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THE LYNN JOURNAL

Thursday, October 1, 2020

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CURIOUS CREATURES



Nicky from Curious Creatures introduces a baby alligator during a videotaped segment for Virtual Family Fun Day.

Family & Children's Service to broadcast virtual Family Fun Day

Special to the Journal

For the past 13 years Family & Children's Service has hosted Family Fun Day on Lynn Commons. The event, attended by over 500 adults and children, is usually the last hoorah of summer and marks the unofficial be-

ginning of the school year. There are usually bouncy houses set up, face painting, sack races, and free ice cream for the kids. While the kids are soaking up the last bits of summer, the adults would visit booths and tables to find out about the community services available to families.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the event is going virtual and the staff at Family & Children's are busy in production of a one-hour info-tainment special. This year, viewers can tune in to interactive performances in En-

Please see FUN DAY Page 3

Brian Field to return to work after suffering serious heart attack

By Cary Shuman

Lynn City Councillor-at-Large Brian Field was expecting to be back at work Thursday after suffering a near-fatal heart attack last Friday at home. Field is a funeral director at Solimine Funeral Homes in Lynn.

Field, 44, underwent surgery Friday at Salem Hospital after being rushed to the hospital earlier in the day. He had been experiencing chest pains Thursday night but he thought it was indi-

gestion.

"I thought it was a case of indigestion but the pains started again at 6 a.m. [Friday]," reported Field. "I texted my wife [Stefani] to come upstairs and she and her father, who is a retired firefighter, called 911. Lynn Fire and Atlantic Ambulance came and transported me to Salem Hospital. The Emergency Department was great."

Field said he was very grateful to those who responded so quickly in a serious, medical situation.

"My family, the Lynn Fire Department, Atlantic Ambulance, the paramedics on the ambulance, the Salem Hospital Emergency Department, and Dr. Sunu Thomas, "who did the stent procedure."

Field was released from the hospital Monday afternoon. "I'm on medication, resting at home - the doctors told me do some walking. I've made a couple of lifestyle changes on diet, medi-

Please see FIELD Page 3

A real head-scratcher

Cal's, a lottery powerhouse, has never sold a \$1 million ticket

By Cary Shuman

Cal's News, where people go for their newspapers, lottery tickets, and friendly interactions with its personable owner Barry Calvani on a daily basis, has been in business since 1937.

While you can still buy virtually every news, sports, or hobby magazine at Cal's, one thing the legendary Lynn store has never sold: a \$1 million Instant Ticket winner in the Massachusetts State Lottery.

The Mass Lottery was launched in 1972. Instant Tickets or Instant Games began in 1974.

Today, there are Instant Tickets ("scratch" tickets) ranging in price from \$1 to \$30.

Cal's is among the busiest lottery outlets in Lynn and on the entire North Shore. Paul Calvani (Barry's father) was one of the original six lottery ticket agents in the state. Millions of tickets have been sold at the store that opens at 6 a.m. and closes at 6 p.m.

Barry Calvani is a graduate of St. John's Prep and Merrimack College, where he received a degree in Business Management.

Please see LOTTERY Page 5



STILL WAITING: Barry Calvani, owner of Cal's News, is hoping to sell the store's first Mass Lottery \$1 million Instant Ticket winner in its history.

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EDITORIAL

TRUMP'S TAXES: SHOCKING, BUT NOT SURPRISING

The recent disclosure by the New York Times of President Donald Trump's personal tax returns for nearly a 20-year period, up to and including his 2017 return (which Trump would have filed in April, 2018), presents evidence of the extent both of Trump's tax avoidance schemes and the precarious situation of his personal finances.

Trump always has stated his disdain for taxes. While it may be true that he has been able to avoid paying taxes because of loopholes that favor the wealthy, especially real estate developers, what really stands out is the bottom line figure of \$750 in taxes that he paid in BOTH 2016 and 2017.

Americans who make only the minimum wage pay far more in federal income taxes than Trump paid in 2016 and 2017.

In addition, anyone who has filed a tax return for more than one year knows that it is almost impossible to have the same bottom line figure in two consecutive years (which is especially true for someone like Trump, who has multiple business ventures), unless you go out of your way to manipulate the figures.

Another fact that is evident from the tax returns is that Trump is hardly the mogul billionaire he always has claimed to be. The tax returns demonstrate that Trump is a truly terrible businessman.

Just as Trump's casinos and other projects failed miserably in the late 1980s and early 90s, his high-end golf clubs around the world are a cash sinkhole for him today.

Most disturbing however, the tax returns demonstrate the extent to which Trump personally is deeply in debt. Trump has almost half a billion dollars in loans (that he personally guaranteed) coming due within the next four years, but few liquid assets available to cover this huge debt.

Given that we know Trump is the ultimate embodiment of a pay-to-play president, does anyone doubt that Trump's desperate need to curry favor either with a bank, an exceedingly-wealthy individual, or a corrupt foreign country in order to refinance his huge debt could compromise his sworn oath to protect and defend the Constitution of the United States?

Finally, the story in the Times makes it clear that for Trump, his re-election is highly personal. If he loses in November, he almost certainly will be facing heightened scrutiny by the IRS and federal authorities relating to his tax filings. He also will have no ability to leverage the office of President in order to obtain refinancing for his huge debt.

The danger lurking for our country is that we know that Trump will go to any extent to win the election -- and that does not bode well for our democracy.

SUFFOLK DA ROLLINS STEPS UP

The announcement this week by Suffolk County District Attorney Rachael Rollins that her office will be expanding the database (often referred to as LEAD) that is comprised of law enforcement personnel whose prior conduct could impact their credibility as witnesses in a court proceeding comes as welcome news to every citizen in the Commonwealth.

The LEAD (Law Enforcement Automatic Discovery) database includes officers who have had incidents of untruthfulness, criminal convictions, candor issues, or some other type of issue reflecting on their ability to perform their job impartially, including discriminatory or defamatory actions, language or conduct targeting any protected category or class, based on race; color; religious creed; national origin; immigration status; sex; gender identity; sexual orientation; pregnancy; ancestry; or status as a veteran.

Although the LEAD database has been in existence for a while, Rollins has expanded it with the addition of 115 officers to a new total of 136 names of law enforcement officers who work, have worked, or could work in Suffolk County.

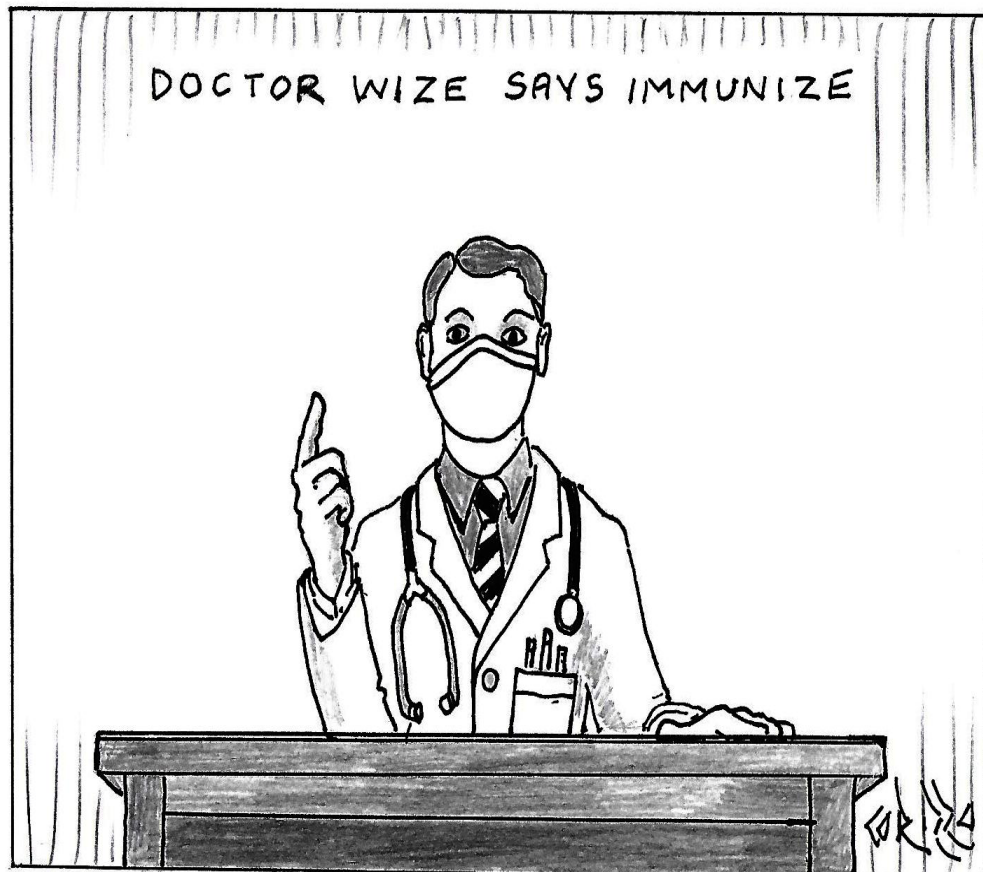
The list includes former police officers in the cities of Boston, Revere, and Chelsea, as well as MBTA police and Massachusetts State Troopers.

