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CHELSEA RECORD

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35 CENTS

CHELSEA IN THE SNOW



Chelsea Square was deserted during the snowfall on Friday. See page 5 for more snow scenes.



Friday morning Chelsea residents awoke to the task of cleaning snow off their cars to start the day.



Chelsea City Hall covered with the first snow fall of 2022.

City Manager gives update on latest Covid procedures

By Adam Swift

Even as vaccination rates have topped 80 percent in the city and the pandemic nears the two-year mark, Covid-19 continues to leave its mark in Chelsea and across the country.

Recently, City Manager Tom Ambrosino provided an update to residents on new Covid-19 procedures and what they can continue to do to keep themselves and their family and neighbors safe.

"We are in the midst of a surge of the new highly transmissible, but less severe Omicron variant of the Covid-19 virus," said Ambrosino. "The Centers for Disease Control and the Massachusetts Department of Public Health have adopted new rules to

address this variant and to allow the public to end isolation and quarantine and allow people to return to the workplace in a quicker fashion. In many cases, these rules are more lenient and less dependent upon testing and far more accommodating to people who are fully vaccinated with the available booster shot."

Ambrosino said everyone is strongly encouraged to get vaccinated and receive the available boosters as soon as they are eligible.

The new state and national guidelines, he said, fall into three categories.

The first is for those who test positive for Covid. Ambrosino said

See COVID Page 3

Committee nearing decision on use of federal relief funds

By Adam Swift

The city's ARPA Community Advisory Committee should have recommendations on how Chelsea can best spend \$15 million in federal relief funds by the end of the winter.

"The ARPA Committee, following the holidays, will be resuming its meetings and will help determine how best to spend about \$15 million in funds provided to the city by the federal government in the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 after getting information from the community over the past

few months and over the next two months," said City Manager Thomas Ambrosino. "The committee is expected to make recommendations to the city about the best way to spend the money, probably some time toward the end of February or early March."

The 20-member committee is tasked with making recommendations for spending approximately \$15 million of the \$40 in ARPA funds and began meeting last September.

The specific organizations that get the money

See FUNDS Page 6

APPECIATION

The Rev. Patrick Francis Healy, beloved chaplain at Soldiers' Home, passes away at 100

By Cary Shuman

The Rev. Patrick Francis Healy, the beloved chaplain of the Chelsea Soldiers' Home for several years, died Wednesday at Cambridge Hospital. He was 100 years old.

The Rev. Healy grew up in Charlestown and graduated from Boston English in 1939. He served in the United States Armed Forces for 23 years, with stops in Japan, Germany, South Korea, and two tours of duty in Vietnam. He was the recipient of three Bronze Stars and the 'V'



The Rev. Patrick Healy (right) listens as Eugene O'Flaherty reads a proclamation honoring the Rev. Healy's outstanding service to the Chelsea Soldiers' Home where he served as chaplain.

Device for heroism and valor.

Mr. Healy was ordained to the priesthood on June 2, 1947, one day after his 26th birthday. He served as the chaplain of the Chelsea Soldiers' Home for more than two decades, becoming a source of inspiration for his fellow veterans who were residents of the Soldiers' Home. He pre-

See HEALY Page 2

School Committee member candidates wanted

By Adam Swift

The City Council and School Committee will meet on Monday, Feb. 7 to select two new School Committee members.

The vacant seats are in Districts 4 and 5. In District 4, there was no candidate on the ballot for

the municipal election in November, and no write-in candidates garnered the necessary number of votes to be declared the winner.

In District 5, incumbent School Committee member Henry Wilson, who is facing legal issues, was on the ballot, but declined to take the seat, according to

City Solicitor Cheryl Watson-Fisher.

There were also no candidates on the ballot in District 3, but former District 3 City Councillor Naomi Zabot mounted a successful write-in campaign to take the seat.

Anyone who lives in District 4 or 5 (as deter-

mined by the district lines in the 2021 election) can drop off a resume in the City Council or school administration offices or email fmelara@chelseama.gov or vdier-medina@chelseama.gov. The deadline for applications

See CANDIDATES Page 2

An interview with GreenRoots Executive Director Roseann Bongiovanni

Staff Report

The Chelsea Record interviewed GreenRoots' dynamic executive director, Roseann Bongiovanni, about the organization's work in 2021 and its goals for 2022.

GreenRoots is a community-based organization dedicated to improving and enhancing the urban environment and public health in Chelsea and surrounding communities.

Following are GreenRoots Executive Director



Roseann Bongiovanni.

Roseann Bongiovanni's responses:

In respect to the COVID-19 pandemic, was it a challenging year for GreenRoots?

