

CHELSEA RECORD

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35 CENTS

DA Rollins
nominated for
US Attorney
by Biden

By Seth Daniel

U.S. President Joe Biden announced on Monday the nomination of Suffolk County District Attorney Rachael Rollins as his pick to be the next permanent US Attorney for the District of Massachusetts – a post that would include the entire state.

Currently, Acting US Attorney Nathaniel Mendell is serving as US Attorney. Rollins would have to go through extensive Congressional hearings and have to be voted in by Congress. That likely wouldn't happen until sometime in the fall, most believe.

President Biden said her nomination, and that of seven other US Attorneys around the country, are part of larger plan nationwide to combat a crime wave that has erupted during COVID-19.

"The President has launched a comprehensive effort to take on the uptick in gun crime that has been taking place for the last 18 months—putting more cops on the beat, supporting community prevention programs, and cracking down on illegal gun trafficking. Confirming U.S. Attorneys as the chief federal law enforcement officers in their district is important for these efforts," read the statement in the White House release on the matter. "Confirming U.S. Attorneys as the chief federal law enforcement officers in their district is important for these efforts."

Rollins would be the

See ROLLINS Page 2

TENACITY PROGRAM IN CHELSEA



PHOTO BY SETH DANIEL

Richard Wilson, a Chelsea native who has been involved with the Boston-based Tenacity program since it started in 1999, helps kids at Voke Park last Friday work on their net game during one of the sessions. Tenacity has long been asked to expand to Chelsea from their 18 Boston-centric programming sites, but it never worked out. This summer, the time was right, and Tenacity and the Chelsea Recreation Division has enjoyed a great partnership so far teaching children the game of tennis, while also having reading breaks mixed into the day. See Page 7 for story and more photos.

City embarks on model participatory budgeting
process for federal Rescue Act monies

By Seth Daniel

With more than \$40 million of federal Rescue Act monies now in Chelsea's hands, the City announced it will embark on a model participatory budgeting process to decide what to do with at least \$15 million of that money.

In response to COVID-19, the U.S. Department of the Treasury established the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, known as ARPA, to provide \$1.9 trillion in emergency funding for state, local, territorial and tribal governments. The City of Chelsea is expected to

receive a total of approximately \$40 million, and approximately \$15 million will be dedicated to initiatives and priorities established by the community. The remaining \$25 million is to be dedicated to budget and revenue shortfalls incurred by City government due to COVID-19 expenses and losses.

For the \$15 million community-led effort, the City will establish an ARPA Community Advisory Committee (CAC) made up of community stakeholders and residents to ensure the equitable, transparent, and account-

able distribution of these funds.

"We have kicked off the recruitment process for residents and we'll have our first CAC meeting in late August," said Alex Train, director of the Department of Housing and Community Development. "We're thrilled about this. It's a daunting undertaking. It will be the largest community process we've done to date, but we believe it could be a model for others to follow."

The community CAC will have nine member

See RESCUE ACT Page 2

Salvation Army RFP brings exciting plan from Traggorth

By Seth Daniel

The Traggorth Companies has submitted the only RFP for the redevelopment of the City-owned, former Salvation Army store in the heart of Bellingham Square – an affordable housing and entrepreneurial retail mixed proposal with a host of exciting, local partners.

As a side to the RFP, if chosen, Traggorth said it would piggyback the 440 Broadway Salvation Army development with a \$10 million renovation of an affordable housing building it already owns at 466 Broadway, where the McDonald's is located.

"If they are selected, we



Though there was just one proposal for re-development of the old Salvation Army store on Broadway, City officials are excited about that proposal from Traggorth and the unique partnerships outlined in it.

are confident as a City in their project delivery and completion capabilities," said Alex Train, director of the City's Department of Housing and Community Development. "From our

perspective we're enthusiastic supporters of any affordable housing project and especially with home-ownership opportunities in the downtown...We're absolutely in support of

it."

Dave Traggorth, of the Traggorth Companies, has plenty of development experience in Chelsea, and has just embarked on construction at the old Midas site at the Chelsea/Revere City line. He said they were interested due to having been successful in Chelsea before, and also due to the chance to transform Bellingham Square.

"The project will transform the vacant former Salvation Army site... into a vibrant, mixed-use, mixed income building that will serve current and future residents of Chelsea, become a true community asset, serve as a launch point for many small, locally-owned

See TRAGGORTH Page 5

MBTA bus drivers being
abused by non-mask wearers

By Seth Daniel

Amidst a string of abusive behavior to MBTA bus drivers who are required to ask riders to wear masks on the bus, this week the MBTA is asking for help to identify a woman who entered the bus in Bellingham Square on Sunday and destroyed the bus and cursed out the driver when he asked her to wear a mask while on-board.

The individual depicted in the photo is wanted for questioning relative to a malicious destruction of property (an MBTA bus) after getting on the bus about 3:57 p.m. on Sunday, July 25.

The woman was apparently asked to put on

a mask when entering the bus, and then refused and began breaking windows on the bus before fleeing.

If anyone knows the whereabouts or identity of this individual please contact the Criminal Investigations Unit at 617-222-1050. If you would like to assist our investigators but wish to remain anonymous you can always text us your tip to 873873 or use the anonymous feature on our SeeSay app.

The MBTA said there have been at least 13 incidents of an MBTA employee being assaulted after asking someone to wear a face covering.

On July 21, in Roslindale, a Bus Operator re-

See MBTA Page 3

Pressley advances \$300,000
in federal community project
funding for La Colaborativa

Staff Report

Congresswoman Ayanna Pressley announced this week the successful inclusion of \$300,000 in federal community project funding for Chelsea's La Colaborativa in the FY2022 House Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies (Labor, HHS) Appropriations bill.

Funding would support the launch of La Colaborativa's COVID Employment Recovery Program (CERP).

Rep. Pressley has been advocating for this project through Congress' new Community Project Funding initiative.

"Chelsea, a predominantly Black, brown, low-income, and immigrant community, is one of the cities hardest hit by COVID-19 due to decades of under-investment, systemic racism and other structural inequities—and we need as many resources as possible to get Chelsea residents back to work," said

Rep. Pressley. "This funding would support La Colaborativa's efforts to re-employ Latinx and immigrant workers impacted by COVID-19, and is critical to ensuring a just and equitable economic recovery from this pandemic. The team at La Colaborativa have been close partners in moving this project forward, and I look forward to continuing that partnership as we work to get this funding across the finish line."

Said La Colaborativa Director Gladys Vega, "We are grateful to Congresswoman Pressley for listening to voices on the ground of the people who have been deeply affected by economic losses that came with the pandemic. For many, economic recovery and stability will take years to achieve. This investment in La Colaborativa's Rapid Re-employment Initiative is critical to boosting survival and stability in our community post-pandemic."

See FUNDING Page 3

VACCINE FESTIVAL



PHOTO BY DEREK KOUYOUNJIAN

Bruce Williams (center) with Maria and Jose Romero in their traditional Bolivian hats during the Vaccine Festival last Saturday, July 24, in front of the Chelsea Senior Center. Along with free COVID vaccinations were traditional performances, musical acts and food. See Page 8 for more photos.

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

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Gov. urged to sign bill creating new MBTA oversight board

Staff Report

The Transit is Essential Coalition recommended the legislature for passing a proposal creating a new MBTA oversight board, and urged Gov. Charlie Baker to swiftly sign the bill.

“We have no time to lose in getting a new MBTA governing board in place,” said Stacy Thompson, Executive Director of LivableStreets Alliance. “The proposed Board’s composition and responsibility centers equity, affordability and accessibility while giving riders

a stronger voice. We urge the governor to sign this bill into law.”

“We thank the legislature for listening to rider advocates in creating a governance framework that strikes the right balance of perspectives and priorities,” said Josh Ostroff, Interim Director of the Transportation for Massachusetts advocacy coalition. “The governor must act now to get the new board in place so we can seize this moment to create a more equitable and reliable T than ever before.”