We hasten to point out that the expansion of the LEAD database should not be seen as a reflection that in any way casts doubt upon the basic honesty and integrity of those who work in our police departments.

Even though a total of 136 officers (most of whom have resigned or retired) may seem like a large figure, it represents only a small fraction of the overwhelming majority of our men and women who wear a badge and who do their job, day-in and day-out, protecting our citizenry with honor, dignity, and compassion.

The criminal justice system is imperfect, even under the best of circumstances, for everybody involved, victims and defendants alike.

We applaud District Attorney Rollins for taking this step to ensure that every citizen of our state -- not merely Suffolk County residents -- receive a fair trial, which is an essential cornerstone of our democracy.



TIME TO GET YOUR FLU SHOT

BHCC to offer Google IT Support Professional Certificate Program

Bunker Hill Community College (BHCC) Division of Economic and Workforce Development is offering the Google IT Support Professional Certificate Program, a five-course non-credit program developed by Google. IT Support is one of the fastest-growing fields in the United States, and this program prepares students for an entry-level job in IT Support. The program is part of Grow with Google, a Google initiative to help create economic opportunities for all Americans.

•Google IT Support Professional Certificate (WBD-100E)

Cost: \$1,899

Classes start Oct. 18.

Hosted on Coursera, the five courses cover key topics in IT support: troubleshooting, customer service, networking, system administration, security, and operating systems. No experience is necessary for the program, and coursework includes a dynamic mix of video lectures, quizzes, and hands-on labs. Coursework is asynchronous, allowing students in the program to complete coursework at their own pace – students can complete the certificate in two and one-half months with 20 hours per week of work, or in eight months with six hours per week of work.

Participants will also hear from Google employees with unique backgrounds and perspectives, whose own foundation in IT support served as a jumping-off point for their careers. Upon completion, students will be able to apply for entry-level IT po-

sitions. Top employers such as Cognizant, GE Digital, Hulu, Info says, Intel, and Sprint are interested in applicants with this credential.

Training vouchers for the program may be available for Massachusetts residents who are unemployed through MassHire. Additional discounts are available for students who pay out of pocket for the program.

Learn more at bhcc.edu/corporatetraining/googleitsupportprofessionalcertificate.

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Field/ CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

cation, and exercise and I should be okay. I've been cleared to go back to work."

Field said he had no previous heart-related incidents prior to the heart attack. He had undergone lower base skull surgery in July and that affected his exercise regimen. He does not believe the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic had a negative impact on his circulatory system and overall health.

"I don't think it had anything to do with my health situation," said Field. "I think everybody is stressed by the pandemic."

Field and his wife, Stefani, will celebrate their 20th anniversary on Oct. 7. The couple has three children all of whom visited him in the hospital.

"Stefani's been the best, I can't ask for a better woman," said Field. "She's been by my side all summer. I hope to have an anniversary dinner with her. I



Councillor Brian Field and his wife, Stefani Field.

don't think I can eat a steak, but we'll do something. I'll take her somewhere nice. I owe her."

Field said Mayor Thomas McGee and all of his colleagues on the City Council have reached out to him offering their best wishes in his recovery process.

Fun Day/ CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

English and Spanish from Curious Creatures and Bruce the Clown, as well as a music and a craft demonstration. Production of the videotaped segments is currently underway in preparation for the Thursday, October 8th one-hour special which will air on Facebook, YouTube, and Lynn Community Television. Also, sprinkled throughout the broadcast will be the chance for viewers to win 3 prize raffles. The event is generously sponsored by Eastern Bank and local businesses.

"Family Fun Day has been a great in-person event on Lynn Commons for the past 13 years and we just couldn't bear to cancel it because of COVID-19. Now more than ever, families need to know about the services, agencies, and support that exist to help them not only survive, but thrive. The show must go on," says Interim Executive Director, Ruben Montano-Lopez.

Families are encouraged to pre-register online at <https://lp.constantcontactpages.com/su/G553P5T>

to receive a sports backpack filled with school supplies, information about community services, and fun materials to participate in the interactive program. For more information, contact Family & Children's Service Program Manager, Mariana Marquez at mmarquez@fcslynn.org.

Virtual Family Fun Day Thursday, October 8, 2020, 6-7 PM on Facebook, YouTube, and Lynn Community Television. Register online at <https://lp.constantcontactpages.com/su/G553P5T>

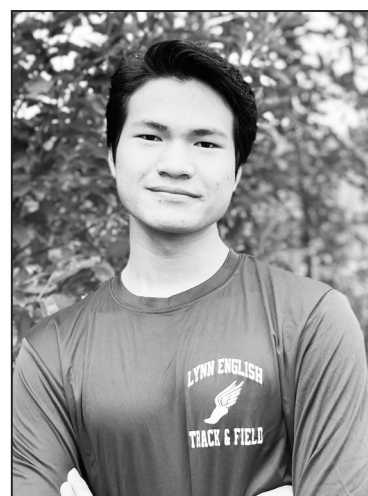
About Family & Children's Service: Family & Children's Service is a community-based nonprofit organization that supports underserved and socially vulnerable populations to build stable, productive, and healthy lives. We strengthen the life skills of families, children, and individuals of all ages through a range of programs offered directly or in collaboration with other organizations in our community.

Lynn English student-athlete selected as Positive Coaching Alliance Triple-Impact Competitor Scholarship finalist

Ghay Soe, a cross country and track athlete at Lynn English High School has been selected by Positive Coaching Alliance (PCA) as a Finalist for its Triple-Impact Competitor® Scholarship program. Soe was selected by PCA in recognition of his work ethic, his commitment to his teams, and his positivity in the face of adversity.

PCA is a national nonprofit dedicated to helping do sports right so that young people build the character, leadership, grit, resilience, and compassion they need to thrive today.

PCA's Triple-Impact Competitor® Scholarship program recognizes high school seniors who do sports right, making themselves, their teammates, and the game better. Believing in the principle that "what gets rewarded gets repeated," PCA honors this group of young people, and shares their experiences in their communities and throughout New England. On October 5th, the Finalists will join a special Zoom meeting to connect and share experiences with one another and with members of the Board of PCA. Lat-



Ghay Soe.

er this fall, PCA will select four scholarship winners.

Beth O'Neill Maloney, the Regional Director of PCA in New England, who reviewed Soe's application, read his references, and interviewed him, says "I really appreciated the opportunity to get to know more about Ghay, he is a thoughtful young person who, in becoming an athlete, learned so much that has helped him in his journey from a refugee camp in Thailand to Lynn

English."

"Ghay shared with me that becoming an athlete gave him the opportunity to connect with others, to appreciate nature, and to learn that he can do whatever he sets his mind to do. Hard-working and determined, Ghay is focused on staying positive for his teammates while they navigate another season with no sports in Lynn this fall," says Maloney.

