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CHELSEA RECORD

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‘Better than nothing’

Outdoor dining effort met with disappointment by owners

By Seth Daniel

The excitement of outdoor dining in Chelsea Square’s wonderful ambiance fluttered out for a lot of restaurant owners at about the third table they had to drag out to the sidewalk and street – knowing they had to also drag them back in every night.

Friday night, June 26, marked an exciting night in Chelsea Square and beyond as many restaurants opened for the first time in months – allowing some indoor dining and special outdoor sidewalk/street considerations for restaurants willing to participate.

At Mi Salvador, they had six colorful tables on the brick sidewalk, as the sun shone on Chelsea Square and they opened to diners for the first in weeks June 22. Last Friday, they decided to try the City’s outdoor

program as well.

“It’s better than nothing,” said Vladimir Chino, owner.

However, that was about the best review from owners that the program got, despite loads of hard work and effort put into the program by the City, the License Commission and Chelsea Prospers.

One of the key problems was that the dining areas had to be broken down every night at closing, around 10 p.m. They were only able to go out at 5 p.m., so a gargantuan effort had to be made for about five or six tables.

“I think it’s good for what it is now,” said Whitney Huynh, general manager of Tijuana’s. “It is a lot of work bringing the tables in and out every day. I appreciate the City’s effort. For people who are younger, they are going to like this...

People really love outdoor dining, and this is the first time we’ve done this. We do need more space and this does give us more space outdoors.”

Danny from Catracho’s on Broadway said he was extremely disappointed, and he said others near him were as well.

They didn’t like the wooden pallet barriers that were assigned and used – which were built on the fly by volunteers. He said they were dangerous and weren’t very aesthetic. He also said they were told they couldn’t put creative lighting – nothing with electricity – or heating lamps outside. And, he said he and another establishment had a plan to really decorate their spaces with plants and flowers. However, it wasn’t going to work if they had to take

See DINING OUTSIDE Page 6



Council President Roy Avellaneda said if he were a professor, he would give this year’s City Budget effort and presentation an ‘F.’ The Council was universally disappointed with the Budget as a whole, but passed it nonetheless by an 8-3 vote.

Councillors approve budget in 8-3 vote; have criticisms

By Seth Daniel

The Chelsea City Council approved an overall City Budget of \$181.086 million on Monday night, but not without a great deal of discussion and low marks for the effort and presentation by City Manager Tom Ambrosino.

The Budget was not a unanimous vote, passing 8-3. Those voting against were Councillors Damali Vidot, Enio Lopez and Yamir Rodriguez.

Those voting for the budget were Councillors Roy Avellaneda, Calvin Brown, Leo Robinson, Todd Taylor, Judith Garcia, Naomi Zabet, Giovanni Recupero, and Melinda Vega Maldonado.

The City Budget, by his own admission, wasn’t going to win any awards – Ambrosino said earlier this month – but it was one that avoided layoffs and major cuts to critical programs by using money from the Rainy Day Fund.

By renegotiating with City unions about deferring pay raises, most union workers in City Hall and beyond were spared layoffs – something that is happening in large numbers at other municipalities.

The three parts of the budget approved included:

- Salaries: \$49,580,934
- Operations: \$131,210,157
- Capital Improvements: \$295,000

To balance the budget that was approved, the Council had to give the okay to using \$4.9 million from the Stabilization Fund – which has grown over the years as Chelsea socked away money in good times.

Now, everyone agreed, was a Rainy Day.

However, there was no love of the effort given to the City Budget this year by most every councillor, even those that voted for it.

Councillor Vidot led off the discussion by saying she would not vote for the budget, and followed through with that.

“We’re in the middle of a pandemic and yet we’re seeing proposed budget cuts to some of the most important departments, such as Health and Human Services” said Vidot. “We needed more creativity in this budget. Cutting the funding for this department in a city that has lost 152 lives is unacceptable... We had a chance here to lead and create a real need that addresses the needs of the community. I think it missed.

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Vladimir and Denisse Chino, of Mi Salvador Restaurant on Broadway, at their outdoor tables with City Solicitor Cheryl Fisher Watson and ISD Inspector Hector Prieta. Mi Salvador opened for the first time on June 22, and tried six outdoor tables last weekend.

Chelsea Cultural Council announces grant recipients

The Chelsea Cultural Council has announced the awarding of grants totalling \$29,035 to 20 local artists, schools and cultural organizations.

The grants were awarded from a pool of funds distributed to Chelsea by the Massachusetts Cultural Council, a state agency that supports public programs and educational activities in the arts, sciences, and humanities.

“We are very grateful to Governor Baker and the Legislature for their continued support of the Massachusetts Cultural Council and the funding that directly benefits cultural activities here in Chelsea, said Marlene Jennings Chair. Our city has its own unique identity and in these sponsored events we get to really experience the spirit of Chelsea.”

Awardees for this year are:

- Browne Middle School: BMS Civic Mural, \$850
- Chelsea Black Community: Black History Month, \$2,000
- Chelsea Community Connections: Chelsea Family Fun Bus, \$2,000
- Chelsea Hunger Network: Chelsea Empty Bowls, \$1,000
- Chelsea Public Library: CPL Urban Movement, \$2,000
- Clark Avenue Middle School: Eighth Grade Trip to Washington, DC, \$2,000
- Cultural Center at Walnut Street Synagogue: Film Series: Stories of Immigration, \$2,500
- Darlene DeVita: People of Chelsea Project, \$1,000
- Edgar A. Hooks Elementary School: Jason Tardy Productions, \$750
- Edgar A. Hooks Elementary School: Theatreworks USA Charlotte Web, \$878
- Edwardo Chacon: Theater/Oral History, Chelsea City Stories, \$2,000
- Ellen Rovner: The Chelsea Gateway Jewish Tours, \$875
- Governor Bellingham-Cary House Association: If This Wood Could Talk, \$1,000
- Hondurenos Unidos de MA: Central American Parade/Marching Band, \$1,432
- Lewis Latimer Society & Museum: Chelsea Science Festival, \$750
- Libby Schap: Peggy Shippen Project, \$500
- Matt Frank: Photography & Storytelling - Chelsea Then & Now, \$1,000
- Nirvana Lildharrie/Nelson Saldana: Tobin Bridge Mural Project, \$3,000
- Susy Ismatul: Chelsea Salsa in the Parks, \$1,500
- TheatreZone, Inc., Apollinaire Theatre Company: Apollinaire in the Park 2020, \$2,000

The CCC is one of 329 local councils that serve every city and town in the state. The state legislature provides an annual appropriation to the Massachusetts Cultural Council, which then allocates funds to each local council. Decisions, about which activities to support, are made at the community level by the council.

The members of the Chelsea Cultural Council are: Marlene Jennings, Chair; Dakeya Christmas, Co-Chair; Juliana Borgiani, Treasurer; Angelina McCoy, and Carolina Anzola. The CCC will seek applications again this fall. CCC Guidelines will be available online as well as the 2021 application beginning September 1, 2021 at <https://www.mass-culture.org/chelsea>. The deadline to apply is Thursday, October 15.

CHA Everett shuts down COVID-19 center

By Seth Daniel

This week marks a big change for CHA Everett hospital as it turns a corner from the past few months of COVID-19 treatments – shutting down the hospital’s crisis command center this week that was formed in March at the outset of the outbreak.

Dr. Melisa Lai-Becker, chief of the Emergency Department at CHA Everett, said the crisis center put in place came down last week, which was a major step out of the COVID-19 world for the hospital – but also, hopefully, a step into a new way of doing medicine that was learned during the last few months.

“We have at last born out and cleared the incident command center that had been up and operating since the first week of April or the last week of March,” she said on Monday. “That officially means we are technically back to normal operations as far as all the higher level administration items. Basically, all of our operations have gone back to non-crisis and non-incident operations.”

That change is almost hard to believe for those in the hospital that went through the darkest days of COVID-19 in March, April and May – when things were very close to their tipping points. Now, however, numbers have gone down consistently and new cases are down to a trickle.

Several weeks ago, they took down the comfort care station – which was a place where patients with COVID-19 who did not wish to be intubated could go to be comfortable and to die.

There has also been relief as the hospital has not seen any surge of patients related to the many outdoor protests that occurred in the early weeks of June. Many physicians and hospital officials had been concerned in Greater Boston that there would be a surge of patients due to the protests – which attracted thousands of people to small spaces like the Boston Common.

That, she said, has not happened in the Everett hospital.

“We’re not seeing anything that’s crazy in regards to that,” Lai-Becker said. “There’s been no big spike.

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Chelsea

R E C O R D

PRESIDENT: Stephen Quigley

EDITOR IN CHIEF: Cary Shuman

ENJOY A SAFE FOURTH OF JULY

It goes without saying that this will be a Fourth of July unlike any other in the history of our nation.

Americans traditionally have celebrated the Fourth both with large community gatherings and with smaller get-togethers.

The Fourth of July rekindles fond memories from our childhood of the times when we spent the holiday with our families and friends for gatherings at barbecues, at the beach, and at municipal fireworks displays in the evenings.

However, the coronavirus has changed everything. The recent attempts by states to reopen their economies, even in those states that were the most cautious and with seemingly well-designed plans, have resulted in skyrocketing rates of infection that have placed millions of Americans at risk of contracting this dreaded disease.

A story on a cable news channel earlier this week highlighted a California family in which 18 family members contracted COVID-19, with some requiring lengthy hospitalization and one, the family patriarch, dying.

There was no single gathering at which the infection could have been spread. The family thought that they had been taking the proper precautions during their interactions.

However, the disease only needed a small window of opportunity to be transmitted among three generations of this family, with tragic results.

In addition to the coronavirus, the Fourth of July in 2020 comes amidst unprecedented unrest and turmoil throughout our nation. The tragic events and subsequent protests and demonstrations have demonstrated that our nation utterly has failed to live up to the lofty ideals upon which we were founded:

“... that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness.”

When Thomas Jefferson wrote those words, he literally meant “men” only, and white men in particular. His lofty language was the ultimate in political hypocrisy: It did not apply to millions of enslaved persons nor to women, who were considered not much more than their husband’s property.

It is indisputable that those twin legacies have cast a shadow over the promise of America that continues today, 244 years later.

Another “traditional” aspect of the Fourth of July is that it encourages far too many among us to engage in behavior that is risky not only to ourselves, but to our loved ones and others around us.

Fireworks are illegal for everybody, and in no event should be allowed in the hands of children. It is a sad -- but inevitable -- fact that countless Americans will be maimed for life because of accidents involving fireworks this weekend.

Alcohol abuse is rampant in our country and the Fourth unfortunately provides an opportunity -- which is to say, another excuse -- for those who have alcohol abuse issues to indulge way more than they should, especially when operating a boat or automobile.

It is the responsibility of each of us to ensure that the Fourth is enjoyed safely not only by ourselves, but by those whom we care about. If someone has had too much to drink, take their keys. None of us wants to say to ourselves the next day, “If only I had not let them drive....”

In addition to those usual safety precautions, we also must ensure that however we celebrate the Fourth this year, we must do so wearing masks and observing physical distancing -- none of us wants to be the cause of another person’s death because we were the vector who brought the coronavirus to a family member or loved one.

Admittedly, this is not a happy time in America. But we must make the best of it.

We wish all of our readers a happy -- and safe -- Fourth of July.

Forum



GUEST OP-ED

Communities that work together, win together

By Quint Studer

Freedom, independence, self-sufficiency: these are great and glorious concepts. We celebrate them this time of year, whether we process it that way or not, because they’re so deeply engrained in our image of America. We see ourselves as a nation of rugged individualists: seizing the bull by the horns, charting our own course, walking alone into the forest with an axe slung over our shoulder.

Yes, it’s a romantic notion. But it’s not an accurate one. America is a nation of small, tight-knit communities and always has been. The more we co-operate, share, defer to others, and work together, the more successful we are. Today, as citizens, businesses, and civic leaders seek to come back from a public health and economic crisis, that spirit of community is more important than ever. It holds the key to our survival.

I’ve spent much of my career traveling from one American community to another. Some are bustling larger cities. Others are quiet small towns. What they all have in common is the burning desire to revitalize themselves: to become more vibrant, prosperous, livable, and loveable than they are right now. And as I’ve worked with these diverse groups of Americans, I’ve seen a theme emerge: Those communities that work together, win together.

When citizens and leaders come together, put their self-interest on the back burner and work as a team, things get done. When they don’t, nothing gets done.

The more you think about the myth of the self-reliant early American, the less likely it seems. Our ancestors must have huddled together in small groups and worked to protect each other from a harsh and unforgiving environment. They must have joined forces, shared what they had, and leaned on each other when times were tough.

And on the larger stage, our nation’s founders had to work together in a similar fashion to bring America into being. They were working toward independence as a new nation, but they had to rely on interdependence to get there. And as leaders of communities of all shapes and sizes and demographics and political persuasions, we can all learn a lot from them.

Here are four big “history lessons” we should all heed as we seek to reopen, recover, rebuild, and continue making our way on journey toward vibrancy:

Set aside your self-interest and create something that works for everyone. Lots of different professions, industries, and interests were present at the birth of America. Cabinet makers weren’t fixated only on the wood industry, nor silver smiths on the silver trade. Everyone was fired up to contribute to something bigger than themselves. They bought into the overarching mission, and weren’t bogged down by endless debate over the short-term costs of their plan.

