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CHELSEA RECORD

YOUR HOMETOWN NEWSPAPER SINCE 1890

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35 CENTS

EBNHC, La Colaborativa to roll out Chelsea vaccination site Thursday

Staff Report

East Boston Neighborhood Health Center (EBNHC) will open a vaccination site in Chelsea, in partnership with La Colaborativa, on Thursday, Feb. 4.

Phase 2 of the COVID-19 vaccine roll-out will begin at 318 Broadway for those ages 75 and older on Thursday, February 4, and residents are invited to schedule an appointment online.

“When COVID-19 arrived in Massachusetts, it became clear early on that the communities that the Health Center serves were disproportionately impacted by the coronavirus,” said Manny Lopes, president and CEO of EBNHC. “As we began our plans to roll out the vaccine to the community, we wanted to ensure that we were distributing doses equitably and providing access to our various populations, especially those most vulnerable. Working with a partner like La Colaborativa is one way in which we can bolster our efforts to reach as many people in the community as possible.”

EBNHC is setting up a COVID-19 vaccination site at La Colaborativa (formerly known as the Chelsea Collaborative), which empowers Latinx immigrants to enhance the social and economic health of the community. As trusted institutions within the community, EBNHC and La Colaborativa will offer vaccines in accordance with the state’s guidelines.

“We are grateful that EBNHC has answered the call to expand access to vaccinations for communities like Chelsea, which have suffered disproportionately over the last year due to the pandemic,” said Gladys Vega, executive director of La Colaborativa. “We are a community of essential work-

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Bridge to the future

After serving as corporation counsel for Boston, Gene O’Flaherty is returning to Chelsea

By Cary Shuman

When his friend and colleague in the House of Representatives, Martin Walsh, the newly elected mayor of Boston, asked him to be corporation counsel for the city of Boston, then-State Rep. Eugene O’Flaherty accepted the new job and the considerable challenge of the position.

And now after seven years of commendable and widely acclaimed service in the key role in the Walsh Administration, O’Flaherty is leaving and will be returning to Chelsea.

“It was an incredible opportunity to serve the City of Boston and to continue my public service,” said O’Flaherty. “When I got there, it felt like an overwhelming task. We have to manage over 60 attorneys, paralegals, and staff. It’s a very diverse law practice, with many qualified attorneys working on schools, on the Boston Police and Boston Fire, and all the different departments and commissions, as well as the Boston City Council,” said O’Flaherty.

If it sounds like a gargantuan operation, it is.

See O’FLAHERTY Page 3



Signing the sister agreement drafted by Attorney Gene O’Flaherty in 2014 between Boston and Belfast are Mayor Martin J. Walsh and Belfast Mayor Mairtin O’Muilleoir as City of Boston Corporation Counsel Gene O’Flaherty looks on with approval.



Mayor Martin J. Walsh and Corporation Counsel Gene O’Flaherty display Friendship Four Hockey Tournament jerseys. In 2014 Gene O’Flaherty spearheaded with Mayor Martin J. Walsh’s assent a sister city agreement with Belfast, Northern Ireland and Boston. As part of ensuring continued peace in that part of the world a cross community interest has developed with hockey as both communities of nationalists (play Gaelic Football) and unionists (play soccer) can play jockey and it brings kids and communities together that still today play segregated sports. In 2014 O’Flaherty brought officials from Belfast to Boston and several universities and what was hatched with great success was the Friendship Four Hockey Tournament that brings together four American universities annually on Thanksgiving to play in a hockey tournament for the Belpot. “I’m proud I did this because it ensures peace and brings goodwill every year along with educational opportunities for both communities,” said O’Flaherty.

Governor, Education Secretary say not to wait for vaccine to return to school

By Seth Daniel

Counter to the sentiment in some places like Chelsea, State Education Secretary Jim Peyser told a group of educators last Friday that all school districts should make it a goal to get students back in school, even before a COVID-19 vaccine is available to teachers.

Peyser was featured as a keynote speaker at the Rennie Center’s program last Friday for innovation in education. Of course, top on everyone’s mind was about schooling and getting kids in school.

Peyser said all studies show it’s safe to return to school, and he said the education gaps that are growing, particularly in

all-remote, low income communities like Boston, should be the top thing on everyone’s minds.

“Let me be clear, we do not think schools should wait for testing or vaccines to be deployed before bringing their students back into classrooms for in-person instruction,” he said. “As you all know this issue isn’t only about COVID. It’s about educational progress, mental health, social-emotional development and equity. Our children, especially those in traditionally underserved communities and high-needs students, are suffering the most – creating developmental losses and exacerbating

See SCHOOLS Page 3

Pillars of success

Chelsea Public Schools community outreach highlighted by Rennie Center

By Seth Daniel

On one day last summer, Supt. Almi Abeyta, members of the School Committee and her staff hit a pivot point.

After emergency schooling had wrapped up, video graduation had transpired, racial issues in the district had surfaced and many were simply coming up from survival mode after months treading water – it was time to think about school again.

The first thing to figure out was how in the world would the Chelsea Public Schools (CPS) engage with parents and students in a pandemic. With engagement historically challenging in Chelsea, adding a pandemic to the mix made seem insurmountable.

But incrementally, and with building a foundation, the district not only figured out how to engage, but also ended up launching a long-term plan for co-design of the district with parents, students, community members and business leaders.

Last Thursday, The Rennie Center for Education Research and Policy highlighted the district for one of three key pillars of success in state school districts – that being shared voices and shared leadership.

“The one silver lining in all of COVID, it’s the family and community engagement we’ve been able to do during this time,” said Supt. Almi Abeyta during a panel discussion last Thursday.

Center Director Chad d’Entremont said they are pushing the idea of shared leadership in school districts, going a step beyond just collaborating. He said it could come with elevating student voices, having student-led conferences, School Committee seats for students with full vot-

ing privileges, or changing other formal structures.

He said the Harvard School of Education’s Design Lab has innovated in creating Children’s Cabinets, which Chelsea Public Schools has adopted this year in the midst of its ambitious co-design plan. The Cabinets create a table for those working with youth – including departments, agencies, businesses, civic leaders and non-profits.

“They come together to develop a collective vision and system of supports for youth development and growth,” he said. “CPS has taken such an approach to this. Along with establishing the Children’s Cabinet, they have also launched the co-design pilot to include families in every step of the district’s plan to improve learning.”

In doing so, they’ve established nine teams to look at everything from discipline practices to remote learning to improving School Site Councils to changing the demographics of the teaching staff.

“Chelsea is a largely immigrant with a high LatinX population and a predominately white teaching staff,” he said. “One goal is to shift racial power dynamics in the community.”

In the panel discussion, Abeyta said you have to lay a foundation before attempting such a move. As a new superintendent last year, her entry plan called for new and better engagement with families.

“That kind of led me to say one pillar will be family and community engagement as I start a new superintendency,” she said. “Building on that, the community and the teachers were so hungry to engage families.

See SUCCESS Page 2

FREE WELLNESS KITS



PHOTOS BY DARLENE DEVITA

Arjun Arora from Seyon handed out packets of PPE last Saturday at the GreenRoots one-day PPE distribution. See more photos on Page 6.

For the latest news in Chelsea
that you need to know, check chelsearecord.com

Congress funds low-income ratepayer relief, perhaps more assistance on the way

By Seth Daniel

The MWRA Advisory Board reported that the recent federal COVID Relief bill contained significant resources to help low-income residents in the MWRA communities with assistance.

As part of its FY 2021 appropriations and COVID-19 relief bill passed in December, Congress included \$638

million in assistance for low-income water and wastewater ratepayers, said the Advisory Board.

The Board reported in its January newsletter that it anticipates there could be more ratepayer relief in future federal funding bills.

In anticipation of that, Advisory Board staff will be sending out a brief survey to member communities to better under-

stand the impacts that the pandemic has had upon the water and sewer programs. They would also like to know what types of federal funding or programs might best help communities or ratepayers.

Responses will help them advocate better on behalf of member communities, they reported.

Girl Scouts of Eastern Massachusetts kicks off “Cookies for a Cause” donation program

Girl Scouts of Eastern Massachusetts (GSEMA) kicks off its Cookies for a Cause Girl Scout Cookie donation program with a donation of over 400 packages of Girl Scout cookies to Boston Children’s Hospital healthcare workers and staff. This Girl Scout Cookie drop celebrates the first of several Cookies for a Cause donations, and is made possible by contributions from Girl Scouts and customers across eastern Massachusetts.

Through March 14, customers purchase Girl Scout cookies from a Girl Scout troop—online or in person—to donate to first responders and health care professionals, the military and veterans services organizations, local food pantries, or other local charities. By the end of the cookie program last year, Girl Scouts in eastern Mas-

sachusetts collected more than 30,000 packages of Girl Scout cookies for donation.

“The Girl Scout Cookie Program is about more than just cookies,” says Cairtriona Taylor, chief executive officer at Girl Scouts of Eastern Massachusetts. “The pandemic created an opportunity to reimagine the cookie program to support Girl Scouts’ money-earning goals in an online environment. Girl Scout troops sell cookies through personalized Digital Cookie websites, which help girls develop their marketing strategies, learn integral business skills, and become equipped with the confidence and know-how needed for a lifetime of leadership.”

To support a Girl Scout troop and make a Cookies for a Cause donation, visit [ies. Girl Scout Cookies are \\$5 per package and available in eight other delicious flavors: Thin Mints®, Caramel deLites®, Peanut Butter Patties®, Peanut Butter Sandwich, Lemonades™, Shortbread, Caramel Chocolate Chip Cookie \(gluten-free and peanut-free\), and Girl Scout S’mores®. All varieties of Girl Scout cookies are available for purchase or donation.](http://gsema.org/donatecook-</p>
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Girl Scouts of Eastern Massachusetts’ Cookies for a Cause also partners with many healthcare, military, and veteran organizations, including New England Center for Homeless Vets, Project New Hope, Helping Our Troops, USO New England, Operation Troop Support, Operation American Soldier, and Carepacks.

Success/ Continued from page 1

We hadn’t made the effort because we were so busy with everything else.

Then COVID presented this silver lining and you can’t let the crisis go to waste. We were thinking that we were in remote learning and we didn’t know how long we would be there. We had to engage our families somehow. They aren’t coming to the schools and we have to engage students and make sure attendance rates are good.”

That’s when they decided to do trust visits last summer.

Though simple, they were effective in creating a personal bond. Teachers and administrators scoured the community and had visits or conferences on sidewalks and porches of the homes around the city. Some parents actually came to the school for the upper

grades and talked with teachers in large tents outside.

That activity was built into the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Chelsea Teachers Association. The understanding was in the 10 days of professional development training, some of those days would be reserved for outreach and trust visits.

“We thought about having parent/teacher conferences out front, but we don’t really call those parent/teacher conferences,” she said. “Instead we called them trust visits. The trust visits happened on the sidewalk. We also bought big tents and put them outside so teachers could meet with families before school and have a physical connection even with masks and social distancing.”

After having the visits

and giving away books, art supplies, discussing wi-fi issues and providing hot spots if necessary, students, families and teachers felt ready for school – and empowered to reach out to school leaders if there were issues.

That ended up being the foundation and pre-cursor for the evolution of co-design, which was a long-term goal for the district that many didn’t think would happen in the midst of COVID. However, it did and it has accelerated.

“We set the foundation and there was just this eagerness and thirst,” said Abeyta. “Then we started to co-design. It evolved. That’s what I love about this is it evolved and there is so much ownership across the district. The educators doing this with our families have created such a beautiful partnership.”

Community Panel Introductions



Dr. Almi Abeyta
Superintendent,
Chelsea Public Schools



Pam Eddinger, Ph.D.
President, Bunker Hill
Community College



Anne Kandilis
Director, Springfield
Works



Tiffany Lillie
Director of Community
Resource Development,
Framingham Public Schools

Supt. Almi Abeyta spoke at a panel last Thursday highlighting Chelsea Public School’s increased engagement and entrance into a successful co-design district plan despite the challenges of COVID-19.

Sports betting gets state attention as Wynn Resorts ramps up plans

By Seth Daniel

A new sports betting bill has been filed in the State House within the last two weeks, and it comes just as Wynn Resorts – parent of Encore Boston Harbor – has ramped up efforts to launch its new online casino and sports betting operations across the country.

