

# THE LYNN JOURNAL

Thursday, August 27, 2020

Don't forget to VOTE Sept 1st.

## GREATER LYNN CHAMBER GOLF TOURNAMENT



PRG Photo

The Greater Lynn Chamber of Commerce Committee sponsored a golf tournament to benefit the GLCC educational programs. Pictured are Busy Bee Nursery School Ashley Bennett, Samantha McHugh, Executive Director Colin Codner, Christine Neals, Christine Pierce, and Heather Hannon of Essex Apothecary. Please see Page 4 for story and more photos.

## Lynn ADs were united in decision to cancel the entire NEC fall high school sports season

By Cary Shuman

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

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

Gloucester, Danvers, and Beverly principals abstaining.

Newton spoke about the proposal that he authored.

"I think the buzzword was 'equity' and if five schools are not able to play at all, are we going to stay together as a league or are we going to branch off and do our own thing?" said Newton. "I think the main objective of school systems is to get students back in the classroom first."

The decision affects Lynn high school football (which had already been moved to the spring season, (which is called the "Fall 2" season), volleyball, boys and

girls soccer, boys and girls cross country, golf, and cheerleading.

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

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

Please see SPORTS Page 3

## Rowe predicts a good turnout for Primary Election on Sept. 1

By Cary Shuman

Lynn City Clerk and Elections Chief Janet Rowe is predicting a good turnout for the State Primary on Tuesday, Sept. 1.

Rowe said approximately 54,000 residents are eligible to vote in the election. Her staff has sent out 9,472 mail-in ballots and received 4,000 of those ballots. "Voters have until Sept. 1 to return their mail-in ballots," said Rowe.

A total of 600 voters have cast absentee ballots for the election.

"In the last Primary Election in a Presidential Election year (2016), we only had an 11 percent turnout," said Rowe. "But with the significant interest in the Ed Markey-Joe Kennedy U.S. Senate race [for the Democratic nomination], we'll be getting a higher turnout than four years ago. That race has a lot of awareness in the city.

"I also think that people want to test out the mail-in voting as well because a lot of people have checked off both elections (Sept. 1 and Nov. 3) on their mail-in applications," said Rowe.

Incumbent Congressman Seth



Lynn City Clerk and Elections Chief Janet Rowe.

Moulton is facing two challengers, Angus McQuilken and Jamie Belsito, in the Democratic Primary in the Sixth Congressional District. There is also a contest in the Governor's Council race where incumbent Councilor Terrence Kennedy is being challenged by Helina Fontes.

Kevin O'Connor and Dr. Shiva Ayyadurai are vying for the Republican nomination for U.S. Senate and the right to advance to the Nov. 3 general election.

Rowe said that eight poll locations in Lynn will be open on Election Day from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m., serving the voters in all 28 precincts in the city.

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# EDITORIAL

## BE SURE TO VOTE IN THE PRIMARY

This Tuesday, September 1, is primary election day in Massachusetts for both national and state legislative offices.

Primary elections in Massachusetts typically are of little or no consequence because of the overwhelming Democratic voting enrollment and because most Democrats run unopposed.

However, this year's primary election is different because of the hotly-contested U.S. Senate race between incumbent Ed Markey and Congressman Joseph Kennedy that will draw a larger-than-usual turnout for a primary.

In addition, there are two truly unique and important aspects to Tuesday's election.

This will be the first election in which we will be voting either early, by mail, or in person amidst the Covid-19 pandemic. Tuesday's primary will be a good test of the ability of Massachusetts' election officials to conduct an election under these difficult circumstances and thus will serve as excellent preparation, both for voters and officials alike, for the upcoming November Presidential election.

It is important that all of us participate in the democratic process on or before Tuesday so that both we and our election officials can be as knowledgeable as possible about the procedures that we will need to follow in November to ensure a successful final election.

In addition, thanks to the chaos that reigns throughout the country (for many reasons), it is not an understatement to say that the elections to be held this year -- both the primaries and the final -- have taken on more significance than any in our nation's history.

The Presidential elections of 1860 (prior to the start of the Civil War) and 1932 (when we were in the midst of the Great Depression) arguably were the most consequential elections since our founding, but the 2020 election cycle will be even more significant than both of those.

The pundits talk about the existential threat being posed to our democracy and institutions because of the situation in the White House. However, regardless of what one thinks of the current policies emanating from Washington, what undeniably is true is that our democracy certainly will come to an end if we fail to exercise the most important right we have as Americans -- the right to vote.

There is no greater threat to America's survival than our own apathy. A strong voter turnout in every election, including the primaries, will send the clearest possible message to our political leaders that we care about the future direction of our country.

We urge all of our readers to be sure to vote in the primary election -- it is more important than ever.



WILL VIRTUAL SCHOOLING HAVE FIRE DRILLS ?

