000 (One Thousand Dollars) gift certificate to advertise their business on any El Planeta channels including print, web or so-

cial networks; two weeks promotion on Orale con Veronica on Radio Super 99.9 FM broadcast on Tuesday's live at 10AM; an interview for social networks with Veronica Robles; and the production of a one minute audio and video promo produced by young people from Veronica Robles Cultural Center (VROCC) with a value of \$1,000 (One Thousand Dollars.)

The Chamber would

like to thank each and every business in East Boston for their decorating, beautifying, and demonstrating the spirit of the holidays in our community.

Congratulations to:

1st Prize winner – Ana's Beauty Salon on Bennington Street.

2nd Prize winner – La Casa del Pandebono Bakery & Café on Meridian Street.

3rd Prize winner – La Chiva Restaurant on Bennington Street.

a cabo una sesión de "Puertas Abiertas" para la temporada de fiestas navideñas en donde anunció lo miembros de la mesa directiva Veronica Robles, presidenta, Shirley Faboo, vice presidenta y Joanna Cataldo Secretaria anunciaron a los ganadores del concurso "Deck the Windows" 2021 que se llevó a cabo durante el fin de semana del 17, 18 y 19 de diciembre.

Este año 56 negocios participaron en este concurso de condecoraciones, y se eligieron tres ganadores quienes recibirán certificados de participación enmarcados con una carta de felicitación de la Cámara de East Boston de Comercio.

El ganador del 1er lugar recibirá lo siguiente: certificado de regalo de \$ 1,000 (mil dólares) para publicitar su negocio en cualquier canal de El Planeta, incluyendo impresos, web o redes sociales; promoción de dos semanas

en Orale con Veronica en Radio Super 99.9 FM transmitida el martes en vivo a las 10 AM; una entrevista para redes sociales con Veronica Robles; y la producción de un video de promoción con audio y video de 1 minuto producida por jóvenes del Centro Cultural Verónica Robles (VROCC) con un valor de \$ 1,000 (mil dólares).

La Cámara desea agradecer a todas y cada uno de los negocios participantes por decorar, embellecer sus puertas y ventanas y demostrar el espíritu de las fiestas navideñas en nuestra comunidad.

Felicidades a los ganadores

1er premio - Salón de belleza de Ana en Bennington Street.

2do premio - La Casa del Pandebono Bakery & Café en Meridian Street.

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