All eyes are on the topic of sports betting this week as the Super Bowl unfolds

amidst record numbers of people planning to wager on the game in areas where it’s legal, and that is followed close behind by the NCAA Final Four tournament in March – both big takes for the sports betting world.

Wynn Resorts has greatly expanded its existing sports betting book in Las Vegas over the last several months, announcing its new WynnBet online casino and sports

betting operations last fall in an investor call, noting their first base of operations were in New Jersey and Colorado.

“We’ve been very focused on this topic the last couple of years, but we’ve been admittedly quiet about it,” said Wynn CEO Matt Maddox last fall.

“We have a strong casino brand, and we think that’s particularly true for us,” he continued. “On the sports side, we’ve operated our own sports book for many, many years. We understand trading and we understand what excites the customer and where the market is. We are working with a team that understands it as well as we do...You have to understand the market and what the customer wants and scale into that. That’s what we’re in the process of doing now in New Jersey.”

Since that time, they have mobilized and seized a great deal of market share in numerous states – with the hopes that Massachusetts would also approve the new wager and give them first crack at a model that could help them emerge after so many COVID-19 shutdowns.

Lynn State Sen. Brendan Crighton is on board with the idea as well, re-filing his sports betting bill two weeks ago with the hopes it can get some attention, provide needed new revenues to the state and help with the revival of properties like Encore post-COVID.

“Certainly sports betting is alive and well in Massachusetts, but is done thought the illegal market and over our state borders in Rhode Island, New Hampshire, New York and soon to be Connecti-

cut,” he said. “Our goal is to get the consumer out of the shadows and into a regulated marketplace and make sure that money doesn’t go offshore or over our borders.”

Crighton said estimates are that about \$6 billion is bet on sports annually in Massachusetts, and that would equate to about \$61 million annually that the state could recoup in revenues at a time when COVID-19 is set to bust State Budgets for some time to come.

His bill would legalize wagers in person at the state’s existing licensees – which includes two casinos, a slot parlor, Suffolk Downs, Raynham Dog Track and Wonderland Dog Track. The bill also has an online component to it as well, and would allow mobile sports betting in the state.

The licensing fee would be \$10 million to start out, with a renewal fee each year as well.

“If everyone we expected to apply did so, you’re looking at \$70 million right there in licensing fees,” said Crighton.

His bill, unlike previous bills, would allow sports betting on college sports. Gov. Charlie Baker excluded college sports in his bill three years ago, and Crighton said some Massachusetts institutions have said they don’t want to be included in the betting world. However, overall, he said consumers wouldn’t switch from the black market or out of state without college sports.

“Colleges need to be a part of it,” he said. “They are such a big part of sports betting that you won’t get people to switch their app or come on over if you don’t allow sports

betting on college football and basketball. It’s just such a large part of this market.”

An even bigger piece for those in and around Encore is the revival of visitors to the casino following an up and down year with COVID-19 shutdowns and occupancy limits. Crighton said casinos don’t make a killing off of sports betting in general, but adding that activity brings in more foot traffic.

“The revenue a casino brings in for sports betting isn’t going to necessarily be a game-changer,” he said. “It is a way to bring folks in for restaurants and shopping. That’s something we’ve heard loud and clear from the stakeholders. It would make them more competitive by keeping consumers in the state.”

Wynn Resorts’ Craig Billings said they had been examining how to best break into the market and found a great partner in the United Kingdom with BetBall.

“We scoured the Earth and we found a company in the UK called BetBall,” he said. “The founder and operators of that company, we had a great cultural fit...They understand it intimately and built the product in the UK to be very social. The engagement they had with their customers was really quite extraordinary. When you see your friend making a bet, it will pop up on your phone to ask if you want to follow your friend. It’s very parlay heavy and moves you into chat rooms fairly quickly. It’s quite fun.”

Maddox said they invested in the company in 2019 and began working on a U.S. rollout. Now,

Wynn Resorts owns a 70 percent share of the company and call that section of the company Wynn Interactive. Last fall, they had 150 people employed and they have signed market-share agreements in several states.

Billings predicted they could have 50 percent of the accessible market share in the U.S. with WynnBet in the near future.

“It’s encouraging what we’re seeing,” said Maddox. “We will be rolling out this product in the various markets we have access to and we’re very focused on it. We’ve invested \$80 million into that company to focus on user acquisition and continued development over the next few months. We’ve had lots and lots of interest from people... who want to be a part of it...We’re going to build an amazing product and have real business opportunity and rollout. We feel very good that while currently Wynn Interactive does \$20 million in revenue, that number will grow at a very exponential rate as we move forward.”

Crighton said his bill is expected to go through the usual process and he expects a public hearing very soon, followed by it being assigned to Committee. This time around, he hopes there is more of an appetite for unleashing this new market in the state.

Crighton was one of the first legislators to offer a regulatory framework for legal sports betting in Massachusetts after the U.S. Supreme Court opened up the industry in 2018.

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Phone: 781-992-5307 - MA Relay 711 or

Email: 25Eleanor@MaloneyProperties.com



Equal Housing Opportunity

O'Flaherty / Continued from page 1

All of the legal representation for New England's largest city was under O'Flaherty's jurisdiction, including more than 1,200 litigation cases per year.

There are close to 20,000 employees working for the city "so it was a very large law practice difficult to manage, but I quickly, with the help of some very public servants, figured out what the role of the job was," said O'Flaherty.

"Being with the Mayor, my legislative colleague and friend, throughout all of that, it was a great honor working to fulfill a lot of what he wanted to accomplish as Mayor," said O'Flaherty. "I've been by his side almost since Day 1, and we'll be leaving around the same time."

Walsh has been nominated by President Joe Biden for the Cabinet position of U.S. Labor Secretary. O'Flaherty was asked by the Mayor to serve with him in Washington, D.C. in the Office of the Secretary of Labor.

"Maybe if I were 20 years younger, I would have taken advantage of that opportunity, but at this point in my life, it will be too disruptive to both myself, my wife (Patricia), and my in-laws," said O'Flaherty.

"While I was very honored to be asked to serve in the Office of the Secretary of Labor and continue working with Mayor Walsh in his new role, I had to very emotionally decline the offer.

"I'm very proud of what he has accomplished

as Mayor and now to be in President Biden's Cabinet - but it would be too disruptive personally to me, my family, my friends, and our network that we have here, to leave here and go down to Washington," said O'Flaherty.

Chelsea's former state representative

Gene O'Flaherty was elected state representative for Chelsea and Charlestown in November, 1996, and took office in January, 1997. O'Flaherty and Walsh, who represented Dorchester, both started together as freshman legislators.

"Both of our districts had Boston, so we had mutual legislative interests at first and we quickly became friends because, like me, both his parents were from Ireland and both my parents were both from Ireland as well, so we had a lot in common and we hit it off," said O'Flaherty.

They served in the House of Representatives together for 17 years. When Walsh was elected Mayor of Boston in 2013 and took office in 2014, he met for dinner with O'Flaherty and asked him to join his administration as corporation counsel.

O'Flaherty accepted the offer. He stepped down from his state representative seat and gave up his private law practice.

Many accomplishments that bettered the city

Over the course of Walsh and O'Flaherty's seven years together in

Boston city government, there were many accomplishments.

Until COVID-19 arrived, the economy for the City of Boston was booming. The innovative Seaport District, now a national model, was developed during the administration.

New fire stations, police stations, and libraries were built in the city. There was new infrastructure and huge economic growth.

Returning to law practice

A graduate of Suffolk University and the Massachusetts School of Law, Gene O'Flaherty will be returning to private law practice, including government relations. He has been practicing law since 1994.

As he comes back to the city where residents overwhelmingly supported him in elections, O'Flaherty says he's excited to be back in Chelsea.

"It's good to be home," he said.

Said Councilor-at-Large Leo Robinson, "It's great to have Gene returning to our city and being a big part of our community. He was an excellent, hard-working state representative who did so much for our city when he served in that position. I know he was also a tremendous asset to the Walsh Administrative in an important role. I look forward to seeing Gene at Chelsea events and I wish him well in his law practice."

DiDomenico highlights disparities at State Health Equity Task Force hearing

On February 1st, Senator Sal DiDomenico testified before the Commonwealth's Health Equity Task Force regarding health disparities that underserved and underrepresented communities disproportionately experience in light of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Senator DiDomenico represents one of the hardest-hit districts in Massachusetts, and throughout this pandemic, his Senate office has centered the Commonwealth's most vulnerable residents and worked to address the fallout from the COVID-19 crisis.

"COVID-19 has offered us tangible and concrete representation of health inequities that have been in existence in Massachusetts for many years but have now been exponentially worsened due to the public health crisis," said DiDomenico. "Data has clearly illuminated what we have already known— infection rates are highest

and most disproportionate in traditionally underserved communities, like those I represent. If we are to comprehensively and holistically solve the health-related inequities in our state, it is my recommendation that we first ensure the stability of the most fundamental necessities of our residents."

During the virtual Task Force hearing, Senator DiDomenico highlighted policy priorities that he continues to champion in the Legislature; issues that have a direct impact on public health outcomes for Massachusetts residents. These priorities include:

- the disproportionate impact of COVID on environmental justice communities and the need further enfranchise these populations;
- the growing necessity of housing stability during the pandemic and the increased need for a right to counsel in housing court;
- the need to provide financial assistance to those

living in deep poverty— i.e., those living below half the federal poverty line; and

•the need to provide comprehensive medical coverage and care to immigrant children living with disabilities.

Senator DiDomenico has filed corresponding legislation to address all of these issue areas and respectfully urged the Task Force to consider these policy priorities in their upcoming recommendations. "Both Dr. Assaad Sayah and Michael Curry have been longtime public health champions in our communities, and as chairs of the Health Equity Task Force, I have no doubt that they will continue to shed light on how we can further support our most vulnerable populations. I am deeply grateful for their efforts, as well as their invitation to testify on the experiences that my constituents are acutely experiencing throughout this pandemic."

Schools / Continued from page 1

achievement gaps. For these reasons we need to open up our classrooms for as many children as possible as soon as possible."

Peysner said that the rollout of COVID-19 education has shown remarkable foresight, innovation, caring and planning. However, he said all-remote schooling in underserved communities has not been a highlight.

He said these gaps and the limitations of all-remote schooling are reason enough to get back into the classroom.

"It doesn't mean everything has gone smoothly or that there haven't been significant gaps and setbacks especially in regard to student learning and development and particularly in those communities that have been providing mostly remote instruction throughout most of the school year so far," he said.

"There is an ever growing body of evidence and first-hand experience here in Massachusetts and across the country and the world that schools are safe spaces for children and adults when the standard health safety protocols are followed.

"Even in communities with higher level of COVID cases, there is little or no evidence of in school transmission with various studies showing rates for students who are in school are lower than for kids that are learning at home," he continued.

Returning to school, he said, should not be a monetary issue.

He said the CARES Act originally funded \$200 million in the state for schools, and Gov. Baker added another \$200 mil-

lion of that for schools returning to in-person education.

Of that, \$170 million has yet to be drawn down by school districts to be used to return kids to school. He said there is also another \$734 million in school-district funding on the way to Massachusetts as part of the December federal Stimulus plan.

He said there is plenty of money available or coming to districts that would allow costs not to be a barrier to returning to the classroom.

He also touched on the touchy subject of testing and vaccinations for teachers, noting they are deemed essential workers, but would not be moved up in the Phase 2 plan already outlined.

"We are rolling out a first in the nation state-wide testing program for students and staff to provide for even more support for instruction," he said. "The Governor has dedicated those working in early education and schools as essential workers in order to prioritize them for the vaccine in the Phase 2 of the vaccine plan."

He said there is no evidence to suggest those working in schools are at a higher risk based on the numbers from those returning to in-person learning.

As a consequence of an all-remote year, Peysner said they are prioritizing summer learning programs in cities like Everett. They will be known as Acceleration Academies and will provide catch-up - likely in person - education for students who are struggling and have struggled through a remote education year.

"This is not a one and done challenge," he said. "For many students it will take years of this effort to get back on track."

His comments were preceded by a strong call from Gov. Charlie Baker for kids to return to schools during his State of the State Address on Jan. 26.

