

The Team at Century 21 Mario would like to wish you and your family a **Happy Easter!**  
**Buona Pasqua! Felices Pascuas!**

# REVERE JOURNAL

YOUR HOMETOWN NEWSPAPER SINCE 1881

INDEPENDENT  
NEWSPAPER GROUP



50 CENTS  
VOLUME 23, NO. 28  
WEDNESDAY  
April 1, 2026

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## DEATHS

Donna Marie Bongiovanni  
Anna Filadoro  
Donald Murray  
Louis Joseph Cappucci Jr.  
**Obituaries, Pgs. 11**

## NEWS BRIEFS

### POLICE BEGIN BODY CAMERA PROGRAM

The Revere Police Department launched its body-worn camera pilot program last week.

Six police officers were assigned to test and evaluate the new technology in the first step toward a full department-wide rollout that is expected to take place this summer, according to police officials.

"This initiative highlights our commitment to modernizing the Revere Police Department through advanced technology," said Police Chief Maria LaVita. "These body-worn cameras go beyond what is typically worn by police officers."

The police chief said the camera will offer real-time translation capability to help officers communicate

See NEWS BRIEFS Page 3

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## REVERE PUBLIC LIBRARY EASTER EGG HUNT



Children up to 5-years-old participating in the Revere Public Library's Easter Egg Hunt on March 28

Right, friends, Gisselle, 5, and Ava, 3, with the Easter Bunny. See Page 16 for more photos.



PHOTOS BY MARIANNE SALZA

## Suffolk Downs kick off spring events on Marathon Day weekend

Looking for a family friendly way to kick-off the Boston Marathon weekend? On Saturday, April 18, The HYM Investment Group LLC ("HYM"), will host the fifth annual Marathon Daffodil Dash at The Track at Suffolk Downs, as well as the first of its Spring Farmers Markets at the Yard @ Beachmont Square.

From 10 a.m. - 1 p.m., families are invited to The Track at Suffolk Downs for the Daffodil Dash, hosted in partnership with the Revere

Parks and Recreation Department and the Marathon Daffodil Project. Immediately following the races, nearby, visitors can stop by The Yard @ Beachmont Square for the first Spring Farmers Market, taking place from 11 a.m.- 2 p.m. in partnership with the Revere Beach Farmers Market.

The Marathon Daffodil Project began after the Boston Marathon bombings in 2013 with the yellow daffodil used as a symbol of strength and hope. In commemoration of the 13th

anniversary of the Boston Marathon Bombings, The Track at Suffolk Downs will be filled with the "Marathon Daffodils" that line the streets of Boston leading up to the Boston Marathon finish line.

The Daffodil Dash will feature three 50-yard dash races for grades K-2, grades 3-5, and grades 6-8 beginning at 10:30 a.m. The races will not be timed, and all participants will receive a bib number and T-shirt.

See EVENTS Page 10

## Council wants more info on recording site plan review meetings

By Adam Swift

The city council is supporting a plan to possibly bring one more municipal meeting to the RevereTV lineup.

At last week's meeting, Ward 3 Councillor Anthony Cogliandro filed a motion asking that the mayor request RevereTV submit a cost estimate for televising Site Plan Review meetings and uploading to YouTube as part of its regular meeting coverage.

Earlier in the meeting, Beach Street resident Kori O'Hara spoke about the lack

of coverage of the site plan review meeting on RevereTV when talking about a battery energy storage facility proposed for Muzzey Street. She noted that many development projects that do not need a special permit from the city council go before the site plan review committee, whose meetings are currently not broadcast on RevereTV.

"I think Ms. O'Hara why this needs to happen very eloquently earlier during public comment," said Cogliandro. "It is very important. I know myself, I can't always get to the site plan review when things are

happening in my ward and I would love to have this recorded and televised."

Cogliandro said he relies on the RevereTV recordings to review municipal meetings he cannot make it to in person.

"This is where everything starts, this is where the meat and potatoes are, and I would like to get a cost estimate of what it would take to get someone in the room up there (in city hall) and work the cameras and any other costs associated with it so we can potentially get

See COUNCIL Page 2

## ZBA approves 20-unit building at 700 Broadway; rejects redesigned plan for Green St. apartments

Special to the Journal

The Revere Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA) held its regular monthly meeting last Wednesday, March 25, in the City Councillor Joseph A. DeGrosso City Council Chamber. On hand for the session were chair Michael Tucker and fellow members Aklog Limeneh, Arthur Pelton, John Lopes, and Peggy Pratt.

The first matter taken up was an application from Zepaj Development, LLC, 78 Mill Street, Middleton, requesting variances from the ZBA to enable the construction of two townhouse

dwellings at 661 Washington Avenue. The hearing had been continued from the meeting of February 25.

Attorney James Cipoletta represented Zepaj. Cipoletta told the board that a two-family home that was severely damaged by a fire and was a total loss presently occupies the site. He said that three variances were needed because the 9410 sq. ft. lot falls short of the required lot area of 10,000 sq. ft. for a two-family home; the rear yard setback will be shy of the required zon-

See ZBA Page 10

## Council votes down motion to send letter in support of state legislature audit

By Adam Swift

The city council voted down a motion to send a letter of support for an audit of the state legislature at its meeting last week.

Councillor-at-Large Michelle Kelley submitted a motion asking that the council, on behalf of the City of Revere, send a formal letter to the Massachusetts State Legislature, including members of the General Court, the Office of the State Auditor, and other

appropriate state officials, expressing the city's support for the implementation of an audit of the Massachusetts Legislature as approved by the voters.

In the November 2024 State Election, state voters approved a ballot question authorizing the State Auditor to conduct an audit of the Massachusetts Legislature, with the majority of Revere voters also support-

See LETTER Page 3

## VIETNAM VETERANS CEREMONY



Revere's Veterans Services Officer Danny Hernandez and staff hosted a Vietnam Veteran's ceremony in remembrance of their lost brothers and to thank those who bravely served our country. Shown is Veteran Leo McCaskell places the helmet on the "Battlefield Cross" during the ceremony. See Page 12 for more photos.

Revere  
Easter Hunnies  
Pg. 4 and 5

RHS Boys  
Basketball Team  
Break-up Dinner  
Pg. 9



# Revere JOURNAL



# Forum

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## HAPPY PASSOVER

Passover, which begins at sundown this Wednesday (April 1) and ends at nightfall next Thursday (April 9) celebrates the biblical story of the Exodus, when the Israelites were freed from slavery after the 10th plague on Egypt (each of which was more devastating than the last).

God spared the Israelites' firstborn by having them mark their doorposts with lamb's blood, which informed God's Angels of Death to "pass over" the Israelites' homes. This final plague, which claimed the Pharaoh's own firstborn son, demonstrated God's power and ultimately compelled Pharaoh to give the Israelites their freedom.

Passover commences with the First Seder, which is a special dinner that includes the recitation of the Kiddush, the Motzi, and other blessings in Hebrew. The story of Passover is retold during the Seder and the youngest person at the table recites, "The Four Questions" (Mah Nishtanah) that provide the answers to the primary question: "Why is this night unlike all others?"

The Four Questions highlight the unique rituals of the evening:

On all other nights we eat either leavened or unleavened bread. On this night, why do we eat only unleavened matzah (a bread made with flour and water that is baked quickly to prevent it from rising)?

Answer: To remind us of the haste with which our ancestors left Egypt.

On all other nights we eat all kinds of herbs. On this night, why only bitter herbs (maror)?

Answer: To remind us of the bitterness of slavery.

On all other nights we do not dip our herbs even once. On this night, why do we dip them twice?

Answer: It reminds us of the tears shed (dipping karpas in salt water) and the mortar used by our ancestors (dipping in charoset).

On all other nights we eat sometimes sitting and sometimes reclining. On this night, why do we all recline?

Answer: To remind us of how free people relax and dine. We wish all of our friends and readers of the Jewish faith a Happy Passover (Chag Sameach)!

## HAPPY EASTER

This Sunday is Easter Sunday, the holiest and most significant day in the Christian faith, when Christians celebrate the resurrection of Jesus Christ, which occurred two days after his crucifixion on Good Friday. Our friends of the Eastern Orthodox faith will celebrate Easter on Sunday, April 12, according to the Julian calendar.

Christians believe that Christ died to redeem us from our sins. His resurrection represents the victory over death and sin, a testament to the power of God and a promise of eternal life, offering hope that they too, can have eternal life through faith in Jesus Christ.

We wish all of our Christian friends and readers a very happy and joyful Easter.

## Hopping mad about gas prices...



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### GUEST OP-ED

## Revere ZBA's Nearly 90% Approval Rate Warrants a Closer Look

By Michelle Kelley

Nearly 90% of applications brought before the Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA) over the past five years have been approved, based on decision records provided by the City Clerk. That figure alone does not tell the whole story, but it does suggest that approvals are the norm and that a closer look at how these decisions are made is warranted. At a recent Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA) hearing, a variance was requested to allow a driveway within 20 feet of one of the busiest intersections in the city.