In other words, don’t be overly concerned with your own wellbeing. Setting aside your own short-term best interests may accomplish far more for everyone in the long run. Because a

rising tide lifts all boats, this includes you.

Don’t let ideological differences stop you from achieving something tangible. Despite bitter disputes and differences of opinion, a group of people with little in common other than their shared determination that change was needed were able to get mobilized and get something done. While there was much to be decided about the way things would function in the new nation, they all recognized that there wouldn’t even BE a new nation if they didn’t set aside their disagreements and move the ball down the court.

It’s important to know what matters. Don’t let petty disputes about how things should get done sabotage the greater task at hand.

Don’t be constantly trying to steal the spotlight from each other. It’s okay to let someone else be “the one in charge.” No one complained that John Hancock’s signature was bigger than theirs, or that so-and-so got to sign the Declaration before they did. (Okay, it’s possible, but we can see by the document that resides in the National Archives that it got done anyway!) The founders kept their focus on the ambitious mission/vision of standing up to one of the most powerful authorities in the world: the King of England.

When we try to make it about ourselves, we can get off track and let our self-absorption derail the project or initiative. Keep the greater goal in mind and stay focused on that.

Don’t wait on the government to “fix it.” Instead, join together and take bold

action at the local level. The changes desired by American colonists weren’t coming from Great Britain. And so, in the summer of 1776 delegates from each of the Thirteen Colonies took it upon themselves to challenge British authorities and make change happen—their way.

Citizen-powered change is the most powerful change. If it’s to be, it’s up to you and me, not government agencies. (Local governments tend not to have the budget to drive fundamental change, and due to election cycles, officials come and go. Many won’t be around to see long term projects through.)

Yes, early communities needed each other and that drove a lot of their interactions. We went through a period of time where we started to believe we didn’t need each other and that clearly isn’t true. We now realize that working together is the only way we can make our cities and towns thrive.

No one is saying America’s founders were perfect. They were far from it, as we are. But one thing they got right was the knowledge that they needed to work together for a common cause. Teamwork is a powerful force. We couldn’t have built a nation without it, and we can’t build a better community without it either.

Quint Studer is the author of Building a Vibrant Community: How Citizen-Powered Change Is Reshaping America and founder of Pensacola’s Studer Community Institute. For more information, visit www.vibrantcommunityblueprint.com and www.studeri.org.

LETTER to the Editor

REDUCING LIQUOR LICENSE FEES

Dear Editor:

This week I presented a request for our Licensing Board to consider reducing the liquor renewal fees for this year given the impact of Covid-19.

Fortunately, most of my colleagues were receptive of the motion voting in favor with the exception of Councilor Leo Robinson.

We know that this pandemic has affected our community beyond measure. As a city we have done everything we can to help our residents in terms of rental assistance, financial aid for families who have been

abandoned by design, and we have worked collaboratively to provide food and supplies to residents.

As the District Councilor of the heart of this city, I have been conscious that there is another sector we must step up to help and that is our small businesses. They need a lifeline too.

We have presented a special emergency relief fund to provide grants of up to \$20,000 to spend on operations, utility bills and supplies. That initiative is still in the process of rolling out but in the meantime we cannot sit around and pretend we’ve done enough.

It will take a generation to fix the impacts of this

pandemic. So as city leaders, community activists, organizers, business supporters we need to come together and constantly ask ourselves - what else can we be doing?

I’ve personally met with several business owners to really listen to their needs. The idea of reducing the renewal fee for liquor licenses came from them.

If our hope is to show this state that Chelsea remains resilient, we need to ensure our businesses thrive. We need to introduce policies that speak to their needs.

Reducing the renewal fee of liquor licenses will bring some financial relief to businesses who did not

serve alcohol for months during this pandemic. Many of these businesses rely on alcohol sales to remain open.

My goal is to ask for a 50 percent reduction of this renewal fee. If you would like to stand with your local businesses please email me your words of support at judith@chelseama.gov.

The Licensing Commission will be convening on Thursday, July 16, at 6 p.m. to consider this request.

Judith Garcia
Vice President
Chelsea City Councilor
District 5

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POLICE Log

THREATENED WITH KNIFE

On June 24, at 1 p.m., officers were dispatched to 207 Shurtleff St., the Chelsea Community Rooming House for a report of a party that threatened another party with a knife. Upon arrival, officers spoke to the reporting victim who stated he has had an ongoing issue with another resident in the building. He went on to say that the party he has issues with threatened him with a knife in the community kitchen. Officers recovered the knife and placed the subject under arrest for assault by means of a dangerous weapon.

LOADED FIREARM RECOVERED ON TRAFFIC STOP

On June 25, at 11:10 a.m., officers were patrolling the

area of Bellingham Square when they observed a Silver Mazda parked on Broadway outside of the former Jack’s Men Shop. One officer immediately recognized the vehicle from an Officer Safety Bulletin released by Chelsea Detectives as possibly being involved in a shots fired call recently. The officers ran the plate and found that it was illegally attached. The officers pulled the vehicle over under the Tobin Bridge on Everett Avenue. During the encounter, a loaded firearm was seen inside the passenger area and the male was placed under arrest

DRIVING DRUNK IN THE AFTERNOON

On June 26, at 2:30 p.m., officers were patrolling the area of Broadway and City Hall Ave. when they

were flagged down by a witness parked at the bus stop across from the Library. The witness reported that he observed a vehicle swerving on the road after leaving Compare Market near Bellingham Sq. He followed the vehicle and told officers it was now parked at 571 Broadway. The Officers followed the witness, who pointed the vehicle out. Officers approached the vehicle that was running.

The operator was asked questions by the officers who observed an open bottle of liquor in the front compartment. The officers performed a variety of sobriety checks with the operator and formed the opinion that he was operating under the influence of alcohol. He was taken into custody.

Even during times of crisis, Roca continues to prove that change is possible

Nobody wants to be defined by their challenges but Covid-19 has highlighted a crisis among a population that, in the best of times, was struggling to thrive. Roca believes in the most vulnerable young adults in the Commonwealth. They are a human service organization, with 5 sites across Massachusetts (Boston, Chelsea, Lynn, Holyoke and Springfield) and a site in Baltimore, MD. Roca engages with young adults, police and systems in the center of urban violence to address trauma, find hope and drive change.

The young people that Roca works with live with fear that never turns off. They are at the center of urban violence and poverty, they are court and gang involved, have not finished high school, have no job history and don’t know where they are sleeping tonight. Amongst this group is over 200 of the highest-risk, highly-traumatized, systems-involved young mothers in Massachusetts. They are not willing to accept home visitors, not ready to go to education or training programs, and in need of intensive outreach and case management over several years. This group of young mothers falls between the cracks of most current state and federal funding.

The Covid-19 crisis has drawn these women from the shadows and has truly highlighted the disparities of an already unequal system. While teen pregnancy rates are declining across Massachusetts, they are increasing within this group, exacerbated by increasing domestic violence. When times are tough, more people are in need, which exacerbates these disparities.

Laura started in Roca’s Young Mothers’ Program two years ago when pregnant with her third child, referred by DCF after losing custody of her daughters (then) ages 1 and 3 as a result of domestic violence. She came to Roca with low literacy, diligently worked on her basic literacy and ESL, and finally confronted her reality. She filed a restraining order against her partner and started domestic violence and parenting classes.

After 1.5 years and 3 DCF workers, Laura finally regained custody of her two daughters, now 4 and 6. She got a housing voucher and moved into a small apartment in Everett, ready for a fresh start. Then, the pandemic hit and so did an unprecedented economic crisis.

Laura lost her job, her childcare and was unable to pay her rent. She was threatened with eviction and was unable to get into a shelter. Laura was scared. She had Covid-19 symptoms, but was afraid to get tested out of fear of being separated from her children and potentially losing them again. On May 25, it got worse as Laura found out that she did have Covid-19. “The day started out so great” she said. “I was celebrating because after almost two years, my DCF case was closing. I have worked so hard and now, I am beside myself.”

Sunindiya Bhalla, Chief of 2gen programming at Roca said: “Our young moms program is already experiencing the negative effects of this health and economic crisis. We’ve had to turn away referrals and are looking at graduating some of our participants earlier due to monetary

constraints.” When asked to describe her participants, she said “Our young mothers are amazing. They are resilient, courageous and nothing is more important to them than their children. But as we become unable to support the needs of our moms and their kids, they will cost the state even more over the coming years.”

Even during this health crisis, Roca’s nationally recognized programming is transforming the lives of these young women by providing a safe environment for mothers to succeed and for their children to thrive. This team continues to provide socially-distant in person outreach, intensive crisis intervention and case management, and has dramatically increased virtual programming.

Despite their challenges, thirty (30) young mothers have closed their DCF cases with Roca’s help in the past year. In the past three months of the COVID-19 pandemic, young mothers have increased participation in educational and behavioral health programming. Roca has also launched a domestic violence support group and has expanded their parenting classes during a time with it is needed more than ever. “We give our moms and their kids the support they need,” said Scott Scharffenberg, executive Director of Roca, MA. “We have engaged and committed partners who like our organization, are forced to tighten our belts and make tough decisions due to this economic crisis that isn’t going away any time soon.”

For more information on Roca, Inc., please go to their website: www.rocainc.org.

Consecha leaders seek more flexibility for driver’s licenses

Staff Report

Last week, more than 100 immigrants and activists gathered together to pressure the Massachusetts Senate to advance the Work and Family Mobility Act S2061, which would provide undocumented immigrants access to driver’s licenses. A bill that has already been made law in [15 states](#) and Washington D.C.

Dozens of immigrants and activists held a program on the State House steps with immigrant speakers from Cosecha leaders from Central America and a clergyman from Jamaica shared personal testimonies. While over a sixty car caravan drove around the

Boston Commons honking each time they passed the programming.

The activists put up cages with signs “all cages are connected” and empty chairs to represent those who have been separated from their families, detained, deported, and the Massachusetts legislators that have been silent on the issue since the start of the pandemic. Drawing the line between systemic violence at the expense of not having a driver’s license that the immigrant community has had to endure.

A banner read “always essential, never expendable,” highlighting that immigrants continue to be front-line essential workers and are unable to safely get to and from work without

them. Many work in agricultural fields, construction, and factories where they are shuttled in crowded passenger minivans to get to and from work, putting themselves, and the people they serve, in danger during the pandemic. Others cannot access basic needs, like food and toiletries, without traveling far distances. Drive thru testing is also inaccessible.

“I have a teenage son, I’m here because he dreams of driving in the future. I need to fight so that he can drive without fear, or as a mother I will die of fear knowing the risk he is putting himself in,” said Irma Lemus Amaya, immigrant Cosecha East Boston leader.



Joe Vindard and Gilda Nogueira of East Cambridge Savings Bank with Fire Chief Len Albanese.



Chief Brian Kyes accepts PPE from Joe Vindard and Gilda Nogueira of East Cambridge Savings Bank.



Joe Vinard and Gilda Nogueira of East Cambridge Savings Bank present PPE to members of the CHA Everett hospital.

Bank donates Personal Protective Equipment to local first responders and health care workers

East Cambridge Savings Bank announced their donation of face shields to the Chelsea Police Department, Chelsea Fire Department, and the Cambridge Health Alliance (CHA) Everett Hospital. This personal protective equipment (PPE) will be used by first responders in these communities as they interact with the public and serve local residents. As the COVID-19 pandemic continues to present challenges to cities and towns across Massachusetts and beyond, a well-stocked supply of PPE is critical in helping to protect the health and safety of front-line workers.

“First responders and health care workers are so

much more than essential employees – they are the people we look to when we are in crisis, and they always answer the call to help while putting the well-being of our neighbors before themselves,” said Gilda M. Nogueira, the Bank’s president and chief executive officer. “Donating a supply of face shields is a small gesture we can do as a bank and local business. We want to do our part to support these front-line workers and help them stay safe while they are serving the community.”

Christian Lanphere, administrator at CHA Everett Hospital spoke to how healthcare workers will use these face shields while

serving the needs of patients. “This will go a long way both for us and several of our nursing homes that were significantly impacted by this virus. CHA Everett Hospital was one of the most significantly impacted healthcare facilities in the state by the COVID-19 pandemic. Protective equipment like face shields help provide some protection and assurance to our talented and compassionate staff members as they care for sick and elderly patients.”

For more information on the Bank’s response to the COVID-19 pandemic and how we are helping the communities we serve, please visit ecsb.com.



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OBITUARIES

Rita Padova

Of Revere

Rita (Santoli) Padova of Revere died on June 26 at the age of 98.

Born in Boston on July 23, 1921 to the late Nicola Santoli and Theresa (Selvittella) Santoli, she was the devoted mother of the late Lorraine Padova and James Padova and his surviving wife, Bernice of Florida; cherished grandmother of Jenna Harrity and her husband, Tim of Revere, Jimmy Padova of Florida and Anthony Padova of Revere; adored great grandmother of Charlotte and Declan Harrity; dear sister of the late Frank and Benjamin Santoli and late step sister of Dorothy Schena. She is also survived by many loving nieces and nephews.

