

# THE LYNN JOURNAL

Thursday, September 3, 2020

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## RIGHT IN STEP

### Donna's Dance Studio's has brought joy to thousands of Lynn dance students

By Cary Shuman

It's always amazing how one person's decision can affect so many other lives.

When Donna Estes took a chance after graduating Lynn English School in 1973 and opened her own dance studio, there was no way of knowing that her career would affect so many students in such a positive way for decades to come.

This fall, Donna Estes will open the doors to Donna's Dance Studio, 15 Bessom St., - right next to the Holy Family Church - for her 48th consecutive year of teaching dance.

"I was 18 years old and I was very determined and very hard worker and my passion was my love - I had danced since I was three years old," recalled Estes about her beginnings as a dance studio owner.

The daughter of Grace Derby Moholland, who used to perform in daily shows at the Capitol Theatre in Central Square, Lynn, Donna enrolled in Dolly's Dance Academy on the Lynn Common as a young child.

Inspired by her mother's success and talent for dance, Donna studied dance and dedicated herself to dance all the way through her senior year at Lynn English.

That September, Donna opened her own studio at Ionic Club in Swampscott (and later at the Church of the Redeemer) after becoming professionally



Donna Estes is pictured outside Donna's Dance Studio, on Bessom Street in Lynn.

certified by Dance Masters of America. Forty-four students enrolled in her first class. By December, there were 90 students. By the following September, the enrollment had doubled at Donna's Dance Studio to 180.

Fifteen years later, Donna and her husband, Ken, a highly respected Lynn Police officer who is now retired, purchased a home on Bessom Street and after being granted a variance to convert their three-car garage into a dance studio and fully renovating it, Donna Estes had built her own home of dance just a few feet from the family home.

"The studio in my backyard,"

said Donna. "It's very convenient."

The two Estes daughters, Gracelyn and Delaine, were dancers at the studio and remain very supportive of Donna's Dance Studio to this day, often helping out at recitals and performances.

Thousands of Lynn students have learned to dance at Donna's studio, learning not only tap or jazz but how to be self-confident, have poise, and believe that any goal is attainable.

"Now it's generation after generation of Lynn families dancing

Please see DANCE Page 2

## Russo: Early trends in Lynn pointed to big Markey victory

By Cary Shuman

When Democratic State Committeeman Drew Russo saw the early results coming in from Lynn, he knew it was going to be a big night for U.S. Senator Edward Markey in the hotly contested Democratic Primary versus Congressman Joe Kennedy III.

Though Kennedy edged Markey in Lynn, the incumbent U.S. Senator from Malden rolled to a sizable margin of victory statewide.

"Based on Ed Markey's previous race versus Steve Lynch (when Lynch won Lynn by a 13-point margin), the closer Lynn

was this time, the better it was for Markey overall," said Russo.

Russo noticed Markey winning in Lynn's Ward 1, Ward 2, Precinct 1 (Fay Estates), the Beach Precincts, "and holding his own in places like Pine Hill and Ward 7, which in the past were traditionally Ted Kennedy strongholds - I knew then it was going to be a good night for Ed Markey."

The large margin of victory statewide surprised Russo. "I was blown away by the final vote total - it's just an extraordinary testament to the grit and determination of the Markey campaign

Please see ELECTION Page 3



City of Lynn Election Department personnel - Election Coordinator Sarah Bullock, Election Administrator Karen Richard, Asst. City Clerk Deb Ginivan, City Clerk Janet Rowe, and Election Clerk Deb Santos.

### A NOTE TO OUR ADVERTISERS & READERS

OUR OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED MONDAY, SEPT. 7TH IN OBSERVANCE OF LABOR DAY

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# EDITORIAL

## ENJOY A SAFE LABOR DAY WEEKEND

“Time and tide wait for no man,” wrote the poet.

The summer of 2020 is entering its final week as we approach the traditional Labor Day weekend and once again the summer season has flown by much faster than any of us would have liked, especially during a time when we find ourselves being held hostage by a microscopic virus.

But the calendar never lies and soon the summer of ‘20 will be just a memory.

Ordinarily, our end-of-summer editorial recalls the happiness and joy that the summer months have brought us. But this era of a pandemic has forced all of us to abandon almost every aspect of our traditional summer rituals, both big and small and on both communal and personal levels.

As this most awful of summer seasons winds down to just a few precious days, we certainly understand the desire on the part of many (if not all of us) to just let it all out, so to speak: “If this is the last, let’s make it a blast!”

But amidst the chaos in our lives, one thing that has not changed, and that requires even more urgency than usual, is our annual admonition to our readers to enjoy the Labor Day weekend safely.

We certainly do not wish to rain on anyone’s parade, so to speak, but we would be remiss if we failed to urge our readers that if they intend to have a good time, they should do so safely, both for themselves and their loved ones.

First and foremost, excessive drinking does not mix with anything -- whether it be boating, driving, water sports, hiking, bicycling, or just about any activity that requires some degree of coordination and observance of the rules of safety.

The news reports will be full of tragic stories over the weekend of those who died or were seriously injured in accidents that could have been avoided had excessive drinking not been involved.

In addition, though this is a holiday weekend for us, we must remember that the COVID-19 does not take a holiday. It always is lurking and seeking new victims who do not wear a face mask in public and who do not practice appropriate physical distancing at all times.

We must do our part to ensure that none of our loved ones -- let alone ourselves -- are among the inevitable, sad statistics.

We wish all of our readers a happy -- and safe -- Labor Day weekend.

## A SUMMER OF CHAOS AND TRAGEDY

As America approached the Memorial Day weekend of 2020, the death toll from COVID-19 in the United States stood at just under 100,000 of our fellow Americans.

But now, three months later, that number soon will have doubled, as our nation’s death toll from the virus approaches an astonishing and tragic 200,000 persons.

On May 25, a Black man, George Floyd, was murdered by a white Minneapolis police officer, who kept his knee on Mr. Floyd’s neck for more than eight minutes while Mr. Floyd lay prone on the ground until Mr. Floyd stopped breathing.

