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# CHELSEA RECORD

YOUR HOMETOWN NEWSPAPER SINCE 1890

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35 CENTS

## City calls on residents to avoid trick or treating

By Seth Daniel

The City's Board of Health and City Manager Tom Ambrosino said this week they are discouraging parents and children from celebrating Halloween or Day of the Dead by trick or treating.

The Board of Health issued a resolution late last week advising residents not to trick-or-treat, and Ambrosino said this week he backs that up.

"We are strongly discouraging typical day to day trick or treating at stranger's doors," he said. "It's high-risk according to the CDC. The Board of Health is discouraging it and we are discouraging it. I'm not going to arrest 10-year-olds for trick or treating, but we are strongly discouraging it."

The Board of Health

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## Valentin hired as Housing and Community Preservation Coordinator

By Cary Shuman

Desirae Valentin has been hired as Chelsea's Housing and Community Preservation Coordinator and is working in coordination with the Chelsea Community Preservation Committee and the Affordable Housing Trust Fund.

Valentin brings outstanding credentials to the key position. She attended Bates College where she received a degree in Physics. She received her Master's degree in Regional Planning from the University of Massachusetts Amherst.

Valentin began her new role on Sept. 15, having been appointed by City Manager Thomas Ambrosino and Housing and Community Development Director Alex Train.

Valentin, whose office is located in the Department of Housing and Community Development at City Hall, will be working with the Community Preservation Committee and Affordable Housing Trust Fund Board to "try and align and unify what they

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Above, Tommy Rosa Jr. hugging his son, Manny Rosa, last Thursday, Oct. 15, after being freed from MCI-Norfolk prison. Rosa served 34 years for a murder in Dorchester that he did not commit, and was found to be innocent of this month due to a review of the DNA testing by the New England Innocence Project and the BC Innocence Project.



A booking photo of Rosa after his arrest in the 1980s, and a photo of him after being released last week. He was wrongfully imprisoned for 34 years.

## Long Walk to Freedom Chelsea's Tommy Rosa released after 34 years of wrongful incarceration

By Seth Daniel

Walking down the steps from MCI-Norfolk jail to freedom after 34 years of being wrongly incarcerated for a 1980s murder in Boston, Chelsea's Tommy Rosa Jr. looked ahead and saw his son for the first time without a barrier or bars between them – and they embraced also for the first time.

When he first went to prison awaiting trial, his son Manny Rosa, had just been born.

When they met outside MCI-Norfolk last week following a decision by Supreme Judicial Court Justice Gaziano, Manny Rosa was a grown man.

"His son was born in 1986 when Tommy was incarcerated so their entire relationship has been with Mr. Rosa in prison," said Rosa's Attorney Radha Natarajan of the New England Innocence Project. "His son was the first person he saw when he walked out of MCI-Nor-

folk. His son is 34 now."

Rosa was convicted of the 1985 murder of Gwen Taylor in Dorchester, having been tried three times for the crime, but had always maintained his innocence and cooperated completely with police. But despite that, he was apparently misidentified by two eyewitnesses and in an era prior to scientific DNA evidence. So it was, the New England Innocence Project decided to bring in the Boston College Innocence Program to challenge the case.

A decision on October 14, 2020, by Justice Gaziano, acting as the Single Justice for the Supreme Judicial Court, allows Rosa to be freed while the Superior Court considers his Motion for New Trial. His attorneys, Radha Natarajan of the New England Innocence Project and Charlotte Whitmore of the Boston College Innocence Program, filed the Motion for New Trial on June 29, 2020, presenting

numerous arguments why his convictions should be overturned. Justice Gaziano wrote that "the DNA evidence, if correct, in conjunction with the Defendant's other claims, could well establish that 'confluence of factors' that would indicate that a new trial is required."

On October 15, Rosa was freed after being incarcerated for 34 years on a crime he did not commit. Rosa's release is based in part on the strength of the DNA evidence obtained after his conviction and scientific evidence undermining the eyewitness identifications in the case.

The crime took place in Dorchester, and the murderer had confronted Taylor on her doorstep – demanding \$100. Her roommates observed the confrontation and chased the attacker as he brandished a knife and dragged her across the street and to an alley. He

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## Undecided

City officials discuss search firm for diversity inclusion officer position

By Cary Shuman

Councillor-at-Large Leo Robinson was an original co-sponsor of the motion to hire a diversity inclusion and equity officer for the first time in the city's history.

Robinson favors bringing in a search firm to aid the city in such key elements of the selection process as writing a job description, recruiting candidates and ultimately helping to present the finalists for the position to City Manager Thomas Ambrosino.

Robinson, who has been involved in selection processes for many years, said the cost for hiring a search firm would be between \$15,000-\$20,000.

At a meeting chaired by Council President Roy Avellenada Tuesday night to discuss the hiring of a search firm and other position-related matter, the Council appeared to be split on the decision of whether to hire a search

firm. There was no vote taken on the matter.

And two of Chelsea's most well-known community leaders, Chelsea Black Community President Joan Cromwell and Bunker Hill Associate Dean Caulfield appeared to be on opposite sides of the issue at the meeting. In remarks, Cromwell, the dynamic leader of the CBC, seemed to be in favor of having the city oversee and select a diversity inclusion officer. Caulfield, also in attendance at the meeting, spoke in favor of hiring a search firm, noting to all in attendance how successful the search committee was in leading the process that led to the hiring of Thomas Ambrosino as Chelsea's City Manager.

Perhaps, City Councilor Judith Garcia asked the most pertinent question of the sessions, one that many residents wanted to know: "What is the ideal

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## City Debit Card program gets leg up from radical politics

By Seth Daniel

Who says radical socialists don't have a heart?

Apparently no one in Chelsea, as anonymous donors supporting the fringe-idea of a Universal Basic Income for all people stepped up to help fund two months of food payments for the upcoming Chelsea Eats food debit cards, at a cost of \$750,000 per month.

City Manager Tom Ambrosino said Chelsea Eats has nothing to do with Universal Basic Income, nor is it "free money" as has been reported in Boston media outlets, but whatever the source of funds, he'll take it.

"There are some folks who believe in this philosophy that have stepped forward," he said. "They love the concept of Universal Basic Income and they donated enough money to cover January and February. Right now, we have enough to cover November and December so this should take folks through the winter...I'm not so sure the people I distribute the program to will look at it as Universal Basic Income, but if helps me to get some funding to feed people in an emergency situation, then so be it. I guess it is in some sense, but that isn't the intention of the City. The whole idea for us is emergency help to get this City through COVID-19."

The move is a strange twist in the story of the Chelsea Eats program, which is designed to get the City out of the food pantry business and give those needing the pantries dignity by allowing them to use a pre-paid card to go to the grocery store. Ambrosino has been trying to get the City out of the food pantry distributions since August, and has encountered many difficulties in getting the Chelsea Eats off the ground. They will end the pantries on Oct. 30 for good, after having started them in late March.

"We want to stop using money on transportation, packaging and temporary employees," he said. "You won't have to stand in an undignified line and lug a big box of food home. You'll be able to go to the store and use the card there like anything else."

There are still other private food pantries that will continue, such as the Chelsea Collaborative and St. Luke's and the Salvation Army, and the City is committed to supporting them.

Most of the Chelsea Eats program is funded by a \$1.5 million CARES Act grant, but there have been problems getting it going due to logistical challenges with the pre-paid card.

Ambrosino said it is

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# Gentle slope upward in COVID cases seen at CHA Everett

By Seth Daniel

The break in COVID-19 cases at CHA Everett hospital has subsided, with a “gentle slope” upwards that has the hospital cautiously implementing protocols that were successful during last spring’s surge, but at the same time assuring there is not a panic at the moment.

Dr. Melissa Lai-Becker, chief of the Emergency Department at CHA Everett, reported this week that the trajectory of cases is moving gently upwards, though obviously far from the panic levels that the hospital saw last spring. That said, Lai-Becker said they are moving back to some of the precautions that were successful in the spring – things like daily coordinating phone calls, making practices developed on the fly into official policy and re-evaluating the visitor policy.

“It has been a very gentle slope upward since late September,” she said. “It is clearly not going down. There’s not any huge spike, but the trajectory and slope of cases is a very gentle upward slope. It’s not exactly what we’d like to see, but it’s not unexpected either.”

Daily hospitalizations

for COVID-19 at CHA Everett have ranged from 15 to 24 over the last several days, and about two to four of those patients are in the ICU for COVID-19. The numbers have been steadily increasing over the last two weeks, when the numbers of hospitalizations were in the single digits.

Lai-Becker said they have given around 70,000 COVID-19 tests since March, and there have been 4,500 that came back positive. She said the positivity rate is another metric to look at, and that number in Everett has been pressed back up to around 9 percent.

“At the very least it shows a trend,” she said. “It does reflect what’s going on around the state.”

“It’s nothing like April or May,” she continued. “Our intention is to never return to April or May. What we have now is a much more methodical and prepared and confident look at what things could help.”