The Fiscal and Man-

agement Control Board (FMCB), the MBTA’s governing board since 2015, expired on June 30. Key MBTA decisions hang in the balance at a critical moment in which the Commonwealth is re-opening and the federal government is advancing a multi-billion-dollar infrastructure package. Since the FMCB has expired, MBTA governance has reverted to the MassDOT board, which juggles multiple statewide priorities, including oversight of all state highways and bridges.

Median housing prices continue to increase

Staff Report

The Massachusetts Association of REALTORS (MAR) reported that this month’s data supports the sustained 2021 trend of increasing sale prices for the few homes available on the market. Closed sales on single-family homes rose a total of 27.1 percent while sales on condominiums increased 60.4 percent, compared to June of 2020.

MAR data provided the following key indicators for June:

- Median sales prices hit record levels again in June; The median price for single-family homes was \$578,500, an increase of 27.1 percent, and condominium prices rose by 25 percent to \$500,000 as compared to June 2020

sales.

- Inventory for single-family homes are down 51.6 percent, a record low, and condos are down 37.9 percent from June of the previous year.
- With the steady decline in available properties, home builders are trying to meet demand; new residential construction projects housing starts are up 3.6 percent from April to May, according to the Commerce Department, indicating that relief may be in sight in the post-pandemic future.

Buyers are desperate to get into homes and while some are forced to wait this market out, those who are able to often bid thousands over asking. Low interest rates and limited inventory continue to fuel record high sales prices.

“The current market is creating barriers for first-time homebuyers, who are new to this process and find themselves making multiple offers before securing a home,” said Steve Medeiros, 2021 President of MAR and REALTOR at Keller Williams Realty. “For reasons such as the market conditions listed above, MAR is a strong advocate for wider adoption of First-Time Homebuyers Savings Accounts (FHSAs), which can save homebuyers an average of \$50,000 and encourage prospective buyers to be safe when making offers and avoid settling due to minimal choices. This record low affordability is precisely why MAR lobbies for fair legislation and home buyers’ rights.”

Rollins / Continued from page 1

first Black woman to be the Massachusetts US Attorney.

“These individuals—many of whom are historic firsts—were chosen for their devotion to enforcing the law, their professionalism, their experience and credentials in this field, their dedication to pursuing equal justice for all, and their commitment to the independence of the Department of Justice,” the release stated further.

In a short statement on Monday night, Rollins said she was humbled to have received the nomination, which had been hinted at or postulated about since last fall.

“Suffolk County District Attorney Rachael Rollins is incredibly humbled by the great honor of being nominated by President Biden to be US Attorney for the District of Massachusetts,” read the statement. “She remains focused on doing the hard work of keeping the residents of Suffolk County safe.”

Though DA Rollins has been a controversial figure across Suffolk County at times, from day one she had received strong support from Chelsea officials and residents. One of the first to jump into her corner in the 2017 election was Councillor Leo Robinson.

He said this week he was happy for her, and looks forward to her being confirmed.

“I’m very happy for DA Rollins,” he said. “It’s such an honor for her to be selected. I wish her nothing but the best and justice for all.”

Chief Brian Kyes said he was excited for DA Rollins and expected her to make a seamless transition, if approved.

“I reached out to DA Rollins Monday to personally extend my congratulations on her nomination,” he said. “We

are all very excited to see her nominated by President Biden for such an incredibly important and prestigious role as the US Attorney for Massachusetts. Rachael’s qualifications, vision and leadership style should make for a seamless transition from District Attorney to US Attorney. We truly value our strong relationships with our federal law enforcement partners and behind Rachael’s leadership we look forward to continuing on that collaborative path.”

Congresswoman Ayanna Pressley said Rollins has a track record of transforming the legal system, and is a great choice for US Attorney.

“Congratulations to my sister in service, D.A. Rachael Rollins, on her historic nomination,” said Pressley. “Throughout her time in office, she has fought tirelessly to transform our legal system and address the hurt and harm inflicted on Black and brown communities through generations of policy violence—prioritizing racial justice, decarceration, and reimagining public safety in Massachusetts.

“She has been a true partner in our collective work to fulfill the promise of justice for all, and she is an excellent choice to serve as next U.S. Attorney for Massachusetts. I applaud President Biden for nominating D.A. Rollins to this role,” she continued.

State Rep. Dan Ryan said Rollins has changed the way the county looks at prosecution, and he believes she would take that passion to the US Attorney’s office as well.

“District Attorney Rollins is an accessible public servant with a clear vision of how she would approach her position in the DA’s office,” he said. “She followed that vision with

passion and vigor; forever changing the way we look at prosecution. I applaud her nomination as US Attorney as much as her successes, thus far, as District Attorney. I look forward to continue to work with DA Rollins in her current capacity and wish her well in this honorable endeavor to serve in the Biden Administration.”

Added City Manager Tom Ambrosino, “I’m very happy for DA Rollins. I expect she will make a very fine US Attorney. She was a great partner to Chelsea during her tenure.”

Rollins was elected District Attorney for Suffolk County, Massachusetts in 2018. She grew up in Cambridge and lived in Medford until she was elected District Attorney, living in Roxbury since taking office. Rollins served as the Chief Legal Counsel to the Massachusetts Port Authority from 2013 to 2015, and as the General Counsel to the Massachusetts Department of Transportation from 2011 to 2013 and contemporaneously to the Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority from 2012 to 2013. Ms. Rollins was an Assistant United States Attorney for the District of Massachusetts from 2007 to 2011. From 2002 to 2006, Rollins was an attorney at Bingham McCutchen LLP, and from 1999 to 2002, she was a Field Attorney for the National Labor Relations Board. Rollins began her legal career as a clerk to Judge Frederick Brown of the Massachusetts Appeals Court from 1997 to 1998. Rollins received her LL.M. in labor and employment law from Georgetown University Law Center in 1999, her J.D. from Northeastern University School of Law in 1997, and her B.A. from the University of Massachusetts, Amherst in 1994.

Real Estate Transfers

| BUYER 1 | SELLER 1 | ADDRESS | PRICE |
|------------------------|------------------------|----------------------|-------------|
| Bose, Satrajit | Rancatore, Miriam E | 44 Beacon St #4 | \$454,000 |
| Square Oak RT | Gilmore, Bernard F | 55 Breakwater Dr #55 | \$611,000 |
| Rancatore, Miriam E | 66 Chester LLC | 932 Broadway #206 | \$399,900 |
| Reeves, Blake Z | Rosal, Gloria D | 950 Broadway #5 | \$509,900 |
| Nicastro, Denielle | Zhang, Qian | 165 Cottage St #412 | \$389,000 |
| TND 170 Cottage LLC | 170 Cottage Street LLC | 170 Cottage St | \$4,300,000 |
| Williams, Tasha M | Salerno, Christopher M | 175 Cottage St #404 | \$399,000 |
| Almenas, Priscilla | Hoar John B 3rd Est | 60 Dudley St #101 | \$425,000 |
| Majano-Mendoza, Jose O | M Stifano, Angelo | 11 Louis St | \$800,000 |
| Majano-Mendoza, Jose O | M Stifano, Angelo | 13 Louis St | \$800,000 |
| Warfield, Anthony | Martin, Kimberly A | 7 Nichols St #2 | \$495,000 |
| Rice, Timothy | Mcgloughlin, Molly S | 12 Watts St | \$730,000 |



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Rescue Act/ Continued from page 1

seats available and they cannot be associated with a non-profit or an organization, and cannot be an elected official. Those nine members will be paid at a rate of \$40 per hour, Train said.

Community-based organizations will have nine seats as well on the CAC, but they will not be paid, and there will be two City Councillors named to the CAC too. That will give a total of 20 members.