A visitation will be held at the Paul Buonfiglio & Sons-Bruno Funeral Home, 128 Revere St, Revere to-



day, Thursday, July 2 from 9 to 11:30 a.m. followed by a Prayer Service at Holy Cross Cemetery. Relatives and friends are kindly invited. Interment will be in Holy Cross Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to The Carroll Center for the Blind, 770 Centre St, Newton, MA 02458. For guest book please visit www.buonfiglio.com

Angel Armando Mendoza

August 28, 1970 – June 22, 2020

Angel Armando Mendoza passed away on Monday, June 22 at the Massachusetts General Hospital after a short illness.

Born and raised in San Miguel, El Salvador. he was one of three children of Lorenzo and Cipriana Mendoza. His family settled in Chelsea in 1986. Angel attended Chelsea Public Schools. He worked as a Line and Sous Chef for the Winchester Country Club from 1992 to 2015. He later worked as a Patient Transporter at the Mass General in Boston.

He was the beloved husband of 20 years to Nerida S. Diaz of Chelsea and the devoted father of Angel J. Mendoza-Diaz, Ashley Camila Mendoza-Diaz, Luis Mendoza-Diaz and Fredy Mendoza-Diaz, all of Chelsea; cherished grandfather of Adrian Rodriguez-Soza and Alex Rodriguez-Soza and the loving canine-daddy to Blue



Mendoza, feline-daddy to Alonzo and Sakura Mendoza and pet-daddy to his little rabbit, “Cuddles”.

Funeral arrangements were by the Anthony Memorial - Welsh Funeral Home, Chelsea. Graveside services and interment were at Woodlawn Cemetery, Everett.

We encourage family and friends who wish, to offer condolences at this time by means of the online guest book or to send a personalized sympathy card visit: www.WelshFuneralHome.com

Joyce Sartorelli

Established Chelsea Dance Studio;
awarded “Chelsea Woman of the Year” by
the Chelsea Council on Aging



adoring “Grandpa Arnie” to Sariyah and beloved brother of Joann Scribner and her husband, Larry of Indiana, Linda Riley and her husband, Thomas of Chelsea, Annette Purcell of Laconia, NH, Elaine Patti and her husband, William of Chelsea, Edward Richard and his companion, Rosemarie of Billerica, Barbara Richard of Chelsea and the late Benjamin Richard, Jr., Joseph Richard, Robert Richard, Janet Sturges, Frank Richard, Caroline Richard, Leonard Richard, Susette LeBlanc, Ernest J. Richard and Wayne Richard. He is also lovingly survived by many nieces, nephews, great nieces, great nephews and extended family members.

A private memorial service for his immediate family only will be held on Tuesday. Family and friends are invited to visit and extend their condolences at the Welsh Funeral Home on Tuesday, July 7 from 5 to 8 p.m. All attendees are required to wear face coverings, practice social distancing when greeting the family, pay their respects and exit the funeral home to allow other guests to enter. Should friends desire, contributions in Arnie’s memory should be directed to Care Dimensions Hospice, Ste. B-102, 75 Sylvan St., Danvers MA 01923. <https://www.caredimensions.org/>

Arrangements were given to the care and direction of the Welsh Funeral Home, Chelsea. We continue to encourage family and friends who wish, to offer condolences at this time by means of the online guest book or to send a personalized sympathy card.

For additional information, visit: www.WelshFuneralHome.com

Joyce A. (DeAngelis) Sartorelli passed away on June 23 and reunited with her beloved husband, Paul, who passed on June 7 after sharing 60 years of love and devotion. She was 80 years of age.

Born and raised in Chelsea, she was the daughter of the late Albert and Victoria (Campedelli) DeAngelis. Joyce attended Chelsea schools and graduated from Chelsea High School. She established the Broadway Dance Studio in Chelsea and for many years instructed dancing, organized recitals and pageants while mentoring countless children of Chelsea and the surrounding area. She volunteered extensively at St. Rose Church in Chelsea and was well known in the community. She was very active with the Chelsea Youth Commission and the Chelsea Zonta Club. Joyce was awarded “Chelsea Woman of the Year” by the Friends of the Chelsea Council on Aging.

She and her husband, Paul, moved to Georgetown 17 years ago and came actively engaged in the community. She belonged to St. Mary’s Parish in Georgetown where she joined St. Mary’s Women’s Club, volunteered at St. Mary’s Youth Vacation Bible School and the Georgetown Council on Aging. She once again taught dance and exercise with all of these groups in Georgetown.

She was the mother of Paul R. Sartorelli, Jr and his wife, Christine of Lyn-



field; grandmother of Paul R. Sartorelli, III, Joseph Sartorelli and Andrew Sartorelli; dear sister and sister-in-law of the late Dominic DeAngelis and his wife, Margaret of Tewksbury, Vincent J. Sartorelli and his wife, Sandra of Amesbury, Mary E. Mahoney and her late husband, Dennis and the late Claire and Thomas Harney, the late Carol A. and Robert Cataldo. She is also lovingly survived by her uncle and friend, Al Campedelli of Winthrop and by many nieces, nephews, grandnieces, grandnephews and extended family members.

A family farewell and Funeral Mass was held at St. Mary’s Church in Georgetown. Services concluded with interment in Woodlawn Cemetery, Everett, together forever with her beloved husband. A Memorial Mass and celebration of Paul and Joyce’s lives will be held on Thursday, August 13 at St. Mary’s Church, 94 Andover St., Georgetown.

Arrangements were given to the care and direction of the Welsh Funeral Home, Chelsea. We encourage family and friends who wish, to offer condolences at this time by means of the online guest book or to send a personalized sympathy card visit: www.WelshFuneralHome.com In lieu of flowers, should friends desire, contributions in Joyce’s memory should be directed to a favorite charity of one’s choice.

School Committee rejects resolution against police brutality

By Seth Daniel

The Chelsea School Committee voted down a resolution last Thursday night, June 25, that was meant to make a statement against police brutality against black people, a measure that was in line with Chelsea’s Congresswoman Ayanna Pressley’s bill filed in June.

The Committee, which is made up almost entirely of people of color, was in an odd position on Thursday night in that many felt the Committee wasn’t the right place to make such a stand. Rather, some felt it was the purview of the City Council and not the schools, to make that statement. Others disagreed with the language in the statement.

At the end of the night, perhaps one of the most racially diverse School Committees in the state had voted down a resolution condemning police brutality on people of color.

The vote was two in favor, one against, five present and one absent.

Those voting in favor were Roberto Jimenez and Marisol Santiago. Those voting against were Rosemarie Carlisle. Those voting present were Kelly Garcia, Lucia Henriquez, Ana Hernandez, Yessenia Alfaro and Henry Wilson. Jeannette Velez was absent.

Jimenez had resisted attempts to amend the resolution during the meeting, amendments which included replacing the word ‘brutality’ and other changes as well.

After the meeting, he

said he was very disappointed with others on the Committee for not standing up.

“I am very disappointed that the School Committee wasn’t willing to take a stand on this resolution and affirm unequivocally that we have an obligation to protect the civil rights of our students, and to call out police brutality in Massachusetts and across the country,” he said. “About a dozen teachers came to speak at our meeting about racism within our school district, so these issues are real within our community. I wish the other members, besides Ms. Santiago who also voted Yes, had brought up their issues with the resolution and discussed them in the meeting, instead of just voting Present, or even worse, voting No.”

But not everyone was on the same page with that, and not because they didn’t agree in principal with the resolution. Some felt it simply wasn’t the forum to pass a resolution supporting a non-school bill filed by a member of Congress – a bill that several weeks ago was passed over a failed to gain momentum on Capitol Hill.

Chair Kelly Garcia said it was with good intent, but not everyone agreed with its presentation.

“That resolution – I don’t think the School Committee was the right place for it,” said Garcia. “It passed at the City Council and I think Rob should focus on how we can improve our schools.”

Mass. weekly unemployment claimant data on the decline

Staff report

Showing decreases for the second consecutive week, Massachusetts, from June 14 to June 20, had 29,541 individuals file an initial claim for regular Unemployment Insurance (UI), a small decrease of 443 over the previous week. From March 15 to June 20, the Commonwealth has surpassed a million total initial claims filed for regular UI, at 1,028,424.

Continued UI claims at 558,269 was down 11,170 or 2 percent, over the previous week.

For the fourth week in a row of decreases, the Pandemic Unemployment Assistance (PUA) initial claims filed for the week ending June 20, at 14,131, were 1,761 less than the previous week. Since April 20, 2020, 624,091 claim-

ants have filed an initial claim for the PUA.

The Pandemic Emergency Unemployment Compensation (PEUC), which provided up to 13 weeks of extended benefits was implemented on May 21. For the week ending June 20, 4,049 PEUC initial claims were filed bringing the total of PEUC filings to 54,641 since implementation.

Since March, the customer service staff at the Department of Unemployment Assistance (DUA) has grown from around 50 employees to nearly 2000. The remote customer service operation is now making over 35,000 individual contacts per day and DUA continues to host unemployment town halls – which have been held in English, Spanish, and Portuguese - and have been attended by around 350,000 constituents.

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Downtown Coordinator position questioned in budget debate

By Seth Daniel

It seems every time the City Budget is up for discussion each June, Downtown Coordinator Mimi Graney becomes a recall for all that's wrong with the downtown corridor.

Monday night was no different, but the tables were turned a bit.

Graney has been the Downtown Coordinator and in charge of Chelsea Prospers about four years, and has shown great initiative in bringing in things like the Night Market and several arts programs. However, there have been long-standing allegations that she has not fulfilled her role in working with

businesses, particularly connecting with Spanish-speaking businesses.

Traditionally, Councilor Damali Vidot has called for her to be defunded, and Council President Roy Avellaneda has called to give her more time.

This time, though, it was the other way around.

"I want that position to

be cut," said Avellaneda. "I stood up for this position and said it was too early and not enough time had been given to make inroads...I see a lack of relationship building with our downtown merchants and it's been three years without success. I've even heard complaints from downtown stakeholders there is no connection between the coordinator and the businesses...I think we're doing a lot more double spending on things that should be done by this individual."

However, Graney has just come off of a massive effort to assist the City, residents and businesses during COVID-19. Most have cited her dedication as extraordinary and she is credited with bringing everyone together on a daily phone call to coordinate efforts.

Vidot said after she saw how much Graney cares about the residents and the

City during COVID, she could never call for her to be cut again – even if there has been a disconnect with some businesses.

"I'm speechless we are trying to cut the person who held up the Chelsea Pandemic Response Team and I am disgusted we would treat an employee that dedicated 18 hours a day to help our residents...in the middle of a pandemic...I am absolutely not supporting this. This is not how you treat employees, particularly when they show up in the darkest days of our community."

Ambrosino said her dedication was extraordinary during the pandemic, and he would often have to tell her to go home and rest when she was still at City Hall late into the night.

That said, he indicated that her strengths have shown in arts programming and events - as well

as repurposing areas like Division Street and Luther Place. He said that maybe she hasn't been as effective at the business portion of the job as they had hoped, but he was looking at redefining her role anyhow.

That, and she's a union employee that cannot be cut.

Said Councilor Leo Robinson, "I think I enjoyed not having to leave our City to go to events they have in other places like the Night Market. There were some businesses that complained, but not all businesses. I don't know if there maybe was a communication issue with our Latino brothers and sisters."

In the end, the amendment by Avellaneda was defeated 2-9.

Avellaneda and Councilor Enio Lopez voted against Graney.

Councilor Vidot votes “no” on city budget amid COVID-19 budget cuts to essential services

Staff report

On Monday night, At-Large Chelsea City Councilor and Candidate for State Representative of Charlestown and Chelsea Damali Vidot voted against the proposed municipal budget for the City of Chelsea. Though the budget ultimately passed by an 8-3 vote, Vidot cited differences between her values and the values reflected in the proposed budget, rallying two other Councilors to join in a dissenting vote. "We're in the middle of a pandemic and yet we're seeing proposed budget cuts to some of the most important departments, such as Health and Human Services" said Vidot. She added that "We needed more creativity in this budget. Cutting the funding for this department in a city that has lost 152 lives is unacceptable."

Councilor Vidot has long been a leading voice on the Chelsea City Council, lifting community voices, especially those from communities that are often left out but most impacted.

In a Facebook Live chat following the budget vote

Monday night, Vidot reflected further on her decision to vote against the budget in light of the upcoming Independence Day holiday, adding that "the values of democracy have been central to the United States since its founding, and sometimes the deliberation process leaves too many voices out. Our government must have space for all voices, especially the marginalized and vulnerable. Our government must be representative of the people it serves." Despite the budget's passage, Vidot emphasized, "Tonight I voted on my values. You can always expect that from me. As always, it is an honor to serve my community."

Channeling her commitment to younger voices, Councilor Vidot highlighted that some of the Founding Fathers were in their 20s or early 30s. Serving as inspiration, Councilor Vidot committed to continuing to engage today's youth in the democratic process: "Right now, our young voices are leading the conversation on the most challenging topics we've ever discussed, urging us to reflect and change.



Chelsea Councilor Damali Vidot is running for state representative in Charlestown and Chelsea.

Young people across this nation are telling us that for too long we have been complacent with a system that leaves so many out." Earlier this week, Vidot participated in a conversation on race and equity organized by the youth-focused Turn It Around Charlestown Coalition and Boston City Councilor for District 1, Lydia Edwards. Vidot said she was "so moved by the work of young people. I am heartened by the diverse array of local youth who showed up for these much needed conversations. This is how we move forward together."