One of the things the hospital has returned to is daily coordination calls with all stakeholders at CHA Everett, CHA and Beth Israel Leahy. When those twice-daily calls occurred from April to June

this year, it was all about helping CHA Everett handle the numbers of cases coming into the hospital and needing treatment. Being overloaded, there needed to be a thoughtful and effective coordination effort to be able to transfer patients to available beds elsewhere when CHA Everett was full. Those calls dwindled down to once a day, and then in the summer, they stopped.

Now, out of an abundance of caution, they’ve started them up again just as a way to be prepared.

“It’s a good thing,” she said. “Right now it’s once daily for about five minutes. But it’s good to make sure those muscles don’t atrophy.”

That is a prime example of how the hospital in general feels about any second wave or gentle slope upwards in cases. When COVID-19 hit with a boom last spring, many care providers equated it with wandering around a room in the dark looking for a light switch. There were bumps to the shins, trips over furniture, and just being outright lost.

But now the light is on, and doctors like Lai-Becker and her team have gained confidence in how to treat and care

for COVID-19. They now know symptoms that weren’t known, and treatments that were a mystery in April. They also have more testing, more equipment and access to supplies. Beyond that, they developed important protocols on the fly that worked but weren’t written down as policy. At the moment, Lai-Becker said the hospital has been streamlining all of the best practices to be prepared for any uptick in cases.

“Right now we’re trying to make sure we have firmed up all the ad hoc policies we created, but didn’t make into policy,” she said. “It’s good now to look at what was put in place and make it official.”

That would include how to notify people they are positive, and what they can do next. Making a phone call to those positive for COVID was a better use of time and resources during the surge, and allowed the hospital to educate and offer services to the patient on the spot. Meanwhile, those who were negative got a form letter letting them know everything was ok. That has become the standard now.

The preparation,

Lai-Becker said, is something that will make all the difference, and she equated it with emergency remote learning in schools last spring versus this fall.

“It’s like the difference between how online school existed in the spring, and the fall isn’t ideal at all, but it’s 1,000 times better than it was in the spring,” she said. “It’s the small things like in the schools having a district agree to use one platform for all the classes and stay with that...That’s how I feel like where we’re at here. We can look back and know we’ve all changed. In the spring, it was every different department trying different things and using different guidelines, but now we’re streamlining that and getting them together. As they said last spring, it was like building the plane while flying it. Now it’s so good to have the plane in the hangar and to look ahead at a potential flight plan.”

•FLU SHOT AND A VACCINE

One step taken by the hospital is to make sure every employee is vaccinated for the flu, and there are no waivers unless someone is allergic to the shot. That is a step they have taken out of an abundance of caution, but those

large flu clinics are also a trial run for any potential COVID vaccine that becomes available.

“That will be preparation for whenever a potential vaccine is available and at this point we’re looking at a minimum of six months until anything is ready for the market,” she said. “At that point we’ll deal with limited doses, but we’ll have good, tight distribution to get people vaccinated.”

•VISITOR POLICY REVISED

The hospital has now also reversed its policy on visitors, which had loosened up over the summer and early fall. However, three weeks ago an outbreak occurred at Brigham & Women’s Hospital – where they believe a visitor brought COVID into a non-COVID unit of the hospital. Some patients and about 50 employees got sick. That instance has caused CHA Everett to revise their policy as well.

“We talked about what happened there and that’s when we started clamping down again on our visitor policy,” she said.

## Freedom / Continued from page 1

got away, and Taylor was found murdered at an auto body shop nearby the next day.

Soon, Boston Police were zeroing in on Rosa – who from the get-go proclaimed his innocence and cooperated with police in providing saliva and blood samples and being interviewed repeatedly.

His first trial in 1986 resulted in a mistrial. The second trial in 1986 resulted in a conviction, which was overturned by an appeals court in 1992. However, a third trial in 1993 stuck, and he was convicted again and has effectively been in jail for 34 years.

The basis of the case was identification by the two witnesses, which was problematic, said Natarajan and BC Supervising Attorney Charlotte Whitmore.

“Mr. Rosa always believed the truth would come out,” said Natarajan. “This is a case based foundationally on eyewitness identification, which is a common cause of mis-identification.”

Whitmore and Natarajan said in days past, it was believed that no one could forget the face of an attacker during such a traumatic event. However, new research shows that it is very common to not remember the face of the person, or to attach the wrong face to the attacker in something so traumatic. Another key to the case came with the eyewitnesses misidentifying a coat that was found on Rosa when police first came to his house, and the witnesses said it was the same coat the attacker had on.

It was, indeed, DNA that will clear Rosa from the murder conviction.

Crime investigators

were able to remove male sperm from the victim in 1985, and that was tested against Rosa but there was a mistake in the testing.

“That sperm does not match Mr. Rosa’s DNA and that is really, really important,” said Whitmore.

Whitmore said part of their Innocence Project involved using law students at BC to help on the cases – to provide more eyes on the case and for them to learn about wrongful convictions. It was, indeed, a law student at BC that uncovered the fact that DNA testing done was not done correctly.

“We had to go back and look at complicated charts we don’t usually look at,” said Whitmore. “Analysis discerned there had been a significant difference in the analyzation of the data and he discovered Mr. Rosa was excluded from the DNA in that male sperm sample. There were a number of factors in the judge’s opinion, but DNA was a large part of that.”

The Suffolk County District Attorney’s Office helped secure Rosa’s release through a petition to the Single Justice of the Supreme Judicial Court, arguing that Rosa’s motion for postconviction relief has merit, he presents no danger to the public, and his age and underlying health conditions put him at risk of death or serious injury if he were to contract COVID-19 in prison.

Both attorneys said Rosa was excited to return to the Chelsea area, and he is looking forward to attending his Chelsea High 40-year class reunion next year.

Natarajan said he has found strength in leaning on his family in Chelsea

and in the support the community has always offered him. Many prisoners, she said, lose touch with family and community despite the best intentions. It wasn’t like that for Rosa, she said.

“I don’t think he’s someone that wants to leave,” she said. “When I talked to him about Chelsea and growing up there, it was always fond memories. He doesn’t attribute anything he went through to Chelsea. When someone is incarcerated for a long time, they are usually a long way from family and those ties tend to break off. Mr. Rosa has maintained incredibly strong relationships with people in his life and it’s a testament to his character. It is really unique and it’s very hard to do and he’s done that.”

Both attorneys said the innocence projects are very important for freeing people like Tommy Rosa, and Natarajan said they have successfully freed six people just in 2020.

“That’s the tip of the iceberg,” she said. “These are crimes people want to forget about or to believe didn’t happen. This is why we have to look back at what happened and make sure we’re still comfortable with what these verdicts were. We have to be okay with going back and overturning these if need be.

In the coming months, Rosa’s legal team and the Commonwealth will submit additional briefings. Going forward, Rosa will take small steps to start rebuilding his life after decades of wrongful incarceration, and he has significant family and community support to help him do that.

## Anthony Caggiano announces candidacy for Northeast Regional School Committee

Special to The Record

Anthony Caggiano has announced that he will be candidate for the Revere seat on the Northeast Metropolitan Regional School Committee in the Nov. 3 election.

Caggiano is a graduate of Revere High School (Class of 1976) and Suffolk University and a member of the Teamsters Local 25 for over 35 years. He received his Bachelor’s of Science degree from Suffolk in Business Administration. He also holds an Associate’s degree in Computer Science from North Shore Community College.

Caggiano works in operations for DHL Express, holding a position at the company for 44 years.

Interestingly, Caggiano’s three sons - triplets Anthony, Andrew, and Alexander – are all graduates of Northeast Regional and students at Salem State University. They will turn 22 years old on Nov. 11.

What made Anthony Caggiano decide to run for a seat on the Northeast Regional School Committee?

“It’s something I’ve always wanted to do,” said Caggiano. “My parents worked there before their retirement. My stepfather [Louis Sardella] was the director of special needs at Northeast for many years. My mother [Marie Sardella] was a secretary in the Special Education Department.

“So I used to go the meetings and watch the



Anthony Caggiano.

Committee vote on appropriations, so it was always in the back of my mind to run for a seat,” said Caggiano. “I’m going to be retiring in the next year or two, so it’s something I wanted to do.”

Caggiano grew up on Revere Beach Parkway before the family built a home on Patriot Parkway.

Revere has the second largest enrollment at Northeast among the 12 communities in the school district.

“They are going to be building a new [Northeast Regional] school and Revere has one of the highest number of students attending Northeast and I just want to make sure that our money is being spent the

right way,” said Caggiano. “And because the economy is constantly changing, we have to make sure that they’re keeping up with the times, and when the students graduate, they have job placement.”

Addressing the COVID-19 situation that is affecting in-person classes in Massachusetts, Caggiano said, “My focus will be on safety protocols for the students, teachers, and staff. That’s a No. 1 priority at this point. I will work closely with the Department of Education and the Commonwealth of Massachusetts to see that these safety protocols are being addressed and funded appropriately.”

## Debit / Continued from page 1

more complex than anticipated, but for some on the outside, it has been described as “free money,” as the card is a pre-paid Visa and technically can be spent on anything.

