## CHELSEA RECC

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**VOLUME 120, NO. 52** 

THURSDAY, MARCH 25, 2021

35 CENTS

## **Forbes Park** developers don't plan to move forward on project

By Seth Daniel

City Manager Tom Ambrosino informed the City Council on Monday night that the developers that permitted a large residential project for the vacant Forbes Lithograph campus have indicated they will not move forward on the proj-

"Unfortunately at this point it looks like the developer does not have any intention on moving forward," he wrote. "The City has heard from several different parties that the project is being marketed.'

He said the City has told the developer and anyone inquiring about the project being for sale that there will be no deviation from what has been approved. Any new wrinkles or changes in the project will require a new special permit process.

The current permit was approved in September 2019, and due to COVID-19, will not expire until June 8, 2022.

The Zoning Board in 2019 approved the final iteration of the project that included 590 units of housing, with 60 percent of those units being condos for sale and 59 units being affordable to a range of incomes. There are also 1.6 parking spaces per unit, or 963 spaces. The project also boasts a major public access area to the waterfront of the Chelsea Creek and Mill Creek. The current project also has a very small amount of retail and office uses, with both total-

ing below 20,000 sq. ft. The project, though still very large, was scaled back from the developer's (YIHE Forbes of China) original proposal in 2015. That proposal featured skyscrapers about 21 stories tall and more than 1,000 units of housing accompanied by large office spaces and large hotels. It was rejected informally and the company eventually withdrew during a raucous ZBA meeting that went past mid-

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#### READ THE STICKER...



Teacher Veronica Medina shows off a sticker proclaiming she had been vaccinated during one of the district's school staff and educator vaccination clinics over the past two weeks. Chelsea Public Schools staff and teachers are preparing to return to school next month on a five-day a week schedule. See Page 7 for more photos.

### Residents call for Council to insert voting for non-citizens in Charter recommendations

A group of young adults and high school students are calling on members of the City Council to insert a provision into the revised City Charter that would allow for certain non-citizens to be able to vote in municipal elections.

Led by Manuel Teshe, the former Chelsea High graduate known a few years ago for fighting to get graduation outdoors at the Stadium, the group of young people said they had petitioned the Charter Review Commission to include the voting provision in its recommenda-

tions. The Commission did not agree to do that, and after more than one year of work on the Charter Review, submitted their recommendations Monday night to the City Council for review. Those recommendations will be reviewed at length by the Council in a Committee on Conference, and the Council can adopt the recommendations and it can also add to them.

The Charter is reviewed every 10 years, so making such a fundamental change would be now or never.

Teshe, Chelsea High students Richard Flores



Rich Flores, a senior at Chelsea High, said the Council could fix this injustice, and called on them to insert non-citizen voting in the final recommendations of the Charter Review Commission.

Jazmin Jovel apand peared during the Council's Public Speaking portion on Monday night to advocate for the insertion. They said they would ask that the Council seriously consider allowing those with Permanent Resident cards (Green Cards), those on visas and those with work permits the right to vote in Chelsea municipal elections.

"I'm here to ask you to take this seriously," said Teshe. "We are talking about a Civil Rights issue. We are talking about a voting rights issue...It goes like this, I don't care if you've spent 20, 30, 40 or 50 years in this com-



Manuel Teshe asked the City Council on Monday to add a provision in to the Charter Review that would permit non-citizens to vote in municipal elections.

munity, if you were not born here, you cannot vote here...You can spend your entire life here and if you weren't born on this side of the border, you can't

vote. "Non-citizens will get the right to vote in this City and our neighboring cities soon," he continued. "The question is only a matter of time. Join me on the right side of history with this issue."

Teshe added that many rebut the argument by saying people should get their citizenship. He said he did just that, and it is a time-consuming and expensive process that not

See VOTING Page 3

## In-person

## School Committee approves five-day reopening plan for April

By Seth Daniel

The School Committee voted unanimously on Thursday night, March 18, to approve a plan that will return general education students in the youngest grades back to the classroom five days a week on April 12.

The vote was unanimous amongst the Committee, though many were disappointed as they felt their hands were forced by state Education Secretary Jeff Riley's decision to require districts to re-open.

Nevertheless, Chelsea Public Schools (CPS) celebrated one full year of remote learning on March 13, they also pivoted to adopt a plan that will have students who wish to

return be able to return.

"On Friday, March 5, the Board of Elementary and Secondary Education met and voted to adopt a recommendation giving Commissioner Riley the authority to return Elementary students to fulltime, in-person school on April 5, 2021 and April 28, 2021 for students in grades 5-8," said Supt. Almi Abeyta. "Therefore, we are skipping hybrid learning and going straight to in-person learning. This means that students who return to in-person learning will be in school five days a week every day. Thus, I am pleased to announce our timeline for in-person learning."

See SCHOOL Page 5

## **National Guard helps EBNHC** with vaccine staffing challenges

EBNHC

By John Lynds

Vaccinating hundreds of residents at multiple sites each day has been a huge undertaking for East Boston Neighborhood Health Center (EBNHC), but luckily the Health Center has had continued support from the Massachusetts National Guard.

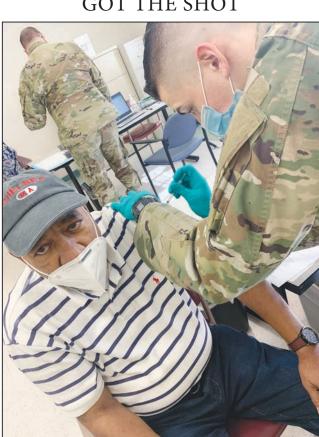
As part of the Commonwealth's COVID-19 Vaccination Plan, the National Guard began providing support of vaccination initiatives in Eastie earlier this month. Medically qualified Guard members began partnering with the

to administer vaccines. Their assistance at EBNHC is expected to continue to support four vaccination sites throughout EBNHC's service area including Chelsea, Eastie, Revere and the South End through this federally funded mission.

However, the presence of the military in full uniform has made some in the immigrant community without legal status uneasy and EBNHC administrators fear this uneasiness may lead some away from getting the

See VACCINE Page 2

#### GOT THE SHOT



Councilor-at-Large Leo Robinson receives his second COVID-19 vaccination shot at a March 19 clinic. "I want to encourage the community to take the shot and save a life," said Robinson.

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

### Federal delegation goes on defensive, says local officials didn't know full details on Rescue Plan

By Seth Daniel

As the federal delegation for Chelsea and Everett rushed this week to prove a point and move the narrative of Chelsea and Everett being "shorted" by the American Rescue Plan in a different direction, local and state legislators remained disappointed with them but have focused on making sure the two hardhit COVID communities end up getting what the need to move forward.

The news came quickly last week, and stoked rallies from community social services agencies like La Colaborativa – particularly due to the fact that affluent communities like Newton and Brookline were able to secure tens of millions more in the Plan that much needier places like Everett and Chelsea.

This week, members of the federal delegation have hung their hat on a flawed federal formula normally used for housing, but that was used to distribute the original Rescue Plan funding. They are now throwing responsibility to Gov. Charlie Baker to target Everett and Chelsea in another pot of money - \$4.5 billion that came in a separate part of the Rescue Plan.

A spokesperson for Congresswoman Ayanna Pressley and another for Sen. Liz Warren both said the plan all along was to remedy the inadequate formula through using the \$4.5 billion overseen by Gov. Baker. That was a new revelation that hadn't been advanced last week when the news was first broken about the low funding numbers.

Sen. Sal DiDomenico on Monday said having to fight for the \$4.5 billion is going to essentially leave Everett and Chelsea short of where they would have

been had the funding been equitable in the first place.

"We have met many times on this," he said. "The sad reality is communities like Everett and Chelsea, if we were funded equitably from the beginning, then the \$4.5 billion figure could have been used to supplement that funding. We could have gotten even more. Now I fear it will just fill the gap and we won't get any more than that. We're playing catch-up and it's not a quick fix or a simple fix."

On Monday night as well, several Everett City Councilors lambasted the federal delegation for being "asleep at the wheel" and not fully advocating for full funding for Everett and Chelsea in the American Rescue Plan - with millions more in aid going to affluent communities like Newton while Everett and Chelsea got far less.

"It seems our federal delegation was asleep at the wheel on this one," said **Everett Councilor Anthony** DiPierro. "I hope my colleagues are as outraged as I am...I want to let everyone know we are upset with our federal delegation... Instead of fixing a bad formula, it appears our federal delegation just passed one bad formula on top of another."

Everett Councilor Michael McLaughlin said the federal delegation is more interested in the limelight that the good fight.

"Quite honestly because of inexperience and disinterest by our federal representatives, we're in the position we're in now," he said. "It is the fault of our federal delegation because they're more concerned about making headlines and not fighting for communities like Everett. I'm going

to continue to speak up and

out for Everett and Chelsea for this grievous misallocation...What happened here is communities like Everett and Chelsea were grievously misrepresented by our federal delegation.

"We didn't have to fight this fight," he continued. "We're the 6th hardest hit in the state and Chelsea was #1. We shouldn't have to fight to get the funding we deserve from the state... They were asleep at the wheel. Imagine voting on something and you don't know what you're voting on? That's what happened here with our federal representatives."

Sen. DiDomenico, who has been critical of the federal effort, said this week that they are focusing on making the situation right now, and City Manager Tom Ambrosino said the same - noting they were working with the state Administration & Finance Department and not interested

in politicking. "This is outrageous," said Sen. DiDomenico. "The fact that Everett and Chelsea were two of the hardest hit communities in the Commonwealth and weren't funded by this Rescue Plan is outrageous. The formula they used had nothing to do with COVID-19. If they had taken COVID-19 into account, there should have been escalators in there. The pain, sacrifice and sadness we had to go through was horrible. I share Councilor DiPierro's frustration to put it mildly."

He said in meetings between himself, Chelsea officials, Everett officials and state officials, they have found a willing partner so far in Baker – though the effort will require creating a brand new system and formula from scratch that will favor hardest-hit communities.

"The governor has told me...he is willing to look at this," said DiDomenico.

Meanwhile, while they have been working in that sphere, the federal delegation this week has worked to pivot away from the controversy and the ire of activists like La Colaborativa Director Gladys Vega, saying the plan was always to rely on Gov. Baker to allocate the \$4.5 billion equitably in order to make up for the funding formula's flaws.

A spokesperson for Congresswoman Ayanna Pressley said the Congresswoman and her federal colleagues proactively fought to make sure Everett and Chelsea were taken care of by Gov. Baker's allotment.

"In addition to direct aid to individuals and families, and an initial round of funding through the Community Development Block Grant formula, Congresswoman Pressley and her federal colleagues proactively fought to secure an additional \$4.5 billion federal dollars for Massachusetts in the American Rescue Plan," read a statement sent to the paper on Tuesday. "That funding will be distributed by Governor Baker and his Administration - similar to previous relief packages. Since the legislation's passage, Congresswoman Pressley and her colleagues have been in constant communication with the Governor's office and local officials, and are pressing Governor Baker to allocate the additional \$4.5 billion in line with Congressional leaders' intent when they passed the bill - these funds should be distributed quickly, in a manner that reflects the disparate impact of the pandemic on communities like Chelsea and Everett,

and ensures those communities receive resources that meaningfully address their needs."

That followed a series of letters sent by the federal delegation on Friday, March 18, urging Gov. Baker to direct the \$4.5 billion to hard-hit communities and/or communities of color. The letter indicated his designation of the 20 hardest hit communities would be a blueprint for distributing this aid.

"We will continue to fight on behalf of all our communities in need, and respectfully call on you to do the same," read the let-

However, that narrative was decidedly different than what came out from local officials in Chelsea and Everett last week – a narrative where local officials noticed the glaring deficiency and then and alerted the federal delegation prior to a final vote on the Rescue Plan. Once realizing there was a problem, local officials said the case was taken by the federal delegation all the way to Treasury Secretary Janet Yellen, but it was too late.