### CITY OF LYNN

#### LISTS OF WARDS, PRECINCTS AND POLLING PLACES

Ward	Precinct	Polling Place Name	Polling Place Address
1	1	Shoemaker School	26 Regina Road
	2	Sisson School	56 Conomo Avenue
	3	Sisson School	56 Conomo Avenue
	4	Sisson School	56 Conomo Avenue
2	1	St. Pius Lower Church Hall	215 Maple Street
	2	St. Pius Lower Church Hall	215 Maple Street
	3	St. Pius Lower Church Hall	215 Maple Street
	4	St. Pius Lower Church Hall	215 Maple Street
3	1	Marshall Middle School	100 Brookline Street
	2	Marshall Middle School	100 Brookline Street
	3	Marshall Middle School	100 Brookline Street
	4	Marshall Middle School	100 Brookline Street
4	1	Harrington School	21 Dexter Street
	2	Harrington School	21 Dexter Street
	3	Harrington School	21 Dexter Street
	4	Harrington School	21 Dexter Street
5	1	Lynn Voc. Tech Annex	90 Commercial Street
	2	Lynn Voc. Tech Annex	90 Commercial Street
	3	Lynn Voc. Tech Annex	90 Commercial Street
	4	Lynn Voc. Tech Annex	90 Commercial Street
6	1	Lynn Voc. Tech Fieldhouse	80 Neptune Boulevard
	2	Lynn Voc. Tech Fieldhouse	80 Neptune Boulevard
	3	Lynn Voc. Tech Fieldhouse	80 Neptune Boulevard
	4	Lynn Voc. Tech Fieldhouse	80 Neptune Boulevard
7	1	Breed Junior High School	90 O'Callaghan Way
	2	Breed Junior High School	90 O'Callaghan Way
	3	Breed Junior High School	90 O'Callaghan Way
	4	Breed Junior High School	90 O'Callaghan Way

## THE LYNN JOURNAL

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## LETTER to the Editor

### JOIN ME IN VOTING FOR JOE KENNEDY

To the Editor:

Not so long ago when my office uncovered the largest case of fraud ever perpetrated upon this country by the rampant greed of the big banks and their Wall Street partners, I needed help. This nationwide fraud devastated people's lives, cost them their homes, corrupted our land recordation system, and flooded my office with tens of thousands of fraudulent robo-signed documents. I turned to our elected officials in Washington for assistance to combat this kind of crime. U.S. Senator Elizabeth Warren was there offering help, but to this day, I have never heard from Senator Ed Markey.

Trust me, scammers never give up, another scam is surely just around the corner. That's why I'm endorsing Joe Kennedy for U.S. Senator. I need someone I can count on to help out and who won't be afraid to stand

up and fight with me to protect the integrity of our land records. When Joe was elected to the Congress, he was interested in what needed to be done to stop these scams. He spoke with me at length about what we were up against here. He was concerned and interested to learn how this had happened and how he could help stop it.

Joe Kennedy is engaged and interested in solving problems, he doesn't wait to be asked. He shows up. There will be times ahead when people in Essex County need help to solve a problem or take on corruption. But next time, if Joe Kennedy is our U.S. Senator, I will have a partner who is ready, willing and able to fight to protect the people we serve.

I hope that you will join me in voting for Joe Kennedy for U.S. Senate.

**John O'Brien**  
Southern Essex District  
Register of Deeds

## Sports/ CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

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

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

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

and soccer fields."

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

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

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

# City of Lynn COVID-19 update

The Lynn Public Health Department has confirmed that as of today, the number of active, confirmed positive COVID-19 cases is 660 with 11 new cases today. 3,721 Lynn residents have recovered and 113 have died. The total number of confirmed positive COVID-19 cases in Lynn since March 21, 2020, including those who have died and recovered, is 4,494. Please visit the new City of Lynn COVID-19 Data Dashboard which is updated daily.

Due to the continued uptick in our positive test rate in Lynn, the City is taking a number of steps to curb the spread of COVID-19 in our community including: ramping up patrols of gatherings and athletic playing that is not allowed by state guidelines, such as basketball, in our parks; no events

at Manning and Fraser Fields and limiting permitted organized events at other City properties and buildings; sending direct educational mailings in multiple languages to our residents; and putting in place an Enforcement and Compliance Team to ensure state guidelines are followed by businesses and members of the public. Noncompliance of state guidelines, including large gatherings, will be enforced by fines.

These steps will be in place until further notice, as we remain designated a higher risk community by state data standards.

We need to continue to be diligent and focus on continuing to follow and comply with the state guidelines pertaining to social distancing, personal hygiene, don't share food and drinks, wearing

face coverings at all times when interacting with others, and especially not gathering with people beyond those you live with. Our actions or lack of responsible action, in following the guidelines, will determine how we limit the spread in our community and ensure we keep our community safe.

Please visit [http://www.ci.lynn.ma.us/covid19/resources.shtml#p7GPc1\\_2](http://www.ci.lynn.ma.us/covid19/resources.shtml#p7GPc1_2) for more information on how you can get a free COVID-19 test in the City of Lynn until September 12.

We will continue to provide regular updates on COVID-19 through the City website ([www.lynnma.gov](http://www.lynnma.gov)), social media, and the Smart 911 emergency notification system (sign up at [www.smart911.com](http://www.smart911.com)).

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# GREATER LYNN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE GOLF TOURNAMENT

Twenty teams prepared to play some golf with wonderful weather under a jet blue sky on carpet groomed fairways and greens. This 18-hole tournament had team teeing off either on the front or back tees ready to challenge the course.

GLCC Executive Director Colin Codner was thrilled to see the support from the membership participating in this fundraiser. The event was well organized by the Gannon Golf Course staff and took Covid-19 precautionary measures for safety allowances. Colin Codner explained, "We have some terrific sponsors as well as our event sponsor, Essex Apothecary of Lynn. My staff did a great job preparing for this day. All the proceeds benefit the GLCC educational programs to help businesses develop and to advance leadership skills".

