

## CHELSEA RECORD

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35 CENTS

## MUSIC ON THE SQUARE



Chelsea resident Russ Gershon (left) performs with Lookie Lookie at the Music on the Square event in Chelsea Square. A graduate of Harvard College, Gershon has been a professional musician since 1980 and was nominated for a Grammy in 1992. Right, Lookie Lookie had the crowd dancing in the street.



## A Masterful Musician

## Chelsea's Russ Gershon and his All-Star band perform in Chelsea Square

By Cary Shuman

Russ Gershon is an accomplished musician, vocalist, and arranger who has performed at venues all over the world.

But Gershon's most recent performance at "Music on the Square" with his All-Star band, Lookie Lookie, which focuses on Afro-Cuban and Latino music, was close to home — very close, in fact.

"I was delighted to perform in Chelsea for a lot of reasons," said Gershon, who plays tenor sax. "One thing is I live 100 feet from where the stage was, so the commute was easy. And I like Chelsea a lot. I've been living here for about five years. I love the town. I think it's a really nice place. I was happy to per-

form for my neighbors."

The large crowd on Winisimmet Street included Chelsea residents and fans of Lookie Lookie from other communities. Also making it a special night for Gershon was the fact that he was performing at a live concert for the first time since before the pandemic.

Councillor-at-Large Leo Robinson was among the residents who attended the concert. "This event is bringing the city together and the fact that one of our own residents is performing makes it an even more special happening in the city," said Robinson. "And I know that Russ is certainly great at what he does."

Harvard College brought him to the Boston area

Russ Gershon grew up in New York and West-

port, Connecticut, where he started taking piano lessons at the age of 7.

"My mother (Nancy) was a musician so I took piano lessons and violin lessons at school," recalled Gershon. "When I was teenager, I got the jazz bug big time. I started listening to Jazz records and after a couple of years of that, I really just needed to play the saxophone. I felt like I didn't have a choice, I had to play the sax."

Gershon attended Staples High School and at 6 feet, 2 inches, he played some sports. He was also an outstanding student, earning admission to Harvard College in Cambridge.

"I came up to the Boston area to go to Harvard and I studied Philosophy," he

said. "I was playing a lot of music on the side and I did a lot of radio broadcasting on WHRB, which is Harvard's FM station. I met so many cool people at Harvard that I'm still friends with. My first band was mostly Harvard students."

There were some interesting times at Harvard, the world's most well-known university. "The first summer after freshman year, three friends and I got into a two-door Fiat and drove across the country," he recalled. "It goes to show you how crazy 18-19 year-olds are and how much more limber they are than 62-year-olds. That was the first time I drove across the United States and the first time I really understood

See GERSHON Page 62

## 1-year-old boy hit and killed tragically on Bellingham Street

By Seth Daniel

A small boy was struck and killed accidentally in front of 74 Bellingham St. on Saturday, July 10, by a livery driver who was pulling out of the driveway with a passenger.

The Massachusetts State Police and Chelsea

Police are investigating the death, which happened just before noon. The toddler, a Chelsea resident, was struck in front of 74 Bellingham St. by a livery vehicle that had just picked up a passenger. The boy, whose mother was present when he was struck, was transported to Massachusetts General Hospital, where he was pronounced deceased.

Both the boy and his mother were on foot at the time of the crash.

The driver of the livery, a Toyota C-HR, remained on scene. The driver, a 45-year-old woman, was transported to Whidden Memorial Hospital after complaining of chest pain. She was interviewed there later by a Trooper from the State Police Detective Unit for Suffolk County

and a Chelsea Officer.

The Toyota was processed by Troopers from the State Police Collision Analysis and Reconstruction Section and the State Police Crime Scene Services Section.

The investigation is ongoing to determine if criminal charges are warranted.

See ACCIDENT Page 2

## Chelsea Jewish Lifecare announces vaccine mandate for all employees

By Seth Daniel

Chelsea Jewish Lifecare was the first to announce it would require all employees to be vaccinated for the COVID-19 virus, an effort to boost vaccination levels higher to keep staff and patients more safe.

Legacy Lifecare President Adam Berman said they knew they had to do something to get rates — which were pretty high after a robust vaccination campaign in February and March — even higher through their network.

"There's a mixture of reasons people don't get vaccinated," he said.

"Contrary to popular belief, it's not because a majority of people are against the vaccine. It's about education and about the fact that some have had COVID in the past and that offers some immunity. We know the vaccine is still necessary even for those folks. The requirement puts it to the forefront even more so than before. In the first week of the requirement, our numbers doubled. We knew this would increase things and it got it over the top."

He said they have more than 75 percent of em-

See VACCINE Page 3

## Chelsea City Hall Tower Clock history

Staff Report

The restored clock tower on City Hall has brought up some interest in the history of the old clock, with Public Works Director Fidel Maltez noting this week that the clock is quite noteworthy.

Maltez said the clock is being restored off site by an expert on clock towers, who provided the city with a thorough description of the history of the clock mechanism in City Hall. Part of the City Hall Tower restoration project includes full restoration of the mechanism to its original design of 1908.

"We are very lucky to have such an amazing piece of history in City Hall," said Maltez. "The clock mechanism will be reinstalled in the City Hall tower over the next few weeks."

The four clock faces on top of Chelsea City Hall are operated by a single mechanism made in 1908 by the E. Howard Clock Company in Boston. The clock mechanism is a #2 Timepiece and was

equipped with an 'Illumination Regulator' to light the clock faces by gas or electricity. The clock mechanism is centrally located on the same level with the faces and turn the hands by four driveshafts, one to each clock face.

Originally the clock operated by 300 lbs of cast iron weights that were automatically rewound by an electric motor which eliminated the need for weekly hand winding. Accurate time was maintained by a 7-1/2 foot long pendulum that protruded through a slotted opening in the floor.

At some point, probably the 1980s, the pendulum and weights were removed and the clock was converted to operate by a small electric motor. Two of the large iron pulleys that suspended the weights by steel cable still remain overhead on the Broadway side of the clock tower. The Illumination Regulator was also replaced by an electric timer to light the clock faces at night time.

## Former Police Chief Frank Garvin passes after short illness

By Seth Daniel

Former Chelsea Police Chief Frank Garvin passed away on Tuesday night, July 13, suddenly after a short illness.

Garvin was a tremendous police officer in Chelsea, but he was also an attorney, a professor and a celebrated member of the Screen Actors Guild (SAG) — appearing in almost all of the award-winning Boston movies in recent years.

Garvin was born and raised in Charlestown on the other side of the Mystic/Tobin Bridge, but came to Chelsea in 1974 as a police officer. He was a tremendous detective on the department, and rose up the ranks to become a captain in 1996. He also



Former Police Chief Frank Garvin passed away on Tuesday, July 14, suddenly and after a short illness.

went to Suffolk University Law School and attained his law degree while serving on the force.

Chief Brian Kyes, who worked through the years with Garvin, said he had a

See GARVIN Page 2

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## Garvin/ Continued from page 1

style of interviewing people that was second to none.

“He was phenomenal for us and was a wealth of knowledge, especially when it came to homicide investigations,” said Kyes. “It’s not that we had a lot of homicide investigations, but Frank had a way of conducting interviews. His style was unique. He had a way about him.”

Garvin competed for the job of chief in 1998 and was a finalist, but then City Manager Guy Santagate chose Florida native Rafael Hernandez to lead the department rather than Garvin.

“Frank was an attorney and had been to the FBI Academy and had all the credentials in 1998,” said Kyes. “When Rafael left Chelsea and became the Undersecretary for Public Safety at the state, he then competed for the Chief’s job and got it. My relationship with Frank was tremendous. I was lucky enough to work close to him as a captain. I got to know him well and he instilled a lot of confidence in me and I learned a lot

from him waiting in the wings.”

Garvin was Chief of Police in Chelsea from 2001-07, and it’s during that time he really immersed himself in community policing. Kyes said Garvin was a tough detective and police officer, but when he became chief he was able to do what he liked best – interact with the community and go to BBQs and build relationships in the city.

“As a police chief he was incredibly focused on community policing and building relationships with all the different groups we have in Chelsea,” he said.

Councillor Leo Robinson was one of the councillors who voted in Garvin as Chief in 2001, and said he was a great officer and a good friend.

“He was a good guy and we had a very good working relationship,” said Robinson. “Besides that, we had a friendship. He will be missed.”

Garvin left in 2007 to pursue other avenues, working at ROCA for a little while and then joining the Public Safety unit

at Mass General as an investigator.

One of the more interesting turns in his life was how he caught on with Hollywood and was a member of the SAG. Many of the Boston-based movies in recent years had directors that took a liking to Garvin, and he proved to be a very solid actor.

“All of the Boston-based movies of acclaim and the Academy Award winners, Frank had a role in all of them,” said Kyes. “They definitely wanted that Irish older looking guy with grey hair and a police officer. Frank had that.”

Garvin appeared in The Town, Mystic River, Gone Baby Gone and Manchester by the Sea, among others.

“He will be missed,” said Kyes. “He had a tremendous impact on the Department, and he had a tremendous impact on our community. He’ll always remain in our hearts.”

Services for Chief Garvin are planned for next Tuesday, July 20.

## Pressley secures \$750,000 in community project funding for Island End River Area Flood Resiliency project

By Seth Daniel

Congresswoman Ayan-na Pressley (MA-07) announced the successful inclusion of \$750,000 in federal community project funding for the City of Chelsea’s and City of Everett’s Island End River Regional Coastal Flood Resiliency project.

Funding for the project, which Rep. Pressley has been advocating for through Congress’ Community Project Funding initiative, will be used to advance a regional flood resilience plan to protect the cities of Everett and Chelsea. This project would provide critical flood and sea level rise protection for highly populated regions that not only host life-critical food security and energy essential infrastructure but are also prone to coastal flooding and record coastal storms.

“As Congress works to advance bold investments in the nation’s infrastructure, environmental justice must be front-and-center, and that means protecting our cities and towns from the ongoing and long-term impacts of climate change. This funding will help Chelsea and Everett, two frontline communities, enhance their climate resiliency and help prevent further climate change-related disaster,” said Congresswoman Pressley. “I thank City Manager Ambrosino, Mayor DeMaria, and all of our advocates for their close partnership throughout this process,

and look forward to seeing this important project across the finish line.”

“The New England region relies the distribution of fresh produce from warehouse facilities located in Everett and Chelsea, which moved from the Faneuil Hall Marketplace in the 1960s to our Market Street neighborhood,” said Everett Mayor Carlo DeMaria. “In addition, we have electric generation facilities, fuel storage facilities, and commuter rail service in the area. All of this area has a history of flooding and will experience more in the future. This will be not only a huge economic disruption, but promises to be a huge environmental catastrophe with sea level rise, increasing and more frequent storm surge. I commend Ayan-na Pressley taking on this enormous and underappreciated task, because the consequences of doing nothing would be nothing short of disastrous.”

“Chelsea is one of the Commonwealth’s most vulnerable cities when it comes to coastal flooding, climate change and environmental disaster,” said Chelsea City Manager Tom Ambrosino. “This much-needed federal funding will help us make Chelsea more climate resilient and I am grateful to Congresswoman Pressley for her leadership in securing these federal dollars for our community and moving this project along.”

“GreenRoots is grateful for the leadership and support of Congresswoman Pressley who has fought for low-income environmental justice communities like Chelsea,” said Roseann Bongiovanni, Executive Director of GreenRoots. “This is critical funding needed to protect our community from being slammed by yet another crisis - the climate crisis. Residents have worked hard to create public access and green space along the Island End River. Now we need to protect those resources from being drowned by sea level rise and storm surge.”

This project, which Rep. Pressley visited Chelsea to advocate for last month, is one of ten Community Project Funding requests submitted by Rep. Pressley to the Appropriations Committee. Information on the status of additional requests will be announced in the coming days. To read more about Rep. Pressley’s Community Project Funding requests, click here. To watch her testify before the Appropriations Committee in support of her requests, click here.

The inclusion of this funding in the FY22 House Homeland Security Appropriations bill is the first step in the funding process, and Rep. Pressley will continue fighting for this funding as the bill moves to the full Appropriations Committee, consideration on the House Floor.

## Accident/ Continued from page 1

Neighbor Natasha Claudio started a GoFundMe page to help the parents, Cesar and Maria, who have only recently come to Chelsea from Guatemala.

Claudio said the family and her parents were very close, and her parents had become the boy’s godparents.

Maria and the boy were on the way to their home to present a gift to Nata-

sha’s parents for the boy’s upcoming baptism, which was to be on July 18.

“Words can’t begin to describe what occurred and how the family is holding up,” she wrote. “They are in complete loss. I have decided to take this into my own hands and create a GoFundMe for the family as they will need all the help and support to cover funeral cost...They only

have a handful of family members in the area so they will really need all the help they can get and any help is very much appreciated.”