Yes, 2021 continued to be a challenging year for GreenRoots as it was for the whole city. But we did see hope and celebration in a way that we did not in 2020. Throughout this past year, we continued to support the City's emergency food distribution hub with the purchase of supplies and equipment to run their facility; we provided Chelsea residents with cash assistance for COVID-related needs; and our Health Equity Corps and Vaccine Ambassadors

worked diligently to get Chelsea folks vaccinated. Together with the Chelsea Black Community, La Colaborativa and the City of Chelsea, our multi-lingual, intergenerational vaccine ambassadors helped to get our vaccination rates well over 85%. This is something we all are incredibly proud of.

In addition to our COVID-related work, we are celebrating some major victories this year

See BONGIOVANNI Page 3

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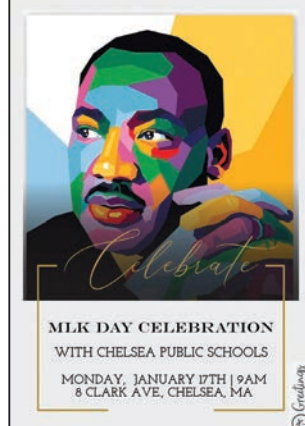
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Trash will be delayed
by one day due to the
Martin Luther King
Holiday on
January 17



Bongiovanni/ Continued from page 1

including the passage of statewide legislation via the Climate Roadmap Bill that included strong protections for environmental justice communities like Chelsea; a major grant which will allow us to construct a state-of-the art teaching kitchen next to our Community Garden and Urban Farm; major wins for air quality through the implementation of stationary and mobile air quality monitors as well as grant funding to help us address indoor air quality with air purifiers for hundreds of homes; a dedicated bus lane on the Tobin Bridge; over 2,500 lbs of produce grown at our urban farm and distributed to food insecure families in Chelsea; a new mural, park designs and so much more!

Were you able to meet all of your goals and objectives for 2021?

We were successful in meeting our goals and objectives for 2021. While we have not yet stopped the construction of an electrical substation in East Boston, we have appealed the project’s approval to the Supreme Judicial Court, and we have filed Title VI Civil Rights Complaints with several

federal agencies for the state’s inadequate public participation in that permitting process.

What has been the reaction to GreenRoots’ report on COVID-19 and its impact on Chelsea?

Our Health Equity Report “COVID-19 in Chelsea: A Glance Into One of the Hardest Hit Cities” has been widely well received from federal and state officials to local leaders and health care providers. We’re excited to share the report with everyone. We have both electronic and hard copies available of the full report in English and Spanish and executive summaries available in English, Spanish, Vietnamese, Arabic, Somali and Portuguese. Copies of the report can be found here <http://www.greenrootschelsea.org/chelsea-covid-19report> or by contacting us at GreenRoots.

Do you think environmental justice issues will be spotlighted in the Massachusetts governor’s election this year?

Absolutely. We have already seen that climate and environmental justice are part of the Democratic candidates’ platforms and action plans. It would be

impossible, after the last two years of COVID impacts combined with so many extreme weather events, for candidates to avoid such critically important topics.

What are GreenRoots’ main goals for 2022?

In 2022, we are thrilled to be designing, with the community, a new Teaching Kitchen next to our urban growing spaces; collaborating with BU School of Public Health and MGH Chelsea on a major air quality campaign; creating a new energy microgrid that will bring clean, reliable energy to Chelsea residents; working on a low-income solar program in East Boston; increasing public transportation access; designing a new open space as part of a “cool block” effort along Congress Ave. to reduce severe heat impacts during the summer months; creating a new park along Mill Creek; working to preserve the Forbes Site and creating more public access to the Chelsea Creek and so much more. We also will continue to fight the electrical substation proposed for East Boston.

Covid/ Continued from page 1

those who test positive need only isolate for five days as long as they are symptom-free for at least 24 hours without medication. After leaving isolation, they must wear a mask for an additional five days.

The second group is people who are close contacts of someone who tested positive but are fully vaccinated with an eligible booster shot.

These people do not need to quarantine as long as they are symptom-free, but do need to wear a mask for 10 days from the last day of close contact.

“If possible, you should try to get a test on day five, but no test is required,” said Ambrosino. “If you have symptoms, you should get a test and if it is positive, you do need to isolate for five days.”

The third category is people who are a close contact to someone who tests positive, but are not fully vaccinated. That includes people who have received the initial rounds of the vaccine, but have not gotten a booster after more than six months.

Those people need to quarantine for five days after coming in close contact with someone who is Covid positive. If they are symptom free after that time, they can leave isolation, but do need to wear a mask for the next five days.

“The Covid guidelines can be complicated, and they have changed considerably, we would recommend that if you have questions, go to the city’s website to the Covid section, and all these rules are laid out in what we

hope is simple language,” Ambrosino said.