There are six categories they will look at for dis-

pursing the \$15 million, including housing, small business, food security, mental health, environment/open space, and workforce development.

The City encourages all Chelsea residents 16+ to apply to be part of the Community Advisory Committee regardless of their immigration status. Eligible candidates can apply online at <https://forms.gle/rd4xnHsqH2hJ8tpKA>. Hard copies are also available at Chelsea City Hall during business

hours (Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday 8 am - 4 pm; Tuesday 8 am - 7 pm, and Friday 8 am - noon). The application period is open until August 11.

To know more about the ARPA fund, please visit www.chelseama.gov/ARPA. If you have questions about applying to be a member of the Community Advisory Committee, please email lalvarez@chelseama.gov or call 617-466-4209.



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National Night Out 2021

**Mary O'Malley Park
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Join your neighbors to help build a stronger, safer community by attending Chelsea's annual National Night Out!



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For more information e-mail jobrien@chelseama.gov

PEOPLE OF CHELSEA

Adrianna Vega - 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 was born here in Boston, and I was raised here in Chelsea my whole life. I feel like Chelsea is such a strong community. All those city leaders, the city managers, the police, the firefighters, they're all like community-oriented. Everybody is doing things for the community, not for themselves or their own personal benefit or for the money. This is what I love about this city. Chelsea is full of immigrants and undocumented people, and it's a safe place for them. The police, there's not a thought that, oh, you're undocumented, you gotta go. They might point you in the right direction and say, get papers. The housing story in Chelsea is super packed. People are packed into apartments, which is kind of unfortunate, but what can you do?



Chelsea is small.

I was volunteering with the Collaborative in the beginning, around April-ish going into May, and then I started reporting for VICE for my aunt Gladys Vega. VICE picked us and other businesses from other places that are doing similar stuff during this pandemic. It was so amazing for us to get recognized in that way. Since their camera crew couldn't come out, I was asked to do the recording. They told me how to set up my camera on my phone, 'cause I did it on my iPhone. And they sent me a cool microphone that I got to keep.

I'm graduating high school this year. I'm the class of 2021. I've always had my heart set on biochemistry. I want to go into a STEM field because we don't have enough women in that. But I have politics in my family. My dad was a city council member. He was the president of the city council. I have politics in my life, I have public figures like my aunt in my life, so I'm like, maybe I can do a side hustle in biochemistry and also be a politician. I love AOC [Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez]. She's everybody's role model. She's amazing. I want to be a congresswoman someday.

LOCAL STUDENTS
EARN ACADEMIC HONORS

MALDEN CATHOLIC STUDENTS
ACHIEVE HONOR ROLL FOURTH QUARTER

Malden Catholic students have completed the coursework required for the fourth quarter of the 2020 - 2021 school year. The school has three categories for outstanding academic performance honors: Headmaster's List (90 - 100 in all classes,) First Honors (85 to 89 in all classes) and Second Honors (80 to 84 in all classes.)

Chi Linh Nguyen - Headmaster's List

Since 1932, Malden Catholic High School has shaped emerging leaders in our community, claiming a Nobel Laureate, a Senator, two ambassadors and countless community and business heads among its alumni. Annually, graduates attend some of the nation's most renown universities including Harvard, Georgetown, Brown, Cornell, Tufts, Georgia Tech, Boston College and Amherst College. Foundational to

student success is Malden Catholic's codivisional model which offers the best of both worlds, single-gender academics during the day and integrated social and extracurricular opportunities after school. Malden Catholic is known in the community for its rigorous academics, SFX Scholars Program and award-winning STEM program (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) with electives such as Robotics and Engineering Design. Malden Catholic curriculum is designed to improve individual growth mindset, leadership principles, success outcomes along with integrating the Xaverian values of trust, humility, compassion, simplicity and zeal. <https://www.maldencatholic.org/>

CONNORS
EARNS SPOT ON
DEAN'S LIST

Emmanuel College has named Rebecca Connors of Chelsea to the Dean's List for the Spring 2021 semester. To earn a spot on

the Dean's List, Emmanuel students must achieve a grade point average of 3.5 or higher for a 16-credit semester.

Emmanuel College is a co-educational, residential institution with a 17-acre campus in the heart of Boston's educational, scientific, cultural and medical communities. Enrolling more than 2,000 undergraduate and graduate students, the College provides boundless opportunities for students to expand their worldview through rigorous coursework, significant internship and career opportunities throughout the Boston area and beyond, collaborations with distinguished and dedicated faculty, and participation in a dynamic campus community. Emmanuel's more than 70 programs in the sciences, liberal arts, business, nursing, and education foster spirited discourse and substantive learning experiences that honor the College's Catholic educational mission to educate the whole person and provide an ethical and relevant 21st-century

Funding/ Continued from page 1

If passed, this federal funding would be used for a rapid re-employment initiative that would help the Chelsea community create pathways to jobs and increased financial stability for those impacted by the pandemic. These funds would help the Chelsea community, which has been deeply impacted by the COVID-19 crisis, rebuild from, heal from, and survive the effects of the pandemic.

This project is among the 10 Community Project Funding requests submitted by Rep. Pressley to the Appropriations Com-

mittee. Last month, Rep. Pressley announced the advancement of federal funding for community projects in Randolph and Milton, Cambridge, Boston, as well as Chelsea and Everett. Information on the status of additional requests will be announced in the coming days.

The inclusion of this funding in the FY22 House Labor HHS Appropriations bill is the first step in the funding process, and Rep. Pressley will continue fighting for this funding as the bill moves forward for consideration on the House

Floor.

Rep. Pressley was also successful in securing over \$18.5 million in federal funding in the House Surface Transportation Reauthorization bill, the INVEST in America Act, which will support several projects championed by the Congresswoman through the House Transportation and Infrastructure committee. The INVEST in America Act passed the House earlier this month, and included several other priorities championed by Rep. Pressley.

MBTA/ Continued from page 1

ported that an irate male customer spat at him before exiting the bus. Driving on the Route 30 outbound, the bus driver stated that the man became angry when the operator asked him to wear a mask. Before exiting, the man spat at the operator, with most of the spittle hitting the driver's partition door, luckily.

All riders must wear a face covering that completely covers their nose and mouth while using public transit. Failure to comply may result in denial of boarding or removal, the MBTA said..

The MBTA said it is constantly stressing the importance of wearing face coverings. MBTA trains and buses make thousands of trips each day, and during these trips, riders hear and see multiple messages about the



The MBTA is asking for help to identify this woman, who pulled a nutty after being asked to put on a mask when boarding the bus in Bellingham Square last Sunday afternoon. She allegedly broke several windows in the bus during her tirade and then fled.



mask mandate. Throughout the MBTA system, hundreds of digital panels display messages, reminding customers that face coverings must be worn at all times while using transit. While the vast majority of riders comply with the mandate, there is always a small number of people who need to be

reminded, and that's why the MBTA continues its comprehensive public awareness campaign, they said.

While mask reminder signs are already omnipresent around the transit system, the MBTA is in the process of expanding the coverage to even more locations.

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Chelsea

RECORD

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YES, MISINFORMATION ON SOCIAL MEDIA IS KILLING AMERICANS

Let’s suppose that someone walked into our newspaper office and told us that he had a “big story,” the gist of which is that COVID-19 is a hoax.

Or that vaccines for the coronavirus are part of a plan by Bill Gates to inject Americans with microchips.

Or...insert any number of the other conspiracy theories about the virus and vaccinations that have been floating on social media platforms since the pandemic began.

The first thing we would do, as would any other responsible media organization, is to ask the person, “Where’s your proof?”

And if -- and when -- the person invariably would be unable to produce the evidence for his claims, we would politely show him the door.

That’s how journalism works. We try as best we can to provide facts and information to our readers, who then can make their own judgment about the issue at hand.