Funeral arrangements have been scheduled for this Friday and Saturday in Chelsea.

The GoFundMe site is <https://gofund.me/ac-0c41b4>.

## Cities and towns applaud increase in State Climate Resilience funding

Staff Report

Cities and towns involved in the Resilient Mystic Collaborative applauded the doubling of annual funds for the Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness (MVP) Grant Program to \$21 million in the Baker Administration’s FY2022 Capital Plan.

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“Chelsea has already suffered through two debilitating heat waves and a dozen days over 90 F even before July 1st,” said Alex Train, Director of Housing and Community Development. “Our same residents who suffered disproportionately through COVID are now at risk from heat-related illnesses. We need to upgrade our infrastructure and services for the summer of 2050, not 1950.”

In the latest MVP grant round, the Commonwealth received 92 applications requesting a total of \$28 million for action grants out of \$10 million available. “Extreme heat, storms, drought, and flooding are no longer a thing of the future. Cli-

mate resilience needs to become a core government function, just like schools and roads,” said Julie Wormser, deputy director of the Mystic River Watershed Association. “This funding increase is a critical down payment.” Below are some of the projects in Greater Boston’s Mystic Watershed seeking MVP funding this year.

“Twelve municipalities depend on the Charles River and Amelia Earhart Dams to prevent catastrophic coastal flooding of residential neighborhoods and businesses,” said Owen O’ Riordan, Commissioner of Cambridge’s Department of Public Works. “It is of critical importance that

these dams and portions of our shoreline be elevated to ensure we protect tens of thousands of people and billions in property from harm. We could use every penny in the MVP program over the next decade just to solve this one issue.”

“Belle Isle Marsh is by far the largest remaining salt marsh in Boston Harbor providing a crucial buffer for flooding to neighboring communities and critical habitat for over 250 bird species, mammals and marine animals, said Mary Mitchell, president of Friends of Belle Isle Marsh. “Funding for restoration projects and nature-based resiliency projects within the marsh is needed now to

best protect against climate change and sea level rise.”

“One of Winthrop’s most valuable resources is Ingleside Park, a vast green space enjoyed by the entire Town,” said Rachel Kelly, Director of Planning and Development. The Park floods after heavy rains and snowmelt. Winthrop would greatly benefit from additional MVP funding to mitigate flooding with improved drainage and green infrastructure.”

The Resilient Mystic Collaborative includes 20 of 21 communities (Arlington, Belmont, Boston, Burlington, Cambridge, Chelsea, Everett, Lexington, Malden, Medford, Melrose, Reading, Revere, Somerville, Stoneham, Wakefield, Watertown, Winchester, Winthrop, and Woburn) and over 98 percent of the population and land base in the Mystic River Watershed. Together, RMC municipalities represent one percent of the state’s land base and 10 percent of its population. The partnership focuses on fresh water and coastal flooding, and protecting vulnerable residents and workers from extreme weather, including heat.

scope and breadth of these complex projects quickly expands as well. Regional MVP funding is supporting a revitalized trail system and green stormwater treatment systems to increase storage and water quality in Reading, which provides similar benefits to downstream communities. The estimated cost to complete this project alone is over two million dollars.”

“Climate change is bringing intense rainfall that overwhelms our aging stormwater systems with increased frequency,” said Elena Proakis Ellis, Melrose Director of Public Works. “We are working with 16 other communities to manage local and regional flooding through expanded wetlands and other nature-based solutions. With enough small projects combined, we can make a real difference in our region. These projects are too costly for communities like Melrose to afford with local funding alone, however. This work is essential to the region and brings other habitat and social benefits along the way.”

“The industrial district that spans Chelsea and Everett provides thousands of good-paying jobs and billions in annual economic activity,” said Chelsea’s Alex Train. “It was unfortunately also built by filling in the Island End River, which is now chronically flooding during heavy storms. The price tag for protecting this area from flooding over the next fifty years is north of \$50 million.”

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## LOCAL STUDENTS

### EARN ACADEMIC HONORS

### ENDICOTT COLLEGE ANNOUNCES LOCAL DEAN'S LIST STUDENTS

Endicott College, the first college in the U.S. to require internships of its students, is pleased to announce its Spring 2021 Dean's List students. In order to qualify for the Dean's List, a student must obtain a minimum grade point average of 3.5, receive no letter grade below "C," have no withdrawal grades, and be enrolled in a minimum of 12 credits for the semester.

The following student has met these requirements:

Gerson Yanes Benitez, Business

About Endicott College  
Endicott College offers doctorate, master's, bachelor's, and associate degree programs at its campus on the scenic coast of Beverly, Mass., with additional sites in Boston, online, and at U.S. and international locations. Endicott remains true to its founding principle of integrating professional and liberal arts education with internship opportunities across disciplines. For more, visit [endicott.edu](http://endicott.edu).

### ATTY NAMED TO EMERSON COLLEGE DEAN'S LIST

Cedric Atty, a native of Chelsea, has been named to Emerson College's Dean's List for the Spring 2021 semester. Atty is majoring in Marketing Communication and is a member of the Class of 2023.

The requirement to make Emerson's Dean's List is a grade point average of 3.7 or higher.

About Emerson College  
Based in Boston, Massachusetts, opposite the historic Boston Common and in the heart of the city's Theatre District, Emerson College educates individuals who will solve problems and change the world through engaged leadership in communication and the arts, a mission informed by liberal learning. The College has 3,700 undergraduates and 1,400 graduate students from across the United States and 50 countries. Supported by state-of-the-art facilities and a renowned faculty, students participate in more than 90 student organizations and performance groups.

Emerson is known for its experiential learning programs in Los Angeles, Washington, DC, the Netherlands, London, China, and the Czech Republic as well as its new Global Portals. The College has an active network of 51,000 alumni who hold leadership positions in communication and the arts. For more information, visit [emerson.edu](http://emerson.edu).

### UMASS LOWELL NAMES LOCAL STUDENTS TO DEAN'S LIST

Local residents have been named to the dean's list at the University of Massachusetts Lowell.

Among those recognized for achieving academic distinction for the spring 2021 semester at UMass Lowell are:

\* Liem Vu of Chelsea, majoring in applied biomedical science

\* Angeline Nguyen of Chelsea, majoring in biology

\* Lael Santiago of Chelsea, majoring in biology

\* Leslie Carreto Romero of Chelsea, majoring in business administration

\* Ky-Hoa Che of Chelsea, majoring in business administration

\* Kevin Calix Bustillo of Chelsea, majoring in chemical engineering

\* Danelia Ramirez Aguilar of Chelsea, majoring in criminal justice

\* Kaylee Raymond of Chelsea, majoring in liberal arts

\* Jaylene Coreas Carballo of Chelsea, majoring in nursing

\* Coral Gonzalez Diana of Chelsea, majoring in nursing

\* Giselle Lopreto Catano of Chelsea, majoring in nursing

\* Mireyda Perez Hernandez of Chelsea, majoring in undeclared engineering

\* Iveth Rodriguez of Chelsea, majoring in undeclared liberal arts

UMass Lowell is a national research university offering its more than 18,000 students bachelor's, master's and doctoral degrees in business, education, engineering, fine arts, health, humanities, sciences and social sciences. UMass Lowell delivers high-quality educational programs and personal attention from leading faculty and staff, all of which prepare graduates to be leaders in their communities and around the globe. [www.uml.edu](http://www.uml.edu).

## PEOPLE OF CHELSEA

## Grace McKinnon - Senior Center, 2020

*(The following is one in a series of sneak peeks at the upcoming People of Chelsea additions by Photographer Darlene DeVita. The new work will ultimately appear on the fence of the Chelsea Public Library (CPL) this fall in a collaboration between the People of Chelsea project and the CPL.)*

By Darlene DeVita

I came to Chelsea after College [Emerson] to start the after-school day-care and summer camp, which was 1977. I had been working as a consultant in arts and human services management and civil rights community-building. I majored in mass communications. I also did radio and theatre. I was WERS' Black Experience News Director. Then Mel King [legendary community organizer] came to town and shamed us into being young, black, and privileged and said "you need to come and work in the community...I'm gonna take you guys around and you're going to do something," and he started my career.

Roy Avellaneda was one of my students, and when he became president of the city council he made a speech that made his old speech teacher proud. He acknowledged the ferocity of the campaign. He owned it and very emotionally said we need to turn the page, we can argue the point, we don't have to argue the personalities. It was a heartfelt reflection and took a lot of courage. I know from my work with arrows at your heart, it can be hard to have integrity.

I came here looking for multigenerational ap-



peal. It's such a contrast to Back Bay Chelsea is a great size, just 1.8 square miles. It's like one of the smallest military bases that I've ever been on (I was raised on military bases). This was a turf I could feel comfortable in. It was an easy structure to learn because of the square system. That's kinda cute but it's very rational too because you're building communities within the community.

I think that Chelsea needs to have a better sense of how to protect its boundaries. When Boston starts displacing people they immediately go north, and they're treating Chelsea like a pass-through – and it's more than a pass-through. It's had times of great revitalization. Back in the 30's Chelsea had the #1 school system and the Jewish community was very fierce about getting organized. I think that gives hope to the newer immigrant members of the community.

At the Senior Center, it was a very White place, for lack of any other term. They had some Hispan-

ics coming but they had a hard time getting African-Americans to get involved and stay with it. Celeste Williams was one of the first minority members of the community that went there. She stayed to help to grow it and make it better. She grew up in multi-cultural circumstances I grew up in multi-cultural circumstances. We had a big discussion with a Polish lady, a friend of ours, people were walking through and hearing us talk about the Black experience. We have a pan-African heritage over here and multi-racial multilingual NY, that's Celeste. I'm like an international in the wind-built culture... When I came back, I wanted to study American life for real. Think Margaret Mead wears Reebok's and that's me. I think America deserves as much thoughtful evaluation and documentation because the myth is so overwhelming and I think we get lost in the myth and forget that there is an opportunity to aspire, even in little steps, and I think Chelsea will grow.

## Vaccine/ Continued from page 1

ployees vaccinated and had a 20 percent increase after the mandate.

"I wasn't anticipating that within a week we would have seen our percentage points increase the way they did," he said.

Chelsea Jewish Lifecare, with campuses in Chelsea and Peabody, announced the mandate just prior to the July 4 holiday.

"Our top priority is always the health of our residents and our staff," said Berman. "With over 323 million doses administered in the United States, the COVID-19 vaccines have been proven to be both safe and effective. After consulting with experts and careful consideration, we feel strongly that requiring staff to be vaccinated is the most important action we can do to ensure the safety of our long-term care communities."

Receiving the COVID-19 vaccine is now

a condition of employment for all staff members and volunteers, with exemptions limited to religious and medical reasons. This is consistent with the network's approach to the flu vaccine.

Since last December when vaccines were first made available to health care workers, Chelsea Jewish Lifecare and Legacy Lifecare have conducted an extensive education campaign titled "Superheroes Saving Lives". Over 75% of the approximately 1800 employees throughout the Legacy Lifecare network are currently vaccinated, achieving the national goal for long-term care providers. To further prepare for this mandate, senior leadership will continue to offer comprehensive information about vaccine safety and efficacy, including encouraging employees to ask questions and addressing concerns on a one-on-

one basis. In addition, all campuses will offer on-site vaccination clinics to facilitate meeting this important requirement.

The organization thanked its employees for their incredible dedication, loyalty, courage, and compassion.

"COVID-19 has been devastating, especially for those of us who care for the most vulnerable," said Berman. "I am so proud of our staff and how they have persevered throughout these challenging times. They are the real heroes in this story."

Berman noted that the organization did not make the vaccine mandate decision lightly.

"Simply put, implementing this mandate is the only way we can fully protect our staff and our residents," said Berman. "I absolutely believe it's the right decision for us."

## Real Estate Transfers

BUYER 1	SELLER 1	ADDRESS	PRICE
Bonilla, Grettel G	Sobolewski, Kathrine E	136 Addison St	\$660,000
Potes Properties LLC	Miller, Matthew	Broadway #14	\$449,000
Colon, Jorge A	Cottage 126 Inc	126 Cottage St	\$880,000
58 Chelsea LLC	51 Shurtleff LLC	58 Essex St	\$1,740,000
Tobalino, Roberto C	Gu Hai FT	110 Grove St	\$650,000
Ricciardelli, Brendan	Rivas-Rivera, Gloria	6 Laurel St	\$1,010,000
Langevin, Grant	Vanki, Nil	15 Medford St #1	\$495,000
58 Chelsea LLC	51 Shurtleff LLC	51 Shurtleff St	\$1,740,000
Dina, Dominic A	Abramovich, Michael	204 Spencer Ave #8	\$615,000
Hoehing, Brittney	Woodlawn Ave LLC	4 Staffieri Rd #2	\$545,000
Carpenter, Michael	Woodlawn Ave LLC	4 Staffieri Rd #4	\$545,000
R&R T	Palencia, Jonathon	64 Washington Ave #5	\$165,000



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# Chelsea

R E C O R D

PRESIDENT: Stephen Quigley

EDITOR IN CHIEF: Cary Shuman

## SORRY FOLKS -- BUT THE PANDEMIC IS FAR FROM OVER

We in Massachusetts are living in a bit of a pandemic bubble right now, both literally and figuratively.