The Greater Lynn Chamber of Commerce encompasses Southern Essex County. Its goal is to boost economic vibrancy in the area and strengthen business growth.



Salem Five on 10th tee – State Rep. Daniel Cahill, Atty. Brandon Ward, Lazy Dog President Tom Dill, and Salem Five Joe Scianatico.



Team Primerica Financial Services of Lynn – Scott Brogan, Shawn Ford, Matt Perry, and Jason Cerucci.



Law Office of James Carrigan – Mary Ann Calnan, Anne Gugino-Carrigan, Linda Holland, and Tina Burke.



Lazy Dog Pub & Grill – Michael Scimeni, Lynn School Committee Lorraine Gately, Estelle Dill, and Anthony Sharp.



Team 1 of Columbia Insurance – Dave Gautreau, Bob Marquis, John Olson, and David Pierce



Team 2 of Columbia Insurance – Former Lynn Classical Hockey player Chad Johnson, Jeff Callahan, Ryan Callahan, and Marc Stanieich.



Team Atlantic Ambulance Service – Christian Hassel, Dennis Cataldo, Andrea Zellen, and Daniel Hoffenberg.



Lynn Boys & Girls Club Team – Aaron Derr, Jeff Nesbitt, Brian Theirren, and Andrew Pitzer

## SEND US YOUR NEWS

The Lynn Journal 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 [Cary@lynnjournal.com](mailto:Cary@lynnjournal.com)

# Baker-Polito administration to replace railings along Lynn Shore Drive

Seeking to continue making infrastructure improvements within the state parks system, the Baker-Polito Administration today announced a \$423,000 project to replace the railing along Lynn Shore Drive in the City of Lynn. The project, which is expected to start the week of Monday, August 24, 2020 and be completed in fall 2020, will replace 2,200 feet of deteriorated railings.

“Each year, thousands of people take advantage of historic Lynn Shore Drive’s picturesque views and easy access to the Atlantic Ocean coastline,” said Department of Conservation and Recreation Commissioner Jim Montgomery. “This railing project is an excellent example of the Baker-Polito Administration’s commitment to state park

improvements across the Commonwealth.”

“It is great news that the project to replace the deteriorated railings around Lynn Shore Drive will be beginning next week,” said Mayor Thomas M. McGee. “Lynn Shore Drive is a major attraction in the City of Lynn for residents and visitors alike to walk, run, bike or engage in other recreational activities. These improvements will enhance their experience along our oceanfront.”

The existing railings were installed in 1994 and need to be replaced following years of wear and tear. Due to the close proximity to the ocean, the railings are subjected to saltwater during high tides that occur twice a day, a constant ocean mist, and additional major storm events. The

majority of the rail replacement work will be conducted in areas where tidal waters impact the structure the most.

“Lynn Shore Reservation is a precious resource that is enjoyed year round by residents from the North Shore and beyond. We must do all that we can to maintain its beauty,” said State Senator Brendan Crighton (D-Lynn). “I would like to thank the Friends of Lynn and Nahant Beach for their years of tireless advocacy for this project and the DCR for making it a priority.”

“It’s always great to see the State and local communities working together,” said State Representative Donald Wong

(R-Saugus). “For the beauty and safety of the public, I want to thank the Baker-Polito Administration for moving this project forward. The new railing will be a great improvement.”

“I am very pleased to learn that the Department of Conservation and Recreation will be replacing thousands of feet of deteriorated railings along Lynn Shore Drive,” said State Representative Peter Capano (D-Lynn). “Thank you to the Administration for their continued investment into state parks improvements across the Commonwealth.”

“Every year, residents of the North Shore flock to Lynn Shore Drive to take advantage of its

amazing views and accessible walkway,” said State Representative Dan Cahill (D-Lynn). “These improvements combined with the hard work by the Friends of Lynn and Nahant Beach will maintain the safety and beauty of our coastline.”

The new railings, which will occupy the same footprint as the existing railings, will be placed on top of the seawall. The railings will be 18 inches in height and 4 inches in diameter and will be painted federal color green. Furthermore, the rail replacement work will be scheduled around high tides and other tidal conditions.

## Lynn man charged in high-profile murder of Boston store clerk

Staff Report

Two days after convenience store clerk Tanjim Siam died of a gunshot wound suffered in a July 14, 2020, armed robbery, the man charged with his murder was ordered held without bail.

Stephon Samuels, 25, of Lynn, was arraigned during a court proceeding conducted virtually Monday in the Roxbury Division of the Boston Municipal Court on charges of murder, armed robbery with a firearm, armed assault to murder, unlawful possession of a firearm and unlawful possession of ammunition. He was also charged as a Level 1 Armed Career Criminal based on a 2016 conviction for a drug distribution offense. At the request of Second Assistant District Attorney Masai King, Judge Kenneth Fiandaca ordered Samuel held without bail while the case is pending.

Siam, 24, was working as a clerk at M&R Convenience Store on Shawmut Avenue in Roxbury shortly after 9 p.m. on July 14. Samuels entered the store and pretended to be interested in making a purchase, but instead produced a firearm and robbed the store. Despite the fact that the victim turned over the contents of the cash register and other items, Samuel allegedly forced Siam into another area of the store at gun point and shot him at close range. Samuel then fled the store. The armed robbery

and shooting were captured by the store’s video surveillance system.