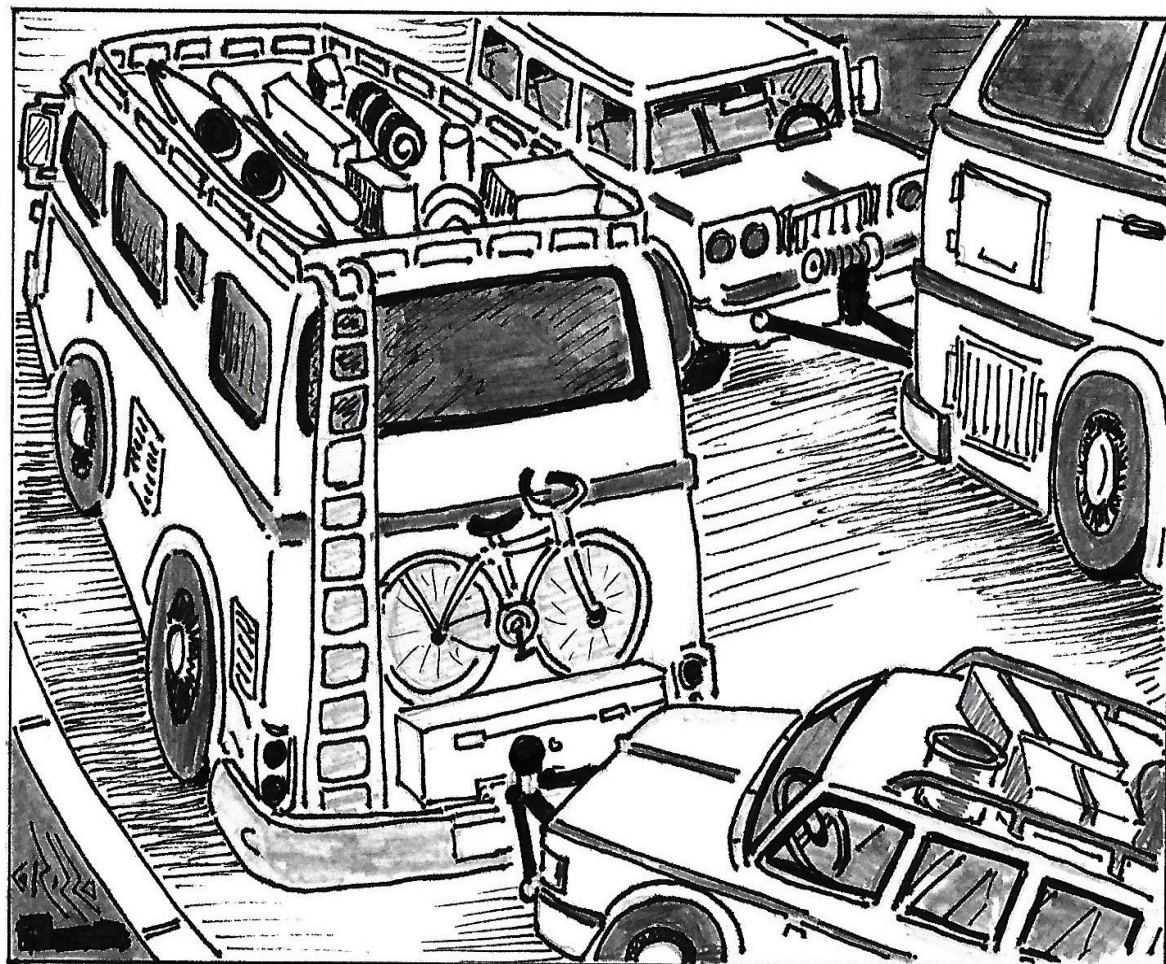
Three months later, a white Kenosha, Wisconsin police officer shot a Black man, Jacob Blake, seven times in the back in front of his three young sons, leaving Mr. Blake paralyzed from the waist down.

Neither Mr. Floyd nor Mr. Blake posed a threat to any of the officers such that the officers were justified in using deadly force.

In May 2020, our national unemployment rate and number of business failures stood at levels not seen since the Great Depression. Three months later, the improvement has been minimal with the spectre of worse to come thanks to the inaction by our leaders in Washington.

The Summer of 2020 has been a tragic disaster in this country by any and every measure. But instead of learning from our mistakes in order to move forward, our national leadership has offered no plan to alleviate the many problems we are facing.

Instead of giving us hope that better days lie ahead, the present administration’s dysfunction has ensured that America will continue to spiral downward.



AT HOME OR AWAY, ENJOY LABOR DAY

## Dance/ CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

at my studio,” said Donna. “I tell a lot of my students, ‘come and dance like your grandmother did.’”

Donna thanked all of her outstanding, professionally certified instructors who have taught alongside her at the studio for the past 47 years. One instructor,

Cara Lane, has been a dedicated member of Donna’s staff for 40 years.

“My staff is my extended family – we call it our dancing family,” said Donna.

This year due to the coronavirus, the season-ending Donna’s Dance Studio show had to be

canceled.

But Donna’s students wanted to show their appreciation to their beloved instructor. On Recital Day, the students participated in a gigantic drive-by parade, stopping with their families in the church parking lot next door to say “Thank You, Donna” for all you have meant to us every day.

“We have been with you on this day every year and to let it go by and not be with you somehow – we couldn’t do it,” the students and parents told Donna Estes.

“That day was awesome,” said Donna.

One student at a time, Donna Estes has been a bright, shining star in their lives. To enter Donna’s Dance Studio is to become a member of the family.”

“Dancing helps make students outgoing and confident in their abilities,” said Donna. “It’s so wonderful the friendships that my students have maintained with each other through the years,” said Donna.

This fall, that tradition of excellence and camaraderie will continue at the popular dance academy on Bessom Street.

## THE LYNN JOURNAL

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# Coalition to safely reopen schools citing serious occupational health concerns to be addressed

Staff Report

In response to the statewide push to reopen schools for in-person education, the recently formed Coalition to Safely Reopen Schools, has issued its position statement citing a number of issues that need to be addressed to ensure that schools can be reopened without jeopardizing the health and safety of students, staff, or the communities schools serve. As a result of that analysis, the Coalition is calling for a phased approach to reopening, with no in-person learning unless and until those issues are resolved.

The Coalition is a statewide collaboration of school nurses, teachers, parents, bus drivers, cafeteria workers, librarians, school support staff, janitorial staff, labor, occupational health and community advocates, who came together to provide a front-line perspective and concrete medically-informed recommendations for what is needed to safely reopen for in-person learning. The group complements and builds on a number of other position statements issued by local and national teachers associa-

tions, including the Massachusetts Teachers Association, and American Federation of Teachers Massachusetts, as well as expert analysis and reports provided by the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health, the Massachusetts Education Equity Partnership and the Massachusetts Coalition for Occupational Safety and Health. It also relies on the perspective of school nurses from throughout the state, who are responsible for the health and well-being of students and every member of the school staff, all of whom will be placing their own well-being and that of their families and communities at risk as a result of reopening during this unprecedented pandemic.

"This process represents one of the most consequential decisions our communities and our state will make as our state and nation construe to grapple with a pandemic that is still surging across the nation, showing signs of a second wave in our state, with the threat of the flu season looming," said Patty Comeau, RN, a member of the Coalition, the Massachusetts Nurses Association and a school nurse in Methuen. "In confronting this challenge a safe, scientifically

guided, well planned, adequately funded and appropriately resourced process must be the priority for all involved, as the stakes couldn't be higher and the outcome of our decisions truly have life and death consequences."

The statement also highlights the need to keep equity as the central focus of reopening in order to address the needs of families, and communities; particularly Black, Latino and those residents of disadvantaged communities across the Commonwealth, who have been hardest hit by the pandemic, and whose communities often lack the funding and school infrastructure to support a safe reopening at this time.

The position statement addresses 16 different areas of concern that need to be considered and addressed appropriately to ensure a safe reopening of schools for in-person learning, including:

- Proper ventilation and circulation of air;
- Assessing community resources for alternative school settings;
- Ensuring proper social distancing;

• Standardization and availability of PPE for all staff and students

• Resources and infrastructure to support hand hygiene and mask wearing;

• Safe cleaning practices;

• Addressing the health and safety of students with special needs;

• Access to rapid testing;

• Clear guidelines for contact tracing;

• Appropriate school nurse staffing;

• Space to isolate and monitor suspected or positive cases;

• Resources for safe transportation of students;

• Safe re-entry into school protocols;

• Comprehensive education and training of staff prior to reopening;

• Disparities in access to in-person learning;

• Preserving school staff pay and benefits.