If someone continued to have questions, Ambrosino said they should contact the city’s public health department.

“What we always emphasize is that the best way to keep your loved ones safe and to protect the community is to get vaccinated with the booster as soon as possible,” Ambrosino said.

The city runs a vaccination clinic at the Chelsea Senior Center on Saturdays and Sundays from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., and on Mondays from 2 p.m. to 6 p.m.

“In addition to the vaccine, we still have PCR testing happening here in the city, but we caution that this type of testing at this time is quite limited,” said Ambrosino.

PEOPLE OF CHELSEA

Patricia AKA Patty Ebanks - 2020

The following is one in a series of sneak peeks at the upcoming People of Chelsea additions by Chelsea Photographer Darlene DeVita. The new work will ultimately appear on the fence of the Chelsea Public Library (CPL) Spring of 2022 a collaboration between the People of Chelsea project and the CPL.)

By Darlene DeVita

I have been in Chelsea for 26 years. I came from Honduras. I have family here. My father had a green card, so my brothers and I could enter legally. I was 28 when I came. I had two children [in Honduras]. They came after me because I had the bad luck to have been abused and mistreated by the father of my children, and he took my daughter away. I suffered a lot over my children. I wanted to bring them to the US when they were little, but their father told me that if I attempted to do that with a lawyer’s help, he would accuse me of kidnapping. That’s why my children didn’t come until they were already grown up. My daughter was 21 years old and my son was 16.

In 2018 my son was



killed in Lynn, MA. I don’t know what happened, but in the autopsy they say that he died of an overdose. I have suffered a lot. Because of that hard time, I try to volunteer.

I love Chelsea. I like it because we are Latinos, because our food is found in Chelsea. At Market Basket, we find the foods that we eat in Honduras, and I feel like I am in my country, I feel that we are all family. Apart from the Americans who are here, it is a community that is a lot like a little corner of my country. I love everything about Chelsea.

I have been a volunteer at the Chelsea Collaborative since 2007.

I worked knocking on doors for the census ten years ago. Also we were called to knock on doors for people that were losing their houses due to foreclosure. With the information we gave them, many people managed to recover their house. And I have knocked on doors for the voter initiative. I like it because the Collaborative helps the entire Latino community, they help with any issue that concerns them, be it with food, with lawyers, they help people with immigration problems. There are many things that I have learned there. I have learned what our rights are. I feel like the Collaborative is my family.

Council approves warrant for Voke vote

By Adam Swift

The City Council approved the warrant for the special election on funding for a new Northeast Metropolitan Vocational Technical High School building Monday night, but some councillors expressed concerns about the election being held in a single polling location.

Voters in the 12 vocational district communities, including Chelsea, will be able to weigh in on the funding of the proposed \$317 million project on Tuesday, Jan. 25. Polls will be open in Chelsea in the City Council Chambers at City Hall from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.

City Manager Thomas Ambrosino said there will only be a single polling location because a low turnout is expected. Many of the other communities in the district are also opening only a single polling location for the special election.

District 8 Councillor Calvin Brown said there needs to be more outreach about the election, and questioned only opening one polling location.

“We’ve always argued that voters are far from St. Rose, or far from the Williams School, but we’re just giving them one location,” said Brown. “I think this is a big decision. This vote carries a lot of weight on the city of Chelsea regarding the funding, and we need to make sure each and every voter who wants an opportunity to vote first and foremost knows where to go to vote in this election.”

Ambrosino said the city clerk has sent a notice about the election and the polling location to all registered voters in the city.

“I think Councillor Brown hit on some very strong points,” said District 5 Councillor Judith Garcia. “We’re asking voters to come out on a special election date, to show up on Jan. 25 for something we haven’t really heard about. This is a huge decision for our community.”

Garcia said she will be mobilizing voters to get to the polls and letting them know that Chelsea is being asked to pay a \$58 million share of the new

building project that the city cannot afford.

“It’s placing us in a horrible predicament economically,” Garcia said.

The fate of the project will be determined by the overall vote totals throughout the 12 district communities.

“I feel in my heart we saved the Northeast Voke School, and now we’re being penalized by them asking us to pony up \$1.9 million per year over 30 years,” said Councillor-At-Large Leo Robinson.

District officials have stated that Chelsea is facing a higher cost because the funding formula is based solely on the number of students a community sends to the school. Only Revere sends more students than Chelsea to the vocational high school.

“The \$1.9 million is what we take in in new growth a year, and that will be expended to the new school,” said Robinson. “We will not be able to do any other new projects in the city of Chelsea for 30 years.”

City Council subcommittee appointments announced

City Council President Roy Avellaneda recently announced the City Council subcommittee appointments for the 2022 calendar year.