We don’t always get it right, but we try our best.

That is not the case however, with social media platforms. They do not even attempt to determine whether the information that gets distributed on their platforms is accurate.

The result is that the millions of Americans who have social media accounts are barraged daily with all kinds of misinformation on a host of subjects, of which the outright and preposterous lies about COVID-19 vaccines are only the latest example.

A private investigative group recently reported that 65% of the misinformation about the vaccines is attributable to just 12 individuals. The reason for that is simple: Thanks to the algorithms of social media platforms, the statements of these 12 persons literally can go viral (no pun intended) along the misinformation electronic superhighway.

To put it another way, the old adage often used by Winston Churchill, “A lie gets halfway around the world before the truth has a chance to get its pants on,” today is an understatement.

When President Joe Biden, speaking off-the-cuff in response to a reporter’s question last week, suggested that the lies about vaccines on social media platforms are killing Americans, he was not wrong.

Yes, the problem of vaccine misinformation is bigger than social media companies, but they unquestionably are responsible for spreading more misinformation to ordinary Americans about the vaccines than any other source.

Our country is divided enough without the amplification of lies and misinformation that is being spread on the internet by social media. The virus, thanks to the Delta variant, tragically is spreading like wildfire across the country -- and the social media platforms, which make billions of dollars thanks to their algorithms, are throwing gasoline on the flames.

CONGRATULATIONS, RACHAEL ROLLINS

The announcement this week that President Joe Biden has nominated Suffolk County District Attorney Rachael Rollins to be the next United States Attorney for Massachusetts is welcome news for those who believe that our criminal justice system at all levels of government is poorly serving our nation.

Beyond the achievement of becoming the first Black woman to serve in that post, Rachael Rollins will bring a perspective of racial, social, and economic justice that has been lacking in the office of the U.S. Attorney.

We applaud President Biden’s nomination of Ms. Rollins to this high post. We join with all of our fellow Massachusetts residents in offering our congratulations not only to Ms. Rollins personally, but also in her capacity as a trailblazer for Black women and others who for too long have been underrepresented in important offices such as this.

Forum

GUEST OP-ED

A return to normal for Jews of northern Greater Boston?

By Burton Figler

Halfway through the year 2021, the Coronavirus pandemic is finally winding down and the communities just north of Boston are “returning to normal”. For Jews living in the cities and towns of northern Greater Boston – Chelsea, East Boston, Everett, Revere and Winthrop – the meaning of “normal”, like elsewhere, is unclear. For many years prior to the pandemic, these Boston Suburbs had very large Jewish communities that included dozens of synagogues, temples and Hebrew Schools. Now, nearly all are gone. So, the questions arise: Where do the Jews of northern Greater Boston go for religious services? Where do they send their children for an education in Judaism? Where can Jewish families and individuals socialize and also obtain information on Judaism, Israel, Zionism and religion?

Sadly, only one temple remains in Chelsea and

it only holds infrequent services. One early 20th century synagogue is left in Chelsea as a national historic site. There are no Jewish institutions remaining in East Boston. In Everett, one synagogue remains and it holds services only one Friday night a month. Just prior to the pandemic, the last synagogue in Revere ceased operation.

In all the northern suburbs of Greater Boston, the one remaining organization that offers Jewish religious services on a weekly basis, on Jewish holidays and which also provides a Hebrew education for Jewish children is Temple Tifereth Israel of Winthrop. The Temple began its existence in September of 1912 under the name Tifereth Israel Congregation of Winthrop. In 1915, the corner stone of a new synagogue was laid and a year later, 1916, the first services were held in a new synagogue.

Some 50 years later, it was clear that a new and larger facility was need-

ed and in a 1966, a bigger and modern temple with offices, library, Hebrew School classrooms and other facilities was dedicated as Temple Tifereth Israel of Winthrop.

Then, another 50 years later, it was realized that an update was needed. This modernization was completed in 2013, a century after the original creation of Tifereth Israel Congregation of Winthrop”

As with most other religious institutions, the Coronavirus pandemic necessitated a drastic change in day-to-day operation. For many months, Temple Tifereth Israel was closed. The Hebrew School ceased to hold classes. Instead of on-site services, online services were conducted via Zoom. This continued through the Spring of 2021 when the pandemic began to ease. Slowly, the temple began its return to “normal”, first with limited on-site services. Then the Covid-19 restrictions were lifted and now, Temple Tifereth

Israel has returned to full operation. The Temple is now preparing for the Jewish New Year which begins on the evening of Labor Day in September.

With so many of the Jewish institutions of northern Great Boston having closed, Temple Tifereth Israel of Winthrop is committed to picking up the slack and providing a comprehensive Jewish resource, not just for Winthrop, but also for Winthrop’s surrounding communities of Chelsea, East Boston, Everett, and Revere. The Temple is planning an open house for those interested to meet with temple members and staff, tour the facilities (93 Veterans Road, Winthrop) and learn about activities and programs. Information will be available at: 617-846-1390 (phone), jewish-winthrop.org (web site), tiwinthrop@gmail.com (email), and facebook.com/ttiwinthrop (facebook).

Burton Figler of Temple Tifereth Israel

GUEST OP-ED

Do what you can and what you enjoy

the physical and mental aspects of your work endeavors aren’t as difficult because of your attitude toward your labor. What would be difficult for someone else is easier for you because you enjoy the work.

A surgeon spends many years in college, medical school and sometimes more than one residency. Many people are not cut out to spend this much of their lives in school. A couple of weeks ago, a good friend of mine, who is 72 years old, performed six surgical procedures in one day. He totally thrives on his work and retirement is not in his vocabulary. Five days a week he is seeing patients and performing surgeries. He totally loves his work. To him, it’s easy, and is mentally and emotionally stimulating.

Sometimes we have jobs we can’t wait to quit.

Sometimes there are jobs we simply never want to quit.

Financial security will hinge on two key factors. Work you can do and work you enjoy doing. If you can do the work and you do a good job, you will be able to continue as long as you are mentally and physically capable. If you enjoy the work, then you are going to try to keep going as long as possible.

When you enjoy something, eventually you’ll make money from it because you are stimulated to keep working and improving.

A married couple has worked for a local restaurant for over ten years. They make a respectable living and both are always a delight in taking care of their patrons. A dear friend mowed yards for over 20 years and was always an inspiration to the

many who hired him. Another friend spends eight hours a day solving people’s computer issues. He never lacks for work. Another, spends his days measuring people for clothes and sells the best special ordered suits in town. Another, makes a good living laying tile while another friend plays fiddle on the weekends but then makes her real living giving fiddle lessons all week.

There are all kinds of jobs. All require learning, developing and mastering a skill.

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.

LETTER to the Editor

VOTE FOR MARIA BELEN

To the Editor:

For the 15 years that I visited my family in Chelsea I never imagined I’d find such a great apartment to rent. And up here in District 8 with a view of Market Basket and the Creek.

And now with the opportunity to vote for a representative on the City Council with whom I share values. Right here in District 8.

I am a retired public school teacher, writer and a language interpreter. My family, my work and my life has been with the people that Maria Belen Power represents. She is someone who could speak for me, someone who would listen to my con-

cerns. I know this because she already has.

Since coming to Chelsea in 2015 I’ve been a volunteer at the Chelsea Community Connections, at Chelsea Opportunity Academy and, at Green-Roots. I walk on Wednesday with the Wednesday Walkers and find courage everywhere I look here in Chelsea.

In many of these places I see Maria Belen. I see her with her two daughters. As a mother and grandmother myself I see the pleasure and the work in that role. It forms us and gives us a perspective.

Maria Belen knows the life of the City, she respects the residents and she has a willingness to work hard for us all.

Now this doesn’t mean her opponent doesn’t have

these qualities. I just don’t know. For the years I’ve been here my path has not crossed with that of Calvin Brown.

