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**GUEST COLUMN: Time of Opportunity**

By Dan Rizzo

As we gather with our friends and family to celebrate the holiday season, the City of Revere will no doubt experience growth and prosperity in the coming years. With several opportunities for economic development within our city, Revere stands to build upon its history as a place of commerce and recreation, as well as enhance its reputation as a top notch community to raise a family. However, we also have to acknowledge the reality that Revere, like all cities and towns across the country, is confronted with making serious financial decisions, most importantly the management and implementation of the city's annual budget.

Taking into account the magnitude of these challenges, I believe that Revere needs a mayor who has real life experience making sound financial decisions, fully knowing how they will affect peoples lives. After running a successful business in Revere for over 25 years, where I've been responsible not only for my clients, but also my employees, I believe that I have a unique ability and understanding of how to lead Revere out of this recession and into good financial health. With the potential for millions of dollars in new revenues coming into the city through development of the Wonderland/MBTA area and Suffolk Downs, Revere needs a mayor who is comfortable making tough decisions, and with so much at stake, someone who has a history of successful financial planning and real proven leadership.

Over the next 11 months, I am going to be a full time candidate for Mayor of the City of Revere. My campaign will address how Revere can improve its strengths and will not be a debate about who's to blame for its weaknesses. In addition to managing the city's finances, I am going to focus on how we can work together as a community to improve public safety, continue to provide excellent public education to our children, and provide even better services for our seniors, while continuing to revitalize our community through economic development. I look forward to meeting all of you between now and November, and welcome your input about how we can move Revere forward together.

Happy Holidays,

Dan Rizzo