The high vaccination rate in our state, as well as in neighboring states throughout New England, has contributed to a dramatic drop in the number of COVID-19 infections, deaths, and hospitalizations in our part of the country.

The successful reopening of our economy serves as a testament to the value of having a highly-vaccinated -- and highly-educated -- population.

It's as if our region of the U.S. is equivalent to an island nation such as New Zealand, where COVID-19 has not made a dent in economic or other activity since the beginning of the pandemic because its prime minister, Jacinda Ardern, sealed off its borders to foreigners from the very beginning of the pandemic.

However, New England is not an island. Millions of our own citizens are traveling to other places and returning, and millions of non-residents are coming here to visit this summer.

The Delta variant of COVID-19 is now the dominant strain of the virus both in this country and throughout the world. The troubling aspects of Delta are that it is much more highly-transmissible than the original, it is more lethal, and the vaccines are slightly less-efficacious against it compared to the original strain of the virus for which the vaccines specifically were developed.

In Australia (where vaccination rates are very low), the Delta variant has shown itself to be a whole new ballgame, so to speak, in terms of how contagious it is. The virus has been transmitted among people who simply came fleetingly into contact with each other and shared the same airspace in an indoor mall.

"It is the most hyper-transmissible, contagious version of the virus we've seen to date, for sure -- it's a superspreader strain if there ever was one," said Eric Topol, a professor of molecular medicine and an executive vice president at the Scripps Research Institution, in a recent interview in Scientific American.

The Delta variant is being blamed for the huge increases in infections and deaths throughout the world, particularly in places where vaccination rates are in the low single digits.

There also are many areas in the U.S., such as parts of Texas, Missouri, and Arkansas, where vaccination rates are low, that predictably now are seeing large increases in COVID-19 cases caused by Delta.

The Delta variant is concerning enough on its own, but the real problem is this: The more people who become infected with COVID-19, the more likely that the virus will mutate into additional variants, with the possibility that vaccination efficacy could begin to drop significantly if one of these strains develops an ability to evade the vaccines' protective effects.

It is nothing less than tragic -- and despicable, really -- that there are some in public life who are urging Americans NOT to get vaccinated. That mindset was on display this past weekend at the Republican-dominated CPAC conference, where some clown on a panel who spoke out against the nation's vaccination program was actually applauded by those in attendance.

There is a strong and vocal minority in this country who strive to create chaos -- that's what makes them tick.

Whether we as a nation can overcome the combination of venality and stupidity that was on display at CPAC this past weekend will determine whether we can beat the pandemic in the short term and whether our democracy and our way of life can survive in the long term.

# Forum

## GUEST OP-ED

### Financial suicide is not necessary

savings and sunk it into a restaurant endeavor. He had never run a restaurant before and within one year the restaurant had failed. His money was gone and he had a sizable debt.

Another acquaintance retired and wanted something to do. He got into a cookie business that lasted three months. He spent \$30,000 a month for three months in a cookie franchise before he was able to get out of the venture.

Neither of the prior persons had any prior business ownership experience.

Life is filled with lessons. Education is often very expensive. You must decide if you are still young enough or too old to take on such a business venture. This is especially true if you could end up losing all your investment and further financially obligating yourself.

If you want or need something to do, then get into something that

you can afford and know something about. Being informed and applying as much research to any endeavor is crucial. If you can afford a large franchise fee, other investment costs and you can make the business successful, then by all means enjoy your endeavor. If you are risking being homeless then you should probably reconsider.

Years ago, an old friend was almost financially broke at 50. He had worked in various restaurants with others but had little to show for his efforts. He rented an old hamburger restaurant that had been closed and his rent and overhead were cheap. He went to work making the best hamburger in town. For 16 years his burger business netted him an annual salary of over \$300,000. He retired well.

Sometimes we simply need to be content with what we have. If you need

to work, consider what you know, what you have and how you can make it work for you. It could require a minimal amount of advertising. Or, it might simply require letting acquaintances know what kind of work you are doing and building your business by word of mouth. You may be able to use space or land that is sitting dormant and can be rented or bought reasonably.

Life's pursuits can be, and should be, approached with reasonable caution. Financial suicide is not necessary.

*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.*

Dr. Glenn Mollette

There is some risk to all of life.

A friend and his wife had a house paid for and a substantial savings account. At the age of 65 he was retired and bored and bemoaned he had never been a business owner. He was aware of a family who had recently closed a business so he offered to buy it from them and even employed a family member to run it. He knew nothing about the business but was confident all would be well. The cost of the investment, his lack of understanding the business and the monthly outgo spelled disaster. Within two years he had lost his house and his entire retirement savings trying to make his dream business endeavor sustainable.

Another acquaintance had worked hard at an auto plant for twelve years but retired and took his \$150,000 retirement

## Kirun Kapur's poetry collection selected for 2021 Route 1 Reads

Massachusetts Center for the Book (MCB) is pleased to announce the Commonwealth's 2021 selection for Route 1 Reads, an annual reading initiative promoted by 16 Library of Congress Center for the Book affiliates along this iconic East Coast highway.

Route 1 Reads Poetry in 2021, and Kirun Kapur's 2020 collection Women in the Waiting Room (Black Lawrence Press) represents Massachusetts on the route from Maine to Florida. Named to Kirkus Review's Best Books of 2020 and a finalist for the National Poetry Series, Women in the Waiting Room also was recently longlisted for the Massachusetts Book Award in Poetry. Major Jackson, poet and Whiting Award winner, wrote "Kapur's wondrous lines serve to heal, like all poignant and meaningful human to human exchanges ... I call this life on the page, one you'll be happy to en-

counter."

Kapur, an Amesbury resident, Poetry Editor at The Drum Literary Magazine, and Visiting Writer at Amherst College, spoke of her desire to explore the tension between speech and silence in Women in the Waiting Room. "Silence can be incredibly protective and nurturing," she explained. "It can be the space out of which creativity comes and in which healing takes place." Excited to be recognized as the Massachusetts title in Route 1 Reads, she feels the companionship of the many extraordinary poets of the commonwealth, living and dead, who make ours a special place in which to write.

This year, Massachusetts Route 1 libraries are celebrating poetry as well, and have created videos that show the way poetry thrives in their communities. Kirun kicks off the video celebration in Salisbury, where Route 1 enters Massachusetts. Librarians

from Topsfield to Attleboro, with stops along the way in Malden, Chelsea, Dedham, Norwood, Westwood, and Plainville, have participated. Visit MCB's website: <https://www.massbook.org/route-1-reads-1>

A founding member of the collaboration launched at National Book Festival in 2015, MCB Executive Director Sharon Shaloo embraces Route 1 Reads as a creative avenue to advance regional interests in books and reading. "Mass Center for the Book is delighted to recognize Women in the Waiting Room and celebrate poetry," Shaloo noted. "In addition to promoting Kirun's fine book, we're pleased that libraries along the Route 1 corridor in Massachusetts are making poetry fun, accessible, and significant in their communities."

Participating Route 1 Reads Centers of the Book are Maine, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Con-

necticut, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, Washington, D.C., Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida.

The Massachusetts Center for the Book, chartered as the Commonwealth Affiliate of the Center for the Book in the Library of Congress, is a public-private partnership charged with developing, supporting and promoting cultural programming that advances the cause of books and reading and enhances the outreach potential of Massachusetts public libraries. It is funded in large part by an appropriation from the General Court of Massachusetts and benefits as well from an organizational grant from Massachusetts Cultural Council.

For more information, visit <https://www.massbook.org/route-1-reads-1> or call/email MCB at [info@massbook.org](mailto:info@massbook.org) / 617.872.3718.

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# AARP Massachusetts monthly fraud watch update for July 2021

Did you know that someone’s identity gets stolen every two seconds? The AARP Fraud Watch Network provides you with tips and resources to help you spot and avoid identity theft and fraud so you can protect yourself and your family. Our watchdog alerts will keep you up to date on con artists’ latest tricks. It’s free of charge for everyone: AARP members, non-members, and people of all ages. Be a fraud fighter! If you can spot a scam, you can stop a scam. Report scams to local law enforcement. Contact the AARP Fraud Watch Network at [www.aarp.org/fraudwatchnetwork](http://www.aarp.org/fraudwatchnetwork) for more information on fraud prevention.

SCAM ALERT #1: DOOR TO DOOR

SCAMS

Warm weather is here which means door-to-door sales crews are here, too. But what they’re selling isn’t always legit.

Be cautious anytime a stranger comes knocking, especially if the visitor is trying to sell you goods or services. Be wary of contractors who say they stopped by because they just happened to be in the neighborhood. The good ones are usually too busy to roam around in search of work. Also be on guard for high pressure tactics to make a quick decision for a steep discount, and requests for payment upfront. Your best bet is to proactively seek out services if you need them, versus reacting to an unexpected sales pitch. It’s always okay to explain

you don’t do business at your front door (or to not answer when strangers knock).

SCAM ALERT #2: PROTECT YOUR DEVICE, PROTECT YOURSELF

Many scams originate right at your fingertips through your computer or smartphone. The good news is the way to block them is also within your grasp. Here are three tips to keep your devices safe from criminals.

Make sure your devices’ operating systems are up to date; you should be able to set an auto-update feature that downloads the latest software when available. Next, make sure to change the password on your Wi-Fi router so it’s different from the password it came with. If

you have a lot of devices connected to it, they could be vulnerable if the router is compromised. Lastly, a password manager is a great way to create unique and hard-to-guess passwords for all of your online accounts and apps.

SCAM ALERT #3: RENTAL CAR SCAMS

America is open for business again and millions of people are traveling, or planning to. One thing you may run into is sticker shock – especially with rental cars. The lack of travel in 2020 led rental companies to sell a lot of their inventory of cars. Now that demand has spiked, supply is tight and prices are high.

Unfortunately, criminals are paying attention and posting fake rental car deals at rock bottom prices online. While everyone loves a good deal, doing

business with an entity you aren’t familiar with could be risky. Whatever your travel needs, stick to reputable websites with proven track records. If you do find a deal with an unfamiliar provider, do your research: look up the company name with “scam” or “complaint” and see what appears, and check out reviews.

SCAM ALERT #4: FREE TRIAL OFFERS, NEGATIVE OPTIONS

Who doesn’t love something for free? But beware, that “free trial offer” might mean months of payments that you didn’t know you signed up for and will have a hard time canceling. These types of sales tactics are called negative options – a customer signs up for a free trial and unwittingly accepts a subscription – sometimes for a question-

able product – often by not seeing a prechecked box in the very tiny print.

When it comes to free trials, research before you enroll. Fully understand the terms and conditions by reading the fine print. Keep a close eye on your credit and debit card statements so you spot unexpected charges right away. Contact your bank or credit card company to address the issue; calling the company you inadvertently signed up for a subscription with will likely get you nowhere.

Be a fraud fighter! If you can spot a scam, you can stop a scam.

Report scams to local law enforcement. For help from AARP, call 1-877-908-3360 or visit the AARP Fraud Watch Network at [www.aarp.org/fraudwatchnetwork](http://www.aarp.org/fraudwatchnetwork).

## Senator DiDomenico appointed to National Task Force

Staff Report

Senator Sal DiDomenico has been chosen by the National Council of State Governments to serve on their 2021-22 Healthy States National Task Force. This is a bipartisan group of state leaders from all three branches of government tasked with providing resources and recommendations for state governments on how to best address current state challenges, including those resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic. Members include State Senators, State Representatives, Lieutenant Governors, Secretaries of State and Judges from throughout the United States and U.S. Territories. The National Task Force will focus on four key policy areas during this two year

process to provide states a holistic policy strategy for their shared challenges.

“It’s an honor to be chosen to serve on this CSG National Task Force that will gather ideas and research to provide steps for states to come out of the pandemic and improve the overall health of our nation,” said Senate Assistant Majority Leader DiDomenico. “This is a great opportunity to serve with colleagues from throughout the United States and bring the proven models we have used in Massachusetts to the national stage. It is great to share our successes with other parts of the country.”