"Ghay has drawn important life lessons from sports, and exemplifies what it means to be a Triple-Impact Competitor," adds Maloney.

Current high school seniors can apply for a Triple-Impact Competitor Scholarship between January 1 and May 31, 2021. Applications and more information can be found at www.positive-coach.org/our-awards/triple-impact-competitor-scholarships/.

Positive Coaching Alliance is a national non-profit working to develop Better Athletes, Better People by partnering with youth and high school athletic programs to provide young athletes with a positive, character-building sports experience.

The Kowloon Restaurant and Car Hop announces 'CountryFest: Local women of country music'

The Kowloon Restaurant, owned and operated by the Wong family, announces CountryFest, Local Women of Country Music an outdoor country music concert, featuring Whiskey-6, Ayla Brown & Rob Bellamy, Martin & Kelly and Carly Tefft.

The event, slated for Saturday, October 24 from 1 p.m. to 6 p.m., at the Kowloon Restaurant and Car Hop, 948 Broadway, Route 1 North, Saugus, is socially distanced. Ticket prices are \$50 per table spot for groups of up to four guests and \$75 per car for one to six guests. To reserve, please call (781) 233-0077.

Octoberfest Lineup Whiskey-6 is a trendy country-rock band from New England. Samantha-Rae, hailed as a sultry country singer, leads the group with hits including, "She's With Me."

Also performing are Ayla Brown, American recording artist (from Wrentham, Massachusetts, American Idol contestant and morning host on 102.5FM

Country music station Boston) and Rob Bellamy (from Providence, Rhode Island). Their original song, "You Got Me," has critics applauding the duo who keeps producing hit after hit.

Joining the line-up are Martin & Kelly (Jilly Martin and Ryan Brooks Kelly) hailed by music critics as "Standouts in today's crossover country music scene." The duo's songs bridge the boundary between traditional and new country with such hits such as, "Ride The Ride."

Also performing is Carly Tefft, a native of Cape Cod. Her popular hit single "Better Off At A Bar," along with her latest release, "Traded," has this country crossover nicknamed, "The red headed rock and roller." She has opened for major country acts such as Justin Moore, Chase Rice, Jimmie Allen and Devin Dawson.

Kowloon Restaurant & Car Hop

A full Kowloon menu, featuring Pu pu platters, Saugus Wings,

sushi, egg rolls, Seafood Fantasy to Kowloon Steak, along with soft drinks and signature Scorpion bowls, Mai Tais, beer, wine and cocktails, will be available for sale at the outdoor dining, drive-in, turf and car-hop venue.

To reserve, please call (781) 233-0077 or go to the Kowloon's website at www.kowloonrestaurant.com

The Kowloon Drive-In, in conjunction with Xfinity, continues their movie nights on the giant 22 feet high by 40 feet wide movie screen. Stay tuned for October movie titles to be announced.

The Kowloon Restaurant Celebrating 70 Years In Business

The Kowloon Restaurant, Car Hop & Drive-In 948 Broadway, Route 1 North, Saugus

Open daily 11: 30 A.M to 11:00 P.M., seven days per week. (781) 233-0077.

www.kowloonrestaurant.com

East Boston Savings Bank celebrates the opening of third Brookline branch

East Boston Savings Bank (EBSB) has opened its 3rd branch office in Brookline. The new branch is located at 473 Harvard Street and is the 43rd location in EBSB's branch network.

"The Bank has been part of the Brookline community since 2015 with our two other Brookline branches at 1050 and 1441 Beacon Street. We have developed a great relationship with our customers in Brookline as well as the surrounding communities," said President, Chairman

and CEO, Richard J. Gavegnano. "We are looking forward to continuing to provide products and services that meet the needs of the ever-growing consumer and business community."

The Bank appointed Ruslan Kagamanov as Vice President, Branch Officer. Ruslan is responsible for the branch's business development initiatives as well as overseeing the daily operations of the branch and staff development. Assisting Ruslan will be Assistant Branch Manager, Diana K. Bell.

About East Boston Savings Bank

Founded in 1848, East Boston Savings Bank operates 43 full-service branches throughout the greater Boston metropolitan area. EBSB offers a variety of deposit and loan products to individuals and businesses located in its primary market, which consists of Essex, Middlesex, Norfolk and Suffolk counties. As a member of both the FDIC and Depositors Insurance Fund (DIF) all deposits are insured in full.

City of Lynn awarded \$199,090 in climate change funding

The City of Lynn was awarded \$199,090 in climate change funding through the Commonwealth of Massachusetts's Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness (MVP) Program. Lynn was designated as an MVP Community by the State in 2019. The program provides communities with funding and technical support to identify climate hazards, develop strategies to improve resilience, and implement priority actions to adapt to climate change.

The City of Lynn was first awarded a MVP Action Grant in 2019 to look for opportunities to implement nature based solutions within the Strawberry Brook watershed to specifical-

ly reduce storm water flooding and urban heat island effect. This funding will allow the City to build upon that progress through two projects, the Boston Street Green Infrastructure pilot project and the Barry Park / GEAA field storm water and flood mitigation plan.

"Flooding has been a major concern in Lynn for a number of years, specifically in the area of Boston Street and Barry Park," said Mayor Thomas M. McGee. "With the technical assistance offered through the MVP program, we will be able to invest in proactive mitigation projects that will allow us to do our part to start to limit the impacts of cli-

mate change and greatly improve the quality of life for members of our community."

The neighborhoods along Strawberry Brook will see direct advantages such as reduced flooding, better air quality, improved urban landscape and a reduction of urban heat island and better water quality as a result of this planning and investment. The concept plan involving Barry Park will also account for new green infrastructure such as sport courts and storm water playgrounds that will both support recreation and storm water management. Both projects are expected to be completed by June 2021.



Assistant Branch Manager, Diana K. Bell and Vice President, Branch Officer, Ruslan Kagamanov outside EBSB's Brookline branch.

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All of Us and the All of Us logo are service marks of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

Mass. Nurses Association endorses Ed Markey for U.S. Senate

The Massachusetts Nurses Association (MNA) has endorsed Ed Markey for re-election to the United States Senate. With 23,000 members, the MNA is at the forefront of advocating for the rights of nurses across the Commonwealth.

"Senator Ed Markey has always stood by Massachusetts's nurses, which is why we are proud to endorse his re-election campaign," said MNA President Donna Kelly Williams. "Now, more than ever, we need people like Ed Markey in the Senate, fighting to ensure that the nurses who are on the frontlines of this global pandemic, receive the support that they need to save lives and access the personal protective equipment they need to stay safe. Senator Markey is a strong ally for nurses, and his

legislative priorities put health-care workers' rights over corporate profits."

The son of a union leader, Sen. Ed Markey has always stood with workers demanding basic rights. This endorsement builds on Ed Markey's strong support among unions, including the Massachusetts AFL-CIO, the Massachusetts Teachers Association, the American Federation of Teachers, the American Postal Workers Union of Massachusetts, Postal Workers Local #4553, UNITE HERE Local 26, AFSCME, SEIU 888, SEIU 32BJ, CWA 1400, AFGE, National Association of Social Workers - PACE, CWA-201 and the Association of Flight Attendants-CWA.

"I am honored to have the endorsement of the MNA," said Sen. Markey. "Our nurses have

gone above and beyond to care for their patients during the coronavirus pandemic. Nurses are essential workers and they deserve our praise and gratitude for their efforts. The MNA stands up for the rights of our nurses and I am proud to stand with them."

The Massachusetts Nurses Association was founded in 1903 and, with 23,000 members, it is the largest registered nurses' union in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. Their members advance the nursing profession by setting high standards for practicing nurses, advocating for the welfare of nurses in the workplace, and working with both lawmakers and regulatory agencies on issues regarding healthcare that affect nurses and the public.