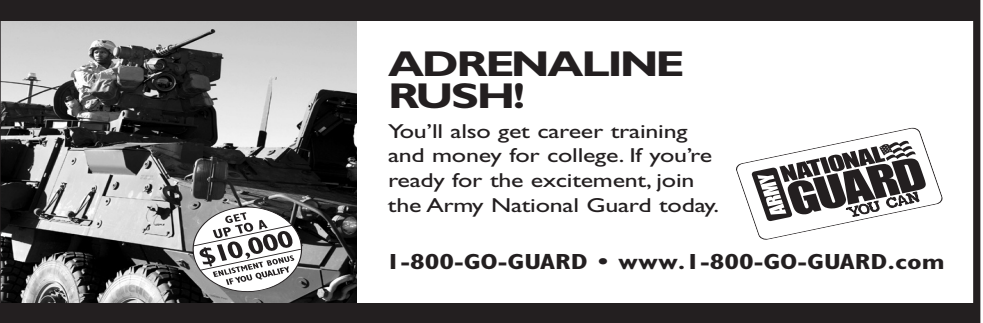
However, Ambrosino said he trusts his residents. He said the lottery was highly subscribed to and there was preference given to the poorest residents

with the largest families. He said he trusts they will do the right thing with the Chelsea Eats card, and he doesn’t see them going on a spending spree at the liquor store or lottery kiosk.

“Just because they’re poor doesn’t mean they’re irresponsible,” he said. “Is it free money? You can say anything you want. From the City’s perspective,

it’s emergency help to get through COVID-19 and we trust them to use the card right.”

The City hopes to get Chelsea Eats off the ground in early November, and it runs at a cost of \$750,000 per month. There is a fee from the administrator of under \$10,000.









# Six Feet Trick or Treat: Chelsea Recreation offers a safe Halloween event alternative

The Chelsea Recreation Division is offering a FREE, safe, and socially distanced alternative to door-to-door Trick or Treating. Children ages 3-10 with a parent, are welcome to register for the 6 Feet Trick or Treat event held outdoors in front of the Williams Building, Arlington Street on Saturday, October 31 between 2-4 p.m. Rain or Shine.

Entrance to the NON-CONTACT event

will begin at the Williams Building's Walnut Street Parking lot. Registrants will be contacted prior to the event and given a non-transferable number and time when to arrive by car (recommended) or by foot. The number reserves one family but there may be multiple children. Children, in costume, accompanied by a parent will follow the sidewalk to the Arlington Street entrance to receive a bag of candy. Parents can take a photo

of their children in front of Halloween images.

COVID-19 Public Health Guidelines will be strictly followed. Cloth masks will be required. Spots are limited to Chelsea residents only so be sure to register now.

There are three easy ways to register: by phone 617-466-5233, email recreation.chelseama.gov or online recreation.chel-sema.gov. Registration deadline is Thursday, October 29.

## MAN RUN OVER IN PRODUCE CENTER

Chelsea Detectives and State Police Investigators assigned to the Suffolk County District Attorney's Office are investigating an early morning accident involving a truck and an individual in the city's produce market area last week.

Chelsea officers responded at 6:15 a.m. to 145 Market St. for a report of a man struck by a "box truck." Officers arrived and observed an injured party who sustained serious life threatening injuries. He was transported to Massachusetts General Hospital and is currently in critical condition.

Based on preliminary reports, the injured male, described as a male in his 40s, may have been sleeping under the truck unknown to the driver. The operator of the truck was identified as a 21 year old male from Chelsea who stayed on the scene and is

cooperating with authorities.

Based on the severity of the injuries, the State Police Accident Reconstruction Team is assisting in the investigation. No charges have been filed at this time as the investigation is ongoing.

Chelsea and State Police are not releasing the name of the injured male at this time until positive identification has been confirmed.

## ARRESTED FOR OUI

On Oct. 18, at 7:40 p.m., a CPD officer was dispatched to the area 14 Everett Ave. for a report of an erratic operation of a car. Officers observed a car taking an illegal right turn on Cherry Street. The vehicle in question was reported by a witness to the state 9-1-1 operations center, that call was transferred to Chelsea 9-1-1 center. Based on the statement of the witness

and the officer's observations on scene, the driver was placed in custody for OUI alcohol.

## IMPROPER STORAGE OF A FIREARM

On Oct. 19, at 10:36 p.m., officers observed a blue SUV speeding on Crescent Avenue. Officers stopped the vehicle and seized marijuana from the operator and passenger. During the stop, officers recovered a firearm from the car. The passenger cooperated and told the officers the identity of the owner. The owner arrived on-scene a short time later. The officers were able to verify the owner had a legal license to carry. Due to the circumstances of the improper storage of the firearm, the officers seized both the gun and the person's license to carry. That owner will be charged with improper storage of a firearm.

# Baker proposes revised FY2021 budget

By Lauren Bennett

Governor Charlie Baker on Wednesday afternoon, Oct. 14, made an announcement regarding the Fiscal Year 2021 budget, which has been updated since its initial filing in January to reflect almost \$1 billion in additional spending.

"This update budget plan reflects the new realities associated with COVID-19 but continues to make significant investments in education and economic development and it does not raise taxes."

Baker said that given how difficult the pandemic has been on residents and business owners, it is especially important to push for a budget that does not ask for more money from taxpayers.

Baker continued, "as is the case for all other states, COVID-19 has created significant budget uncertainties here."

He said that projected revenue in the Commonwealth for FY 21 "dropped by about \$3.6 billion, according to new projections..."

Tax filing and payment deadlines had also been extended during the pandemic to take some of the pressure off of residents and businesses during these uncertain times, he added.

Baker said that this year, there were many unforeseen expenses due to the pandemic, such as about \$1 billion through MassHealth "to help stabilize health care providers," almost \$50 million for field hospitals, \$90 million for the contact tracing program, \$56 million for food insecurity, and \$350 for the acquisition and stabilization of PPE, he said.

He said that the state's rainy day fund has tripled to an all-time high of \$3.5 billion, and the state has worked to find budget savings over the past few years," which has now allowed for the build-up of funding reserve, from which some money—up to \$1.35 billion—can be pulled, along with some federal aid, without having to increase taxes.

The budget being submitted to the legislature is a \$45.5 billion dollar budget that has been updated to make "significant new investments" in schools, pandemic response, and main street economies, he said. The originally pro-

posed budget was \$44.6 billion.

"The budget also sustains support for important services like health care, local aid, and transportation, and the funding is available to support these programs that especially will be provided disproportionately to communities that have been affected particularly hard by the virus, including many of our communities of color."

Baker addressed some highlights of the budget, including \$5.3 billion for "K-12 public schools through local municipalities." He said this is more than what was originally proposed in the January budget.

The budget also supports Partnerships for Growth, an economic development package to support small businesses, as well as adds " \$100 million dollars in economic development initiatives that aim to provide workforce development improvements, better connect workers and businesses, and support small businesses.

This funding will provide resources for small businesses such as technical assistance, and will have a focus on businesses that are owned by minorities, women, and veterans, Baker said.

Additionally, the budget calls for \$8.4 million in new funding to turn vocational high schools into "career technical institutes" that will train 20,000 new workers in different trades over the course of the next four years. Baker said this is "more important now than ever" as people are looking for well paying jobs that are secure.

"Despite the turbulent fiscal environment for state government, we must continue to promote economic empowerment, especially for people of color across the Commonwealth. The budget continues to make significant investments in workforce development, education, and small business support, which were all recommended by the Black and Latino Advisory Commissions."

The Baker administration recently announced a "comprehensive plan to provide support for residents and families to help them avoid evictions and foreclosures during these unprecedented times."

The proposed budget

allocates \$123 million for the Massachusetts Rental Voucher Program, \$72 million for local housing authorities, and \$182 million for emergency assistance for the family shelter system, Baker said.

Aside from "sustaining the public health investments" related to COVID-19, the budget includes \$160 million "to support Chapter 257 human service provider rate increases..." There is also a ten percent increase for MassHealth to help with the increase in "caseloads" and other costs related to COVID-19, he said.

The budget also calls for \$316 million to "combat substance misuse... which continues our work to battle the opioid crisis and other addiction issues as we confront this pandemic," Baker said.

It also proposes \$1.2 billion in operating costs for the MBTA in addition to its \$8 billion capital plan, as well as \$386 million for MassDOT, "including full funding of its snow and ice budget," and \$20 million for the Massachusetts Emergency Food Assistance Program, he said.

"Thanks in part to the work we did to build up our reserves and our responsible approach to budgeting generally, this revised proposal enables the Commonwealth to make significant investments in our recovery, while continuing to fund key services that support our continued fight against the virus," Baker said. "We look forward to continuing to work with our legislative colleagues as the budget process moves forward, and we remain committed to supporting all of our residents throughout this public health emergency and the ongoing recovery."

Lt. Governor Karyn Polito added that the money from this budget "will continue to support communities and families across the Commonwealth," she said.

She also said that the administration is aware of the "importance of our local governments," and "this budget proposal will maintain local aid to cities and towns and it will do so without raising taxes."

The budget will move to the legislature for approval, and more information about the FY21 budget will be made available on mass.gov.