Subcommittee on Conference
Avellaneda (Chair)
and All Members of City Council

Subcommittee on Finance

Calvin Brown (Chair), Norieliz De Jesus, Todd Taylor

Subcommittee on Public Safety

Tanairi Garcia (Chair), Giovanni Recupero, Leo Robinson

Subcommittee on Public Works

Melinda Vega Maldonado (Chair), Judith Gar-

cia, Enio Lopez

Subcommittee on Development & Housing

De Jesus (Chair), Vega Maldonado, Avellaneda

Subcommittee on Public Health

Robinson (Chair), Damali Vidot, J. Garcia

Subcommittee on International Government

Affairs

Vidot (Chair), Brown, Robinson

Subcommittee on Labor Relations

Taylor (Chair), Robinson, Vidot

Subcommittee on Inspectional Services

Recupero (Chair), T. Garcia, Lopez

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WE MUST NEVER FORGET THE LEGACY OF DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR.

As we were watching the recent coverage by the media of the events of a year ago on January 6, we were struck by the contrast between the Trump Mob’s violent storming of the Capitol and the many peaceful marches on Washington that have occurred during our lifetime. Perhaps the most-famous of the non-violent protests occurred on a steamy summer day in August, 1963, when more than 250,000 Americans from all across the country gathered at the Lincoln Memorial to demand “jobs and freedom,” an event that was climaxed by Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.’s immortal “I Have a Dream” speech.

The March on Washington was famous not only for Dr. King’s iconic words, but also because the unprecedented mass gathering of Americans was completely calm. Pundits and others had predicted rioting, but there were no arrests, no incidents, no violence -- a stark contrast to the events perpetrated by Trump’s Mob.

The March on Washington and Dr. King’s many other peaceful protests of that era galvanized support for the goals of “jobs and freedom,” eventually resulting in laws such as the Voting Rights Act and the Civil Rights Act that ended segregation in the South and discrimination in the North.

Even though the best efforts of a revered figure such as Dr. King could not stem the tide of violent rioting that marked the 1960s, most notably Watts in 1965, Detroit in 1967, and Chicago in 1968, it is Dr. King’s legacy of peaceful protest that endures today.

For those of us old enough to remember the 1960s, it’s hard to believe that it has been almost 54 years since Dr. King was assassinated while he was standing on a balcony in a motel room in Memphis, where Dr. King was marching to show his solidarity with that city’s striking trash collection workers.

Every school child for the past generation knows well the story of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. But an elementary school textbook cannot truly convey the extent to which he brought about real change in our country. To anyone under the age of 50, Dr. King is just another historical figure.

But for those of us who can recall the 1960s, a time when racial segregation was lawful throughout half of our country and a stealthy racism prevailed throughout the other half, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. stands out as one of the great leaders in American history, a man whose stirring words and dedication to his cause changed forever the historical trajectory of race relations in America, a subject that some historians refer to as the Original Sin of the American experience.

However, as much as things have changed for the better since 1968 in terms of racial equality in our society, the events of the past year -- from the January 6 riot to the countless voter-restriction laws aimed at minority communities in Southern states -- also have made it clear that we still have a long way to go before it can be said, as Dr. King put it in his speech at the Lincoln Memorial in 1963: “I have a dream that my four little children will one day live in a nation where they will not be judged by the color of their skin, but by the content of their character.”

“What would Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. do if he were alive today?” we often ask ourselves. We can’t say for sure, but we do know that although Dr. King accomplished much in his lifetime, he would be the first to understand that the work for which he gave his life still is far from done.

Dr. King advocated for non-violent protest and he practiced what he preached. That’s a lesson that must be re-learned by each succeeding generation. We can only hope that his courage and perseverance will continue to inspire present and future Americans to bring about a world in which all persons are treated with fairness, dignity, and respect.

Forum

GUEST OP-ED

The way to combat the horror of Jan. 6, is to abolish the filibuster

By Assistant Speaker
Katherine Clark (MA-5)

In 1787, upon exiting the Constitutional Convention, Benjamin Franklin was approached by a group of people who asked him what kind of government the delegates had created. His answer: “A republic, if you can keep it.”

On January 6, 2021, we almost lost it.

As I approached the Capitol one year ago today, rioters waving white supremacist flags were at the top of the Capitol steps. The smell of tear gas and an angry roar filled the air. For seven years, I had been coming to my Capitol Hill office, prepping for hearings, writing remarks, preparing for votes and meeting with constituents. But that day, my home away from home, our nation’s democratic heart, was on fire.

I spent the next six hours alone in my office checking in on colleagues and staff. I was in disbelief that this was happening in our country and praying no one would be harmed.

Even now, I can’t comprehend the violence, destruction, and mayhem of that afternoon.