On Wednesday, in a Banking and Housing Committee hearing, Sen. Warren pressured Secretary Yellen in questioning to put the onus on helping Chelsea and Everett on the distribution of the \$4.5 billion in the hands of Gov. Baker. The transcript of that conversation appears below: Secretary WARREN: Yellen, in general com-

munities with populations under 50,000 residents receive some direct federal funding as a result of the American Rescue Plan, but they don't receive as much direct help as bigger cit-

YELLEN: Well, I believe there is a formula

ies-is that correct?

that determines how much they receive and it's paid to them through states. I believe that that's,

Thursday, March 25, 2021

WARREN: Good. That's where I want to go. Because direct funding is not the only money coming into state and local government. In addition, state governments also receive a separate pot of money that was flexibly designed

YELLEN: That's right. WARREN: to help our hardest hit communities.

YELLEN: Sure

WARREN: And specifically, the statute says that state funding can be used to respond to public health emergency

YELLEN: Sure

WARREN: With respect to the coronavirus disease or its negative economic impacts, including assistance to households, small businesses, and nonprofits, or aid to impacted communities. Is that correct, Madam Secretary?

YELLEN: Yes, it is cor-

WARREN: Good. And in Massachusetts, it looks like there will be about \$4.5 billion going to the state government. So, Secretary Yellen, just to be clear, this statutory language provides our governor with the flexibility to use state funding to provide extra help to address negative economic impacts in smaller communities that did not qualify for larger pots of direct

funding, is that right? YELLEN: That is my understanding but we will put out guidance and work through all of the legalities. But I believe that what you have said is correct. I want to be very careful about the legalities but I believe that what you said is correct.

WARREN: Good.

#### NEWS Briefs BY SETH DANIEL

#### TEMPORARY **OUTDOOR** AVAILABLE

To expand business opportunities during COVID-19, restaurants and eateries can now apply for a temporary permit to offer outdoor dining services on:

•Private Property (including privately owned parking lots.)

Sidewalks.

•Other public spaces such as streets or parking spaces adjacent to your establishment (Permits to use such adjacent streets or parking spaces require approval from the Traffic Commission).

Permits are valid through November 5, 2021 or 60 days until after the Governor ends the Pandemic. With each of these

in accordance with the Licensing guidelines. Apply for a permit online: Application for 2021 Temporary Outdoor Dining for Restaurants and Eateries. The City will also offer free technical assistance to business owners who need help with outdoor space design. To coordinate a meeting with the team, please contact Lourdes Alvarez via email at lalvarez@chelseama.gov or by calling 617-487-9763. Read more www.chelseama.gov/ OutdoorDining.

#### JOIN THE **BEAUTIFICATION** COMMITTEE

Interested in beautifying the City? There is a

options, restaurants that Beautification Committee currently serve alcohol may that meets monthly with also serve alcohol outdoors the City Manager, ISD and the DPW to talk about trash and problem properties and to consider beautification initiatives such as improved signage, cigarette butlers and public art. If you are interested in being part of this Committee, please contact either Laura Brockington at GreenRoots email laurab@ greenrootschelsea.org Monica Elias at The Neighborhood Developers email melias@tndinc.org.

#### MASS SAVE LOOKING FOR **APPLICANTS**

Do you own a 1-4 unit residential building? For a limited time, Mass Save's sponsors are offering owners of 1-4 unit residential buildings 100% off all ap-

proved insulation for all rental units. These energy upgrades can help save energy and money.

To get started, schedule a FREE Mass Save Home Energy Assessment at (978) 237-4530 or visit https://allinenergy.org/chelsea.html.

#### **OUTDOOR SPRING** EASTER EGG HUNT

Bring your own basket and hop on over to our annual Egg Hunt on March 27. Children search for brightly decorated eggs. Public health guidelines will be strictly followed. Free.

AGES 2-6 from 10-10:30am

AGES 7-10 from 11-11:30am

Location: Mary Burke Complex, 300 Crescent Ave

#### **BEACHAM STREET PROJECT MEETING**

The City is preparing to begin a comprehensive reconstruction roadway program on Beacham Street and Williams Street, from the City Limit to Mulberry Street. The project will seek to fix drainage issues through the corridor, improve water and sewer reliability, and provide clear paths of travel for pedestrians and bicyclists. The project is part of a broader effort to improve connectivity between businesses and residents of Chelsea and Everett.

Excavation work is expected to begin in April 2021 and conclude in fall 2022. The first phase of construction will focus on water, sewer and drain utility improvements, and second phase of construction will consist of roadway improvements, including roadway reclamation & grading, new curb and sidewalk, and traffic signal reconstruction at the Spruce

Street intersection. To learn more about the project and discuss, the City will be hosting information meetings on the following dates remote via

Microsoft Teams. Informative sessions focus on abutters and freight interests:

•March 29 – 11 a.m. Computer or mobile app: in (audio +1 857-263only):

3954,,749950698# City's Project Manger: Ben Cares

(617) 466-4187. bcares@chelseama.gov

### Vaccine/ Continued from page 1

COVID-19 vaccine.

EBNHC Vice President of Human Resources Steven Snyder wants the immigrant community to know that the Health Center's vaccine program does not discriminate.

"We know that some members of the community can be a bit fearful when they see the troops in their army fatigue uniforms, but it is critically important for all to understand that the Guard are here for one purpose only – to vaccinate our community," said Snyder. "Patients scheduling appointments do not need to provide any documentation as to their immigration status - we

only ask ID to verify the

patient at the time of appointment."

Snyder said most of the troops helping out EBNHC staff are from our community, some are bi-lingual and all very competent and friendly.

"The feedback from patients has been fantastic," said Snyder. "Currently National Guard troops are working out of our East Boston Liverpool Street Site and our newest site which just opened up at the former Wonderland Ballroom in Revere – now called Oceanside."

The Guard will continue to make qualified personnel available to the Executive Office of Health and Human Services for deployment to facilities requesting assistance.

"Staffing for our vaccination sites is a big challenge," said Snyder. "We have opened multiple sites in a variety of our service areas and will be giving out thousands of vaccines every week. In addition to redeploying our own staff and hiring others, we are greatly appreciative to have been sent medically trained troops from the National Guard to assist in giving out vaccinations."

The National Guard has personnel with a range of applicable expertise within its ranks, including physicians, nurse practitioners, physician assistants, nurses, emergency



last week.

medical technicians, and medics. These individuals have already administered the vaccine to 1,000 eligible Massachusetts soldiers and airmen, and now shift

their focus to assisting in clinical settings for eligible members of the public.

## City Manager, some councillors back to the drawing board on zoning changes

By Seth Daniel

The City Council effectively blocked the reconsideration of several key zoning changes in residential areas that would have allowed for somewhat denser development within existing neighborhoods - a matter that was first rejected at the March

8 meeting. Councillor Leo Robinson filed for reconsideration of the rejection of certain pieces in an omnibus zoning package presented to the Council this month - after having worked on the matter since last summer, and in some cases for more than a year. That said, the pieces asking for density changes and a new Mixed-Use Overlay District across from Chelsea High School failed to get a supermajority – which is eight votes.

This Monday, Robin-

son said he would like to reconsider the piece on the Mixed-Use Overlay District, which will allow for the re-development of the Stop & Shop – all of which on the Everett side has already been permitted for a large mixed-use residential development.

"My primary reason to call for reconsideration as to take the items one at a time," Robinson said on Monday. "My strong feeling was for the Mixed-Use Overlay District. There's been a misconception this is new. We've been working on this for two years in this Chamber and many people have been invited. We also had interpreters here for anyone that needed interpreters...My purpose here was to deal with the Mixed-Use Overlay, which encompasses where Stop & Shop is and if Stop & Shop is to leave, Everett has the right to build whatside, and we could end up with just a parking lot."

Earlier in the meeting, GreenRoots leaders, including Director Roseann Bongiovanni, councillors to reject the reconsideration.

"I agree with what the City Manager said that this is not a radical change," she said. "However, it is signaling to developers outside our city we want to increase density and they are welcome here to maximize the livopen space...Who are we developing housing for? We are not addressing a just welcoming new folks to come into Chelsea."

The reconsideration vote failed 4-5, with Councillors Judith Garcia, Melinda Vega Maldonado, Yamir Rodriguez, Enio dential neighborhoods.

ever they want on their Lopez and Naomi Zabot voting against. Councillors Damali Vidot and Giovanni Recupero were

City Manager Tom Amappeared brosino had advocated at the meeting to call on strongly for increasing the density in the R1 and R2 districts - which encompass much of the residential areas of the city. The increase would reduce the minimum size of lots needed to build by right, in the hopes of spurring housing development.

On Wednesday, he said he would likely bring ing units and reduce the back requests for changing zoning in Park Square and adding the Mixed-Use Overlay District for the crisis in Chelsea. We are Market Basket area. He said he felt there wasn't a lot of opposition to those items, but they were a rejected due to being lumped in with the more controversial changes in the resi-

> At the March 8 meeting, several of the zoning matters were approved. Those matters approved included the Municipal Harbor Plan zoning; expanding the areas where marijuana stores are allowed (mostly expanding to the downtown districts); and a change to the area on Revere Beach Parkway near Russo's Tux.

#### •PROPERTY TRANS-**FERRED**

The City Council voted 9-0 to approve the transfer of vacant City land at 41-43 Orange St. to the Affordable Housing Trust Fund (AHTF). The Fund is embarking on a new effort to develop vacant, tax title foreclosed property into new affordable housing opportunities.

Councillors Damali Vidot and Giovanni Recupero were absent from the

The effort is the first of

several controversial zoning changes. its kind in Chelsea, and lice in the right direction, and they recovered a firecould be the first of many

to come. The next step

would be for the Fund to

support families. Council-

lor Calvin Brown said he

would like to see afford-

able homeownership op-

portunities on the property

Brown announced that

many on Admiral's Hill

were frightened late Sun-

day night by six gunshots

in the area of Mary O'Mal-

ley Park. Police were on

the scene and determined

there were no injuries and

the shots were likely fired

Witnesses pointed po-

•SHOTS FIRED ON

Calvin

and not rentals.

Councillor

THE HILL

into the air.

 QUIET ZONE TRAIN issue and RFP to developers for the property. **PROJECT** WHISTLE Councillor Leo Rob-**DELAYED** inson said he wanted to Contractors stress that the housing be on the railroad crossings throughout the city to homeownership opportunities and that there would be three-bedroom units to

help re-establish the Quiet Zone designation and quiet the train whistles blaring out at all hours of the day have hit a setback this City Manager Tom Ambrosino said the contractors, BHB, have been

arm and arrested two sus-

working

pects for the shooting.

working on four of the crossings to make them compliant. However, recently the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) notified them that to re-establish the Quiet Zone, they would have to fix all six crossings. That means that the project will likely not finish until De-

cember now.



GreenRoots Director Roseann Bongiovanni spoke Monday at the City Council against allowing the reconsideration of

## Chelsea man sentenced for being a felon in possession of firearm

Staff Report

A Chelsea man was sentenced last week for being a felon in possession of a firearm.

Semaj Leary, 26, was sentenced by U.S. District Court Judge Denise J. Casper to four years in prison and three years of supervised release after pleading guilty in November 2020 to one count of being a felon in possession of a firearm. Leary was indicted in December 2019.

On Aug. 15, 2019, Leary was found in possession of a 9mm Glock semi-automatic pistol, seven rounds of R-P 9mm caliber ammunition, four rounds of WIN 9mm caliber ammunition, two rounds of VPT 9mm caliber ammunition, one round of WCC 9mm

caliber ammunition, one round of Tulammo 9mm caliber ammunition and an extra magazine. Leary was previously convicted of being a felon in possession of a firearm and other crimes punishable by more than a year in jail, and therefore was prohibited from possessing fire-

Acting United States Nathaniel R. Attorney Mendell; Kelly D. Brady, Special Agent in Charge of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms & Explosives, Boston Field Division; Suffolk County District Attorney Rachel Rollins; and Boston Police Acting Commissioner Gregory Long made the announcement today. Assistant U.S. Attorney Mackenzie A. Queenin of Mendell's Criminal Division prosecuted the case.