Dining outside / Continued from Page 1

them inside every day.

"I don't want to throw dirt on the City, but they could have done this a lot better," he said. "I'm going to give this a try, but it's not the lifeline I was hoping for. My customers are going to look at this, and then go and look what they're doing in other cities – like East Boston – and they're going to go to East Boston. I love the idea and I love their effort. I just don't like how they did it. There are too many rules, too many things we can't do, and other places have been doing this for weeks now. We're actually behind."

Both Danny and Huynh said if the City is going to do outdoor dining, it has to be permanent.

Downtown Coordinator Mimi Graney said the trouble was there was some hesitation from the City Council and the Traffic Commission to commit to permanent assemblies until restaurants committed to the program. Meanwhile, restaurants didn't want to commit until the City committed to something more.

She said the program is in its infancy, and she hopes early issues can spur City boards to make more



Tijuana Restaurant General Manager Whitney Huynh on the outdoor tables at her restaurant last Friday. She said outdoor dining is a first for them and exciting, but it's also a lot of work to adhere to the City's rules. Most restaurant owners agreed there is room for much improvement to the City's program.

changes – leading to greater closures and more permanency such as has been done on Moody Street in Waltham, which is closed to all traffic except morning deliveries.

The Traffic and Parking Commission and City Council approved only just the evenings for the parklets," she said. "When we were going before them the businesses were not sure they were interested and we were hearing only concerns about 'losing' parking spaces. The city had only ever allowed parklets for just a few hours on one day so this was going to be a big

ask for them to approve reserving so many spaces all at once. I've fielded those complaints. My hope was by showing there was interest by both businesses and customers we could go back to the Commission to expand the program. The barriers from the roadway are significant but on the other side there are complaints that anything less would be less safe."

She did clarify that lights and heaters are allowed under the program, but businesses just need to detail how it would be set up and be safe from fire hazards.

Budget / Continued from Page 1

es the mark sorely and I will not support it."

Said Calvin Brown, "A lot more could have been done. I really think we had an opportunity to make some change on several issues. There were none of those things mentioned."

Council President Avellaneda said he expected a more professional presentation, roles of employees defined and mission statements for every department. He said there were parts he couldn't even follow, and if he cannot follow it with decades in government service, then certainly the public couldn't either.

"Some of this didn't even have page numbers," he said. "It was a disaster. If I were a professor, I'd give you an 'F' absolutely. That's not even something you could present online for the public to look at and digest. I don't want to hear COVID-19 – I don't. I'm

not buying it. I hope next year this looks a lot better... This was unacceptable."

He also said on the substance of the budget, he disagreed with a lot of the revenue projections, and predicted that the City Manager would be back in the fall for cuts or to try to raise taxes.

"Come October and November, we're going to look at ourselves and say, 'It's time to pay for this budget.'"

Councillor Garcia said she understood the issues, and she too was disappointed with the budget, but felt voting against it wasn't necessary.

"As much as I wish I could join in collectively to make a statement on the budget that we're not proud of and could have been better, I have a civic duty to vote on a budget," she said.

Councillor Taylor said he wasn't impressed with

the format or presentation, but he said it was quite an accomplishment to avoid layoffs in these dark times.

"Speaking as someone who has 700 employees and I had to lay all of them off and my industry has been destroyed, I'm pretty proud of this budget that we don't have to lay anyone off. That's a big deal," he said. "To save people's jobs and keep everyone employed is important and needs to be recognized."

Councilor Robinson said the Council needs to shoulder some of the burden for the bad budget as well.

"We have just as much responsibility to develop programs and help our community," he said. "We as a City Council need to step up to the plate and share in these responsibilities."

There were no cuts to the City Budget in the form of amendments by the Council, though one was defeated.

COVID Center / Continued from Page 1

People are wearing masks and washing their hands. We're following the examples of Hong Kong, Singapore and Taiwan. There is really something to be said for just wearing a mask. Props to everyone for that and for buying us time and helping us preserve the PPE supply chain."

Now, as those threats in regards to COVID-19 subside for a time – hopefully forever – many in the medical community are hoping that lessons learned over the last four months will not be lost.

Some of those key lessons at CHA Everett are the expanded use of tele-medicine and ambulance care units. Tele-medicine was talked about for years, but insurance companies never made the jump to cover such visits, and hospitals never pushed the envelope. In COVID-19, tele-medicine came on as a necessity for many patients, and insurance companies covered it. It has been a great victory for delivering health care in the 21st Century. The same is said for the ambulance care units, whereby ambulances overseen by physicians can deliver care in a person's home – and get paid for that service without transporting the patient. Prior to COVID-19, ambulance companies had to transport a patient to get paid.

Both of these innovations have been great changes for both physician and patient, and Lai-Becker said the hope is that they are permanent changes.

"It really just showed how the cost-price-reimbursement and insurance models in our country are really messed up," she said. "To think tele-health was not covered until this pandemic is hard to imagine. Hopefully it will continue to be covered. It's a big and important model we've just developed."

LOOKING ON IN HORROR

Dr. Lai-Becker said as things wind down at CHA Everett, talking to colleagues in other parts of the country where the virus is surging has been tragic.

"We're definitely looking at the rest of the country and looking at the new hot spots of Florida, Texas and Arizona; collectively, we look there in horror," she said. "It is horrendous and incredibly disheartening to see colleagues are dealing with what we tried to keep at bay here, in New York and in Seattle. It's really too bad. I mean, really? No one believed us? I do think this will show having everyone wear a mask and having good hand hygiene and having that message come from the top down will have made a difference."

She said it is as simple as

wearing a mask, being very careful and considering others who may be more compromised. These were messages that were routinely conveyed in Massachusetts, and it was a great help.

She said many might not realize how close hospitals were to having to ration ventilators and other medical equipment to treat COVID-19.

Lai-Becker said at one point in early April, when the surge was in full bloom, they were treating a 90-year-old and a 40-year-old in the Emergency Department. Both were in respiratory distress and likely needed a ventilator. However, there was apparently only one ventilator available at that time.

"We received information that we had one ventilator in the hospital at that time," she said. "My PA looked at me and said, 'Well?' I was going to have to decide. She said I should probably intubate the 40-year-old and make the 90-year-old comfortable. I thought, 'Yea, that's what I have to do.'"

As it turned out, however, another ventilator became available at the last minute, and then the family of the older man chose not to use a machine. It turned out that rationing wasn't necessary, but it became close.

"We were very close to that happening," she said.

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Hometown Reception

CHS grad Giannasca opens Michael G's Restaurant

By Cary Shuman

When Michael Giannasca was growing up on Garfield Avenue in Chelsea, the Bradlees department store was the big draw in the Parkway Plaza Shopping Center.

Giannasca, a member of the CHS Class of 1982, has returned to his hometown and the new-look area of the city with an exciting new restaurant, Michael's G, that had its grand opening Friday at 1068 Revere Beach Parkway in the Chelsea Commons Plaza.

"It's going well so far," said Giannasca. "It's a little hectic, but it's going very well."

If the customers' early reviews are an indication, Giannasca, 53, has hit a home run.

"The eggplant was absolutely delicious," said Chelsea resident Al Mazin, who dined with three friends. "The food was tasty and they give you a large portion. I can't wait to try their other Italian dishes. I'll be back here soon."

Giannasca brings many years of experience in the restaurant industry to Michael G's – yes, the restaurant is named after him.

"I've been in the restaurant business for over 40 years," he said. "I opened my first place in 1990 in Winchester. From there I went to work for my in-



Michael Giannasca is pictured outside his new Michael G's Restaurant with his daughter, Ava Giannasca, and his son, Matthew Giannasca, on grand opening day in Chelsea.

laws at a very popular East Boston establishment."

Giannasca made a decision to launch his own restaurant and Michael G's is the newest arrival on the food scene.

Proud to call himself a lifelong Chelsea resident, Michael attended the Prattville School and Chelsea High School. "My grandparents (Salvatore and Mary Savignano) came here from Italy in the 1920s," he said. "My father (Armando Giannasca) was from Italy. My mother (Mary Ann Savignano Giannasca) was born here."

He attended the Prattville School and Chelsea High School. After graduation, he began his successful in the food business.

What are the specialties at Michael G's?

"Pasta dishes - we're using homemade fresh

pasta, chicken ziti broccoli, chicken parmigiana all hand-cut, breaded daily, we have barbecued steak tips and chicken, artisan pizza, sandwiches, calzones, salads – and we're going to be having breakfast on the weekends," said Giannasca. "I believe we'll have Katz bagels. I want to keep close to Chelsea. I have ties here and I want to do business with other businesses in the city."

Michael's children, Matthew Giannasca, 22, a 2016 graduate of Lynnfield High, and Ava Giannasca, 17, a senior at Lynnfield High, are also on staff at the restaurant Friday.

"I brought my son in to the business at the age of 14 and so he's been in it for eight years now," said Michael. "I don't know if my daughter's named after [legendary actress] Ava



Michael G's owner Michael Giannasca (center) joins opening day diners, Charles Wood, Al Mazin, Paul Freedman, and Isaac Borin for a lunchtime photo inside the new restaurant.

Gardner, but she's as beautiful."

Remembering his days at CHS

Michael Giannasca, owner of Michael's G's, graduated from Chelsea schools 38 years ago, but his memories are vivid.

"My favorite teachers in Chelsea were Mr. Paul Scheffi – I was a teacher's pet with him and had him for social studies, Mr. (Stuart) Feinberg, Mr. D. (Anthony DiGregorio) for science, Ms. Mary Guerrero, she was the Italian (foreign languages) teacher, Mr. Pellegriti [at the Prattville School] – I have a lot of good memories from Chelsea High School and a lot of good friends," recalled Michael.

Michael Giannasca is related to the Annese and Piotti families, two longtime Chelsea families with similar origins in Italy.

Interestingly one of Michael's classmates, Chelsea Police Officer Joseph Cap-

istran, stopped by for lunch at Michael G's and seemed to be immensely enjoying his opening Caesar salad along with soft, baked rolls and butter. Other classmates on the Chelsea Police Department are Chief Brian Kyes and Police Officer Richard Bellomo.

"We were kids together playing at Washington Park," recalled Giannasca. "Brian lived in Prat-

tonville, so we were always at Washington Park. I also socialized at Voke Park a lot– there was Michael Morganelli, Tony Casucci, the Donarumos, Richie Maronski, Paul Driscoll, Johnny Dorso, L.J. DeCristofaro.

"And I graduated with Jolene Bevere, Dawn DeAngelis, Julie Amentola, Timmy Kehoe – it was a great class," said Michael.



Michael Giannasca welcomes Chelsea's finest to the grand opening of his new restaurant, Michael G's. From left, are Chelsea Police Officer Joanne O'Brien, Officer Joseph Capistran, Michael G's owner Michael Giannasca, and Police Lt. Thomas McLain.

EXCELLENT 'NEWS' FOR CHELSEA

BNC Market a welcome addition to Broadway

By Cary Shuman

Residents and workers from Broadway down Everett Avenue to up on Admiral's Hill – the whole city, really - have a beautifully designed, new gourmet neighborhood market that they can call their own.

Nabil Safwan and his wife, Kirsche Safwan, have opened the BNC Market located at 230 Broadway. BNC stands for Boston News Café (Market).

"We have three News Cafes' in Boston, so we're carrying the concept and have expanded it to the Market," said Nabil. "We have the coffee behind the counter for full service. We have sandwiches, all-natural Boar's Head meats, and beer and wine."

The Safwans are very well-known in Chelsea, having previously owned and operated the L'il Peach store at 178 Washington Avenue from 1999 to 2017. The store was very popular among residents in the Cary



The sign atop the new BNC Market on Broadway.

Square neighborhood and long-time Chelseans will remember the spot as the former home to Goldstein's Market.

Nabil said he is happy to be back in Chelsea and providing a valuable service for its residents. "I found this spot and I think it's great – the area is changing, so I feel it would be an ideal spot to open a market with beer and wine, and more of an upscale sandwich shop and convenience market," said Nabil.

Nabil is looking forward to welcoming neighbors, residents, and employees who work on Everett Ave-



Nabil Safwan and his wife, Kirsche Safwan, are pictured outside their new BNC Market, 230 Broadway. Welcoming the business owners to Chelsea is Councillor-at-Large Leo Robinson.

nue and in stores on Broadway, to his new market.

"We know they'll enjoy our Seattle's Best coffee, all the special drinks - lattes, cappuccinos, iced teas," said Nabil. "We have groceries, Spanish foods, produce, pre-made sandwiches, grab-and-go salads."

Nabil worked closely with the architect on the interior makeup of the 3,400 square-foot store that has a blend of terrific, warm colors and designs.

Nabil, who is originally from Lebanon, and Kirsche, who is originally from the Dominican Republic, have been married for 30 years. They have three children, Samir, 22, a graduate of Stanford University, Naimeh, 19, a junior at UMass Amherst, and Munir, 15, a sophomore at Lynnfield High School.

"My husband and I have been working together for our whole lives," said Kirsche. "We are very familiar with Chelsea. This

city is like home to us. So we feel comfortable here. We feel right at home."

Kirsche added that, "The one thing that people are going to have here is very good customer service. That's important to us and they will have that on every visit to BNC Market."

Councillor-at-Large Leo Robinson visited BNC last Thursday and said he was

very impressed with the spacious, modern look and design of the store.