The City Engineer provided a written opinion stating that the proposed configuration would create

a very unsafe condition. That concern was presented to the ZBA and entered into the record. A similar concern regarding the driveway layout was also raised in a letter from the prior property owner.

Nevertheless, the variance was granted.

The ZBA is an appointed, unelected body.

This is not about one project. It raises a broader concern about how decisions are made and how concerns are weighed. When documented safety concerns are presented, the public reasonably expects that those concerns will play a meaningful role in the outcome.

Based on ZBA decision records provided by the

City Clerk, 175 of 196 decided applications between 2020 and the present were approved, representing 89.29%.

While each case is unique, such a high approval rate suggests that approvals are the norm rather than the exception. This makes it all the more important to understand how decisions are reached, particularly in cases involving safety concerns.

Residents take the time to participate in these hearings, present information, and engage in the process. When concerns are raised on the record, there is a reasonable expectation that they will be meaningfully considered. When outcomes

appear unchanged despite those concerns, it can create the perception that participation has little impact on the result and, therefore, further weaken what little trust in the process remains.

This is not about opposing development. It is about transparency and ensuring that public safety concerns are fully and fairly considered in decisions that shape our neighborhoods. A nearly 90% approval rate alone warrants closer scrutiny and a more transparent review of how zoning decisions are being made, so that public confidence in those entrusted to make them can begin to be restored.

Michelle Kelley is an Councillor-at-Large

The Revere Journal welcomes Letters to the Editor. Letters should be e-mailed to editor@reverejournal.com Letters must be signed. Anonymous letters will not be accepted

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## Council // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

this done," said Cogliandro. Councillor-at-Large Michelle Kelley said that it can sometimes be difficult to get information from the site plan meetings and that she hoped RevereTV would be able to get the meetings recorded.

In other business at last week's meeting, Cogliandro also submitted a motion requesting that the mayor request the Chief of Police to enforce parking regulations on Library Street and surrounding streets on Sundays between noon and 2

p.m. to address illegal parking.

Councillor-at-Large Marc Silvestri submitted a motion requesting a public hearing on a revision to the city ordinances concerning cryptocurrency ATMs.

Silvestri has called for the cryptocurrency ATMs to be removed from the city.

"They have been proven over and over again to be a conduit of fraud, excessive fraud, and targeting elderly in communities such as Revere," said Silvestri.

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# Revere Public Schools celebrate women's voices in latest "From Where We Come" video

Special to the Journal

In honor of Women's History Month, Revere Public Schools (RPS) has released the fourth episode of its storytelling series, "From Where We Come." This series focuses on the voices, experiences, and inspirations of women from all over the district. This week's episode features five leaders whose personal stories show the strength, resilience, and dedication that are still shaping the RPS community.

March has been Women's History Month since 1981, and it is a time to honor the women who came before us and celebrate the women who are leading us now. With this new installment, RPS brings the celebration closer to home by telling the stories of Christina Porter, the Director of English Language Arts; Nancy Martel, the Principal of Hill Elementary School; Shay St. Laurent, the Deputy Principal of Revere High School; Officer Raisa Builes, the School Resource Officer; and Stacey Mulligan, the Principal of CityLab High School.



**This week, RPS released the fourth episode in its "From Where We Come" series, which focuses on the voices, experiences, and inspirations of women from all over the district. This week's episode features five leaders whose personal stories show the strength, resilience, and dedication that are still shaping the RPS community.**

Each story gives a very personal look at the experiences, values, and role models that have made these women leaders in their schools and communities.

Shay St. Laurent's family inspired her to become a teacher when she was very young. Her parents were both teachers, so she grew up in Gloucester with the values of hard work and learning for life. Working in

her family's restaurant and learning from her Italian grandmother, who worked well into her 80s, gave her a strong sense of determination. St. Laurent started out wanting to work in business and technology, but she later found her true calling in the classroom. She then moved on to leadership roles that focused on innovation and instructional design. Today, she stresses how important it is to give young women power, show them how to be curious, kind, and helpful, and show them how to lift others up.

The story of Christina Porter comes from Revere itself. Porter is in her 24th year working in the Revere Public Schools district and is a graduate of the schools. She says her grandmothers had the biggest impact on her. One of them, a creative and community-minded leader, co-founded the Revere Society for Cultural and Historical Preservation and taught Porter to love creativity and service. The other, who was well-known in the community for her kindness and generosity, taught her that people should always come first.

Porter still uses what she learned in these lessons to do her job as a teacher and as a member of the Revere community.

Nancy Martel also has a strong connection to Revere. Martel lives in the same house as her mother did when she was a child. She is both a principal and a neighbor to the families she helps. She was raised by a single mother and three sisters, and she learned early on how important it is to be strong, work hard, and be with family. She never thought she would be a principal at first, but the support of her mentors and coworkers helped her take on new challenges and become a leader. She still stays connected to her community and gets inspiration from her family and the students she works with.

Officer Raisa Builes has a different but equally strong point of view. Her journey has taken her across continents and through many jobs, making her the first female School Resource Officer in Revere Public Schools. Builes grew up in Costa Rica and then moved to Chelsea. A teacher who

told her to believe in herself inspired her. She then spent ten years in the United States Marine Corps, where she was led by strong women. As an SRO and mother of two daughters, she is now dedicated to being a visible example of empowerment, showing students that they can follow any path they choose.

Stacey Mulligan's story is one of strength and growth, thanks to her family and her own experiences. Mulligan is from central Massachusetts but has strong ties to the South. She spent her summers visiting extended family, which helped her see things from a different angle and appreciate connection. She says that her mother, who went through a lot of tough times when she was young, is her biggest source of inspiration. Mulligan jumped at new opportunities after a long career in Boston Public Schools. He eventually became the principal of CityLab High School. Her message to others is clear: don't be afraid to try new things.

Even though each story is different, they all have some things in common, like fam-



You can watch the whole video on the Revere Public Schools website and social media sites or by scanning the QR Code provided.

ily, hard work, community, and the need for strong female role models. These stories together show how women have a big effect on education and on the lives of students and the community as a whole.

Revere Public Schools continues to show off the different voices that make up its district through the program From Where We Come. This Women's History Month piece is both a celebration and a call to action. It encourages the next generation to learn from these stories, embrace their journeys, and remember the women who inspire them every day.

## Letter // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

ing the ballot initiative.

"Not just here, but voters across Massachusetts approved a ballot question supporting an audit of the legislature," said Kelley. "Here in Revere, we had over 9,500 voters that supported this audit. This motion simply asks whether the council wants to send a letter reflecting the decision of our Revere voters; it does not create any new policy or obligations, it is merely a communication."

Kelley noted that the town of Reading has already submitted a similar letter to the state legislature.

"I also think we have a responsibility to formally acknowledge the will of our voters by way of a letter to the Massachusetts state legislature," she said. "We have the opportunity to be one of the first municipalities to show we stand behind our voters on this issue; I think we should take a stand and do it."

Several councillors said they were hesitant to support the motion given that the audit is currently the subject of litigation.

"The Revere City Council is a municipal legislative body, and we do not have jurisdiction over the internal operations of the Massachusetts legislature," said Ward 5 Councillor Angela Guarino-Sawaya. "Residents already expressed their will through the vote on the ballot question and the responsibility for implementation lies within the appropriate state entities, not us. I also

believe we should be mindful of setting a precedent where the council begins weighing in on broader state-level political issues that fall outside our municipal responsibilities."

Guarino-Sawaya said she respected Kelley's intent with the motion, but that she believed it was out of order.

Both Councillor-at-Large Joanne McKenna and Ward 4 Councillor Paul Argenzio noted that there is ongoing litigation over the audit question, and that the city should not get involved at this time.

"We should allow this process to play, let the courts take it up, and support the outcome of that court decision," said Argenzio.

Councillor-at-Large Marc Silvestri said he did not want to get into a back-and-forth situation with the state.

"Where the budget is coming up and they are ap-

proving fundings to the cities, I don't want to get into that mess right now," said Silvestri.

Council President Anthony Zambuto said he typically has not supported the types of letters and resolutions proposed by Kelley.

"I find myself in a position where I want to support this because this is the will of the voter, so I may break my tradition and support this tonight," said Zambuto. "I have to be principled to what I think, and I think that is different than any of these resolutions that were passed to try to shut a power plant down or whatever ... I voted against all of them, but I find myself in the opposite position tonight."

The motion failed as Kelley and Zambuto voted in support of it, Silvestri voted present, and the remaining councillors voted no.

## Briefs // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

with members of the public.

"These cameras can automatically detect over 50 languages and will translate not only what the person is saying to the officer, but will then translate the officer's response back into that language," said LaVita. "This feature will enhance both officer safety and the safety of the public."

The camera initiative is supported by a \$200,000

state grant funded through the Law Enforcement Body-Worn Camera Program. In addition, state Representative Jessica Giannino secured an additional \$25,000 in funding for the police department through a legislative earmark.