So I will go with someone I know will be for me,

right in the mix of what is happening. I encourage my neighbors to vote for Maria Belen. I don’t think that anyone will be sorry.

Stacy Amaral
Boatswains Way

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DiDomenico pushes for passage of his common application

Staff Report

Last week, Sen. DiDomenico testified before the Joint Committee on Health Care Financing in support of three pieces of legislation he filed this session: S.761/H.1290, An Act to streamline access to critical public health and safety-net programs through common applications, S.762/H.1309, An Act to ensure equitable access to health coverage for children, and S.763/H.1310, An Act to ensure equitable health coverage for children with disabilities.

An Act to streamline access to critical public health and safety-net programs through common applications, also known as the “SNAP Gap” bill, is one of Senator DiDomenico’s top food security policy priorities this session. The SNAP Gap refers to number of children, families, and elders who receive healthcare benefits through MassHealth or Medicare and are likely eligible for the federal Supplemental Nutritional Assistance Program (SNAP) but are not receiving any food assistance. In Massachusetts, the SNAP Gap is estimat-

ed to be approximately 740,000 people.

Even before the COVID-19 pandemic, food insecurity had been a pressing problem across the United States, and especially in the Commonwealth. The pandemic has now shed a stark light on the state of Massachusetts, further exacerbating rates of food insecurity, with a 59% increase across the board and 102% increase in children. Senator DiDomenico’s bill S.761 aims to close the SNAP Gap by allowing low-income residents to apply for SNAP at the same time as MassHealth and the Medicare Savings Program, streamlining the application process, removing barriers, and ultimately reducing hunger.

“SNAP is a 100% federally funded benefit, and until we close the SNAP Gap, we are simply leaving thousands of federal dollars on the table,” said DiDomenico in his testimony. “This is unconscionable, especially at a time when we are experiencing more food insecurity in Massachusetts than ever before. As we continue facing the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, this bill should be a top priority for the Legislature to connect our residents with the assistance they need and deserve.”

Senator DiDomenico also testified in support of two other pieces of legislation he filed in partnership with the organization Health Care for All (HCFA), to ensure that all kids in the Commonwealth have equitable healthcare coverage. Currently in the Commonwealth, over 30,000 children and young adults are not eligible to receive comprehensive coverage under MassHealth simply due to their immigration status. Of those youths who are ineligible, approximately 1,650 are also challenged with disabilities.

An Act to ensure equitable health coverage for children would expand comprehensive MassHealth coverage to all young people under age 21 whose only barrier to eligibility is immigration status. An Act to ensure equitable access to health coverage for children with disabilities would expand MassHealth Commonwealth to undocumented children (through age 18) and low-income young adults (ages 19-20) with

disabilities. The goal of both bills is to advance the Commonwealth’s goals of promoting health equity by taking steps towards universal coverage for children.

Testifying before the committee, DiDomenico stated: “Every child deserves access to comprehensive health coverage, and these bills will reduce barriers to care for thousands of immigrant children in Massachusetts. Especially as immigrant communities have been disproportionately impacted by COVID-19, we cannot allow immigration status to disqualify otherwise-eligible children and young adults from MassHealth. The consequences of denying them healthcare are long-lasting and far-reaching. Children with inadequate healthcare are more likely to suffer from chronic illnesses, as well as physical or developmental disabilities, into their adult lives.”

Furthermore, he emphasized: “Both bills will break this cycle by knocking down barriers and expanding comprehensive health coverage. Simply put, we must cover all kids.”

Administration announces \$6.5 million to municipalities in Shared Streets and Spaces Program funding awards

Staff Report

Lt. Governor Karyn Polito joined Acting Transportation Secretary and CEO Jamey Tesler and Highway Administrator Jonathan Gulliver last week to announce the award of \$6.5 million total to cities and towns which applied for funding from the Shared Streets and Spaces Grant Program, including several local programs.

The program provides technical and funding assistance to help Massachusetts municipalities conceive, design, and implement changes to curbs, streets, plazas, and parking areas in support of public health, safe mobility, renewed commerce, and community betterment.

“The Governor and I are proud to partner with municipal leaders on funding programs, such as

Shared Streets, which help communities grow and thrive,” said Lieutenant Governor Karyn Polito. “Community leaders know each street corner and know each block of their business districts and have been very innovative in thinking about projects and thoughtfully applying for this funding.”

For this round of awards, MassDOT received 94 applications, of which, all but four were eligible. This is the largest applicant pool received in a single round to date. In this round, 78 applications were selected for funding – 77 municipalities and one transit agency (the MBTA) – for a total of \$6,506,185.30 in awards and 51% of the awards are going to designated Environmental Justice Communities. In this round of funding, 28% of the awardees have never received a Shared Streets and Spaces award before.

Since June 2020, including this round of grants, the Baker-Polito Administration’s Shared Streets and Spaces Grant Program has awarded \$33 million dollars total to 183 municipalities and four transit agencies for a total of 310 projects.

This round of funding is under the Shared Winter Streets and Spaces program launched late in 2020 for municipalities to continue making accommodations for the public during the cold winter months and provides grants as small as \$5,000 and as large as \$500,000 for municipalities to quickly launch changes for safer walking, biking, public transit, recreation, commerce, and civic activities. These changes can be intentionally temporary or can be permanent im-

provements. MassDOT is particularly focused on projects that respond to the needs of communities and provide safe mobility for children, for elders, to public transportation, and to open space and parks.

The list of local cities and towns awarded Shared Winter Streets and Spaces grants in this funding round are:

- Chelsea received \$40,000.00 to install pedestrian safety improvements on Hawthorne Street, improving walking connections to the Early Learning Center, Chelsea Community Connections, and the downtown central business district.
- Everett received \$25,000.00 to install new bicycle racks over approximately 60 blocks of urban commercial streets, including Chelsea Street, Main Street, Hancock Street, and Elm Street.

Traggorth/ Continued from page 1

businesses, and serve as a catalyst for future development,” he wrote. “I and our team have thoroughly enjoyed envisioning the future possibilities of 440 Broadway. We...hope to be able to continue to work with you to realize the important goals for this special place at the center of Chelsea.”

The development plan calls for demolishing the current building and constructing a new, seven-story building. The building would house 29 units of housing, with 10 of them being affordable home-ownership opportunities at 80 percent AMI. The ownership would be prioritized for local first-time homebuyers. The 19 rental units would be affordable at various levels, from 30 percent AMI to 60 percent AMI.

“These rentals would be truly affordable for the residents of Chelsea,” said Train.

The ground floor fac-

ing Broadway would be a unique partnership with Stop & Compare Supermarkets – which also has a location in Bellingham Square – to design and operate an entrepreneurial retail space. The space would have seven to eight stalls for culinary operations, and then a commercial kitchen facility in the back. Stop & Compare and the Hispanic American Institue would operate the new retail venture. The idea would be to reach out to local food-based businesses in Chelsea and the immediate area to give them a chance to have a stall and use the kitchen – as Traggorth said, a launching point for those businesses just starting out or hoping to take a next step.

Parking would be located at ground level under the retail operation and accessible from the Luther Place parking lot and Cherry Street.

The City would agree

to sell the property to Traggorth for \$1 million, though they paid \$1.2 million for the Eminent Domain taking a few years ago. The increase in tax revenues and the catalyst for other development around it, Train said, would more than make up for the \$200,000 difference.

He also said he wasn’t disappointed that the City didn’t receive any other bids, as he heard from several affordable housing developers that they had too much on their plates at the moment.

“Traggorth was the only one that came in because the affordable housing developers in Chelsea like TND have a robust pipeline and funding is scarce,” he said.



Being chosen for the project would also unlock a \$10 million rehabilitation and 30-year affordable housing recertification of an expiring 17-unit, two retail unit build-

ing one door down at 466 Broadway. They would completely overhaul the property along with the recertification, including restoring the outside masonry, new systems, new electricity, new plumbing, finish carpentry and appliances.