The position statement clearly describes each specific area of concern as well as how each must be addressed to ensure a safe reopening. After completing this review, the Coalition position statement concludes:

"In light of all the issues we

have presented, the current lack of funding appropriated to address these issues, and the increased need for staff, PPE, testing and other resources to implement a safe reopening, at this time; we don't believe our State is ready to pursue in-person learning safely. And until these issues are resolved, it is also not safe to have staff stationed in these schools to conduct remote learning for students."

The Coalition calls for the state and school districts to reopen for remote learning, while taking the time to develop comprehensive plans with the infrastructure, protocols, staffing, funding and training "to safely institute in-person learning that we all know our students deserve."

The organizations that have endorsed the document to date include: American Federation of Teachers Massachusetts, Massachusetts Association for the Chemically Injured, Massachusetts Coalition for Safety and Health, Massachusetts Jobs with Justice, Massachusetts Nurses Association, Massachusetts Teachers Association and Service Employees International Union Local 888.

## Election/ CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

and the Senator himself."

Russo, who supported Markey in the election, offered his personal congratulations to the winning candidate.

"I was with him all the way, right from the beginning," said Russo. "Even when Kennedy got in the race, I decided I was 'sticking with Ed,' which has been the hashtag they've using on social media.

"Ed Markey is one of the happiest warriors that I've met in politics," said Russo. "He is a guy that really exudes joy and really brings a lot of thoughtful determination to the job. Ed put a phenomenal campaign team together led by John Walsh, chair of the Massachusetts Democratic Party. I congratulate Sen. Markey on his victory and look forward to supporting him in the November election."

Markey will be facing off against Republican nominee Kevin O'Connor in the election on Nov. 3.

Congressman Seth Moulton, who represents Lynn in the House of Representatives, easily won the Democratic Primary, besting challengers Jamie Belsi-

to and Angus McQuilken.

City Clerk and Election Chief Janet Rowe did an outstanding job conducting the Primary

Election that had a tremendous number of mail-in ballots due to the coronavirus.

# INDEPENDENT

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# RMV to offer designated service hours for customers 75 or older

Staff Report

The Massachusetts Registry of Motor Vehicles (RMV) is announcing that it will begin offering dedicated service hours for customers who are 75 years of age or older and are required to renew their Massachusetts driver's license in person.

The new designated service hours will be by appointment only and will be offered on Wednesdays through the month of September at select service center locations. The services will begin on Wednesday, Sept. 2, at the Watertown Service Center with additional locations in Danvers, Leominster, New Bedford, and South Yarmouth to start beginning on Wednesday, Sept. 9. The RMV is offering this new customer service option to facilitate proper "social-distancing" protocols to keep customers and staff safe and healthy.

Throughout September, certain service centers will dedicate Wednesdays (hours vary by location) to customers 75 years of age or older whose driver's license or

ID card expires in September, including customers whose licenses/IDs were extended until September (March, April, and May expirations).

The following service centers will exclusively serve these customers who make renewal appointments:

- Danvers Service Center (starting Sept. 9)
- Leominster Service Center (starting Sept. 9)
- New Bedford Service Center (starting Sept. 9)
- South Yarmouth Service Center (starting Sept. 9)
- Watertown Service Center (starting Sept. 2)

Below are the options for seniors to renew by appointment:

•If you are a AAA member, you may make a reservation now to renew your driver's license/ID at a AAA location. Visit [aaa.com/appointments](http://aaa.com/appointments) to schedule your visit.

•If you are not a AAA member, visit [Mass.Gov/RMV](http://Mass.Gov/RMV) to make a reservation to renew at an RMV Service Center. Select the Seniors License Renewal option

on the Make/Cancel a Reservation transaction.

•Email the RMV for assistance to renew at [MassDOTRMVSeniors@dot.state.ma.us](mailto:MassDOTRMVSeniors@dot.state.ma.us) email address.

•Call the RMV at 857-368-8005.

License and ID renewal appointments are also available at our other open RMV Service Centers that offer general appointments to the public. Select Renew My Driver's License or Mass ID option on the Make/Cancel a Reservation at [Mass.Gov/RMV](http://Mass.Gov/RMV) to view availability and make a reservation at one of these locations.

The RMV is introducing this service channel alternative in light of the COVID-19 public health emergency to encourage 'social-distancing' in its Service Centers and prioritize other essential in-person needs by appointment-only. All RMV customers are encouraged to visit [www.Mass.Gov/RMV](http://www.Mass.Gov/RMV) to complete one of over 40 other transactions available online, by mail, or by phone.

## OBITUARIES

### Vincent Steriti

Retired Revere Fire Department Deputy Chief

Vincent A. "Jim" Steriti, 94, died August 31 at his home in Nahant surrounded by his loving family.

The husband of the late Elizabeth "Betty" (Oliver) Steriti, he was born in Revere, March 14, 1926, the son of the late Albert and Theresa (DiGianni) Steriti.

Raised in Revere and a graduate of Revere High School, he moved to Nahant in 1973.

He was a US Army Veteran of World War II serving as a Sergeant in the U.S. Army Air Corps. He served as an airplane armorer in the Asiatic Pacific Theater with the 39th Fighter Squadron. Jim was a member of the American Legion Post in Nahant, a member of the Motto VFW Post 4524 in Revere and a communicant of St. Thomas Aquinas Church in Nahant.

Jim served as a Deputy Chief in the Revere Fire Department. He retired in 1977 after 26 years of service to the City of Revere.

He is survived by two sons, Edward Steriti, a Revere Firefighter, and his wife, Antonia of Nahant and Dr. John Steriti and his wife, Kristen of Lynn; four daughters: Dianne Skreslet-Doucette and her husband, Donald of Peabody, Linda Cataldo and



her husband, Robert of Wakefield, Carol Steriti and her partner, Richard Sek of Revere and Judy Steriti and her partner, Kevin Bailey of Nahant. He leaves a companion, Joan Buccini of Revere. He was "Grumpy" to his 13 grandchildren and nine great grandchildren. He was the brother of Nora Moccia of Lynnfield, Rosemarie Maloney and her husband, Bill of Peabody and the late Angelo Steriti, Father Edward Steriti OCSO, and Eleanor Misci.

Jim's funeral will be private. The family prefers donations in lieu of flowers to support, St. Joseph's Abbey, 167 North Spencer Road, Spencer, Massachusetts 01562. Guestbook at [www.solimine.com](http://www.solimine.com)

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## 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:

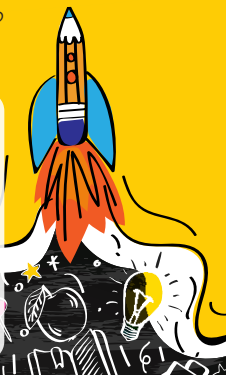
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## LOCAL STUDENTS EARN ACADEMIC HONORS

### CABRERA GRADUATES FROM RIT

Jonathan Cabrera of Lynn graduated from Rochester Institute of Technology with a BS in applied arts and sciences. Some 4,000 degrees were conferred in the 2019-2020 academic year at all of RIT's campuses. A virtual celebration was held May 8 at rit.edu/classof2020.