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New veteran bonus available for those supporting COVID-19 crisis operations

The Office of the State Treasurer, Veterans' Bonus Division has launched a new \$500 Bonus for Massachusetts National Guard members that were activated to support operations responding to the COVID-19 crisis. Gov. Charlie Baker activated the Massachusetts National Guard in March to increase the supply chain resources available to the Commonwealth and its residents. National Guard members put their own health at risk to address a statewide emergency and this well-deserved bonus will hopefully ease any financial

burdens that these members face.

By visiting VetsBonusMA.com service members and Veterans can check their eligibility, apply for bonuses, and upload their required supporting documents from wherever they are. The new COVID-19 bonus application is available here and it takes approximately 10 days for the check to be mailed after a Veteran is approved for a bonus.

"Massachusetts veterans and service members always put our safety ahead of their own and we wanted to find a way to thank them for their bravery,"

said State Treasurer Deborah Goldberg, "These bonuses will provide additional support to the National Guard members who have courageously stepped up to assist the state in response to COVID-19."

"This new bonus will provide financial relief for Veterans throughout Massachusetts and we are excited to get the word out as fast as possible," said Steve Croteau, manager of the Veterans' Bonus Division.

"I am so very thankful for our Massachusetts National Guard service members who were

called up to the front lines of the battle on COVID-19. Now, more than ever, we need to support those who are there for us in our times of need. These bonuses will put money, directly, into the pockets of our Massachusetts veterans and active service members," said State Sen. Walter F. Timilty, of Milton. "I'm proud to have sponsored this amendment in the Massachusetts State Senate, authorizing this COVID-19 spending in anticipation of federal reimbursement."

"The Massachusetts National Guard, always exemplifying their 'Nation's First' motto, were some of the first workers on the front lines of this pandemic – stepping away from family, friends, and their livelihood to serve their community against a deadly and dangerous virus when even less was known about

it," said State Rep. Linda Dean Campbell, House Chair of the Joint Committee on Veterans and Federal Affairs. "They provided critical support to many in our eldercare facilities and Veterans at the Holyoke Soldiers Home. I am thankful for the great work of our Treasurer to support them and their families."

The Veterans' Bonus Division distributes bonuses for eligible active duty, discharged, and deceased Massachusetts veterans who served during various conflicts. The State Treasurers Office has administered the state bonus program since the World War I bonus in 1919 was awarded to Massachusetts individuals who served in the armed forces during that period. To learn more about the Veterans' Bonus Division, visit VetsBonusMA.com.

Lottery/ CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Barry and his wife, Christine, who celebrated their 25th wedding anniversary on Sept. 9, have two daughters, Breanna, a senior marketing major at St. John's University, and Caitlin, a sophomore at Fairfield University who is studying to be a nurse.

"A statistical anomaly"

Calvani understands statistics and odds very well. He calls it "a statistical anomaly" that no one has won on a \$1 million ticket at his store.

"No one has ever hit on an Instant Ticket for \$1 million," said Calvani. "Customers say to me, 'Barry, I'm doing this for you. I want to see you celebrate a \$1 million ticket. I want to be the first.'"

Calvani said his store has told two \$5 Instant Ticket winners for prizes of \$200,000 apiece. "We also did have a Mass Cash winner that hit 15 times [for \$1.5 million] on one drawing which is a record to this day," he added.

Beyond its status as an "original six" lottery agent, Cal's was also instrumental in shaping customer service among lottery players.

"[The state's first Mass Lottery Director] Jim Hosker would come down here and sit on a stool and just listen to people talk about the Lottery and ask people questions," recalled Calvani. "Jim had a very grassroots approach to gathering information for the Lottery. He had a very simplistic approach to what people liked and didn't like about the lottery. He was asked to help start other state lotteries. He was a very good friend of my dad's. He was a great guy [A Lynn English graduate and veteran, Mr. Hosker died on May 19, 2020]."

Calvani said 15 years one of his building tenants [Max's] asked him if they could install a Mass Lottery Instant Ticket machine at their business.



Barry Calvani, owner of Cal's News, 53 Central Ave., Lynn, stands in front of an Instant Ticket Vending Machines (ITVCM) inside his leg-endarly store.

"I said if it helps your business, by all means," said Calvani. "They had the machine in there for three months and they sold a million-dollar ticket out of the machine."

With the building resurgence happening in Lynn, Calvani said is seeing many new customers in addition to the regulars who arrive at Cal's each day for their newspapers and lottery tickets. He is proud of his store's history and his dedicated employees.

"I want to thank my employ-

ees for standing by me during the COVID-19 times," said Calvani. "My guys worked through all this craziness and I'm very, very thankful for them."

So who is going to be a millionaire after purchasing an Instant Ticket at Cal's? "I invite everybody to come on down and take a swing and see if you can make history at Cal's," said Barry.

The odds say that Cal's is due and the newest instant millionaire could be you.

MassDOT announces annual Safe Streets Smart Trips high school video contest

The Massachusetts Department of Transportation (MassDOT) has announced that the seventh annual statewide high school video contest, Safe Streets Smart Trips, began on Monday, Sept. 2. The contest serves as an initiative within the Massachusetts Strategic Highway Safety Plan to promote safe walking, bicycling, and driving behaviors within the Commonwealth. The contest, which began in 2014, encourages high school students to showcase their understanding of roadway safety across all travel modes to try to decrease pedestrian and bicyclist injuries and fatalities.

"We are pleased to provide high school students with the opportunity to participate in this valuable exercise to underscore the need to limit all distractions when driving and especially to put phones and mobile devices away," said MassDOT Secretary and CEO Stephanie Pollack. "Every year we have been impressed by some of the powerful educational videos produced by students and I am confident that this year, even as some students learn remotely, they will collaborate and submit entries which will underscore that driving hands-free is really a life or death issue."

The video contest, which is open to all Massachusetts high school students, features a freshman/sophomore category and junior/senior category. Per contest guidelines, students are asked to write and produce a 30-60 second video that focuses on one or

several of the guidelines of the "Hands-Free" law.

Complete contest guidelines were sent to high schools on Sept. 23, and are also found at [Mass.gov/roadway-safety-video](https://www.mass.gov/roadway-safety-video). Students are required to strictly follow COVID-19 social distancing guidelines and health/safety precautions while making contest videos. Grand prize and runner-up videos in each category will be chosen by a MassDOT panel. The winning videos will be screened during MassDOT's annual active transportation conference, Moving Together, which is scheduled to take place virtually on Nov. 17, 18 and 19. Top videos may also be used in future safety campaigns.

On Feb. 23, 2020, the "Hands-Free" law was enacted throughout the Commonwealth of Massachusetts (<https://www.mass.gov/service-details/hands-free-law>). This law seeks to help reduce the number of motor vehicle crashes involving distracted driving as a result of electronic device usage. Operators of motor vehicles are prohibited from using any electronic devices, including mobile telephones, unless the devices are set to hands-free mode. Drivers under 18 are not allowed to use any electronic devices and all phone use while driving is illegal, including use in hands-free mode.

To learn more about the Safe Streets Smart Trips high school video contest, visit [Mass.gov/roadway-safety-video](https://www.mass.gov/roadway-safety-video).

“LYNN IS ALL IN” FOR 2020 CENSUS

The Census is required every ten years to count the United States’ population. This is a very important time to gather statistics; it determines how many US House of Representative seats will be held and the amount of federal funds to be allocated, especially to Massachusetts.

Congressman Seth Moulton knows how important and critical the 2020 Census is to Lynn as he said, “I cannot do my job as your Representative, if I do not have a fundamental understanding of the people I represent. I commend the Census workers who are doing a great deed for America; this is a patriotic undertaking to obtain the facts we need in Congress, so the House of Representatives can serve and represent all the citizens.”

Lynn City Clerk Janet Rowe and her team played a key role to get the word out and to gather statistics. She expressed her gratitude to all the volunteers and to have these successful pop-up events in the city for citizens to fulfill their civic duty safely.