The CSG Healthy States National Task Force will convene throughout 2021 and 2022, to discuss and deliberate about the opportunities and policy prac-

tices that can collectively improve state health. Senator DiDomenico has also been appointed to the Civic Health Subcommittee on the Task Force which will explore policies that build strong communities and support meaningful civic engagement where states have the greatest nexus of influence, such as voting, civic education and participation, and increasing public trust and interface with government. The full task force will also be meeting in Sante Fe, New Mexico this Fall during the Council of States Government National meeting.

Founded in 1933, the Council of State Governments is the nation’s largest nonpartisan organization serving every branch of elected office.

## Northeast Metro Tech awarded \$300,000 grant for Saturday Program

Staff report

Superintendent David DiBarri is pleased to share that Northeast Metro Tech has been awarded a \$300,000 grant from the Cummings Foundation to support the school’s Saturday Program.

The grant will be distributed over 10 years, during which time Northeast Metro Tech will receive \$30,000 in funding annually for the program.

The Saturday Program offers students who do not attend the career and technical education school in grades nine through 12, from the district’s sending communities, an opportunity to learn more about industries such as automotive technology, business technology, drafting and design, carpentry, cosmetology, culinary arts, design & visual communications, electrical, health

assisting, heating, ventilation & air conditioning/refrigeration, metal fabrication, plumbing and robotics.

“We are so grateful to the Cummings Foundation for awarding us this generous grant and for recognizing the value of our program,” said Superintendent DiBarri. “This funding will allow us to continue offering this program with certainty for the next 10 years, and give more students an opportunity to access career and technical education.”

Divided into three, four-week programs, courses through the Saturday Program are free and are led by a Northeast Metro Tech instructor. Participants in the program follow an abridged version of each shop’s curriculum.

Northeast Metro Tech encourages all those interested to apply for the Sat-

urday Program, the next offering of which will begin in early October.

Students looking to register for the summer offering or a future program can email their school guidance counselor or Program Director Joseph O’Brien at [jobrien@northeastmetrotech.com](mailto:jobrien@northeastmetrotech.com).

This grant is a part of the Cummings Foundation’s \$25 Million Grant Program. In total, 140 grant winners were chosen, each receiving a minimum of \$100,000.

The Cummings Foundation’s \$25 Million Grant Program primarily supports nonprofits in Massachusetts in the Middlesex, Essex and Suffolk counties.

For more information on the Cummings Foundation grants, visit [cummingsfoundation.org](http://cummingsfoundation.org).

## Governor Baker proclaims “Hurricane Preparedness Week”

Governor Charlie Baker has proclaimed July 11 - 17, 2021, to be Hurricane Preparedness Week to emphasize both the Commonwealth’s vulnerability to tropical storms and hurricanes and the importance of preparing for their impacts.

“As we saw during our recent experience with Tropical Storm Elsa, planning and preparing in advance for a tropical storm or hurricane can help protect individuals and families and limit damage to property,” said Governor Charlie Baker. “We encourage residents in every part of the Commonwealth to develop an emergency plan, prepare emergency supplies and stay informed throughout hurricane season.”

While hurricane season in Massachusetts runs from June 1 to November 30, historically, most tropical storms and hurricanes have hit New England during August and September.

“Our administration continues to work with cities and towns across the Commonwealth to enhance their preparedness before the next hurricane or tropical storm,” said Lieutenant Governor Karyn Polito. “As shown during Tropical Storm Elsa, that collaboration and coordination is key to keeping our residents and communities safe. We join MEMA in encouraging all residents to take the time

to prepare this hurricane season.”

“Tropical storms and hurricanes don’t often happen in New England, but it only takes one storm to cause major damage,” said Public Safety and Security Secretary Thomas Turco, “Every corner of the state is at risk and we remember especially Tropical Storm Irene, which caused significant flooding damage in Western Massachusetts ten years ago. As first responders prepare for these events, we’re asking everyone to take time make a household safety plan.”

Earlier this month, MEMA updated its annual Massachusetts Tropical Cyclone Profile, which includes information about tropical storms and hurricanes, associated hazards, and a seasonal outlook for what is expected to be an above-normal hurricane season.

“MEMA and more than 70 Emergency Support Function organizations continue to prepare for disasters such as tropical storms and hurricanes,” said MEMA Deputy Director Pat Carnevale. “Hurricane Preparedness Week is a reminder for residents to prepare by learning if you live in a hurricane evacuation zone, developing an emergency plan, building an emergency kit, and staying informed before, during, and after the storm.”

How Residents Can Prepare

- Know Your Evacuation Zone - Learn if you live or work in a hurricane evacuation zone: [www.mass.gov/knowyourzone](http://www.mass.gov/knowyourzone)
- Make an Emergency Plan – Have an emergency plan of how your family would communicate, evacuate, and shelter in place that addresses the needs of all of your family members, including seniors, children, individuals with access and functional needs, and pets. <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/make-a-family-emergency-plan>
- Build an Emergency Kit - Build or customize an emergency kit that will sustain your household for three to five days without power. <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/build-an-emergency-kit>.
- Stay Informed - Every family should have multiple methods for receiving emergency alerts. Learn more about different types of alerting and information tools, including the Emergency Alert System, Wireless Emergency Alerts, NOAA Weather Radio, social and traditional news media, 2-1-1 hotline, and local notification systems: <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/be-informed-and-receive-emergency-alerts>

For more information, including interactive evacuation zone maps, a social media toolkit, flyers, and more, visit MEMA’s Hurricane Preparedness Week webpage.

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# Amtrak to transform rail travel with \$7.3 billion investment in state-of-the-art equipment

Staff Report

Amtrak is contracting with California-based Siemens Mobility Inc. to manufacture a new fleet of up to 83 multi-powered modern trains that will be leveraged for state and northeast services, with further options for up to 130 additional trains to support Amtrak growth plans. The new fleet will offer modern rail amenities that better serve Amtrak customers.

“These new trains will reshape the future of rail travel by replacing our aging 40-to-50-year old fleet with state-of-the-art, American-made equipment,” said Amtrak CEO Bill Flynn. “This investment is essential to preserving and growing our Northeast Regional and state-supported services and will allow our customers to travel com-

fortably and safely, while deeply reducing criteria pollutants.”

The new equipment will operate on the Northeast Corridor, long distance Palmetto and various state-supported routes that will replace Amtrak-owned Amfleet, Metroliner, and state-owned equipment on certain routes throughout the country. In addition to the Northeast Regional, other routes will include the Adirondack, Carolinian, Cascades, Downeaster, Empire Service, Ethan Allen Express, Keystone Service, Maple Leaf, New Haven/Springfield Service (Amtrak Hartford Line and Valley Flyer), Pennsylvanian, Vermonter and Virginia Services.

“Amtrak’s procurement of new rolling stock is historic. These state-of-the-art trainsets will

allow Amtrak to operate and provide services more safely, efficiently, and reliably,” said FRA Deputy Administrator Amit Bose. “More importantly, doing so will give riders the modern passenger rail accommodations, amenities and comforts they want and deserve.”

The \$7.3 billion investment includes the purchase of equipment and a long-term parts supply and service agreement, facility modifications and upgrades, and other program expenses.

A long-term service agreement for technical support, spare parts and material supply will accompany the contract to manufacture the trains. The new trains include remote monitoring and fully integrated digital diagnostics for increased reliability. These advanced features will enable Am-

trak to test and develop new technology and introduce new maintenance approaches to drive efficiency, increase availability and reduce long-term costs.

The latest trains will feature more comfortable seating, individual power outlets and USB ports, onboard Wi-Fi, enhanced lighting and panoramic windows, larger vestibules, a more contemporary food service experience, including self-service options, as well as state-of-the-art customer trip information, digital seat reservation system and navigation display systems. The trains were designed with the latest health and safety standards, including enhanced HVAC, touchless restroom controls, and automated steps. The trains meet all the latest safety regulations and standards,

providing improved structural safety. With expanded capacity and the ability to shorten trip time, Amtrak expects the new equipment to add over 1.5 million riders, annually.

Using multi-power systems, including hybrid battery operation for a portion of the fleet used for New York’s Empire Service, these trains will also provide a substantial environmental benefit through reduced criteria pollutants compared to the existing fleet. They will be designed with Amtrak’s new standard of enhanced accessible features, including inductive hearing loops, accessible restrooms and vestibules, an accessible Food Service car, and lifts for customers with reduced mobility, including wheelchair users.

The trains will be manufactured at Siemens Mobility’s rail manufacturing

facility in Sacramento, California, and will comply with the Federal Railroad Administration Buy America Standards. The facility is celebrating its 30th anniversary of operations this year as it continues to add to its more than 2,100 team members. It is one of the largest plants of its kind on the continent, and also one of the most sustainable, using a 2.1 MW solar panel installation to provide the majority of its power coming from the strong, reliable Californian sun. Siemens Mobility designs and manufactures across the entire spectrum of rolling stock including passenger trains, light rail and streetcars, locomotives, and passenger coaches in Sacramento.

# U.S. Department of Education approves Massachusetts’ plan for use of American Rescue Plan funds

Staff Report

The U.S. Department of Education (Department) announced the approval of Massachusetts’ American Rescue Plan Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ARP ESSER) plans and distributed remaining ARP ESSER funds to them. Massachusetts’ plan details how the state is using and plan to use ARP ESSER funds to safely reopen and sustain the safe operation of schools and equitably expand opportunity for students who need it most, particularly those most impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Earlier this year, the Department distributed two thirds of the ARP ESSER funds, totaling \$81 billion, to 50 states and the District of Columbia. The remaining third of the funding to states will be made available once state plans are approved. Massachusetts is receiving more than \$1.8 billion total in ARP ESSER funds, and the approval of their plan will result in the release of the final \$611 million. Additionally, the Department approved plans for South Dakota, Texas, Utah, Arkansas, Rhode Island, and the District of Columbia.

“I am excited to announce approval for Massachusetts’ plan,” said U.S. Secretary of Education Miguel Cardona. “It is heartening to see, reflected in these state plans, the

ways in which states are thinking deeply about how to use American Rescue Plan funds to continue to provide critical support to schools and communities, particularly as we move into the summer and look ahead to the upcoming academic year. The approval of these plans enables states to receive vital, additional American Rescue Plan funds to quickly and safely reopen schools for full-time, in-person learning; meet students’ academic, social, emotional, and mental health needs; and address disparities in access to educational opportunity that were exacerbated by the coronavirus pandemic. The state plans that have been submitted to the Department lay the groundwork for the ways in which an unprecedented infusion of federal resources will be used to address the urgent needs of America’s children and build back better.”

“As we continue to grapple with the educational challenges posed by the pandemic, I’m proud to announce this new American Rescue Plan federal funding to support our schools,” said Sen. Edward J. Markey. “These resources were made possible by the tireless advocacy of countless students, parents, educators, and administrators in Massachusetts. These critical funds will go a long way in addressing learning loss caused by the

public health crisis and helping schools prepare for the 2021 school year.”

“Our students, educators, and communities have overcome unprecedented challenges to keep our kids learning during this crisis,” said Sen. Elizabeth Warren. “This funding will ensure our schools can reopen in a way that puts the safety of students, teachers, custodians, and other school staff first; supports the mental health and social-emotional well-being of our students; and addresses disparities in education disproportionately felt by students of color.”

“Public education is the bedrock of our democracy and the path to success for our nation’s children,” said Assistant Speaker Katherine Clark (MA-05). “But this pandemic has put an immeasurable toll on kids across the country and their families, leading to learning loss and threatening students’ social and emotional learning. I am thrilled that Massachusetts received approval for American Rescue Plan Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief to ensure that our children can safely return to in-person learning, address disparities in access, and support the teachers and administrators who make it all possible.”

“This funding is critical to supporting and re-engaging students and to accelerating learning,” said

Jeffrey C. Riley, Massachusetts commissioner of elementary and secondary education. “Districts’ careful use of this money can address many student needs that the pandemic exacerbated, including inequities in access to technology and high quality instructional materials.”

The ARP ESSER state plans approved by the Department today, including Massachusetts, show how states are using Federal pandemic resources to support safe in-person instruction and meet the social, emotional, mental health, and academic needs of students—with a focus on the students most impacted by the pandemic. For example:

A total of 40 states have submitted their ARP ESS-

ER state plans to the Department. The Department is reviewing the plans expeditiously and is in contact with states to ensure their plans meet all necessary requirements in order to access the remaining funds, as outlined in the ARP. The Department is also in contact with states that have not yet submitted plans, the vast majority of which are due to state board of education or legislative review requirements.

The distribution of ARP ESSER funds is part of the Department’s broader effort to support students and districts as they work to reengage students impacted by the pandemic, address inequities exacerbated by COVID-19, and build our education

system back better than before. In addition to providing \$130 billion for K-12 education in the American Rescue Plan to support the safe reopening of K-12 schools and meet the needs of all students, the Biden-Harris Administration also has:

In addition to the actions the Biden Administration has taken to reopen schools, the President has proposed critical investments through his Build Back Better Agenda that will enable schools to rebuild stronger than they were before the pandemic, such as investing billions to build a diverse educator workforce, expand access to pre-K to all families, and invest in school infrastructure, among other provisions.