"I've been friends with Nabil and Kirsche and I know about their businesses in Boston and they run a great operation and I'm here to welcome them back to Chelsea," said Robinson.

BNC Market will be open seven days a week, from 6 a.m. to 8 p.m.

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FOODS

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Date: July 8th 2020

Time: 6:00 am – 5:00 pm

Location: 5 Fifth St., Peabody, MA 01960

Open Positions

Meat Packers
Meat Cutters
Sanitation
Warehouse Selectors
High Lift Operators
Facilities
Transportation Box Truck
Drivers/CDL
Supervisors & Management
Administrative Positions

Employee Benefits

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Dental Insurance
Paid Holidays
Vacation Time
Sick & Personal Time
401K Plan & Match
Employee Discounts

Call 857-496-0700 to pre-register or to learn additional information.

All walk-ins welcome!

Encore prepares for re-opening, but will furlough 3,000 employees

Casino resort with select restaurants will operate under new guidelines

By Seth Daniel

Encore Boston Harbor shared some good news and some bad news on Monday afternoon – stating they would look to begin re-opening procedures no sooner than July 6, but also that they would have to fur-

lough up to 3,000 employees to be able to open this summer.

The news comes just one week after the Massachusetts Gaming Commission (MGC) voted 5-0 on June 23 to accept the opening procedures for its casino licensees, including Encore. Casinos in Massachusetts will be opening in Phase 3 of Gov. Charlie Baker’s re-opening plan, and that will come no sooner than July 6. The casino plans to re-open the cas-

ino gaming floor, and supporting food and beverage outlets around the casino – though both will be at a much smaller capacity due to social distancing restrictions.

There will be no craps games, roulette games, poker games, poker rooms, and the numbers of slots will be reduced. While about 1,500 to 2,000 workers on the rolls will return for trainings and guidelines about opening that portion of the casino resort, another 3,000

will have to be furloughed.

“Pending final approval, Encore Boston Harbor plans to re-open the casino gaming area and supporting food and beverage outlets around the casino,” read a statement from the casino. “It also plans to open the hotel on a limited basis. When it re-opens, Encore Boston Harbor will bring back its employees in a thoughtful and measured protocol. Some employees working in the re-opened amenities and restaurants will return

to work. Employees, who worked in areas for which a re-opening date is uncertain due to current restrictions, are being placed on furlough until further notice.”

Already, approximately 11 percent of the Encore workforce had been placed on furlough June 1. Prior to that – since the voluntary closing of the resort on March 15, Wynn Resorts CEO Matt Maddox had made the decision to continue paying all employees and tipped employees. That

was extended through the end of May, though properties at Las Vegas and Macau opened to the public and Encore Boston Harbor remained closed.

Encore had come up with an extensive health and safety program in May that was developed in conjunction with Johns Hopkins University and Georgetown University – and was also used at their other properties. Encore said it would use that as a road map, as

See ENCORE Page 11

LEGAL NOTICES

LEGAL NOTICE



CITY OF CHELSEA DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

In accordance with Section 1.15, Part IV of the City of Chelsea administrative code section 22-64(b) Establishment of solid waste collection fees and section 30-65 establishment of water, sewer & trash billing rates of the ordinances of the City of Chelsea on Tuesday, July 14, 2020 at 6:00pm via Video Conference regarding the following:
Public hearing for interested residents, shall have an opportunity to be heard concerning the proposed increase of solid waste collection fees, and the proposed increase for water and sewer rates. The public is invited to attend.

Fidel Maltez
COMMISSIONER
7/2/2020
7/9/2020

LEGAL NOTICE



AVISO LEGAL CIUDAD DE CHELSEA DEPARTAMENTO DE OBRAS PUBLICAS AVISO DE AUDIENCIA PUBLICA

De conformidad con la Sección 1.15, Parte IV del código administrativo de la Ciudad de Chelsea, sección 22-64 (b) Establecimiento de tarifas de recolección de desechos sólidos y la sección 30-65 establecimiento de tarifas de facturación de agua, alcantarillado y basura de las ordenanzas de la Ciudad de Chelsea el Martes, 14 de julio de 2020 a las 6:00 p.m. a través de una videoconferencia sobre lo siguiente:

La audiencia pública para los residentes interesados tendrá la oportunidad de ser escuchada sobre el aumento propuesto de las tarifas de recolección de desechos sólidos y el aumento propuesto para las tarifas de agua y alcantarillado. Se invita al público a asistir.
Fidel Maltez
COMISIONADO DE
OBRAS PUBLICAS
7/2/2020
7/9/2020

LEGAL NOTICE



NOTICE

In accordance with Section 6-3 (b) of the Chelsea City Charter notice is hereby given that at a Regular Meeting of the Chelsea Traffic and

Parking Commission held on June 9, 2020, the Commission voted to approve the following Regulations:
To approve the following temporary plan for implementation on June 9, 2020 through November 1, 2020:
1. Short-term five (5) minute delivery/pick up parking zones throughout the downtown area and other neighborhood retail districts with the following amendments: the Upper Broadway space, 883 Broadway to be moved to 891 Broadway and the Cary Square space be moved from 150 Washington Avenue to 158 Washington Avenue; and
2. To approve a plan of street closures in order to provide outdoor seating for restaurants on Division Street (from Hawthorn Street to Fourth Street), Cherry Street (from Washington Avenue to Fifth Street), and Second Street (from Broadway to Winnisimmet Street); and
3. All other areas to be deferred to the Department of Planning and Development, who will ensure approval and compliance in collaboration with the Fire Department, Police Department, Inspectional Services Department and the Department of Public Works; and
4. Closures will be held 5pm to 9pm, Monday through Thursday, and 5pm to 10pm, Friday through Saturday per the request of the abutting restaurants and/or City Downtown Coordinator;
Due to the effects on businesses from the Covid-19 pandemic.
Jeannette Cintron
White
Parking Clerk
7/2/20

Commissioner

7/2/2020
7/9/2020

LEGAL NOTICE



Re: Family Pineda Family Restaurant LLC d/b/a Sabor Centro Americano
40-48 Central Avenue, Chelsea, MA 02150
Chelsea Licensing Commission, July 16, 2020
Notice is hereby given that a continued public hearing will be held by the Chelsea Licensing Commission on Thursday, July 16, 2020 at 6:00 p.m., in the City Council Conference Room at 500 Broadway, Chelsea, MA, to consider a New Wine and Malt Beverages License (on premises) application for Family Pineda Family Restaurant LLC d/b/a Sabor Centro Americano at 40-48 Central Avenue, Chelsea, MA 02150.
CHELSEA LICENSING COMMISSION
Naomi Libran
Licensing Administrator
7/2/20, 7/9/20

Commissioner

LEGAL NOTICE

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
THE TRIAL COURT
PROBATE AND FAMILY COURT
NOTICE AND ORDER:
Petition for Appointment of Guardian of a Minor
Docket No. SU20P0743GD
Suffolk Probate and Family Court
24 New Chardon St.
Boston, MA 02114
In the interests Of: Orlando O. Miranda Blanco
Of: Chelsea, MA
Minor

NOTICE TO ALL INTERESTED PARTIES
A hearing on a Petition for Appointment of Guardian of a Minor filed on 05/13/2020 by Carlos Bonilla Miranda of Chelsea, MA will be held 07/15/2020 9:00 AM Guardianship of Minor Hearing. Located Suffolk Probate and Family Court.
You may respond by filing a written response to the Petition or by appearing in person at the hearing. If you choose to file a written response, you need to: File the original with the Court; and
Mail a copy to all interested parties at least five (5) business days before the hearing.
The minor (or an adult on behalf of the minor) has the right to request that counsel be appointed for the minor. If you are a parent of the minor child who is the subject of this proceeding you have a right to be represented by an attorney. If you want an attorney and cannot afford to pay for one and if you give proof that you are indigent, an attorney will be assigned to you. Your request for an attorney should be made immediately by filling out the Application of Appointment of Counsel form. Submit the application form in person or by mail at the court location where your case is going to be heard.
A minor over age 14 has the right to be present at any hearing, unless the Court finds that it is not in the minor’s best interests.
THIS IS A LEGAL NOTICE: An important court proceeding that may affect your rights has been scheduled. If you do not understand this notice or other court papers, please contact an attorney for legal advice.
Date: June 19, 2020
Felix D. Arroyo
Register of Probate
7/02/20

Commissioner

7/2/20, 7/9/20

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Commissioner

7/2/20, 7/9/20

1100 Revere Beach Parkway, Chelsea, MA 02150
Chelsea Licensing Commission, July 16, 2020
Notice is hereby given that a public hearing will be held by the Chelsea Licensing Commission on Thursday, July 16, 2020 at 6:00 p.m., in the City Council Conference Room at 500 Broadway, Chelsea, MA, to consider a Transfer of All Kinds of Alcohol License application to May Inc. d/b/a Mandarin Buffet at 1100 Revere Beach Parkway, Chelsea, MA 02150.
CHELSEA LICENSING COMMISSION
Naomi Libran
Licensing Administrator
7/2/20, 7/9/20

Commissioner

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Commissioner

A copy of the current Community Preservation Plan may be found on the City of Chelsea web site at: https://www.chelseama.gov/sites/chelseama/files/uploads/chelsea_cp_plan.pdf
Written comments may be sent to Karl Allen at kallen@chelseama.gov prior to the meeting.
Oral comments may be made at the meeting which will be held via zoom. Translation into Spanish will be provided.
The zoom meeting id is: 829 7548 9769
Meeting password is: 615618
6/25/20, 7/2/20

Commissioner

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LEGAL NOTICE



NOTICE OF HEARING
Case No. 2020-08
Notice is hereby given in accordance with the Massachusetts Zoning Act, Chapter 40A that a Regular Meeting of the Chelsea Zoning Board of Appeals will be held via Webex video conferencing on Tuesday, July 14, 2020 6:00 p.m.
With reference to the application of: Chestnut Lofts, LLC
For Special Permit and Variance for the construction of a twenty-four residential dwelling unit structure which does not meet current minimum zoning requirements for side, front or rear yard setbacks, exceeds lot size, floor area ratio and lot coverage. Also does not meet open space requirements and number of off-street parking spaces at the premises known as: 25 Second Street
All interested parties wishing to provide a public comment or to join the meeting must communicate with jdepriest@chelseama.gov. Name and address must be included in order to be read during the Public Speaking section of the meeting and email address in order to join the meeting. Any comment or request to join must be submitted by Monday, July 13, 2020 by 4:00 p.m. A copy of the application and petition is available for review at the Office of the City Clerk, 500 Broadway, Room 209, Chelsea, MA.
6/25/20, 7/2/20

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wishing to provide a public comment or to join the meeting must communicate with jdepriest@chelseama.gov. Name and address must be included in order to be read during the Public Speaking section of the meeting and email address in order to join the meeting. Any comment or request to join must be submitted by Monday, July 13, 2020 by 4:00 p.m. A copy of the application and petition is available for review at the Office of the City Clerk, 500 Broadway, Room 209, Chelsea, MA.
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Commissioner

application of: Samir, Inc. d/b/a BNC Market
For Special Permit seeking approval to include the sale of beer and wine at an existing retail convenience store at the premises known as: 230 Broadway
All interested parties wishing to provide a public comment or to join the meeting must communicate with jdepriest@chelseama.gov. Name and address must be included in order to be read during the Public Speaking section of the meeting and email address in order to join the meeting. Any comment or request to join must be submitted by Monday, July 20, 2020 by 4:00 PM. Plans and copies of the application and petition may be viewed at https://www.chelseama.gov/zoning-board-appeals/pages/zba-cases-2020
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with insufficient lot area, yard setbacks, and parking at the premises known as:

25 Second Street
All interested parties wishing to provide a public comment or to join the video conference meeting must communicate with jdepriest@chelseama.gov. Name and address must be included in order to be read during the Public Speaking section of the meeting and email address in order to join the meeting. Any comment or request to join must be submitted by Monday, July 20, 2020 by 4:00 PM. Plans and copies of the application and petition may be viewed at https://www.chelseama.gov/zoning-board-appeals/pages/zba-cases-2020
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Northeast Metro Tech shares state guidelines for reopening schools in the fall

Superintendent David DiBarri wishes to share the initial state guidelines from Gov. Charlie Baker and the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) for the 2020-21 academic year, which will be modified as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.

While prioritizing health and safety as well as getting as many students back in school as possible, districts across the state will now begin to develop three different plans: one for learning entirely in-person, one for a hybrid model that includes in-person and remote learning in the event in-person learning is not feasible due to space constraints and other concerns, and one for remote learning only should there be a second spike in COVID-19 cases regionally.

These plans will be created by a task force of district officials, teachers, staff, students and parents and submitted to DESE in the coming weeks. The final plan for the district will be announced in August.

Northeast Metro Tech is waiting on further guidance this July, including information on transportation and busing for the coming school year, and will provide updates to students and their families as soon as it becomes available.

“I’d like to thank students, families, faculty and staff for remaining patient as we’ve navigated these uncharted waters; we still don’t know what the fall will look like precisely, but these guidelines create the possibility for us to safely welcome students back to school in-person, which would be wonderful,” Superintendent DiBarri said. “We’re going to be analyzing our facility in align-

ment with these guidelines this summer and carefully crafting plans to prepare for what the fall may bring, and will provide regular updates to the Northeast community as we receive more information.”