Body-worn cameras are intended to enhance transparency, strengthen accountability, and support effective policing in the

community, according to police officials.

"The implementation of Body Cameras is another step in highlighting transparency and standards of accountability in our public safety teams," said Mayor Patrick Keefe. "These cameras can help maintain trust between police and the communities they serve."



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Awarded annually to high school seniors who reside or attend school in the city of Boston, Chelsea, Winthrop, Revere, Worcester, Bedford, Concord, Lexington or Lincoln, and are involved in community service with a minimum 3.0 GPA.

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For more information on these scholarships, including application links and criteria please visit, [www.massport.com](http://www.massport.com)



**Revere TV**  
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**SPOTLIGHT**

*After a several year hiatus, the Polar Plunge returned to Revere Beach last week. The plunge raises money for the Special Olympics of Massachusetts, and is also a great community building event. Over 150 people plunged in support this year and the event was featured on the local news too. RTV interviewed organizers, got footage of participants taking the plunge, along with the fundraising award ceremony. Who got the coveted golden plunger award? Watch the exclusive RevereTV coverage on the Community Channel through the month of April, or anytime at your convenience as it's posted to YouTube.*

*In case you missed it, March was Women's History Month. Revere Public Schools released the fourth episode of its storytelling series, "From Where We Come," on the RevereTV Community Channel. This week's episode features five leaders whose personal stories show the strength, resilience, and dedication that are still shaping the RPS community. This episode brings the celebration closer to home by telling the stories of Christina Porter, the Director of English Language Arts; Nancy Martel, the Principal of Hill Elementary School; Shay St. Laurent, the Deputy Principal of Revere High School; Officer Raisa Builes, the School Resource Officer; and Stacey Mulligan, the Principal of CityLab High School. Watch this RPS Women's History Month special episode on RevereTV for the next few weeks.*

*This week on "In the Loop," the Revere Department of Public Health has another announcement. The next Lifesavers League class is designed specifically for Revere seniors. The Public Health Department is partnering with the American Red Cross, to teach participants the lifesaving techniques of hands-only CPR and other emergency preparedness skills. The class will take place on Wednesday, April 22nd from 11AM to 12:30PM at the Rossetti-Cowan Senior Center. Spots are limited so if you are interested in signing up, please call the Public Health Department at 781-485-8486. This announcement is playing on RevereTV in between programming on all channels in four languages. It is also posted to social media so follow RevereTV on Instagram and Facebook to hear "In the Loop" first.*

*RTV GOV is the channel for all of the city's local meetings recorded by RevereTV. These meetings air live on television and YouTube. The meetings on YouTube remain posted for replay immediately after the live feed ends. The current replay rotation on television includes the most recent of the Cultural Council, License Commission, Zoning Sub-Committee, Appointments Sub-Committee, Legislative Affairs Sub-Committee, Revere City Council, and Zoning Board of Appeals. Watch live meetings as the April schedule begins this week. RTV GOV is channel 9 on Comcast, and 13 and 613 on RCN.*

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# REVERE JOURNAL'S 2026 Easter Hunnies



Happy Easter from Mia & Maddie



Happy Easter from Aliza



Happy Easter from Harlow



Happy Easter Natalia!



Happy Easter from Hayden



Happy Easter from Jeremy



Happy Easter from Julian



Happy Easter from Rowan & Hayes



Happy Easter from Sabastian



Happy Easter from The Ternullos



Happy 1st Easter from Wesley



Happy Easter from Pickels



Happy Easter from Stephen & Lucia



Happy Easter from the Romano Gang



Happy Easter from Bella Mia & Stellina



Happy Easter from Malcolm



Happy Easter from Sonny's Bunnys



Happy Easter from Wesley & Romy



Happy Easter from Harry



Happy Easter from Lucky

# REVERE JOURNAL'S 2026 Easter Hunnies



Happy Easter from Nami & Oliver

Happy Easter from Jamie

Happy Easter from Conley

Happy Easter from Millie

Happy Easter from Pickle

Happy Easter from Liam

Happy Easter from Adam

Happy Easter from Charlotte

Happy Easter from Colin

Happy Easter from Jet

Happy 1st Easter from Nicholas

Happy Easter from Ben & Jagger

Happy Easter from Cecilia

Happy Easter from Fox

Happy Easter from Ava, Ella, Charlotte & Sophia

Happy 1st Easter from Myla

Happy Easter from Jack

Happy Easter from Gianni

Happy Easter from Oliver

Happy Easter EGGSTRA SPECIAL nana



*Celebrating the joy and spirit of the season with all Happy Easter and Passover*

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State Senator

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*Wishing you a time of reflection and connection with those you hold dear this Passover and Easter*

**Ira Novoselsky**  
Ward 2 City Councillor

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**Sending good tidings to all during this Easter and Passover**

**Bob Haas**  
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*May your homes be filled with laughter and cherished memories this holiday season*

**Paul Argenzio**  
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*Sending heartfelt wishes for a happy and bright holiday season.*

**Marc Silvestri**  
Revere Council President  
Councillor-at-Large

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*Celebrating the spirit of community and good will this Easter and Passover.*

**Chris Giannino**  
Ward 6 City Councillor

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*May this holiday season be filled with moments of gratitude.*

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School Committee-at-Large

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**May these spring holidays bring you moments of joy and peace**

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Ward 3 Revere & Northeast Regional School Committeeman

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**Wishing you a season of warmth and togetherness**

**Jessica Giannino**  
State Representative

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**MICHELLE KELLEY**  
COUNCILLOR AT LARGE



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May it be filled with lots of love, joy and chocolate! May you and your family be blessed as you celebrate the true meaning of Easter, from the reflection of Good Friday to the joy of Easter Sunday and the promise of eternal life.

Wishing you a great Easter.



**Wishing you and your family a holiday season of abundant blessings!**



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# A STROLL THROUGH TIME

*This week, we look back 16 years to the news of 2010.*

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**MACDONALD AND NUTILE SET NEW RHS GIRLSTRACK RECORDS**

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RHAZI WINS THE MILE VS. BEVERLY**

**ALSO INSIDE**  
A.C. Whelan students raise money for their year-end field trip. Page 20

# REVERE JOURNAL

VOLUME 11, NO. 19

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**WEDNESDAY,  
MAY 19, 2010**

### INSIDE

Corey Abrams records an impressive victory in the special election to succeed Jim Kimmerle in Ward 1  
STORY, PAGE 2

City and state officials help the Beachmont Improvement Committee members break ground at Cummings Park  
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- Joan Berardi
- Richard Bruno
- Michael Bucciero Sr.
- Anthony Lauence Casarano
- Martha Cassaro
- Richard Gordon
- Rose Marie Gudewich
- Stanley Kire
- Sandra Mazza
- TSgt James McGuirk
- Michael Schifino
- William Schwarz

**OBITUARIES, PAGES 8-9**

## OPENING DAY AT SUFFOLK DOWNS



Suffolk Downs opened its 75th anniversary racing season Saturday. The photo above shows one of the day's 10 live races — a card in which female jockeys combined for five wins. A crowd of 11,212 attended Saturday's festivities, which coincided with the Preakness.

### MUSIC

## Mass appeal: Latest CD released to critical acclaim

By SETH DANIEL  
seth@reverejournal.com

Like fine wine, Revere's rock band Mass seems to be refining itself with age - as the veteran rockers have recently released what critics are calling one of their best albums to date.

The band - made up of Revere residents and natives Joe Vadala (drums), Gene D'Itria (guitars), Michael Palumbo (bass) and Louis D'Agusta (vocals) - released 'Sea of Black' on Escape Records last month and will have a CD Release Party at the Regent Theatre, 7 Medford St., in Arlington on Friday, June 4.

"The new album is getting a lot of recognition," said Vadala last week. "A lot of people consider it our best work, even considering our old stuff from the RCA days. We're getting very high scores on all the reviews. Hopefully it leads us to some really great success."

The album comprises 12 tracks of brand new material, and Vadala said that the third track, 'All the Years Gone,' has been attracting a lot of attention.

Vadala said that the album is a testament to Mass's incredible comeback - after surviving a decade in which rock music went out of style.

"Our resurgence has done a lot with the vibe of this band," said

Please see MASS, Page 5

### AROUND THE CITY

## Stacks of people are visiting the library

Computer use soars as people look for jobs

By SETH DANIEL  
seth@reverejournal.com

Frugality has become fashionable once again and nowhere is there so much available for so little than at the Revere Public Library (RPL).

In fact, the whole place is available for free, and in the last few years' tough economy, more and more people are discovering or re-discovering the RPL.

Whether it's museum passes, bestselling books, popular DVD movies, a variety of children's activities or the 29 new computers - the library in the current economic slump has attracted the attention of just about everyone from every walk of life.