This case is part of Project Safe Neighborhoods (PSN), the centerpiece of the Department of Justice's violent crime reduction efforts. PSN is an evidence-based program proven to be effective at reducing violent crime. Through PSN, a broad spectrum of stakeholders work together to identify the most pressing violent crime problems in the community and develop comprehensive solutions to address them. As part of this strategy, PSN focuses enforcement efforts on the most violent offenders and partners with locally based prevention and reentry programs for lasting reductions in crime.

## BHCC Language Institute awarded five-year accreditation by CEA

Bunker Hill Community College (BHCC) Language Institute and its Intensive English Program have been awarded by the Commission on English Language Accreditation (CEA) an initial five-year accreditation that extends through December 2025. The full-time Intensive English Program is designed to provide a pathway for international students to acquire a higher level of English proficiency needed to enroll in a BHCC certificate or degree program.

"Normally, the Commission grants a one-year provisional accreditation, so we are very excited and grateful that we have been granted the five years," said Kristen McKenna, Dean of Workforce Development. "This achievement was a collaborative effort across many departments at BHCC and an important announcement for the recruitment of in-

ternational students." Students in the Intensive English Program study in blocks of 7-week sessions and engage in this preparation right before enroll-ELL or a degree or certificate program. The Intenmission is to support English Language Learners in their educational, progoals by providing rigorous multi-level English of both traditional and non-traditional through affordable access

ing into either academic sive English Program's fessional, and personal Language instruction and accommodating the needs students

## Voting/ Continued from page 1

everyone can embark on. Said Jovel, "Many of the essential workers that keep this city so orderly do not get a chance to say

what happens in their own community."

tending Harvard University next year, said it is time to stop this injustice, and asked the Council to insert this provision in its final Charter vote.

"Let's not wait for the Flores, who will be at-state to fix this injustice;

let's be the leaders," he said. "There are business owners in this city who live here as well and do not get to vote. Why? They don't have the accurate paperwork."

to language instruction.

## Real Estate Transfers

**SELLER 1 ADDRESS PRICE BUYER 1** Wartenberg, Marek Dunne, Kara G 49 Broadway #2 \$372,000 Grzebieniowski, Andrew P \$875,000 122 Warren VG LLC 122 Warren Ave \$440,000 Colgan, Andrew Jill Ann Arnoe 202 441 Washington Ave #202

It is time to sell, prices are high, rates are TEXT/EMAIL JEFFREY BOWEN

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#### SEND US YOUR NEWS

The Chelsea Record encourages residents to submit birth and engagement announcements, news releases, business briefs, honor rolls, social news, sports stories, and photographs for publication. Items should be forwarded to our offices at 385 Broadway, Citizens Bank Building, Revere, MA 02151. Items can also be faxed to 781-485-1403. The Independent also encourages readers to e-mail news releases to editor@chelsearecord.com. The Chelsea Record assumes no financial responsibility for typographical errors in advertisements, but will reprint that part of the advertisement in which the error occurs. Advertisers will please notify the management immediately of any errors that may occur.





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all applicable taxes. Bank rules and regulations apply. Ask a representative for details. Facebook.com/EastBostonSavingsBank

## Chelsea Record

PRESIDENT: Stephen Quigley

EDITOR IN CHIEF: Cary Shuman

#### VIOLENCE AGAINST THE AAPI COMMUNITY **MUST END**

Prejudice, discrimination, and violence against members of the Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) community has existed ever since immigrants from China began to arrive in America in the 1850s.

The first anti-immigration law in our nation's history, the Chinese Exclusion Act, specifically targeted Chinese immigrants in 1882 and was still the law of the land until 1943.

The wrongful detention of Japanese-Americans in camps during WWII has become well-known to every high school student of American history.

Locally, our newspapers through the years have reported on numerous incidents of hate in the Boston area, ranging from the graffiti and vandalism that plagued a popular Japanese restaurant in Winthrop Centre in the 1980s to the arson fires in Revere in the 1980s that culminated with the blaze in December, 1990, that drove more than 150 persons, mostly from the Revere Cambodian community, from their homes.

The tragic shooting late last week in Atlanta by 21 year-old Robert Aaron Long that targeted Asian-American employees in massage parlors is just the latest example of the growing trend of violence against Asian-Americans that was encouraged by the rhetoric of certain public figures who fed the flames of racial animosity with terms such as the "China virus" and "the kung-flu" to describe the COVID-19 pandemic.

The targeting of members of the AAPI community must stop. Hopefully, with a new administration that has rejected the divisive rhetoric of the past and a renewed determination by law enforcement to prosecute every incident of racially-motivated violence, our society can put an end to this virus of hate.

#### THE ATLANTA SHOOTINGS: A CONFLUENCE FOR A PER-**FECT STORM**

In addition to the obvious targeting of Asian-Americans in the tragic shootings in Atlanta, there were two other factors that created a perfect storm for this sort of tragedy to take place.

The first was the easy and immediate access for the purchase of a high-capacity weapon by the 21 year-old perpetrator of the shootings, who was able to buy the gun on Tuesday morning and kill six people that after-

The idea of a waiting period -- also known as a cooling-off period -- between the purchase of a gun and the delivery into the hands of the buyer has been shown to be an effective measure in saving lives. According to a recent study, states with mandatory waiting periods — regardless of their length — had an average of 17

percent fewer murders and 10 percent fewer suicides The second factor was the influence of the young man's church upon his mind from an early age. This

is by no means an excuse for his murderous spree, but it is to say that he clearly had been brainwashed by the extreme and confusing messages from his evangelical church about sex that led him to believe that he had an unnatural sex addiction that he could quell only by taking extreme measures.

When there are tragedies such as the shootings in Atlanta, we all want easy answers. But in reality, the truth of what drives persons to commit such heinous acts are not always easily understood, even by the perpetrators themselves.

#### SUBSCRIPTION INFORMATION

Chelsea Record is published every Thursday by the Revere -based Independent Newspaper Group. Periodical postage rates paid at Boston, MA. Subscription rates are \$30 per year in Chelsea, and \$60 per year outside the city. The Chelsea Record assumes no financial responsibility for

typographical errors in advertisements, but will reprint that part of the advertisement in which the error occurs. Advertisers will please notify the management immediately of any errors that may occur. Chelsea Record, 101-680, at 385 Broadway, the Citizens Bank Building, Suite 105, Revere, MA 02151, is a weekly publication. Periodicals postage

paid at Boston, MA 02110. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Independent Newspaper Group, 385 Broadway, Suite 105, Revere, MA 02151. Subscription price in-town is \$26 and out of town is \$50. **USPS NO. 101-680** 

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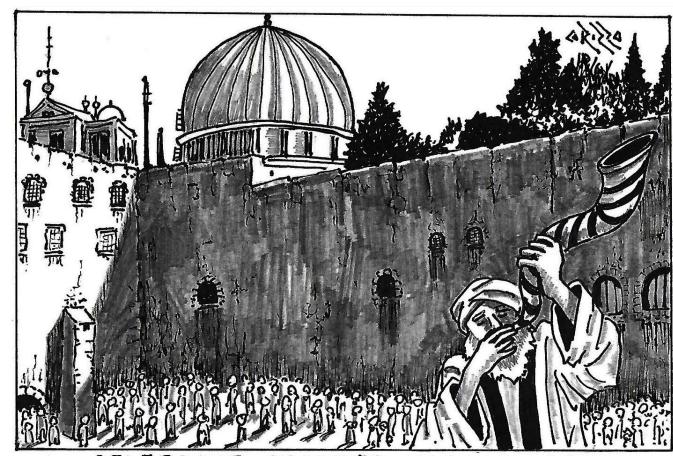
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## Forum



PASSOVER

## GUEST OP-ED

## Do your children make you curse?

Kirk Dewayne Franklin is an American choir director, gospel musician, singer, songwriter, and author. He is best known for leading urban con-

Dr. Glenn Mollette

temporary gospel choirs such as The Family, God's Property, and One Nation Crew. He is a beloved and influential figure in the gospel music world.

exploded

Instagram

recently with an audio of the famed gospel singer Franklin berating his 32-year-old son. The son posted the audio of the verbal exchange between he and his father. The audio was a profanity laced call that included his father the elder Franklin threatening to break his son's neck.

According to the elder Franklin there has been a 14-year rift between he and his son. Many counseling sessions and the family's attempts at trying to resolve the conflict

have apparently remained unsuccessful. For many years according to reports his son has avoided family dinners, holidays and other gatherings. National television and various media outlets reported Franklin saying, "Recently, my son and I had an argument that he chose to record. I felt extremely disrespected in that conversation, and I lost my temper. And I said words that are not appropriate. And I'm sincerely sorry to all of you. I sincerely apologize," Franklin said.

Good Morning America, The Washington Post and various other national media sources have reported this story which is a sad personal family drama. For many years this tension has been a difficult rift for this very famous family. It's unfortunate that the adult son chose to play it out on social media which has now become national news.

Many families have struggles and no one is perfect, including Kirk Franklin. He proves once again that most people have a breaking point and it's never pretty when it happens. Most of the time it's the people who we love the most and do the most for who have a way of flipping our switch. We often can take a lot from strangers and casual acquaintances because we really don't care that much what they think or even what they say. However, when it's a child who you have invested your entire life into stomps on your heart then emotion and passion have a way of taking over. As Franklin proves, words may be said that are later regretted.

It's unfortunate that even the best of people have feelings and words that can come out so ugly. Where do they come from? Ugly words often come from unresolved hurt and pain that have become toxic. Poison is deadly. We allow poison to be bottled up deep in our hearts. In verbal altercations like the Franklin's the bucket falls deep into the well of the heart and sadly what comes up is the pain and poison of past hurts that have been unresolved. We all have to guard our hearts and what we allow to take root. None of us need anything that might spring up to

hurt us and others. Let's pray for the Franklins. Most families have had moments not scripted for the national spotlight.

Glenn Mollette is the publisher of Newburgh Press, Liberty Torch and various other publishing imprints; a national columnist - American Issues and Common Sense opinions, analysis, stories and features appear each week In over 500 newspapers, websites and blogs across the United States.

#### GUEST OP-ED

## Pandemic highlights the contributions of immigrants to Massachusetts

By Marcelo M. Suárez-Orozco

Massachusetts, immigration is both history and destiny. Immigrants have been shaping the state's economy, politics and culture since the 1700s. The COVID-19 pandemic is illuminating how their contributions will shape the Commonwealth well into the future.

Although they are often invisible, immigrants today represent more than 17 percent of the state's population. In some communities, the number is more than double that. In Revere, immigrants account for 38.7 percent of the population.

At a time when birth rates are declining and our overall population is aging, immigrants are our first line of defense against the deep demographic winter facing the Commonwealth. Over the next 15 years, immigrants and their U.S.-born children will represent all net labor growth, according to new research from the Migration Policy Institute (MPI).

One area where immigrants play an important role is the state's economy. They account for one in five Massachusetts workers and one in four entrepreneurs, and they contribute \$36.4 billion in consumer spending and \$4.5 billion in state and local taxes every year, according to the American Immigration Council.

Another is the state's higher education system, which is deeply connected to our innovation-based economy. The aforementioned demographic patterns are hurting enrollment and creating an existential crisis for many colleges and universities. The pandemic and its wake of economic destruction is expected to drive down enrollment

even further. Again, immigrants are providing welcome news. The number of US-born adults with immigrant parents is projected to more than double between 2015 and 2035, and now accounts for 28 percent of all college students. (UMass Boston, home to thousands of immigrant-origin students, plays a unique role in the Commonwealth: most of our students will stay, live and work in Massachusetts after graduation, becoming an integral part of our labor force.)

The pandemic has re-

See OP-ED Page 6

Local issues are so much

more immediate and obvi-

ous. But there are already

local people fighting so

that national climate leg-

islation will be just, fast,

and lasting, and they are

always looking for help.

Readers can join in by go-

### **LETTER** to the Editor

#### WE NOW NEED TO ADAPT Dear Editors:

Thank you for pub-

lishing Ms. Blatt's op-ed educating us about river pollution and the sewage notification bill. It's heartening that our Commonwealth's leaders did the right thing for the health of our communities.