Mayor Tom McGee conveyed his appreciation to the counting committee as they continued to give a total effort collecting census reports. Currently, the city has a 63.3 percent of census intake and the final report will conclude at the end of October. Mayor McGee said, “The city will continue to send the message out to the citizens. We still have time to increase our percentage. This work will make a difference to benefit the community.”



2020 Census Lynn commitment team: - US Congressman Seth Moulton, Mayor Thomas McGee, City Clerk Janet Rowe, Dr. Philip D’Agata, and State Representative Daniel Cahill.



Congressman Seth Moulton speaks with Mayor Tom McGee and 2020 Census coordinator, Dr. Philip D’Agata.



Lynn City Clerk and Census Coordinator Janet Rowe thanks LEO Program Officer, Lilian Romero for the support.



Census Response Representative Eileen Finnegan reviewed details of the Lynn 2020 Census with Congressman Seth Moulton.



Census worker Douglas Anderson explained the importance of the Lynn Census with Lynn Public School employee, Danielle Polonsky.



New England Bangladeshi Founder Naheed Nazrul works with Census 2020 worker Bernardo Leya.

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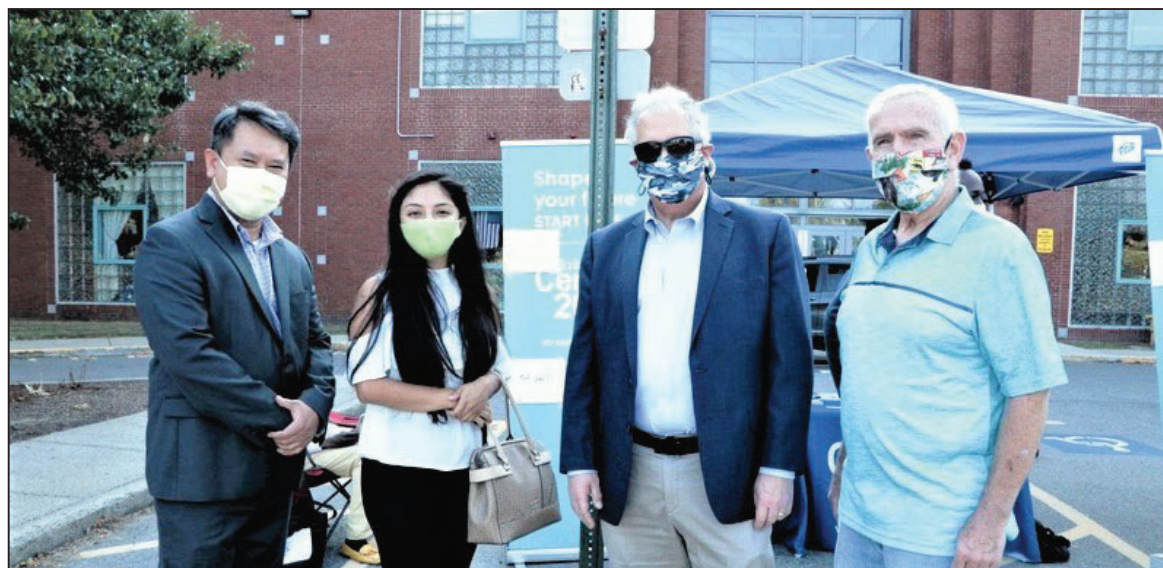
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“LYNN IS ALL IN” FOR 2020 CENSUS



2020 Census Lynn commitment team: - US Congressman Seth Moulton, Mayor Thomas McGee, City Clerk Janet Rowe, Dr. Philip D’Agata, and State Representative Daniel Cahill.



Khmer Lynn Community representative Kirirant Saing, Senator Crighton Legislative Aide Dulce Gonzalez meet with Mayor Thomas McGee and School Committee member, John Ford, regarding the Lynn Census.



Pop-up station for citizens to register for the 2020 Census with Census representatives – Bernardo Leja, Douglas Anderson, Susan Piaggio-O’Keefe, and Eileen Finnegan.

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NEWS FROM AROUND THE REGION

REP. RYAN READY TO HELP

CHELSEA - This year's Primary Election was one to remember, and with State Rep. Dan Ryan prevailing in the vote – and no challenger on the ballot in November – he said he is thinking about his next term and noted it will be all about getting Charlestown and Chelsea back on their feet after COVID-19.

Ryan prevailed over Chelsea Councillor Damali Vidot in the Sept. 1 Primary vote, winning Charlestown handily but losing the Chelsea vote and winning overall by about 1,100 votes. However, unlike previous re-election campaigns, the new term will be anything but typical. In fact, he said, many of the goals he might have typically had will need to be put aside for the next term.

“It’s really going to be about just getting my two communities that I represent back up on their

feet,” he said. “That’s my goal. We all know the story of how hard Chelsea was hit and we need to achieve the same structure we had in Charlestown and bring some normalcy back to where it was before COVID-19. Chelsea was headed in a good direction before COVID-19, but I think COVID-19 also showed us the structural issues that exist in our urban areas and that we have to address. Both communities have pretty large public housing re-developments going on. We have to do a lot of work making sure those are done right. We’re re-inventing public housing in Charlestown and Chelsea. Regardless of COVID-19, I think we need to move forward on those projects.”

Most of the work to be done, he said, will be making sure basic needs are met for residents in Charlestown and Chelsea – such as housing foreclosure/eviction prevention and making sure es-

sential workers can safely get to their jobs. Those aren’t grand plans for a newly elected representative, but Ryan said that’s the work that is going to be required for his district.

“The biggest thing we need to do is to make sure we are being safe to get our numbers down so we can get people back to work when it’s safe to do so and then keep people in their homes,” he said. “There is a lot of work to do on that. The primary issues I’ve been working on for the last six years are really going to have to be put on the back burner.”

One of the major concerns he said he has is with downtown areas in Boston and Chelsea – and how the changes in work dynamics are going to affect businesses there and workers who go there for jobs. He said the delegation in the State House has already been informally talking about these issues since COVID-19 hit, and he

expects them to be more prominent moving forward.

“It looks like this is going to bring a huge societal shift,” he said. “I don’t think downtowns will be completely empty, but I think businesses and workers that go there will be affected...What I think eventually we’ll be dealing with is downtown businesses that are the day-to-day services – the sandwich shops, the stores and the bars – they’re going to take a big hit if the economy doesn’t come back.”

Ryan, reflecting on the election process, said it was a very hard campaign to define and to carry out. With COVID-19 hitting just after he had announced his re-election campaign, there was a lot of uncertainty about how to proceed. First, he said he took a pause, and then the work of the State Legislature picked up and he described it as being one of the busiest and hardest few months of his career.

“I didn’t really start campaigning until June,” he said. “We were so busy unemployment cases and getting PPE to places that needed it and getting food to the elderly, there wasn’t time for it. When we started, it was by telephone and Zoom meetings. When I saw people walking around more and going to the coffee shops and supermarket and getting out, I started on my own street in Charlestown where people know me. Gradually I worked my way out in Charlestown and Chelsea. For the most part, I got a good reception. Nobody told me they didn’t want me at the door...The majority thanked me for coming out and doing it.”

He said he found that there was a much higher turnout than expected, largely driven by mail-in voting, early voting and other unique aspects of this election process. He said he believes that the turnout was balanced on mail-in voting, and it is likely here to stay in some form.

“Going forward post-COVID, we’ll have a good process in place and much more efficiencies like everything else,” he said.

Now, back in the legislature, Ryan said it will be his job this coming term to make sure places like Chelsea and Charlestown get their fair share of funding to put things back in order. That will be particularly critical in Chelsea and parts of Charlestown hit harder by the virus and the downturn in the economy.

“We have to make sure that Gateway Cities and urban areas get a weighted share of the monies,” he said. “Do we have a

better argument now? Yes. But I think we were moving that way already. The Student Opportunity Act was a good step to help these urban cities and towns. I don’t think COVID exposed to us anything we didn’t know, but it gives us more of an immediacy to move where we were going.”