"Study after study makes clear that kids need to be in school," he said. "Their educational and emotional development depends on it. And while in person learning is especially challenging during this time, many schools have found a way to get it done. Relying on state guidance, as well as federal and state funding, many special education programs, early education providers and some school districts have been able to make in person education work safely since the fall."

He used the example of parochial schools in the state, which have largely been open since last fall for in-person learning. He said 45,000 kids have been attending school in-person since mid-August.

"To encourage more public school districts to reopen their classrooms, we've been working with a number of lab partners to develop a weekly Covid testing program for kids, teachers and staff," he said. "The goal is to get as many kids as possible back in the classroom as soon as possible. This first-in-the-nation Covid testing program will help more school districts make the call to offer full time, in person instruction now."

Vaccine / Continued from page 1

ers, multi-generational households, and families making painful decisions between paying rent and feeding their children. It's time to end the suffering by protecting our most vulnerable and getting our people back to work - safely with a vaccine. We are hopeful that this will be the first step in a holistic, equitable, and just recovery for Massachusetts' hardest-hit communities."

The City indicated that vaccinations are available by appointment only, and it could take some time to get a local appointment.

Vaccinations will be by appointment only. No walk-ins will be allowed. Initially, only Chelsea residents Ages 75 and older are eligible to receive

the vaccine and can start scheduling appointments.

One could begin making appointments as of Tues. February 2, at 9 a.m. To book an appointment at this Broadway location, please call 617-568-4870 or you can go online at www.ebnhc.org.

Because the vaccine supply is limited and the demand is high, residents may have to wait several weeks or longer for a scheduled appointment at this Broadway location. The City said to please also note that there are other public vaccination sites in the Boston area offering vaccines.

"You may contact these sites also to determine if you can obtain a more convenient appointment,"

read a statement from the City. "Also, if you have your own doctor at a health care provider such as Mass General or Beth Israel, that provider will likely be contacting you with information on their own vaccination efforts."

In addition to the vaccination site at 318 Broadway in Chelsea, EBNHC has set up public vaccination sites at 10 Garofalo Street in Revere and 120 Liverpool Street in East Boston. EBNHC is also providing vaccinations for patients of the South End Community Health Center. For more information about EBNHC's COVID-19 services, please visit ebnhc.org.

Real Estate Transfers

BUYER 1	SELLER 1	ADDRESS	PRICE
Sanabria, Gerson G	Nieves, Ana	25 Blossom St	\$510,000
Nwokogba, Kemijika	Halim, Jay D	23 Cary Ave #3	\$425,000
Panchal, Hershid	Gonzalez, Jonathan	60 Dudley St #109	\$445,000
Sanna, James H	Larson, Jonathan W	37-39 John St #1	\$495,000
Perry, Elinore S	Kraemer, Aaron J	37-39 John St #2	\$250,000
Kang Qiang FT	73 Winnisimmet Street	73-77 Winnisimmet St #C	\$600,000

It is time sell, prices are high, rates are low.
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Chelsea

RECORD

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Forum

MINIMUM WAGE SHOULD BE AT \$15.00

In 1971, the minimum wage across the United States, as mandated by federal law, was \$1.60.

Today, the federal minimum stands at \$7.25.

One might look at those two numbers and think that because the minimum wage has increased by more than four-fold in the past 50 years, America's lowest-paid workers are doing alright compared to their grandparents.

But the reality is far different.

In fact, had the federal minimum wage kept pace with workers' productivity in the past five decades, the inflation-adjusted minimum wage would be \$24 an hour.

The reality of the \$7.25 minimum wage, which has been at that level since 2009, is that a person working a full-time job at the minimum wage officially falls below the national poverty level, a reality that would be laughably absurd if it were not so harmful to millions of Americans.

President Joe Biden has proposed increasing the minimum wage across the country to \$15.00 by 2024, essentially bringing it into line with Massachusetts and a few other states that already are near or at that level. (The minimum wage in Massachusetts presently stands at \$13.50 and will increase incrementally here and in seven other states to \$15.00 within the next two years.)

Raising the federal minimum wage to \$15 an hour by 2025 would raise wages of up to 27.3 million workers -- almost 20 percent of American workers -- and lift 1.3 million families out of poverty, according to a report by the Congressional Budget Office.

Some on the political spectrum speak exultingly about the dignity of work.

But they ignore the other side of the equation, which is that it is below the dignity of anyone to work for wages that amount to not much better than slave labor.

The time has come to raise the minimum wage and yes, to Make America Great Again -- for everybody.

OREGON LEADS THE WAY ON DRUGS

For more than 50 years, America has been fighting the "war on drugs," an endeavor that began under the administration of President Richard M. Nixon, who had the avowed purpose of arresting and incarcerating as many Blacks and other minorities as possible, especially for simple possession of marijuana.

The war on drugs has been a failure by any measure. Not only have we spent hundreds of billions of dollars on failed law enforcement efforts both in this country and around the globe, directly leading to the destabilization of many nations that has had profound effects both for those countries and ours, but it is fair to say that the drug war has destroyed the lives of more individuals, families, and communities than the drugs themselves.

Thanks to the war on drugs, the prison population in the United States exceeds every other nation on earth, both in terms of sheer numbers and based on population.

At long last, after 50 years of fruitless and costly failure, things are about to change.

Voters in the State of Oregon recently approved a ballot question that decriminalizes the possession of illegal drugs. Instead of throwing people in jail, the state will view drug use as a health issue, offering addicts treatment instead of prison time.

In Portugal, this approach has been used for 20 years. The result has been stunning. Drug overdose deaths and HIV and other drug-related infections have decreased dramatically. In addition, the removal of criminal penalties did NOT increase the rate of drug use.

The time has come for our society to acknowledge that the war on drugs, which was based on racism to begin with, must come to an end.

Oregon is leading the way -- and change is coming none too soon.



THE ECONOMY IS A TWO WAY STREET

LETTERS to the Editor

PROUD OF THE CHELSEA PUBLIC SCHOOLS NURSING TEAM!!!

To the Editor,

I want to personally give a WELL DESERVED THANK YOU to Juliann Boesch, Justine

Hall, Kathy Harris, Kim Rosario, and Kim Sammons for devoting their time and effort in assisting and participating in creating history by administering the COVID-19 vaccine to first responders.

In an effort to create herd immunity, the vac-

cine has become available with first responders, included school nurses, in the first phase.

The historical event took place at the Rumney Marsh Academy in Revere last week and continues this week.

It is with tremendous

GRATITUDE that I thank each and every Chelsea School Nurse who unselfishly give of themselves every day!

Denise Ferrari DiResta
RN MSN
School Health Manager

NEWS Briefs BY SETH DANIEL

WATER SHUTDOWNS FRIDAY

On Friday, February 5, Chelsea Water & Sewer Dept. will be performing water shutdowns as part of an upcoming design on Watts, Willow, and Central. The shutdowns will take place from 3-7p.m. and will be performed street by street. The locations are as follows:

- Watts Street from Highland Street to Willow Street
- Central Ave from Highland Street to Willow Street, and
- Willow Street from Watts Street to Central Ave

BLACK HISTORY MONTH ONLINE PROGRAMS

- All month - Chelsea City Hall Art Gallery Exhibit, 'Celebration of Family, Freedom, Healing, Love.'
- All month - Downtown Gallery 456 - Photography Exhibit
"Family, Peace, Justice, Equality," Photographer: Sharon Caulfield.
- Feb. 10 - 'Silent Beats': Short Film and Discussion on Assumptions and Stereotypes. Facilitator: Khalil Sadiq, Racial Equity Consultant, 6-8 p.m.
- Feb. 18 - 'Injustice Anywhere is a Threat to Justice Everywhere.' Racial Disparities in the US Judicial System. What in the law needs to change for Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC). Conversation with Associate Justice of Superior Court Judge Angel Kelly, 6-8 p.m.
- Feb. 24 - Tribute to



PHOTO BY PAUL KOOLLOIAN

CHELSEA FIREFIGHTERS GET PROMOTION. Three Chelsea Firefighters were sworn into their positions on Wednesday, after being promoted. (Left to right): City Manager Tom Ambrosino, City Clerk Jeannette Cintron, Lt. Gary Poulin, Lt. Efrain Vaquerano, Capt. Chris Lehman, and Fire Chief Leonard Albanese.

Chelsea Trailblazers: "Community Responding to a Pandemic and Racial Equality, 6-8 p.m.

SCHEDULE A VACCINE APPOINTMENT

COVID-19 Vaccination Update: Adults 75 and over can receive the COVID-19 vaccine starting on February 1 using the statewide website. Find more details on the vaccination eligibility, vaccination locations and information for booking appointments at mass.gov/covidvaccine

PROVIDER VACCINE CONTACTS

Patients of MGH, Cambridge Health Alliance or Beth Israel, health care provider may contact patients with information

on their own vaccination efforts. Below are some contacts for them.

•Beth Israel Deaconess HealthCare

Patients can call 781-744-8000 to schedule an appointment. BIDH will host a vaccination site at 1100 Revere Beach Parkway next to Home Depot in Parkway Plaza Shopping Center starting on Thurs. Feb. 4.

•CHA (Cambridge Health Alliance)

Patients will get contacted by CHA to schedule an appointment. Patients can schedule their appointment themselves on CHA's MyCHART. If a person is age 75 or older and has a primary care doctor at CHA, but does not get contacted, they can call the CHA vaccine hotline at 617-665-1995 to make their first vaccine appointment.

CHELSEA

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Legislature passes landmark climate change bill; Giannino votes on first piece of legislation

The Massachusetts House of Representatives and Senate reaffirmed its commitment today to addressing the climate crisis facing our Commonwealth by passing legislation that overhauls our state's climate laws, drives down greenhouse gas emissions, creates clean energy jobs, and protects environmental justice communities.

The passage of An Act Creating a Next-Generation Roadmap for Massachusetts Climate Policy (S.9), comes after a joint commitment from Senate President Karen E. Spilka and House Speaker Ronald Mariano, as well as last session's House and Senate Chairs of the Joint Committee on Telecommunications, Utilities, and Energy, Senator Michael Barrett and Representative Thomas Golden, to refile the legislation following a gubernatorial veto last session.

"This legislation outlines a clear roadmap to address our immediate climate crisis," stated Senate President Karen E. Spilka (D-Ashland). "Time is of the essence and we could not let a delay hamper our efforts to protect future generations. The necessary tools included in this legislation will soon lead to lower emissions, a thriving green economy, and cleaner air and water for all. I want to thank my legislative partner, House Speaker Mariano for his collaboration, Senator Barrett and Representative Golden for their steadfast support, and the residents of Massachusetts for their support in this endeavor."

"The House and Senate again acted to reduce our greenhouse gas emissions, lead on clean energy, and

protect environmental justice communities," said House Speaker Ronald J. Mariano (D-Quincy). "I want to thank Senate President Spilka for her commitment to joining the House in responding immediately to Governor Baker's veto of this important legislation. I am also grateful for the work and leadership of Chairman Golden, and for my colleagues in the House for acting with the urgency the climate crisis demands."

"With this swift action to send the Next-Generation Climate Roadmap bill to the Governor's desk once again, my legislative colleagues and I have made clear that tackling the climate crisis is a non-negotiable. This legislation includes many landmark policies, but I am especially proud of the historic environmental justice provisions that were included in this sweeping climate bill," said Senator Sal DiDomenico. "This EJ language was inspired by legislation I sponsored alongside my EJ partners in the Legislature, and together we strongly advocated for the inclusion of this language in the final version of the bill. Of course, we could not have done this without the incredible work of advocacy organizations like Chelsea's own GreenRoots. Their fierce advocacy has yielded a major win for EJ communities across the Commonwealth."

"I was pleased to once again join my colleagues in the Legislature to pass forward thinking Climate Policy legislation over the Governor's objections," said Representative Dan

Ryan. "This bill includes Environmental Justice language as well as gas line safety provisions. These issues especially impact older urban-industrial cities like Chelsea."