I do wish they had now need to adapt to

done the same for climate change. The last-minute wrangling that often happens on Beacon Hill meant that when Baker objected to some provisions, there was no time left to make amendments. Procrastination never pays, even though it's something we have all done. Ms. Blatt mentioned

climate resilience: we

more frequent storms, larger concentrations of rain, and rising seas that will slow river outflows to the ocean. So much money will be spent by towns, businesses, and individual citizens because of our collective procrastination on this crucial issue. We must mitigate, i.e. stop, global overheating, so we will have to adapt less.

It feels too big, I know.

ing to citizensclimatelobby.org, or in Spanish, climavivible.org.

Tamara Kellogg,

### School / Continued from page 1

The plan also continues to offer a rigorous remote learning plan as well, known as the Online Learning Academy (OLA). Any parent who does not want to have their students return to the classroom can choose to remain online for the rest of the school term.

School Committee Chair Kelly Garcia said she was glad Chelsea was offering options to parents before the year ended.

"I'm excited we're offering parent choice in this decision," she said. "I want to emphasize that because some of our families aren't comfortable sending their child or childent back to school buildings...While I'm excited we are finally opening our schools, I am equally excited about offering remote learning to students who are being successful in that model. This is a great first step for Chelsea because we are the hardest hit community by COVID and so this is a big step for us."

School Committeeman Roberto Jimenez said the plan is the only option they have given the heavy hand of the state Education Commissioner.

"I support our current plan not because I think it's the best option, but because it's the only option DESE has left us with," he said. "I'm outraged at the anti-democratic power grab the state Board of Education just passed, taking away our School Committee's power to make decisions for our community in order to push Charlie Baker's political propaganda. We've seen the risks of full reopening

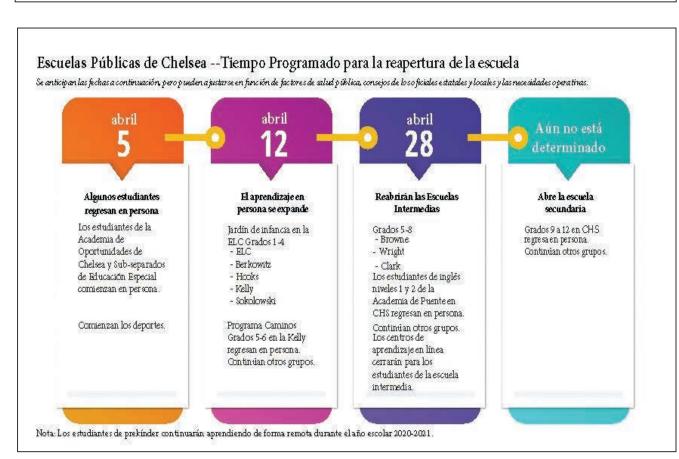
from other communities, including the Governor's own town of Swampscott, which just had to shut down schools after a massive outbreak. DESE has made this whole process more difficult for us every step of the way, and I have no confidence in their ability to prioritize the well-being of our students. It's shameful that this is where we are. Our students and staff deserve better. Chelsea deserves better."

In the most recent surveys, about 57 percent of parents would like to send their children back to school in-person five days a week, while another 43 percent said they wanted to remain remote. That is an ideal number for a return, school officials said, as there isn't space under COVID protocols to house large numbers of students in the buildings at a threefoot distance. However, if between 50 and 70 percent wish to return, that can be accommodated much eas-

The timeline for return is as follows:

- CPS students in Special Education Sub-Separate classes and the Chelsea Opportunity Academy students will return to fulltime, in-person learning on Monday, April 5, 2021.
- Students in grades K-4 will return to in-person learning on Monday, April 12, 2021.
- Middle school students, grades 5-8, will return to in-person learning on Wednesday, April 28, 2021
- English language learners at levels 1 and to 2 in grades 9-12 will return to in-person learning

Chelsea Public Schools Timeline for Reopening of School The dates below are anticipated, but may be adjusted based upon public health factors, quidance from state and local officialsand operational needs. April TBD SOME STUDENTS IN-PERSON MIDDLE SCHOOL HIGH SCHOOL **RETURN IN-PERSON** LEARNING EXPANDS **OPENS** Special Education Kindergarten @ ELC Grades 5 - 8 Grades 9 - 12 at CHS Sub-Separate & Grades 1-4 - Browne return in person. Other Chelsea Opportunity - ELC - Clark groups continue. Academy students - Berkowitz - Wright begin in person. - Hooks CHS Bridge Academy - Kelly English Learners return - Sokolowski in person. Other groups Grades 5-6 Caminos continue. Sports Commence. at Kelly return in Online Learning Cenperson. Other groups ters will close for continue middle school students Note: Pre-K students will continue to learn remotely for the 2020-2021 school year.



on Wednesday, April 28, 2021.

• Plans are in the works increase in-person learning opportunities for high school students.

Garcia added that the Committee has made a this year will be optional, and parents do not need to spend their last dollar to

get uniforms for students. "We have many fami-

decision that uniforms lies that lost their homes or their jobs during the pandemic," she said. "I've had families wanting to

spend their last dollar on uniforms. We don't want that. Many of our families are still struggling."



## CHELSEA SCHOOL NURSES AND HEALTH STAFF **WANT YOU TO BE SAFE**



edited 8/25/20 • aafa.org/covid19

u olfato

Your symptoms may vary, Information is still evolving. Many people may not have symptoms. \*If your quick-relief medicine is not helping your asthma symptoms, or if you are in the Red Zone on your Asthma Action Plan, call your health care provider or seek medical attention immediately. \*\*Allergies, colds and flus can all trigger asthma which can lead to shortness of breath, chest tightness/pain and rapid breathing. COVID-19 is the only one associated with shortness of breath in its own. \*\*\*If you have allergic asthma, you may have symptoms of both asthma and allergies at the same time. Sources: Asthma and Allergy Foundation of America. World Health Organization, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Sus síntomas pueden variar. \*La información sigue evolucionando. Muchas personas pueden contagiarse sin mostrar síntomas. "Si su medicamento de alivio rápido no mejora sus síntomas de asma, o si Ud. está en la Zona Roja en su Plan de Acción para el Asma, llame a su proveedor de atención médica o busque atención médica de inmediato. \*\*Las alergias, los resfriados y la gripe pueden desencadenar asma, lo cual puede provocar falta de aire, dolor o presión en el pecho y respiración rápida. El COVID-19 es la única enfermedad en esta lista que por sí sola puede provocar la falta de aire. \*\*\*Si Ud. tiene asma alérgica, puede tener síntomas de asma y alergias a la misma vez. Fuentes: Asthma & Allergy Foundation of America, World Health Organization, Centers for Disease edited 8/25/20 • aafa.org/covid19

#### Online shopping causing major uptick in pollution, traffic, and industrial rents across Greater Boston

Staff Report

The Metropolitan Area Planning Council (MAPC) this month released a new study on e-commerce in Massachusetts, finding that this rapidly growing industry is already having major impacts on the job market and transportation network of Greater Boston, including a big jump in industrial rent prices and a worrisome increase in traffic and pollution.

The study found that this \$600 billion industry now makes up 14% of all retail sales in the country and has contributed to a 42% increase in warehouse rents in Greater Boston alone over the last two years.

"E-commerce is expanding rapidly in Greater Boston, and the report helps us to better understand its effects on employment, development, congestion, and more," said report co-author Alison Felix. "While this rapidly growing form of retail offers benefits, like easier access to goods during the pandemic, it also puts tremendous pressure on residents and infrastructure. State and local governments must work together to make sure this growth actually helps the region, and is sustainably managed."

The report, "Hidden and in Plain Sight: Impacts of E-Commerce in Massachusetts," strives to give policymakers useful data around the effects of e-commerce on people and places; it also offers municipal officials a starting playbook for grappling with this growth.

The report outlines national and local trends in e-commerce, and potential solutions to help communities manage the growth in warehousing, distribution, and delivery traffic.

The study found that Amazon, the world's largest e-retailer and a company for which data is available, has 34 facilities either operating or proposed in Massachusetts; once all are fully operational, the Amazon footprint in this state will total 12 million square feet of warehouse space.

E-commerce still represents less than one-fifth of total retail sales in Massachusetts, but employment in online retail grew 30% from 2010 to 2019 in this state. Meanwhile, employment in transportation and warehousing increased 58% in the same timeframe – even as brickand-mortar retail employment numbers remained

"We all see the rising number of delivery trucks on our roads and at our curbs, and in order for those orders to arrive on time, a sophisticated logistics network has developed that centers on warehouse expansion near where consumers live," said Felix, who is a Senior Transportation Planner and Emerging Technologies Specialist at MAPC. "The pressure to deliver more goods faster has astounding effects on our streets, our air quality, and the way our workforce is

In Everett, Amazon already has one dedicated

treated."

facility on Beacham Street in the New England Produce Center area. However, the Davis Companies has been buying property in that same area at a huge clip over the last 12 months to construct "last mile" distribution centers on speculation. Already, the Boston Market Terminal property on Second Street has been permitted and construction is about to begin. Nearby, another warehouse next to the former King Arthur's Club location has been purchased by Davis Companies with the intention of permitting another such last-mile facility.

In Revere, an Amazon distribution facility opened last year at the site of the former headquarters of candy maker NECCO, which closed in 2018. Planning for a second Amazon distribution facility is underway at the recently closed Showcase Cinemas on Squire Road, which sits at the Copeland Circle rotary off Route 1 in Revere. Further north and outside the urban core, plans are underway to open a 3.8 million square foot distribution facility in North

"There's no doubt that online shopping is here to stay, and e-commerce is changing the landscape of how we use our roads, curbsides, and vacant commercial parcels. As local officials, we should be proactively planning now to coordinate across municipal boundaries on the planning for these facilities," said Jay Monty, Transportation Planner for the City of Everett.

Andover.

"The congestion, pollution and jobs that result from these new facilities have a regional impact, and we have a great opportunity now as the expansion is just beginning to request key data metrics from these companies and to plan regionally for the traffic, safety, emissions and local job market impacts."

These expansions have also prompted several suburban town leaders to band together to begin to address the effects of "e-tail" on local roads and developable parcels.

"Communities in the Advisory Southwest Planning Committee subregion and neighboring municipalities have seen an influx of large-scale warehouse and distribution facilities permitted and constructed in the past several years," said Elaine Lazarus, Assistant Town Manager in Hopkinton.

"The proliferation of warehouse and distribution facilities has likely contributed to increased truck traffic and congestion across the region," said Rachel Benson, Director of Planning and Economic Development in Wrentham, who co-chairs of the South West Advisory Planning Committee with Lazarus. "While municipalities can take steps individually to mitigate some of these congestion impacts, a coordinated regional approach would provide more predictability for developers and tenants and offer regional transportation benefits."

The report recommends some key policy strategies for local leaders, includ-

•Advance regional coordination across municipal boundaries and develop a design guide.

Creating a regional strategy for the siting and operations of warehouse and distribution centers can help manage impacts on traffic and emissions. Developing a transportation and land use design playbook can help guide zoning, building codes, proposal review, mitigation, tax incentives, and enforcement. A regional design guide promotes consistency as e-commerce expands, and puts every city and town on equal footing when it comes to building deci-

•Increase transparency by requiring data sharing.

Data sharing is a critical step to understanding and sustainably managing the impacts of e-commerce. Municipalities should require e-commerce companies to report information and metrics such as the location of warehouse and distribution centers, employment, and transportation impacts from their delivery logistics.

Establish incentives for efficient deliveries.

Both the public and private sectors should incentivize more efficient deliveries to reduce traffic and the harmful pollution that comes with it. This can be done by determining a method to assess the impact of e-commerce on congestion and emissions, and then set a fee structure that incentivizes companies and customers to opt for more sustainable delivery options, such as combining orders into a single delivery and not choosing fast shipping.

•Implement curb management strategies.

After conducting comprehensive curb space inventories, municipalities should use that information to establish curbside management policies that reduce congestion, safety risks, and conflicts. These policies should designate delivery and loading zones, establish dynamic pricing mechanisms to foster efficient zone use, and authorize rigorous en-

forcement. •Track innovations in

e-commerce. Track new technologies and innovations in the e-commerce industry, including use of package lockers, cargo bikes, air and ground drones, and autonomous vehicles, and work to make sure these developments have positive impacts on commu-

nities. MAPC will conduct surveys and monitor replicable strategies being used by municipalities where Amazon is already opening new warehouses, and share information on mitigating their negative impacts widely. As a follow-up to this report, MAPC plans to collaborate with municipalities to develop a playbook on the management of e-commerce warehouse and distribution centers as a resource for other municipalities.