# Cambridge Health Alliance names Lanie Ward as new Chief Nursing Officer

Cambridge Health Alliance (CHA), a community health system serving Cambridge, Somerville and Boston's metro-north communities, has named Lanie Ward, MBA, BSN, RN, as its new chief nursing officer. Ward has more than 30 years of experience in healthcare administration and has served in senior nursing roles in organizations across the country. She has served as CHA's interim chief nursing officer since June 2020.

Ward will oversee nursing at CHA's two hospital campuses – Cambridge and Everett – and its network of primary care and specialty care centers. "Lanie has done a fantastic job in her time at CHA already," said CHA CEO Assaad Sayah, MD. "Ar-

riving in the aftermath of the COVID-19 surge, she provided exceptional leadership, stability and support for our staff, nurses and providers as we reopened sites across our system." She also played a critical role in the preparations for CHA's recent Joint Commission accreditation survey, sharing insights, best practices and lessons from her experiences at other institutions.

Prior to joining CHA, Ward was the senior vice president of patient care services/CNO at Summa Health System in Ohio. Summa serves more than one million patients in Ohio through comprehensive acute, critical, emergency, outpatient and long-term/home-care settings and has more than 1,300 licensed beds. At

Summa, she brought nursing together system-wide to standardize care, practice and shared governance. Additionally, under her leadership, the system achieved significant improvements in safety, including reduced serious safety events.

Before her time at Summa, Ward was the chief nursing officer at Broward General Medical Center & Chris Evert Children's Hospital in Florida. Broward is a nonprofit community health system that encompasses more than 30 healthcare facilities with four hospitals.


She received her master's degree in business administration from Florida Atlantic University and her bachelor's degree in nursing from the University of Kentucky.

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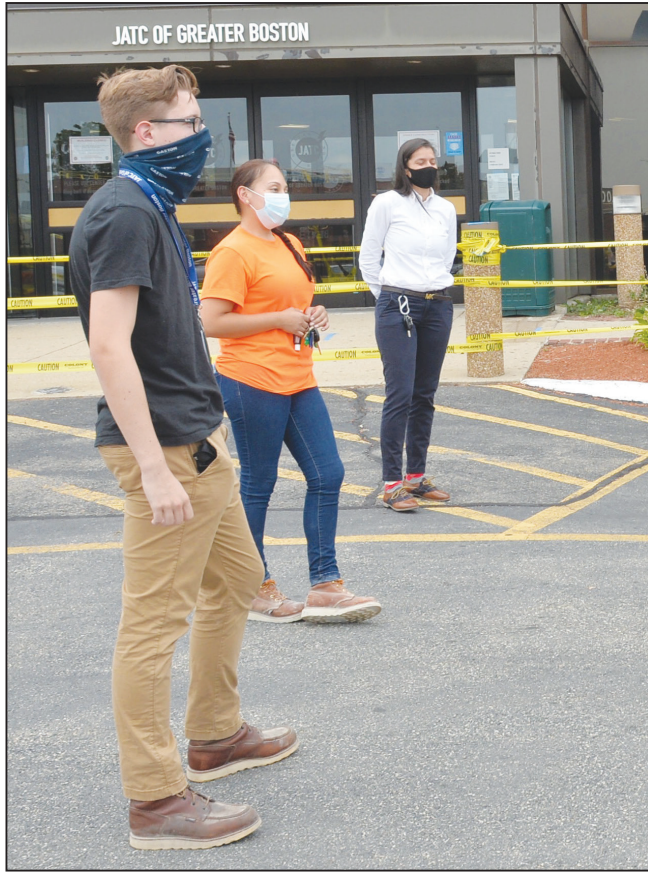
# Chelsea's Yeymi Verde kicks off union electrical career as John A. Penney scholarship recipient

Staff Report

Chelsea resident, Yeymi Verde, 37, was awarded the first annual John A. Penney Memorial Scholarship, in support of her ongoing electrical trade studies at the Joint Apprenticeship & Training Center (JATC) of Boston. Verde was chosen for the award by the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW) Local 103 union and the NECA Greater Boston electrical contractors.

Verde received \$1,000 from the scholarship fund in recognition of her determination, and commitment to excellence in learning the electrical trade. The fund aims to further support access to education and job opportunities for new students at the Boston JATC, where students earn full pay and benefits while they learn the electrical or telecommunications trade.

"It's an incredible feeling when your hard work is recognized and you are given an opportunity like this," said Yeymi Verde, scholarship recipient. "I'm a mother of two, and was worried about the



Verde and other scholarship winners accepting the award recently at the training facility in Dorchester.

difficulties I might face in building a lasting career that allows me to support my family. I thank IBEW Local 103 and NECA for awarding me with the John A. Penney scholarship and look forward to what's next."

Verde began her first

year as an IBEW Local 103 electrical apprentice, working for J&M Brown Company. She works in the field with J&M Brown four days per week, and attends courses (currently held virtually due to COVID-19) at the Boston JATC in Dorchester one



Chelsea's Yeymi Verde at work in the field during her apprenticeship.

day per week. Verde aspires to graduate from her five-year JATC electrical apprenticeship program in 2025 as a licensed journeyman.

The John A. Penney Memorial Scholarship was founded in 2019 in honor of John A. Penney,

founder of the John A. Penney & Co. electrical contracting company. The scholarship is intended to carry on Penney's legacy of giving back to the union electrical industry, and the Greater Boston community at large.

"John Penney is fondly

remembered as a pioneer of the union electrical industry, and as a great friend and neighbor. It's very fitting that, through this scholarship, we can help welcome the newest generation of electrical professionals in his memory," said Kristen Gowin, NECA Greater Boston executive manager.

"IBEW Local 103 and NECA electrical contractors strive each day to ensure that anyone who wants to work hard, learn a trade and build a great career in the electrical construction industry has access to do so," said Lou Antonellis, IBEW Local 103 business manager/financial secretary. "The John A. Penney scholarship is one more way we're trying to open our doors to as many people as possible, and create a more equitable construction industry."

The goal of the John A. Penney Scholarship fund is to continue his efforts to make education and job opportunities in the electrical field available to all who have the drive and determination to work hard and learn the skills to become an electrician.

## National temp agency resolves Attorney General's investigation into wage and hour law violations

A temporary employment agency with more than 2,000 temp workers in Massachusetts will pay \$221,180 in restitution and penalties to resolve allegations that it violated the state's wage and hour laws, Attorney General Maura Healey announced on Oct. 15.

Premier Employee Solutions LLC, with its Massachusetts headquarters in Chelsea, has been cited for failing to pay employees wages in a timely manner, records violations, failing to comply with the Earned Sick Time

law, and failing to comply with the Temporary Worker Right to Know Law, which requires temp agencies to provide employees with written notice outlining basic job assignment information, including rate of pay, nature and description of the work assignment and workers' compensation insurance carrier information.

The AG's Office began investigating the staffing agency after receiving a tip that some Premier workers were not being paid in accordance with the state wage and hour

laws. Investigators conducted a site visit, issued records demands, and discovered evidence of non-timely payment of wages, earned sick time, Temporary Worker Right to Know Law, and records violations.

AG Healey's Fair Labor Division is responsible for enforcing state laws regulating the payment of wages, including prevailing wage, minimum wage, overtime, and earned sick time laws. Under Massachusetts law, employers must provide to employees either an earned sick

time notice as prepared by the AG's office or include an earned sick time policy or allowable substitute paid leave policy in any employee manual or handbook. The state's wage and hour laws generally require employers to pay workers all wages they are owed within six days of the end of the pay period.

The AG's Office recently released its fifth annual Labor Day Report on the Fair Labor Division's efforts to address wage theft and other forms of worker exploitation in fiscal year 2020. The report shows

that the Division assessed more than \$12.3 million in restitution and penalties against employers on behalf of workers in Massachusetts. The report also shows that the Fair Labor Division protected the rights of more than 3,000 workers employed by temporary staffing agencies in fiscal year 2020, assessing nearly \$680,000 in restitution and penalties against 25 agencies for violations of the Temporary Workers Right to Know Law, independent contractor misclassification law, and other wage and hour laws.

Workers who believe that their rights have been violated in their workplace are encouraged to file a complaint at [www.mass.gov/ago/fairlabor](http://www.mass.gov/ago/fairlabor). For information about the state's wage and hour laws, workers may call the AG's Fair Labor Hotline at (617) 727-3465 or go to [www.mass.gov/ago/fairlabor](http://www.mass.gov/ago/fairlabor) for materials in multiple languages.

This matter was handled by Assistant Attorney General Drew Cahill and Investigator Huong Phan of the AG's Fair Labor Division.

COVID-19 has changed everything.

Connect with our readers of *The Revere Journal*, *The Winthrop Sun Transcript*, *The East Boston Times Free Press*, *Chelsea Record*, *Everett Independent*, and *Lynn Journal* who are looking for options in light of the current crisis in our October editions:

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NEWS FROM AROUND THE REGION

CITY RELEASES OFFICIAL ARTIST RENDERINGS OF NEW SENIOR CENTER DESIGN

EAST BOSTON - The City of Boston released a set of artist renderings for the first time depicting what East Boston’s first ever Senior Center will look like once construction is completed.