Siam succumbed to his injuries on August 22.

According to prosecutors, finger prints at the scene of the shooting were individualized to Samuel. Samuel was arrested following an attempted armed robbery that occurred July 22 in Brockton. The firearm allegedly used in that incident was matched to ballistics evidence located where Siam was shot, prosecutors said.

“This was a shameful and cowardly act of violence against a man who did nothing but comply with his killer’s demands. My Office will hold this individual accountable for taking Mr. Siam’s life and for the harm and trauma that he has inflicted on Mr. Siam’s family and the community around this store,” District Attorney Rollins said. “My staff has been in close contact with the family and I have personally spoken with them. They are devastated. Siam came here for a better life and his life was violently stolen. We are working to provide this family, and all of our other survivors of homicide, with the resources and assistance that they need during this terrible time.”

Elise McConnell is the assigned Victim Witness Advocate. Samuel was represented by James Caramonica. He returns to court October 14, 2020.

## COVID-19 has changed everything.

Connect with our readers of *The Revere Journal*, *The Winthrop Sun Transcript*, *The East Boston Times Free Press*, *Chelsea Record*, *Everett Independent*, and *Lynn Journal* who are looking for options in light of the current crisis in our Sept. 2+3 and 9+10 editions:

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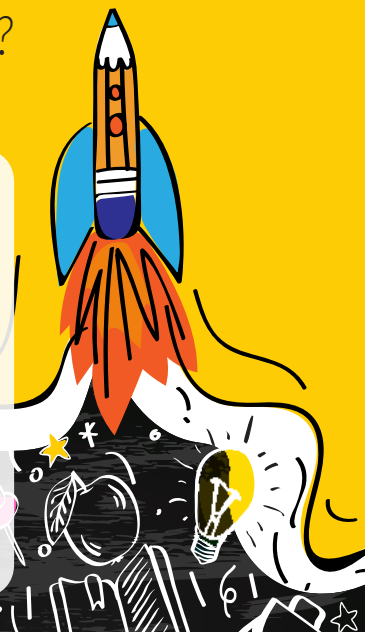
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# SENATOR ED MARKEY CAMPAIGNS IN LYNN

You never forget who helped you. Since becoming a US Senator, Ed Markey, always supported Lynn on the senate floor. He was a strong advocate for the people even when he served as a Congressman.

Senator Markey brought his campaign to Lynn. He stated, "Lynn is a better Lynn; it is a Lynn of the 21st Century with hope and optimism. Lynn is of inclusion for everyone, and Lynn

gives hope to families. Diversity does not make anyone weaker, but stronger. This diversity enriches Lynn". He continued to say how he is pushing for full funding to ensure every child to have internet services at home, so children can learn regardless to family income. It is important not to have any learning gaps occurring for the children, especially during the pandemic.

Senator Markey is fighting for

more funding for education and more funding for public safety, and for equal justice. He is fighting for Lynn and wants everyone to have opportunities. He is also fighting for the GE workers to be treated fairly.

A personal trait of Senator Markey is that he listens intensely when meeting with working people and families. His life-

long learning experience from childhood to Washington has helped him shape his awareness for the working class. He believes that everyone should have

a shot at the American Dream. Vote on September 1, Tuesday, to send Senator Ed Markey back to Washington to fight for the people.



Senator Markey addresses supporter who support his campaign for the US Senate.



Local 201 IUE CWA President Adam Kaszynski gives his support to Senator Ed Markey who always supported the union.



Colleen Kavanaugh shows her support for Senator Ed Markey.



Local official back Senator Markey – Councilor-at- Large Brian Field and Brian LaPierre, State Representative Peter Capano, and Mayor Tom McGee.



Councilor-at-Large Brian Field introduces Senator Markey.



Strong support for Senator Markey – Agnes Ricko, Joseph Scanlan, Renee Keaney, and Nancy Sullivan.



Mayor Tom McGee and his daughter, Katherine, greet Senator Ed Markey as he arrives in Lynn.

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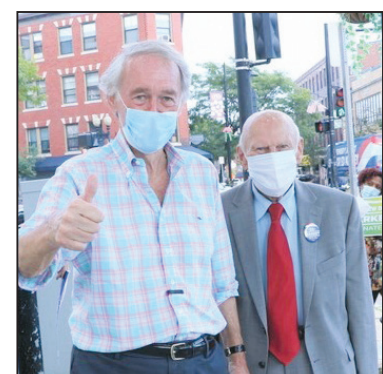
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**VOTE SEPT. 1ST**



Massachusetts Democratic State Committee member, Agnes Ricko, with Senator Ed Markey.



50 years of friendship – Former Lynn Mayor Thomas Costin with Senator Ed Markey.

### LYNN JETS HOCKEY FUNDRAISER AT GANNON GOLF COURSE

A gorgeous afternoon with a blue sky overhead and a balmy temperature were the ingredients to play some golf. This was the annual Lynn Jets Hockey Fundraiser to support the program for the upcoming season. Twenty teams participated in the tournament as groups teed off either in the front or back nine at the course.