"I am so proud to report that the first piece of legislation that I voted to enact is one that is so near and dear to my coastal district. The House and Senate have sent a clear message to Governor Baker that now is the time to codify meaningful climate change policy in the Commonwealth," said Representative Jessica A. Giannino. "Growing up in Revere, and serving as City Councillor during some of the worst coastal storms and strange weather events that our community has endured in recent years, I have witnessed firsthand the effects of climate change, particularly on communities like Revere, Chelsea and Saugus. Additionally, I am particularly proud that 'Environmental Justice' will be codified in our general laws. For too long, communities in the Sixteenth Suffolk District have had to endure environmental hardship simply by virtue of being urban communities with socio-economic characteristics that are not that of more affluent areas of the Commonwealth. The EJ provisions will amplify the community's voice, and give populations in EJ neighborhoods a bolder seat at the table when it comes to dealing with polluters."

"The most recent numbers tell us Massachusetts is backsliding in terms of reducing emissions," said Senator Mike Barrett (D-Lexington), Senate Chair of the Joint Com-

mittee on Telecommunications, Utilities, and Energy. "This bill is our chance to get back on track and stay there. It's ambitious but balanced, and the most important piece of climate legislation to come before us since 2008. Tip of the hat to President Spilka and Speaker Mariano for putting us back to work on climate immediately. Because of them, the legislation's odds of ultimate success are excellent."

"If not for the initiative and resolve of Speaker Mariano and Senate President Spilka, the Next-Generation Roadmap bill would not have been before the Legislature in the first month of the 2021 - 2022 session," said Representative Thomas A. Golden, Jr. (D-Lowell), Chair of the Joint Committee on Telecommunications, Utilities, and Energy. "I am beyond proud to have once again voted with my colleagues on this path-breaking legislation and I look forward to continued collaboration to make it law and propel the Commonwealth towards its clean energy future."

The bill sets a 2050 net-zero greenhouse gas emissions limit, as well as statewide limits every five years; increases the requirements for offshore wind energy procurement bringing the statewide total authorization to 5,600 megawatts; requires emission reduction goals for MassSave, the state's energy efficiency program; and, for the first time, establishes the criteria in statute that define environmental justice populations. The legislation also increases support for clean energy workforce

development programs including those targeting low-income communities, and improves gas pipeline safety.

The legislation includes, among other items, the following provisions.

- Sets a statewide net-zero limit on greenhouse gas emissions by 2050 and mandates emissions limits every five years, as well as limits for specific sectors of the economy, including transportation and buildings.

- Codifies environmental justice provisions into Massachusetts law, defining environmental justice populations and providing new tools and protections for affected neighborhoods.

- Requires an additional 2,400 megawatts of offshore wind, building on previous legislation action and increases the total authorization to 5,600 megawatts in the Commonwealth.

- Directs the Department of Public Utilities (DPU), regulator of the state's electric and natural gas utilities, to balance priorities going forward: system safety, system security, reliability, affordability, equity, and, significantly, reductions in greenhouse gas emissions.

- Sets appliance energy efficiency standards for a variety of common appliances including plumbing, faucets, computers, and commercial appliances.

- Adopts several measures aimed at improves gas pipeline safety, including increased fines for safety violations and regulations related to training and certifying utility contractors.

- Increases the Renewable Portfolio Standard

(RPS) by 3 percent each year from 2025 - 2029, resulting in 40 percent renewable energy by 2030.

- Establishes an opt-in municipal net-zero energy stretch code, including a definition of "net-zero building."

- Prioritizes equitable access to the state's solar programs by low-income communities

- Establishes \$12 million in annual funding for the Massachusetts Clean Energy Center in order to create a pathway to the clean energy industry for environmental justice populations and minority-owned and women-owned businesses.

- Provides solar incentives for businesses by exempting them from the net metering cap to allow them to install solar systems on their premises to help offset their electricity use and save money.

- Requires utilities to include an explicit value for greenhouse gas reductions when they calculate the cost-effectiveness of an offering of MassSave.

- Creates a first-time greenhouse gas emissions standard for municipal lighting plants that requires them to purchase 50 percent non-emitting electricity by 2030 and "net-zero" by 2050.

- Sets benchmarks for the adoption of clean energy technologies including electric vehicles, charging stations, solar technology, energy storage, heat pumps and anaerobic digestors.

The bill is now with the governor.

World Central Kitchen working with local groups to bring food and meals to Chelsea families in need

Staff Report

The Salvation Army Chelsea Corps announced that World Central Kitchen will provide meals to support them as they continue to carry out The Salvation Army's longstanding mission to provide food and meals to individuals and families in need.

Food insecurity continues to increase throughout the Greater Boston region, including the community of Chelsea. The Salvation Army has been facing a perfect storm as it contends with a massive spike in demand for services coupled with a precipitous decline in donations. The Salvation Army Massachusetts Division served over 150% more people and families during the 2020 holiday season. Since March, The Salvation Army has served

more than 14.5 million meals to neighbors in need across the Commonwealth, serving every community and anyone who asks for help. The Salvation Army's Chelsea Corps now serves more than 3,000 families through its food pantry each week, whereas prior to the pandemic they served 150 families a week.

World Central Kitchen (WCK) is a nonprofit that uses the power of food to heal communities and strengthen economies in times of crisis and beyond. WCK's response to the COVID pandemic, and their Restaurants for the People program provide fresh, nourishing meals to communities in need while also supporting small restaurants and food businesses to stay open. Through partnerships

with local restaurants and community organizations, meals are being prepared and scheduled for delivery. In Chelsea, WCK is working with PAGU and The Salvation Army Chelsea Corps for regularly scheduled meal preparation and delivery to neighbors in need.

"The COVID-19 pan-

demic has brought increased hardships to individuals and families throughout the state," said Captain Isael Gonzalez from The Salvation Army's Chelsea Corps. "We continue to see an increase in need for support and services, especially those in need of food assistance. With the support of the

World Central Kitchen and PAGU, we can continue to ensure anyone who comes to us in need of a meal or food assistance will receive it and for that, we are incredibly grateful."

Deliveries and distribution will take place on Thursday mornings at the Chelsea Corps office located at 258 Chestnut Street.

Every day, The Salvation Army provides a wide array of life-changing social services and other programs throughout the year, including Emergency Assistance, After-School Programs, Emergency Disaster Services, Senior Services, and shelter, utility and holiday assistance.

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

FEBRUARY IS NATIONAL DENTAL HEALTH MONTH

Reports show that American students miss over 51 million hours of school every year because of oral health problems, and students who have experienced recent oral health pain are 4 times more likely to have lower grades and GPAs.

Join Independent Newspapers in celebrating National Dental Health month. Place your 1-col. x 2-inch ad for the month of February in a single paper for only **\$30⁰⁰** for **1 WEEK**

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FEBRUARY IS NATIONAL PET DENTAL HEALTH MONTH

PETS NEED DENTAL CARE TOO!!

Did you know that February is National Pet Dental Health month? According to experts, oral disease is the #1 health problems diagnosed in dogs and cats.

- Tooth loss or mobility
- Subdued behavior
- Abnormal drooling
- Dropping food out of the mouth
- Swallowing Food Whole
- Bad Breath
- Yellow-brown crust on teeth
- Bleeding gums
- Going to food bowl but not eating

Join Us in celebrating National Pet Dental Health month. Place your 2-col. x 2-inch ad for the month of February in a single paper for only **\$30⁰⁰** for **1 WEEK.** Choose any paper or run in all!

PLACE YOUR ADS ONLINE TOO!
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GREENROOTS HOLD SPECIAL, FREE DISTRIBUTION OF PPE AND WELLNESS KITS

PHOTOS BY DARLENE DEVITA

GreenRoots held a special, free distribution of PPE and wellness kits, including masks, hand sanitizer, wipes and thermometers, on Saturday, Jan. 30. At the same time, MGH's Mobile Testing Van was onsite offering free COVID-19 testing; and Stock Pot Malden and YMCA of Greater Boston distributed boxes of food for youth.

The event was outdoors at GreenRoots (227 Marginal Street) and used all COVID19 precautions.



Volunteers (L-R) Mirna Patricia Mejia, Beatriz Yañez, Asma Bana, Brenda Pleitez, and Angel Del Valle prepared the packets of PPE and wellness products prior to people arriving.



The group of volunteers gathered for a photo after the distribution on Saturday.



Naomi Zabot (sitting) and Angel Del Valle Cardenas (standing).



Councilor Enio Lopez with GreenRoots' Maria Belen Power and Roseanne Bongiovanni.



School Committeeman Henry Wilson and two youth volunteers from Chelsea High School.



One of the many who came to GreenRoots on Saturday for PPE.



Stockpot Malden team member handing out boxes of food.



This man was grateful to get PPE from GreenRoots.



A Stockpot Malden team member handing out food.



Fernando guided people from Marginal Street to the distribution.

We want to see you... at home!

Telemedicine allows health care professionals to evaluate, diagnose, and treat patients at a distance using telecommunications technology, such as a smart phone or computer. Telemedicine allows us to continue to provide high-quality care to our patients during the COVID-19 pandemic while minimizing exposures.

Telemedicine appointments are being scheduled in Pediatrics, Adult Medicine, Family Medicine, Women's Health (OB/GYN), Behavioral Health, Neighborhood PACE, and other departments. We use certified medical interpreters during telemedicine appointments for languages other than English.

Do you need to schedule a telemedicine appointment with your primary care provider? Did you miss an appointment that needs to be rescheduled? If so, call 617-569-5800 to schedule a telemedicine appointment. This is especially important if you have a chronic or a behavioral health condition. You should be treated if needed, especially during this public health crisis. We're here to keep you healthy!



Notice is hereby given that a COMMUNITY OUTREACH MEETING for a proposed Marijuana Establishment. The location for the proposed Retailer is 267 Broadway Chelsea, MA 02150. There will be an opportunity for the public to ask questions. Please contact manager@housefermias.co with any inquiries

Community Host Outreach

Esta noticia es para informarles que habra una REUNION DE LA COMUNIDAD en donde se les informara de la propuesta para establecer un negocio de Marijuana. La direccion propuesta para vender Marijuana sera en la 267 Broadway Chelsea, MA 02150. Durante la reunion el public tendra la oportunidad de hacer preguntas. Por favor email manager@housefermias.co con cualquier pregunta

Feb 4 2021
6p EST

Zoom Conference:
+13126266799
Meeting ID: 834 7314 0194
Passcode: 550566

manager@housefermias.co



Sandra, Anthony and Maria got PPE and a box of food on Saturday.

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WINTHROP ARMS

Superbowl trays now available! Mac & Cheese, Chicken Parmesan, Chicken Wings, Quesadillas and Doc's chicken Pot Pies. 1/2 bite eats are starting Feb. 3rd. Delivery available! Order by Saturday Call or order on line www.winthroparms.com 130 Grovers Ave, Winthrop 617-846-4000

Meals on Wheels program essential during winter months

The winter months are notoriously harder on older adults, especially during this pandemic, which is why Mystic Valley Elder Services (MVES) stresses the importance of virtual and phone assessments, proper heating, physical checkups by your doctor, social interactions, even if we cannot do it face-to-face, transportation assistance and nutritious meals. Eating good, whole, nutritious foods in the winter months can go a long way in helping older adults regulate their body temperature and stay warm. For those who may not want to or lack the ability to cook, the Meals on Wheels program provides regular nutritious food.

MVES' Meals on Wheels program is dedicated to providing seniors with the necessary nutritional support to protect them against food insecurity, and to help them continue to live independent and fulfilling lives. MVES has provided home-delivered meals for more than 45 years. Meals on Wheels is for vulnerable older adults who require nutritional support to safely continue living in the community. Despite the challenges COVID-19 has brought, Nutrition Services has continued to serve home-delivered meals to consumers, and the number of those needing meals de-

livered has increased. Since the pandemic started, the program is serving closer to 60,000 meals per month vs. 50,000 prior to the pandemic to home bound, frail older adults, many with significant health conditions or mental impairments, and not a serving day or meal has been missed.

The home-delivered meals service includes the following options as needed: chilled-to-be-heated noontime meals, cold-pack breakfast and supper, clinical diet meals, kosher meals, and frozen weekend meals. In some cases, we can provide cultural or ethnically preferred meals in certain communities.

MVES' Meals on Wheels program ensures that a friendly face of the driver and healthy meal arrives during the cold months and all year round to those who need this essential service to remain healthy, well fed, and safe in their homes.