Guidelines that must be part of these plans include:

- Setting up cafeterias, gyms, libraries and other large spaces to promote the greatest amount of social distancing possible.
- Requiring students from second grade on, and all adults, to wear a face mask, face covering or face shield while learning in-person and while riding on the school bus. These should be provided by the student/family, but the district will have a limited amount of disposable masks to provide students who need them.
- Providing other preventative measures for students and staff, such as hand washing stations and hand sanitizer, and cleaning frequently touched surfaces.
- Having school nurses wear extra protection, such as face shields and goggles, when directly treating students. A room should also be designated to isolate those at the school who are suspected of having COVID-19.
- Determining class size based on how many students can be taught with social distancing in place, with desks anywhere from three to six feet away from each other.
- Strongly recommending that students, teachers and staff get their regular flu vaccine in order to prevent any disruption to learning.
- Surveying families throughout the summer and possibly the school year to help with decisions such as

which children will return to school in-person, technology needs of students learning remotely, and who will need bus transportation in order to get to school.

At this time, screening procedures to enter school buildings, such as taking a person’s temperature, will not be required. COVID-19 testing also will not be required for students to return to school.

The initial guidelines, which can be read in full here, are also subject to change depending on how the situation surrounding the COVID-19 pandemic progresses. The guidelines were developed by DESE’s Return-to-School Working Group, along with experts from the fields of infectious diseases and public health.

Approximately \$200 million from the Commonwealth’s federal Coronavirus Relief Fund is available to help with the costs of reopening public schools. Schools are eligible to receive up to \$225 per student for eligible costs incurred due to the COVID-19 public health emergency, such as training for school staff, supplemental social and academic services, reconfiguration of school spaces, leasing of temporary facilities, and acquisition of health and hygiene supplies.

Other potential funding sources to support school reopening include \$502 million from the Coronavirus Relief Fund that had previously been allocated by Gov. Baker to cities and towns, as well as \$194 million in federal Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund grants.

In partnership with legislative leadership, the state has also committed \$25

million in federal funds for a matching grant program to help school districts and charter schools close technology gaps that have inhibited remote learning for students and families who lack access to computers or internet connections.

Sierra Club endorses Damali Vidot for state rep. of the 2nd Suffolk District

The Massachusetts Chapter of Sierra Club, the oldest and most influential grassroots environmental organization, is proud to endorse environmental champion and Candidate for State Representative of the Second Suffolk District Damali Vidot. The Second Suffolk District comprises all of Charlestown and most of Chelsea.

Jonathan Cohn, Secretary of the Political Committee of the Massachusetts Chapter of Sierra Club praised Councilor Vidot, saying, “Damali Vidot has been a leader on environmental justice in her role as At-Large Chelsea City Councilor.” He added, “We know we can count on Councilor Vidot to bring the same proactive, activist approach to the State House to fight to make sure that the needs of working communities, especially communities of color, are at the heart of environmental policymaking.”

The Massachusetts Chapter of the Sierra Club, the oldest grassroots environmental organization, consists of over 100,000 members and supporters across the Commonwealth who are committed to promoting the responsible stewardship and enjoyment of the earth’s ecosystems and resources. The organi-

Specific state funding for each district will be determined at a later date.

The statewide closure of school buildings began in mid-March and was extended through the remainder of the 2019-20 academic year as an unprecedented

zation and its membership advocate for clean transportation for all; reducing toxic pollution in our environment and communities; moving toward zero waste, and work to address the crisis of climate change.

Candidate for State Representative of the Second Suffolk District Damali Vidot thanked the Massachusetts Chapter of Sierra Club: “I want to extend my sincerest thanks to the Massachusetts Chapter of Sierra Club for not only endorsing me as a Candidate for State Representative, but also for prioritizing clean air and water as a right, healthy and sustainable communities for all of the Commonwealth’s residents, and for working toward a politics that ensures meaningful inclusion of our most vulnerable populations.”

Recognizing the importance of environmental advocacy particularly for the communities of Charlestown and Chelsea, which have some of the highest asthma rates in the country, Councilor Vidot shared that “Environmental justice is one of the pillars that holds me up and that keeps me fighting for social justice. I am so honored to receive the endorsements from the Massachusetts Chapter of the Sierra Club, which is so clearly committed to a healthy future for all.” She added that “I am ready

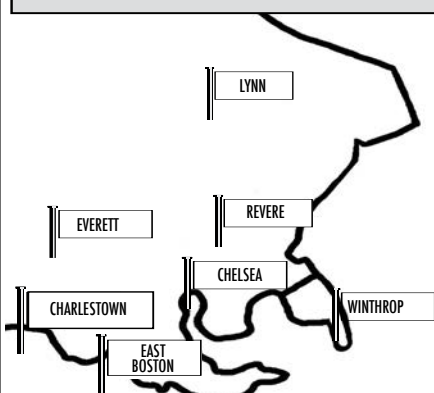
step in limiting the potential spread of COVID-19 and continuing the practice of social distancing as more positive cases and deaths are announced in the state each day.

to work together to bring community-driven change that improves the health and environment for our residents in Charlestown and Chelsea.”

This is the second progressive organization to endorse Damali Vidot in her bid for the Second Suffolk District seat. Just last week, Mass Alliance, a coalition of 28 political and advocacy groups committed to building a more progressive Massachusetts, endorsed Councilor Vidot. As the September 1 primary day approaches, Candidate Damali Vidot is picking up steam with progressive groups recognizing her leadership and advocacy accomplishments.

Currently serving her third term as At-Large Chelsea City Councilor, Damali made history by becoming the first woman to lead the City as Council President for two consecutive terms following her role as Vice President in her first term. She has used her platform on the City Council to improve public health and advance environmental justice, suing ExxonMobil for polluting the Mystic River, sponsoring a noise pollution study in collaboration with GreenRoots and the Boston University School of Public Health, and sponsored the city’s first plastic bag ban.

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HELP WANTED

CHELSEA HOUSING AUTHORITY PROPERTY MANAGER

JOB DESCRIPTION: The Property Manager is a highly visible and responsible position which reports to the Director of Operations. The Manager will be available on site to provide the level of services required for the day-to-day management of the public housing development. The Property Manager enforces the terms of the leases and monitors compliance. The Manager is the direct link between management and the residents. The Manager identifies maintenance problems which s/he reports to the Director of Maintenance and vacancies which s/he reports to Occupancy Coordinator. The Manager also works with the Occupancy Coordinator on transfer and placement issues. The Manager conducts move-in inspections. All extraordinary issues, problems etc. that cannot be rectified under the Manager’s purview are referred to the Director of Operations.

Responsibilities:

1. Applicant will perform lease up orientations, unit, and grounds tour.
2. Interpretation of lease, lease provisions enforcement.
3. Instruct resident in rental payment and collection procedures.
4. As required conducts annual recertifications and new rent calculations.
5. Follows through with CHA policies and guidelines for rent collection including non-payment and for cause evictions.
6. First line for negotiations and resolution of resident disputes.
7. Make appropriate referrals to Supportive Services Manager.
8. Liaison to resident organizations, maintains a strong working relationship with resident council.
9. Regularly inspects and monitors the building for upkeep and maintenance.
10. Completes and monitors reporting requirements for local, state and federal agencies.
11. Maintains complete and orderly resident files.
12. Coordinates pest control treatments.
13. Monthly reports vacancies, recertifications, maintenance problems, resident accounts receivable cause conferences and other data required by the Director of Operations.
14. Performs other related duties as required.

Skills: Candidate must have excellent oral and written communication skills, be detail oriented and can function in a multilingual/multicultural environment, must be well-organized and accurate in data-entry. Applicant must also exercise ethical judgment in maintaining the confidentiality and integrity of sensitive information. Arithmetic and computer skills including, but not limited to, MS Office are required. Bilingual in English and Spanish is required.

Minimum Qualifications: Public housing or other subsidized housing management experience or recent related experience helpful. Public Housing Manager (PHM) certification preferred but not required. A 4-year college degree is preferred or can be replaced by a minimum of 3 years of relevant work experience. A knowledge of Massachusetts housing law helpful. Valid driver’s license and daily access to a vehicle.

Salary Range: 48,000 to 67,500 (Starting Salary Based on experience)
Benefits package: Medical, Dental, Long Term disability, Life Insurance, State Pension Program, Sick & Vacation,

Interested candidates may submit resumes by email to employment@chelseaha.com with subject line PM2020, or by mail to Attn: Human Resource, Subject Line: PM2020, 54 Locke Street Chelsea, MA 02150. Preference will be given to resumes submitted by July 16, 2020 but will remain open until position is filled.

The Chelsea Housing Authority is an equal opportunity employer.

Part-Time Position

We are looking for someone to fill our screen printing position here at Elite Embroidery in Winthrop. Experience a plus, but will train. Lifting boxes, printing shirts, cleaning screens, Etc.

Email us at eliteembroidery@comcast.net

Personal Care Attendant needed in Everett area, Afternoons & Evenings
If interested, call Susan, 617-389-6190 7/20

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REVERE
Great Location
2 Store Fronts 1 4BR Apt.
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SOBER HOUSING

Sober Housing Accommodations
Safe and sober housing accommodations for men and women available now in Revere, East Boston and Lynn. Call today 617-610-0053 or visit americasober.com 7/8

ROOM AVAILABLE

WINTHROP Sm. room in 2 br house on Bellevue Ave. Partially furnished, very quiet house, off street parking, with w/d, tv, internet. \$600 month - Contact Carl-1776btown@gmail.com 7/8

APT FOR RENT

WINTHROP - Ft. Heath Apts. - Ocean View 1 & 2 BR apts. in mod. shoreline bldg. Non-smoking/ no pets. Steps to beach, minutes to Boston. Pool, billiards, exercise facility, lounge, pkg. Heat & HW incl. 617-846-7300 Debra. 7/15

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NEWS FROM AROUND THE REGION

CITY RAISES PRIDE FLAG FOR FIRST TIME

EVERETT - School Committeeman Marcony Almeida Barros has taken to the podium at City and School events – and even state events for the Attorney General’s Office – many times, but none were as intensely personal as when he stepped to the microphone last week as the City’s first openly gay elected official to see the Pride flag raised for the first time in City history.

“For me as the first openly gay man elected in the City’s history, it is a special moment today,” he said. “It’s been a long journey since the Stonewall riots on June 28, 1969...Since that fight, the fight for equal rights brought marriage equality rights to Massachusetts in 2004. That is the year I met my husband in City Hall – right behind us. I arrived from Brazil to Everett and met my Everett born husband in Everett City Hall...It is a special moment not only for me as a gay man, but for the City also.”

On Monday, the City of Everett held their 1st Annual Pride Flag raising ceremony in honor of Pride Month. Led by Mayor Carlo DeMaria, the ceremony featured a short speaking program, and then the raising of the flag on the ceremonial pole outside the Church Street entrance.

“The City of Everett has come a long way – I am proud to stand with you today as we turn a corner as a community,” said the mayor, noting that the first time the flag was raised was 41 years ago in San Francisco. “Everett is a melting pot of race, ethnicity, gender, and sexual orientation. In Everett- everyone is accepted, welcomed, and at home.”

The flag will be flown on the Church Street entrance of Everett City Hall throughout the month of June.

City officials, Mayor DeMaria, Senator Sal DiDomenico, Representative Joe McGonagle and Almeida Barros all spoke in front of a crowd of approximately 50 people.

Sen. Sal DiDomenico talked about his fight to pass the Transgender Bill in the State House only a few short years ago, and the pushback he got from within the Legislature and within parts of the community.

“It seems like an easy decision today, but at the time it was not,” he said. “I spoke on the floor in favor and said it’s time to change the word fear to the word fair. That’s exactly what we do.”

Mayor DeMaria spoke about the recent Supreme Court decision that affirmed that an employee cannot be fired or removed simply because of his or her sexual orientation. That ruling came only two weeks ago, but it elicited a lot of discussion in Monday’s comments.

“The fight is not over,” said the mayor. “Now more than ever, we must come together in unity with members of our community. We all must advocate for equality for everyone. LGBTQ rights are human rights,” Mayor DeMaria said.

Almeida Barros said his message for the day was for the LGBTQ youth – who are found to be more at risk of suicide than their peers.

“My message today is for our LGBTQ youth,” he said. “Be proud of who you are. Do not let someone tell you that you aren’t important. You are.”

OUTDOOR DINING SPACES POPULAR

EVERETT - As restaurants throughout the City have the green light from

the state to begin using indoor spaces to serve, the popularity and creativity for outdoor dining spaces has picked up to an even greater degree.

It seems counterintuitive, but City officials and some establishments in Everett indicated they have had tremendous response from patrons to their outdoor dining options, and there is also some speculation that not all patrons will be comfortable inside eating – though they might take a stab at summer dining outside.

There is also the case of regulations, which severely impact the numbers of tables inside that a restaurant can use – slashing indoor capacity by 50 percent in some cases. To make up for that, restaurant owners and the City of Everett have turned to being creative in order to “recover tables” lost inside at the outdoor space.

“We’re up to close to 15 establishments that are already doing it or looking to do outdoor dining and we expect that number to grow,” said Tony Sousa, planning director. “We do expect there will be more restaurants and eateries participating. Now that indoor dining is allowed, we believe there will be more. It’s another option for businesses to have outdoor dining. Many of the guidelines for COVID-19 inside limit space and tables, so having outside also is helpful. For the diner’s perspective, having the outdoor option is very important for safety and comfort.”