Rochester Institute of Technology is home to leading creators, entrepreneurs, innovators and researchers. Founded in 1829, RIT enrolls about 19,000 students in more than 200 career-oriented and professional programs, making it among the largest private universities in the U.S.

The university is internationally recognized and ranked for academic leadership in business, computing, engineering, imaging science, liberal arts, sustainability, and fine and applied arts. RIT also offers unparalleled support services for deaf and hard-of-hearing students. The cooperative education program is one of the oldest and largest in the nation. Global partnerships include campuses in China, Croatia, Dubai and Kosovo.

### EMERSON COLLEGE ANNOUNCES 2020 GRADUATES

On Sunday, May 10, Emerson College awarded 959 undergraduate degrees for the Class of 2020. The College is committed to holding a graduation ceremony for the Class of 2020 in person when it is safe to do so, at a to be determined date.

The College launched an Emerson 2020 Celebration website to honor graduates' achievements with more than 800 submissions from students, families, alumni, faculty, and staff, which includes photos, videos, audio submissions, and text. The website strives to reflect the many facets of the Class of 2020 and the wider Emerson community - its creativity, daring, thoughtfulness, irreverence, and humor.

Video submissions include well wishes from well-known alumni and celebrities in the entertainment industry, including actors Jennifer Coolidge, Henry Winkler, comedians Jay Leno, Bill Burr, and Steven Wright, screenwriter Adele Lim, actress Chrystee Pharris, and producer Kevin Bright, among others.

Dakota Deluca of Lynn received a BA degree in Writing, Lit and Publishing.

### CORMIER NAMED TO DEAN'S LIST AT QUINNIPIAC UNIVERSITY

The following Lynn student was named to the dean's list for the Spring 2020 semester at Quinnipiac University:

Hadassah Cormier

To qualify for the dean's list, students must earn a grade point average of at least 3.5 with no grade lower than C. Full-time students must complete at least 14 credits in a semester, with at least 12 credits that have been graded on a letter grade basis to be eligible. Part-time students must complete at least six credits during a semester.

### JOLAOSO NAMED TO SPRING DEAN'S LIST AT AMERICAN INTERNATIONAL COLLEGE

Ahmed Jolaoso, of Lynn, has been named to the Spring 2020 Dean's List at American International College (AIC). Dean's List students are full time students who have achieved a 3.3 to 4.0 GPA. The College commends the extraordinary achievement and commitment of this scholar's accomplishment during an unprecedented time.

Founded in 1885, American International College (AIC) is a private, co-educational, doctoral granting institution located in Springfield, Massachusetts, comprising the School of Business, Arts and Sciences, the School of Education, and the School of Health Sciences. AIC supports and advances education, diversity, and opportunity for its students and the community.

### BUCKLIN NAMED DEAN COLLEGE MAY 2020 GRADUATING HONORS SCHOLAR

Emily Bucklin of Lynn has been named a May 2020 graduating Honors Scholar at Dean College.

Dean College is proud to recognize the May 2020 graduating Honors Scholars. This recognition, developed by the College in 2010, is designed to acknowledge those students who have been active in the Honors Program during their entire time at Dean. These students have taken honors courses throughout their degree program and excelled in them. They have participated in

honors program activities and have earned outstanding grades overall. These students have challenged themselves academically by enrolling in the most rigorous courses on campus. Congratulations to this year's recipients!

### MIESES NAMED TO DEAN'S LIST AT BATES COLLEGE

Abraham Mieses of Lynn was named to the dean's list at Bates College for the winter semester ending in April 2020. This is a distinction earned by students whose cumulative grade point average is 3.8 or higher.

Mieses, the child of Jose O. Mieses and Rosario E. Fresco of Lynn, Mass., is a 2019 graduate of St. John's Preparatory School.

Located in Lewiston, Maine, Bates is internationally recognized as a leading liberal arts college, attracting 2,000 students from across the U.S. and around the world.

### SAINT ANSELM COLLEGE ANNOUNCES DEAN'S LIST

Saint Anselm College has released the Dean's List of high academic achievers for the second semester of the 2019-2020 school year of Lynn students. To be eligible for this honor, a student must have achieved a grade point average of 3.3 or better in the semester with at least 12 credits of study which award a letter grade. A total of 879 students representing 26 states and 6 countries received this honor.

Mark W. Cronin, Dean of the College, announced that the following students have been named to the Dean's List for the spring 2020 semester at Saint Anselm College, Manchester, New Hampshire.

Hannah R. Bates, 2023, Biology  
Jackson P. Heath, 2021, Politics  
Meaghan L. Hennessey, 2023, Politics  
Adelina M. Katzounos, 2020, Nursing  
Olivia S. Shkliwey, 2020, Biology

### UMF ANNOUNCES DEAN'S LIST FOR SPRING SEMESTER

The University of Maine at Farmington is proud to announce that Katryn Barr of Lynn has been named to the Dean's List

for the spring 2020 semester. Located in the heart of Maine's four-season outdoor recreational region, UMF is nationally recognized for its academic excellence, affordability and graduates' positive career outcomes.

UMF maintains a Dean's List each semester for those students completing a minimum of 12 credits in courses producing quality points. Students whose grade point average for the semester is equal to or greater than 3.8 are awarded high academic achievement.

### UNION COLLEGE ANNOUNCES 2020 DEAN'S LIST

Union College has announced its Dean's List for the 2019-2020 academic year. Students with at least a 3.50 grade point average for the entire academic year were honored with the academic achievement.

Josue Blas, of Lynn; Blas is a member of the Class of 2022 majoring in Biology.

Jennifer Duran, of Lynn; Duran is a member of the Class of 2020 majoring in Economics.

Corinne Jean-Gilles, of Lynn; Jean-Gilles is a member of the Class of 2020 majoring in Political Science.

Union College, founded in 1795 as the first college chartered by the New York State Board of Regents, offers programs in the liberal arts and engineering to 2,100 undergraduates of high academic promise and strong personal motivation. Union, with its long history of blending disciplines, is a leader in educating students to be engaged, innovative and ethical contributors to an increasingly diverse, global and technologically complex society.

### URI STUDENTS NAMED TO THE SPRING 2020 DEAN'S LIST

The University of Rhode Island is pleased to announce the Spring 2020 Dean's List. The students represent nearly all of Rhode Island's cities and towns, all six New England states, New York and New Jersey, and many other states and countries.

To be included on the Dean's List, full-time students must have completed 12 or more credits for letter grades during a semester and achieved at least a 3.30 quality point average. Part-time students qualify with the accumulation of 12 or more credits for letter grades earning at least a

3.30 quality point average.

The following students from your area were named to the Dean's List:

Celina Chau of Lynn  
Olivia Langlois of Lynn  
Matthew Meigs of Lynn  
Gabrielle Soares of Lynn

The University of Rhode Island's pioneering research extends the University's influence well beyond its coastal borders, while its unique interdisciplinary courses provide its 16,852 undergraduate and graduate students with global opportunities in an intimate environment. In May 2020, more than 3,500 undergraduate and about 700 graduate degrees were awarded. The University now has more than 120,000 alumni worldwide.

### WORCESTER POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE ANNOUNCES SPRING 2020 DEAN'S LIST

The following local residents were among 1,749 students from Worcester Polytechnic Institute (WPI) named to the university's Dean's List for academic excellence for the spring 2020 semester.