Construction on the future senior center began over the summer at the former Bremen Street branch of the Boston Public Library across from Orient Heights MBTA station.

Throughout August and September, interior demolition took place, and construction started. Construction work on the senior center will include accessibility upgrades, new HVAC systems, new elevator, window replacements, landscaping, new utilities, new bathrooms, new kitchen, sprinkler system and roof replacement.

The renderings released by the city for the first time show the all glass, 850 square foot addition that will house the senior center’s main entrance, lobby, elevator and stairwell. The renderings also show the outdoor terrace that is part of the design.

“I’m proud to see construction is underway on the new senior center in Orient Heights, East Boston,” said Mayor Martin Walsh. “In Boston, we are dedicated to making investments that directly benefit in our communities, and this senior center will be vital to increasing services for our older Bostonians.”

For decades East Boston’s senior citizens and senior groups like the Golden Age Club have been clamoring for their own space in the community. Currently, Eastie seniors share space at other non-profits for senior programs, social hours, parties and other events. A dedicated senior center would allow seniors to accomplish these things within the confines of their

own permanent location. Investments from Massport, through a mitigation struck with the Logan Impact Advisory Committee (LIAG), will help support the programming and operational needs of the newly renovated center once construction is complete.

“We are proud to join with Mayor Walsh to support this great project for the East Boston community,” said Massport CEO Lisa Wieland. “Massport strives to be a good neighbor to our surrounding communities. Over the years, with the help of East Boston residents and elected officials, we have fulfilled many community commitments in East Boston. Our support of this new Senior Center is a great example of these collaborative efforts.”

The City’s current budget for the design and construction is \$5.43 million and the estimated completion date is fall 2021.

“I think this senior center is a wonderful opportunity for our community, and I thank Mayor Walsh and Massport for making it possible,” said Fran Carbone, who has been advocating for a senior center for the past five years. “Seniors look forward to having some substance every week. It’s going to empower us to have somewhere to go everyday and enjoy. Participating in the community process is a wonderful opportunity for us to put our happy wishes into the building. It feels like a dream--it’s finally coming to fruition. We have a lot of plans, and we are ready.”

LAST PHASE OF PROJECTS UNDERWAY

EAST BOSTON - Four years after kicking off the three-phase redevelopment of the Orient Heights Public Housing development Trinity Financial began construction on Phase III of the project in January.

Like Phase I and Phase II, Phase III will tear down the old post World War II-era brick housing on Val-

lar Road and portions of Faywood Avenue and be replaced with 81 units of new public housing.

During a public ZOOM meeting updating residents on the progress of the project, Eva Erlich the vice president of development for Trinity Financial and Boston Housing Authority’s Joe Bamberg said an additional 42 units would be modernized as part of Phase III.

Phase III will also include the construction of a centrally located park for residents, the demolition of the existing community center and the expansion of open space.

Erlich said the entire process to replace the aging public housing development has been moving along rather swiftly considering the need to cobble together funding from a variety of different sources.

During the meeting, Erlich reported that the \$51.6 million Phase II portion of the project wrapped up over the summer on Vallar Road where crews demolished 87 old units in four buildings and constructed 88 replacement state-funded public housing units in two townhouse buildings and one mid rise building. Phase II also included improvements to the existing infrastructure and open spaces. Phase II leveraged \$10 million in proceeds from the sale of the Winthrop Square Garage, as well as \$1.83 million in Inclusionary Development Policy Funds, secured from the Davis Companies’ 99 Sumner Street development in East Boston.

Phase III is part of the larger effort to transform the 331-unit of BHA owned public housing development that was originally built in 1951. Trinity completed Phase I of the project in 2018 where 90 units of public housing were replaced with 120 units of public housing both in townhouse and apartment-style buildings.

In January 2015, the BHA selected the development team of Trinity Financial and East Boston Community Development

COMMUNITY MURAL PROJECT



Volunteers consulted on the colors to paint the community mural on Burditt Lane last week, as the Neighborways group and Everett High Art program converged with volunteers to pull off the project. The colorful project is near the intersection of Ferry Street and Broadway in an area that has been a frequent problem for loitering.

Corp. to work with BHA and Department of Housing and Community Development (DCHD) and finalize a redevelopment strategy for the site. This development team secured financing to implement the redevelopment, and will own and manage the buildings post-redevelopment.

There were some concerns expressed at community meetings and on social media regarding the project. Some suggested the project had undergone drastic changes to the original design, and will soon run out of money.

In response to some of the disinformation circulating around the neighborhood, Erlich said while some minor tweaks were made to the project they were done in response to residents’ concerns at previous meetings.

Trinity eliminated the 42 units of non-public market rate housing that was part of the original plan, but this was done after concerns were raised about increasing density after the planned second road connecting Vallar Road and Waldemar Avenue were dropped.

When the project started the cost of connecting Vallar Road with Waldemar Avenue below justified intersecting the two streets. With an original

price tag of \$3 million the cost soared to nearly \$10 million after the road was studied and the soil tested. After meeting with engineers and looking at the cost so the road can meet city standards it became very expensive to make that connection from street to street.

The community expressed concern that replacing 331 units of public housing and then adding an additional 42 units of market rate housing could lead to congestion without the two roads connecting. So in response to these concerns Trinity decided to focus on replacing the 331 units over the same land area and eliminate the market rate component.

Erlich said these changes allowed Trinity to add more housing units on Waldemar during Phase I, as well as, freeing up some space as part of Phase II to add new open space for the community as well as refurbishing the basketball courts and community room.

Erlich pointed out that the brand new park planned for where Vallar Road meets Faywood Avenue, that is part of Phase III, as an example of increasing the project’s open space by cutting the 42 additional units.

DEVANEY HIRED AS NEW CHIEF OF STAFF

EVERETT - Mayor Carlo DeMaria hired the former state Registry of Motor Vehicles (RMV) Director Erin Devaney as the new chief of staff.

Devaney considered a very talented government, upper-level manager, and had steered the RMV in a good direction for a few years before having to resign in June 2019. Devaney once worked at City Hall some years ago with the mayor, and now will make a return as his top aide.

Devaney, who is an attorney, will serve as the Mayor’s Chief of Staff. She holds a JD from Suffolk University Law School and a BS in Political Science from the College of the Holy Cross. With more than 20 years in government service, Erin brings a wide-range of experience in upper level performance management, project administration, and strategic planning.

His former Chief of Staff, Kevin O’Donnell, is still working close to the mayor and, sources said, is heading up a human resources role as those in that department have been

See REGION Page 9

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First Come - First Served



Region / Continued from Page 8

reallocated to critical positions outside of City Hall.

Devaney’s hiring brings in a seasoned manager of a statewide agency, and comes also with two other hires in the Communications Department – with the recent departure of Michelle Fenelon and re-allocation of Tom Philbin. Hired for Communications were Michelle Doucette and Vanessa Alvarado.

“I am excited to welcome Erin, Michelle, and Vanessa to the City Administration. I am confident in their abilities and willingness to help further the mission of the City of Everett and my Administration,” said the mayor. “It has been my commitment to hire more bilingual employees. Michelle and Vanessa are a great start.”

All three of the new employees started work on Tuesday.

Doucette, MBA, will serve as the City’s Communication Specialist. She holds a Master’s in Business Administration, as well as a BS in Marketing and Public Relations both from Suffolk University. Doucette brings an extensive background in Communications, website development, and content creation. She will bring her extensive background in government communications to Everett’s team. Doucette is also fluent in Italian.

Alvarado will be serving as the City’s Public Information Officer. She is a recent graduate of Loyola University New Orleans where she received her BA in Mass Communication with a minor in Latin American studies. Alvarado brings a new perspective to the Communication’s team with an extensive background in journalism, graphic design, strategy, and branding. She is fluent in Spanish, and will further the City’s communications efforts with English and Spanish media outlets.

COUNCIL APPROVES BUDGET

EVERETT - In an in-person meeting that was difficult for the online public to decipher, the Everett City Council voted 7-2 to approve the General Operating City Budget for this fiscal year on Weds., Sept. 30.

The Council voted 7-2 in their City Budget meeting on Sept. 30 to approve the \$202,615,099 operating budget, which comes late due to COVID-19 concerns. City leaders had been using an month-by-month budget since July, but had to pass a permanent budget in October. Councilors Fred Capone and Gerly Adrien voted against the City Budget.

Those voting for the City Budget were Councilors John Hanlon, Jimmy Tri Le, Peter Napolitano, Anthony DiPierro, Michael McLaughlin, Stephanie Martins, and Michael Marchese.

One of the hallmarks of the meeting was the desire of the public to participate, but the inability of anyone to hear what was being said or follow what was going on due to the Council being in-person, but the meetings online.

“I think you should fix the sound so constituents can be part of your process,” said one resident, whose name could not be heard completely.

Aside from one gentleman on Ferry Street who

was upset by his neighbor keeping the grass too high, most of those that called in wanted to discuss the priorities of the budget – particularly calling for more investment in social services and less investment in the Police Department.