To that end, the City has begun partnering with restaurants and eateries and cafes to build extra space on sidewalks, in City parking lots, on parking spaces and on sidewalks. It has been a whirlwind of work whereby the City’s Facilities Department has used experience from building a parklet dining area last summer to create even more on a much faster pace – including in the municipal parking lot for La Hacienda, and outside of Bakes and Cakes on Norwood Street.

They also expect to be working with Taco El Paso, the 8/10, Oliveira’s, Stewarts Pub, and Square Deli. Pretty much any business that asks for help will get a consideration. Already, on private property, Ferry Street Grill, Texas Roadhouse, TGI Fridays, Bone Up Brewery, Village Bar & Grill, and Night Shift Brewery have entered into the outdoor realm with great success.

At Village and Bone Up, on the parking lot there is a beer garden on one side, which is separated from a larger tent for food service from Village.

Bone Up owners Jared and Liz Kiraly said they opened outdoor on Weds., June 17, and it was a quick success.

“It has started off fantastic,” she said. “It was definitely great to be open. To go sales treated us well, but that is not what our brewery is built for. The last four months have been life-changing. Everything is going well so far. We’ve been on a wait list and we’re doing first come first served.”

The beer garden aspect is something she said they have really liked and hope that it can stay all summer – maybe even next summer. While they will re-open the inside, they said they are having a good response from customers.

“A lot of people are really happy to be outside again and be able to do something fun. There have been a lot of really bored people sitting at home.”

At Village – another early outdoor dining location – the tent next to Bone Up has been extremely popular

and attracting several diners for lunch and dinner.

And the City believes outdoor dining – even if right now it’s by necessity – is here to stay in Everett.

“The mayor sees the opportunity here and doesn’t want it to pass without doing this,” said Tom Philbin, a spokesman for the mayor. “I think he understands it’s time to seize the moment and it’s here to stay.”

Said Sousa, “Outdoor dining is here to stay. It’s an opportunity, a real place-making and activation that isn’t going away.”

To that end, the name of the game is moving fast on behalf of the restaurants.

After a hiccup with the License Commission a few weeks ago in approving the first batch of outdoor dining establishments, the Commission and the mayor agreed to turn over approval process as an administrative process. That means anyone applying who has their plan in order and insurance/liability in place will be approved by Sousa or the Planning Department, and they are moving quickly.

“When it’s a simple extension or expansion of an existing license, we agreed to allow that all to be made at an administrative level,” he said. “The only exception is if there is a special permit required or if there are any complaints, the License Commission would retain that. Instead of having the License Commission meet one time a week, we’ll do it administratively. Already it’s helped to streamline it and move faster and turn these around in 24 hours – even on the weekends.”

LASAGNA LOVE SPREADS ACROSS CITY, STATE AND NATION

EAST BOSTON - A Somerville woman’s idea to make lasagnas with her daughter to pass the time and feed neighbors in need during the COVID-19 pandemic’s stay at home order has spread to East Boston and across the state and nation.

Rhiannon Menn’s idea to spread ‘Lasagna Love’ was born in the early days of the pandemic in March. While at home with her family, Menn, who loves to cook, decided to make a few lasagna’s to hand out to struggling families that were out of work due to the virus.

What started out as seven lasagnas for families in need in Somerville has turned into a nationwide phenomenon.

Menn began posting her efforts on Facebook and soon there was a growing number of families reaching out for a meal as well as other mothers that wanted to help.

Soon the group became known as “Lasagna Mamas” and the network of those looking to help grew and spread to Eastie.

Currently there are 11 ‘Lasagna Mamas’ in the hard-hit COVID community here. They have all signed up to cook at least one lasagna per week for another Eastie family or individual in need.

Other chapters have started in Iowa, California, Texas and Arizona. Menn also has interested moms looking to set up chapters in Rhode Island, Southern New Hampshire, Atlanta, and Nashville.

Recently, Menn and her daughter Cimorene were featured on WBZ-TV Monday, as well as some of the other Lasagna Mamas helping out in Eastie.

“Lasagna Love has grown to over 120 volunteers, and we’ve delivered over 1,000 meals to families in need,” said Menn after the piece aired. “I can’t even believe it. We have 12 new Lasagna Mamas that

MOBILE TESTING



EBNHC medical staff during a recent Mobile Popup COVID Testing Site at the Maverick Landing Public Housing Development. The pop up testing site targeted a specific population in Eastie that may not have had access to testing since the pandemic began.



signed up across Massachusetts after seeing the story on the news.”

Menn told WBZ that Lasagna Mamas here in Eastie like Rebecca Lynds recently made lasagna for a mom who is six months pregnant and recovering from COVID. Another Eastie Lasagna Mama cooked for a mom who suddenly lost her daughter to cancer.

“The number of kids facing food insecurity has gone through the roof since the pandemic started and there are families that have never had to ask for help before that are now having to find help and it’s so hard for them to ask,” Menn told WBZ. “I can’t tell you how many messages I get that start with something like ‘I’m embarrassed’ or ‘This is really hard for me to do’ or ‘I’ve never had to do this before,’ to be able to say we’re here for you and we want to help, that’s really powerful right now.”

Menn has set up a website at <https://www.begoodtomama.com> where Lasagna Mamas can sign up to cook and those in need of a hot meal can connect with Lasagna Mamas in their community.

“I was just happy that we could help the families in my own neighborhood,” Menn told WBZ. “If you would have asked me 3 months ago if I would be sitting here managing a network of 100 volunteers and delivering and making lasagnas I would have told you you are crazy.”

SUMMER CAMPS OPEN IN EASTIE

EAST BOSTON - The outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic in March forced East Boston’s popular after school programs to close as the city, state and nation went into isolation in order to stem the spread of the virus.

Agencies like the East Boston Social Centers (EBSC), the Salesian Boys & Girls Club, the East Boston YMCA and Piers Park Sailing Center all had to put programs on hold until the state figured out its phased COVID reopening process and what was safe to open during each phase.

With the state’s Phase II reopening plan in full swing, little by little life is now being called the ‘new normal’.

While some normalcy has returned, there are still restrictions, and youth program providers in Eastie are cautiously trying to figure out how to move forward with summer programs and camps.

“We are working to reopen in early July,” said EBSC’s Executive Director

Justin Pasquariello. “The state is now requiring that we have no more than 10 children per classroom. Due to some recent renovations, we have some extra space so we are increasing the number of classrooms versus a usual year. Even with that, however, we will only be able to serve 100 children versus 159 in a typical school year program, and sometimes more in the summer. As of now, we believe this means we won’t have any open enrollment spaces--as those already enrolled in our school-age program have priority. However, if that changes, we will let people know.”

Over at the YMCA, Executive Director Joe Gaeta said the Eastie Y still plans on running “in person” summer camp but with a dramatically smaller amount of youth this summer due to new state guidelines.

“We usually run a 230 youth camp but can only do 60 this summer to ensure safety,” said Gaeta. “We filled all our spots within a day, so at this time we do not have any availability. We have had to make huge modifications in our daily schedule, activities we can do and implementing increased cleaning/social distancing measures. We want to make sure our staff and children are safe so we will be going above and beyond state protocol.”

Gaeta said the Eastie Y is used to these protocols given the Y has been safely running emergency child care throughout the pandemic and shutdown.

“We also will not be able to run our dual language camp out of the Umana,” he said. “For those who can’t get a spot in “in person” camp or don’t want to send their child to camp we have a new on-line program called Y CAMPish.”

Gaeta said Y CAMPish is a virtual camp that has a weekly subscription service and is full of awesome activities, advanced interaction and virtual field trips.

“You can find more info at <https://ycampish.org>,” said Gaeta. “We will still be hosting summer youth employment at the Y through our partner organizations for teens. We will also continue meal service to the community though the summer at both Bremen and Ashley Street locations.

Over at the Boys & Girls Club on Byron Street, Executive Director Mike Triant said the Salesians are running an eight week camp program.

“The big change for us is that we are not capable of allowing parents to register for individual weeks,” said Triant. “The registration fee is \$1,000 and that gets their child 8 weeks of camp, from

8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. This was done to limit group sizes and number of kids that others are exposed to. All groups will consist of 12 or fewer campers and staff. Each group will remain together all summer for all activities. Each group will have all of their own supplies and we will have a full time nurse on staff. We also have a COVID response plan which includes, temp checks and a brief questionnaire upon arrival, hand washing/sanitizing schedule as well as a disinfecting schedule.”

Camp at the Boys & Girls Club begins June 29 and ends on August 21.

PPSC Executive Director Alex DeFronzo said the sailing center will hold its three major programs, Harbor Explorers, Science of Sailing, as well as the Future Leaders program in person this summer.

However, all programs are at a significantly reduced capacity and have been split into half-day sessions instead of the usual full day program.

“We have reduced enrollment from a typical summer of 1,900 youth to only 360, about 19 percent of our capacity,” said DeFronzo. “All of the program slots are full and we do not have a wait list this year because of the reduced capacity available. Priority for enrollment was given to children from Logan-impacted communities, children from low-income households, and children with disabilities.”

DeFronzo said students will be in a 1:2 instructor to student ratio on sailboats and 1:1 on kayaks.

“Each child will have an assigned life jacket which they will use for the duration of their session,” he said. “Students will work with the same small team of staff throughout the session. Everyone will be required to wear masks at all times, families will be required to attest to their health before arriving at Piers Park, and student temperature checks will be recorded daily.”

Staff will be cleaning and disinfecting boats, tillers, paddles, lines, gangway railings, and more every morning, afternoon, and evening.

“Unfortunately, we will not have our usual on-site lunch program available this summer,” said DeFronzo. “It is going to be an unusual summer but we are glad to offer some in-person programming to improve student outcomes in socialization and education.”

PRIDE FLAG RAISED IN LYNN

LYNN - The raising of

Encore / Continued from Page 8

well as the new guidelines from the MGC passed last week.

“In addition to the previously released Health and Safety Program, Encore Boston Harbor supports and will adhere to the additional directives aimed to reduce the risk to public health set forth by the MGC, including reductions in available gaming capacity,” read the statement. “As a result, the resort

will re-open with amenities appropriate to the new rules and in support of the anticipated number of guests.”

The gaming industry has been a big question mark as COVID-19 restrictions lift and operators from China to Las Vegas to Everett wonder if customers will return in the numbers that were previously hosted. This has been often pondered in Securities and Ex-

change Commission (SEC) filings from Wynn Resorts over the several months.

Encore officials said while many employees will be furloughed, it doesn’t mean their jobs are lost. They will be brought back thoughtfully, he said, as time goes by and restaurants, nightclubs and the full hotel can open.

Mayor Carlo DeMaria said he had confidence the

casino would make good in rehiring all of the furloughed employees once the casino is up and running – and more areas are safe to open to the public.

“Since the beginning of the pandemic, Encore has made a good-faith effort to keep employees on the payroll with full benefits,” he said. “While it is unfortunate that they have to furlough many employees be-

cause they have generated zero revenue, I’m optimistic that once the casino reopens they will be rehired.”

City Councilor Michael McLaughlin – who represents the area – said it shows no one, not even Encore, is immune to COVID-19.

“Hearing that 3,000 of those long promised and dreamed of careers have been furloughed is not

pleasant news,” he said. “The time is now to stand up and work together to help regain our careers and businesses that call Everett home. I am sure for the 3,000 workers furloughed this week this news doesn’t come lightly to you and your families. I hope that we all can come together to support the families across our region that have negatively been hurt by this unfortunate situation.”

Metro News / Continued from Page 10

the Pride Flag encourages the North Shore Pride members to express who they are and their personal individuality. This traditional event is a celebration to bring the community together no matter what sexual or gender you are.

In June of 1969 the Stonewall Rebellion in New York City brought people out to stand up for equal rights for all individuals regardless of their sexual orientation or gender identity. A recent Supreme Court ruling prohibits work place discrimination on the basis of sex that equally applies to gay and transgender Americans.

Mayor McGee presented a City of Lynn Proclamation recognizing the LGBTQ community and declaring June is Pride month; he said, “The Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Queer (LGBTQ) took a positive stance against discrimination and to promote their dignity and equal rights in freedom and fairness”. He continued to state, “The LGBTQ contribute greatly to neighborhood revitalization, economic vitality, arts and culture, and the social fabric of our city”.

RONALD JANNINO DEAD AT 75

REVERE - The Revere community is mourning the loss of one of its longest-serving and most dedicated public officials.

Ronald Jannino, who served as Revere’s representative on the Northeastern Metropolitan Regional Vocational School Committee for 35 years, died on June 20. He was 75 years old.

Mr. Jannino was not only widely admired in Revere but throughout the entire Northeast school district that includes 12 communities. He was re-elected to the committee with tremendous votes in the elections that are held district wide.

A graduate of Everett Vocational School, Class of 1963, Mr. Jannino was a strong advocate for the many Revere students attending Northeast Regional. He was always accessible to parents of eighth grade students who were considering applying to the Wakefield vocational high school, explaining the many specialized programs in trades and the many potential employment opportunities that await Northeast graduates.

David DiBarri, superintendent of the Northeast School District, expressed his condolences to the Jannino family on behalf of the school. He praised Mr. Jannino’s outstanding service on the Committee.