When providing the meals to the individual, drivers also offer regular check-ins—at a safe distance—to make sure the older adult is doing well during the cold weather. This can be done by a warm smile and welcoming wave.

If you are interested in knowing more about our Meals on Wheels program, please visit us here or call us at 781-324-7705.



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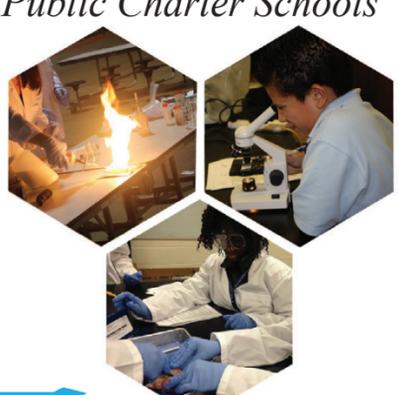
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NEWS FROM AROUND THE REGION

CRIMSON HIGH BAND GETS INVITE

EVERETT - Everett High Band Director Gene O'Brien couldn't say "unbelievable" and "improbable" enough when he appeared before the School Committee.

And by all rights, he wasn't wrong to stress the unbelievable nature of the invitation extended recently to the Everett High Crimson Tide music program asking them to represent Massachusetts on Dec. 7 at the 80th Pearl Harbor commemoration event in Hawaii. It's a solemn and honorable event that, along with the band, will feature dignitaries and, likely, President Joe Biden and a number of military leaders. It will also be the last commemoration held, as the only two Pearl Harbor survivors living will be present and it has been agreed there will not be another official commemoration at the 85th anniversary.

"This started way back about two years ago and has become an invitation for us to represent Massachusetts at the 80th anniversary of Pearl Harbor," said O'Brien on Jan. 19 at the School Committee meeting. "At first, that is like 'What?' Well, the folks that run the Memorial Day Parade in Washington, D.C., saw how good the Everett band was when we went there and said we had to get an invite to represent the state of Massachusetts at the 2021 Pearl Harbor commemoration... This is going to be the last time they do it. There are only two survivors left from the Arizona. It's going to be an extraordinary occurrence... It's historic. It's the biggest thing we've ever done. For us to represent Everett and Massachusetts and be part of this event - it will be with us forever."

State Sen. Sal DiDoménico and O'Brien have been working for several months to figure out how to make the trip happen, and he said he is excited to see Everett play a part in an historic occasion.

"This is a once in a lifetime opportunity for our students, and it was a month's long process to bring us to this point," he said. "I am so excited to see our students be a part of history as they play at Pearl Harbor. Gene O'Brien's relationships with organizers and the reputation of our band has put our school at the top of the list and given our kids a chance to show people around the country how amazing and talented our students are. Our kids deserve this, and I am happy to be a small part of this journey. I can't wait to be there, as we were in Washington, D.C., to see them perform for our veterans, their families, and dignitaries from around the world."

O'Brien said the plan would be to take 100 kids this coming December to Hawaii for the occasion. He would take the entire Crimson Tide Marching Band, some of the choral students and some of the string students. The ceremony would take place on Dec. 7, and O'Brien plans to begin practicing outside in June for the event - hoping that things would be safe enough by then to begin rehearsals such as were done last summer.

The Band has a long history of accolades, going to Washington, D.C., parades seven times and, 20 years ago, playing at the Orange Bowl with a large group at the halftime of the College Football National Championship game. So, saying this is the biggest thing they've ever done gives quite a perspective as to what this event will be.

The School Committee was enthusiastically in favor of the request to approve the trip, and threw their full support behind it.

"I throw my full support behind this," said School Committeeman Marcony Almeida Barros. "This is going to be amazing. I'm glad it's in December and hopefully the pandemic, if not gone, will have subsided by then."

Mayor Carlo DeMaria said he would do everything in his power to help raise the money it will take to transport and provide for the band in Hawaii.

"For public school students from Everett to go to Honolulu and represent us there, that's amazing," he said.

"You and your young people never cease to amaze me," said School Committeewoman Millie Cardillo.

The Committee approved the project by a 9-0 vote.

"Aloha!" quipped O'Brien before signing off from the meeting.

CITY OFFICIALS RECALL WORKING WITH POLLACK

EVERETT - If former MassDOT Director Stephanie Pollack needed a guinea pig for exciting transportation experiments, Everett was willing to be the test subject, and Mayor Carlo DeMaria and Pollack forged a partnership over the last six years that brought about such exciting pilot programs that have now spread across the region.

Pollack, who focused in on Everett early six years ago due to the City's willingness to lead and pay for initiatives, announced last week that she was leaving MassDOT to become Deputy Administrator of the Federal Highway Administration under new President Joe Biden.

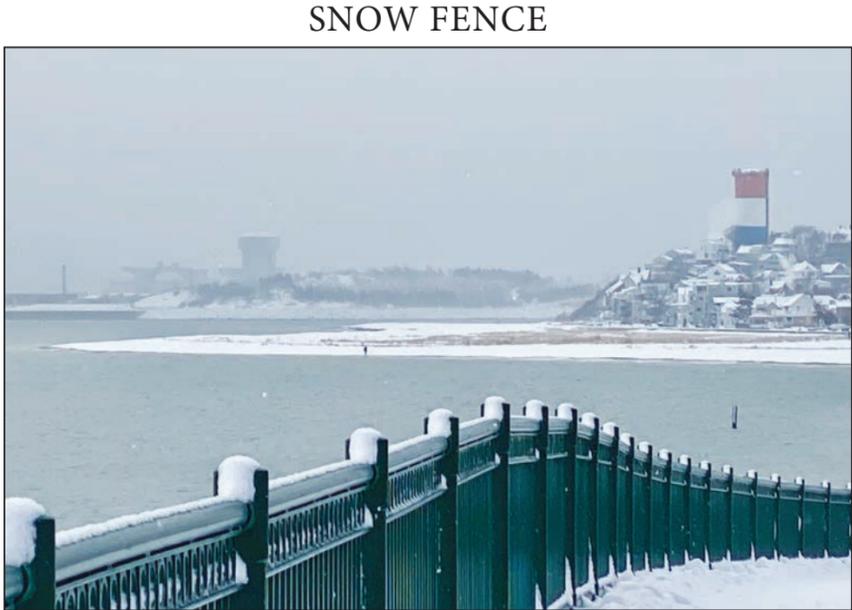


PHOTO BY RICHARD HONAN

A coating of snow can be seen covering the fence and walkway along Shore Drive at the Highlands as seen during the morning.

Leaving a state Republican Administration for a federal Democratic Administration, Pollack left her job in Massachusetts on Tuesday, but was not forgotten in Everett.

"It has been a privilege to lead MassDOT's exceptional team these last six years and to work with the MBTA's senior leadership and the Fiscal and Management Control Board," said Pollack. "The Governor and Lt. Governor have my deepest gratitude for entrusting me with the stewardship of MassDOT and their leadership as transportation champions. Massachusetts has become a leader in delivering a transportation system that puts people first and provides them with safer and better choices for walking, biking, using transit, or driving and I am confident that Jamey will be able to continue that good work."

Mayor Carlo DeMaria was perhaps one of the first local officials to grab the attention of Pollack when she assumed a leadership role at MassDOT. He proposed working together on a remake of Everett's transit offerings, conducting a study that would change bus service through innovation, efficiency and trying fun things.

Pollack was more than willing, particularly because the revenue-starved MBTA didn't have the money to do such things, and Mayor DeMaria proposed that Everett pay for the study and some of the innovations themselves.

It was a winning partnership that developed into the Everett Transit Action Plan, which led to

the region's first real dedicated bus lane on Broadway five years ago and other Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) innovations. Later, it also spawned the Lower Mystic Regional Transportation Working Group - which Pollack chaired and helped to solve long-term mobility issues created in the area of Encore Boston Harbor.

City Transportation Director Jay Monty, who worked with the mayor to go forward on so many of the initiatives, said there was an investment in building relationships that was a new approach first showed up in Everett and then took off in other areas of Greater Boston later.

"Our plan recommended the first bus lane, but there was no one at the T who knew how to approach this or implement it," he said. "I think it was because of our successes and also her administrative skills to see the bus lanes expand to many other communities now. Doing the bus lane last year on Sweetser Circle was a breeze compared to six years ago when we started. So much has gone on under the radar to make MassDOT stronger and the work they do with communities stronger. That investment she made will pay off for a long time."

Monty said the approach that began in Everett has changed the way everyone does business with MassDOT, including Boston.

"It really has put more accountability on cities and towns," he said. "Five

years ago it was put you hand out and scream really loud and hopefully the T will hear and help. With Stephanie Pollack, we had skin in the game and they were ready to work alongside us. We're sad to see her leave and whoever fills her shoes will hopefully continue this relationship with Everett."

Pollack was most recently in Everett last October to kick off the Re-Imagining Broadway BRT, multi-faceted, approach to changing transportation in the City's corridors.

Late last week, Gov. Charlie Baker and Lt. Governor Karyn Polito announced the departure of Pollack, and appointed Jamey L. Tesler as Acting Secretary of Transportation. Secretary Pollack was announced Thursday as Deputy Administrator of the Federal Highway Administration for the Biden-Harris Administration. Secretary Pollack will also be acting Administrator until the confirmation by the United States Senate of a permanent Highway Administrator.

"Stephanie has led MassDOT through many difficult challenges over the past six years; from the historic blizzards that exposed the problems of the MBTA, through saving the GLX project, instituting a data-driven Capital Improvement Plan, and guiding the RMV through a crisis last summer," said Governor Baker. "She has provided MassDOT with stability and leadership through the last six years, serving longer than her

See REGION Page 9

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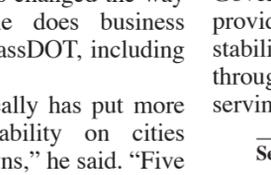
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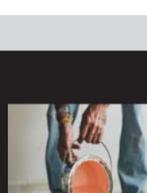
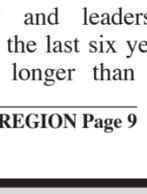
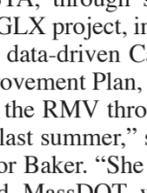
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Region / Continued from page 8

three predecessors combined. She has allowed the agency to focus on long term efforts developing the FMCB and upgrading the MBTA's infrastructure, service and customer relations and much more. We are so grateful for Stephanie's service to the Commonwealth and congratulate her on her new appointment. I am confident that Jamey will step into this important role ready to lead on day one."

Jamey Tesler, currently Registrar of Motor Vehicles, has years of experience across the Department of Transportation, previously serving as Chief Operating Officer, Chief of Staff and Assistant Secretary for Procurement for MassDOT. Jamey also worked for the MBTA, Governor Jane Swift's legal office and the Office of the State Treasurer.

"I am honored by the trust the Governor and Lt. Governor are placing in

me," said incoming Secretary Jamey Tesler. "Working with Secretary Pollack for most of the last five years has been a master class in transportation policy, and I am happy to be able to use that knowledge to continuing advancing the programs and policies we have been working on together for so long."

Colleen Ogilvie, currently deputy Registrar and Chief Operating Officer, will serve as Acting Registrar.

WALSH ANNOUNCES NEW ZBA TRACKER

EAST BOSTON - For the past decade East Boston has experienced a development boom that can be hard to keep track of for the average resident.

Unless you have attended one of several community group meetings held each month in various parts of the neighborhood it has become increasingly difficult to keep abreast of

development projects happening in Eastie.

This week Mayor Martin Walsh announced a new Zoning Board of Appeal (ZBA) project tracker that will allow residents to gather information about ongoing projects.

The new online tool that can be found at https://experience.arcgis.com/experience/c019ba9a25cb-4f33bb6cdd2f69b543d4/page/page_0/ fulfills the requirements set forth in Mayor Walsh's Executive Order Relative to the Zoning Board of Appeal.

Walsh said this new tool will increase access to information related to proposed projects seeking relief from the ZBA. The tracker is designed for anyone to quickly search for a specific appeal that has been submitted to the ZBA, or to search for appeals based on criteria such as location or applicant, in order to identify the status of the appeal.

"Increasing access to

the workings of municipal government is important for our residents to have access to resources about the city's role in the development and livelihood of our residents," said Walsh. "The Zoning Board of Appeals' online tracker will increase our city's transparency and our residents' understanding of our neighborhoods."