Lynn Jet Varsity Coach, Mike Roberts, was so elated to have such a great turnout of support. "This is our biggest fundraiser. We really appreciate Gannon Golf Course giving us the opportunity to continue this event, especially under the Covid-19 circumstances. All proceeds provide for equipment, jerseys, and other needed accessories during the course of the season". As Mike continued to say, "This is not like previous years having a full dinner after golfing with a lot of interaction among the participants, but it still turned out to be a fun time. My committee and I thank the sponsorships and the golfers for being here".

The Lynn Jets players come from each public high school. Coaches put a lot of time into the program along with the support from the Hockey Booster Club. Home games are at Lynn Conery Rink.



Last group finishing toward a championship run – David Stanley, Robert Kimber, Lynn Jets Hockey Coach Mike Roberts, and Rob Harris.



Ladies practicing their putting skills – Terese Leonard, Marie Kasle, Cindy Donovan, Maureen Strileckis.



Sponsor Rick's Auto Body – Shawn and Jess Cushman and Lois and Lynn Ward 2 Councilor Rick Starbard.



Lynn Jets committee – Brian Boisson, Tim Leonard, Matt Leonard, and JR Plourde.



Lynn Jets Booster Moms – Diane Downey and Tara Porter.



First Team off the 10th Hole – Wayne Berry, Jay Leonard, Matt Bollen, and Jim Leonard.

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## NEWS FROM AROUND THE REGION

### CLARK SCHOOL NAMED AFTER MORRIE SEIGAL

CHELSEA - The City of Chelsea and the Chelsea School Committee would like to recognize and acknowledge that the Clark Avenue Middle School has been dedicated to Morris H. "Morrie" Seigal and will be forever designated as the Morris H. Seigal Clark Avenue Middle School.

The Chelsea School Committee recommended this dedication by vote on Feb. 7, 2019. However, due to COVID-19 in May, the formal dedication of the school is postponed.

Morris Henry Seigal was a lifelong resident of the City of Chelsea, and his contributions to the Chelsea Public Schools are to be commended.

Morris Henry Seigal lived his 92 years as a lifelong resident of Chelsea. He graduated from Chelsea High School before going on to receive his undergraduate degree from Salem State College and his graduate degree from Boston University. Seigal served a three-year tour in the U.S. Army during WWII, including 18 months of combat service in the South Pacific. During his 36-year career in the

Chelsea school system, Seigal was a teacher, master's assistant for grades 1-6, submaster at the Williams School, and lastly the headmaster at the Mary C. Burke School. He also served as president of the Chelsea Teacher's Union for several years. Morris served for 29 years on the Chelsea School Committee, elected in 1983 and was twice elected as School Committee Chairman. He was a youth director at the Young Men's Hebrew Association (YMHS) for 21 years and also served as the assistant director of Camp Menorah. Mr. Seigal sponsored the motion that led to the Boston University/ Chelsea Partnership, which resulted in the construction of four new schools in Chelsea. He was instrumental in the motion that resulted in the naming of these schools after Chelsea residents who had lost their lives while serving their country.

### NEW BUS LANE CONSTRUCTION TO START

CHELSEA - A dynamic, new dedicated bus and bike lane will start construction in the Broadway business district in September, with an eye to finishing up the project in three to four weeks before the end of the construction season.

Planner Alex Train and Public Works Director Fidel Maltez said they have all of the designs ready and approvals from the City Council and Traffic/Parking Commission.

"We've fully designed the bus lane project and are proceeding with construction in September," said Train. "We've had a lot of conversations with business owners concerning the implementation. But we're extremely excited for this and it's a positive and a great step in the right direction for mobility. Route 112 carries 12,000 people a day, and the Route 116 and 117 use the same route and carry more people every day. This bus lane will really improve these three big bus routes and create better waiting areas, too."

The bus lane will run along the western side of the Broadway and will be delineated by distinctive red paint to let drivers know to stay out of that lane when driving or parking. The lane will go from Bellingham Square southbound to Third Street/Everett Avenue. It will also accommodate bicyclists and provide a safer way for them to travel down Broadway as well. Meanwhile, the Fourth and Broadway bus stop will be widened and improved for those waiting there. The project is expected to cost \$570,000, and there is an online public meeting about the upcoming construction on Aug. 26 at 6 p.m.

One of the keys, Maltez said, is to make sure the Chelsea Police and City officials enforce the dedicated lane, which will not be separated with dividers or other traffic posts. He said that will be key, and that the Police are on board with it.

"That was one of the first challenges we wanted to take on," he said. "Enforcement is going to be the key... We want it ticketed and enforced. The red paint we believe will make a difference. We've seen it work in two places, including City Hall and Park Square. Having the red paint tells people not to go there. Just the red paint itself is a deterrent."

He also said they have begun to add more short-term parking zones along Broadway, and Train said they looked at frequent double parking spots and tried to home in on those areas for the short-term parking.

Those five-minute zones were unveiled along Broadway two weeks ago, and have been work-

### MASSIVE UPPER BROADWAY RECONSTRUCTION PROJECT



The massive Upper Broadway infrastructure and roadway project began on Monday at City Hall. Aqualine contractors will work the next two years to replace water and sewer pipes from Chelsea City Hall to the Revere line. After that, the City will reconstruct the roadway, sidewalks and drainage. The project is expected to wrap up in 2025.

ing well initially.

The Broadway bus and bike lane could also tie in to other routes too.