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VOLUME 126, NO. 23

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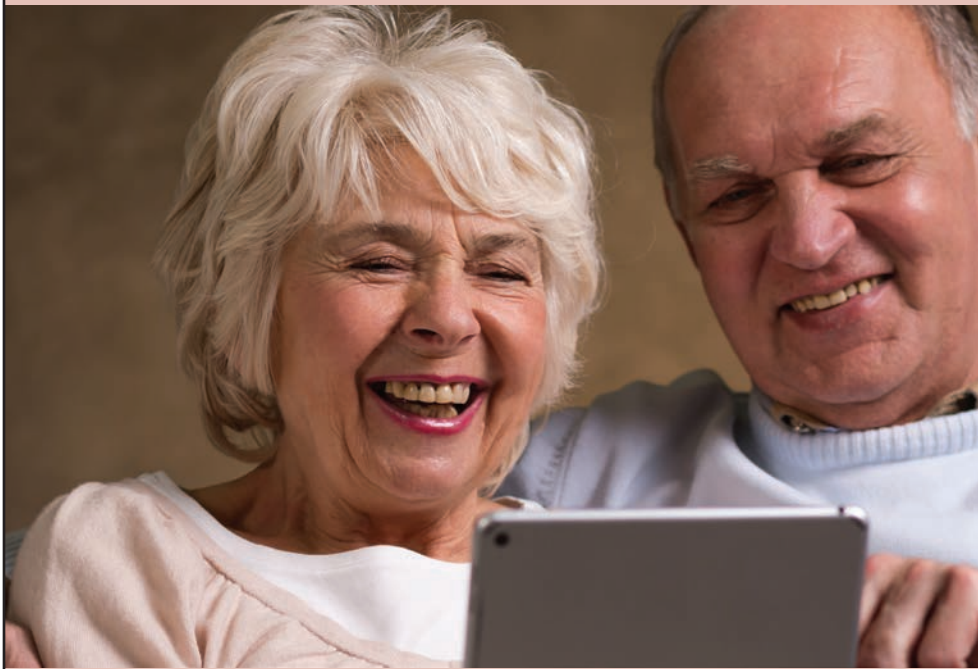
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## NEWS Briefs BY SETH DANIEL

### CHELSEA RENEWS 911 CONTRACTS WITH CATALDO

Cataldo is pleased to announce the renewal of 911 contracts with Somerville, Chelsea and Melrose. “We are proud to maintain our relationships with our municipal partners,” says CEO and president, Dennis Cataldo. “As we enter our 44th year of service, we continue to work to earn the confidence of our partners and communities every day.”

Cataldo has been the primary provider of 911 services to Somerville since 1977, the City of Chelsea since 1983, and has provided back up support as well as Emergency Medical Dispatch (EMD) services to the City of Melrose since 2008. With the recent addition of Stoneham, Cataldo now supports 20 municipalities across the region with 911 medical response and Emergency Medical Dispatch (EMD) contracts. In addition to 911 and EMD support, resources provided to municipalities include education and training, mass casualty capabilities, and community engagement.

On average each year, Cataldo crews respond to more than 100,000 911 calls, handle mass casualty and crisis intervention requirements, and provide critical pre-hospital medical resources to public safety personnel in the field.

### CLIMABLE.ORG PRESENTS CLIMAPALOOZA IV

Climable.org will present Climapalooza, taking place at Herter Park Amphitheater on September 17th at 7pm, and featuring Aldra, Katie Lynn Sharbaugh, and LO. Climable is proud to bring Climapalooza to Boston for the fourth time.

Climapalooza is a climate action rally and benefit concert. The event will include Boston-based artists.

The main goal of this

event will be to fundraise for Climable’s various projects, including Climable’s clean-energy microgrids in low-income communities in Cambridge, Chelsea, Boston’s Chinatown and Loiza, Puerto Rico.

This event will be free to the public, but donations are welcome and encouraged. There will also be snacks, beverages, and merchandise available for purchase.

Climable.org is a woman-run nonprofit that works to make the information behind climate science and clean energy understandable and actionable for everyone. Climable’s end goals are energy democracy and climate resilience.

Climable works towards this by empowering people to combat climate change while preparing for its impacts.

### COMMUNITY WELLNESS FAIR ON SATURDAY AT TEMPLE EMMANUEL

The Revival International Center of Chelsea will hold a City of Joy Community Wellness Fair on Saturday, July 17, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., at the Temple Emmanuel Courtyard, Chelsea.

The Community Fair will include yoga classes, karate classes, arts and crafts, health and wellness information, and music and food.

### MARÍA BELÉN POWER ENDORSED FOR CHELSEA CITY COUNCIL DISTRICT 8

The Environmental League of Massachusetts Action Fund has endorsed María Belén Power in the election for Chelsea City Council’s 8th District, a credit to her commitment to the environment and climate action. With issues of public health, environmental justice, transportation, and energy policy inextricably linked, we need

leaders at every level of government who understand the intersectionality of issues within their community and will call for bold action.

“María Belén has been a crucial leader in the fight for environmental justice for Massachusetts,” said Clare Kelly, Executive Director of the ELM Action Fund. “She will be a strong voice on the City Council advocating for a sustainable and healthy future for Chelsea.”

“I am proud and honored to have the support of the Environmental League of Massachusetts,” said María Belén Power. “I will continue to fight for a better environment and improved quality of life for all Chelsea residents. After 10 years of working in Chelsea, I am ready to bring my advocacy and leadership to the City Council.”

María Belén Power is a lifelong organizer, having advocated for immigrants, workers, and public housing tenants before starting her current role at GreenRoots Chelsea. She is running on a platform centered around justice and is dedicated to bringing improved quality of life, energy democracy, climate resiliency, and equitable transit access to the people of Chelsea as their city councilor from the 8th district. Power was most recently appointed by President Biden to serve on the White House Environmental Justice Advisory Council. She will bring experience, passion, and knowledge to the city council as she fights for a Chelsea that serves all of its residents.

To learn more about María Belén, visit [www.Power4Chelsea.com](http://www.Power4Chelsea.com).

The ELM Action Fund is a nonpartisan organization that helps pass laws that protect our environmental legacy, holds our elected officials accountable, and works to build the political power of the environmental community. To learn more about our work and our endorsed candidates visit [www.elmaction.org/elections/2021-endorsements/](http://www.elmaction.org/elections/2021-endorsements/).

### WARD 4 DEMOCRATIC COMMITTEE ELECTS DELEGATES TO STATE CONVENTION

Registered Democrats in the City of Chelsea, Ward 4, held a Caucus on June 26, 2021, at the

Chelsea Public Library to elect delegates to the 2021 Democratic State Convention.

Elected Female Delegate:

Olivia Anne Walsh (Chair), 91 Crest Ave

Elected Male Delegates:

Juan P. Gallego, 100 Stockton St.

Thomas J. Miller, 91 Crest Ave

This year’s State Convention will be held on September 25th at a venue to be determined, where thousands of Democrats from across the State will come together to adopt a Party platform, discuss Party business and celebrate our successes as we prepare for upcoming elections. It is our diversity and tenacity that makes our Party strong.

Those interested in getting involved with the Chelsea Ward 4 Democratic Committee should contact Attorney Olivia Anne Walsh, Ward 4 Chair, or Thomas J. Miller, Ward 4 Secretary at 617-306-5501.

### CHELSEA WARD 3 DEMOCRATIC COMMITTEE

The Chelsea Ward 3 Democratic Committee will hold a Caucus on Saturday, July 24 at 10:30 a.m. in the Chelsea Public Library Auditorium.

A virtual zoom link will be provided for those who prefer joining virtually.

Please contact Marisol Santiago to confirm your attendance and to send Zoom information at [msantiago06@gmail.com](mailto:msantiago06@gmail.com).

### CPL PROGRAMS: CRAFT KITS, SUMMER READING, AND STORYTIMES

The animal cube craft kits are available while supplies last. Pick-up times are:

Monday, Tuesday, and Friday – 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Wednesday and Thursday – 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Saturday – 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

The library’s summer reading program is called “Tails and Tales” or “Colas y Cuentos” in Spanish. Ask for a registration kit at the library.

Join us for the outdoor

story times at John Ruiz Park at 141 Washington Ave. Chelsea, MA 02150. The dates include 7/21, 7/28, 8/4, 8/11, Wednesdays at 9:30 a.m.

### HAZARDOUS WASTE DAY

Safely Dispose of Household Hazardous Waste on Saturday, July 17, from 9 a.m. – 1 p.m. in the parking lot at the Mary C. Burke Elementary Complex (300 Crescent Ave). Proof of residency is required. No more than 25 gallons (liquid) or 25 pounds (solid) per vehicle.

### MARK YOUR CALENDARS – CHELSEA DAY

Register and Showcase your Talent. The City is happy to announce the 2nd Annual Chelsea Day Celebration that will take place on September 25th. This year, in addition to celebrating Chelsea, we will be honoring our essential workers and commemorating our emergence out of the Pandemic. Organizers are calling for singers, dancers, musicians, poets, solo acts, group and any other unique talent to register for the Chelsea Day Talent Showcases. For more information call (617) 466-5071, or e-mail [velezja@chelseaschools.org](mailto:velezja@chelseaschools.org).

### SILENT DISCO EVENT IN THE SQUARE JULY 17

Chelsea Prospers and Jukebox Entertainment will hold a Silent Disco dancing event on Saturday, July 17, at 8 p.m. Bring your friends for a night of dancing and fun in Chelsea Square. There will be three guest DJs spinning Hip-Hop, Reggaeton, House. You’ll always find your favorite song. Reserve a headset to be in on all the music. Tickets are available at Eventbrite via the City’s Facebook page.

### HOMEOWNER STABILIZATION – SECOND ROUND

Anyone seeking assistance to pay for your mortgage, real estate taxes, or even past due tenant rent can apply for the Homeowner Stabilization Program Round II. Stop

by City Hall for an application or go to the following link for an application: <https://www.chelseama.gov/homeowner-stabilization-program>

The program offers:

•Mortgage relief for owner-occupied 1-4 unit properties.

•Help for those whose household income is at or below 100 percent AMI.

•Applicants must certify mortgage information, household income, assets and public benefits.

•Applicants will be chosen by a lottery system, though priority will be given to households with children, disabled people, elderly people or veterans.

Benefits are up to \$5,000 for a single family; up to \$8,000 for a two-family, and up to \$10,000 for a three- or four-family.

For questions, call Desirae Valentin at (617) 455-4185.

### NEW VACCINE HOURS

COVID-19 Vaccination Clinic at Chelsea Senior Center: New Hours available on Mondays!

- Fridays 3:00-7:00 pm.

- Saturdays and Sundays 10:00 am - 5:00 pm.

- Mondays, 2:00-6:00 pm

Vaccines Available:

Pfizer (for ages 12+) – 1st and 2nd shots.

One-Dose Johnson & Johnson (for ages 18+)

Walk-up or Register by calling 3-1-1 (617-466-4209) or visiting <http://www.cic-health.com/chelsea/seniorcenter>

### FASTER INTERNET? FILL OUT THIS SURVEY

Please fill out this city-wide survey to inform how our city needs to improve services and what programs you need! The survey will take 8 minutes to complete. Your input will help the city plan for future infrastructure investment, programs to increase digital skill sets, and policy changes to improve speed, price, and reliability of services. Take the survey at [https://mapc.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_9Nsi6j7acPh-Ce1g](https://mapc.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_9Nsi6j7acPh-Ce1g)

## CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

### Chelsea Curves Construction Look-Ahead through July 24

#### ROUTE 1 TRAFFIC IMPACTS

•ROUTE 1 NORTHBOUND: Approaching the Tobin Bridge from Boston. All 3 travel lanes will be open during daytime hours (5 a.m. – 9 p.m.).

•ROUTE 1 SOUTHBOUND: Approaching the Chelsea Curves from the North Shore. All 3 travel lanes are open during the daytime hours (5 a.m. – 9 p.m.).

#### LOCAL STREET CLOSURES

•CARTER STREET: From Monday, 7/12 to Friday, 7/16, Carter Street will be closed during the daytime (7 a.m. – 3 p.m.)

#### WORK HOURS

Most work will occur during daytime working hours (7:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.) on weekdays. Some work will take place on a

2nd shift (2 p.m. – 1 a.m.) and overnight hours (9 p.m. – 5 a.m.) and on Saturdays (7 a.m. – 7 p.m.).