The East Boston Times took a look at the new, easy to use ZBA Tracker Monday. The new feature allows viewers to use an interactive map of Eastie or other Boston neighborhoods to view projects seeking relief or by typing in the address which provides the following additional details for each proposed project: The status of the appeal; Community process; Date and location of an appeal application; Hearing scheduled; Address of the proposed project; Status of project; Deferral date; Hearing result; Application numbers;

Zoning district; Contact information; Appeal type; and Date of submission.

For example a quick search of recent hearing results in Eastie showed three projects that were recently approved by the ZBA.

On January 13, 2020 the ZBA approved projects on London, Porter and Whitby Streets.

For the project on 185 London Street the ZBA approved plans to repair the foundation within the home's setback, add a penthouse, increase the floor area ratio, renovate the interior and exterior including the roof, siding and decks.

For the project at 97 Porter Street the ZBA approved plans to combine five lots and create one 17,030 square foot lot to erect new residential dwelling units with parking.

The project at 16 Whitby Street, which was approved by the ZBA on the

same day as the other two projects, calls for combining two lots and erecting a four story building with ten residential units, a gym on the first floor and 13 parking spaces.

There are also dozens of other development projects in various stages of the community and/or ZBA process in Eastie according to the new tracker tool.

"This newly developed tool will further Mayor Walsh's commitment to increase transparency to department processes and community development," said Inspectional Services Commissioner Dion Irish. "ISD will continue to create digital tools that will provide real time information related to permits."

All permits issued after January 1, 2021 will display a QR Code which will allow passersby to access detailed information of the property in question on their smartphone.

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LEGAL NOTICES

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF MORTGAGEE'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE
 Premises: 124 Addison Street, Unit No. 11 of Addison Place Condominium, Chelsea, Massachusetts
 By virtue and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in a certain mortgage given by Stephen Dunn, aka Stephen R. Dunn, to Sovereign Bank, said mortgage dated April 4, 2006, and filed in the Suffolk County Registry District of the Land Court as Document No. 719190 and noted on Certificate of Title No. C212-31, and now held by Santander Bank, N.A., f/k/a Sovereign Bank, N.A., f/k/a Sovereign Bank, for breach of the conditions in said mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing the same, will be sold at Public Auction on February 26, 2021 at 1:00 PM Local Time upon the premises, directly in front of the building containing said unit, all and singular the premises described in said mortgage, to wit: That certain piece of parcel of land, and the buildings and improvements thereon: In the Town of: Chelsea County of: Suffolk And State of: Massachusetts And being more particularly described in a deed filed in Book Page As Document No. 576117 and noted on Certificate of Title No. C212-31 Of the Suffolk County, City of Chelsea Which property is more commonly known as 124 Addison Street Apt. 11, Chelsea, MA 02150 More Particularly Described as: A CERTAIN PARCEL OF LAND WITH THE BUILDINGS THEREON SITUATED IN CHELSEA, COUNTY OF SUFFOLK COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS, KNOWN AS 124 ADDISON STREET APT 11, DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS: THE UNIT KNOWN AS UNIT NO. 11, OF ADDISON PLACE CONDOMINIUM, A CONDOMINIUM ESTABLISHED PURSUANT TO MASSACHUSETTS

GENERAL LAWS, CHAPTER 183A, BY MASTER DEED RECORDED WITH THE SUFFOLK COUNTY REGISTRY OF DEEDS DISTRICT OF THE LAND COURT AS DOC. NO. 430062, AS AMENDED BY INSTRUMENTS DULY RECORDED WITH SAID REGISTRY. THE UNIT IS SHOWN ON FLOOR PLANS OF THE BUILDINGS RECORDED SIMULTANEOUSLY WITH SAID MASTER DEED AND A COPY OF THE PORTION OF SAID PLANS ATTACHED TO WHICH IS AFFIXED THE VERIFIED STATEMENT OF A REGISTERED PROFESSIONAL ENGINEER IN TH FORM REQUIRED BY SECTION 9 OF SAID CHAPTER 183A. THE UNIT IS CONVEYED TOGETHER WITH AN UNDIVIDED PERCENTAGE INTEREST AS SET FORTH IN THE MASTER DEED (a) IN THE COMMON AREAS AND FACILITIES OF ADDISON PLACE CONDOMINIUM AS DESCRIBED IN THE AMSTER DEED, AND (b) IN THE ADDISON PLACE CONDOMINIUM TRUST, RECORDED WITH SAID MASTER DEED IN SAID REGISTRY OF DEEDS, AS SUCH MAY BE AMENDED BY INSTRUMENTS OF RECORD, AND WITH THE EXCLUSIVE RIGHTS AND EASEMENTS AS DESCRIBED IN SAID MASTER DEED. FOR REFERENCE TO TITLE, SEE CERTIFICATE OF TITLE NO. 212031, AND DOCUMENT NO. 576117 The description of the property that appears in the mortgage to be foreclosed shall control in the event of a typographical error in this publication. For Mortgagor's Title, see deed dated December 9, 1998, and filed as Certificate of Title No. C212-31 and Document No. 576117 with the Suffolk County Registry District of the Land Court. Said Unit will be conveyed together with an undivided percentage interest in the Common Elements of said Condominium appurtenant to said Unit and together with all rights, easements, covenants and agreements as contained and referred to in the Declaration of Condominium, as amended. TERMS OF SALE: Said premises will be sold

and conveyed subject to all liens, encumbrances, unpaid taxes, tax titles, municipal liens and assessments, if any, which take precedence over the said mortgage above described. FIVE THOUSAND (\$5,000.00) Dollars of the purchase price must be paid by a certified check, bank treasurer's or cashier's check at the time and place of the sale by the purchaser. The balance of the purchase price shall be paid in cash, certified check, bank treasurer's or cashier's check within sixty (60) days after the date of sale. Other terms to be announced at the sale. BENDETT & MCHUGH, PC 270 Farmington Avenue Farmington, CT 06032 The Attorney for Santander Bank, N.A. successor by merger to Sovereign Bank Present Holder of the Mortgage (860) 677-2868 2/4/21, 2/11/21, 2/18/21

LEGAL NOTICE

 Legal Notice City of Chelsea Public Hearing The City of Chelsea Department of Housing and Community Development will hold a virtual Public Hearing on Thursday, February 11th, 2021 at 6:30 p.m., which will be accessible via the Zoom link and phone number below. The purpose of this meeting is to discuss the City's proposed Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Application for Fiscal Year 2021, to present progress of current and recent CDBG grants, and to invite comments on CDBG activities. This Public Hearing is a requirement prior to submitting a CDBG application to the Massachusetts Department of Housing and Community Development. At this meeting, we will update progress on activities funded in the past year's FY2019 and FY2020

CDBG grants. CDBG funds may be used for eligible projects/activities in the categories, including but not limited to, housing rehabilitation, community economic development, public facilities/infrastructure, planning, and/or public/social services. The FY2020 grant was awarded for the reconstruction of Cherry Street (summer of 2021), housing rehabilitation (ongoing), renovation of 2nd Street in Chelsea Square (summer of 2021), and public social services. Public social services funding supports Community Schools ESOL classes, a citizenship and immigration services program, and the REACH program for at-risk middle and high school students. The FY2021 grant application may include some or all of these activities, as well as additional activities. The program focused on the target areas of Addison/Orange, Shurtleff/Bellingham, and Downtown. The City of Chelsea is a Mini-entitlement community that receives CDBG funds on a non-competitive basis for eligible activities. The City of Chelsea's Department of Housing and Development staff will implement the CDBG program. Staff from the Chelsea Department of Housing and Community Development will be present to hear any and all recommendations. All persons or organizations wishing to comment will be given an opportunity to be heard. You may also submit comments in writing by February 19th, 2021 to the Chelsea Department of Housing and Community Development, 500 Broadway, Room 101, Chelsea, MA 02150, Attn: CDBG Program, or via email to atrain@chelseama.gov. Join Zoom Meeting <https://zoom.us/j/91540269661?pwd=dXJDMkw1NGZHYUhhCMF-FUYjNSZlYkdzO9> Meeting ID: 915 4026 9661 Passcode: 084283 One tap mobile +16465588656, 915402 69661#,,,,*084283# US

(New York) +13017158592,,915402 69661#,,,,*084283# US (Washington D.C) Dial by your location +1 646 558 8656 US (New York) +1 301 715 8592 US (Washington D.C) +1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago) +1 669 900 9128 US (San Jose) +1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma) +1 346 248 7799 US (Houston) Meeting ID: 915 4026 9661 Passcode: 084283 Find your local number: <https://zoom.us/j/acwHqBczqb> Alex Train, AICP Director of Housing and Community Development City of Chelsea 1/28/21 and 2/4/21

LEGAL NOTICE

 Aviso Legal Ciudad de Chelsea Vista Pública El Departamento de Vivienda y Desarrollo Comunitario de la Ciudad de Chelsea va a llevar a cabo una vista pública en línea el jueves 11 de febrero de 2021 a las 6:30 p.m.. La vista pública será accesible a través del link de Zoom y el número de teléfono mencionados al final. El propósito de esta reunión es discutir la solicitud de la Ciudad propuesta para el Año Fiscal 2021 a la subvención Community Development Block Grant (CDBG por sus siglas en inglés), presentar el progreso de los actuales y recientes subvenciones de CDBG y habilitar comentarios de las actividades de CDBG. Esta vista pública es requerida por el Departamento de Vivienda y Desarrollo Comunitario de Massachusetts antes de someter una solicitud a los fondos de CDBG. Los fondos CDBG pueden usarse para proyectos/actividades elegibles en las categorías - incluidas pero no limitadas - rehabilitación de viviendas, desarrollo económico comunitario, instala-

ciones / infraestructura públicas, planificación y/o servicios públicos/sociales. Las subvenciones para el año 2020 son la reconstrucción de la calle Cherry Street (verano del 2021), rehabilitación de viviendas (en marcha), renovación de la calle 2nd Street en Chelsea Square (verano del 2021), y servicios sociales públicos. Los servicios sociales públicos dan apoyo a las clases de inglés como segundo idioma (ESOL por sus siglas en inglés) de las Escuelas de la Comunidad, a los programas de servicios de ciudadanía e inmigración y al programa REACH para estudiantes de secundaria y preparatoria en riesgo. La solicitud de subvención del Año Fiscal 2021 puede incluir algunas o todas estas actividades y también actividades adicionales. El programa se centró en las áreas de Addison/Orange, Shurtleff/Bellingham, y Downtown. La Ciudad de Chelsea es una comunidad que recibe fondos CDBG de forma no competitiva para actividades elegibles. El personal del Departamento de Vivienda y Desarrollo Comunitario de la Ciudad de Chelsea va a implementar el programa CDBG. Personal del Departamento de Vivienda y Desarrollo Comunitario va a estar presente para recibir cualquier y todas las recomendaciones. Todas las personas u organizaciones que deseen comentar tendrán la posibilidad de ser escuchados. También puede enviar comentarios por escrito antes del 19 de febrero de 2021 al Departamento de Vivienda y Desarrollo Comunitario, 500 Broadway, Oficina 101, Chelsea, MA 02150, Attn: CDBG Program, o por email a atrain@chelseama.gov. Acompañe la reunión via Zoom <https://zoom.us/j/91540269661?pwd=dXJDMkw1NGZHYUhhCMF-FUYjNSZlYkdzO9> ID de la reunión: 915 4026 9661 Código de acceso:

084283 Desde su celular +16465588656,,915402 69661#,,,,*084283# US (New York) +13017158592,,915402 69661#,,,,*084283# US (Washington D.C) Número según su ubicación +1 646 558 8656 US (New York) +1 301 715 8592 US (Washington D.C) +1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago) +1 669 900 9128 US (San Jose) +1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma) +1 346 248 7799 US (Houston) ID de la reunión: 915 4026 9661 Código de acceso: 084283 Encuentre su número local: <https://zoom.us/j/acwHqBczqb> Alex Train, AICP Director del Departamento de Vivienda y Desarrollo de la Comunidad Ciudad de Chelsea 1/28/21 and 2/4/21