## Judith Garcia joins The Neighborhood Developers

Judith Garcia officially joins The Neighborhood Developers (TND) as Communications Manager in an effort to help amplify the organization's mission of creating strong neighborhoods enabling community members to secure a stable home,

achieve economic mobility, and determine their own future. She is the latest hire by the local community development organization as it works to support Chelsea and Revere, and is now also active in Everett.

"We're thrilled to have corporation.

Judith's communications

experience to serve TND as we continue to support residents in their efforts to build healthier, affordable, and more equitable communities." said Rafael Mares, who leads the community development

urban studies coupled with her deeply rooted passion for empowering residents towards economic mobility and the keys to an affordable home makes her a great addition to our team," said Mares. "There is no question

that housing stability is and will continue to be a challenge we need to work on deliberately and with a new vision," said Garcia. "I am excited to join an organization that has redefined those paradigms and has demonstrated what it means to build dignified affordable homes for our families and our seniors."

Garcia, had previously served as a Latinx Communications advisor for Former Congressman Joe Kennedy III and is currently the Vice President of the Chelsea City Coun-



**Judith Garcia** 

## Op-Ed /Continued from Page 4

vealed the extent to which immigrants form the backbone of our health care system. If you are being treated for COVID-19 in the U.S., there is a nearly one in three chance that you will be seen by an immigrant physician, according to MPI. If you or a loved one needs a home health aide, there is a 40 percent chance that per-

son will be an immigrant. One in six nurses working on the front lines is an immigrant, according to the Brookings Institution. Even before the pandemic, immigrants were for the sick, people with disabilities, older adults, children and babies. They deliver our food and work in our factories and warehouses and throughout the supply chain. They teach our children and make our higher education system the envy of the world: since 2000 they have been awarded nearly 40 percent of the Nobel Prizes won by Americans in Chemistry, Medicine and Physics. And they are doing all

of this despite numerous obstacles, from disproportionately high rates

of COVID-19 infections

and deaths to xenophobic

and racist rhetoric coming

from some quarters of so-

The data shows that when given the chance, immigrants take up an American identity, gravitate toward cultural norms and embrace the English language - and improve the levels of education, occupational diversity and income in their communi-

That's good for them and everyone else. After all, their future is our future.

Marcelo

Suárez-Orozco is Chancellor of UMass Boston and an immigrant from Argentina.

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Please visit www.chelsearecord.com

#### CHELSEA EDUCATORS AND STAFF BEGIN RECEIVING VACCINATIONS

Chelsea Educators and staff across the district began receiving vaccinations at several clinics last week thanks to East Boston Neighborhood Health Center and City Manager Tom Ambrosino. A second clinic took place this week, and a third is planned for the near future. All of it is in preparation for Chelsea Public Schools to return to school five days a week for those parents that would like the option.



Brittany Hickson.

## Representative Giannino Appointed to Metropolitan Beaches Commission

Speaker of the Massachusetts House of Representatives Ronald Mariano (D-Quincy) recently appointed State Representative Jessica A. Giannino (D-Revere) to the Metropolitan Beaches Commis-The Metropolitan sion. Beaches Commission was created in 2006 by the Massachusetts Legislature to take an in-depth look at the Boston metropolitan region's 15 public beaches in Nahant, Lynn, Revere, Winthrop, East Boston, South Boston, Dorchester, Quincy, and Hull which are managed by the Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR).

"I want to express gratitude to Speaker Mariano for appointing me to serve as a Commissioner on the Beaches Commission. As the State Representative whose district encompasses America's First Public Beach, I recognize the responsibility state leaders have to advocate to ensure that the beaches around Greater Boston remain oases for working families by making them safe, clean, as well as a place to go by offering free programming," said Representative Giannino. "I am proud to join in a line of my two previous predecessors in adding my voice for the greater good of Revere Beach. I am excited to serve, and am looking forward to working with my fellow Commissioners to be champi-



State Representative Jessica A. Giannino.

The Commission is comprised of elected officials and community, civic, nonprofit, and business leaders from Boston and the metropolitan region's waterfront neighborhoods and beachfront communities. Its work is facilitated by Save the Harbor/Save the Bay, which has served as lead consultant to the Commission since its inception. Each year the Commission holds public hearings at the State House and in waterfront neighborhoods and beachfront communities from Nahant to Nantasket, and issues an annual report of its findings and recommendations to the Legisla-





Christine Lee was excited to be vaccinated at the clinic.



Supt. Almi Abeyta displays her vaccine card.





Jay Kirby.



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#### **NEWS FROM AROUND** THE REGION

#### AMERICAN RESCUE ACT MISSES **EVERETT**

**EVERETT** - When President Joe Biden and a litany of Democratic legislators - including the Massachusetts federal delegation - took to the airwaves and online universe to praise the passage of the American Rescue Act, they touted it as a lifeline to communities sinking from the sufferings of COVID-19.

No two communities in the state, arguably, have suffered as much as Everett and Chelsea, yet some officials locally are saying the federal delegation and the federal government has left the two communities high and dry.

Numbers from the

Rescue Act began to come out last weekend form the Massachusetts Municipal Association (MMA), and on first glance, many thought there was a mistake for Everett and Chelsea. The Rescue Act was highly touted from all corners as being able to help communities hardest hit, including local governments that have lost millions in revenues and expended millions to fund local food pantries, rental assistance small business programs. Leaders in Everett and Chelsea were expecting to get some relief, but were stunned when their numbers became public.

For Everett, the Rescue Act directed \$4.58 million to the City, with a supplement from county funding sources bumping it to \$13.59 million. For Chelsea, the Rescue Act directed \$3.91 million in aid to the City, and a total of \$11.61 million with the bump up from county funding.

That was compared to affluent communities like Newton, which got \$48.14 million and a total of \$65.29 million with the county resources. Brookline got \$34.21 million, but no county money figures were available. Meanwhile, nearby Medford got \$39.25 million and a total of \$50.37 million with the county resources. Malden also got

much more as well, with \$35.04 million from the Act and \$46.76 million in total with the county bump up.

Both Chelsea and Everett's numbers were more on par with Shrewsbury.

Officially, City leaders said they were told the funding was determined by the Housing and Urban Development (HUD) formula that designates "entitlement" communities and "non-entitlement" communities and the allocations didn't really consider the impact of COVID. Because Chelsea and Everett are below 50,000 people officially, they are non-entitlement communities and didn't get a lot of funding because of that. Efforts by the federal delegation, sources said, came too late in the process to be able to make adjustments - resulting in the smaller numbers becoming official.

With those numbers, many officials said it looked like the most effected people were the least funded - with both Chelsea and Everett being in the top five most impacted cities in the Commonwealth.

"When these numbers were brought to our attention about two weeks ago I couldn't believe what I was seeing," said State Sen. Sal DiDomenico. "I immediately contacted our Federal Delegation and our city leaders to try and find a solution. The American Rescue Plan was promised to be the relief that we had been waiting for, especially for our hardest hit communities like Chelsea and Everett. It is both appalling and outrageous that two of the hardest hit communities, and Chelsea being ground zero during the COVID crisis, are getting a fraction of the federal funds that neighboring communities are getting - and many being much more affluent... I am extremely upset that my communities did not get the help they needed. The high hopes we had for the American Rescue Plan did not come to fruition

Mayor Carlo DeMaria said he and other leaders have been working with the state and federal delegation to try to fix the shortfall, and hopes that something can be done in the coming days to make sure the plan helps communities like Everett that were the hardest hit.

"I recognize that the American Rescue Bill is the first time during the pandemic that our federal delegation was able to secure direct funding for cities and towns," he said. "However, the bill relies upon a commonly used federal funding formula that does not adequately consider the disproportionate impact that COVID-19 has had on cities such as Everett and Chelsea, which have some of the highest number of cases per capita in Massachusetts. I will continue to work with our federal delegation and the Baker-Polito Administration to achieve an equitable allocation of federal funding for Everett and Chelsea to ensure our fiscal recovery from this public health crisis."

Chelsea City Manager Tom Ambrosino said the funding doled out to the two communities - and also to Randolph and Methuen, the other two of the four that got "shorted," - was unconscionable.

"Wealthy communities got windfalls and a lot of other communities like Everett and Chelsea got screwed," he said. "Of the 20 most impacted communities, there are four that really got adversely impacted by the funding – Chelsea, Everett, Randolph and Methuen. We're hoping the state will step in and deal with those four... It's unconscionable and incredibly inequitable. We hope the state will step in to right the situation. We were trying to quietly work behind the scenes (with the federal delegation) to fix this, but it didn't happen. We are not happy about it. We're still trying to fix it, but at this point, Gov. Baker is

our ally and sole hope." Everett Councilor Michael McLaughlin said he was disappointed that

the money they expected to come, never did.

"It is extremely disappointing and frustrating to see one of the hardest-hit communities get significantly less in federal funding," he said. "Two of the hardest hit communities like Everett and Chelsea were not treated equitably. Everett has been designated as majority minority community and should be treated as such by our federal delegation. This situation must be rectified. I hope and have full faith that Mayor DeMaria and Senator DiDomenico will be able to work with the Baker Administration to help off-set as much of this lack in funding by our federal government. Our community needs and deserves these important resources to assist us in recovering as one of the hardest-hit communities in the Com-

Everett CFO Eric Demas was one of the first to identify the shortfall in early March, and he and Mayor DeMaria quickly reached out to the federal delegation and other decision-makers. At the same time, Chelsea was also identifying the issue and the two communities rapidly began cooperating in their messaging with Sen. DiDomenico.

monwealth."

"I noticed this back on March 4 before the U.S. Senate even voted on it," he said. "I was shocked and I notified the mayor and said we need to figure this out and see what we can do before they vote. We immediately reached out to our federal delegation and unfortunately we weren't able to get anything accomplished before the vote. We are now in the process of seeing what we can do to address the disparity for Everett... We're not going to stop until we get the situation corrected."

Said DiDomenico, and Everett, and I will be working with the Governor and our elected leaders to bring in the needed funds that these cities

rightfully deserve." A lot of the blame is Warren.

The newspaper contacted all three federal officials, and none responded to a request for comment on the situation in Chelsea and Everett.

Two sources close to

wipe the tears of my community members when they're being evicted and going hungry with \$3.9 million," she continued.

#### EHS BOYS WIN BIG



Everett's Edwin Francois fights his way between Revere's Jarod Natola and Randy Urdaneta.

said none of the federal delegation was aware of the issue until local officials reached out, and when they did, very little happened.

Congresswoman

Pressley did put out a statemen after the Rescue Act was signed into law and touted it as a great victory for Massachusetts. While she said she was disappointed that the bill did not include a \$15 federal minimum wage and paid family leave, she did not mention the lower funding for communities like Everett and Chelsea.

"I proudly supported the American Rescue Plan on the floor of the House of Representatives..., and our work is unfinished," read her statement. "We must keep fighting for policies that meet the scale and scope of this crisis and set us on a pathway to a just and equitable longterm recovery. I look forward to partnering with the Biden Administration and my colleagues in Congress to do just that."

In Chelsea, La Colaborativa Director Glady Vega has been very vocal in the last few days about the lack of funding. On Tuesday afternoon, she held a multi-community rally with representatives from Chelsea and Everett. She said she was deeply hurt by Senator Warren and Congresswoman Pressley, in particular, because both had visited La Colaborativa's vaccination site in Chelsea in the last few weeks and said nothing about this situation.