“We are deeply saddened by the sudden passing of longtime School Committee Member Ronald Jannino,” said DiBarri. “A Revere resident and retired woodworking teacher from another district, he joined us in 1986 and was re-elected to the board for nearly 34 years – a true testament to the calling he felt to promote the best interests of students and educators alike. We are so thankful for his service to our district and the thoughtfulness and care with which he undertook his role on the board and our hearts are with his

family during this difficult time.”

City Council observes a moment of silence

The City Council observed a moment of silence for Mr. Jannino at its meeting. Ward 5 Councillor John Powers said he and Ronald Jannino were close friends for 40 years.

“Ron was our city’s representative on the Northeast School Committee and he did a very effective job helping young people from Revere who wanted to pursue their education at the school,” said Powers. “I can’t think of anybody who was as effective as he was in that position. He was a good, honest, sincere person. I wish his family my deepest sympathy.”

City Council President Patrick Keefe served on the Revere Pop Warner Board with Mr. Jannino’s daughter, Melissa Elam, who was the organization’s cheerleading director, and son-in-law, Craig Elam, who Keefe’s predecessor as RPW president.

“I’m very friendly with his son-in-law and daughter and his grandchildren,” said Keefe. “Ron and I are brother Knights at the Knights of Columbus. Ron was a great man and he served the community with dedication for a very long period of time on the Regional School Committee.”

Councillor-at-Large Jessica Giannino said, “I am saddened by the loss of Ron Jannino. He was a dedicated representative of the city of Revere.”

Noting the closeness in spelling and pronunciation of their respective names, Councillor Giannino said she was often asked if the two well-known officials were related. “Although we were not related, we both shared the bond of serving the City of Revere,” said Giannino.

Mayor Brian Arrigo had the following to say. “I am both saddened and shocked to hear of the death of Ron Jannino. As a distinguished representative on the Northeast Vocational School Committee, Ron was a devoted advocate for the students of our City who aspired to vocational education. Northeast Vocational is regarded as one the leading institutions of academic and technical education. Ron was proud to be a vital part of that community. At the same time, he was an active and enthusiastic member of our city who readily participated in events to support our youth, our senior citizens, and our veterans. Ron’s death leaves a void both in our world of education, and also in terms of our personal connections that make Revere a special community.”

ANNUAL SUMMER FOOD PROGRAM STARTS

REVERE - Revere’s 2020 Annual Summer Food Program began last week at Revere High School and the Beachmont School.

Pauline Lyons, starting her 17th year as director, estimated that the opening day turnout would be 800 residents between the two

locations.

Most of the residents arrived by car, while many had walked to the schools to obtain the free, nutritious breakfasts and lunches, along with several cartons of milk. Children receive three days of breakfast and lunch meals on Monday and four days of breakfast and lunch meals on Thursday for the weekend.

The “Farm to Summer Eats” Program is a continuation of the Revere schools’ food distribution effort that had been taking place while the schools were closed due to the COVID-19 global pandemic.

“We’re in our 25th year,” said Lyons, who is aided by assistant director Kitty Adams. “The meals are free to all.”

Mayor Brian Arrigo and Supt. of Schools Dr. Dianne Kelly are the overall coordinators of the successful program.

Despite the large turnout, the process went very smoothly on Monday. A helpful and congenial group of Revere workers stood outside the schools and greeted each resident with a smile. They made sure each participant received the free meals and cartons of milk and they accepted the many “thank yous” from residents graciously.

Mayor Arrigo and Supt. Kelly can certainly be proud that this important, nutritional program for all residents is being operated efficiently during what has been challenging times for all due to the coronavirus.

The Summer Food Program’s times of distribution are 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. on Mondays and Thursdays. The Program will continue through Aug. 27.

TOWN MANAGER DELIVERS SPEECH ON RACE

WINTHROP - Amid global protests against police killings of Black people in the U.S., Town Manager Austin Faison delivered a prepared statement at the June 2 meeting of the Town Council, in which he lamented how the Black community is marginalized and disproportionately impacted by societal ills.

The Transcript decided to interview Faison in order to further the conversation and to discuss how a town that is 93 percent white can combat systemic racism.

Q: You have been Town Manager in Winthrop for almost two years. What is it about this moment in our nation’s history that compelled you to speak up when you did?

A: This moment seemed larger from my perspective. We were in the midst of nationwide protests. I felt that it was necessary to address the moment.

Q: Should the Winthrop Town Council take a strong public position against institutional racism?

A: I think it would be useful for the Town Council to address systemic or institutional racism, but my job is to inform them and facilitate their decision making process. To say that they

should do something is not my role.

Q: In your statement, you bemoan the lack of federal leadership on this issue. On June 16, President Trump signed an executive order encouraging police departments to improve training. What is your opinion of the order?

A: The Executive Order makes a small amount of progress, especially the national database. However, I think that it falls short of what people are looking for.

Q: On the state level, Gov. Charlie Baker filed An Act to Improve Police Officer Standards and Accountability on June 17. Do you feel this bill goes far enough in protecting the Black community in the Commonwealth?

A: The Governor’s focus on accountability is very useful. There are additional items, such as arbitration, that I would like to see up for discussion.

Q: What are some concrete steps that the Town of Winthrop can take to ensure the safety and equality of Black residents?

A: The community seems to have a desire for a Human Rights Committee. I think that would be a useful step, to begin learning about and embracing all of the cultures that are represented within the community and the region. Be-


tween new attention on use of force policies, changes concerning accountability, and a new committee, there are steps being made as we speak.

Q: How can white Winthrop residents be better allies to people of color both in general and in their own community?

A: Listen to their stories and learn from them. Do not dismiss others as being alarmist on any issue. Recent history should inform people that those who are speaking out are coming from a place of honesty and grievance. And speak up when you see an issue (don’t laugh at the inappropriate joke; point something out that is a racist symbol; etc.)


Q: What resources do you recommend for white Winthrop residents who want to become better allies?

A: Netflix: When They See Us, 13th , #blackAF (it’s a comedy, but there is very good information that is addressed). HBO: Watchmen (it’s a show about a graphic novel, but it uses race as the basis for the first “superhero” in that world). Books: Between the World and Me (Coates), White Fragility (DiAngelo), How to be an Antiracist (Kendi), Just Mercy (Stevenson).



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Pops to air virtual July 4 special

By Lauren Bennett
This year, instead of gathering around the Hatch Shell, you'll have to gather around your television for the Boston Pops virtual Fourth of July spectacular. There will be no live performance or fireworks on the Esplanade this year because of COVID-19.

The three hour special, which is set to broadcast on Bloomberg Television and Radio, as well as simulcast on WHDH-TV from 8-11pm on July 4, is called "A Boston Pops Salute to Our Heroes" and will honor those who have fought on the front lines of the COVID-19 pandemic and those who have lost their lives. Boston Pops conductor Keith Lockhart has expressed his sadness that the Pops won't be able to perform live, but they are looking forward to presenting this special to viewers near and far.

"All of us at the Boston Pops are pleased to have this opportunity to present A Boston Pops Salute to Our Heroes, a special broadcast that will pay tribute to the many frontline workers who continue to do so much to keep our communities safe and running during the COVID-19 pandemic," Boston Pops conductor Keith Lockhart said in a statement.

"One of the positive things we have learned during the last few months is that even in the middle of a health crisis so many Americans are strong, resilient, helpful, and hopeful. It has been absolutely inspiring to see our frontline workers show such extraordinary dedication to the well-being of others, with their amazing acts of sacrifice, generosity, support, and kindness, as well as the incredible skill and know-how they bring to every situation. We also think it is essential to address one of the most crucial/fundamen-

tal themes of our times—the truth that we must do better as a people to confront racism and achieve a just and equal society for everyone throughout our country. These messages of honor, unity, diversity, equality, and fellowship will resound throughout the 2020 Boston Pops Fireworks Spectacular broadcast by way of inspiring retrospective performances by our most popular artists of the last few years, side by side with brand new content developed over the last two months."

As previously reported by the Boston Sun, the special will highlight memorable moments from previous Boston Pops Fireworks Spectaculars, such as performances by Melissa Etheridge, Andy Grammer, Queen Latifah, and others, along with an appearance by the first youth poet laureate of the United States, Amanda Gorman, according to a release from the Boston Symphony Orchestra (BSO).

The program will also feature new content, including a performance by singer Renese King and Keith Lockhart on the piano, as well as a video performance by the Boston Pops of their recent "viral hit" Summon the Heroes, which will feature an introduction by the song's composer, John Williams. Other new content includes a virtual performance by the Boston Pops Viola Section of "Over the Rainbow," a performance of Leroy Anderson's Bugler's Holiday by the BSO Trumpet Section, and a video message from General James C. McConville, Chief of Staff of the U.S. Army.

"Look for surprises throughout the evening; special messages from musical and community figures, and a tribute to our nation's first responders

that we're going to put together," Lockhart said in a recent announcement.

Also included in the special are Boston Pops traditions such as the patriotic sing-along, a performance of John Philip Sousa's The Stars and Stripes Forever, a performance of Tchaikovsky's "1812" Overture, the US Army Field Band and Soldiers Chorus, and a fireworks display from past years to round out the program. Brian Stokes Mitchell will open the program with "America the Beautiful."

According to the BSO release, Boston Pops conductor Keith Lockhart will also "put a special focus on intrinsic messages of the Independence Day holiday and fundamental themes of our times around achieving a just and equal society for everyone."

The show will be hosted by Keith Lockhart and Kim Carrigan, Joe Shortleeve, and Janet Wu of Bloomberg Media.

Performances from previous Boston Pops Fireworks Spectacular Programs are as follows in order of appearance, as provided by the BSO:

Broadway legend Brian Stokes Mitchell sings "America the Beautiful" and "Wheels of a Dream"

Amanda Mena, America's Got Talent semifinalist from Lynn, MA, sings Pink's What About US and the national anthem with the U.S. Navy Sea Chanters

American folk-rock singer-songwriter Melissa Etheridge performs her mega-hit "I Wanna Come Over"

Amanda Gorman, first-ever Youth Poet Laureate of the United States, performs a new take on the "Battle Hymn of the Republic" entitled "Believer's Hymn for the Republic"

Broadway star Les-



The Boston Pops, led by Keith Lockhart, at a previous July 4th Fireworks Spectacular on the Charles River Esplanade. Due to COVID-19, this year's celebration will be purely broadcast on TV and radio.

PHOTO BY MICHAEL BLANCHARD

lie Odom, Jr., sings "Sarah" from The Civil War, and "Without You" from Rent

Grammy Award-winning artist Rhiannon Giddens, lead singer, violinist, banjo player, and a founding member of the acclaimed country, blues, and old-time music band the Carolina Chocolate Drops, performs her hits "Pretty Little Girl" and "She's Got You"

Rita Moreno, iconic singer/actor/dancer and winner of the Academy Award for best supporting actress for the 1961 film version of West Side Story, narrates excerpts from Ellis Island: The Dream of America

Great American folk singer-songwriter, Arlo Guthrie and The Texas Tenors sing "This Land Is Your Land"

The incomparable Queen Latifah, American rapper, singer, songwriter, actress, and producer sings "Mercy, Mercy, Mercy"

Multi-platinum Singer/Songwriter Andy Grammer performs his hit "Give Love"

The U.S. Army Field Band and Soldiers' Chorus join the Pops for "The Stars

and Stripes Forever."

Additionally, the Boston Pops is asking fans to participate in the Great American Picnic Sweepstakes.

"Between now and July 6, the Boston Pops wants to spotlight the many ways people around the country plan for and celebrate the Fourth," the BSO said in a release. "Contest participants can snap a photo or film a video of their celebration and post them on Facebook, Instagram, or Twitter. By tagging #GreatAmericanPicnic @thebostonpops participants will be automatically entered into a sweepstakes for a chance to win great prizes," such as "prime seating" for the 2021 Boston Pops Fireworks Spectacular, with airfare and hotel accommodations for four guests, the release states.

Up to ten winners can also be the recipient of a "Be a Star!" video, where participants can play "kitchen spoons, shake maracas, snap fingers, or play air guitar and we'll edit it together with footage of the Pops to create a video keepsake," according to the release. A third prize includes a Co-

ca-Cola branded Yeti cooler with a variety of products.

For more details and sweepstakes rules, visit [bso.org](https://www.bso.org).

The BSO and Boston Pops are also seeking donations, "as these challenging times of COVID-19 force the cancellation of live performances by the Boston Pops (its 2020 spring season) and Boston Symphony Orchestra (part of its 2020-21 Symphony Hall season and the entire live performance season at Tanglewood)..." the release states. Visit www.bostonpops.org/donate today to make a donation.

For a complete list of how to watch the broadcast, visit [bostonpopsjuly4th.org](https://www.bostonpopsjuly4th.org).

"We hope everyone throughout the country will gather around their televisions or radios, or watch the show on their phones or tablets," Lockhart said, "and join us as we show our appreciation for the heroes of our times and celebrate the intrinsic messages of Independence Day that unite us all in this great and beautifully diverse country."

WISHING EVERYONE A
HEALTHY & FUN 4TH OF JULY!



Sal DiDomenico | State Senator

Happy July 4th!



Wishing you a safe & healthy holiday!


STATE REPRESENTATIVE
DAN RYAN

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(617) 242-5950






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