"I don't think a lot of people know everything available at the library," said Interim Director Mark Ferrante. "People may still think a library is stuffy and full of old, dusty books, but we're constantly updating. We keep up with all the bestsell-

Please see LIBRARY, Page 4



Interim Library Director Mark Ferrante stands at the front entrance of the Revere Public Library. A sagging economy and high unemployment has boosted usage at the library. From hordes of those conducting Internet job searches to families re-discovering ways to save a buck, Ferrante said people are re-thinking how they use the library.

SETH DANIEL PHOTO

## REVERE Through the Years

### 10 years ago April 1, 2016

The Garfield Middle School has been chosen as one of two schools statewide to participate in a \$450,000 grant program by the Center for Collaborative Education, a grant that will try to bring the middle school in line with the high school's Student Centered Learning model.

Mr. RHS will take a bow this year after all. After budget cuts threatened to cancel the annual Mr. RHS event this spring, school officials said this week that they have rethought the controversial cancellation and will allow that, and some other events, to take place. However, Supt. Dianne Kelly said they must keep in mind the seriousness of crippling budget cuts that look to hit the

schools next year.

The MWRA will make available \$100 million in interest-free loans to its member water communities to fully replace lead service lines. The city of Revere will be able to obtain interest-free loans from the Massachusetts Water Resources Authority to replace lead service lines running from the street to individual properties.

The City Council approved a request by Mayor Brian Arigo for \$100,000 to study the condition of the Department of Public Works building at 321 Rear Charger St.

The Huntsman: Winter War is playing at the Revere Showcase Cinemas.

**20 years ago  
April 5, 2006**  
With legislators failing

to take action on whether to allow slot machines at Suffolk Downs and Wonderland Dog Track, and then failing to extend simulcasting rights, both tracks were forced to close their doors Saturday, leaving long-time employees without a job.

The Revere School Dept. is planning to send a team of teachers and administrators to San Diego May 5 in hopes of being chosen among the top five finalists in the country in the competition for the best urban school district in the nation.

The State Ethics Commission has ruled that it is a conflict of interest for city workers to perform drain-laying work for residents on the side. The issue had been a heated topic of discussion in the City Council for the past few months.

Ice Age: The Meltdown, Date Movie, and V for Vendetta are playing at the Revere Showcase Cinemas.

### 30 years ago April 3, 1996

Mayor Robert J. Haas put to rest a political football and a public safety concern with the stroke of his pen when he signed the City Council order which calls for the reopening of the closed Beachmont fire station. However, Fire Chief Daniel Doherty said that No. Revere is in more dire need of fire protection. Doherty noted that the closest fire station to No. Revere is eight minutes away, whereas the closest station to Beachmont presently is just five minutes away.

Local state representatives are among those lining up in their support for the

next Speaker of the House. State Rep. William Reinsteins said he will support Chelsea's Richard Voke for the post, but Rep. Bob DeLeo said he will support Thomas Fineran. Voke reportedly has the support of a majority of Democrats, but Fineran reportedly has the backing of Republicans who will join with Fineran's minority of Democrats to defeat Voke.

Elfrede Manning, 63, of 560 Proctor Ave., was killed by a car driven by James J. Murphy of Somerville Thursday morning as she was crossing Washington Ave. near Mountain Ave. to catch a bus. Murphy, whose license was revoked, has been charged with motor vehicular homicide.

Primal Fear, A Thin Line Between Love and Hate, and Fargo are playing at the

Revere Showcase Cinemas.

### 40 years ago April 2, 1986

A move to name Louis H. Cheako Ciarlone to the newly-created post of Inspector of Construction for the schools was defeated by the School Committee on a vote of 3-3. Mayor George V. Colella and the other opponents argued that the position would be a waste of money.

Mayor George V. Colella has proposed that the city establish a hotel excise tax which Colella said will raise \$77,000 annually.

Lucas, The Money Pit, and Black Moon Rising are playing at the Revere Showcase Cinemas.

See YEARS Page 10

### REVERE JUNIOR PROM



Arianna Lara and Dalia Vranos during the Revere Junior Prom held at the Venezia Restaurant on Ericsson St., in Boston .



The Prom Queen Nicolly Scher and Prom King Sergio Peguero Leger.



Having fun at the prom are Sara Granados, Gianna Canzano, Gabriella D'Intinosanto, Arianna Lara, Neyla Vranic and Dalia Vranic.

### THE REVERE SPEECH AND DEBATE TEAM COMPETE IN TOURNAMENT

The Revere Speech and Debate Team competed last Saturday at the March Merwyness Speech and Debate Tournament at Needham High School.

Gianna Cuzzi won first place in Mixed Duo Interp!

Farah Meghraoua won second in Freeze Improv!

The team was also joined by alumni judge Alex Gracias who is now attending the University of Chicago.

You can follow the teams exploits on Instagram @

reverespeechdebate and donate to the teams GoFundMe for our trip to Washington DC to compete at the 2026 NCFL Grand National Tournament.



Sala Hoxha, Farah Meghraoua, Gianna Cuzzi, Dianne Brito, Lyna Baoussouh, and Alex Gracias .

## RHS ROUNDUP

### BOYS VOLLEYBALL OPENS WITH 3-0 WIN

The Revere High boys volleyball team opened its 2026 season on a successful note with a 3-0 shutout victory at non-league opponent Essex Tech.

Leading the way for coach Lianne Mimmo's squad were Chris Choc Chavez, who had 16 assists; Isaac Portillo, who recorded seven kills and made 10 assists; and Juan Perez, who added seven kills.

The Patriots will play a 20-game schedule, meeting their seven Greater Boston League adversaries (Chelsea, Everett, Lynn Classical, Lynn English, Malden, Medford, and Somerville) twice each and non-league opponents Essex Tech (2), O'Bryant, St. John's Prep, Academy of the Pacific Rim, and No. Andover.

Mimmo and her crew will host three of their GBL foes in the coming week: Somerville this Friday, Lynn Classical next Monday, and Everett next Wednesday.

will host Somerville at 6:00 next Thursday.

### BOYS LAX OPENS 2026 SEASON

The Revere High boys lacrosse team was scheduled to open its 2026 season yesterday (Tuesday) with a contest against non-league opponent Lowell.

Coach Michael Lucas and his Patriots will travel to Somerville next Monday and to Lynn next Thursday.

### RHS BASEBALL TO HOST CLASSICAL IN SEASON-OPENER

The Revere High baseball team will open its 2026 season this Monday, April 6, when coach Sebastian Salvo and his Patriots host Greater Boston League (GBL) rival Lynn Classical. The season-opening pitch is set for 4:15 on the Tony Conigliaro Diamond at Veterans Field.

The Patriots will take on their seven GBL foes (Chelsea, Everett, Lynn Classical, Lynn English, Malden, Medford, and Somerville) twice each. They will play two non-league teams, Peabody and Winthrop, as well as two opponents in a tournament at East Boston at the end of May, to complete their 18-game schedule.

### RHS SOFTBALL PLAYS AT MINUTEMAN IN SEASON-OPENER

The Revere High softball team is scheduled to travel to Lexington today (Wednesday) to open its 2026 season today with a contest against non-league opponent Minuteman Regional.

Coach Megan O'Donnell's squad, which will be led by a trio of senior captains, Danni Hope Randall, Shayna Smith, and Frankie Reed, will stay on the road on Monday to Lynn Classical and on Wednesday to Everett.

### NEW COACH, NEW SEASON FOR RHS GIRLS LACROSSE

The 2026 edition of the Revere High girls lacrosse team will be led by a new coach, Kimberly Egizi, when the Lady Patriots line up for their season-opening draw against Medford next Tuesday (April 7) on the RHS turf field.

"We are very excited for the season this year," said Egizi, who will be assisted in the coaching duties by Savannah Scrodin. "Our numbers have almost doubled, which is amazing to see. The girls have been eager to learn and working so hard during the first few weeks of the season and we are looking forward to the first game."

The 2026 varsity roster, which will be led by senior captains Bianca Rincon and Hilda Sarmiento, includes seniors Ashley Garcia, Ava Morris, and Geselle Ruiz; juniors Johanna Andrade, Analia Romero Ginzalez, Amilee Alvarez Hernandez, Yamara Martinez, Britany Argueta De Leon, Rebecca Lopez, Melany Cosme Sanchez, and Angela Maya; sophomores Rebecca Mercado, Aaliyah Jules, Lily Hunh, Ginna Guzman, and Ikram El Bouziani; and freshmen Lena Morris and Marwa Benzerrouk.

After Tuesday's Medford match, the Lady Patriots

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**THE RHS PATRIOT BOYS BASKETBALL TEAM PARENTS CLUB HOSTS BREAK-UP DINNER**

Last week the RHS Patriots met for the final time as a team for their annual dinner and awards night. This annual event gives Coach

David Leary a chance to talk with the boys about the season, and his expectations for next season.



Patriot GBL All-Star Charles Dobre was unable to attend the dinner, his parents, Janet and Charles Dobre accepted the award for him from Coach Leary.



The RHS Patriot Coaching Staff, from left: Hamza Ghoul, John Leone, Jason Seigal, Conor Browne, Head Coach David Leary, Bob Sullivan, Dennis Leary, and Bobby Sullivan.