But finally, in the late hours of January 6, with broken glass and blood on the floors, we certified the election of Joe Biden. A few weeks later, I at-

tended President Biden’s inauguration on the very platform the rioters had scaled. As I listened to the familiar question of the national anthem—“does that star-spangled banner yet wave?”—it took on a new poignancy and answer: for now.

The Capitol building has been repaired. But the threats we face are as real now as they were a year ago. Despite a seditious coup attempt meant to overthrow the election, not a single piece of federal voting protection legislation has been signed into law.

In fact, Republicans continue to lead a coordinated effort to push misinformation and erode voting rights. Encouraged by Republican party leaders and lawmakers, 68 percent of Republican voters believe the November 2020 election was fraudulent—even though there is zero evidence to support this false claim. In 2021 alone, 33 voter suppression laws have been passed in 19 states across America, and more than 425 bills with provisions that restrict voting have been introduced.

Democracy cannot survive voter suppression laws that substitute the will of the people for the will of a few.

In response, House Democrats passed H.R. 1, the For the People Act,

in March, a package of pro-democracy and anti-corruption reforms that will reduce the influence of money in politics, strengthen ethics laws, ensure accurate elections, and protect voting rights. In July, we passed H.R. 4, the John R. Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act, to restore key protections of the Voting Rights Act of 1965, modernize it, and protect voters from discrimination. And in December, we passed the Protecting Our Democracy Act to strengthen America’s democratic institutions and protect them against future presidents who seek to abuse the power of their office.

But as of this writing, they are all languishing in the Senate.

The vast majority of Republicans in the House and Senate simply won’t put democracy ahead of their own desperate pursuit of power. Every day, they attack our democracy by promoting the Big Lie, refusing to participate in the January 6 investigation, and supporting voter suppression laws. They have proven time and again that their political goal is undermining our democracy instead of standing up for its survival.

So, we must go it alone. And to do that, we must abolish the filibuster.

In the past year, it has

become clear that the Senate filibuster has been weaponized against voting rights. The filibuster was designed to give the minority party in the Senate a counter to simple majority rule. In practice, a Senator could speak on the floor to stall a vote and attempt to sway their colleagues to join them in opposition by prolonging debate. In the decades since, the filibuster rule has been modified four times, changing from a rare practice that required standing on the Senate floor for hours at a time into its current form: a routine, 60-vote supermajority requirement for almost every piece of legislation.

Our country’s future depends on our ability to be honest about the prospects of bipartisanship, the state of the Republican Party, and what we all witnessed on January 6. President Biden, too, has acknowledged that we can’t allow the filibuster to stand in the way of passing voting rights legislation.

We must abolish the current filibuster to protect the vote and fair elections. The future of the republic depends on it.

Katherine Marlea Clark is a United States representative for Massachusetts’s 5th congressional district, and as the assistant House Democratic leader.

Kevin Hayden sworn in as Suffolk County DA

District Attorney Kevin Hayden hit the ground running on his first day after being sworn into office by Gov. Charlie Baker by naming Boston defense attorney Kevin R. Mullen as his first assistant district attorney and announcing the formation of a transition team to help review office policies.

“The Suffolk County District Attorney’s Office is staffed with exceptional attorneys and non-lawyers who are dedicated to justice and nurturing safe communities. That will not change with my administration,” DA Hayden said. “I am returning home by coming back to the office where I started my legal career. I could not be prouder to lead this office, which is so critical to preventing crime and harm in Boston, Chelsea, Revere and Winthrop.”

DA Hayden’s first action was to name Mullen, who was an ADA with DA Hayden in the 1990s, as his first assistant. In addition to his work as a Suffolk County prosecutor,

Mullen, from Dorchester, has worked as a criminal defense attorney and been appointed a special prosecutor in other counties, frequently for cases where the DA’s office was presented with a potential conflict of interest. First ADA Mullen was sworn in today as well.

One of the priorities of DA Hayden is to reduce the number of illegal guns in the county to determine the proposer course of prosecution in each situation. “I am beginning a comprehensive review of all the gun cases pending in this office; each one has the potential to cause great harm to our communities,” said DA Hayden. “The harm that guns cause is incalculable and we must do everything in our power, use every tool at our disposal, to reduce that harm.”

In addition, DA Hayden said he will meet with staff members, law enforcement partners, elected officials, and commu-



Gov. Charlie Baker (left) and District Attorney Kevin Hayden.

nity partners, to engage in how best to support the communities of Suffolk County. He is also forming a transition committee which will be comprised of people who live, work and worship in Suffolk

County to review SCDAS policies and make recommendations on how to improve performance.

“I am excited to start and humbled by the appointment,” said DA Hayden.