Altogether, both would represent a \$25 million investment in the heart of downtown Chelsea.

Traggorth would look to execute a Land Disposition Agreement this year with the City, if approved, and complete permitting by the end of the year as well. The next step would be to get the project into the state Affordable Housing pipeline, which could come in 2022 or 2023. Completion could come as soon as summer 2025.

A presentation on the proposal will be made to the City Council on Aug. 4 at 6 p.m.




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CHELSEA HONORS THE REV. DR. SANDRA WHITLEY AND THE REV. KENNETH WHITLEY

The City of Chelsea honored the Rev. Dr. Sandra Whitley and the Rev. Kenneth Whitley of the People’s A.M.E. Church at a farewell celebration July 21 at the Clark Avenue School.

The Rev. Dr. Whitley, a beloved leader in the community for the past 14 years, and her husband are relocating to New Bedford.

Beverly Martin-Ross of the People’s A.M.E. Church presented the opening prayer at the program. Evangelist Deborah Washington delivered the welcoming remarks.

The Rev. Dr. Whitley was universally praised for her work in Chelsea by stakeholders, including Chelsea City Manager Tom Ambrosino, Councillor-at-Large Leo Robinson, Council Vice President Judith Garcia, CBC President John Cromwell, Schools Supt. Dr. Almy Abeyta, School Committee member Rosemarie Carlisle, Attorneys Benjamin Adeyinka and Ruth Adeyinka of Chelsea Hub, and the Rev. Ellen Rohan Ball of the Chelsea Interfaith Alliance.

The speakers struck a common theme in stating, “Thank you, Reverend Whitley for all you have done to make our community a better place. We will be forever blessed by your kindness, your generosity, your ability to inspire others, and your service to the City of Chelsea.”

Never one to rest on her past accomplishments and achievements during her time in Chelsea, the Rev. Whitley, a brilliant orator, received a doctorate degree at the prestigious Gordon Conwell Theolog-

ical Seminary.

Known for her inspiring speeches and uplifting words of wisdom at Chelsea events, the Rev. Dr. Whitley was recognized for organizing the annual Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Breakfast.

At the farewell celebration, the Rev. Dr. Whitley referred to a quote by the outstanding civil rights leader in explaining how she always tried to bring unity and love to the community of Chelsea. Dr. King’s quote follows: “People fail to get along because they fear each other; they fear each other because they don’t know each other; they don’t know each other because they have not communicated with each other.”

In her humble parting remarks, the Rev. Dr. Whitley thanked former CCCTV Executive Director, the late Robert “Duke” Bradley, who helped the revered spiritual leader in bringing her positive message to the city through the airwaves of the Chelsea cable television station. She also thanked Paula Bradley Batchelor, CCCTV executive director, and Ricky Velez, CCCTV technical director, for their diligent efforts and cooperation in producing “The Vision Show” on the station.

“I thank Tom Ambrosino, our city manager for trusting in and having faith in us as the Interfaith Council of the Jewish, the Christian, and the Muslim communities,” said Whitley.

“I love the beloved community of Chelsea and you will be missed, but I’m not far away,” she said.

Noting the presence of her successor, the Rev. Dr. George Walters-Sleyon of the People’s A.M.E. Church, the Rev. Dr.

Whitley said, “He comes with unique credentials. The blessing is that you are in good hands.”

Reflecting on her years

in Chelsea, the Rev. Dr. Whitley said, “My heart’s desire has been to unify us as a community across every ethnic group and that’s

what we did - so thank you, Chelsea for love and community.”

And we thank you, the Rev. Dr. Sandra Whitley.



Attorneys Benjamin Adeyinka and Ruth Adeyinka, with the Rev. Dr. Sandra Whitley and the Rev. Kenneth Whitley, at the July 21 farewell celebration at the Clark Avenue School.



The Rev. Dr. George Walters-Sleyon, who will succeed the Rev. Dr. Sandra Whitley as pastor of the People A.M.E. Church, Chelsea, with Councillor-at-Large Leo Robinson, and Bunker Hill Community College Associate Dean, Sharon Caulfield.



City Manager Thomas Ambrosino, the Rev. Kenneth Whitley, the Rev. Dr. Sandra Whitley, School Committee member Rosemarie Carlisle, and Supt. of Schools Dr. Almi Abeyta.



Evangelist Deborah Washington, Sherry Lee, The Rev. Kenneth Whitley, the Rev. Dr. Sandra Whitley, and Beverly Martin-Ross.



Chelsea’s state delegation, State Rep. Dan Ryan, State Rep. Jessica Giannino, and State Sen. Sal DiDomenico, present citations to the Rev. Dr. Sandra Whitley in recognition of the Whitley family’s outstanding service to the community.



The Rev. Kenneth Whitley, the Rev. Dr. Sandra Whitley, with her fellow Rotarians, District 1 Councillor Todd Taylor, and former Rotary Club President Allan Alpert.

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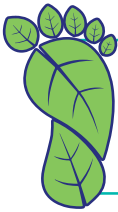
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TENACITY PROGRAM NOW IN CHELSEA

For almost a decade, Recreation Division Director Bea Cravatta had been hounding the Boston-based Tenacity program to expand its reach to Chelsea. However, they were never interested or able to do so. Last year, the Division gave it one last try, and this time Tenacity was ready.

“This is our first time leaving Boston,” said Matt Johnstone, of Tenacity during last Friday’s summer program in Voke Park.

Recreation Division’s Omar Miranda said they started a tennis program with Net Generation funding grants three years ago at Highland Park, but their goal has always been to lure Tenacity to Chelsea.

This summer, they are running a six-week program at Voke Park, and if all goes well, they hope to

expand it to be at another Chelsea park in 2022.

Rich Wilson, a Chelsea native who graduated from the first Tenacity class in 1999, said learning the game in the pro-

gram opened up a whole new world to him.

“Tennis is a great game that teaches you discipline and respect and sportsmanship,” he said. “I’ve always been a very com-

petitive person and Tenacity has shaped that in my tennis game and my personal life. The game of tennis has opened up numerous opportunities in my life I would have never

had – being a ball-boy for a pro tennis player, being invited to exclusive country clubs and opening up networks to meet people in the professional world that I probably wouldn’t

be able to talk to.”

This year, on most days, they have about 20 to 25 kids who are excited to learn about tennis.



Instructors and participants in the new Tenacity program at Voke Park take a reading break after a morning on the hardcourt.



Clifford Maxwell returns a shot as his brother, Gabe Maxwell, looks on.



Fatima Umanzor listens to instructions about how to play the game.



Christopher Munoz reaches high to return a shot at the net.



Saeed Abozaid was all over the court on Friday returning volleys.

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CITY OF CHELSEA HOSTS A VACCINE FESTIVAL

The City of Chelsea hosted a Vaccine Festival on a beautiful Saturday afternoon on July 24. The Festival centerpiece, of course, was the vaccine clinic for those ages 12 and older on site. Besides that there were traditional dance performances, live music and free food.



Emmanuel Valenzuela receives his first COVID vaccine from nurse practitioner Denise Iacoviello from Cataldo Ambulance.



School Committeeman Henry Wilson, District 4 Councillor Enio Lopez, and Ken Umemba.



Nires Amaya, Mitikei Thenzerei, Jazmany Reyes, and Irma Mazzoni with GreenRoots.



“Nate The Vaccinator” (aka: Nate El Vaconador) was in place to draw attention to the Vaccination Festival in front of the Chelsea Senior Center.



Jayde Umemba waits for street corn to be prepared by Joseph Alvarado.



Chef Calixto David Jr. provided free empanadas.



Xiomara and Sandra Ales wait in line for the COVID vaccines.



Nicole Edgecomb and Cassandra McDonald.