#### DESCRIPTION OF SCHEDULED WORK

•ROUTE 1 NORTHBOUND: Miscellaneous punch list items as needed (minor actions required to fully complete the construction contract).

•ROUTE 1 SOUTHBOUND: Miscellaneous punch list items as needed (minor actions required to fully complete the construction contract).

•UNDER-VIADCUT & STREET/PARKING LOTS: Work includes grading parking lots, installing curb, placing sidewalks, painting, paving, and landscaping.

For more information about the Tobin Bridge/Chelsea Curves Rehabilitation Project, please visit the project website:

[mass.gov/tobin-bridgechelsea-curves-rehabilitation-project](https://mass.gov/tobin-bridgechelsea-curves-rehabilitation-project)

#### WORK THAT HAS BEEN COMPLETED

Work on the northbound and southbound viaduct is mostly complete.

#### TRAVEL TIPS

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

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

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ALL ACTIVITIES ARE FREE

Revival International Center of Chelsea presents...

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-Karate classes  
-Capoeira classes  
-Arts and crafts  
-Music and Food  
-Health and Wellness information  
-More!

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*rebecca.perrin4@gmail.com or*  
*misselaine04@hotmail.com or*  
*call 857-247-8471*

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# District Attorney Rollins asks for Hinton drug cases to go to SJC for “Systemic Remedy”

District Attorney Ra-  
chael Rollins late yester-  
day filed a motion asking  
Superior Court Judge Mi-  
chael D. Ricciuti to send  
to the state’s Supreme Ju-  
dicial Court a request for  
global resolution of thou-  
sands of cases tainted by  
egregious misconduct and  
significant management  
lapses at the William A.  
Hinton State Laboratory  
Institute.

As part of her Hinton  
Lab Initiative, DA Rol-  
lins has pledged to va-  
cate Suffolk County drug  
convictions for any indi-  
vidual whose drug certi-  
fication was completed at  
the Jamaica Plain facility  
between May 2003 and  
August 2012, the entire  
period of time in which  
either now disgraced and  
convicted chemists Annie  
Dookhan or Sonja Farak  
worked at the facility, and  
up until it was closed by  
Governor Deval Patrick  
due to abject failure of  
oversight at the lab. Yes-  
terday’s filing is part of  
that effort.

The filing is in response  
to a motion for a new trial  
for Justino Escobar, whose  
2009 plea resulted from  
testing at the Hinton Lab  
by a chemist who was nei-

ther Dookhan nor Farak.  
“This case is unfortunately  
one of too many where the  
integrity of the conviction  
is now suspect due to the  
notorious mismanagement  
that plagued the state’s  
main forensic testing fa-  
cility, the Hinton Lab, for  
nearly a decade,” DA Rol-  
lins said in the filing.

In all, chemists working  
at Hinton during the nine  
year period analyzed and  
certified some 82,800 sam-  
ples from Suffolk County.  
More than 7,800 of those  
cases were already re-  
viewed and vacated with  
prejudice as part of the  
Supreme Judicial Court’s  
2017 ruling in Bridgeman  
and others v. District At-  
torney for the Suffolk Dis-  
trict and others. But there  
are some 70,000 Suffolk  
County certifications that  
were not reviewed and  
they will be the subject  
of the proposed global  
resolution. Since one cer-  
tification can be used for  
multiple defendants or one  
defendant can have multi-  
ple certifications, the pre-  
cise number of defendants  
is still to be determined.

“We now know  
that there has been crimi-  
nal misconduct by multi-  
ple chemists in the Com-

monwealth, each of whom  
worked for a period at the  
Hinton Lab. That, cou-  
pled with the document-  
ed gross mismanagement  
of the entire Lab does not  
and should not instill con-  
fidence in any of the work  
product coming from Hin-  
ton,” said DA Rollins in  
the filing. “As the govern-  
ment, we should be held to  
the highest of standards.  
When we fail, we must ad-  
mit that failure and imme-  
diately implement chang-  
es to assure we don’t make  
the same mistakes twice.  
We should also make it  
easier, not harder, for the  
public to be made whole  
when we fail them. Piece-  
meal solutions do not get  
us there.”

The three questions the  
Commonwealth is asking  
the SJC to consider are:

- Whether defen-  
dants whose convictions  
were supported by drug  
certifications created in  
the Hinton Lab with Son-  
ja Farak as the primary  
or secondary chemist are  
entitled to the conclusive  
presumption of egregious  
government misconduct  
and thus should be granted  
new trials.
- Whether defen-  
dants whose convictions

were supported by drug  
certifications created in the  
Hinton Lab, regardless of  
the chemist that conducted  
the analyst, are entitled to  
the conclusive presump-  
tion of egregious govern-  
ment misconduct because  
the gross mismanagement  
of the Lab as identified by  
the Office of the Inspector  
General (OIG) in his 2014  
report and thus should be  
granted new trials.

- Whether the Com-  
monwealth may address  
outbreaks of misconduct  
with global resolutions for  
a class of defendants im-  
pacted by identified mis-  
conduct, or whether Mass.  
R. Crim. P. 30 should be  
amended to allow for such  
global resolution?

The filing argues that  
a series of reported ques-  
tions, “is the most direct  
and efficient way to ad-  
dress the need for global  
resolution and equitable  
justice for all of the defen-  
dants whose convictions  
were secured and rest on  
tainted Hinton Lab certi-  
fications. The full recog-  
nition of the huge impact  
of the wide-spread and  
systemic misconduct in  
the Hinton Lab can only  
be made at the appellate  
level.”

Without a systemic  
solution or global resolu-  
tion, DA Rollins’ Hinton  
Lab Initiative will have to  
proceed on a one-by-one  
case basis.

“Systemic problems re-  
quire systemic solutions.  
Forcing individual parties  
impacted by egregious  
and extensive governmen-  
tal misconduct to litigate  
just resolutions in approx-  
imately 70,000 separate  
cases each infected with  
evidence from the Hinton  
Lab is grossly inefficient,  
patently unfair, and de-  
monstrably inequitable. It  
is beyond dispute that the  
vast majority of the de-  
fendants impacted by the  
Hinton Lab misconduct  
are people of color, spe-  
cifically Black and brown  
men,” the filing states.

While the cases are all  
old, this is hardly an aca-  
demic exercise. Collateral  
consequences of a crim-  
inal conviction can have  
life-long impacts on an in-  
dividual’s capacity to gain  
employment, attend col-  
lege, secure housing, and  
use government benefits,  
as well as many other op-  
portunities. Prior convic-  
tions can result in longer  
sentences for an individual  
who may be found guilty

in a subsequent offense.  
DA Rollins’ Office is the  
first in the state to take  
such broad affirmative ac-  
tion on all Hinton cases.

“This shameful chapter  
of our history will take  
dedication and persever-  
ance to undo,” said DA  
Rollins. “The public de-  
serves to have faith in the  
government. If we contin-  
ue to refuse to acknowl-  
edge our failures and mis-  
deeds at the Hinton Lab,  
or cling to being right for  
fear of ‘opening the flood-  
gates’ regarding the tens  
of thousands of impacted  
cases and individuals, we  
will have lost a tremen-  
dous opportunity to show  
true leadership and rec-  
onciliation.” She thanked  
participants in the Hinton  
Lab Initiative, including  
members of the criminal  
defense bar in general and  
Attorney Luke Ryan, in  
particular for their deter-  
mination, dedication, and  
relentless pursuit in bring-  
ing all of the corruption at  
the lab to light.

The motion in the Es-  
cobar matter was filed by  
Assistant District Attorney  
Donna Patalano, DA Rol-  
lins’s General Counsel and  
Co-Director of the Office’s  
Hinton Lab Initiative.

# CHA awarded \$6 million NIMH grant to improve youth mental health

Staff Report

Cambridge Health Alli-  
ance (CHA), a communi-  
ty health system serving  
Cambridge, Somerville  
and Boston’s metro-north  
communities, has been  
awarded a National In-  
stitute of Mental Health  
(NIMH) grant titled  
“ALACRITY for Early  
Screening and Treatment  
of High Risk Youth (eS-  
ToRY).”

It will provide more  
than \$6 million across  
four years to fund multi-  
ple community-engaged

research projects, provide  
training opportunities for  
trainees and junior facul-  
ty of color and improve  
methods for identifying  
and treating youth at high  
risk for suicide and mental  
illness.

eSToRY is dedicated to  
early detection of mental  
illness, preventing adverse  
outcomes, improving  
quality of care and foster-  
ing equity in treatment for  
racial, ethnic and language  
(REL)-minority youth  
(defined as children, ado-  
lescents and young adults  
under 25 years of age).

Across multiple re-  
search projects, CHA’s  
Health Equity Research  
Lab and its Department of  
Psychiatry will establish a  
learning health communi-  
ty in the diverse neighbor-  
hoods surrounding CHA  
to address the well-rec-  
ognized barriers to care  
for youth with mental  
health needs, deploying a  
sophisticated health data  
infrastructure to adapt,  
test and implement evi-  
dence-based practices to  
accelerate healthcare  
improvements. The team  
will hold regular training

events and pilot research  
grant opportunities in-  
tended to build capacity to  
identify and reduce racial,  
ethnic and gender dispari-  
ties in mental health treat-  
ment.

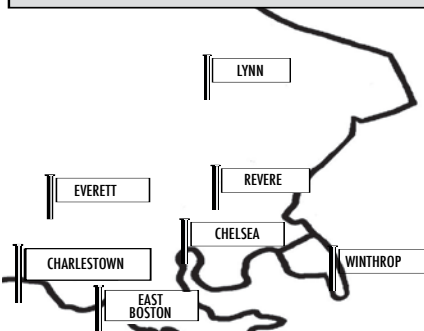
“We need better tools  
to help adolescents of col-  
or recover from discrim-  
ination and trauma that  
they experience in their  
homes, schools and com-  
munities, and we need to  
better understand the ear-  
ly stages of mental illness  
to prevent the disability  
and loss of life associated  
with serious mental illness

and suicide,” said Ben-  
jamin Cook, PhD, MPH,  
principal investigator and  
director of the Health Equ-  
ity Research Lab. “This  
award gives us the oppor-  
tunity to pursue that work  
at Cambridge Health Al-  
liance and its teen health  
centers in Everett, Som-  
erville, and Cambridge with  
community, academic  
and clinical stakeholders  
in collaboration with an  
incredibly diverse popu-  
lation of youth and their  
families in the Boston  
area.”

“We are extreme-

ly grateful to NIMH for  
helping to create a learn-  
ing health system devoted  
to health equity at CHA  
as well as a model learn-  
ing health community de-  
voted to social justice for  
underserved populations  
in Boston’s metro-north  
region,” added Philip  
Wang, MD, DrPH, princi-  
pal investigator and chair  
and chief of psychiatry at  
Cambridge Health Alli-  
ance.

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NEWS FROM AROUND THE REGION

COUNCIL POSTPONES VOTE ON LOWER BROADWAY TAKINGS

EVERETT - The City Council voted to postpone a vote on the Urban Renewal Plan (URP) amendment for Lower Broadway that would include the power to take some private properties on Mystic Street, with most councilors signaling they would not support taking occupied property but would support giving the power to take the old Power Plant site on the waterfront.

The amendment is far-reaching and got approval by the Planning Board in concept a few weeks ago, and came before the City Council two times since then – once on June 23 and then on June 30. At stake is the redevelopment of the eastern side of Broadway into the Everett Entertainment Destination District, a vague plan for future development that could include anything from a stadium to a theatre and would likely by, or in combination with, the Encore Boston Harbor

casino across the street.

The matter was postponed on June 30 to a Special Meeting that is called for Thursday, July 8.

Two property owners highlighted the June 30 meeting, noting their properties were on the list of four properties that could potentially be taken by Eminent Domain if the Council approves the amendment. They said their properties are not “blighted” and that they would not voluntarily leave so the casino could enrich itself.

Stephen Bosco, who owns 23 Mystic St. and lists a home address in Holyoke, said he had bought the home there more than 20 years ago and put everything he had into improving it – including climbing ladders and fixing things himself. Now, he offers the apartments in the home for reasonable rates to people that need a good place to live.

He said the plan is an embarrassment.

“I went up on a ladder and replaced trim and sided it, put in new windows and sanded paint off the floors and did it all myself,” he said. “I’m proud of what I did...I’ve read the URP closely and if I can be frank, I think it’s embarrassing...I don’t think it’s right to take someone’s home and turn it over to the casino...I would be embarrassed to do that if I were sitting in your seat...This amendment does exactly that – to take over someone’s property and turn it over to the casino.”

Rocco Vigorito, of Saugus, said he has business properties that are on the list that could be taken on Mystic Street. He said he’s run businesses on Lower Broadway since 1980, and said he wouldn’t want his property taken by Eminent Domain.