She said none are welcome to come back until they make things right. "Bring a check for

\$40 million and they can come in and take some more pictures," she said, extremely upset. "It makes me so made because I feel like we continue to be used and abused. Ayanna Pressley and all the others came here to our office. She told me the stories I send to her are stories that she tells everyone in the halls of Congress. She said that just the other day when she was here. Where are all those stories because the cash didn't get here?...It felt to me like Sal DiDomenico gave them the news that we were only getting \$3.9 million. "I can't even buy

proposal. enough toilet paper to

to take a non-conforming and outdated industrial use currently housing Gino's Auto Body on Bremen Street and turn the site into a development that includes a mix of

"COVID ravaged Chelsea and Everett, and our residents dealt with so much pain, suffering, heartache during the past year. These funds were supposed to go to disproportionately affected communities and help cities like ours, but this obviously did not happen. I have spoken to Governor Baker and his team to push for some of the other federal funds to be allocated to Chelsea

now falling on the federal delegation, including Congresswoman Ayanna Pressley (who represents three out of four of the aggrieved communities). and U.S. Senators Ed Markey and Elizabeth

the situation said the matter went all the way to Treasury Secretary Janet Yellen – who indicated it was too late by the time the request came and no changes could be made.

More than three sources close to the situation "It's a disgrace. Where

#### **ZBA APPROVES** BREMEN ST. **PROJECT**

were they when this de-

cision was made? They

didn't try enough. If

they didn't have the guts

to fight, I would have.

Reach out to me and I'll

make sure it happens...

It's beyond upsetting."

EAST BOSTON Back in July, the Boston Zoning Board of Appeal (ZBA) sent the developers of a proposed largescale mixed-use development project on Bremen Street back to the drawing board.

Citing a lack of greenspace coupled with the size and scope of the project, the ZBA unanimously rejected the proposed project at 282-302 Bremen St. that would have brought 145 additional units to Eastie.

While the project received BPDA approval, it lacked support from the community and the Mayor's Office.

However, last week the ZBA approved a scaled-down version of the original proposal.

Ahead of the ZBA hearing the developer reduced the number of units from 145 to 126, or a 13 percent decrease, and increased the percentage of affordable units from 15 to 20 percent.

Overall the approved project includes 13 live/ work studios for artists and 5 three-bedroom apartments aimed at families making no more than 60 percent of the Boston area median income. In total, 20 percent of the units will be rented to people making no more than 60 percent of the Boston area median

income. The changes were supported at last week's ZBA hearing by City Councilor Lydia Edwards.

The project received BPDA approval February and was under Article 80 Large Project review and still needed zoning variances from the ZBA to move for-Bremen Acquisitions

filed the project with

the BPDA last year that kicked off an Article 80 review by the BPDA and the appointment of an IAG made up of community members for the The developer wanted

See REGION Page 9

# STICK TO IT! Share your message in our paper with a STICKY NOTE

for Chelsea and Everett."

**OPEN HOUSE?** STICK IT!

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**NEED-TO-KNOW** INFO? STICK IT!

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781-485-0588

## Teatro Chelsea presents: A-Típico: A new Latinx play festival

In the American theatre space, the Latinx narrative reflected on stage can tend to revolve around narrow topics like the "border" or "disaster" play. While shedding light on the ongoing crisis on Mexican-American border and the aftermath of natural disasters like Hurricane Maria in Puerto Rico are narratives deserving of attention, these stories can overly narrow the breadth of Latinx experiences in the United States. Teatro Chelsea's new Latinx play festival, A-Típico, aims to showcase and expand the focus on underrepresented Latinx stories. The festival also looks to present universal stories: not Latinx plays but plays by Latinx playwrights.





**Festival Director Carla** Mirabal Rodriguez.

space for Latinx artists to grow and express their work, A-Típico will feature a selection of English/ Spanish/Bi-lingual fulllength plays and a night of short plays presented online in the style of a workshop: The scripts will be read by professional actors and the company of actors and audience will then be able to share feedback with the playwrights

to help them in the development of their work.

The festival, running from April 9-17, will be run by Teatro Chelsea's Artistic Associate Carla Mirabal Rodríguez with Program Director Armando Rivera. Ms. Mirabal, a director, actor, and theatre artist from San Juan, Puerto Rico, first joined Teatro Chelsea to assistant direct their production of Melinda Lopez's Sonia se fue. She is a recent graduate of Northeastern University where she received a BA in Theatre Performance, and she is the theatre advisor at The Newman School in Boston.

Ms. Mirabal is passionate about theatre as a tool for social change and deeply believes in improving the theatre industry in terms of equity and representation. "With the A-Típico:

New Play Festival, we want to turn the focus to Latinx voices and stories that don't usually garner the national spotlight. Latinx cultures are beautiful, joyful, and diverse. We want to develop work where we are able to see every part of ourselves represented, rather than only instances of pain, suffering, and trauma. This is not to say that these are not realities in many Latinx communities, but rather to show that we are so much more as well. This festival strives to highlight these stories and ensure that they are developed." Teatro Chelsea re-

ceived 46 submissions from across the United States and Latin America and will announce March 17th on their website and social media those scripts chosen to be a part of the

Information on how to log on and view the festival will be posted www.teatrochelsea.

Up next for Teatro Chelsea: El Camino II over Memorial Day Weekend. Teatro Chelsea produced their first El Camino (or "The Walk"), over Halloween weekend. Original bi-lingual Halloween-themed vignettes were performed in storefront windows in downtown Chelsea allowing for spectators to enjoy theatre in a Covid-safe way. The surprise and enjoyment of watching window performances has proven to be more than just a Covid-era substitute for traditional theatre, but an exciting way in its own right to

The upcoming El Camino II will revolve around the theme of celebration

share the art form.

and connection, sharing stories about the cultural bridges that are built when an immigrant makes Chelsea their home.

Teatro Chelsea celebrates Latin cultures, showcases and fosters local talent, builds community in Chelsea through arts engagement and collaboration, and is establishing a hub for Latin artists in the Boston metropolitan area. Teatro Chelsea creates theatre at the crossroads of languages, cultures, and histories that make up the Latin experience, and seeks to amplify and honor the voices that speak to these unique experiences.

Teatro Chelsea is supported by MassDevelopment's TDI Creative Catalyst Grant.

## DiDomenico, Senate pass COVID-19 emergency paid sick leave

Last week, Senator Sal DiDomenico joined with his colleagues in the Massachusetts Senate in passing a comprehensive bill that would guarantee five paid days off for every employee in the Commonwealth. The bill also seeks to stabilize the state's Unemployment Insurance (UI) trust fund, provide substantial tax relief to businesses and workers, and delay the state tax filing deadline.

"I am proud of the action taken by the Senate to pass this comprehensive bill that will help both businesses and workers, all while working towards an equitable recovery here in Massachusetts," said DiDomeni-Senator co. "Although things are beginning to improve as more people are able to access the COVID-19 vaccine, it is not lost on us that our small business community and working families are still very

much hurting from the fallout of this pandemic. I am confident this bill will bring much needed relief to our businesses, support to our front-line workers, and tax relief to low-income families. I know the House is also committed to taking swift action on this legislation and am grateful for their partnership on this matter. I sincerely look forward to seeing this comprehensive bill be signed into law."

To help protect employees on the front lines, and prevent the further spread of COVID-19, this bill ensures that all workers in Massachusetts have access to paid leave if they are unable to work as a result of a COVID-19 infection or a quarantine order. Significantly, given the state's push to increase vaccination rates, employees will be able to use this paid leave time to take time off to receive the vaccine. In addition, the legislation provides for leave health crisis has created a

care for a family member unable to work because of COVID.

Under this legislation, employees are eligible for up to five days of paid leave, at their regular rate of pay, capped at \$850 per week-which is the same maximum weekly benefit provided for in the Massachusetts Paid Family Medical Leave (PFML) law. Employers covered by federal legislation providing for paid leave will have the cost of providing such leave paid for through the federal tax credit. For all other employers, the bill creates a \$75 million COVID-19 Emergency Paid Sick Leave Fund to reimburse eligible employers for providing their employees with emergency paid sick leave. The state requirement for paid leave would extend until September 30, 2021 or until the fund is exhausted.

The COVID-19 public surge of pandemic-related unemployment claims, which has depleted the Commonwealth's unemployment trust fund, necessitating borrowing from the federal government to pay out those benefits. The bill therefore authorizes up to \$7 billion worth of borrowing to replenish the UI trust fund and to repay all federal UI loans, funded by an employer charge, and creates a separate time-limited employer assessment to repay interest on federal UI loans by their due dates to ensure the solvency of the UI trust fund.

The bill also provides much-needed UI-related relief to businesses and employees. For businesses, the bill prevents increases in the UI rate schedule for 2021 and 2022, providing employers with needed stability and relief as the Commonwealth continues to recover. For unemployed workers, some navigating the UI system for the first time, the bill waives

tax penalties on UI benefits in 2020 and 2021. It also mirrors federal tax provisions included in the recent American Rescue Plan and excludes \$10,200 of unemployment compensation received by an individual with a household income of less than 200% of the federal poverty level from gross income for tax purposes, putting up to \$500 into the hands of lower income unemployed individuals. This would apply to individuals making \$25,760 or under, or a total income of \$53,000 for a family of

Further relief for businesses comes in the form of a change in state tax policy regarding PPP loans. In Massachusetts, corporate excise, but not personal income tax, is tied to the current federal Internal Revenue Code. As a result, Massachusetts' tax law treats forgiven Paycheck Protection Program loans differently

recipient small businesses is organized as a passthrough entity or a c-corp. This bill conforms to federal law and ensures that all forgiven PPP loans, advance Economic Injury Disaster Loans and payments made under the federal Small Business Debt Relief are excluded from gross income, regardless of how the business is organized.

Finally, to align state tax deadlines with federal tax deadlines, the bill extends the Commonwealth's tax filing deadline from April 15, 2021, to May 17, 2021. This tax flexibility, similar to a delay authorized last year by the Legislature, will provide stability and ensure residents have time to prepare and file taxes as the state continues to weather the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic.

The bill now goes to the House for further action.

## Region / Continued from Page 8

residential housing and ground-floor retail space.

Other highlights of the project include related upgrades in public realm improvements, including pedestrian and vehicular access, landscaping and streetscape design. With a combined land area of approximately 34,160

square feet, the site consists of nine contiguous parcels of land with a series of non-descript automobile repair structures, one small wood-frame buildings, residential surface parking and multiple curb-cuts off Bremen Street. The 110,000 square

foot building included more than 3,000 square feet of retail space, over 2,155 square feet of artist workspace with gallery programming, up to 61 parking spaces and 145 bicycle storage spaces.

According to the BPDA The ground-floor retail space would be designed for an urban grocery store/market operator, daycare operator or local retailer. Prior to the ZBA

vote, Bremen Acquisition inked a community mitigation package with members of the project's IAG. The package is com-

claiming to have an

interest in a Mortgage

covering real property

in Chelsea, numbered

93 Parker Street, given

parable to other projects of its size with \$200,000 in direct money benefits Eastie. The developer agreed to doing 20 percent affordable onsite housing-seven percent more than what is reguired under the BPDA inclusionary policy. The developer also

agreed to install 19 trees, expand the sidewalks-up to 18 feet in some areas, install a safety bump out to make crossing Bremen Street easier for pedestrians as well as creating a more active Bremen Street in what has been an industrial area.

#### LEGAL NOTICES Pursuant to Section 6-3

of the Charter of the City

of Chelsea, the purpose

of the public hearing

is to receive comment

regarding a request to

Hall Avenue.

Chairperson

Chief Brian A. Kyes

Per Order

install an "Electric Vehicle

Charging Station" on City

3/25/21

#### **LEGAL NOTICE**



CITY OF CHELSEA INVITATION FOR BIDS **HOOPER STREET RE-**TAINING WALL & SITE **IMPROVEMENTS** The City of Chelsea, Massachusetts, through its Chief Procurement Officer, is seeking sealed bids for all labor and materials for "Hooper Street Retaining Wall & Site Improvements". Invitation for Bids will be available on or after March 25, 2021 by contacting Dragica Ivanis, Chief Procurement Officer at divanis@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 "Hooper Street Retaining Wall & Site Improvements" and submitted to the Office

of the Chief Procurement

Officer no later than

10:00AM on Thursday,

April 15, 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 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 Invitation for Bids is

in accordance with M.G.L.

**Chief Procurement Officer** 

3/25/21

Chapter 30, 39M.