Maltez said for the bus aspect, there has been talk at the state level about adding a dedicated bus lane to the Mystic/Tobin Bridge. There is also a dedicated bus lane included in the re-design of Rutherford Avenue and the North Washington Street Bridge in Charlestown. With all those pieces working together, it could mean a seamless and quick ride to downtown Boston from Bellingham Square, he said.

"The Route 111 in particular would have a dedicated bus lane from Bellingham Square all the way to Boston if that dedicated lane come into effect on the Tobin in the future," he said.

Train said the bike lane aspect would tie into upcoming lanes on Williams and Beacham Streets, as well as a planned bike lane on Upper Broadway to the Revere line.

Looking to the long-term future, Train said there is a much larger project being designed with MassDOT to fully revamp downtown - including new utilities, sidewalks, paving, traffic signals and new public spaces. That has an estimated start date of 2025.

### BPDA TO HOLD ADDITIONAL MEETINGS

EAST BOSTON - The Boston Planning and Development Agency's (BPDA) Molly McGlynn is reminding East Boston residents there are still two more opportunities to participate in a virtual community meeting regarding the Suffolk Downs proposal.

McGlynn added that residents still have time to weigh in on the project through the Public Comment Period.

"The meetings will include Spanish and Arabic translation, and are posted to our website here: [www.bostonplans.org/projects/development-projects/suffolk-downs](http://www.bostonplans.org/projects/development-projects/suffolk-downs)," said McGlynn. "As part of these meetings, the agency will be seeking additional community input on the project through August 21."

The remaining virtual BPDA meetings are scheduled for Thursday, August 20 from 6:00 - 8:00 p.m. and Tuesday, August 25 from 6:00 - 8:00 p.m.

McGlynn added the virtual meetings are being held to facilitate additional outreach to Spanish- and Arabic- speaking residents, as part of the BPDA's review of the project. At each

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## Region / CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8

meeting, there will be a presentation by the proponent that will provide an overview of the project, anticipated impacts, and proposed mitigation.

Following the presentation, members of the public will be given an opportunity to ask questions and provide comments and feedback. Simultaneous translation services will be provided through the Zoom platform. Suffolk Downs project documents have been translated into Spanish and Arabic, and these are available to the public on the BPDA's and project proponent's websites.

With the BPDA poised to approve the 161-acre Suffolk Downs mixed-use project the community process came under some criticism that resulted in a civil rights complaint by the Lawyers for Civil Rights (LCR). LCR filed the civil rights complaint with the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) back in February.

The complaint charges that the BPDA has violated federal civil rights law by failing to make the Suffolk Downs review process accessible to non-English speakers.

According to the complaint filed on behalf of GreenRoots, Inc. and City Life/Vida Urbana, LCR is asking HUD to halt the project until the BPDA comes into full compliance with federal laws, and urge the City of Boston to voluntarily conduct an independent language access audit of all city agencies.

"We are not anti-development. We are pro-growth—smart and equitable growth," said Iván Espinoza-Madrigal, Executive Director of Lawyers for Civil Rights. "The BPDA was well aware that a significant percentage of East Boston residents speak primarily Spanish or Arabic. By failing to hire interpreters versed in the language of planning or zoning, or to translate key documents, the BPDA is effectively excluding immigrant residents of East Boston from the development process. Under well-settled federal law, this exclusion constitutes national origin discrimination."

If approved, the project will create an entirely new neighborhood in the heart of Eastie, a historically working-class community with a significant non-English speaking population.

McGlynn said each meeting will be hosted online, using Zoom.

"You must register for each

meeting through the links provided below, then you will receive a confirmation email with instructions for joining the meeting," she said. "You will also receive an email before the meeting regarding technical assistance. The meeting will open about 20 minutes before the start time for each meeting for you to join and troubleshoot any technical issues, including respecting simultaneous translation services. If you're calling in by phone, you'll need to download the Zoom application to see the presentation and access language interpretation."

### EAST BOSTON YMCA RETURNS

**EAST BOSTON** - The East Boston YMCA on Bremen Street has been busy all through the COVID-19 pandemic as a neighborhood food distribution site for families and a free emergency day care provider for essential workers.

As the state's phased COVID reopening plan began earlier this summer things at the Eastie Y have been slowly returning back to normal with some restrictions.

As summer programs began, the Eastie Y provided summer day care for youth with limited capacity and strictly enforced rules and regulations.

Recently another part of the Eastie Y's operations made a comeback.

The East Boston YMCA reopened its fitness portion of their operation to members at a reduced capacity.

"If this pandemic has shown us anything, it is that East Boston is a strong community," said the Eastie Y's Executive Director Joe Gaeta. "It has been 5 months and the community continues to pull together in its time of need. To this date, the Y has served over 250,000 meals, 3,000 produce bags and 6,000 plus hours of emergency childcare for children. The last missing part was the health and wellness portion of the Y's mission."

Under Governor Baker's phased plan, gyms were allowed to reopen in Phase 3 starting July 13.

Gaeta said the Eastie Y took its time to make sure all areas of safety were met before opening their doors.

"Our gym is very safe," said Gaeta. "The Y has taken measures that either meet or exceed the guidelines issued by the State. Each machine is spaced 14 feet apart and all group exercise classes are held outside. We have

a brand new reservation system where members secure space for 45 minutes and are in their own areas while working out, this allows for targeted cleaning of the equipment after each usage every hour on the hour."