MLK Day Celebration

We hope you can join us on Monday, January 17, 2021 at the Clark Ave. Middle School to celebrate Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and the accomplishments we have made together as one in our small but mighty city. We overcome our challenges because we all work towards Justice for ALL, because We Are Tied Together.

Our city and school community is rich in diversity of languages, cultures, cuisines, families, and people. Our rich diversity brings us all together in Chelsea to make us a beautiful and beloved community. We are all connected and tied together as a community because of our diversity!

In Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.’s “Letters from a Birmingham Jail”, Dr. King reminds us that “We are all caught in an inescapable network of mutuality, tied in a single garment of destiny. Whatever affects one directly, affects all indirectly.”

During these past two years of COVID, economic hardships, and social challenges we in Chelsea are reminded that we are all inescapably tied together – what affects one of us, affects all of us.

Breakfast will be served beginning at 9am and followed by the program at 10am.

We hope to see you all there!
Chelsea Public Schools

CHELSEA

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stephen.quigley@reverejournal.com

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deb@reverejournal.com

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Legal Advertising

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Editorial

Reporters, Regular Contributors

Cary Shuman

(Cary@lynnjournal.com)

Copy Editing, Layout

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Business Accounts

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NO SCHOOL, NO PROBLEM? CHELSEA RESIDENTS TAKE TO THE SNOW FOR FUN FRIDAY, JAN. 7



The Padilla family enjoyed sledding alongside the Chelsea Soldier’s Home.



Hellen Mejia, Karen Sanchez, and Josselyn Sanchez posed with a snowman in Washington Park.



Pedro and Gabriella Barbosa sculpted a snowman with fallen pine cones and branches .



Keren Padilla cruised down a hill of snow.



Gabriela Padilla enjoyed sledding on Friday.



Michael Rivas built a snow fort in Washington Park.



Jacob Calderon partook in a snowball fight in Washington Park.



Cathy Padilla went headfirst down on her sled.



Sofia Magalhaes offered her family a helping hand clearing off their car.



Jayden Bulnes surfed the snow.



Karen and Cathy Padilla enjoyed sledding on their snow day.

Archdiocese of Boston extends mask requirements for Masses

Staff Report

In the light of the continued growth in the numbers of new COVID cases, Cardinal Seán is extending the current mask mandate. It is mandated that that throughout the Archdiocese of Boston all people attending public Masses, including weddings and funerals, wear masks. This

is an extension of the mandate currently in effect, and expires on Thursday, March 3, 2022, which is the day after Ash Wednesday. Mass celebrants, deacons, readers, servers, choir members, and instrumentalists, must all wear masks except when they are speaking. Children under the age

of five are not required to wear masks. Children under the age of two should not wear masks. In addition, all churches must continue to provide a designated area in which social distancing is respected for those who want to use it. Parishes should have masks available for people inasmuch as possible.

Residents can now access clean energy and save on electric

Staff Report

Residents within Eversource’s service territory now have the option of locally produced, clean renewable energy through the Solar Massachusetts Renewable Target (SMART) Program. Located 1 hour south of the city on Cape Cod, two new community solar farms, totaling 7 MW, will produce enough energy annually to power 960 homes.

Both homeowners and renters are eligible to subscribe to this project through RooflessSolar™ with no long-term commitment, upfront costs, or cancellation fees. This is a completely free program for area residents. Once subscribed, residents can expect to save up to 10% on their electric utility bills. The average customer saves \$176/year! Community solar is the answer for those who do not wish to install solar

panels on their property, rent and don’t own a home, or would like the option to take their solar with them to their next home. The electricity generated by the solar farm is delivered into Eversource’s power grid and then distributed to subscribers in the form of on-bill credits. To see your estimated savings and subscribe, please visit boston.rooflessolar.com/. Space is limited, so act fast!



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BRUINS Beat by Bob Morello

Bruins ready for 'Tuukka Time'

Number 40, Tuukka Rask was back on the ice for last night's Bruins game versus Montreal at TD Garden. The game with the Canadiens was originally scheduled to be played Wednesday (Jan. 12) in Montreal, but the NHL has moved that game from the Bell Centre to TD Garden, due to the COVID-19 situation, and instead had Boston's scheduled March 21 road game from Montreal, played on Garden ice last night (Wednesday). Rask's return to the Boston lineup as the backup goaltender to Linus Ullmark for the Bruins, follows some intense rehabbing, as the 34-year-old veteran goalie worked his way back from hip surgery six months ago. The chance to resume his career as the only Bruins goaltender to have, 500 NHL career games, and, as the leader in wins for Boston (306), save percentage (.921), plus notching 57 playoff wins in 104 playoff games, convinced him to sign for one season at short money. Having only worn a Boston Bruins sweater in his 14-year career in the NHL, it had to be a lift for his new and former teammates to see him back in the fold. Bruins General Manager Don Sweeney announced that Rask's one-year deal was signed on Tuesday, with an NHL cap hit of \$1 million, prorated for the remainder of the regular-season schedule that will earn Rask a mere \$545,000...proving that "it's not always about the money." Leading Sweeney to comment, "I think in some ways, sometimes Tuukka's too honest, you know? He's just a guy who wants to come back