Grace Gately of Lynn is a member of the class of 2022 majoring in industrial engineering.

Kyle Lopez of Lynn is a member of the class of 2023 majoring in robotics engineering.

The criteria for the WPI Dean's List differs from most other universities as WPI does not compute a grade point average (GPA). Instead, WPI defines the Dean's List by the amount of work completed at the A level in courses and projects.

"WPI's academic programs are rigorous and require a level of independence beyond what is required in traditional courses. WPI students work on open-ended problems for communities around the world. The problems are important and the impact is real" said dean of undergraduate studies Arthur C. Heinricher. "Some of this nation's best and brightest students come to WPI to study engineering and science and business and the humanities. Those named to the Dean's List have excelled in all of their work, and we are exceptionally proud of these outstanding students."

Please Recycle

## Lina Rehal, local author, launches latest romance book

Local author Lina Rehal has self-published her fifth contemporary romance, *Someday is Here*.

Photographer Blair Emerson reconnects with Jace Cooper, the handsome electrical engineer who left town fifteen years ago to sail around the world. Excited that he's found Blair again through social media, Jace invites the beautiful ex-wife of a former business associate to visit him at his home in Fort Lauderdale. Reluctantly, she accepts. When things heat up between them, it becomes difficult for him to honor his promise of a no strings attached vacation.

Rehal is an active member of The Red Rock Rewriters, a weekly writing group that meets at the Swampscott Library and The Independent Author Network. Her books are available on Amazon.com in paperback and Kindle formats.

For information about other books by this author, visit [www.linarehal.com](http://www.linarehal.com) or contact Lina Rehal at [rehalcute@aol.com](mailto:rehalcute@aol.com).



Local author Lina Rehal holding her latest romance book.

## Baker deactivates the National Guard after a few days

By Seth Daniel

After calling up the National Guard on Friday, Aug. 28, for up to 1,000 Guardsman to potentially help municipal leaders, Gov. Charlie Baker deactivated the National Guard on Monday.

Baker said National Guard members were there to assist municipalities until further order. National Guard personnel were ready to assist cities and towns throughout the activation but did not take an active role in any municipal operations.

The worry seems to have been

about potential protests following the police-involved shooting of Jacob Blake in Wisconsin.

Major protests did not materialize throughout the region though.

"Following coordination with municipal leaders through the weekend regarding potential large scale demonstrations, Governor Baker today (Aug. 31) authorized the Adjutant General of the Massachusetts National Guard to end the Governor's Aug. 28 activation order. That activation, which made Guard personnel available in the event that municipal leaders required

their assistance, will end at midnight tonight," said an administration spokesperson.

Personnel drawn from the Guard's military police units undergo federally-accredited police training and receive additional instruction on Massachusetts police training standards. When assisting a local police department, they use that department's policies, radio frequencies, etc., whenever possible. While federal Title 32 funding has been extended for COVID-19 missions, Guard personnel activated by this order served on state active duty.

SYMPTOMS	COVID 19	FLU
Fever	✓	✓
Loss of Taste, smell	<b>DIFFERENCE</b>	✓
Fatigue, Weakness	✓	✓
Runny Nose	✓	✓
Body Aches, Headache	✓	✓
Symptoms last 5 – 7 days	<b>DIFFERENCE</b>	✓

## Local doctors launch 'Fight the Twindemic!' campaign

Local doctors warn you need a flu shot this year more than ever before because of the looming 'Twindemic' about to strike here and across the country.

They're talking about the double whammy of flu and COVID 19 hitting at the same time, threatening to sicken more of us and overwhelm our medical facilities and resources.

That's why physicians with American Family Care, a national healthcare network with a local clinic, have launched a crusade called 'Fight the Twindemic' to educate families about the importance of flu vaccines and the differences between the flu and COVID-19.

Our local docs will answer:

- Who should get a flu shot and where do you get it?
  - How can you tell the difference between the flu and COVID-19?
  - Can you get both?
  - Interviews can be done virtually (Zoom, Skype, Facetime) or you are welcome to come to our clinic to interview docs and possibly patients.
- 'Fight The Twindemic!' Education Campaign
- 1 Protect Yourself
    - Flu season runs from December through February. Unlike Covid, with no proven vaccine available yet, the flu has a vaccine that can protect you from getting the virus or at least reduce the severity of your symptoms – by 40 to 60 percent.
    - While the race to come up with a Covid-19 vaccine con-

tinues, companies that make flu vaccines are boosting supplies to meet what they expect will be higher demand this year.

• The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommends that everyone 6 months and older get a flu vaccine by the end of October – because it takes a few weeks for the vaccine to provide protection.

2 Understand Virus Variations  
The flu and COVID-19 are both contagious respiratory illnesses that share many of the same signs and symptoms such as dry cough, fever, and shortness of breath.

So what are the differences?  
There are some distinct differences that set them apart.

- A loss of smell and taste is a symptom connected to Covid-19 and is considered rare among flu sufferers.
- Flu symptoms come on rapidly, whereas symptoms for COVID-19 can take upwards of 14 days to appear.

3 Don't Double Your Trouble

- It is possible to get sick with both the flu and Covid-19 at the same time.
- Although both viruses are spread through droplets from an infected person and share similar symptoms, they use different receptors on our cells once inside the body. So, yes, this allows for a double infection in the same person.
- Cases are rare right now and experts want to keep it that way by warning Americans to get a flu shot.

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# Save the Harbor and Brain Arts bring you Beats on the Beach virtual music contest

The environmental advocacy organization Save the Harbor/Save the Bay and the non-profit Brain Arts Organization have teamed up this summer to connect people to the region's public beaches during the pandemic through free virtual arts and wellness programs that amplify the voices of area BIPOC artists as part of their Better Beaches Program Partnership.

"We think that the best way to save the harbor is to share the harbor with free events and programs for everyone to enjoy," said Save the Harbor Executive Director Chris Mancini. "But the truth is that not everyone feels welcome on some of our region's most spectacular, and cleanest, public beaches. After the murder of George Floyd and in the face of ongoing violence and oppression faced by BIPOC communities across the country, Save the Harbor is emphasizing our commitment to marginalized groups by working with our current and new partners to make sure that everyone feels welcome on our beaches.

This new collaboration with the Dorchester based Brain Arts Organization features a nature-based wellness and healing series and a beach soundscape music competition hosted by local Black artists and producers LDER and Rilla Force, and judged by Boston-born poet, rapper and educator, Oompa. Participants will create a beat from a series of sounds recorded by the producers on Boston's beaches, and Oompa will select the best



Joye Williams, Founder of Joyefully Natural, emerges from the sea after a salt scrub at Nantaket Beach

beat and create an original song using it. The competition began on August 17 and will close on September 7. The winner will receive a cash prize of \$200.

The Harbor Healing series features virtual meditation, healing and wellness guides from the Sistahs of the Calabash, Joye Williams from Joyefully Natural and You Good Sis.

"Community members enjoy and connect to the beach in many different ways" said Joye Williams, Save the Harbor's Senior Staff Assistant and Founder and herbalist at Joyefully Natural. "Whether you prefer guided meditation or simply swim in the clean water, enjoying the beach enhances your mood and improves your mental, physical and spiritual well being. Understanding the different

ways people enjoy and experience the beach increases our understanding of each other, our communities and the natural world."