“For Eminent Domain, I don’t agree with that at all,” he said. “I would be embarrassed as well if I were the Council. I’ve been in Everett since 1970 and I’ve been running businesses on Lower Broadway since 1982. I don’t think it would be fair to take something away from me to give to someone else so they could benefit. I don’t think it’s for the benefit of the City. If the casino will benefit, I don’t think they should have the ability to take my property and do what they want and have us out in the cold so to speak.”

The amendment to the URP is one that focuses primarily on the Station Parcel, which is the unused, 40-acre parcel that the power plant once used, but no longer uses. The plan, according to Jamie Fay of Ft. Point Associates, would focus on redeveloping that parcel, as well as the three on Mystic Street – encouraging higher uses achieved through private deals and not Eminent Domain. However, Mayoral Chief of Staff Erin Deveney said to make the amendment conform to law, the power of Eminent Domain had to be disclosed as a future possibility.

She said when drawing up the amendment, Mayor Carlo DeMaria and the administration wanted to take out the part about Eminent Domain and had concerns about it, but legally could not do that. She said while Eminent Domain is a possibility, it isn’t the goal of the plan.

“Because the URP amendment would give the City that opportunity, it does need to be disclosed,” she said. “The intent of the plan is not to proceed with the Eminent Domain process. The intent of the plan is to give the City the opportunity to entertain private development that would look to change some uses that exist in the area now that reasonably could be agreed that they are not the highest and best uses of that property. At one time, it may have been, but there has been property in the area that could be re-developed for different and higher uses for the City. For Eminent Domain, it has to be identified as part of the plan, but it is not the goal and objective of the City.”

There has been a great deal of discussion lately about what, if any, plans that Encore and other partners might have unofficially for the parking lots and the remaining private properties on the east side of Broadway. While nothing is official, Mayor DeMaria has recently suggested there are some pretty interesting plans being discussed unofficially now, and as far back as when the casino was in construction, Wynn Resorts CEO Matt Maddox disclosed to construction workers that they hoped to own or partner with others to create a destination district for the entirety of Lower Broadway.

CELEBRATING A CENTURY AND THEN SOME AT REVERE BEACH



As of press time, preparations were underway for the Revere Beach 125th Birthday celebration, originally scheduled for Monday, July 12, but due to inclement weather it was rescheduled for Tuesday July 13. Shown above sporting the attire of yesterday for the occasion, sitting (L to R), Lynzie Anderson, Katie O'Donnell and Giana Losanno. Standing, (L-R) are Robert Lynch, Christian Sawyer and Steven Plitsch. Shown left, Jay Rosenzwaig and Becky Swope have some fun at the Revere Historical Society table's caricature cutouts.

ers to create a destination district for the entirety of Lower Broadway.

“The Administration is aware that with development that has happened around Broadway, there is interest to develop the other side,” said Deveney. “We are aware Wynn Development has had conversations and made offers to remaining property owners, but ultimately any plan is going to be contingent on what the City end up approving...There’s absolutely interest in developing what there...”

Many Councilors were not happy with the idea of an Eminent Domain taking being included in the amendment, and particularly to potentially advance the plans of the casino.

“The word blighted is the wrong word to use because it casts dispersions on these folks and that’s not the right thing to do,” said Councilor John Hanlon. “Before we do anything further with this, we need to fully understand the entire process with Eminent Domain takings.”

Said Councilor Fred Capone, who represents that area, “If you take this plan to its logical conclusion and if there is resistance, (Eminent Domain) is going to be the last resort. I find it very distasteful you would take private property from one owner and utilize it for gain for someone else. I can’t find anything more repulsive than that in the realm of public trust. I’m not opposed to redevelopment down there, especially at the Station Parcel...but anything taking private property for someone else, that should raise an antenna.”

Councilor Michael McLaughlin said he was also uncomfortable with it.

“I’m totally against Eminent Domain,” he said. “We’re not voting on Eminent Domain takings tonight, but it sure opens the floodgates down there for Eminent Domain. That’s the direction this plan would take...If it’s not tonight, it will be another night.”

Said Councilor Gerly Adrien, “When I hear Urban Renewal, I hear people being pushed out and that’s what’s going to happen with this person’s home and the person with the businesses and that scares me.”

Also speaking against the idea of Eminent Domain in the plan were Councilors Michael Marchese, and Rich Dell Isola – as well as Councilor Rosa DiFlorio, who said she approved of the amendment but would not vote for Eminent Domain takings in the future.

It is believed under the amendment that any takings would have to come before the Council, but there was also some skepticism about that from Capone – who said potentially a fully funded Everett Redevelopment Authority could take those properties without Council approval.

“If that’s an option available, we’ll be pushed out of the picture,” he said. “I’ve seen this City Council pushed out of the picture too many times and I don’t want to see it again.”

The Council did indicate it would support the amendment, with Eminent Domain powers, but only if the Mystic Street properties were removed. That mean they would support the amendment only with the Station Parcel included.

No action was taken and the matter will be discussed on July 8.

SUBSTATION MITIGATION SURVEY UNDERWAY

EAST BOSTON - Community efforts to block the construction of an Eversource substation on Condor Street are still active. However, the recent decision by the state’s Energy Facilities Siting Board to approve the project in the spring has required Eagle Hill residents to shift their focus to environmental justice and impact mitigation.

The Eagle Hill Civic Association (EHCA) and the Salesian Boys and Girls Club have been asked to be counterparties in representing the community in negotiating a comprehensive Community Benefits Agreement with Eversource.

With an agreement needed to be reached by July 30, EHCA President Debra Cave said her group has put together a survey and wants Eagle Hill residents to weigh in on what type of mitigation the neighborhood should get if the substation is built.

The survey for Eagle Hill residents can be found at <https://eaglehillcivic.surveyparrot.com/s/Eversource-Eagle-Hill-Community-Benefits-Agreement/tt-2a35ae/>.

“We put together the survey that can be found on our website (above web

address) and we’re also going to have hardcopies of the survey delivered to the East Boston Library on Bremen Street, the East Boston Social Centers and the East Boston YMCA for those who are not tech savvy,” said Cave. “I asked Eversource to make sure that they gave scanned envelopes, so that people can simply get a survey at those locations, drop it in an envelope and drop it in the mail.”

Cave said she really hopes that Eagle Hill residents will think through what they feel are the needs for our community.

“How can we mitigate the impacts of this if it shouldn’t happen,” said Cave. “I think we have to be prepared for this to happen. This substation is in our backyard and we have to make sure that the people of Eagle Hill have representation and a voice on this matter and we get some compensation for this decision. So, please fill out the surveys, and give us as much feedback as you can.”

“In recognition of the environmental justice populations residing in the East Boston community, and the unique legacy of significant environmental impacts associated with existing major infrastructure in this community, the Siting Board directs Eversource to enter into good-faith negotiations for a Community Benefits Agreement,” the Energy Facilities Siting Board said in a statement.

“The Agreement shall aim to include measures to further mitigate impacts and further increase environmental and energy benefits, as defined in the Commonwealth’s Environmental Justice Policy. As part of the agreement Eversource shall ameliorate negative impacts that are reasonably likely to occur as a result of the construction of the substation. Any expenditures or actions taken under an agreement negotiated pursuant to this condition must directly benefit the community of East Boston.”

Cave said EHCA’s primary focus during these negotiations is to arrive at an agreement to “further mitigate impacts and further increase environmental and energy benefits” as well as “ameliorate negative impacts that are reasonably likely to occur as a result of the construction of the substation.”

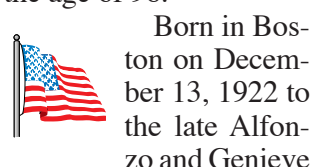
OBITUARIES

Frederick Ambrosino

Father of Chelsea City Manager

and veteran of the WWII Battle of the Bulge

Frederick J. Ambrosino (Retired Lt RPD) of Revere died on July 8 at the age of 98.



Born in Boston on December 13, 1922 to the late Alfonso and Genieve (D’Amore), he was the beloved husband of 64 years to the late Margaret (Margareci), devoted father of Paul Ambrosino and his wife, Joan of Peabody and Chelsea City Manager Thomas Ambrosino and his partner, Laurie Giardella of Nahant; cherished grandfather of Brianna, Brittany and Alexandra; adored great grandfather of Olivia and Eva Swezey; dear brother of Gilda “Gail” Hagstrom of Revere and the late Mary Alba, Violet Finamore and Phillip, Louis, Anthony and Alphonse Ambrosino. He is also survived by many loving nieces and nephews.

Frederick was a graduate of Revere High School, Class of 1940. He proudly served his country in the United States Army during WWII under General Patton in the 3rd Army. His group was engaged in battle in the European Theatre and Battle of the



Bulge where he would go on to receive the European African Middle Eastern Theatre Campaign Ribbon, Good Conduct Medal, American Theatre Campaign Ribbon, the Victory Medal and the French Legion of Honor Medal.

Upon his return to Massachusetts, Frederick became a Revere Police Officer retiring in 1987 as a Lieutenant after 35 years of service. He will be sorely missed by all who knew him.

A Funeral Mass was celebrated at Immaculate Conception Church, Revere followed by Interment in Woodlawn Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in Frederick’s name to Immaculate Conception Church, 133 Beach St, Revere, MA 02151. For guest book, please visit [www.buonfiglio.com](http://www.buonfiglio.com).

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LEGAL NOTICES

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF TIER CLASSIFICATION  
64 SHAWMUT STREET  
CHELSEA, MASSACHUSETTS  
MassDEP  
RELEASE TRACKING NUMBER  
3-0036469  
A release of oil and/or hazardous materials (petroleum) has occurred at this location, which is a disposal site as defined by M.G.L. c.21E, d 2 and the Massachusetts Contingency Plan, 310 CMR 40.0000. To evaluate the release, a Phase I Initial Site Investigation was performed pursuant to 310 CMR 40.0480. The site has been classified as Tier II pursuant to 310 CMR 40.0500. On or about July 13, 2021, Charles and Laura Kwiatkowski, the owners of 64 Shawmut Street in Chelsea, Massachusetts, filed a Tier Classification Submittal with the Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP). To obtain more information on this disposal site, please contact David JP Foss, LSP, at (603) 369-4190 extension 523. The Tier Classification Submittal and the disposal site file can be viewed at MassDEP website using Release Tracking Number (RTN) 3-0036469 at https://eeonline.eea.state.ma.us/portal#/search/wastesite or at the Mass-DEP Northeast Regional Office, 205B Lowell Street, Wilmington, MA 01887, (978) 694-3200. Additional public involvement opportunities are available under 310 CMR 40.1403(9) and 310 CMR 40.1404.

7/15/21

LEGAL NOTICE

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS THE TRIAL COURT PROBATE AND FAMILY COURT  
Suffolk Probate and Family Court

24 New Chardon St. Boston, MA 02114  
DIVORCE SUMMONS BY PUBLICATION AND MAILING  
DOCKET NUMBER: SU21D0693DR  
Wilmory Aguilar-Arreaga v. Remember Moris Arreaga  
To the Defendant: The Plaintiff has filed a Complaint for Divorce requesting that the Court grant a divorce for Irretrievable Breakdown. The Complaint is on file at the Court.  
An Automatic Restraining Order has been entered in this matter preventing you from taking any action which would negatively impact the current financial status of either party. SEE Supplemental Probate Court Rule 411. You are hereby summoned and required to serve upon:  
Wilmory Aguilar-Arreaga, 64 Washington Ave. #4, Chelsea, MA 02150  
your answer, if any, on or before 09/03/2021. If you fail to do so, the court will proceed to the hearing and adjudication of this action. You re also required to file a coy of your answer, if any, in the office of the Register of this Court.  
Witness, Brian J. Dunn, Esquire, First Judge of said Court.  
Date: July 8, 2021  
Felix D. Arroyo  
Register of Probate

7/15/21

LEGAL NOTICE

CITY OF CHELSEA DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT  
REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS  
Business Systems Project Management Services  
The City of Chelsea, Massachusetts, through its Chief Procurement Officer, is seeking Proposals for marked "Business Systems Project Management

Service". Request for Proposals will be available on or after July 15, 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. Proposals must be sealed and clearly marked "Business Systems Project Management Services" and submitted to the Office of the Chief Procurement Officer no later than 10:00AM on Thursday, July 29, 2021. The City of Chelsea reserves the right to accept any proposal, to reject any or all proposals and to waive minor irregularities and/or formalities as it deems to be in the best interest of the City. In accordance with our Minority Business Enterprise Plan, we are inviting all qualified women and minority business firms to respond. This Request for Proposals is in accordance with M.G.L. Chapter 30B. Dragica Ivanis Chief Procurement Officer