LEGAL NOTICE

 CITY OF CHELSEA DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS CDBG HOUSING REHABILITATION SERVICES The City of Chelsea, Massachusetts, through its Chief Procurement Officer, is seeking proposals from qualified contractors (hereinafter referred to as "Consultant") to assist the Chelsea Department of Planning and Development on a consulting basis to implement the FY 2020 and City's CDBG Housing Rehabilitation Program. Funding for the Housing Rehabilitation Program will be provided by the City's Massachusetts Department of Housing and Community Development's (DHCD) Fiscal Year 2020 and Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and will be subject to the continued availability of these funds. The selected Consultant is required to comply with CDBG guide-

lines and all applicable state and federal regulations and requirements. Request for Proposals will be available on or after February 3, 2021 by visiting the City's website at <http://www.chelseama.gov/purchasing/pages/current-bids-solicitations>. Proposals must be sealed and clearly marked "CDBG HOUSING REHABILITATION SERVICES" and submitted to the Office of the Chief Procurement Officer no later than 10:00AM on Thursday, February 25, 2021. The City of Chelsea reserves the right to accept any proposal, to reject any or all proposals and to waive minor irregularities and/or formalities as it deems to be in the best interest of the City. In accordance with our Minority Business Enterprise Plan, we are inviting all qualified women and minority business firms to respond. The City of Chelsea is an Equal Opportunity Employer. This Request for Proposals is in accordance with M.G.L. Chapter 30B. Dragica Ivanis Chief Procurement Officer 2/4/21

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 January 5, 2021, the Commission voted to approve the following regulations: To post a temporary handicap sign for six months at 75 Congress Avenue. To post a handicap sign at 46 Sixth Street. To post a handicap sign at 28 Shurtleff Street Respectfully Submitted, Jeannette Cintron White Parking Clerk 2/4/21

LEGAL NOTICE

 CITY OF CHELSEA INVITATIONS FOR BIDS MCB ROOF REPAIR AND COATING PROJECT The City of Chelsea Massachusetts through its Chief Procurement Officer is seeking bids for "MCB Roof Repair and Coating Project". Invitation for Bids will be available on or after February 02, 2021 by contacting Dylan Cook, School Business Manager at dcook@chelseama.gov or by visiting the City's website at <http://www.chelseama.gov/purchasing/pages/current-bids-solicitations>. Bids must be sealed and clearly marked "MCB Roof Repair and Coating Project" and submitted to the Office of the Chief Procurement Officer, City Hall, Room 204, Chelsea, Massachusetts no later than 9:30AM, Thursday, February 18, 2021. Each bid must be accompanied by a certified check, issued by a responsible bank or trust company. Or a bid bond duly executed by the bidder as principal and having as surety thereon a surety company approved by the City, all in the amount of 5% of the bid payable to the "City of Chelsea." The City of Chelsea reserves the right to accept any bid, to reject and/or all bids and to waive minor irregularities and/or formalities as it deems to be in the best interest of the City. In accordance with our Minority Business Enterprise Plan, we are inviting all qualified women and minority business firms to respond. The City of Chelsea is an Equal Opportunity Employer. This invitation for bid is in accordance with M.G.L. Chapter 149. Dylan Cook School Business Manager 2/4/21

Collecting Stories: The Invention of Folk Art

Organized by the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston (MFA), Collecting Stories: The Invention of Folk Art reflects on benefactor and donor Maxim Karolik's quest to champion the "art of the people." The exhibition examines the creation of folk art as a collecting category in the early 20th century.

It will run from FEBRUARY 6, 2021–JANUARY 9, 2022.

Throughout the 1940s and '50s, Karolik championed the then-radical

notion of incorporating American "folk art" into the Museum's collection and disrupting long-held standards and definitions of so-called "fine art." Through Karolik's enthusiasm and generosity, the MFA became one of the first encyclopedic museums in the country to actively collect works by artisans, craftspeople, women, schoolchildren, sailors and other artists who were free from the strict rules of traditional Western academic train-

ing. Karolik's expansive vision of American art proved to be ahead of his time—while MFA curators ultimately accepted its value, the reluctance to display folk art alongside fine art remained for decades to come. The exhibition features 59 works on paper shown in two successive rotations and 20 sculptural objects drawn primarily from the MFA's Karolik Collection of American Folk Art. Generously supported by the Henry Luce Foundation.

Collecting Stories: The Invention of Folk Art is the third in a series of three Collecting Stories exhibitions funded by the Henry Luce Foundation that presents understudied works from the MFA's collection to address critical themes in American art and the formation of modern American identities. Previous exhibitions include Collecting Stories: A Mid-Century Experiment and Collecting Stories: Native American Art.

OBITUARIES

Robert Roberto

He cherished his whole family.

Robert "Bob" Roberto of Revere died on January 30 at the age of 80.

He was the loving husband of the late Angela (Diecidue) Roberto; beloved son of the late Angelo H. Roberto and his wife, Mildred F. (Salamone); devoted father of AnnMarie Lepore of Revere, Robert Roberto and his wife, Cheryl of Saugus, Lisa Rusconi and Michael Roberto and his wife, Lori, all of Revere; cherished brother of Gerard Roberto of Wakefield, Richard Roberto and his wife, Maureen of Florida, John Roberto and his wife, Joann of Wilmington, James Roberto of Dedham; cherished grandfather (Pa) of Angela, Tiffany, Nicole, Michael, Robert, Jennifer, Christopher, Mikey, and Leah. He is also survived by many nieces and nephews.

Bob was a loving husband, a wonderful father and grandfather who cherished his whole family.



A visitation will be held on Friday from 4 to 8 p.m. at the Paul Buonfiglio & Sons-Bruno Funeral Home, 128 Revere St, Revere. His funeral will be at the funeral home on Saturday, February 6 at 10 a.m. followed by a Funeral Mass in St. Anthony's Church at 11 a.m. Names and temperatures will be taken upon entrance with capacity limits (masks and social distancing are required). Relatives and friends are kindly invited. Interment will be in Holy Cross Cemetery. For guest book, please visit www.buonfiglio.com.

Susanne Goodrich

Of Revere

Susanne (DiMattio) Goodrich of Revere passed away on January 29 at the age of 70.

Born in Winthrop on November 15, 1950 to the late Edward DiMattio Jr. and Angelina (Lombardi), she was the cherished wife of Albert Goodrich and is also survived by many loving family members.

A Visitation will be held at the Paul Buonfiglio & Sons-Bruno Funeral Home, 128 Revere St, Revere today, Thursday, February 4 from 10 to 11:30 a.m. Capacity limits will be enforced and masks and social



distancing are required. A Funeral Mass will be celebrated at St. Anthony's Church in Revere at 12 noon (names and temperatures will be taken upon entrance.) Relatives and friends are kindly invited. Interment will be in Woodlawn Cemetery. For guest book, please visit www.buonfiglio.com.

Patricia Ann Melendy

March 1, 1941 – January 30, 2021

Patricia Ann (Welsh) Melendy passed away on Saturday, January 30, in the peaceful surroundings of her home with her loving and caring family at her side. Patricia was a breast cancer survivor who lived courageously with bone cancer for the past few years. She was 79 years old.

A resident of Lynnfield since 1962, she was born and raised in Chelsea, the loving daughter of the late William F. Welsh, Sr. and Pearl A. (Camillieri) Welsh.

She attended Our Lady of the Assumption Parochial School and Our Lady of Pity High School in North Cambridge for her freshman year. She finished her sophomore and senior years at St. Rose High School and graduated in 1958.

Years later she continued her education at the New England School of Anatomy and Science. She graduated in 1967 with highest honors and was admitted into the Mu Sigma Alpha Honor Society. She obtained her license in Funeral Directing and Embalming and joined the family firm, Frank A. Welsh & Sons Funeral Home. Patricia also held the distinction of becoming the first female registered embalmer in Chelsea.

Soon thereafter, her devotion turned to home, raising her family of two daughters and one son. Later on, she worked outside of her home as a legal secretary for various private law firms.

She wed David Melendy in 1988 and they shared the past 32 years happily together. In 2005 she left the work place and her devotion again returned to life at home, now becoming a devoted grandmother and second mother to her first grandson, Ethan Wilson. She later welcomed four more adoring grandchildren into her life.

Patricia enjoyed vacationing with David to Ber-



muda and making frequent trips to New Hampshire. She also enjoyed gardening around her home and cooking.

The beloved wife of 32 years to David W. Melendy, she was the devoted mother of Jennifer Grealey and her husband, John of Medford, Andrea Markarian Jones and her husband, Michel Jones of Lynnfield, Stephen Markarian and his wife, Elizabeth of Rowley and her late infant daughters; Bethany and Margaret Markarian. She was the cherished grandmother of Ethan Wilson, Madelyn Grealey, Kiley, Lucas and Emma Markarian, dear sister of Frank A. Welsh and the late A2cl William F. Welsh, Jr. USAF and the former wife and dear friend of the late Martin R. Markarian. She is also survived by her nieces, nephew, cousins and extended family members.

Due to present Covid-19 restrictions, funeral services were private and concluded with interment at Woodlawn Cemetery, Everett. Should friends desire, contributions in Patricia's name should be directed to The Breast Cancer Research Foundation, 28 West 44th St., Suite 609, New York, NY, 10036 or visit: WWW.bcrf.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.

National Grid launches 'Grid for Good' initiative

National Grid recently launched Grid for Good, a new initiative designed to increase the social mobility and employment opportunities for disadvantaged young people in the communities they serve in the US and UK. This program is part of their Responsible Business Charter, which lays out the Company's commitments to the environment, employees, customers, and communities.

Through the Grid for Good program, National Grid employee volunteers work with young people aged 16-24 and teach them basic business skills and energy industry-specific skills needed in today's competitive job market. The program provides team building workshops to build participants' confidence and collaboration skills with problem solving exercises; along with activities to focus on resume writing, interview techniques, and workplace conflict resolution.

National Grid employees in the US have committed to providing over 100 paid, two-week job shadowing experiences for participants. National Grid will connect participants with job opportunities in the energy industry, driven by charity partners MissionSAFE and YOU Boston.

"Grid for Good gives young people the opportunities they deserve to suc-

ceed," said Badar Khan, President of National Grid, US. "We hope the program will transform the lives of those who live and work in the communities we serve, and build a more diverse workforce of the future. As a business committed to acting responsibly, this is the kind of positive impact we want to have across our region."

"Grid for Good has been a fantastic way for me to give back by mentoring talented young professionals from underserved communities," said Clara Giustino, VP of Project Development & Commercial Services Capital Delivery. "For many, this program is one of the few windows into the corporate world. I'm proud to be a part of Grid for Good!"

Through the Grid for Good program, National Grid plans to help 4,000 young people via 12,000 hours of volunteering in 2021. Grid for Good will also help bring diversity into the energy sector with qualified talent to help achieve the net zero ambition. Unemployment amongst young people is an existing issue, that has doubled since the Covid-19 pandemic. Now more than ever, National Grid wants to support its communities with Grid for Good.

Super Sunday: No Super Bowl team, no problem

By Seth Daniel

The New England Patriots might not be front and center this year, and maybe our quarterback is wintering in Florida this time around, but Boston still ranks as the third best city for football fans this season, according to the annual Super Bowl rankings done by WalletHub.

Every year, the company does an analysis based on several metrics about which city has the best football fans. Naturally, with the Patriots on top — and despite a meager following of college football, which is also ranked — Boston has come out in the top part of the list for years. Even with some of the magic missing, this year Boston landed and #3 for the best football town.

"Boston is the third best football city for fans," said WalletHub Analyst Jill Gonzalez. "The Patriots' performance level is the sixth highest among NFL teams, and they've won six NFL Championships, topping all the other teams. They also have 21 division championship wins, the fourth most, and the second highest franchise value in the country. Other reasons why Boston ranks so high include fan engagement, attendance, popularity, and the fact that they've had the same coach for the past ten seasons."

This year, Boston ranked only behind Pittsburgh and Dallas, and Pittsburgh ended up on top mostly because it has a much higher following of college football than Boston.

Dallas, of course, is Dallas.