The Brain Arts Organization and all of the artists taking part in Harbor Healing and Beats On The Beach are part of a crucial effort to help welcome all community members to the beaches and encourage everyone to take ownership of the public beaches near them.

"Part of our mission is to foster a culture where individuals can create their own power and opportunities, so reclaiming our city's beaches for Black wellness and creativity is a very exciting project for us," says Emma Leavitt, the director of the Brain Arts Organization. "We are grateful for the opportunity to creatively activate this space with our community and we hope that this becomes a sustaining relationship that builds from year to year."

"Amplifying the voices of Black, Brown, and Indigenous folks is a priority as these marginalized communities continue to fight for their lives," said Save the Harbor's Community Engagement Coordinator Maya Smith. "We hope that creating this engaging community arts project with Black and POC voices at the forefront will continue making our beaches more welcoming to all of our diverse community members."

Save the Harbor/Save the Bay has led and managed the Better Beaches Program Partnership with



Boston-based music producers Rilla Force and LDER gather natural sound for the Beats on the Beach contest

the Department of Conservation and Recreation for more than a decade, distributing grants to community partners in Nahant, Lynn, Revere, Winthrop, East Boston, South Boston, Dorchester, Quincy, and Hull, which have been used to host 870 free events and programs for the nearly 2 million regional residents who live within a short ride or drive to the beach.

Save the Harbor/Save the Bay would like to thank the Baker-Polito Administration, the Massachusetts Legislature, the Metropolitan Beaches Commission, the Department of Conservation

& Recreation, the Boston Centers for Youth and Families, Harpoon Brewery, JetBlue, the Richard Saltonstall Charitable Foundation, National Grid, P&G Gillette, and all the Better Beaches Program funding partners and event sponsors for their support of the Better Beaches Program.

To enter the music competition, visit the Beats on the Beach webpage at [savetheharbor.org/beats](http://savetheharbor.org/beats). To learn more about Save the Harbor/Save the Bay or the Brain Arts Organization, visit their websites at [savetheharbor.org](http://savetheharbor.org) and [brainarts.org](http://brainarts.org)

*Labor Day is a good day to rest the hands and give the brain a chance to think about what has been, and is, and is yet to be.*

*This is the day for workingmen and women to think of the Class Struggle and the Ballot — the day of labor to clasp the hand of labor and girdle the globe with the international revolutionary solidarity of the working class.*

*We are all one — all workers of all lands and climes. We know not color, nor creed, nor sex in the labor movement. we know only that our hearts throb with the same proletarian stroke that we are keeping step with our class in the march to the goal and that the solidarity of labor will vanquish slavery and humanize the world.*



## HAPPY LABOR DAY

*Charles Gaeta, Executive Director | Laura Walsh, Chairperson  
Board of Commissioners Susan McGinnis-Lang,  
Steve Martin, Robert Muise, & Frederick Russell*

**~ CELEBRATE SAFELY ~**

## NEWS FROM AROUND THE REGION

### INTERSECTION PROCESS MOVES AHEAD

CHELSEA - The intersection of Carter Street and Everett Avenue is one of the busiest traffic areas in Chelsea.

Chelsea High School is the main landmark, with students entering and exiting the school on to both streets. The popular Floramo's Restaurant is located just yards away while customers from Market Basket and Renee Caso Griffin's two Dunkin' stores drive through the intersection on a regular basis.

The well-known intersection is being transformed into one that will be safer and more aesthetically pleasing, and home to the most technologically advanced traffic-signalization available.

Ben Cares, infrastructural planner and project manager for the Chelsea Department of Housing and Community Development Department, and Rebecca Wright, assistant city engineer from the DPW, hosted a public meeting Monday to talk about the major vehicular, pedestrian and bicycle improvements that will be coming to the intersection and the adjacent streets.

Cares said he would be the lead project for the intersection project.

"This particular project is an intersection and roadway improvement project at the intersection of Carter Street and Everett Avenue - it's just adjacent to Chelsea High School," explained Cares to those who were unfamiliar with the area. "It's very much in need of pedestrian improvement via signalization, updated signalization for vehic-

ular traffic, lane markings, and some minor ramp reconstruction to bring everything to ADA compliance."

Cares said the approximate cost of the project will be \$540,000 and it will be funded through a grant from the MassDOT Complete Streets Program.

Cares said that Rebecca Wright will be helping with field engineering and day-to-day activities on site. Dagle Electrical will be the contractor and The Engineering Corps (TEC) will be the on-site engineers for the project.

Wright unveiled renderings that showed the existing intersection and the changes that will include line-striping, bump-outs, extension of the sidewalks, and the replacement of a wheelchair ramp.

There will also be new bicycle lane pavement markings designed for use for bicyclists in a separate lane away from vehicles. New wheelchair ramps are also planned for Beech and Carter streets.

Wright also said bicyclists will also have specific lanes that will run down Carter Street to Blossom Street.

"Another part of the project is traffic signal improvements," said Wright. "We have the new Miovision detection (that instantly reduces the amount of traffic back-ups), new mast arms (steel structures that hold the traffic signals above the roadway), and new pedestrian signals," said Wright.

Rectangular, rapid-flashing traffic beacons will also be installed at the intersection to alert vehicles and assist pedestrians intending to cross the intersec-

tion.

Cares said the city has been in "close coordination with Chelsea High School and surrounding businesses" about the project and its impacts on traffic during the construction process. Cares added that he welcomes suggestions from residents about the project, the construction launch date of which was not announced at the meeting.

Councillor-at-Large Leo Robinson, who grew up on Fourth Street, praised the project, saying that, "Anytime that enhances the city and makes it safer, I'm all in," said Robinson. "Traffic lights, street lights, let's make the area safer and brighten up the area."

### TASTE OF CHELSEA ON SEPT. 14

CHELSEA - The Taste of Chelsea, one of the premier events on the city's social calendar for the past 16 years, will be held virtually next month.

Under the leadership of Joseph Vinard and the Chelsea Chamber of Commerce, the "Tastes" have consistently drawn large crowds to the venue under the tent at Eastern Mineral, 99 Marginal St. The event has raised more than \$1.2 million for HarborCov, a local shelter that assists survivors of domestic violence.

Kourou Pich, executive director of HarborCOV, said the virtual Taste of Chelsea will be held on Zoom on Monday, Sept. 14, from 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Pich said guests are being encouraged to buy tickets and join the program on Zoom.

"Because so many residents have been impacted by the pandemic, we're going to ask that people buy takeout orders or gift certificates from restaurants and join the 2020 Taste of Chelsea virtually," said Pich.

The Taste of Chelsea Program The program will begin with a slide show about last year's Taste of Chelsea and the 2020 event sponsors. There will also be a presentation about HarborCov's mission and statistics related to domestic violence.

At 6:30 p.m. Vinard will deliver welcoming remarks. Pich will then speak about the purpose of the Taste of Chelsea and how the funds raise support survivors of domestic violence.