Dragica Ivanis

#### **LEGAL NOTICE** COMMONEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

THE TRIAL COURT PROBATE AND **FAMILY COURT** Suffolk Probate And Family Court 24 New Chardon St. Boston, MA 02114 (617)788-8300 NOTICE OF PETITION FOR **CHANGE OF NAME** Docket No. SU21C0071CA In the matter of: Jazlynn Neya Parker A Petition to Change Name of Adult has been filed by Jazlynn Neya Parker of Chelsea, MA requesting that the court enter a Decree changing their name to: Nia Jazzy Chaplin Any person may appear for purposes of objecting to the petition by filing an appearance at: Suffolk Probate and

Family Court before

10:00 a.m. on the return

day of 04/16/2021. This

is NOT a hearing date,

but a deadline by which

you must file a written appearance if you object to this proceeding. WITNESS, Hon. Brian J. Dunn, First Justice of this Court. Date: March 10, 2021 Felix D. Arroyo, Register of Probate 3/25/21

REVISED NOTICE OF PUB-

LIC HEARING

CHELSEA TRAFFIC AND

PARKING COMMISSION

**PUBLIC HEARING** 

Notice is hereby given in

accordance with Chapter

90 of the General Laws

of the Commonwealth

of Massachusetts and

pursuant to Section 6-3

of the Charter of the City

of Chelsea that a Public

Hearing of the Chelsea

Traffic and Parking Com-

mission will be held on:

City Council Chambers

6:00 P.M.

500 Broadway

Tuesday, April 6, 2021 at

<u>LEGAL NOTICE</u>

LEGAL NOTICE COMMONWEALTH OF

MASSACHUSETTS LAND COURT DEPARTMENT OF THE TRIAL COURT 21 SM 000289 Radoslaw (Robert) Moszkowicz, Individually and as Personal Representative of the Estate of

ORDER OF NOTICE Roman Moszkowicz, Artur

(Arthur) Moszkowicz and to all persons entitled to the benefit of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act, 50 U.S.C. c. 50 § 3901 et seq.:

Quicken Loans, LLC

f/k/a Quicken Loans Inc.

by Roman Moszkowicz and Teresa Moszkowicz to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc. as Nominee for Mortgage Associates Inc., dated December 10, 2007, and recorded or filed in **Suffolk County Registry** of Deeds in Book 42867, Page 1, and now held by

Plaintiff by assignment, has/have filed with this court a complaint for determination of Defendant's/Defendants' Servicemembers status.

If you now are, or recently have been, in the active military service of the United States of America, then you may be entitled to the benefits of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act. If you object to a foreclosure of the above-mentioned property on that basis,

then you or your attorney

must file a written ap-

pearance and answer in

this court at Three Pem-

berton Square, Boston,

Attest: Deborah J. Patterson Recorder 3/25/21 **LEGAL NOTICE** 

MA 02108 on or before

or you may lose the

the foreclosure on the

Witness, GORDON H.

PIPER, Chief Justice of

this Court on 3/12/2021.

with the Act.

opportunity to challenge

ground of noncompliance

4/26/2021

Notice is hereby given

that a public hearing will

be held by the Chelsea

**Licensing Commission** 

on Thursday, April 8,

2021 at 6:00 p.m., at the

City Council Chambers,

Chelsea City Hall, 500

Broadway, Chelsea, MA,



429 Broadway, Chelsea, MA Chelsea Licensing Commission, April 8, 2021

in accordance with the provisions of a special law relating to the City of Chelsea be filed with the Commonwealth's Legislature under Clause (I) of Section 8 of Article 2, as

amended, of the Amend-

ments to the Constitution

to consider a Transfer

of License, Pledge of

License application of

License (off Premise)

an All Kinds of Alcohol

for Chelsea Liquor, Inc.

d/b/a Heller's Liquor

Inc. d/b/a Heller's

Chelsea, MA. 02150.

CHELSEA LICENSING

Licensing Administrator

**LEGAL NOTICE** 

3/25/21, 4/1/21

COMMISSION

Naomi Libran

Mart to Unity Beverages,

Liquor at 429 Broadway,

Inventory and Pledge of

Chelsea City Council will conduct a public hearing on Monday, April 5, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. in the City Council Chambers, 500 Broadway, Chelsea, MA 02150 to discuss proposed home rule petition on imposing a local sales tax upon sale or transfer of road salt or related products by a taxpayer with salt storage operations within the City of Chelsea at a rate not greater than 1 percent of the total sales price received by the taxpayer in consideration for the sale of road salt. A copy of the materials are available for review at the Chelsea City Coun-

of the Commonwealth of

Massachusetts that the

LEGAL NOTICE CITY OF CHELSEA PUBLIC HEARING Notice is hereby given

cil Office, City Hall, 500 Broadway #306, Chelsea, MA 02150 during City Hall business hours. Or email fmelara@ chelseama.gov to request materials. Roy Avellaneda President Chelsea City

3/18/21, 3/25/21

#### John Godfrey

US Postal Service retiree and youth sports coach

John H. "Jack" Godfrey lost a brief but valiant battle with cancer at home surrounded by his family on March 12.



Born Chelsea, Jack graduated from Chelsea High School and enlisted

in the U.S. Army serving in Vietnam. After an honorable discharge he graduated from Boston State College. He worked for the US Postal Service from 1968 through 2020.

Jack loved sports. He played baseball, football, basketball, and softball into his 40's. When his sons were old enough to play, he started coaching and continued well after they graduated from youth sports. He coached baseball, basketball, and soccer in Winthrop. When he wasn't playing or coaching sports, he was watching his sons and grandsons play or traveling to watch them play. He visited many baseball fields and hockey rinks in New England and more exotic locations like California, Florida, Maryland, Nebraska, New York, Spain, and Sweden to watch his sons and grandsons play. He even left the hospital last year in time to watch a MIAA hockey tournament

His garden was his second passion and he was constantly adding to it. He could not drive by a nursery without purchasing another ornamental grass or shrub. There could be 20 blueberry plants in his small yard. The birds thank him.

Jack is survived by his wife of almost 50 years, Patricia (Lane) Godfrey and his two sons, Christopher J. (Jennifer) Godfrey of Rowley and Daniel E.(Erin) of Winthrop and



his three grandchildren, Tyler, Zachary and Amaya. He is survived by his sisters, Ellen Godfrey of Chelsea, Catherine Raso of Everett and MaryJane Gildea of North Andover and a large extended family including brothers-inlaw, sisters-in-law, many loving nieces and nephews. He was predeceased by his parents, Joseph S. Godfrey and Catherine (French) Godfrey and his brothers, Joseph Godfrey of Bradford and Thomas Godfrey of Chelsea.

A celebration of Jack's life will take place on Saturday, June 5, 2021 at St. Michael the Archangel Parish, St. John the Evangelist Church, 320 Winthrop Street, Winthrop. Calling hours will be at the church from 10 until 11:30 a.m. A Funeral mass will follow and burial will be in the Belle Isle section of Winthrop Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to Viking Pride (vikingpride. org) or Care Dimensions Hospice, 75 Sylvan Street, Suite B-102, Danvers, MA 01923 or online @www. CareDimensions.org. To sign the online guestbook, go to www.caggianofuneralhome.com.

Arrangements under the direction of the Caggiano-O'Maley-Frazier Funeral Home, Winthrop.

### **OBITUARIES**

#### **Gerald Myhal**

Longtime member of the Polish Political Club in Chelsea

Gerald "Jerry" Myhal of Everett passed away suddenly in his home on March 16.

He was a member of the Polish Political Club in Chelsea for over thirty years, enjoyed spending time with family, doing countless errands for others and playing poker.

The beloved husband of 49 years to Linda (Andrews) Myhal, he was the devoted father of Taj Myhal and Laurie Jefferson of Everett; devoted father and grandfather to Tanya, Michael, Michael Jr. and Olivia of Saugus; dear brother of Robert and Sylvia Myhal of Kennebunk, ME, Joyce and George Leach of Marblehead, the late Dolores and Frank Maniscalco and Thomas Myhal. He is also sur-



vived by many nieces, nephews, cousins

Jerry was born and raised in Chelsea, the youngest of five children and beloved son of the late Mitchell and Anna (Zaremski) Myhal.

Donations in his memory can be made to the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation-JDRF. line at www.JDRF.org/donate/ or by mail at: JDRF P.O Box 37920, Boone, IA 50037-0920.

## **Stephen Sofflet**

February 18, 1958 – March 17, 2021

Stephen J. Stofflet, 63, passed away unexpectedly in his home on Wednesday, March 17. A resident of Revere for

the past 25 years, he was born in Boston and raised in Chelsea, a beloved son of the late Darlton J. and Joan M. (Helfrich) Stofflet. attended Chel-

sea schools, worked as a warehouseman at a Chelsea furniture store, and has been retired for the past 20 years following a workplace injury. Stephen enjoyed his

time with family and friends, singing karaoke and playing games of chance.

He is lovingly survived by his twin sister, Susan Fetanat and her husband, Alex of Rancho Santa Margarita, CA, his brother, William J. Stofflet and his wife, Jeanne of Taunton and sister, Nancy Bailey He was the of Revere.



nieces, nephews, grandnieces and grandnephews and is also survived by extended family members and friends. Arrangements were giv-

en 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 to visit: www.Welsh-FH.com.

## Jose Juan Rosado

October 24, 1981 - March 17, 2021

Jose Juan Rosado, 39, passed away at home on Wednesday, March 17.

Born in Boston, the much loved and cherished son of Julio Rosado and Rutilia Gelista de Rosado, Jose lived his entire life courageously with cerebral palsy. Although this left him visually impaired and confined to a wheelchair, he was able to persevere given the love and devotion of his family. Jose was included in all aspects of family life, gathering and socializing.

He would express great joy simply being outdoors in the fresh air or accompanying his family on various outings, especially bowling.

To mourn his passing and cherish his memory Jose leaves his devoted parents, Julio and Rutilia (Gelista) Rosado, his beloved sisters, Maria Rosado and Blanca Rosado and his nephew, Izaiah Aroche-Rosado, all of Chelsea.

A private family farewell has been scheduled.

Arrangements 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.

A los 39 años de edad, José falleció en su casa el miércoles 17 de marzo.



Nacido en Boston, era el muy querido y apreciado hijo de Julio Rosado y Rutilia Gelista de Rosado. José vivió toda su vida

con valentía con parálisis cerebral. Aunque esto lo dejó con discapacidad visual y confinado a una silla de ruedas, fue capaz de perseverar dado el amor y la devoción de su familia. José fue incluido en todos los aspectos de la vida familiar, reuniendo y socializando.

Él expresaría gran alegría simplemente estar al aire libre en el aire fresco o acompañar a su familia en varias salidas, especialmente bolos.

Para llorar su muerte y atesorar su memoria José deja a sus devotos padres, Julio y Rutilia (Gelista) Rosado, las queridas hermanas María Rosado y Blanca Rosado y su sobrino Izaiah Aroche-Rosado, todos de Chelsea.

Se programó una despedida familiar privada.

Animamos a la familia y amigos que lo deseen, a ofrecer condolencias en este momento a través del libro de visitas en línea o a enviar por correo una tarjeta de simpatía personalizada mediante uno de los enlaces a continuación.

## MassDevelopment, MAPC Award MVES \$50K

Council (MAPC), has awarded Mystic Valley Elder Services (MVES) \$50,000 in funding to help the agency increase its transportation service capacity through contracts with taxi & livery companies. The funding is through the Taxi, Livery, and Hackney Transportation Partnerships Grant Program, an operational subsidy program aimed at expanding transportation service capacity through contracts with licensed taxi or livery businesses.

MVES will use this award to contract with Malden Taxi and Suburban Taxi to facilitate transportation to medical appointments and grocery stores for seniors and adults living with disabilities who are isolated in their communities. It will also help MVES' Vaccine Transportation Program which proand over.

vided free transportation to COIVD-19 vaccine location to individuals age 60 "Transportation can be a big challenge for older adults and adults living with disabilities who want to maintain a heathy, active life. Accessible transportation services are vital for enabling older adults to live independently," explains Lauren Reid, Director of Community Programs at "Our transpor-MVES. tation experts are here to help you craft a transportation plan to fit your needs. We can make sure you get to your appointments and

remain connected to your

MVES provides assis-

friends and community."