7/15/21

LEGAL NOTICE

CITY OF CHELSEA REQUEST FOR QUOTES  
CDBG Lead Paint Testing Services  
The City of Chelsea, Massachusetts, through its Chief Procurement Officer, is seeking Request for Quotes for "CDBG Lead Paint Testing Services". Request for Quotes will be available on or after July 15, 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.

rent-bids-solicitations. Quotes must be sealed and clearly marked "CDBG Lead Paint Testing Services" and submitted to the Office of the Chief Procurement Officer no later than 12:00PM on Thursday, July 29, 2021. The City of Chelsea reserves the right to accept any proposal, to reject any or all proposals and to waive minor irregularities and/or formalities as it deems to be in the best interest of the City. In accordance with our Minority Business Enterprise Plan, we are inviting all qualified women and minority business firms to respond. The City of Chelsea is an Equal Opportunity Employer. This Request for Proposals is in accordance with M.G.L. Chapter 30B. Dragica Ivanis Chief Procurement Officer

7/15/21

LEGAL NOTICE

Legal Notice  
City of Chelsea  
Public Hearing  
The City of Chelsea Department of Housing and Community Development will hold a Public Hearing on July 29, 2021 at 6:00 p.m. in the City Council Chambers, 500 Broadway, Chelsea, MA 02150. The purpose of this meeting is to discuss the updates to the Community Preservation Plan. The public comment and responses will influence the distribution of funds from the Community Preservation Act between the three allowable uses: affordable housing, open space and recreation, and historic preservation. To learn more about the Community Preservation Plan please go to https://www.chelseama.gov/community-preservation-committee  
El personal del Departamento de Vivienda y Desarrollo Comunitario de Chelsea y los miembros del Comité de Preservación de la Comunidad de Chelsea

and Community Development and members of the Chelsea Community Preservation Committee will be present to hear any and all recommendations. All persons or organizations wishing to comment will be given an opportunity to be heard. You may also submit comments in writing to the Chelsea Department of Housing and Community Development, 500 Broadway, Room 101, Chelsea, MA 02150, Attn: CPC, or via email to dvalentin@chelseama.gov. Alex Train, AICP Director of Vivienda y Desarrollo Comunitario Ciudad de Chelsea

7/15/21 and 7/22/21

LEGAL NOTICE

Notificación Legal  
Ciudad de Chelsea  
Audiciencia Pública  
El Departamento de Vivienda y Desarrollo Comunitario de la ciudad de Chelsea celebrará una audiencia pública el 29 de julio de 2021 a las 6:00 p.m. en la City Council Chambers, 500 Broadway, Chelsea, MA 02150. El propósito de esta reunión es discutir las actualizaciones del Plan de Preservación de la Comunidad. Los comentarios y las respuestas del público influirán en la distribución de fondos de la Ley de Preservación Comunitaria para los tres usos permitidos: acceso a vivienda, espacios abiertos y recreación, y preservación histórica. Para obtener más información sobre el Plan de preservación de la comunidad, visite https://www.chelseama.gov/community-preservation-committee  
El personal del Departamento de Vivienda y Desarrollo Comunitario de Chelsea y los miembros del Comité de Preservación de la Comunidad de Chelsea

estarán presentes para escuchar todas y cada una de las recomendaciones. Todas las personas u organizaciones que deseen comentar tendrán la oportunidad de ser escuchadas. También puede enviar comentarios por escrito al Departamento de Vivienda y Desarrollo Comunitario de Chelsea, 500 Broadway, Oficina 101, Chelsea, MA 02150, Attn: CPC, o por correo electrónico a dvalentin@chelseama.gov. Alex Train, AICP Director de Vivienda y Desarrollo Comunitario Ciudad de Chelsea

7/15/21 and 7/22/21

LEGAL NOTICE

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS THE TRIAL COURT PROBATE AND FAMILY COURT CITATION  
G.L. c. 210, § 6  
Middlesex Probate and Family Court  
10-U Commerce Way Woburn, MA 01801 (781)865-4000  
Docket No. MI21A0360AD  
In the matter of: Emely Gabriela Quintanilla To: Estuado Palencia  
Any unnamed or unknown parent and persons interested in a petition for the adoption of said child and to the Department of Children and Families of said Commonwealth. A petition has been presented to said court by: Manuel De. Jesus Hernandez of Everett, MA and Rosmeri Roxana Quintanilla of Everett, MA requesting for leave to adopt said child and that the name of the child be changed to Emely Gabriela Hernandez-Quintanilla  
If you object to this adoption you are entitled to the appointment of an attorney if you are an indigent person. An indigent person is

defined by SJC Rule 3:10. The definition includes but is not limited to persons receiving TAFDC, EACDC, poverty related veteran's benefits, Medicaid, and SSI. The Court will determine if you are indigent. Contact an Assistant Judicial Case Manager or Adoption Clerk of the Court on or before the date listed below to obtain the necessary forms. IF YOU DESIRE TO OBJECT THERETO, YOU OR YOUR ATTORNEY MUST FILE A WRITTEN APPEARANCE IN SAID COURT AT: Boston ON OR BEFORE TEN O'CLOCK IN THE MORNING (10:00 AM) ON: 09/02/2021. WITNESS, Hon. Brian J. Dunn, First Justice of this Court.  
Date: July 7, 2021  
Felix D. Arroyo, Register of Probate

7/15/21, 7/22/21, 7/29/21

LEGAL NOTICE

CITY OF CHELSEA INVITATION FOR BIDS  
Hawthorne Street @ Central Avenue Upgrades-Complete Streets Grant  
The City of Chelsea, Massachusetts, through its Chief Procurement Officer, is seeking sealed bids for all labor and materials for "Hawthorne Street @ Central Avenue Upgrades-Complete Streets Grant". Invitation for Bids will be available on or after July 15, 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 "Hawthorne Street @ Central Avenue Upgrades-Complete Streets Grant" and submitted to the Purchasing Office, Room 204, no later than

11:00AM on Thursday, July 29, 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. Chapter 30, 39M. Dragica Ivanis Chief Procurement Officer

7/15/21

LEGAL NOTICE

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS THE TRIAL COURT PROBATE AND FAMILY COURT CITATION GIVING NOTICE OF PETITION FOR APPOINTMENT OF A GUARDIAN FOR INCAPACITATED PERSON PURSUANT TO G.L. c. 190B, §5-304  
Docket No. SU21PI423GD  
In the matter of: Michael Gordon RESPONDENT  
Alleged Incapacitated Person Of: Chelsea, MA  
To the named Respondent and all other interested persons, a petition has been filed by DMH of Westborough, MA in the above captioned matter alleging that Michael Gordon is in need of a Guardian and requesting

that (or some other person) be appointed as Guardian to serve Without Surety on the bond. The petition asks the court to determine that the Respondent is incapacitated, that the appointment of a Guardian is necessary, and that the proposed Guardian is appropriate. The petition is on file with this court and may contain a request for certain specific authority. You have the right to object to this proceeding. If you wish to do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance at this court on or before 10:00 A.M. on the return date of 08/12/2021. This day is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline date by which you have to file the written appearance if you object to the petition. If you fail to file the written appearance by the return date, action may be taken in this matter without further notice to you. In addition to filing the written appearance, you or your attorney must file a written affidavit stating the specific facts and grounds of your objection within 30 days after the return date. IMPORTANT NOTICE  
The outcome of this proceeding may limit or completely take away the above-named person's right to make decisions about personal affairs or financial affairs or both. The above-named person has the right to ask for a lawyer. Anyone may make this request on behalf of the above-named person. If the above-named person cannot afford a lawyer, one may be appointed at State expense. WITNESS, Hon. Brian J. Dunn, First Justice of this Court.  
Date: July 01, 2021  
Felix D. Arroyo, Register of Probate

7/15/21



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**PLEASE RECYCLE THIS NEWSPAPER**

# Cities and towns applaud increase in State Climate Resilience Funding

Cities and towns involved in the Resilient Mystic Collaborative applauded the doubling of annual funds for the Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness (MVP) Grant Program to \$21 million in the Baker Administration's FY2022 Capital Plan.

"Chelsea has already suffered through two debilitating heat waves and a dozen days over 90 F even before July 1st," said Alex Train, Director of Housing and Community Development. "Our same residents who suffered disproportionately through COVID are now at risk from heat-related illnesses. We need to upgrade our infrastructure and services for the summer of 2050, not 1950."

In the latest MVP grant round, the Commonwealth received 92 applications requesting a total of \$28 million for action grants out of \$10 million available. "Extreme heat, storms, drought, and flooding are no longer a thing of the future. Climate resilience needs to become a core government function, just like schools and roads," said Julie Wormser, deputy director of the Mystic River Watershed Association. "This funding increase is a critical down payment." Below are some of the projects in Greater Boston's Mystic Watershed seeking MVP funding this year.

"Twelve municipalities depend on the Charles River and Amelia Earhart Dams to prevent catastrophic coastal flooding of residential neighborhoods and businesses,"

said Owen O' Riordan, Commissioner of Cambridge's Department of Public Works. "It is of critical importance that these dams and portions of our shoreline be elevated to ensure we protect tens of thousands of people and billions in property from harm. We could use every penny in the MVP program over the next decade just to solve this one issue."

"Belle Isle Marsh is by far the largest remaining salt marsh in Boston Harbor providing a crucial buffer for flooding to neighboring communities and critical habitat for over 250 bird species, mammals and marine animals, said Mary Mitchell, president of Friends of Belle Isle Marsh. "Funding for restoration projects and nature-based resiliency projects within the marsh is needed now to best protect against climate change and sea level rise."

"One of Winthrop's most valuable resources is Ingleside Park, a vast green space enjoyed by the entire Town," said Rachel Kelly, Director of Planning and Development. The Park floods after heavy rains and snowmelt. Winthrop would greatly benefit from additional MVP funding to mitigate flooding with improved drainage and green infrastructure."

The Resilient Mystic Collaborative includes 20 of 21 communities (Arlington, Belmont, Boston, Burlington, Cambridge, Chelsea, Everett, Lexington, Malden, Medford, Melrose, Reading, Revere, Somerville, Stoneham,

Wakefield, Watertown, Winchester, Winthrop, and Woburn) and over 98 percent of the population and land base in the Mystic River Watershed. Together, RMC municipalities represent one percent of the state's land base and 10 percent of its population. The partnership focuses on fresh water and coastal flooding, and protecting vulnerable residents and workers from extreme weather, including heat.

"The Resilient Mystic Collaborative and MVP Program has brought together cities and towns in ways that we could not foresee," said Alex Rozyski, senior civil engineer for the Town of Reading. "As these communities continue to work together and evaluate shared MVP grant possibilities the scope and breadth of these complex projects quickly expands as well. Regional MVP funding is supporting a revitalized trail system and green stormwater treatment systems to increase storage and water quality in Reading, which provides similar benefits to downstream communities. The estimated cost to complete this project alone is over two million dollars."

"Climate change is bringing intense rainfall that overwhelms our aging stormwater systems with increased frequency," said Elena Proakis Ellis, Melrose Director of Public Works. "We are working with 16 other communities to manage local and regional flooding through expanded wetlands and other nature-based solutions. With enough small

projects combined, we can make a real difference in our region. These projects are too costly for communities like Melrose to afford with local funding alone, however. This work is essential to the region and brings other habitat and social benefits along the way."

"The industrial district that spans Chelsea and Everett provides thousands of good-paying jobs and billions in annual economic activity," said Chelsea's Alex Train. "It was unfortunately also built by filling in the Island End River, which is now chronically flooding during heavy storms. The price tag for protecting this area from flooding over the next fifty years is north of \$50 million."

## Mystic River Watershed at a Glance

The 76-square-mile Mystic River Watershed stretches from Reading through the northern shoreline of Boston Harbor to Revere. An Anglicized version of the Pequot word mis-si-tuk ("large river with wind- and tide-driven waves"), it is now one of New England's most densely populated, urbanized watersheds.

The seven-mile Mystic River and its tributaries represented an early economic engine for colonial Boston. Ten shipyards built more than 500 clipper ships in the 1800s before roads and railways replaced schooners and steamships. Tide-driven mills, brickyards and tanneries along both banks of the river brought both

wealth and pollution.

In the 1960s, the Amelia Earhart Dam transformed much of the river into a freshwater impoundment, while construction of Interstate 93 filled in wetlands and dramatically changed the river's course. Since then, many former industrial sites have been cleaned up and redeveloped into new commercial areas and residential communities.

The Mystic is facing growing climate-related challenges: coastal and stormwater flooding, extreme storms, heat,

drought and unpredictable seasonal weather. The watershed is relatively low-lying and extensively developed, making it prone to both freshwater and coastal flooding. Its 21 municipalities are home to a half-million residents, including many who are disproportionately vulnerable to extreme weather: environmental justice communities, new Americans, residents of color, elders, low-income residents and employees, people living with disabilities and English-language learners.

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