and play hockey. He committed to the rehab part of it, and the process, which is not an easy thing. He could have just faded off. He's had a hell of a career, leads in wins. He has a lot of things on his résumé. But he wanted to play." There is the possibility that Rask may get the nod from Coach Bruce Cassidy to work the Boston net for either Thursday's (tonight 7:00) game versus the Philadelphia Flyers, or Saturday's 1:00pm matinee game with the red-hot Central Division's Nashville Predators. During the Wednesday press conference Rask summed up the biggest motivation for his desire to return was: "To play with the group I've played with my whole career, and have another chance to win." The downside of the Rask signing had rookie goaltender Jeremy Swayman being assigned to the Providence Bruins in the AHL. For Boston, Swayman is an excellent insurance plan, as the youngster will be waiting with baited breath for the opportunity to return to Boston, due to poor play by either Ullmark or Rask, a heavy game schedule, or a COVID issue, and deservedly so, as he has played well during his time with the big club!

Boston's Wednesday

game with the Canadiens, had the Bs coming off their solid 7-3 offensive attack against the Washington Capitals on Monday night, riding the momentum of their impressive outing. The Bruins' return to TD Garden Wednesday, began a 13-day day stretch during which the locals will play seven games. Following the hosting of the Flyers (tonight) and the Predators on Saturday, Boston will also be visited by the Carolina Hurricanes on Tuesday, January 18 (7:00pm) also the night that the Bruins will raise Willie O'Ree's number 22 to the rafters, followed by the revenge-seeking Washington Capitals on Thursday, January 20 (7:00pm), finishing up the homestand with Winnipeg Jets on Saturday, January 22 (3:00pm), and the Anaheim Ducks on Monday, January 24 (7:00pm).

Followed by a couple of timely line changes by coach Cassidy, some intentional, and some due to COVID, it appears that the Bs have picked up the pace with some much needed offense, including some solid play with the pairing of David Pastrnak and Taylor Hall working together on the second line, and the seamless fit of Craig Smith on the first line. Not to be overlooked is how the defense has also stepped up to help out, both defensively and offensively (see Matt Grzelcyk/5 points). Not surprised to see Brad Marchand stick his nose right back in there Monday night and score two goals, following a pretty nasty cut on his nose due to a vicious high stick from Washington Capitals' forward Nic Dowd.

CHELSEA RED DEVILS HOOP TEAM TAKES ON REVERE PATRIOTS

Photos by Bob Marra

Kamaury Appleberry exploded for 13 fourth-quarter points and the Red Devils roared back from a late third-quarter 22-point deficit to pull within 3 with under a minute left in the game, but Chelsea could not overcome Revere's desperate defensive last stand and Chelsea fell, 56-52 Tuesday night at Chelsea High. The game marked the return to action for both

teams after the Greater Boston League suspended athletics for a week due to Covid-19 concerns.



PLAYING KEEP AWAY: Chelsea's Makhai Nicholas (5) protects the ball as he is defended by Revere's Dom Boudreau (22).



FINDING A WAY: Kamaury Appleberry (1) forces his way past Revere's Dom Boudreau (22).



ONE WAY TO STOP HIM: Chelsea's Kamoury Appleberry (1) is fouled by Revere's Vincent Nichols (10) on a drive to the basket. Appleberry scored 19 points—12 in the fourth quarter—but the Red Devils fell 56-52 to Revere Tuesday night at Chelsea High School.



HEAVY TRAFFIC: Chelsea's Eldon Bonitto (24) and Kamoury Appleberry (1) rough up Revere's James Clauto as they vie for the ball.



SOMEBODY'S WATCHING ME: An official keeps a close watch on Chelsea's Jayden Baptista (2) guarding Revere's Ihssan Mourouane (2).



OUT OF REACH: Chelsea's Makhai Nicholas (5) can't quite reach for a rebound over Revere's James Clauto (1).



ROUGH ROAD: Chelsea's Wil Jean-Baptiste (35) tries to take a shot as he is surrounded by Revere's Kenny Arrango (33) and Jack D'Ambrosio (14).



PUTTING HIS BACK INTO IT: Chelsea's Eldon Bonitto (24) leans into Revere's Kenny Arrango (33) in an attempt to get to the basket.



IN GOOD HANDS: Chelsea's Wil Jean-Baptiste goes to the floor to recover a loose ball.