Head Coach of the RHS Patriots Basketball Team David Leary is with the team leaders from the 2025-2026 season. From left: Nick Rupp, Isaiah Llanos, and Devin Berry.



President of the RHS Basketball Parents Club Joy Leone with Head Coach David Leary.



Devin Berry was the Patriots' leading scorer and was named a GBL All-Star, presented by Head Coach David Leary.



The seniors of the team were recognized for their dedication and willingness to help the younger players. From left: Asst. Coaches John Leone, Jason Siegal, Bob Sullivan, seniors- Joe Carlo, Isaiah Llanos, Nick Rupp, Jadrian Sanchez, Devin Berry, Zaney Keyembe, Head Coach David Leary, Conor Browne, and Dennis Leary.



Asst. Coaches Bob Sullivan and Conor Browne with the Patriot Freshman Team.



Head coach David Leary with his staff are joined by the combined Junior Varsity and Varsity Teams at DeMaino's for the annual awards dinner.

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## ZBA // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

ing requirement; and a proposed driveway falls within the required minimum of 20 feet (it is 17.5 feet) of the curvature of the street.

As to the latter issue, Cipoletta told the members, "We will hire a safety engineer to make sure that cars exiting and entering can do so safely, which ultimately will be reviewed by the Site Plan Review Committee."

The former owner of the property sent a letter in which she stated that the project will be good for the neighborhood, but noted that the proposed new driveway should be given more thought from a safety standpoint for the new users of the property.

Revere resident Baris Berk spoke in favor of the proposal. "The present building is an eyesore," said Burke, who is the proprietor of the United Brokers REO of Revere. "The new project will beautify the area and add value to the neighborhood."

Speaking in opposition was Ward 1 City Councillor Jim Mercurio. "This corner is near one of the busiest intersections of Revere without a streetlight," said Mercurio. "I don't think this is a very good project for the area. One townhouse would be fine."

Councillor at Large Michelle Kelley said she was not totally opposed to the project, "But the concern I have is in fact the driveway. I'm afraid that the plan as proposed would create a traffic nuisance more so than is there right now. This would create a very unsafe condition and is something that should be redesigned," said Kelley, who noted that City Engineer Nick Rysstrom has raised similar concerns about the driveway.

"I'm asking that the applicant go back to the drawing board and come up with a different solution," Kelley added.

However, both Cipoletta and City Clerk Ashley Melnik noted that even if the ZBA approves granting the variances, the City Council still will need to issue a Special Permit for the townhouse use in the RB zoning district.

The members voted 4-1 in favor of granting the variances, with Tucker the lone dissenter.

Next up was an application from Broadway 700, LLC, 1040-1048, North Shore Road, requesting variances to enable the construction of a 20-unit apartment building at 700 Broadway. This matter also had been continued from the

previous month.

Attorney Brian McGrail of Wakefield represented the applicant, well-known local developer Jamie Russo, who is the principal of the LLC. McGrail said that the variances are needed because of the irregular shape and sloping topography of the lot which "precludes a reasonable and beneficial use of the site. This is a primary corridor in the city," added McGrail. "This project is consistent with the surrounding neighborhood while advancing the city's planning goals of housing, walkability, and economic activity."

McGrail also addressed the issue of the lack of parking that had been raised at last month's meeting by abutters and noted that Russo met with the neighbors in an effort to address their concerns. He further noted that Russo would ensure that future tenants -- who will not be eligible for the city's resident parking program -- would not own cars, similar to what Russo has done with numerous other properties in the city that he has developed under similar circumstances.

Two residents spoke against the proposal, with both citing concerns about parking, increased traffic

congestion, and the size of the proposed building. Russo also briefly spoke to the board members and answered their questions.

The members voted 4-1 in favor of granting the variances, with Tucker once again dissenting.

The next item on the agenda was a proposal for a 28-unit apartment building at 18-22 Green St. by Trichilo Development, LLC, 13 Victoria Street.

Last fall, the ZBA had rejected a similar proposal by Trichilo for a 29-unit building. Ordinarily, a petitioner must wait a full year under state law before re-submitting a proposal to a ZBA. However, if the local Planning Board determines that the petitioner has submitted a new proposal that contains "material changes" from the original, then the petitioner may submit that new proposal to the ZBA within a year from the previous rejection.

Trichilo presented its new proposal to the Revere Planning Board, which unanimously voted to grant consent to allow the applicant to re-petition the ZBA.

However, the ZBA also must make a procedural determination that the new proposal contains "material changes" from the original

before considering the merits of the new proposal.

Thus, the ZBA's initially had to take a vote, as follows: "Pursuant to MGL c. 40A, s. 16, the ZBA will take a vote to make a determination whether specific and material changes have been made to the application for 18-22 Green Street."

Attorney Joseph Catoggio, who had represented Trichilo last fall, told the members that the new proposal was materially different from the original because the developer had reduced the number of units from 29 to 28; increased the front yard setback from the street by an additional five feet; and incorporated a roof deck to create more open space use.

However, a majority of the board was not persuaded, with Pratt, Lopes, and Pelton voting against a finding that material changes had been made from the original proposal, and thereby preventing the merits of the new plan from coming before the board.

The final item for the evening was a request from Fabio E. Casco Garcia, 5 Eastern Ave., requesting a special permit from the ZBA pursuant to Revere Revised Ordinances (RRO) Section 17.40.040 to enable

him "to alter and extend the pre-existing, nonconforming two-family structure by constructing a two-story, rear yard addition to expand the living area of the two-family structure and incorporate a dimensionally-compliant accessory dwelling unit (ADU)."

Local attorney Matt Graves presented the application. He said that the present dwelling, which was built in 1900, is in need of repair. He said there will be a small addition in the rear of the present building and the ADU will be contained in the attic.

"This project will be an overall improvement to the property and the neighborhood," Graves said. "The addition will be in the rear of the building and will not be visible from the street. This project will not change the character of either the building or the neighborhood, and will blend in nicely with the neighborhood and the existing structure."

There were no opponents and the members voted unanimously to issue the special permit.

The next meeting of the ZBA is set for April 29.

## Years // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 7

### 50 years ago

**March 31, 1976**

The Revere Youth Hockey Squirts came home to a hero's welcome after capturing second place at the national championships held this week in St. Clair Shores, Mich. Revere won four games in a row before bowing to Chicago in the finals.

Massport has bowed to the demands of residents and lawmakers and has decided not to increase tolls on the Tobin Bridge.

The State Racing Commission has denied the request by Wonderland Dog Track to add 11 additional dates of racing on 11 Sunday afternoons in the summer.

Local residents had been vociferous in their opposition to the proposal, citing the heavy traffic that would result.

Mel Brooks's Blazing Saddles is playing at the Kincade Theatre in Winthrop.

### 60 years ago

**April 7, 1966**

A hero's burial was tendered to Marine Hospital Corpsman Martin L. Gillespie Jr., the first Revere soldier to give his life in the war in Vietnam. His body lay in state last week at the American Legion Hall, where hundreds of local residents paid their final respects. Gilles-

pie, who was 26, was killed in action near Quang Nai province. He was the only son of Mr. and Mrs. Martin L. Gillespie of 473 Broadway.

Mayor George V. Colella is considering what action he can take against Police Chief Colin A.W. Gillis, who was indicted last week by a federal grand jury on three counts of income tax evasion. Gillis, who has been chief since 1949, allegedly underestimated his income by \$26,000 over a three-year period from 1959-61. IRS agents reportedly interviewed many local businessmen as part of their investigation.

The School Committee has voted 4-3 to fire Paul Revere School principal Philip Flowers. Flowers was hired amidst charges of "politics" and his dismissal likewise comes amidst charges of "politics." School Committee member William J. Foley filed the motion to fire Flowers.

Tony Curtis and Natalie Wood star in The Great Race at the Revere Drive In.

### 70 years ago

**April 5, 1956**

The School Committee voted 4-3 in favor of locating a new Revere High School in the so-called pit area at its meeting last week

before one of the largest audiences to attend a committee meeting in many years. Voting in favor of the pit over the other location, the farm area, were School Committee members George V. Colella, Harry Della Russo, Leonard Ginsburg, and Mrs. Grace Rizzo. The plan comes with the conditions that Ambrose Park be added to the pit site and that homes on East Mountain Ave. not be disturbed by the new high school plans. In addition, the town dump across the street from the site must be closed within 10 days.

Danny Kaye stars in The Court Jester at the Revere Theatre. Frank Sinatra and

Kim Novak star in The Man with the Golden Arm at the Revere Drive In.

### 80 years ago

**April 4, 1946**

Mayor Raymond Carey promised a group of more than 200 veterans at City Hall that temporary housing in the city for veterans and their families will be available by July 1.

Jewish and other survivors of Axis persecution are seeking to find their relatives in this country.

Ingrid Bergman and Gregory Peck star in Alfred Hitchcock's Spellbound at the Revere and Boulevard Theatres.