State Rep. Ryan will be inaugurated into his fourth term in January.

SANTARPIO’S IN TOP TEN

EAST BOSTON - An online food magazine has once again told America what East Bostonians have known for decades – Santarpio’s Pizza has one of the best pizzas in the U.S.

In the Daily Meal’s annual ‘101 Best Pizzas in America’ list that was released last week, Santarpio’s was named #7 on their best pizza list up 24 spots from its ranking of #31 on the list back in 2017.

To compile the list, the Daily Meal said it turned to a panel of experts to narrow the list down to America’s 101 best.

“If you’re looking for pizza in this major sports city, it’s gotta be Santarpio’s,” wrote the Daily Mail. “This cash-only Boston restaurant has no shortage of options on the menu, down to even shrimp scampi pizza, but its top-selling slice is classic pepperoni. “We do our very best to please our customers,” an employee told The Daily Meal over the phone.”

The Eastie landmark and its awesomely chewy, cheesy, sweet-sauced pizza has received the coveted ‘Best Pizza’ prize numerous times by Boston Magazine over the years. Barstool Sports recently brought New England Patriots receiver Julian Edelman to Santarpio’s to rate the pizza. Edelman gave the pizza a solid rating.

“Delicious slices and pies are being cooked up all across America, so this ranking takes special care to highlight pizzerias from all parts of the country, as well as female- and Black-owned businesses,” wrote Daily Meal. “While America does love its pizza chains, this list is focused on smaller establishments and local favorites that have found success branching out to a few locations. To find them, we used internal expertise, scoured Yelp and other review sites, looked at coverage by local journalists and gathered suggestions from read-

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Region / CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8

ers.”
 Owner and Santarpio Family patriarch, Frank Santarpio, said, “Whether we are #7 or #107 our only goal at Santarpio’s Pizza is to please each and every customer that walks through our doors”

For decades Santarpio’s, or ‘Tarp’s’ if you’re an Eastie resident, has gained the reputation of being an unpolished oasis that has refused to age with the time.

A status that Frank Santarpio says gives the popular pizzeria character and charm.

“When you first come here, you’re either going to love it or you’re never coming back,” said Frank.

However, on Friday and Saturday nights the line to get into Santarpio’s stretches around the block so Frank can be unapologetic about the ambiance.

The bill of fare has always been simple, and since it was turned into a pizza place in 1966 there’s only been a few deviations from the main staples of pizza, grilled lamb or sausage and beer.

However, Santarpio’s has come a long way from an Italian bakery that opened in 1903 on the corner of Chelsea and Porter Streets.

“My grandfather, Francisco, came to America in 1900,” said Frank. “He bought a couple of buildings in Eastie, one was this building, which he made into Santarpio’s Bakery in March 1903.”

In 1933, Santarpio’s father, Joseph, one of six children took over the establishment, and re-vamped the building, turning the bakery into Santarpio’s Café, a popular bar among Eastie residents and sports fanatics.

Every once in a while patrons of Santarpio’s Café could expect a visit from one of their favorite boxers.

From Rocky Marciano to Jack Dempsey, legendary fighters would pop in for a cold beer and a quick photo opportunity throughout the late 40s and early 50s.

It was during this time the food started to catch on.

“My father used to make the tripe on Saturdays and they had the pizza and grill,” said Frank. “I guess it just sort of caught on from then.”

In 1966, the restaurant went through another facelift when Frank took over, ultimately bearing the name Santarpio’s Pizza.

“We put the sign up with the last \$700 I had and that’s when it really caught on,” he said.

Along with the sign came a wave of success that hasn’t stopped for decades.

CAR BREAKS CONTINUE IN EASTIE

EAST BOSTON - The Boston Police Department released the third quarter crime statistics for East Boston and much like the first quarter report released back in May, car breaks continue to be a problem in the neighborhood.

While Part One Crimes are down 40 percent since the first quarter report, crime is up 29 percent when comparing January 1, 2019 through September 13, 2019 with the same time period this year.

Part One Crimes are the more serious crimes the Boston Police track.

When comparing January 1, 2020 through September 13, 2020 with the same time period during the third quarter of 2019 Larceny from Motor Vehicles has increased 142 percent in Eastie.

By the third quarter of 2019 there were only 73 motor vehicle larcenies but that number has increased to 177 so far this year. It seems the number of motor vehicle larcenies, an opportunistic crime that only takes seconds to pull off, is up all over Boston.

Citywide the number has gone from 1,891 in the third quarter of 2019 to 2,377 so far in 2020, a 25 percent increase.

“The Department obviously takes great pride in the fact that arrests were made in all three incidents, we would, nevertheless, like to take this opportunity to remind community members to employ common sense preventative measures to protect items of value when exiting their vehicles,” said the statement. “As simple as it may sound, protecting your motor vehicle from a break-in starts with locking the doors and closing windows. Simple? Yes. But, highly effective.”

In fact, simple steps can often spell the difference between your car being broken into and the would-be thief moving on to another, more desirable target.

“More than anything else, thieves look for the easy score,” said the police. “So, don’t make it easy. If you have items of value, be it a cell phone, charger, money or iPad, take them with you when you exit your car. Because if a thief can see it, you can be sure he or she will do everything they can to steal it.”

As for other Part One Crimes in Eastie there have been zero reported Homicides for 2020;

Rape or Attempted Rape is down from 7 to 4; Robbery or Attempted Robbery is up from 35 to

44; Domestic Aggravated Assault is up by from 32 to 40; Non-Domestic Aggravated Assault is up by from 33 to 41; Commercial Burglaries are up from 19 to 12; Residential Burglaries are up by from 38 to 41; other Larcenies are down by from 131 to 112; and Auto Theft is up slightly from 32 to 37.

So far this year there has been a total of 519 Part One Crimes, up from the 402 reported in the third quarter of 2019.

Again, police are reminding residents that of the 117 additional reported Part One Crimes reported so far in 2020, 104 of those crimes have been traced back to motor vehicle larcenies.

As always, if you observe any unusual activity or observe a car theft or a break-in in progress, don’t hesitate to call 9-1-1.

DLR UPHOLDS CARLI’S APPOINTMENT

EVERETT - The City is trumpeting a decision this week from a Department of Labor Relations (DLR) hearing officer that sided with them in the battle over how Fire Chief Tony Carli was picked as chief some years ago – and confirmed as a permanent pick this past January.

Meanwhile, the Fire Union said the decision by the hearing officer doesn’t clear up the matter, and they are pondering an appeal to straighten out all of the issues – including collective bargaining issues.

Chief Carli, the City of Everett’s Fire Chief was named permanent on January 27, 2020 and confirmed by the Everett City Council. His appointment to permanent was not without controversy. Carli, a 20-year veteran of the Everett Fire Department, climbed the ranks and was named the City of Everett’s acting Fire Chief on June of 2016.

Everett Firefighters Local 143, the Union that represents Everett’s Fire Department with the exception of the Chief, contended that the appointment of Carli was done without merit. Specifically, they stated that the “impacts of promotional procedures to a managerial position should be declared a mandatory subject of bargaining, especially where, as here, the incumbent was involved in the promotional process and because the City did not bargain”.

However, in a recent opinion issued by Attorney James Sunkenberg, the hearing officer pre-

siding over the complaint for the Department of Labor Relations, he determined that

“The union has not established that the City’s decision impacted a mandatory subject of bargaining,” read his decision. “Accordingly, it has not established that the City violated the law.

“The Union’s position collapses the distinction between decisional and impact bargaining and that does not persuade me,” he continued. “Here, the Union does not identify any impacts on a mandatory subject of bargaining that result from the City’s decision”. Ultimately, the City’s decision to use an assessment center to select the Chief’s position was well within their rights.”

Mayor Carlo DeMaria maintained the selection of chief a under his jurisdiction and doesn’t require collective bargaining, even if using an Assessment Center.