Extra sanitation stations, advanced chemicals and shields are part of the Eastie Y's plan to keep members safe while on their fitness journey.

Gaeta said members who have returned have been very receptive to the new guidelines and excited about the new levels or precautions that the Y has labeled "Safe for you, Safe for us." For each entry, members must take a virtual pre-screen before arrival and temperature check to enter the facility, and masks are to be worn throughout their visit.

"Just because the gym side is open does not mean the Y has stopped its other areas of focus," said Gaeta. "The gym side opens at 1pm for members so that the Y can still be a beacon of food service for the community. We are still giving out grab and go meals and pantry bags at our Bremen Street and Ashley Street locations."

Gaeta said grab and go service is Monday through Friday 8 a.m.-12 p.m. at Bremen Street and 10am-2pm at Ashley Street. The Y is also still running its childcare center and summer camp at reduced capacities in line with the Department of Public Health.

"We have been very, very busy here at the Y, but we can see the difference we are making in East Boston" said Gaeta. "All of this work cannot be done without the generous support of members who opted to keep their memberships drafting while our gym and programs were on hold, their continued support is what keeps us serving the community."

Donations can still be made to the YMCA to help with their community efforts. Please contact Joe Gaeta at 617-418-8320 or [jgaeta@ymcaboston.org](mailto:jgaeta@ymcaboston.org) for more information.

### NOT A LOT OF FUNDRAISING IN STATE REP. RACE

**EVERETT** - While the race for state representative in Everett this summer has had a good deal of interest and debate – at a social distance of course – it hasn't generated a lot of fundraising or spending compared to other nearby races for state representative.

State records from the Of-

fice of Campaign and Political Finance (OCPF) have been revamped during this election cycle to require candidates to submit campaign reports every month – giving those on the outside a clearer look at how campaigns are running from month to month.

It, of course, has been a brave new world trying to campaign and raise money within the confines of COVID-19 restrictions, which means there are no in-person fundraising events or rallies or numerous house parties bent on raising money for campaigns. In all, incumbents have led the way due to their network of established donors from the past, and that was no exception in Everett where State Rep. Joe McGonagle outpaced his challenger, Councilor Michael McLaughlin in fundraising last month.

McGonagle and McLaughlin started June in relatively similar spots when it came to fundraising and capital available. However, McGonagle raised \$19,901 in July to bring his cash on hand to \$21,102 on July 31.

Some of his notable donations came from Councilors Anthony DiPierro and John Hanlon, as well as School Committeeman Frank Parker. Former House Speaker Tom Finneran, and his wife, Donna, also contributed to the campaign \$200 each in July. The Everett Superior Officers Union also contributed \$500 in July.

Maximum donations of \$1,000 came from the owner of Capitol Waste, EM Duggan's Executive Vice President and his wife, the owner of JK Glass Company, Natick Attorney Cheryl Kimball and June Corry of the South Shore.

Of the 82 donors to the campaign, 22 were from Everett – or about 27 percent.

It was a big month for the McGonagle campaign in July, though, as it only raised \$2,900 in June, showing that the campaign hit its stride with fundrais-

ing just last month. There were only seven donors to the campaign in June, and one was from Everett.

Meanwhile, for challenger Michael McLaughlin, July was also his biggest fundraising month, but he fell far short of the McGonagle war chest.

McLaughlin raised \$4,500 in July, and has \$4,887 on hand as of July 31.

Of his eight donations, four were from Everett and another two had extensive business in Everett – including Frank Mastrocola and Attorney Anthony Rossi.

Those giving the maximum donation of \$1,000 were Mastrocola, Lidia Rossi, Attorney Rossi, and Anthony Rossi Sr. of Everett.

The McLaughlin campaign did not show any fundraising in June.

On the expenditure side of things, July had nothing really to speak of from either candidate when it came to spending – though anecdotally the spending has seemed to pick up in August. Those numbers, however, will not be out until after the Sept. 1 Primary Election.

The largest expenditure in the campaign thus far has been from McGonagle to Somerville political consultant Feargal O'Toole. He was paid \$8,897 from the McGonagle Campaign in July.

The only other expenditures of note were \$500 in ads in June and \$450 in ads in July to Advocate Newspapers. There was also \$1,000 in printing costs in June to Connolly Printing of Woburn.

For McLaughlin, the only expenditures in July were \$125 to Independent News Group, and in June \$1,100 to Connolly Printing of Woburn.

Other state representative races in surrounding cities have far outpaced the Everett race, with incumbents and challengers raising significantly more money and spending it as well.

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# Department of Early Education announces regulations for child care

Staff Report

updates will provide flexibility for programs, while providing necessary space to maintain physical distancing between children.

The Minimum Requirements for Health and Safety, developed in coordination with medical experts as well as child care providers from across the Commonwealth, apply to all child and youth serving programs, including home-based child care and center-based child care.

"While we all must remain vigilant against the transmission of COVID-19, the updates to our requirements will ensure children and families can remain healthy and safe when relying on child care to go to work," said Commissioner Samantha Aigner-Tre-

worcy. "We are confident in our providers' ability to continue safely meeting the needs of children and families in their communities while supporting children's learning and development."

The Department's mission in reopening child care is to increase access to child and youth serving programs while continuing to protect children and staff and prevent the spread of COVID-19. EEC and the Department of Public Health (DPH) are working closely with stakeholders and experts in the field of epidemiology and pediatrics to develop solutions that balance the needs of children and families with public health and safety.