MassDevelopment, in tance in accessing compartnership with the Met- munity transportation reropolitan Area Planning sources that are provided by Councils on Aging, the MBTA's The RIDE, and through providers that MVES directly contracts with including taxi services. In addition, MVES can help people access services through the Mass-Health program along with other local resources. The transportation department can also schedule transportation to medical appointments for consumers enrolled in our various state funded homecare programs who require assistance. MassDevelopment and

> in funding to 47 cities and towns, municipal agencies, regional transit authorities, nonprofits, and health and human service providers through the Taxi, Livery, and Hackney Transportation Partnerships Grant Program. Administered by MAPC, these grants will help communities supplement existing transportation options, create new programs to transport individuals to work, grocery stores, non-emergency medical appointments, and other destinations, and facilitate delivery of essential supplies such as food and medicine to residents in need. The Taxi, Livery, and Hackney Transportation Partnerships Grant Program is funded by Mass-Development's allocation from the Commonwealth's Transportation Infrastruc-Enhancement Trust

MACPawarded \$2,543,883

To learn more about MVES transportation services, please call us at 781-324-7705 or visit www. mves.org

## To place a memoriam in the Chelsea Record, please call 781-485-0588



Away you are on your Birthday, yet here in my heart you will always stay. For distance and time can never end love. I've more to be thankful than mournful of.

It's now been 21 years and each day I pray that you are happy though so far away. Love -

Your daughter Michelle

#### CATHERINE (KAY) PITTS March 25 1971 50th Year Anniversary You can only have one mother, patient, kind and true. To other friend in all the world will For all her loving kindness, She asks nothing in return, If all the world deserts you To your mother you can turn. You can only have one mother Please take her to your heart. You cannot tell how sson the day When you and she must part. Let her know you love her Cheer and comfort her each day, For you'll never have another When she passes away Love your son, Arthur

#### **SERVICE** Pre-need planning with our

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price protection guarantee. Arrangements made at our facility or in the comfort of your own home 4 generations of the Torf Tradition: Deborah Torf Golden Amy Torf Golden

Hyman J. Torf (1903-2000) M.L. Torf (1867-1940) Richard A. Pruneau (617) 889-2900

(800)428-7161 www.torffuneralservice.com

**Funeral** Home Inc. 389 Washington Ave. Chelsea 617-884-4188 Amy C-Almas

Carafa Family

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## **OBITUARIES** Effective Jan. 1, 2021

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#### LOCAL STUDENTS

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#### **REGIS STUDENTS MAKE THE DEAN'S LIST**

College Regis pleased to announce that the following residents are among the 540 students that made the Dean's List for academic achievement for the 2020 fall semester.

- \* Alexa Cuellar, of Chelsea, class of 2021.
- \* Jaqueline Lopreto, of Chelsea, class of 2023.

\* Briana Ramirez, of Chelsea, class of 2021.

To be eligible for the Dean's List as a senior, junior or sophomore at Regis, a student must have a semester grade point average (GPA) of at least 3.50. For first-year students, a semester GPA of at least 3.25 must be attained.

"I am very pleased to

see so many of our students excelling across the university," said Regis College Vice President of Academic Affairs Mary Erina Driscoll. "The Dean's List and the diversity of academic disciplines speak to a dedicated student body and to a faculty that promotes intellectual curiosity and achievement."

Regis College is a coed, Catholic university 12 miles west of Boston in Weston, Mass. With over 3,000 undergraduate, graduate, and doctoral students enrolled on campus and in fully online graduate programs, Regis provides an academically rigorous education within the schools of nursing, arts and sciences, business and communication, and health sciences. The

Young School of Nursing at Regis has consistently been recognized by the National League of Nursing as a Center of Excellence in Nursing Education. In line with Regis' mission of providing innovative, industry-focused learning opportunities, the university offers academic partnerships with hospitals and local employers, a clinical dental center in Waltham, Mass., and bachelor's completion and accelerated nursing programs at its campus in Lawrence, Mass. The university's 20 NCAA Division III athletic teams compete within the Great Northeast Athletic Conference (GNAC). Inspired by the social justice values of its founders, the Sisters of

St. Joseph of Boston, Re-

gis engages with service

initiatives within the local community and around the world. Visit https:// www.regiscollege.edu.

#### LOCAL STUDENT NAMED TO **CENTRE COLLEGE DEAN'S LIST**

Saira Carreto Romero has been named to the dean's list for the fall term at Centre College, an honor reserved for students who maintain at least a 3.60 grade point average. A graduate of Chelsea

High School, Saira Carreto Romero's parent is Gisela Romero of Chelsea. Centre College, founded

in 1819, has been named a Forbes top-15 college/university in the South seven years in a row, and is included in Colleges That Change Lives.

#### **CONSTRUCTION** UPDATE

## Chelsea Curves construction look-ahead through April 3

This is a brief overview of construction operations and traffic impacts for the Tobin Bridge/Chelsea Curves Rehabilitation Project. MassDOT will provide additional notices as needed for high-impact work, temporary ramp and street closures, and changes to traffic configurations beyond those described below.

ROUTE 1 TRAFFIC **IMPACTS** 

•ROUTE 1 NORTH-BOUND: Approaching the Tobin Bridge from Boston, the work zone begins in the right lane. 2 of 3 travel lanes will be open during daytime hours (5 a.m.-10 p.m.). Nighttime lane reduction to one lane scheduled for Thursday, 3/25, and Friday, 3/26 (10 p.m. -5 a.m.).

•ROUTE 1 SOUTH-BOUND: Approaching the Chelsea Curves from the North Shore, the work zone is in the median. All 3 travel lanes are open during the daytime hours (5 a.m.-10 p.m.).

LOCAL **STREET CLOSURES** 

•FIFTH STREET: On Monday, 3/26, Fifth Street will be closed during the daytime from 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. •ORANGE STREET:

On Monday, 3/26, Orange Street will be closed during the daytime from 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. • A R L I N G T O N

STREET: On Tuesday, 3/27, Arlington Street will be closed during the daytime from 7 a.m. to 3 p.m.

**WORK HOURS** 

•Most work will occur

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

DESCRIPTION SCHEDULED WORK

•ROUTE 1 NORTH BOUND: Placement of bridge barrier and installation of final highway lighting will continue through the Chelsea

•ROUTE 1 SOUTH-**BOUND:** Completion of bridge superstructure and installation Fire Standpipe System will continue through the Chelsea Curves.

COMPLETED WORK

•All remaining work is within the Chelsea Viaduct portion of the job. Work continues on the reconstruction of parking lots underneath the Chelsea Viaduct.

#### TRAVEL TIPS

Drivers should take care to pay attention to all safe work zones.

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

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signage and move carefully through the work zone. Police details, lane markings, temporary barriers, traffic cones, signage, and other tools will be used to control traffic and create

schedule.

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#### SCHOOL UPDATES

#### **DISTRICT UPDATES**

•Dr. Almi Abeyta and Dr. Aaron Jennings are working with professors from local universities, Harvard Graduate School of Education and Boston College, on planning for supporting students when they return.

•Chelsea Special Education Parent Advisory Council (SEPAC) will hold a meeting on Thursday, March 25, at 6 p.m. online. During the meeting, they will welcome Laura Perez from Mass Advocates for Children. She will present, 'Understanding the IEP.'

#### **EARLY LEARNING** CENTER

•Mrs. Faiella and Miss Maria's Pre-Kindergarten class are learning about colors. The class did a color experiment with Skittles and warm water. Taste the rainbow.

#### **BERKOWITZ SCHOOL UPDATES**

•Ms. Cabigting's 2nd Grade Class from the Berkowitz have been learning about amazing women in history. These are a few of their drawings this week. Amelia Earhart and Frida Kahlo and one of her animalitos, the Spider Monkey. Their class also meets up Saturday mornings for those who earned points during the school week. They have been meeting up to play "Among Us' together since January.

#### **HOOK SCHOOL UPDATES**

•Mrs. Delvaux's second grade class had the opportunity to interview Principal Clark as part of our interview writing unit. The class learned so much about Principal Clark and about what it takes to become a principal. The students were excellent interviewers and asked great,

specific questions.

•Here is an update for the 1st Annual Hooks/ Sokolowski Olympic Challenge. Students at the Hooks and Sokolowski Schools have been competing during Physical Education class with Miss Drake and Ms. Stewart! Event #2, the gold medal went to the Hooks School. Both PE teachers are so proud of the hard work all the student athletes are putting in.

•Students in Ms. Mc-Guire's 4th grade class are working on poetry in Read Together. The students listen to/read a poem by Kid President and then write their own poem using the repeating line "keep going." To get kids thinking about what they wanted to write about, teachers asked them what emotions they felt while listening/reading, and what the phrase "keep going" reminded them of. They

posted their ideas to Jamboard and also starred the ideas they agreed with. They were willing to put their ideas out there and also they supported each other's ideas.

#### **MORRIS H. SEI-**GAL CLARK AVE. **UPDATES**

•The Clark Avenue Community engaged in their first One School One Book Read Aloud. Every homeroom read and discussed the book Carl and the Meaning of Life by Deborah Freedman. It was a wonderful celebration of reading community and a great opportunity for students to engage in reflective discussions about their own interpretations of the meaning of life.

•Students in Ms. Crowley's after school Science program put their STEM engineering skills into practice, as they designed and tested popsicle stick catapults. Students experimented with changing the incline of the catapult to get the best projectile possible, using a Marshmallow Peep as the "pilot." Each week, the Science program explores a new area of STEM or chemical reactions.

#### **CHELSEA HIGH SCHOOL**

•Virtual Family Teacher Conferences will be on Thursday, March 25. Join on Zoom any time between 5-7 p.m. Parents will have the opportunity to talk individually to their student's teacher on Zoom. You might have to be in a virtual waiting room before talking to the teacher. Teachers will send out links to their students. For help, go to https://chelseaschools. zoom.us/j/86160018826.



Miss Lindsay's class at the **Early Learning Center had** a lot to celebrate last week. The class celebrated St. Patrick's Day by drawing leprechauns with their pot of gold at the end of the rainbow, and the 100th day of school by dressing up as 100 year olds - such as this student did quite well.

## Gallery 456 exhibit by photographer Mark Morelli captures rich details of Chelsea's urban landscape

Staff Report

With the eye of a poet Mark Morelli walks the streets of Chelsea and with his camera captures the small details of life in the city. Each becomes a meditation and an appreciation of our collective existence.

A large selection of his photographs are now on display at Gallery 456 in the exhibit "Everyday Chelsea, Chelsea Everyday."

For over 20 years Mark Morelli (https://www.instagram.com/morelliphoto/) has documented the urban landscape of his Chelsea neighborhood. He says, "For over twenty years Chelsea has been my home. It has also been my inspiration. On daily walks I view the city street by street, slowly observing the small, often overlooked, details that make Chelsea visually compelling. Houses, flags, window displays, graffiti, fences, religious symbols, buildings, murals, shopping carts, basketball hoops, bicycles, doors, chairs, discarded papers."

The exhibit uses a large format digital display to bring his large portfolio to life. Tacked on the walls of the display, as a backdrop to the digital monitors and as a stand alone display, Morelli has created a large collage of these discarded papers. On one panel, a single monitor displays a slideshow while the mon-

itor on another features short videos. In these a static camera views an animated object like falling snow on a city street, passing cars through a fogged store window, the flapping of loose plastic at a construction site.

While none of Morelli's photographs include people but they're full of life. The artist explains, "Each of these details is a small puzzle piece suggesting something larger; a mysterious world or a hidden story. These seemingly random fragments ultimately come together to document the rituals, activities and routines of everyday life. They are the pieces that define this unique place, creating a portrait of a city."

The exhibit invites curiosity, encouraging us to inquire about the unseen people encountered in these images and ephemera.

The exhibit remains on display until late April. Gallery 456 is a storefront gallery with exhibits always visible from the sidewalk in front of 456 Broadway, Chelsea.

Gallery 456 is presented by Chelsea Prospers, the City of Chelsea's downtown initiative for neighborhood vitality.







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An example of part of the exhibit by Morelli.



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