Darline Duncan with DPH Massachusetts, Chelsea Director Of Public Health Flor Amaya, Lourdes Alvarez, President Of Chelsea Black Community Joan Cromwell, and City Manager Tom Ambrosino.



Dance troupe Grupo Torogoz performs some traditional dances from El Salvador.



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Massachusetts House passes sports betting legislation, likely no quick action in the Senate though

By Seth Daniel

The race is on in the State Legislature on sports betting as the House voted last Thursday to approve a wide-ranging sports wagering bill after years of state government trying to get passage of some sort of sports betting bill. However, don't expect to be laying down any sport wager this fall during football season or the World Series, as the timeline would suggest no legislation would make it through both houses of the Legislature and be signed into law until early next year. In the summer, typically, the Senate doesn't bring matters to the floor in a short period of time and August is historically a slow time on the legislative calendar for that body. It is likely that the Senate might pick up the matter in the fall for hearings and, potentially, a Conference Committee. While passage by the first of the year would miss most of the football season and the World Series, it would allow the industry to pick up heavy-betting events like the Super Bowl and the NCAA basketball Final Four tournament – not to forget the regular season games for professional basketball and hockey. State Rep. Dan Ryan, probably the elected official that lives closest to Encore Boston Harbor where sports betting would occur, said it's a logical next step for expanded gaming. "Legalizing sports betting is a logical step for Massachusetts," he said. "Due to increased accessibility to betting apps and online resources the Commonwealth is losing millions of dollars of gaming revenue every year to other states. There are warranted concerns

about problem gambling. Safeguards are in this bill to address gambling and other addictions. To bring sports betting out of the shadows and make it accessible to the casual fan will hopefully change the culture around gambling while generating jobs and revenue for worthwhile programs." Most of the industry, including Encore Boston Harbor, has been in favor of the sports wagering bills in Massachusetts – and particularly coming out of costly COVID-19 shutdowns last year. Wynn Resorts is in the midst of a large expansion of its Wynn Interactive venture that was launched last October, and would by all accounts be ready almost immediately for sports wagering online and in-person were any bill passed in Massachusetts. Gov. Charlie Baker submitted sports betting legislation many years ago, and his proposal could never grab any traction in either side of the Legislature. Last year, in the Economic Development Bill, the House included sports betting as a part of that, but it was cut out in the Senate. Late last week, the House passed a wide-ranging bill that includes college sports (that had been cut out in previous years) and electronic apps and platforms – as well as traditional sports betting at casinos like Encore Boston Harbor. The House passed the bill 156-3 Thursday evening. "Massachusetts has the opportunity to generate job opportunities and bring millions of tax dollars annually by legalizing an industry that already exists, but in the black market and other states," said Speaker Ron Mariano. "Once again, the

House of Representatives has passed legislation that would make our state competitive in this industry in which dozens of states have already gotten a head start. I thank Chairs Michlewitz and Parisella for their work in making this important piece of legislation happen, and all our colleagues in the House for their work in the final product." The legislation authorizes the Massachusetts Gaming Commission (MGC) to grant in-person licenses at gaming establishments, including casinos like Encore, racetracks and simulcast facilities, as well as mobile licenses through mobile applications or digital platforms. It was estimated that the legislation would generate \$60 million in annual tax revenue for Massachusetts, in addition to collecting up to \$70 to \$80 million in initial licensing fees, which must be renewed every five years. The revenue collected will be distributed to municipalities, and for economic, workforce, education, and public health priorities.

"This legislation will provide much needed economic development to the state while allowing our residents to enjoy sports betting right here in the Commonwealth," said Representative Aaron Michlewitz, Chair of the House Committee on Ways & Means (D-Boston). "A significant portion of the revenue generated from this bill will go towards helping low-income communities and vulnerable youth and young adults get the skills and opportunities they need to get stable employment and wage growth. Our cities and towns will also see a significant amount of this revenue, as will after school and out of school activities among others". "An Act regulating sports wagering" (H. 3977) includes a 12.5 percent tax on in-person wagering and a 15 percent tax on mobile wagering, with an additional 1 percent for games played in Massachusetts going to a fund that will then be distributed to each facility for the purpose of sports

wagering security and integrity. The House legislation creates the Workforce Investment Trust Fund, the Youth Development and Achievement Fund and the Players Benevolence Fund, which will receive 40 percent, 20 percent, and 1 percent, respectively, of the revenue generated by the taxes and licensing fees. The rest of the funds will go to the existing Gaming Local Aid Fund (33 percent) and the Public Health Trust Fund (6 percent). •The funds in the Workforce Investment Trust Fund will be used to develop and strengthen workforce opportunities for low-income communities and vulnerable youth and young adults, including to promote stable employment and wage growth. •The funds in the Youth Development and Achievement Fund will provide financial assistance to students enrolled in and pursuing a program of higher education, and for after school and out of school activities.

•The Players' Benevolence Fund will recommend to the Gaming Commission a schedule for the distribution of funds that benefit current and former professional sports players or their charitable foundations. The legislation will also allow betting on college sports, but not wagers on the performance of individual college athletes, and betting on eSports. People must be 21 years old or older to bet. As directed through this legislation, the MGC will be conducting a study into the feasibility of allowing retail locations to operate sports wagering kiosks. An amendment offered by Representative Orlando Ramos (D-Springfield) expands the focus of the study to include the potential economic impact of retail licenses on communities of color, as well as a larger study on ways to ensure diversity, equity and inclusion are considered in this rapidly expanding industry. The bill now goes to the Senate.

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QUALIFICATIONS:

- Must be physically able to stand for long periods of time in extremes of heat and cold
- Must have good vision, hearing and mobility
- Mental alertness, neat appearance and dependability
- Sense of responsibility for the safety of students
- Able to move to other locations when needed throughout the district
- Communicate well with others
- Successful results of Criminal Offender Record Information check.

GENERAL DUTIES: Direct or Escort students across street, stopping traffic as necessary, guide or control vehicular or students traffic at such places as street and railroad crossings and construction sites; monitor traffic flow to locate safe gaps through which students can cross street.
DEADLINE: April 19, 2021
APPLICATION TO:
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Chelsea School Department
500 Broadway Room 221
Chelsea, MA 02150
personnel@chelseaschools.com applications sent to any other email address will not be accepted.
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OBITUARIES

Dolores “Tootsie” Clark

July 19, 1930 – July 24, 2021

Dolores “Tootsie” Clark entered eternal life on Saturday, July 24, five days after her 91st birthday.

Better known as Tootsie to her family and friends, she had been living courageously with dementia over the past several years.

Born, raised and a lifelong resident of Chelsea, Tootsie was the beloved daughter of the late Theresa (Hurley) Cardillo and George Cardillo. She attended St. Rose School, graduated from Chelsea High School, married Edward F. Clark and, together, raised a family of three sons and two daughters in Chelsea. She was widowed with the passing of her beloved husband in 1997.

Tootsie worked outside of her home, beginning her long career at the Cottage Manor Nursing Home and ended her career working for over 20 years at Revere Check Cashing before retiring in her early 80s. For the past several years, she resided with her daughter in Bradford.

She was a longtime member of the Chelsea Zonta Club. A proud and active Zontian, she participated in organizing many fundraisers and charitable events. Tootsie could always be counted on to lend a helping hand or provide transportation for family and friends. She enjoyed socializing and traveling. Most recently, she deeply treasured time spent with her great-grandson, Parker, who was the light of her life and who would always bring a wonderful smile to



his great-grandmother’s face.

In addition to her parents and her husband, Tootsie was also predeceased by her three beloved sons: Bruce, Lance and Scott Clark.