“The role of Fire Chief is a managerial role under the jurisdiction of the Executive Office,” he said. “While the union’s input will always be welcome and taken into consideration, I applaud the decision of the Department of Labor Relations in being able to differentiate the roles between a union employee and that of executive level management.”

Said Chief Carli, “I can understand that new processes may seem difficult to grasp in the fire service with so much longstanding tradition. However, the fire service is changing along with the management of it. The City and other communities across the state have moved towards assessment center testing, rather than written. I appreciate the Department of Labor Relations under-

standing of management’s rights to select a Department Head.”

Union President Craig Hardy said they strongly disagree with the decision, and also said they will contemplate an appeal – noting that the hearing officer’s decision is not a final ruling.

“This hearing officers decision only decided the City didn’t violate any collective bargaining laws,” he said. “It did not decide that the process was fair or objective. We still believe it’s inappropriate for the Fire Chief position to be selected in this manner regardless of the ruling of the hearing officer, which we strongly disagree with and are pondering an Appeal with the DLR.”

He said the Union still believes having Carli participate in crafting the Assessment Center when he was knowingly a candidate was not fair to other members that wanted to try for the position.

“We believe the city conducted an unfair and biased process to benefit an ally of the Mayor,” he said. “The hearing established that the Mayor promised to promote the Acting Chief regardless of his performance in the process. The Acting Chief was involved in the critical decision-making of the process the City chose for the seat he occupied and wanted to fill permanently. Ultimately the City chose the process that advantaged the Acting Chief’s chances for the promotion. The City did not bargain with the union despite effectively promising to bargain this new process that benefitted the Acting Chief.”

Hardy said they would decide within 10 days whether they will appeal the decision by the DLR.

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Baker-Polito administration announces third annual statewide STEM Week

Staff Report

The Baker-Polito Administration announced that the third annual STEM Week will take place this year from Oct. 19-23 through a mix of virtual and in-person events, lessons, speaker panels, and design challenges, all adapted for the new school and work environments as the Commonwealth continues to combat the COVID-19 public health emergency. The Administration encourages teachers and employers to develop new and creative ways to host STEM Week events to highlight opportunities that exist in science, technology, engineering and math.

“This year made it abundantly clear how important STEM professions are to all our lives, and we hope that more young people will explore the opportunities that exist in STEM fields and pursue those careers that benefit us all,” said Gov. Charlie Baker.

“Across our Commonwealth, nurses and doctors are saving lives, scientists are working furiously to develop a vaccine, and advanced manufacturers quickly shifted gears to produce personal protective equipment,” said Lt. Gov. Karyn Polito, Co-Chair of the STEM Advisory Council. “Battling COVID-19 highlighted how crucial the need is for young people to study science, technology, engineering and math, and our administration remains committed to paving pathways to STEM careers and education for students in and out of the classroom.”

STEM Week is a collaborative effort between the Executive Office of Education; the STEM Advisory Council, which works to generate interest and support from the business community for STEM Week activities and is co-chaired by Lt. Governor Polito, Congressman Joseph P. Kennedy III and Vertex Pharmaceuticals Executive Chairman Jeffrey Leiden; and the Commonwealth’s nine Re-

gional STEM Networks, which plan and coordinate activities with local school communities, community leaders and business partners.

“Since the Baker-Polito Administration launched STEM Week two years ago, tens of thousands of students of all ages in every region of the Commonwealth have participated in engaging, challenging, and fun learning experiences to help get them hooked on STEM,” said Secretary of Education James Peyser. “Notwithstanding this year’s unique circumstances, the STEM Council and STEM educators are committed to sustaining the momentum with exciting activities, both online and in-person.”

“Getting kids hooked on science is all about creating fun, hands-on experiences where they can explore these topics in the real world alongside scientists and mentors,” said Jeffrey Leiden, M.D., Ph.D., Executive Chairman of Vertex. “Those experiences might look different during a pandemic, but as leaders and educators, we have an opportunity to innovate in how we deliver them to students. At Vertex, we created an all-virtual summer internship experience for our Boston Public School partners, and we’ll continue to work with the community to ensure students – particularly women and those who are underrepresented in STEM – have the opportunities they need to succeed.”

“Rebuilding our economy, health care system and society in the wake of this pandemic will require a new generation of workers with experience in STEM fields,” said Congressman Joe Kennedy III. “Students in virtual or physical STEM classrooms today will lead our recovery in the months and years ahead, and we need to support them in any way possible.”

Strengthening STEM education in the Commonwealth’s K-12 schools is a priority of the Baker-Polito Administration.

The STEM Advisory Council is appointed by the Governor and includes education and business leaders in STEM industries that work to promote STEM education, partnerships among industries and schools, and internships for students.

In Massachusetts, more than 40 percent of all employment revolves around STEM innovation industries such as clean energy, information technology, defense and advanced manufacturing.

This year, the STEM Advisory Council is coordinating with seven organizations across the state to offer options for STEM-focused Design Challenges. Design Challenges include:

•Kids In Tech: Cybersecurity - Keeping Our Networks Secure Challenge: A STEM Week Challenge for students in Grades K-5, 6-8, and high school, Kids in Tech asks students to think their way through standards-based activities to consider how the internet works and how they can use the internet safely. By participating in puzzle-solving games, students will explore how individuals can use the internet to obtain information and how they can make sure their personal information is safe.

•Museum of Science - Supporting the UN Sustainable Development Goals: To allow educators and students to see themselves in STEM, the Museum of Science, and EiE, an award-winning leader in Pre-K-8 curriculum, have developed three engineering design challenges to share with educators and students across Massachusetts. These activities engage learners in standards-based design challenges to support the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals.

•Gale Force Education - Power Grid Explorations: This challenge will bring the excitement of power engineering to high school students, wherever they are. Life may not seem normal right now, but electricity is flowing and the lights are on—thanks

to the power grid. Students will explore the grid and how it works through a hands-on design challenge designing generators, model houses and a mini power grid.

•FitMoney - STEM Business Plan Challenge: STEM and financial literacy are critical components of a quality education as today’s students prepare to become the innovators, entrepreneurs and job-creators of tomorrow. The FitMoney team has created a design challenge that gives middle school students the opportunity to think critically and create solutions to address issues students face today. Through a socially conscious lens, students will design a product, and produce, market and sell their product, learning the critical elements to starting a business venture.

•MIND Research Institute in partnership with STMath - Math Maker Project - Play, Create, Share: This STEM Week Challenge was developed by the New England Aquarium, One8 Foundation and Mass STEM Hub, and MIND Research Institute, creators of ST Math! Students in Grades K-5 will promote math learning and connect with families virtually. The entire project is built around games and stories with historical significance and is designed to develop students’ creative problem-solving capacity as they create their own math game – one that drives math knowledge and meaningful connections.

•WPI STEM Education Center - I Am STEM, STEM I Am!: This challenge (for PK-5 students) focuses on solving problems in books and is designed to empower students to become proud problem solvers. All lessons are aligned with grade-level ELA and math/STE standards, can be done in the classroom or remotely, and use everyday and recyclable materials. Free online professional development sessions are available through Oct. 17, guiding teachers on the problem-solving

process, online tools, and trying out a lesson with colleagues. The I am STEM lesson library will be available to all educators before, during, and after STEM Week.

•Wade Institute for Science Ed - National Marine Life Center - Survivor Island Challenge: The Survivor Island Challenge will provide students with a unique experience that integrates science concepts and the engineering design process in an exciting way. The Challenge? “You have been stranded on a deserted island and the only source of freshwater is quite a distance from your encampment. You must find a way to move water to the encampment and then filter it to make it safe to drink.” Teachers will receive a curriculum guide and support from the three sponsoring organizations. Students will have an opportunity to participate in a virtual “challenge showcase” on the last day of STEM week. Teachers participating in the pre-challenge teacher workshop will receive a kit of materials to help their students “See themselves in STEM.”