## Events // CONTINUED FROM PAGE

Following the races, all participants and families are encouraged to hang out in The Paddock and enjoy food trucks, face painting, and music by a local DJ.

"We are excited to again partner with the Marathon Daffodil Project and Revere Parks and Recreation for Suffolk Downs' fifth year hosting the Daffodil Dash," said Thomas N. O'Brien, Managing Partner and Chief Executive Officer of The HYM Investment Group LLC. "At the

same time, we're thrilled to launch our Spring Farmers Market series at Beachmont Square. Together, these events reflect Suffolk Downs' continued evolution into a vibrant neighborhood where residents and visitors can gather for community

events, local food, and family-friendly activities."

"The events hosted by Suffolk Downs at The Yard and The Track bring our community together, give families opportunities for free or low-cost fun, and highlight the benefits of the Beachmont Square neighborhood," said Mayor of Revere Patrick M. Keefe. "We are grateful to work in partnership with Suffolk Downs to bring our residents opportunities for leisure and recreation, and I am excited for the fun we will have in the space through the coming season."

The Spring Farmers Markets at The Yard @ Beachmont Square will feature local farms, food vendors, artisans, and community organizations and will run

from 11 AM - 2 PM on the following Saturdays: April 18, May 2, May 16, May 30, June 13, and June 27.

The first market will spotlight the Revere Public Library and include vendors such as Riverdale Farm, Samantha's Garden, Dough Si Dough, Abbot Hill Creamery, Fabian's European Pastries, Mila's Sweets, VIA Guatemala Coffee, Teamoji, Iveyes Everything Honey, CowHill Aplaries, The Sugar Lab, Zao Gelato Truck, The Cramped Cook, Fruitful Chili, Lussier Maples, Lifehaus Wellness, La Frontera Sabrosa, Captain Squid, Care & Company, Royal Tallow, SOL, Revere Beach Retail, 1312 Woodworking, Palm Crafted Studio, Nicely Jewelry, Argentina Bakery Boston, Trippylandia, Oak-

dale Farms, Legacy Latte Café and Henna Artistry.

Both events are free to attend and open to the public, but registration for the Daffodil Dash is required to participate in the race events. The Track at Suffolk Downs, where the races will be held, is located at 525 McClellan Highway in East Boston. Parking is available on-site. The Track is also accessible from the MBTA's Suffolk Downs Blue Line station. The Spring Farmers Markets will take place at The Yard @ Beachmont Square located at 10 Suffolk Downs Boulevard, in Revere., accessible from the MBTA's Beachmont Blue Line station.

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# OBITUARIES

## Anna Filadoro

She was a beacon of warmth to all who had the privilege of knowing her



It is with profound sadness that we announce the passing of Anna Filadoro, a woman of remarkable strength, unwavering love, and infectious spirit. Anna was a beacon of warmth to all who had the privilege of knowing her, a woman who truly understood the beauty of life and lived it to the fullest. Her memory will forever be etched into the hearts of her loved ones.

Anna's life was a vivid tapestry of joy, love and service. She was an independent and hardworking woman, spending her professional years as a diligent mail sorter at Watson's Mailing Company. Her hobbies painted a beautiful picture of who Anna was. She was a gifted artist, finding joy in crocheting, ceramics and various arts and crafts. She was also an excellent cook and baker; her dishes were always filled with love and comfort. Anna loved the beach, the peace it brought her, and the freedom she felt while walking its shores. Her adventurous spirit also found joy in camping trips with her family. Anna was known for her playful side. She had a knack for making people laugh. Her nieces recall times of dressing up as a clown or Santa Claus on special occasions. This joyful spirit, coupled with her caring nature and generosity, made her a truly unique soul. An avid giver to Saint Judes, she was passionate about service and upliftment. Anna took pride in her appearance, always presenting herself with grace and elegance.

She was a devoted sister, aunt, and friend, always ready to offer a helping hand, a comforting word, or a moment of laughter.

She was preceded in death by her sister, Lucy Crespo and her husband, Tony, her brother, Henry Filadoro and his wife, Linda and her niece, Aprilann Miles. She is survived by her sister, Carol Miles, her brother, Robert V. Filadoro Jr. and his wife, Lisa (Morin), and her loving nieces and nephews: Robert W. Filadoro Sr. and Sheri Filadoro, Daniel Morin, Deborah Filadoro, Amanda Filadoro; her great nieces and nephews: Brittany Fitzpatrick, Robert W. Filadoro Jr, Destiny Lopez, Tyler Filadoro, Nevaeh Holloman and her great great nieces and nephews: Gianni Fitzpatrick, Aliyanna Fitzpatrick will always remember her fondly.

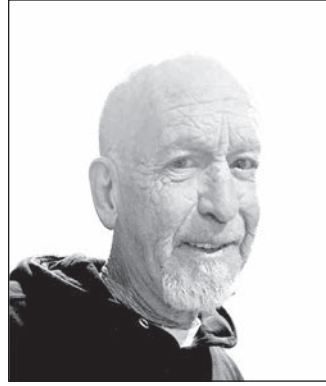
Anna's legacy is etched in the hearts of those she left behind. Her love, laughter and zest for life will continue to inspire those who knew her. We invite you to share your memories of Anna and upload photos to the memorial page. Your stories will help us remember not just that Anna died, but that she lived, and that her life gave us memories too beautiful to forget.

A funeral Service will be held privately.

In lieu of Flowers please consider making a donation in Anna's name to Saint Judes Children hospital. [www.stjude.org](http://www.stjude.org).

## Donald Paul Murray

A man of many talents



(Donald Paul Murray, 64, of Newton, passed away peacefully on March 24, 2026. Born in Revere in 1961, "Donny" was the third son of the late Donald Goss Murray and Shirley (Anderson) Murray. He grew up in Beachmont and had attended the Revere Public Schools.

Donny was a man of many talents and a versatile, fun-loving spirit who lived life with joy. He was a former employee of the Suffolk Downs Racetrack in Revere and a photo shop in Boston; more recently, he applied his skills to home improvement and renovation projects and dog walking. A former lifetime member of the Beachmont Yacht Club, Donny was known as someone who would truly give you the shirt off his back or a hand when you were down. He loved karaoke, dancing, and his many friends—both human and canine.

Most importantly, Donny recently made the courageous choice to stop drinking and battled fiercely for his life. Though his battle with cancer took him too soon, his family and friends are immensely proud of the strength he showed.

He was predeceased by his parents and his brother, Ricky Murray. He is survived by his daughter, Julie Nalen; his grandson, Vincent Delucia; his brother, Larry Murray; his

aunts, Marjorie Anderson and Beverly Nicolas; and several nieces and nephews. He also leaves behind Bob Pandorff (and his wife, Ellie), who was like a second father to him, watching over and supporting him with deep compassion; and his longtime friends, William Grushey and Bobby Travaglia. He is greatly missed by his family, many friends and neighbors.

The family wishes to express their profound gratitude to the nurses and doctors at Brigham & Women's Hospital, especially those on units 6B, 11C, and CWN 7N, as well as the team at HopeHealth for their compassionate guidance during his final days.

Remembrances: In lieu of flowers, donations in Donny's memory may be made to:

The Bond Between: [thebondbetween.org/donate](http://thebondbetween.org/donate) or MSPCA-Angell: [mspca.org/donate](http://mspca.org/donate) or

Esophageal Cancer Education Foundation: [fightec.org](http://fightec.org).

## Louis Cappucci Jr.

Of revere



Louis Joseph Cappucci Jr. of Revere formerly of Everett son of Louis Cappucci Sr. and Rita Cappucci passed on March 23, 2026. Beloved husband of 49 years to his wife Lana Patricia Cappucci and Loving father of Kristen Michelle Cappucci, Tiffany Noelle Cappucci and husband Gino Chiaravalloti Sr. Loving brother to late sister Judy A Nunez (Cappucci) husband Chris Nunez and brother David B. Cappucci and wife Kerry. He is survived by 5 beloved grandchildren Angelo, Rachel, Gino Jr., Mason and Mario.

Funeral Service  
Wednesday  
April 1, 2026  
8:45 AM  
Salvatore Rocco & Sons  
Funeral Home (331 Main St, Everett, MA)  
331 Main St  
Everett, MA 02149  
Funeral Mass  
Wednesday  
April 1, 2026  
10:00 AM to 11:00 AM  
St. Anthony Church, Everett  
38 Oakes Street  
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## Donna Marie Bongiovanni

May 28, 1947 - March 27, 2026



In the embrace of her loving family, Donna Marie Bongiovanni left this world on March 27, 2026, after a courageous 10-month battle with glioblastoma.

Born on May 28, 1947, to Rose (Falzarano) and Angelo Ciampolillo, Donna lived a life rich with love, family, and cherished memories in her beloved Chelsea.