"The funds help out people who are at the shelter and go towards rental assistance, food gift cards, transportation, childcare and hotel rooms in times of

### LIGHTNING STRIKE



PHOTOS BY CHELSEA SCANNER

Sunday evening featured a major and long-lasting electrical storm throughout Chelsea and Greater Boston. Hundreds of lightning strikes and flash flooding occurred. Here, Chelsea Scanner was able to grab this memorable shot of a lightning bolt making a direct hit on the Mystic/Tobin Bridge. They were great shots, but Scanner indicated it was a little too close for comfort.



emergency," said Pich.

Vinard the force behind the Taste

Joe Vinard, president of the Chelsea Bank, has helped build the Taste of Chelsea into a mega-event, one of the most anticipated gatherings of the year. He has been one of the event chairs for all 16 Tastes of Chelsea.

Vinard said other Chamber members on the planning committee include Renee Caso Griffin, Gina Guange, and Arthur Arsenault.

"The concept this year is that we're going to tell the story about what HarborCov does and what domestic violence is all about," said Vinard, "Obviously the uptick in cases has been enormous this year with the COVID-19 situation."

Vinard hopes that residents will continue to support the event as they have so enthusiastically in the past.

"What we're asking people to do is rather than come and get a taste of Chelsea in person, we're asking that they get takeout orders from one of our food vendors who have been sponsoring us by coming and serving their

food complimentary in the prior 16 years - we want people to get their food and enjoy it while they're watching the virtual presentation on Zoom," said Vinard.

Vinard the goal of the committee in making the decision to go virtual was to "keep everyone safe" during the pandemic. Because of the large crowd that attends the event, the six-feet-apart social distancing guidelines would have been difficult to maintain.

Councillor Robinson and family will attend the Taste of Chelsea

Councillor-at-Large Leo Robinson, his wife, Linda Alioto-Robinson, sister Gail Mauch, brother-in-law D. Bruce Mauch, and brother Ronald Robinson, have been supporters of the Taste of Chelsea through the years.

"We go every year and it's a great event," said Leo Robinson. "We're sad that the event can't happen this year in person, but we will be participating virtually in the Taste of Chelsea."

OFF MY WAVE.

Ocean Beach native and local surf legend Steve Bettis was diagnosed with MS in 2006. Although surfing is still central to his life, he hasn't been able to get out on the water in 10 years. For a man whose daily routine always included a few waves, more than a decade out of the surf is just too long. This is why the National MS Society teamed up with his buddy Robert "Wingnut" Weaver and used virtual reality to get Steve back on his wave. See their experience and find out how you can share yours at [WeAreStrongerThanMS.org](http://WeAreStrongerThanMS.org).

Together We Are Stronger.

MS National Multiple Sclerosis Society



Region / CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8

**MASSIVE REDEVELOPMENT OF STOP & SHOP SITE**

EVERETT - The new owners of the Stop & Shop parcel on the Parkway straddling the Everett/Chelsea line have proposed a massive redevelopment of the site, with 800 rental housing units and retail offerings that may or may not include a re-make of the grocery store.

The Grossman Companies of Quincy has filed with the City to begin reviews of the project, and were slated to be on the agenda for Monday's Planning Board – though that got pushed into September due to a public notice snafu.

In the meantime, City Planner Tony Sousa said they are very excited about the proposal and that it piggybacks on so many of the other dynamic mixed-use projects that have surged into the formerly heavy industrial area. He said the project would create more momentum that is already underway with the completed Pioneer, the proposed development at Wood Waste, the Market Forge proposal, the Fairfield development under construction on the Chelsea side of the line and the operational EnVision Hotel. All of it adds up to a very new and different place than most everyone in Everett is used to seeing on the forgotten southern side of the Parkway.

"It's everything coming together that is so exciting," he said. "I look at 2014 and 2015 when we did the neighborhood plan and a few years later we did the zoning changes. The we added the federal opportunity zone designation. That is very real and every developer down there has looked into the opportunity zone.

"It's really, really coming together there," he continued. "Go back five years and we have added the Silver Line and the soon-to-be commuter rail station in Chelsea. I can't say enough about accessing the Silver Line and how it connects us now to the airport, the Seaport and South Station. We didn't have that five years ago so there wasn't this synergy that there is now. It all starts with Mayor DeMaria's vision and guiding us to get everything in order. The Commercial Triangle is changing."

The Stop & Shop parcel on the Parkway is just over six acres of land and sits about 80 percent in Everett and 20 percent in Chelsea. The review will have to come from Everett first, but will also need approvals from Chelsea

afterward.

The proposal includes 800 units of rental housing, which translates to 150 Studios, 494 one-bedrooms, and 156 two-bedrooms. The development calls for 906 parking spaces in structured garages. Even with that, the project would call for variances for parking, additional height, and setbacks. It could also feature as many as 40 or more units of affordable housing on site.

The proposal includes 15,000 square feet of retail, which is a far cry from the 90,000 square-foot existing grocery store. Sousa said he had no idea if Stop & Shop would re-tool their store as they have in other locations around Greater Boston. Some Stop & Shop stores have focused on a smaller footprint with more prepared foods and a pared-down market under the title 'bfresh.' That has taken place in Newton and Davis Square Somerville. It wasn't readily apparent if that would happen on the Parkway, and Sousa said there is no tenant yet identified for the retail portion.

However, he said some sort of market would be likely needed in that area despite the large Market Basket down the street. With nearly 2,000 units on the docket for that immediate area, Sousa said a market concept for quick grabs and small orders would be a great amenity from the City's perspective.

The proposal would be situated in several buildings on the site, and would feature an open public space concept as has been the norm in the other buildings proposed or built in the area. That, Sousa said, is going to be a feature of the new district on both sides of the City Line. Having public green space accessible to everyone and outdoor seating to accompany retail would be essential, he said, to the character of this newly carved out community.

"There are again here very public facing elements of open space and helping to create a neighborhood feel," he said. "As more gets developed, we want to make sure open space is shared space and there is retail with outdoor seating and public amenities."

The project has been continued for its first unveiling at the Sept. 12 Everett Planning Board meeting, which is an online Zoom meeting. The Grossman Companies purchased the site in 2018 for around \$16 million.

**AUDITORIUM POSSIBLY TO BE RENAMED**

EVERETT - The Frederick Foresteire Center for Performing Arts at Everett High School – otherwise known as the auditorium – is before the School Committee this month on a request by Mayor Carlo DeMaria to rename the facility after the late Dorothy Martin Long.

At Monday's School Committee meeting, the Committee by a unanimous vote accepted a request from the mayor for the renaming and sent it to the Subcommittee on Property for further evaluation.

There was no immediate comment from anyone on the Committee and Mayor DeMaria did not wish to comment at this time either. He submitted the item in his role as an ex officio member of the Committee.

The Center was named after former Supt. Fred Foresteire when he was still at the helm of the schools and shortly after the new Everett High was completed so many years ago. However, criminal allegations of improper conduct against him prompted his resignation in December 2018 and charges were filed in court in early 2019. The case is still pending and has been delayed by COVID-19 court shutdowns. He is charged with seven counts of misconduct, but hasn't yet been convicted of anything.

That said, many have asked numerous times if the Performing Arts Center would be renamed given the negative publicity surrounding the former superintendent. Nothing, however, was done as the School Committee said it was waiting until the resolution of the court case before taking any action on renaming things that carry the name of Foresteire – including

the Center.

On Monday, in what was a surprise to observers, Mayor DeMaria moved to have the Committee go ahead now and consider the renaming.