During STEM Week, members of the Baker-Polito Administration and the STEM Advisory Council will virtually visit classrooms and other school and business-related STEM activities that showcase successful programs and raise awareness about developments in STEM education and the STEM workforce. Last October, the Administration held the second annual STEM Week in collaboration with schools, non-profit organizations, colleges, museums, and business partners, where more than 1,000 events took place that engaged over 10,000 students from pre-kindergarten through college.

Learn more about regional events managed by the Regional STEM Networks across the Commonwealth in collaboration with local museums, non-profit organizations, schools, and local business partners at www.massstemweek.org.

RMV extends designated appointment hours for customers 75 or older

The Massachusetts Registry of Motor Vehicles (RMV) is announcing that it is extending designated Wednesday appointment hours for customers 75 years of age or older into October and to additional Service Center locations. This new customer service option began successfully in early September at the RMV Service Centers in Danvers, Leominster, New Bedford, South Yarmouth,

Springfield and Watertown, and will continue to be offered on Wednesdays at these locations through October.

In Oct., 11 additional Service Centers will begin to dedicate Wednesdays (hours vary by location) to customers 75 years of age or older whose driver’s license or ID card expire in September and October, including customers whose licenses/

IDs were extended from March, April, May and June and are due to expire soon. This new service option is being offered to provide customers with some flexibility while conducting transactions and to facilitate proper “social-distancing” protocols and procedures to keep customers and staff safe and healthy. Information regarding the new service hours and additional re-

sources for seniors can be found at <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/older-drivers>.

Senior hours are by appointment only and will be available beginning in October at the following locations:

- Brockton (starting Oct. 7)
- Fall River (starting Oct. 7)
- *Greenfield (starting Oct. 14)
- Lawrence (starting Oct. 7)
- Martha’s Vineyard (starting

Oct. 7)

•Nantucket (starting Oct. 7)

•North Adams (starting Oct.

7)

•Pittsfield (starting Oct. 7)

•Plymouth (starting Oct. 7)

•Revere (starting Oct. 7)

•Worcester (starting Oct. 7)

*The Greenfield RMV Service Center is scheduled to re-open on Tuesday, Oct. 13.

DOC implements health protocols to resume safe in-person visits this week

The Massachusetts Department of Correction (DOC) announced that in-person visits resumed at all facilities on Sept. 28 in a way that balances the benefits of visitation with the need for vigilance against COVID-19.

As with other reopening strategies across the Commonwealth, DOC's approach is guided by public health data and focused on its responsibility to those living and working in its facilities. In anticipation of this next phase, visitors may schedule a visit via phone and obtain additional information about health and safety

protocols. Personal visits are limited during this phase to one visit per inmate per week, with up to two visitors at a time, and must be scheduled 24 hours in advance. Attorney visits remain ongoing and unaffected by this change.

In line with public health guidance, DOC remains committed to using public health data, specifically positive test rates within DOC facilities and in the broader community, to create protocols that protect public safety and embrace its responsibility for those in its care. As a result, there have only been four COVID-19 cases

in DOC population since July 1, all of which reflect inmates who had contracted the virus prior to entering DOC custody. The Department's testing, screening, and quarantine initiatives continue to safeguard the health of about 6,900 inmates, as well as DOC staff and vendors.

Upon arrival and prior to entering the facility, visitors will participate in a standard screening process where they will answer questions about their health and have their temperatures taken. Visitors will be required to use hand sanitizer before the visiting

period and face coverings will be worn at all times, both by visitors and inmates. Visits will take place in designated areas without physical contact, with a physical barrier between the visitor and inmate. At the conclusion of the visit, all visitors will again use hand sanitizer before exiting the facility. In addition to the alcohol-based hand sanitizer, restrooms with soap and running water are fully accessible. All high-touch areas are sanitized between visits and at the end of the visiting period.

General, in-person visitation was suspended temporarily in

March to protect the health and safety of inmates and staff from COVID-19. In early July, the DOC started the phased resumption of in-person visitation with health and safety precautions at Northeastern Correctional Center and Pondville Correctional Center. Shortly thereafter, four additional minimum/pre-release facilities began receiving in-person visitors. As of Sept. 22, these facilities have accommodated more than 1,200 visitors.

FEMA continues to provide critical supplies to state and tribal partners

Six months after federal disaster declarations for COVID-19, FEMA Region 1 said it continues to support its state and tribal partners in New England by providing financial relief, coordinating federal resources and delivering critical supplies in the fight against the deadly pandemic and the concurrent economic disaster.

In March, the region and nation faced a critical shortage of essential supplies—including personal protective and life-saving equipment necessary to support strained health care systems and slow the spread of the virus.

"In response, our logistics team secured an 86,000 square-

foot warehouse, ramped up operations, streamlined procedures and moved mountains of those critical supplies," said Capt. Russ Webster, the FEMA Regional Administrator who also serves as the Federal Coordinating Officer for the region's response. "We helped ensure the health, safety and well-being of our fellow New Englanders."

Examples of supplies include personal protective equipment (PPE) for frontline workers and health care professionals, food to help families who faced economic hardships due to COVID-19, and disinfectants to clean surfaces and kill the coronavirus.

To supplement the Strategic

National Stockpile, the regional team from FEMA and the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response (ASPR) set up a supply taskforce to achieve better pricing, quicker delivery, and greater reliability of medical equipment and supplies for the region's six states and ten tribal partners.

Specifically, the regional taskforce sourced vendors, procured resources based on projected needs and specific requests, allocated supplies based on well-defined algorithms, and arranged for deliveries. That joint effort served as a model for the nation.

FEMA's Franklin, Massa-

chusetts warehouse deliveries had to be received, tracked, unloaded, sorted and reloaded. To date, FEMA Region 1 warehouse workers have moved more than 22 million pieces of equipment and commodities.

That's more than 500 truckloads—including semi-trucks, box trucks and panel vans—that rolled in and out of the warehouse.

Examples of outbound loads:

- More than 20 million pieces of personal protective equipment to protect frontline workers and health care professionals—including 1.7 million N95 respirators, 3.1 million KN95 respirators, 275,000 face shields, 400,000 surgical gowns, 1 million Tyvek suits, 1.6 million procedural gowns, and 6 million pairs of clinical gloves. Additional protective gear includes 5 million cloth face coverings given away to infrastructure workers, first responders, schoolchildren, nursing home residents and food producers who did not need medical-grade PPE for their daily use.

- More than 1.7 million boxed meals, low-sodium meals and meals-ready-to-eat to help households and families who faced economic hardships due to COVID-19. Driven by requests from state and tribal partners, those meals went to food pan-

tries, homeless shelters, senior centers and other community-based organizations.

• More than 90,000 units of hand sanitizer (including bottles and 55-gallon drums), 700,000 boxes of disinfectant wipes and 500,000 units of soaps to clean hands and surfaces and kill the coronavirus. State and tribal partners then distributed the items.


While New England states and tribes continue to partner with federal agencies during this global public health crisis, they also work together to identify the entire region's needs for essential resources, aggregate demand among the states, reap bulk discounts and work towards stabilizing the supply chain.

To eradicate the virus, state and federal agencies in Region 1 established a planning group to prepare for the delivery of millions of doses of safe and effective vaccines throughout New England. The group will support the states in creating plans for widespread distribution and managing any contingencies.

"Logistics—along with a unity of effort—clearly play an integral part in the war against COVID-19," said Gary Kleinman, ASPR Region 1 Administrator who also serves as the Federal Health Coordinating Officer for the region's response. "We're better together."


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ST. MARY'S HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS SOCCER TEAM PREPARE FOR 2020 SEASON OPENER



St. Mary's High School girls soccer head coach Jim Foley and assistant coach Penny Fraczek are pictured with the Spartans players at a tryout session for the varsity and junior varsity teams Sunday in Peabody.



The leaders of the St. Mary's High School girls soccer team, from left, captains Julie Nickolau, Eliza Brown, and Susannah Cornell, head coach Jim Foley, and assistant coach Penny Fraczek.

COVID-19 has changed everything.

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