She was the devoted mother and loving mother-in-law of Karen Clark and her partner, Bernie LaVita of Dracut, Stacy Gillis and her husband, Vincent “Jim” Gillis of Bradford and June Mugford Clark of Methuen; cherished grandmother of Cassidy Jay (and partner, Jacob Seavey of Sandown, NH), Brendan Jay (and fiancé, Hannah Fleig of Raymond, NH), Justin Clark and Kylee Clark of Arizona and adored great-grandmother of Parker Ryan Seavey.

Relatives and friends are most kindly invited to attend visiting hours on Saturday morning, July 31 from 8:30 to 10 a.m. in the Welsh Funeral Home, 718 Broadway, Chelsea. Her funeral services will be held in the funeral home at 10 a.m. Services will conclude with interment at Woodlawn Cemetery, Everett.

Family and friends may offer condolences by means of the online guest book by visiting: www.welshfh.com.

NEW PARKING LOTS UNDER THE MYSTIC/TOBIN TO OPEN SUNDAY

Beginning on Sunday, August 1, the new municipal lots underneath Tobin Bridge will be open to Chelsea residents.

The two parking lots create a significant increase in available spaces for residents in proximity to Downtown Chelsea. In total, 148 new parking spaces will be available. The “Tobin - Williams to Second Street Lot” will offer 88 new spaces while 60 parking spots are available in the “Tobin - Second to Everett Ave Lot.”

From 8 a.m.-6 p.m., the lots will be open to the public for a fee of \$0.50 for up to 10 hours. From 6 p.m.-Midnight, the lots will be open to the public for free. Overnight parking (Midnight-8 a.m.) will be resident sticker only. Fees will be paid through the Passport app.

REPEAT THE FUN

This Saturday, July 31, the City of Chelsea is hosting a COVID-19 Vaccine Festival at the Chelsea Senior Center (10 Riley Way) from 11 a.m. – 3 p.m.

The festival will include music, food and a 360 degree photo booth experience. Free \$25 gift cards will be distributed, and there will be a raffle to win an iPad.

The Pfizer vaccine will be available for anybody ages 12 and older. All are welcome, and you do not need identification or insurance to get vaccinated.

HIGH SCHOOL TRACK AND FIELD OPEN TO THE COMMUNITY

The City of Chelsea and the Chelsea Public School District invite the community to the Veterans Memorial Stadium track and field from 6-8pm on Mondays & Thursdays during the month of August. At these times, runners and walkers can take advantage

NEWS Briefs BY SETH DANIEL

tage of the all-weather track, and families and friends wishing to play touch football or soccer may use the field. Please note that pets, bicycles, skateboard, scooters, roller skates, hoverboards, strollers or athletic shoes with metal spikes are not permitted. No food, gum, or tobacco products are permitted. Only water is permissible. It is a time for residents to engage in healthy activities and enjoy this valuable park and open space without need for a permit.

WEDNESDAY MOVIE NIGHTS

The first of six free movies - Disney Pixar SOUL – kicked off this week and will continue through the summer. The movies start at 8:15 p.m. at the Mary C. Burke Complex, 300 Crescent Ave. The listings include:

- Aug. 4, The Croods 2
- Aug. 11, Selena
- Aug. 18, Knives Out
- Aug. 25, Babe

Bring your own snacks, blankets and/or chairs. If there is inclement weather, a cancellation announcement will be posted Wednesday morning on recreation.chelseama.gov.

Chelsea Summer Wednesday Night Movies are presented by the Friends of the Chelsea Public Library, Chelsea Recreation, & Cultural Affairs Division and the Chelsea Senior Center.

SENIOR SHUTTLE PILOT PROGRAM

The City of Chelsea and its Elder Affairs Division are pleased to announce a Senior Shuttle PILOT Program for Chelsea residents. Any City resident who is 60 or older with a disability is eligible to use this service. The shuttle will run Monday-Friday during the week. To learn more about the shuttle service, including eligibility requirements, booking information, shuttle destinations, and more, visit <https://www.chelseama.gov/senior-shuttle> or call

(617) 466-4370.

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.

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.

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>

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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 POSTED

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

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and a cure was not to be,
so he put his arms around you,
and whispered come to me.
With tearful eyes we watched
you, and saw you pass away.
Although we loved you dearly,
we could not make you stay.
A golden heart stopped beating,
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COUNCILLOR-AT-LARGE LEO ROBINSON MEET-AND-GREET AT JONES AVE. APTS.

Councillor-at-Large Leo Robinson held a meet-and-greet event in the community room at 40 Jones Ave.

The dean of Chelsea city government, Robinson is seeking re-election to the City Council in this fall’s municipal election.



Paul Smith, State Rep. Jessica Giannino, Marie Monziona, Barbara Gerrig, and Councillor-at-Large Leo Robinson.



Councillor-at-Large Leo Robinson, with friends and supporters.



Councillor-at-Large Leo Robinson and his brother, Ronald Roninson.



Councillor-at-Large Leo Robinson and Marcy Smith.

DOWNTOWN CHELSEA EVENTS CALENDAR

•Saturday, July 31 (raindate 8/7)

5 - 8 pm
Music on the Square
Featuring rock band Billy Wylder with artists who have performed at major venues including Coachella, Montreal Jazz Fest, Carnegie Hall, and Lincoln Center. And saxophonist Chelsea resident Charlie Kohlhas with his jazz quintet. Kohlhas has been a mainstay of Boston’s jazz scene for over 20 years.

Between performers spinning classic vinyl will be DJ Basib.

Friday Night Pop-Ups (6-9 pm)

On select weekends we’re bringing an ever-changing line-up of

vendors, performers and activities to start your weekend off right at the fountain in Chelsea Square. The remaining calendar:

- August 6
- August 20
- September 3
- September 17
- October 1
- October 15
- October 29

Chalk Art Saturdays

Local artists are creating chalk murals, with two more dates to go. The public is invited to join, view the process, and make their own chalk art alongside the artists, in adjacent spaces. We aim to spark collective art-making at both visible and hidden gem locations, and to Cross Pollinate across communi-

ties as we come back together after a year spent apart.

Dates: August 7
Participating Artists:

- Max Pro
- Aliyah Saldana
- Amber Torres
- Trippylandia

•Saturday, September 11 (raindate 9/25)

5-8 pm
Music on the Square
Clave & Blues mixes Afro-Cuban rhythms Blues, R&B, and World music to create a contemporary sound. They declare: “Our goal is to create music that engages people of all ages, and cultural backgrounds. We have made it our mission to grow an audience that loves Cuban music and its culture.”

SEND US YOUR NEWS

The Chelsea Record encourages residents to submit birth and engagement announcements, news releases, business briefs, honor rolls, social news, sports stories, and photographs for publication. Items should be forwarded to our offices at 385 Broadway, Citizens Bank Building, Revere, MA 02151. Items can also be faxed to 781-485-1403. The Independent also encourages readers to e-mail news releases to editor@chelsearecord.com.

The Chelsea Record assumes no financial responsibility for typographical errors in advertisements, but will reprint that part of the advertisement in which the error occurs. Advertisers will please notify the management immediately of any errors that may occur.

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DISTRICT 8 CANDIDATE MARIA BELEN POWER MEET AND GREET AT ADMIRAL'S HILL

Maria Belen Power, candidate for the District 8 seat on the Chelsea City Council, held a meet-and-greet campaign event Saturday at Admiral's Hill.



Maria Belen Power, with her husband, Fidel Maltez, and their daughters, Maya Gabriela Power-Maltez, and Ana Victoria Power-Maltez.



Maria Belen Power, candidate for the District 8 seat on the Chelsea City Council, is pictured with residents of Admiral's Hill, who attended her meet-and-greet campaign event Saturday.



Maria Belen Power delivers her remarks at her meet-and-greet event Saturday at Admiral's Hill.



Kendy Amazan Power-Koch, Anabella Power-Koch, Maya Gabriela Power-Maltez, Maria Belen Power, Fidel Maltez, and Ana Victoria Power-Maltz.

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