Dorothy Martin Long was a long-time community and education advocate in Everett, serving in numerous capacities before her unexpected passing earlier this summer. She was prominent on the Superintendent Search Committee that met many times in 2019 before picking new Supt. Priya Tahiliani.

The matter was voted to Committee on an 8-0 vote.

**McKENNA'S HOME IS TESTING SITE**

REVERE - Ward 1 Councillor Joanne McKenna is well known for looking out for her constituents' best interests on the streets of Beachmont and as it now turns out, officially in the air up above the neighborhood as well.

McKenna's home and yard on Winthrop Avenue will be the site for a machine that will measure the emissions from airplanes landing and taking off from Logan Airport.

Dr. John Durant, environmental engineering professor at Tufts University, is leading the one-year study in collaboration with the Boston University School of Public Health "to better understand aviation impacts in communities near Logan Airport."

The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) is funding the research that will determine air pollution (chemical pollution and noise pollution) impacts of aviation and how to mitigate pollution from those impacts.

How did Tufts and BU officials happen to choose the home of Councillor Joanne McKenna for the placement of the machine?

"We are doing a yearlong

characterization of impacts near the major runways," said Durant. "We wanted a site to the north in line with the major runway configurations, and through the Logan noise study group, I was referred to Joanne by Gina Cassetta (of the Winthrop Airport Hazards Committee)."

Durant credited McKenna for responding immediately to the request to use her home as an emissions testing site.

"Joanne volunteered and she was quite enthusiastic," said Durant. "So we've installed a water-tight, weather-proof box on her residential property and putting three instruments inside that will measure three different kinds of pollution: nitrogen dioxide, black carbon, and ultra-fine particles. These are all combustion byproducts of the airplane engine, just like they come out of the tailpipe of a car."

The testing mechanisms will be on 24 hours a day, according to Durant. Winthrop, Chelsea, and South Boston will be the other testing locations.

McKenna has been involved in regular communications with Massport during her tenure on the City Council.

"But this study just fell in my lap," said McKenna humbly. "Tufts and BU are doing a study on the quality of the air over Beachmont and my property is one of the highest points on the hill. Gina Cassetta suggested my house for the study. They [Tufts and BU officials] came to my house a few weeks ago and thought it was a wonderful location. The machine will be in my yard for a year and test the quality and the emissions of the airplanes. It's a great step for Beachmont. Finally we're going to get a study to see how the emissions of the airplanes landing at and departing from Logan affect the health of Beachmont residents."

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### VICKI REGGIE KENNEDY VISITS LYNN

Joseph Kennedy for US Senate supporters joined Vicki Reggie Kennedy at Hood Playground in Lynn. Vicki visited Lynn on a sunny Sunday afternoon campaigning for Congressman Kennedy to get the vote out. As she said, "I just came from Boston and the enthusiasm is unbelievable; it is really exciting how people are supporting him. Congressman Kennedy is doing everything he can and he has done everything he could. Now, it is up to all of you to stand behind him and vote".



Former IAABO Basketball Official Gary Roach meets Vicki Kennedy at the rally.

Joe has gotten into this Senate race because it is time for new leadership and he knows what to do according to Vicki Kennedy. She continued to state, "He is accessible to the people because he listens, has concerns, and understands; he gives a voice to people in need and takes those concerns

to Washington. He knows what leadership is and he is that type of person".

Congressman Kennedy has compassion and is one of the reasons he ran for public office. He has been fighting for voiceless people as an Assistant District Attorney, Congressm



Vicki Kennedy with Melissa Faulkner and her son, Joahua



Campaign supporters for Congressman Joseph Kennedy.



Vicki Reggie Kennedy with Kennedy volunteers

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# State announces policies to support families, expand childcare options

The Baker-Polito Administration on Friday announced new policies that will provide families who require childcare while their children are engaged in remote learning additional options by allowing programs to offer supervised care during regular school day hours.

Governor Charlie Baker signed an Executive Order that allows the Department of Early Education and Care (EEC) to authorize currently licensed after-school and out-of-school programs to operate during the school day while children are learning remotely.

As schools prepare to reopen,

working parents need to find care and learning support for their school-aged children while they are engaged in remote learning. Current state statute prohibits licensed after-school and out-of-school time programs for school-aged children from offering care during school hours. The Executive Order allows EEC to authorize childcare programs, like YMCAs, Boys and Girls Clubs, family childcare homes, and others, to care for school-age children while they participate in remote learning.

The Department will also exempt informal remote learning parent cooperative arrangements

organized by families, if the groups are supervised by unpaid parents. These parent cooperatives are still subject to any state orders regulating gatherings in place under the COVID-19 state of emergency.

In addition, the Executive Order creates a temporary license exemption for remote learning enrichment programs to provide supervision and care for school children up to age 14 while they participate in remote learning during the school day. These remote learning programs, which must meet specific criteria, will need to first be approved by their local municipality before they

can apply for the license exemption. Programs run by a school district are already exempt from EEC licensure and do not need to apply for this exemption.

The Departments of Early Education and Care and Elementary and Secondary Education will issue joint guidance that details the minimum requirements for remote learning programs, including background record checks, health and safety standards, facilities checks, and child to staff ratios.

Municipalities will ensure programs, that are approved for the license exemption, comply with health and safety require-

ments.

“We all want our children to get back into school as soon as possible and we applaud the schools and districts that are making the extra effort to bring their students back in some form,” said Education Secretary James Peyser. “At the same time, we know that remote learning will be part of the educational experience for many students this fall, so it’s critical that we enable parents, after-school providers, and community organizations to offer additional childcare options and learning supports when students are unable to attend school in person.”

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# PRIMARY DAY IN LYNN

No rain or cold weather interrupted Primary Day in Lynn. It turned out to be a beautiful warm day for voters; however, hardly any long lines occurred during voting time.

Mail-in-Voting seemed to take a bite out of a traditional election day. Over 700,000 mailed in ballots were cast throughout Massachusetts.

City Clerk Janet Rowe looked forward to a good day knowing

how hard everyone worked inside the Election Department. The staff kept up with the mail-in-ballot demands. They prepared very well for each polling station to run efficiently and any mail-in-ballots would be processed properly.

Having many political races going on, the City of Lynn Election and Clerk Department did an outstanding job for its residents and for the city.



Former Lynn School Committee member Frank Carrabba and his mother, Barbara, voted at Sisson School in Ward 1



Karfa David is ready to drop his ballot into the Official Ballot Drop Box at Lynn City Hall



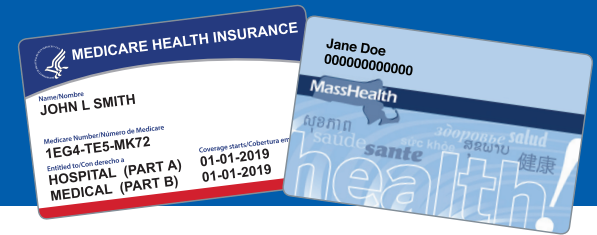
Angus McQuilken greets Ward 7 voters at Breed Middle School and with him is Donna Slavit, Diann Slarit-Baylis, and Torii Davis.



At Ward 2 polling place was Joe Russo holding a sign for Governor's Council candidate, Terry Kennedy, and Navy veteran, John Lazar, supports Congressman Seth Moulton.

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