For 55 years, she stood alongside her devoted husband, Anthony "Nino" Bongiovanni, whom she met at Cafe Paradiso in Boston's North End. He offered her a ride in his GTO, but she refused and he sped off. Soon thereafter she agreed to see him and their love blossomed. Together they built a family that thrived on connection and tradition. Donna was the proud mother of Gino Bongiovanni, and Roseann Bongiovanni, as well as a joyful grandmother—the Best Nonnie—to Emma, Olivia and Anthony Bongiovanni, and Luca and Louisa Figarola.

A lifelong Chelsea resident, Donna witnessed and adapted to the changes of her city. Most memorably when the Tobin Bridge's construction over Webster Ave. necessitated the raising of her childhood home off its foundation and moving it to its settled spot on Gillooly Road. Her roots ran deep; her grandparents, immigrants from Italy, established "Rita's Flower Shop" and a convenience store across from Forbes Lithograph, both thriving businesses that became cornerstones of the community.

In her warmth, Donna perfected the art of family, filling every gathering with laughter, love, and her renowned meatballs. Her wooden spoon, both a tool of culinary delight and a playful instrument of discipline, became a symbol of her nurturing spirit. She immortalized moments, never forgetting a birthday or anniversary, her memory a tapestry woven with the dates that mattered most.

For decades, Donna was the epitome of hard work, from Dunn & Bradstreet in her 20s, and after taking a brief pause to raise her children, she returned to work at the original Market Basket in Chelsea ("that she often referred to as store #32"), and later, the medical records departments of Malden Hospital and Lawrence Memorial Hospital.

In retirement, she continued to embody service and community, tending to her grandchildren with love, becoming an invaluable poll worker, and capturing titles in the Chelsea Bocce league, including the Chelsea-Revere Championship in 2023.

Donna is survived by her loving husband of 55 years, Anthony "Nino," her devoted children and their spouses; Gino Bongiovanni and his wife, Alicia of Bilerica, and Roseann Bongiovanni and her husband, Sandro Figarola of Chelsea, and her beloved and cherished grandchildren: Emma, Olivia, and Anthony Bongiovanni, and Luca and Louisa Figarola. She also leaves a sister, Diane Marciniak and her husband, Richard of Shelbyville, TN; aunts, Regina Falzarano and Peg O'Meara; sisters-in-law, Franca Riparo, Angela Keith, and Dora Salerno; and countless cousins, nieces and nephews, alongside her lifelong best friend, Rose Pellegrino of Revere.

In honor of this remarkable woman, family and friends are invited to pay their respects on Saturday, April 4th, from 2 to 5 p.m. at Welsh Funeral Home, located at 718 Broadway, Chelsea. A celebration of Donna's life will continue with a funeral service on Monday, April 6th, commencing at 9 a.m. from the funeral home, proceeding to St. Anthony of Padua Church at 250 Revere St., Revere, for a Mass of Christian Burial at 10 a.m. Her journey will conclude with interment at Lindenwood Cemetery, on Lilly Ave., Stoneham, where her legacy of love will forever resonate in the lives she touched.

As we gather to remember and honor Donna Marie Bongiovanni, let us celebrate a life beautifully lived, full of warmth, generosity, and an unyielding spirit. May her memory remain a guiding light for all those she loved.

To send expressions of sympathy, visit [www.welsh-fh.com](http://www.welsh-fh.com).

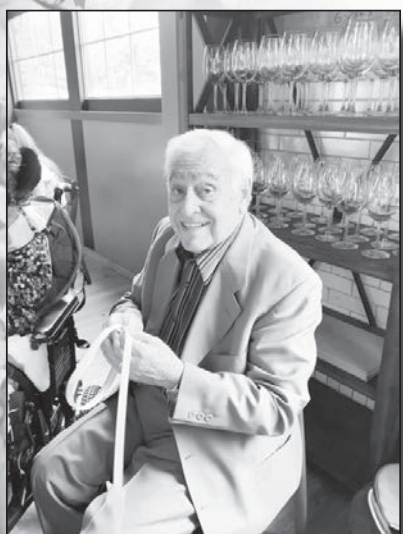
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### MAYOR PATRICK KEEFE JOINS THE REVERE VETERAN SERVICES HOSTING A VIETNAM VETERANS CEREMONY/LUNCHEON AT THE AMERICAN LEGION POST 61

Last week Revere's Veterans Services Officer Danny Hernandez and staff hosted a Vietnam Veteran's ceremony in remembrance of their lost brothers and to thank those who bravely served our country.

Mayor Patrick Keefe offered his remarks and thanks, as well as State Representative Jessica Giannino. Revere City Council President Tony Zambuto spoke for the council and offered his gratitude and donated a dessert for the event as did the Revere Veteran's Committee Co-Chairs Al Terminiello Jr. and Ira Novoselsky.

The RHS Patriot Battal-

ion JROTC Honor Guard led by Sgt. Major Robert Callender posted the colors at the opening ceremony, and RHS students Dakota, Deana and Delilah Hernandez took part in the ceremony, reading the names of the fallen and playing taps.

The Office of Revere Veteran's Services would like to thank all veterans for their service to our country and thank all that attended this service recognizing our Vietnam Veterans. Our doors are always open to you, and we are ready to help with all your needs. A special thanks to American Legion Post 61 for their commitment to our program.



Mayor Patrick Keefe takes a moment to speak to Revere Veteran Rocco Falzone.



Mayor Patrick Keefe is welcomed by VSO and US Army veteran Danny Hernandez.



VSO Danny Hernandez with his daughters that took part in the Vietnam Veterans Ceremony/luncheon, Dakota, Deana, and Delilah.



Council President Tony Zambuto spoke for himself and his colleagues in the Revere City Council, offering full support of the city council.



State Representative Jessica Giannino offered her remarks and support of her office and her colleagues, Representative Jeff Turco and Senator Lydia Edwards.



Visitors from the senior center supporting our veterans, Kathy Smith, Millie Schettino, Beverly Forgione, and Cheryl Kelley.



RHS Patriot Battalion Honor Guard led by Sgt. Major Robert Callender. Cadets Amaya Belen, Kauanny Souza, Jamie Morales, Lee Li Alexander, Tania Villdoza, Helen Sorto-Cruz, Dania Sorto-Cruz, Tomas Betancuy, Jaden Cedano, Saini Shabapreet, Chris Ramos, Scnsen Jasauney.



Mayor Patrick Keefe, with his remarks about the Vietnam Conflict, thanking everyone for their service to America, and renewed his total commitment to serving Revere's veterans anyway possible.



VSO and Chaplain to VFW Post 6712 Danny Hernandez gives the invocation.



From the Revere Veteran's Service Office Donna Dreeszen and from Mayor Keefe's Office, Rose Burns and Leanne Stamatopoulos help to serve lunch to all those in attendance.



Chaplain and VSO Hernandez with the benediction to close out the ceremony last Friday afternoon.



Leo Cardonna -US ARMY, Alberto Cammarano-US Air Force, Bill Welsh-US ARMY, Vinny Fiorino-US Air Force.



Revere veterans, Bill Reedy-US ARMY, Len Bonasoro-USMC, Tom Sullivan-USMC, Bob Hanlon-US ARMY, Tom Berube -USAF, Jerry Ianniciello-US Navy.

**City of Revere**  
Mayor Patrick M. Keefe Jr.

**Diversity is our strength**

**AUTISM Awareness Day**

Join Revere Parks and Recreation and the City of Revere as we celebrate Autism Awareness during the month of April.

To show support and kindness we welcome all families to capture a photo in front of the Autism Awareness sign outside of City Hall on **April 2nd at 3:00PM**



Joining in last Friday afternoon to recognize and thank Revere's Vietnam Veterans at American Legion Post 61. From left, Revere and NE Regional School Committee member Anthony Caggiano, State Representative Jessica Giannino, Council President Tony Zambuto, Ward 4 Councilor Paul Argenzio, Mayor Patrick Keefe, Ward 2 Councilor Ira Novoselsky, School Committee member Alexander Rhalimi, and Revere Veterans Service Officer Danny Hernandez.

# Board of Health to move forward with bans of kratom

Special to the Journal

The Revere Board held a regular monthly meeting last Thursday, on March 26.

Chair Dr. Drew Bunker and fellow members Kathleen Savage and Viviana Catano were on hand for the session, as well as Director of Public Health Lauren Buck, Health Agent/Director of Inspectional Services Michael Wels, and Board of Health Clerk Paula Sepulveda.

Buck presented the Public Health Communicable Disease monthly report. She said that there were 181 cases of influenza and 32 of COVID reported in the city in the past month, both of which were significant reductions from the previous month.

“The worst of the flu season is behind us, but common colds, often associated with the family of RSV viruses, are at their peak,” said Buck. “Norovirus, the stomach bug, also is climbing throughout the country. Measles cases also are higher across the country

than they have been in recent memory.”

Buck also noted that the Board of Health will be hosting expired medication and syringe collection dates in April. She said the schedule is on the city’s website.

Wells presented the ISD report for February. Wells said that in the past month, ISD issued 111 certificates of fitness for housing units; performed 48 reinspections; and received five interior complaints.