Several constituent – though it couldn’t entirely be heard well enough to quote – said the long lines at the Food Pantry demanded more investment in Social Services. Some of the others wanted that money for such services to be shifted from Police Department salaries to those humanitarian efforts.

One man named Edwin from Jefferson Avenue spoke for more than five minutes on the topic, but what he said could not be heard in total.

However, those requests and comments came too late as the Council had a thorough review of the City Budget – line by line – on a Saturday in September, a marathon session of many hours. By the time the hearing on Sept. 30 came around, the Council could not remove any line items. Even so, the Council is restricted by Charter from shifting any monies within the Budget – which comes to them from Mayor Carlo DeMaria. They can only make cuts, and cannot make additions. That is the case in most municipalities, including Boston. However, in Boston there is a move afoot to put a question on the 2021 City Ballot to change the charter in a way that allows their Council to make more changes to the City Budget. That could be duplicated in Everett, were it brought forward.

Councilor DiPierro sympathized with the many callers who expressed a desire to shift monies to social services, but explained the Council didn’t have that power.

“I certainly appreciate the many residents that called in to make their voices heard, but unfortunately we can’t change the line items and we can’t reallocate funds. I understand some might be frustrated, but all we can do is look at what’s given to us and cut it or not. If there are residents that want to get more involved in the budget process, I suggest they get in touch with the mayor’s office going forward. At this point, what is given to us is what it is, unless we cut it.”

With that, he called the question and the 7-2 vote transpired.

The second piece of the hearing was the Capital Improvement Plan (CIP), which is vastly smaller than in a normal, non-COVID year. The \$18,453,000 CIP Budget was approved also by a 7-2 vote, with Councilors Adrien and Capone voting against.

The Water and Sewer Enterprise Budget of \$20,922,321 – which is fully funded by ratepayers in the city – was approved by a vote of 8-1, with Councilor Adrien voting against.

The final vote came for the ECTV Budget of \$505,416, and it was the closest vote of the night at 6-3. Those voting against were Councilors Capone, Marchese and McLaughlin.

VETERANS SERVICES TO BE VIRTUAL

REVERE - Marc Silvestri, director of veter-

ans services for the City of Revere, has announced plans for the observance of Veterans Day (Nov. 11) in the city, stating that the annual ceremony will be a virtual one due to the coronavirus.

The ceremony will begin at 11 a.m. on Veterans Day.

“We’ll be holding a Virtual Town Hall where some other veterans and I will be speaking about our experiences in military service,” said Silvestri. “I’m going to try and get as many eras covered as I can.”

Silvestri, a highly decorated United States Army veteran who received the Bronze Star in Valor medal, will ask his fellow veterans to talk about their experiences in service and “what it was like when they returned home.”

“This is an old Native American tradition,” related Silvestri. “When the warriors in the Indian tribe used to go to war, immediately upon their return, they would sit down with the whole village and share their stories. Instead of holding the burden of war upon themselves, it was spread across the tribe. That’s where the veterans town hall comes from.”

Silvestri said he spoke at a Veterans Day Town Hall on the North Shore a few years ago as a guest of Congressman Seth Moulton, who is also a decorated war veteran.

“It’s a tradition that I’d like to bring here and there’s no better year than now.”

Mayor Brian Arrigo will also deliver remarks at the ceremony. Ward 2 Councillor Ira Noveselsky, Past Commander of the Jewish War Veterans of Massachusetts, will also speak during the ceremony.

Novoselsky, who co-chairs the Revere Veterans Dinner Committee with Al Terminiello Jr. said the annual Veterans Day Dinner Dance at the Beachmont V.F.W. has been canceled due to the coronavirus. The event has been held annually for the past 16 years.

CONSERVATION COMM. APPROVES SEVERAL ITEMS

REVERE - The Revere Conservation Commission held its monthly meeting on Oct. 7 and approved several items on the agenda.

The major request brought before the commission was the petition by the Point of Pines Yacht Club (POPYC) to repair, and then place, approximately 15 of its docks on the nearby dune grass.

Jay Bolton, who spoke on behalf of the yacht club, noted that this is the same process as last year and that an additional four docks are to be placed next to the yacht club’s building. He noted that all of the vegetation recovered for the spring and summer and that this is now the dormant season for the grass.

Bolton said that the club is making the request because the neighbors near the club do not want to see the docks stacked too high during the winter months.

Ward 5 Councillor John Powers said that the yacht club is both a good neighbor and has been helpful to the City of Revere. Powers noted the club has allowed its facilities to be used as a polling place and that the Revere police and fire rescue boats are

docked at the club.

“I would like to see a meeting in the spring with the neighbors, the Conservation Commission, and members of the yacht club to see what can be done on matters like this,” Powers said.

“Let’s figure it all out then and keep everyone happy,” Conservation Commission chairperson Nick Moulaison said. “The best option is to let them do it and if the grass does not grow back, then they will have to pay to replace it. We should plan for a meeting in the spring.”

The motion was passed with a negative determination, which is a finding that the local conservation commission has decided that the proposed work is not subject to the Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act (WPA) and therefore can proceed without additional approvals from the commission, and a proviso that the yacht club must restore the grass if it does not grow back.

In another matter, the commission approved the installation of a new, 12-inch drain and a four-foot catch basin on Alden Avenue at Rice Ave. The project is being overseen

by CDM Smith of Boston. Adrien Fleury of CDM Smith told the commissioners that presently there are 28 private properties that are illegally connected to the existing pipe. He said that usage of the pipe must be discontinued because the overflow water is being discharged in violation of state and federal law. The new, 12-inch pipe will be connected to the city drain and excess water will be discharged properly.

Ward 5 Councillor John Powers noted that this situation has existed for a number of years and in that time the basements in almost all of the homes were kept dry when there was danger of flooding, which was a major concern from present homeowners about the new project.

Fleury assured Powers that this new drain will be more than able to handle the water flow from private pumps when the need arises and will discharge the water pursuant to state and federal mandates.

The motion to issue the order was passed unanimously.

The commission gave the green light to Innovative Mosquito Control to

start spraying the marshland along the North Shore Road Rear area in an effort to kill the non-indigenous phragmites that are overtaking the native plant life in the marsh. There are about four acres that will be sprayed.

The motion was passed unanimously with a negative determination.

Rick Salvo of Engineering Alliance appeared before the commission to seek permission to demolish and then rebuild retaining wall 23 feet closer to the limit line of the marsh.

The location of the work is listed at 320 Charger Street. Salvo noted that most of the vegetation in the area is non-indigenous. After the work is completed, there will be 177 new, indigenous plantings that could be started as early as this fall, but definitely by spring. It is estimated that it will take 60 days for the project. The commissioners approved the request.

The next meeting is scheduled for November 4. A major item on the agenda will be the hearing on the Amazon parking lot on American Legion Highway and the fate of the mature trees that are on the site.

CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

Chelsea Curves construction look-ahead through October 31

ROUTE 1 TRAFFIC IMPACTS

•ROUTE 1 NORTHBOUND: Approaching the Tobin Bridge from Boston, the work zone begins in the right lane. 2 of 3 travel lanes will be open during daytime hours (5 a.m.–10 p.m.).

•On Saturday, 10/31 through Sunday 11/1, Route 1 Northbound will be reduced to a single lane starting on Saturday at 6 a.m. through Sunday at 8 p.m.

•ROUTE 1 SOUTHBOUND: Approaching the Chelsea Curves from the North Shore, the work zone begins in the left lane before the Carter Street off-ramp. 2 of 3 travel lanes will be open during daytime hours (5 a.m.–10 p.m.) After the Carter Street off ramp, the South Bound lanes are split with a work zone in the middle. Traffic can travel in either side of the work zone.

•Detour for the Full Closure of Route 1 Southbound: exit at Carter Street, turn right onto Carter Street, turn left onto Everett Avenue, and turn right on the Everett Avenue on-ramp and rejoin Route 1 southbound.

•On Friday, 10/30 to Sunday 11/1, Route 1

Southbound will be reduced to a single lane. Work will begin at 11 a.m. on Friday and ending on Sunday at 8 p.m.

LOCAL STREET CLOSURES

•CARTER STREET will be temporarily closed on Thursday, 10/22, Friday, 10/23 during the daytime (7 a.m. – 3 p.m.).

•FIFTH STREET will be temporarily closed on Saturday, 10/24 during the daytime (7 a.m. – 3 p.m.).

•ARLINGTON STREET will be temporarily closed on Monday 10/26 during the daytime (7 a.m. – 3 p.m.)

WORK HOURS

•Most work will occur during daytime working hours (7:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.) on weekdays. Some work will take place on a 2nd shift (2 p.m. – 1 a.m.) and overnight hours (9 p.m. – 5 a.m.) and on Saturdays (7 a.m. – 7 p.m.).

DESCRIPTION OF SCHEDULED WORK

•ROUTE 1 NORTHBOUND: Bridge deck and gutter repairs continue in the left lane over the Tobin Bridge. We will contin-

ue to remove bridge deck and install new bridge deck through the Chelsea Curves.

•ROUTE 1 SOUTHBOUND: Removal of existing bridge deck and installation of new bridge deck will continue through the Chelsea Curves.