The numbers were as follows:

- Pittsburgh – 62.61
- Dallas – 55.55
- Boston – 54.19
- New York City – 49.88
- Miami, FL – 48.61

In order to determine the best and worst cities for football fans, WalletHub compared 245 U.S. cities based on 21 relevant metrics. Each metric was graded on a 100-point scale, with a score of 100 representing the most favorable conditions for football fans.

For their sample, they chose cities with at least one professional football team (NFL) or at least one college football team (NCAA, including FBS and FCS). They grouped the cities by division — "Pro Football" and "College Football" — and assigned weights to each divisional category based on its popularity among fans.

Finally, they determined each city's weighted average across all metrics to calculate its overall score and used the resulting scores to rank-order our sample.

Due to the impact of the coronavirus pandemic on the NCAA schedule for the 2019-2020 season, for some metrics we considered the values up to the 2018-2019 season. This helps to ensure a level comparison field among the teams.

Interestingly, Boston also tied Las Vegas and San Francisco for the most expensive ticket prices for a football game.

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SCHOOL UPDATES

EARLY LEARNING CENTER UPDATES

•Miss. Maddie's student, Casey, earned "Teacher of the Day!" Casey taught them all the steps on how to draw a house and even taught students how to spell the word "house." Everyone had so much fun learning from our friend!

•Miss Stacey's Kindergarten classroom has been working so hard with their Counting Collections on Fridays. They are now counting collections by tens.

DISTRICT UPDATES

•The family engagement work was featured this week in the Rennie Center's Condition for Education 2021 Report. We are so proud of our work in engaging families as our partners! Chelsea Public Schools continues to lead the way, even in a pandemic!

•The District is excited to announce the Parent to

Paraprofessional pathway program is an internal pipeline program that supports parents within the CPS district to pursue careers as paraprofessionals. Our pilot cohort will include 3-5 individuals. The program will take place for a total of 9 months including:

-Workshops: Resume Building, Interview Skills (in collaboration with the ILP)

-Job Placement: 1:1 Support in Finding A Paraprofessional role within CPS

-Educational Support: Access to CPS Partners for Financial Assistance in Pursuing Associate and/or Bachelors degrees

-Career Development: Priority Admissions for our Para to Teacher Pipeline Program.

The application is open from now until Friday, April 2.

•The District has added 5 additional Meal Sites for children and families who unable to make the 10

a.m.-1 p.m. time slots. The new sites will be available from 2:30-4 p.m. starting Monday, February 1, 2021. The new sites include the Mace Development, Quigley Park, Bellingham Park, Prattville Apartments and Locke Street Park.

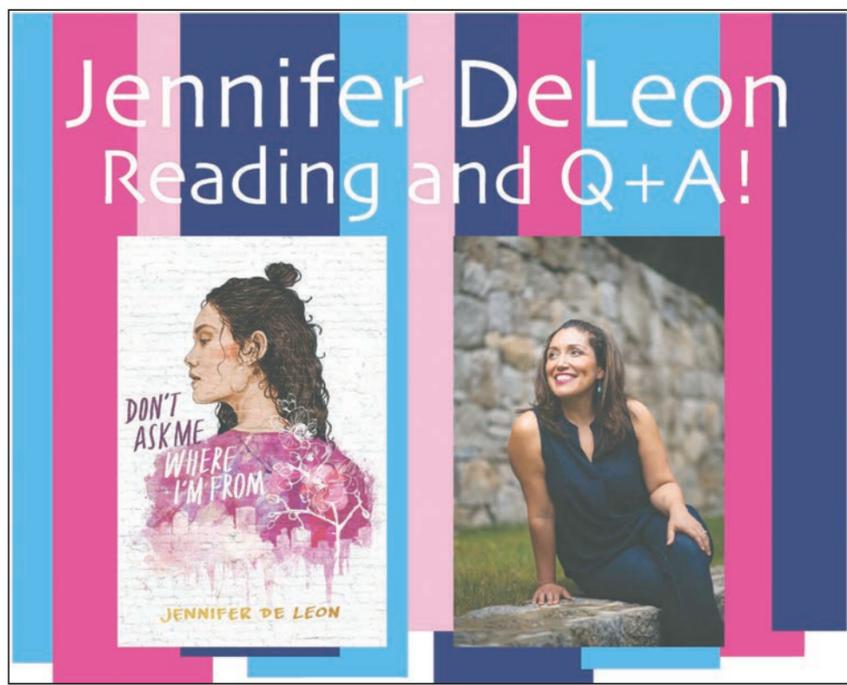
•The Mary C. Burke Complex held a joint School Site Council Meeting for Parents to engage with all four Principals, Teachers, and Liaisons.

BERKOWITZ SCHOOL UPDATES

•First graders in Mrs. Blake's class got a special visit from a real life author. The author of The First Rockstar on Mars came to read his first published book and talk to the class about his writing process.

SOKOLOWSKI SCHOOL UPDATES

•The Sokolowski is so proud as their very own 4th grader Estela Diaz



The Browne Middle School had acclaimed author, Jennifer DeLeon come to read to students from her book "Don't ask me where I'm from!" Seventh and 8th grade students got to hear from her, about her, her parents from Guatemala, her writing and her books. They got to ask her questions and some lucky students were rewarded with a copy of her book. Huge shout out to ELA teachers Greg Letellier and Meghan McCormick for organizing this event.

Santos was interviewed about the inauguration on CBS Boston and shared what she would tell Kamala Harris.

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Metro Housing|Boston receives \$1M from BIDMC

Metro Housing|Boston will receive \$1 million over three years from Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center (BIDMC) to explore the inequality of calculating rent for working families with rental vouchers.

Nearly \$700,000 from the grant will be dispensed directly to participants in the form of monthly reimbursements to their housing voucher rent share. Metro Housing will survey working voucher families to see how they spend money that they receive, and to determine if there is any impact on what is known as "cliff effects".

As household income rises, a corresponding reduction in benefits makes salary increases result in static or decreased total household income. For families working to escape poverty, the specter of working harder to generate the same or less income has a discouraging effect on labor market participation. This phenomenon is known as cliff effects.

Metro Housing will partner with the Massachusetts Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD), Harvard Business School, and the Upjohn Institute on this initiative.

"Working families are impacted disproportionately to those that subsist off benefits alone," says Susan Nohl, Deputy Director of Metro Housing.

"This cruel cycle traps low-income residents on a plateau of subsistence, actively penalizing them for attempting to thrive. Our hope is that the data returned by this project will provide a solid foundation to advocate for meaningful change with policy-makers across all levels."

The grant was one of 17 given to local organizations by BIDMC in support of impactful initiatives in the areas of housing affordability, jobs and financial security, and behavioral health.

"BIDMC has a proud history of supporting the health and wellbeing of our communities," said Pete Healy, President of the medical center in a BIDMC press release. "This important milestone reflects our commitment to all the populations that we serve. We look forward to working with these impactful organizations to support programs and initiatives that lead to more equitable and healthy communities."

"Congratulations to Metro Housing on the award and thank you to BIDMC on making the funding available for seventeen projects in the region in support of working and vulnerable households," said Brendan Goodwin, Director of Rental Assistance, DHCD. "Stable housing is vital for healthy and safe families. We will continue investing in innovative

programming, and we look forward to learning more from Metro Housing's pilot to inform our own work."

"Working families who receive government assistance to help afford the high cost of rent often see those benefits phase out quickly when their income

increases," said Evan Mast of Upjohn Institute and Ray Kluender of Harvard Business School. "We are excited to partner with Metro Housing Boston to study how allowing families to keep more of their wages can help them achieve financial stability and security."

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51 Inman Street
Cambridge, MA 02139-1732
617-349-4396

CONNECTICUT COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS & OPPORTUNITIES
21 Grand Street, 4th Floor
Hartford, CT 06106-1561
860-541-3400

MAINE HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION
51 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333
207-624-6050

MASSACHUSETTS COMMISSION AGAINST DISCRIMINATION
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Boston, MA 02108-1599
617-994-6000

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401-222-2661/62

VERMONT HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION
135 State Street, Drawer 33
Montpelier, VT 05633-6301
802-828-2480

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2 Chenell Drive
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'Assumptions and Stereotypes'

Khalil Saddiq will lead a discussion of short film at Feb. 10 CBC event

By Cary Shuman

When CBC President Joan Cromwell needed a community leader to facilitate the Feb. 10 discussion on the short film "Assumptions and Stereotypes," she reached out to Khalil Saddiq.

A resident of Grove Street across from Chelsea City Hall, Saddiq responded to Cromwell that he "loved" the idea and was grateful to have the opportunity to contribute to the CBC's Black History Month schedule of events.

Saddiq, 47, is certainly well qualified in his professional career to moderate the discussion and offer his own viewpoints. He is a racial equity consultant for non-profits and is moving into the for-profit space.

"I help organizations

create a racial equity culture throughout their business," said Saddiq.

He has viewed the film and feels it will generate a lot of varying opinions from Chelsea residents.

"Even though it is a short film, there are a lot of layers and it is very packed with things that can make for great conversations," he said.

He said in the film the assumptions and stereotypes about racism "are done in a very artistic way."

"The film is really highlighting that are our daily comings and goings are filled with assumptions about people," said Saddiq.

CBC president lauds Saddiq

Speaking about Saddiq's highly anticipated appearance as the moder-

ator of the organization's Feb. 10 virtual event, CBC President Cromwell said, "Our community is blessed and so fortunate to have Khalil as a resident, mentor, advisor, liaison, and most of all a friend," said Cromwell. "He is an expert in the field of racial equity development, a keen advocate for veterans and possesses a captivating style of communication that will draw in and convert the biggest skeptics near and far. I am privileged to call Khalil my greatest resource and ally."

Entering the U.S. Marine Corps

Khalil Saddiq grew up in a small town in southwest Georgia. After graduating from high school, Saddiq entered the U.S. Marine Corps, receiving his recruit training at Parris Island in South Carolina.

He spent six years in military service while stationed in Hawaii and Okinawa in Japan. He served as an administrator overseeing all of the records for the 300 U.S. Marines in his battalion representing four different companies.

While he was in the Marine Corps, Saddiq was married and he has one daughter, Ava Gonzalez, who is now 24 and lives in North Carolina.

When he returned to the United States following his service in the military, he lived in Atlanta and made a decision to start focusing on his education.

"In 2002, I had a friend living in Cambridge and attending Harvard and he encouraged me to come to the area and be surrounded



Chelsea resident and Khalil Saddiq and racial equity consultant will moderate the discussion following the short film, "Assumptions and Stereotypes" during the Chelsea Black Community's virtual event on Feb. 10 as part of Black History Month.

by all these wonderful colleges in Boston," said Saddiq.

He enrolled in courses at the Harvard Extension School, but took a break from his studies to work in the service industry to help fund his education.

He returned to school (Cambridge College) in 2008 and pursued his degree in quest of becoming an elementary school-teacher.

"I love working with kids and in early childhood development," said Saddiq, who was hired to a teaching position in the Boston school system but soon opted to pursue a career as a social entrepreneur.

Encountering racism in his career

Khalil Saddiq said he experienced incidents of racism as he began in his new career.

"As I look back on these things and I reflect on and understand how I got to where I am today, much of my struggles during

my journey of being a very well-educated Black man has been through the struggles of racism," said Saddiq.

He has emerged as a community activist and community organizer over the past few years.

"A lot of my experiences since 2012 has been working in the community, speaking about social justice issues, helping create programs that have structure and a path toward their funding, and helping to create an understanding about what policies need to be created in order to facilitate justice," said Saddiq.

Taking an active role in Chelsea organizations

Saddiq has become a member of the Chelsea Planning Board.

He also works closely with the Chelsea Black Community and its president, Joan Cromwell.

"Joan has been fantastic in her leadership role," said Saddiq. "She is the

person with whom I like to interface for an understanding about the Black community in Chelsea. I look forward to helping CBC continue their non-profit development and become stronger in the community so that we can further the development of diversity, equity, and inclusion."

He is also working as a racial equity consultant with Chelsea GreenRoots, its Executive Director Roseann Bongiovanni, and the staff.

Preparing for the CBC event

Saddiq is looking forward to his role as a moderator of the CBC event.

"I will be asking the participants to tell me about a time where someone assumed something about them just based on how they looked – and how they were treated in that situation," said Saddiq.

The short film and discussion will be available on Zoom and begin at 6 p.m.



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