In the food department, ISD performed 27 routine food inspections, four reinspections, two complaint inspections, two pre-opening inspections, and 16 temporary food inspections.

In the exterior sanitation division, ISD agents issued 416 total citations for trash violations; 37 for overflowing dumpsters; 31 for snow & ice violations; 11 for junk heaps, dumps, and automobile graveyards; and four for multiple unregistered motor vehicles.

The board then took up an appeal of the city’s inspection report for apart-

ment 709 at 650 Ocean Ave. by the tenant-resident, Terence Glenn, for alleged violations including biohazard, mold, debris, and cracks in the wall along the windows. Glenn had requested an inspection by the city, which three city inspections performed on March 9.

Attorney Anthony Brunco, representing the city as outside counsel, told the board the inspection did not substantiate Mr. Glenn’s claims, prompting Glenn to file his appeal. However, Mr. Glenn did not appear at the hearing and the board voted 3-0 to reject his appeal.

The board next heard from Bonny Carroll, the Director of Six City Tobacco Initiative, pertaining to the lack of an FDA Marketing Granted Order (MGO) for many tobacco-related products that presently are on local store shelves.

Carroll said that some local health boards have notified stores in their communities that products that have not received an MGO must be removed. She ac-

knowledged that this will have a significant economic impact on many stores.

“It sounds like we also need to draft a letter,” said Bunker.

The board then took up the issue of the problem of kratom, a natural substance derived from the leaves of a tree that has been used safely in Southeast Asia for hundreds of years, but which in its synthetic, highly-concentrated form has been shown to be an addictive and dangerous product. The board discussed the matter extensively at its February meeting.

“Given the information we received last time, my main concern is that kratom is not regulated in the United States and we do not know the potency of what is being sold,” said Catano. “Consumers don’t know either. I would like to move forward with having these substances removed from our community.”

“My concern is that someone might die from this,” said Savage, who acknowledged the differences

in potency and effects between natural vs. synthetic kratom. “I think we need to jump on this. If we don’t work on banning this, if someone dies from this, they may try to sue the city because we have not been proactive.”

Bunker added, “We don’t know the content of what is being sold in stores and almost all of what is being sold in the city is synthetic. If we want to keep the city safe, we need to ban it.”

However, Saugus resident Mike Fisher noted that natural, whole-leaf kratom products are available in stores in Revere and that regulations can be adopted that ban the synthetic versions, but allow for the whole-leaf products, which generally are recognized as safe, to be sold.

“The easy thing to do would be to ban everything, but the right thing to do would be to distinguish between the two,” Fisher concluded.

“I think there is too much risk in leaving these products on the shelves in our

city. I don’t believe this belongs in our corner stores,” said Catano, who added that the city should not wait for the state legislature (which is considering several bills pertaining to kratom) to take action.

Buck concluded the discussion by explaining that the process of banning the product by the Board of Health would entail the drafting of a new set of regulations, a review by the City Solicitor’s office, a public hearing, and then a final vote by the board.

The board then took up license renewals, two for chicken keeping (from Carmela & Luigi DiChiara and Joseph DiCenso) and one for beekeeping (from Damian DeMarco). After Buck told the members that her department had performed inspections of the licensees’ premises and all were in compliance with the appropriate rules and regulations, the board voted to renew the licenses.

# New nonprofit ‘Rising Founders’ launches in Revere to support local entrepreneurs

Special to the Journal

A new nonprofit organization dedicated to supporting entrepreneurs and small business owners is officially launching in Revere this month.

Rising Founders, a Massachusetts-based 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, hosted its Official Launch Event on Friday, March 27 at Capri Restaurant in Revere.

The organization was founded by Erica F. Porzio and Colleen Island Mateo, two professionals with extensive experience in business development, financial services, and community advocacy. Their shared mission is to expand economic opportunity by providing accessible business education, mentorship, and resources to entrepreneurs across the region.

Rising Founders will offer programming designed to help individuals start, grow, and sustain small businesses. A core component of the organization’s work will include bilingual (English and Spanish) education and support services aimed at making entrepreneurship more accessible to underserved communities.

The March 27 launch event brought together local small business owners, community leaders, and elected officials to celebrate the organization’s introduction to the community.

The event included a buffet-style breakfast, an introduction to the Rising Founders mission, and recognition of individuals who have made meaningful contributions to the local business community.

The founders intentionally scheduled the launch during March in recognition



Rising Founders COO Erica Porzio (left) and President Colleen Island Mateo (right) welcome Mayor Patrick Keefe to the elegant breakfast announcing the launch of the Rising Founders organization.



Rising Founders leaders and panel discussion participants are pictured at the breakfast. From left, are Diana Cardona, co-owner of Chocolaffee, CCC Board Member Nidia Peguero, President Colleen Island Mateo, Rising Founders COO Erica Porzio, CCC Executive Director Jennifer Hassell, and Angelica Cardona, co-owner of Chocolaffee.



Callie Hughes provided the musical entertainment at the Rising Founders breakfast held at Capri Bistro and Lounge in Revere.



Mayor Patrick Keefe congratulates Erica Porzio on the launching of Rising Founders, a cohort-based program designed to help early-stage entrepreneurs turn ideas into viable businesses.



The Rising Founders leadership team, Chief Marketing Officer Xiomara Lopez, Chief Financial Officer Elizabeth Garzon, Co-Founder and President Colleen Island Mateo, and Co-Founder and Chief Operating Officer Erica Porzio.

of Women’s History Month, highlighting the impact of women leaders in business and community development.

Rising Founders aims to become a central resource for aspiring and existing entrepreneurs in Revere and surrounding communities by connecting them to education, mentorship, and opportunities for growth.



Chelsea Chamber of Commerce (CCC) Executive Director Jennifer Hassell, Rising Founders COO Erica Porzio, CCC Board Member Nidia Peguero, Mayor Patrick Keefe, Ward 2 Councillor Ira Novoselsky, Revere School Committee Vice-Chair Jacqueline Monteroso, and Ward 3 Councillor Anthony Cogliandro.



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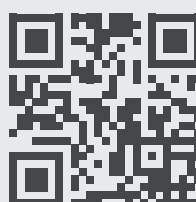
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## REVERE PUBLIC LIBRARY EASTER EGG HUNT

Revere Public Library held an Easter Egg Hunt for children up to 12-years-old on March 28. The morning included an appearance by the Easter bunny, a caricaturist making sketches of families, and a paper Easter bunny arts and crafts activity.

PHOTOS BY MARIANNE SALZA



Yuli, Giuliani, and Liam Lima.



Wyatt and Wes Andree with Sophie Sobieralski.



Taylor Gird, of Rhode Island, creating a caricature of sisters, Alicia and Victoria Heredia



Melody, 3, at the arts and crafts table.



Vanessa Weimann, and her children, Thais, 8, and Anthony, 5, making paper Easter bunny arts and crafts.



Jacob, Ariana, Leo, and Guillermo Quintanilla, and Sandra Figueroa.



Christina Pereanez and Matthew Montoya, 3.



Amanda McGorty, Logan, 2, and Shaun Mackell.



Maria, Andres, and Sofia Saavedra, 4.



Revere Police Captain Thomas Malone, Officer Giana Berkowitz, and Officer Derek Vecchia with the Easter Bunny.




Junior, Heather, 3, Rose, and Ethan, 9-months-old



Joanne Giarla, Cherylann, Angelica, and Savannah Flores, and Dante and Julie Giarla



Nicole Sotelo and Joshua Cuartas, 4



and **PROSPECT HOUSE** *present*

Assisted Living & Memory Care

## Dementia Jeopardy 2

1 CH/CEU  
RN, SW, CCM


**Thursday, April 23, 2026 | 8:30 AM - 9:30 AM**  
(with Registration & Breakfast 8:00-8:30 AM)


**NURSES, SOCIAL WORKERS, CASE MANAGERS**


Join us for a special professional education. This program will cover various aspects of Alzheimer's and other dementias. It will discuss care approaches, impact on individuals and families and more in a question-and-answer format.

**Program to be held at Prospect House.**  
**Please RSVP by 4/16/26 to Nicole Levesque at**  
**781-853-0005 or [nlevesque@Hallkeen.com](mailto:nlevesque@Hallkeen.com).**

Program meets the requirements of the Massachusetts Board of Registration in Nursing at 244 CMR 5.00 for 1 contact hour. This program has been approved for 1 Social Work Continuing Education hour for relicensure, in accordance with 258 CMR. Collaborative of NASW and the Boston College and Simmons Schools of Social Work Authorization Number **D 10436-3**.



**420 Reservoir Ave., Revere, MA 02151**  
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**FREE**  
PIZZA FOR THE  
FIRST 30 TABLES!  
(STARTING AT 3PM)

# GRAND OPENING CELEBRATION

## APRIL 2<sup>ND</sup> | 3PM - 7PM

FOOD, DRINKS,  
MUSIC AND RAFFLE



399 SQUIRE RD  
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