•UNDERNEATH ROUTE 1: Repairing and painting of steel, milling, waterproofing, and repairing deck, installation and bolting of diaphragm, installation of seal joints, curb, guardrail, grid deck panels, curb, driveway, wheelchair ramps and new bearings.

TRAVEL TIPS

Drivers should take care to pay attention to all signage and move carefully through the work zone. Police details, lane markings, temporary barriers, traffic cones, signage, and other tools will be used to control traffic and create safe work zones.

The contractors are coordinating with local event organizers and police to provide awareness and manage traffic during events. For your awareness, there will be no events at the TD Garden during this look ahead schedule.

Real Estate Transfers

BUYER 1	SELLER 1	ADDRESS	PRICE
Zhang, Shuchi	Quiles, Ramon	27 Addison St	\$535,000
Leblanc, Christen R	Reed, Margaret	100 Boatswains Way #204	\$405,000
Kitty RT	Molina, Efrain	148 Broadway	\$1,080,000
Dwyer, Andrew P	Dwyer, Mary R	23 Cary Ave #2	\$250,000
Miller, Ona K	Bacchiochi, Linda	50 Medford St	\$600,000
Parsons, Chariti G	Battle, Ervin	39 Prescott Ave #39	\$385,000



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# Chelsea projects gets funding in state Affordable Housing Awards

Staff Report

Governor Charlie Baker on Wednesday highlighted the recent 2020 Affordable Rental Housing Awards for the development of affordable housing, with a project on Chestnut Street getting one award.

The 2020 Affordable Rental Housing Awards will result in the production or preservation of more than 2,400 housing units, including 2,166 affordable rental units in communities across the Commonwealth. Through this round of awards, the Baker-Polito Administration has provided more

than \$105.7 million in direct funding and allocated \$53 million in state and federal tax credits to 28 projects in 19 communities.

“Our administration has made housing a priority, including injecting \$1.1 billion into the affordable housing ecosystem, filing zoning reform legislation, and signing the largest Housing Bond Bill in our state’s history,” said Governor Charlie Baker. “Keeping families stable and increasing the supply of affordable housing in Massachusetts is vital for our future and I am pleased to celebrate this most recent round of housing de-

velopment awards and the new homes they will provide for residents.”

One of the key projects awarded was 181 Chestnut, an existing market-rate project in Chelsea that will be converted to mixed-income rental housing. The sponsor is the non-profit The Neighborhood Developers (TND). The sponsor will acquire the 32-unit project from a private owner and, over time, convert it into a mixed-income property, with 10 market rate units and 22 units affordable to households earning less than 60% of AMI. Eight of the 22 units will be further restricted for extremely

low-income households earning less than 30% of AMI. DHCD will support 181 Chestnut with subsidy funds, and the City of Chelsea will also provide local funds.

The \$53 million allocation of state and federal tax credits will create approximately \$370 million in equity for project sponsors. This award round includes eight projects that will build new affordable housing for seniors, five adaptive reuse projects that will turn historic buildings into new housing, and six projects that will preserve existing affordable housing and ensure communities main-

tain affordability. New affordable housing will be created in every region of the state, and more than 20% of the total units will be affordable to extremely low-income households.

“It is clear that safe and stable housing is critical for economic advancement, public health, and preventing virus spread, and we remain committed to making investments and keeping construction projects on track,” said Housing and Economic Development Secretary Mike Kennealy. “We are pleased that construction has remained an essential business as we work to expand housing at all in-

come levels in every part of Massachusetts.”

The Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) supports the development of affordable housing through multiple funding rounds throughout the year. Last spring, DHCD moved forward on \$16 million in funding to support nine permanent supportive housing developments for vulnerable populations. Throughout the COVID-19 emergency, DHCD has continued to work with affordable housing developers to ensure a strong pipeline of new construction and preservation projects.

## OBITUARIES

### Dorothy Hamilton

Devoted to home and family

Dorothy Hamilton  
Devoted to home and family

Dorothy Hamilton, 92, passed away on Saturday, Oct. 17 at the Good Samaritan Medical Center in Brockton.

Dorothy was born and raised in Chelsea, one of nine children given to the late George T. and Hazel Soper. She married Harold “Ham” Hamilton in 1946 and spent the next 67 years in love and devotion with “Ham” raising her own family of two sons and three daughters. She was widowed in 2013 and remained a lifelong resident of Chelsea.

In her lifetime, Dorothy was devoted to home and family. She enjoyed traveling, going to Florida or for short trips to Castle Island to enjoy an ice cream while gazing out on Boston Harbor. She much enjoyed time spent with her grandchildren, apple picking, or a simple car ride, shopping excursions with her daughter to various stores and going to Market Basket, where she would be greeted by name from nearly every stockperson and cashier.


In addition to her parents and her husband “Ham,” she was also predeceased by a son, the late John Hamilton and by three brothers; Ralph, Carlton and Donald Soper. She was the forever devoted and loving mother of Linda Lee Hamilton

of Holiday, FL, Timothy Hamilton of New Port Richie, FL. Nancy Gill and her husband, Jack of Kissimmee, FL and Cheryl Odenweller and her husband, Michael of Stoughton; dear sister of Eugene Soper of Gloucester, Evelyn Glidden of North Carolina, Carolyn Monroe of Gloucester, Douglas Soper of Groveland and Dennis Soper of Beverly. She is also survived by 16 grandchildren and several great and great-great grandchildren.

Visiting hours will be held from the Welsh Funeral Home, 718 Broadway, Chelsea on Monday, Oct. 26 from 4 to 7 p.m. Relatives and friends are most kindly invited to attend. 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.

Funeral services will be conducted in the Welsh Funeral Home, 718 Broadway, Chelsea Tuesday, Oct. 27 at 10 a.m. Services will conclude with Interment 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.WelshFH.com](http://www.WelshFH.com).

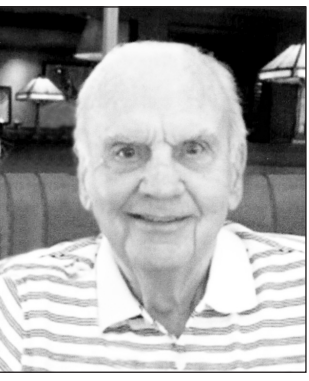
 John A. Tkaczuk, 95, passed away on Wednesday, Oct. 14 at the Falmouth Hospital with his loving daughters at his side.

Born and raised in Boston’s West End, the beloved son of the late Alexander and Karolina Tkaczuk, John graduated from Boston English High School. He enlisted in the US Navy on Nov. 18, 1942 and served as an Aviation Ordinance Man, 1st Class Petty Officer, on board the USS Wasp and USS Altamaha. He was honorably discharged in 1946.

After returning home, he was soon wed to Irene F. (Flower) and settled in Chelsea to raise a family of one son and two daughters. John worked for 38 years as a Quality Assurance Inspector at GE in Everett. He also spent 17 years as a US Naval Reserve Officer at NAS So. Weymouth. There he was assigned U.S. Navy Blimp Unit ZP-911. While returning from a training mission at “Gitmo” Cuba, the airship was struck by lightning off Cape Hatteras and went down into the ocean. John, using a pocket knife, cut an escape route out of the sinking airship allowing the crew to safely exit into the waters. The crew was recovered by a fishing trawler 18 hours later. Notably this was the first naval airship disaster where all the crew survived. From that day on he was always known to carry that pocket knife on his person.

John was a longtime devoted parishioner of St. Stanislaus Church where he ushered at weekend Masses, volunteered at annual Parish Bazaars and called bingo for over 35 years. He was also a member at St. Andrews BBC and the Polish American Veterans, Post 13, Chelsea.

John resided in Chelsea for nearly 53 years. After retiring, John and Irene moved to Peabody and spent the winters in Port St. Lucie, Florida for 33 years where he belonged to Polish social clubs in Port St Lucie and Vero Beach, enjoying evenings

 polka dancing with his wife.


John was widowed on October 15, 2018 at the passing of his beloved wife, Irene after sharing 71 years of wedded bliss. He was also predeceased by his parents and his only sister, Mary Kane of No. Miami, FL. He was the forever devoted father of Frances C. “Cookie” Tkaczuk of Mashpee, Paula J. Kordis and her husband, Ted of Peabody and the late Frederick “Fred” Tkaczuk; dear brother of the late Mary Kane and loving brother-in-law of Wanda Carroccino of Lynn and her late husband, Joseph A. Carroccino; cherished grandfather of Matthew Kordis of Beverly, John Andrew Kordis and his wife, Lindsey of Saugus and Christopher Kordis of Peabody. He is also survived by several nieces, nephews and extended family and friends.

A private family farewell and Funeral Mass will be held followed by graveside prayers and interment in Woodlawn Cemetery, Everett. Should friends desire, contributions in John’s memory should be directed to the MGH Gastrointestinal Cancers Genetics Program. C/O MGH Development Office, 125 Nashua St., Ste. 540, Boston, MA 02114. Please make checks payable to “Massachusetts General Hospital” and note “in memory of John A. Tkaczuk” in the memo line. Or visit; <https://giving.massgeneral.org/donate/>

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 visit: [www.WelshFH.com](http://www.WelshFH.com).