The Minimum Requirements

for Health and Safety include, but are not limited to:

- Returning center-based classroom group sizes to pre-pandemic limits.

- Allowing home-based child care providers flexibility in their maximum group size when their own children are at home and engaged in virtual learning.

Governor Baker issued an Executive Order requiring all early education centers and family childcare providers to close on March 23 to mitigate the spread of COVID-19. The Department of Early Education and Care (EEC) also issued emergency procedures to open Exempt Emergency Child Care Programs during the COVID-19 outbreak to give pri-

ority access for families of emergency personnel, medical staff, and others critical to confronting COVID-19.

Child care programs began the reopening process on June 22 when the Commonwealth moved to Step 2 of Phase 2. Providers had to submit plans to reopen to ensure they were prepared to implement the health and safety requirements.

Before child care was temporarily closed by Executive Order in March, Massachusetts had approximately 8,200 licensed child care programs in operation. To date, more than 5,300 child care programs have reopened, and another 1,000 are currently completing their health and safety plans to be approved to reopen.

# USPS Board of Governors announces bipartisan election mail committee

Staff Report

The United States Postal Service Board of Governors last week announced the establishment of a bipartisan Election Mail Committee that will actively oversee the United States Postal Service's support of the mail-in voting process. The committee will be chaired by Governor Lee Moak, who will be joined on the committee by Gov. Ron Bloom and Gov. John Barger.

The Postal Service has a long history of effectively helping Amer-

icans participate in elections via mail-in ballots, which are expected to account for less than two percent of all mail volume from mid-September until Election Day. However, because of the ongoing pandemic, many states are anticipating the expanded use of the mail for voting during the upcoming national election, and in some instances are allowing mail-in voting and no-excuse absentee voting for the first time under statute, and each state has unique requirements and deadlines for ballots under state laws.

The Election Mail Committee

will use its oversight role to reinforce the strong commitment of the Postal Service to the mail as an important part of the nation's democratic process, and will regularly monitor execution of USPS's work on election mail to ensure that our part of this election process is implemented in the most effective way possible.

In a joint statement, the Governors announced:

"The United States Postal Service will play an indispensable role in ensuring that those Americans who wish to vote by mail will be

able to do so and have their votes counted. The Governors take our responsibility with the utmost gravity, and we will work to ensure that the Postal Service continues to perform for the American people this election season.

"Postmaster General Louis DeJoy has the full support of the Governors. He was selected to help bring needed changes to the Postal Service, which has experienced over a decade of financial losses and faces the need for fundamental reform. The essential public service functions of the Postal Service

must be maintained, and the Postmaster General's reform initiatives will help ensure that they can be for many years to come."

The Governors of the U.S. Postal Service:

- Robert M. Duncan, Chairman of the Board
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- Roman Martinez IV
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# U.S. Department of Labor finds OSHA falling short when needed most

Staff Report

With unjust firings resulting from requesting a mask, reporting feeling sick, or suggesting safer work protocols to reduce the risk of COVID-19 infection, thousands of workers are finding their rights on the job being violated without consequence, according to MassCOSH.

As complaints of retaliation against whistleblowers skyrocket during the COVID-19 pandemic and the U.S. Department of Labor's Office of Inspector General (OIG) reporting workers suffering emotionally and financially, the Massachusetts Coalition of Occupational Safety and Health (MassCOSH) and its partners say workers' lives are at

risk due to a slow and inadequate response from the U.S. Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA).

According to an Aug. 14 investigative report from the U.S. Department of Labor's OIG, OSHA received more than 4,100 complaints of illegal retaliation against whistleblowers during the first months of the COVID-19 pandemic, from Feb. 1, 2020, through May 31, 2020. This is a 30-percent increase compared to complaints received during the same four-month period in 2019.

Despite the urgency of enforcing public health and safety laws to stop the spread of a deadly virus, OSHA has reduced the number of whistleblower inspectors. It now

takes 279 days for OSHA to complete a whistleblower investigation, an 86 percent increase from 2010.

"OSHA was challenged to complete investigations in a timely manner before the pandemic and the potential exists for even greater delays now," states the OIG report. "As COVID-19 illnesses and deaths continue to rise, OSHA needs to act quickly to investigate whistleblower complaints so employees feel protected when reporting unsafe working conditions."

"The reality of the situation is people are getting sick and some are dying because of a disease they acquired on the job," said

MassCOSH Communications Director Jeff Newton. "But due to a botched government response, when workers speak up to demand better safety, they are finding themselves without protection and can become targets for retaliation. OSHA is failing to give workers the protection they urgently need when they report dangers that put their lives, their families, and the public at grave risk."

This past June, the National Employment Law Project surveyed more than 1,100 workers nationwide and found that one in eight reported "possible retaliatory actions by employers against workers in their company

who have raised health and safety concerns during the pandemic." Black workers were more than twice as likely as their white counterparts to report possible acts of employer retaliation.

"U.S. OSHA must act immediately implement the inspector general's recommendations," said Marcy Goldstein-Gelb, co-director of the National Council for Occupational Safety and Health, a close MassCOSH partner. "Add staff. Cut red tape. Do whatever it takes to make protecting whistleblowers a priority. When workers can safely speak out, we can save lives in the workplace, and protect our families and communities."

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