### Robert Dunn

Bronze Star recipient; devoted to home and family

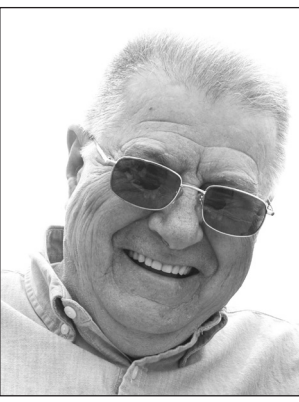
 Robert S. Dunn, 74, passed away on Friday, October 16 after living valiantly with cancer for over 18 months. A funeral service and family farewell was held on Wednesday from the Welsh Funeral Home, services concluded with Military Honors and interment at Puritan Lawn Memorial Park, Peabody.

Robert was born in Everett and raised in Chelsea. He was one of three children of the late Arthur W. and Anne (Lava) Dunn. He attended local schools, graduated from Chelsea High School, enlisted in the US Army and served during the Vietnam Era as a Green Beret. A Bronze Star recipient he was discharged at the rank of Sergeant in 1968.

Robert returned to Chelsea and in 1970 he married Alberta (Pulisciano) raising three children. He lived in Chelsea and Everett before settling in Chelsea remaining here for most of his life.

He worked for many years as a union ironworker on many large construction projects until a work injury caused his early retirement in 1985. In his lifetime he remained devoted to home and family, he would also socialize with his many friends at local social clubs.

In addition to his parents, Robert was prede-

 ceased by his siblings, the late James Dunn and his late wife, Barbara, and his sister, Christine Dube. He was the beloved husband of 50 years to Alberta (Pulisciano) Dunn of Chelsea, Shannon Donovan and her husband, Phil of Reading and Michael Dunn and his wife, Gena of Revere; cherished grandfather of Emilio Dunn of Revere and his fiancé, Elizabeth, Philip J. Donovan and Brenna Donovan, both of Reading.

Should friends desire, contributions in Robert’s name may be made to the Wounded Warrior Project, PO Box 758516, Topeka KS, 66675-8516 or visit <https://support.wounded-warriorproject.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 visit: [www.WelshFH.com](http://www.WelshFH.com).

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# Heinz Awards honor Molly Baldwin for intervention program for highest risk young adults living with trauma of poverty and urban violence

The Heinz Family Foundation named Molly Baldwin, founder and CEO of Roca, a highly effective intervention program that provides relentless outreach to young people impacted by traumatic experiences at the center of urban violence, the recipient of the prestigious 25th Heinz Award in the Human Condition category. Ms. Baldwin is honored for Roca’s proven work in changing the lives of young people considered to be the hardest to reach, including those who have suffered as a result of poverty, gang involvement, violent crime and who will not show up to participate in school, work or traditional programs.

As part of the accolade, Ms. Baldwin will receive an unrestricted cash award of \$250,000.

Since founding Roca in 1988, Molly Baldwin has remained focused on a mission to disrupt cycles of incarceration, urban violence and poverty in the lives of young adults - primarily young men of color between the ages of 18 and 24 - who are not ready, willing or able to participate in other programs. Roca’s model tirelessly seeks out young people who could benefit from its program and provides them the educational, employment and emotional regulation skills they need to change their life trajectories. The program incorporates cognitive behavioral therapy (CBT); a focus on building trust, safety and relationships; employment skills practice; and long-term coaching.

Because the young men and women served by Roca have already experienced a lifetime of trauma, building a foundation of transformational relationships from which change can begin takes time. Roca workers go directly to young people in crisis, tracking them down through friends, scouting the streets and showing up on their doorsteps. Roca data shows that it takes, on average, 10 outreach efforts to find a young person and often hundreds of efforts before they choose to engage in a Roca program. Roca’s trauma-informed curriculum and intervention program takes four years to complete, giving participants the freedom to repeatedly learn, practice, fail and practice again, even as they are challenged to change their thinking and become accountable for their lives.

“Roca believes and has



Molly Baldwin, founder and CEO of Roca.

seen that change is possible for every young adult, regardless of past history, if we are relentless in engaging with them, in providing the right intensive supports and when we never, ever give up on them, particularly when they fail,” says Ms. Baldwin. “We work with the young people most likely to shoot or be shot. For many of them, heartache and fear are all that they have known. Our mission is to address their trauma, help them change their thinking and behavior, and ultimately find a life of peace, safety and employment. No young person is too tough for us, even those who have lost all trust and hope for the future, but to impact urban violence we must work with the young people who are engaged in violence and we must work with the organizations and systems charged with serving them.”

The Roca model was founded in the city of Chelsea, Massachusetts more than 32 years ago and has since spread to more than 20 communities across the state. Two years ago, Roca launched in Baltimore, Maryland. It is cited nationally as a successful, evidence-based model for youth intervention that delivers measurable, sustained outcomes. A third-party evaluation

of 978 young men served by Roca in Massachusetts between 2013 and 2018 found that only 34% recidivated within three years. And while almost 75% of young men come to Roca with a violent criminal record, four out of five stopped engaging in violent crime during and after their engagement with Roca. As of 2019, 97% of young men enrolled in Roca for more than 24 months had no new incarcerations.

Through its Engaged Institutions component, Roca also works directly with the criminal justice system, probation officers, judges and others to confront injustice and transform how police officers and agencies relate to the kind of young adults Roca serves. Roca has learned that it cannot help young people without partnering closely with the police and other criminal justice agencies. While Roca’s work with police is deeply informed by the very real issues of racial justice plaguing police departments and eroding public trust, it knows that the work with law enforcement not only enhances the safety of young people and their communities, it can also be part of the solution to these systemic failures of justice.

“Roca is committed to working relentlessly to-

ward justice for all,” says Ms. Baldwin. “Sadly, the policing in the neighborhoods that we serve has far too often exhibited brutality, cruelty and corruption. Our goal is to engage law enforcement, and to move them from an adversarial stance to one that recognizes these young men and women of the community as fellow human beings struggling with trauma, fear and poverty. If we do not build collaborations with the police and other stakeholders in the criminal justice system, the young people we are trying to help are going to kill or be killed. Reaching these young people, helping them heal and providing the kind of wrap-around services needed to enable change, takes all of us – young people, their families, community members and public leaders.”

To further its impact and share its methodology, Roca, in partnership with Massachusetts General Hospital, has developed Rewire by Roca – CBT Skills for Living, a CBT approach designed for youth workers, front line staff, community workers and criminal justice providers that can be taught, practiced and mastered in the streets and community settings. Offered through the Roca Impact Institute, this three-month Train the Trainer series provides a simple, relatable approach that focuses on core life skills specifically relevant to the behavioral health of young people who are actively engaged in violence, criminally involved and who are often difficult to engage in traditional program models.

Roca also serves young

women, many of whom are young mothers who have been unwilling or unable to participate in standard support programs. Roca’s women’s program includes services for childcare and transportation, as well as additional, intensive, mental health and domestic violence modules.

“For 30 years, Molly has persisted in serving young people who are the hardest to reach, and whose traumatic life experiences could put them on the path to a lifetime of poverty, unemployment or incarceration,” said Teresa Heinz, Chairman of the Heinz Family Foundation. “Where others have given up, Roca steps in, and stays in. The model that she has helped create demonstrates that the hard work of building trust and disrupting old patterns of thinking can change behavior and enable what every human being should be afforded: a life that is free of fear, lifted by hope, and anchored by opportunity. Roca’s enduring and meaningful impact on young lives beautifully reflects the spirit of the Heinz Awards.”

Established to honor the memory of U.S. Senator John Heinz, the Heinz Awards this year recognize those who have made significant contributions in five distinct areas of great importance to Senator Heinz: Arts and Humanities; Environment; Human Condition; Public Policy; and Technology, the Economy and Employment. Now in its 25th year, the Heinz Awards has recognized 151 individuals and awarded more than \$30 million to the honorees. For more infor-

mation about the awardees visit [www.heinzawards.net/2020](http://www.heinzawards.net/2020).

In addition to Ms. Baldwin, the 25th Heinz Awards honored the following individuals, who will receive their awards:

•Arts and Humanities: Gabriela Lena Frank, D.M.A., pianist and composer, who is breaking cultural, gender and disability barriers in classical music.

•Environment: Linda E. Behnken, commercial fisherman and Executive Director of the Alaska Longline Fishermen’s Association, whose work promotes sustainable fishing practices and safeguards Alaska’s rural fishing communities.

•Public Policy: Katy B. Kozhimannil, Ph.D., M.P.A., professor and researcher, who is driving policy change through research that examines health care inequities and maternal mortality in rural, low-income communities and among women of color.

•Technology, the Economy and Employment: Alfa M. Demmelash and Alexander D. Forrester, founders of Rising Tide Capital, who are strengthening economic resilience through entrepreneurship, and removing the barriers to opportunity that have long impeded entrepreneurs from low-income communities.

•Heinz Awards 25th Anniversary Special Recognition: David H. Autor, Ph.D., a leading voice in economics, whose research has transformed our understanding of the impacts of globalization and technological change on the American worker.



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