People AME Church, Chelsea will hold virtual MLK Day Breakfast Jan. 17

People's AME Church of Chelsea will hold its annual MLK Day Celebration 2022 virtually on Monday, Jan. 17 at 9 a.m.

The Rev. Dr. George Walters-Sleyon, Church Pastor, will lead the celebration. Bishop Brian Green of the Pentecostal Tabernacle, Cambridge, will be the keynote speaker. Zoom registration is required.

Funds/ Continued from page 1

will be determined by the city administration through an RFP (requests for proposal) process, according to Ambrosino.

The remainder of the \$40 million in expected ARPA funds, about \$25 million, are set aside for expected Covid-related lost revenue in the city and will be earmarked for capital improvement projects.

Some areas the committee is focusing on for the use of the \$15 million include housing, food security, workforce development, childcare and early education, small business opportunities, environ-

mental health, and behavioral and mental health issues.

In addition to the ARPA funding, Ambrosino said there is immediate financial help still available through the city for homeowners.

"The city still has some funding available that was provided by the City Council to help homeowners who are struggling financially due to impacts from Covid," said Ambrosino. "Any owner-occupant who is struggling to pay their bills due to Covid, whether that's a tax bill, mortgage, utility

bills, or other debts, the city's Homeowners Assistance Program is still open for applications. There is still significant funding available for homeowners suffering financially from Covid."

Those applications are available at City Hall or on the city's website. Owner-occupants of condominiums and one- to four-family homes are eligible for grants of between \$5,000 and \$10,000, Ambrosino stated. Anyone can apply as long as their income does not exceed 100 percent of the Area Median Income.

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| La Colaborativa Inc | Merullo NT 2 | 248 Arlington St | \$4,600,000 |
| Andronikos, Persefoni | Etters Michael J Est | 100 Boatswains Way #305 | \$420,000 |
| Munoz, Joel | Shortino, William J | 200 Captains Row #203 | \$385,000 |
| Chen, Zhiling | DelaRosa, Vania | 250 Congress Ave #23 | \$390,000 |
| T, Buvaneshwaran | Marino, Lelio | 7 Nichols St #3 | \$355,000 |
| Lonano Prop Holdings LLC | Sjoberg Norman R Jr | 457 Washington Ave | \$400,000 |

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LEGAL NOTICES

LEGAL NOTICE



Re: Oakwood Tavern, LLC
d/b/a Tambo 22
22 Adams Street,
Chelsea, MA
Chelsea Licensing Commission
Notice is hereby given that a public hearing will be held by the Chelsea Licensing Commission on Thursday, January 20, 2022 at 6:00 p.m. at the City Council Conference Room, Chelsea City Hall, 500 Broadway, Chelsea, MA, for an Alteration of Premises application of an All Kinds of Alcohol License (On Premise) for Oakwood Tavern, LLC d/b/a Tambo 22 at 22 Adams Street, Chelsea, MA. 02150. Please be advised that you must notify, via Certified Return Receipt mail, all abutters of this hearing. **CHELSEA LICENSING COMMISSION**
Naomi Libran
Licensing Administrator
1/6/22, 1/13/22

LEGAL NOTICE

PUBLIC NOTICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW
PROJECT: 295 Eastern Avenue, Chelsea
LOCATION: 295 Eastern Avenue, Chelsea
PROPOSER: 295 Eastern Chelsea, LLC
The undersigned is submitting an Expanded Environmental Notification Form ("EENF") to the Secretary of Energy & Environmental Affairs on or before January 18th, 2022.
This will initiate review of the above project pursuant to the Massachusetts Environmental Policy Act ("MEPA", M.G.L. c. 30, s.s. 61-62I). Copies of the EENF may be obtained from:
Chuck Anastas, MEPA consultant
Chuck@durandanastas.com
774-249-8199
Electronic copies of the EENF are also being sent

to the Conservation Commission and Planning Board of Chelsea. The Secretary of Energy & Environmental Affairs will publish notice of the EENF in the Environmental Monitor, will receive public comments on the project for 30 days, and will then decide, within seven days, if the Proponent will be allowed to file a Single Environmental Impact Report (SEIR). A site visit and/or remote consultation session on the project may also be scheduled. All persons wishing to comment on the project, or to be notified of a site visit and/or remote consultation session, should email MEPA@mass.gov. Mail correspondence will continue to be accepted, though responses may be delayed. Mail correspondence should be directed to the Secretary of Energy & Environmental Affairs, 100 Cambridge St., Suite 900, Boston, Massachusetts 02114, Attention: MEPA Office, referencing the above project. By 295 Eastern Chelsea, LLC (Proponent)

LEGAL NOTICE

AVISO PUBLICO DE REVISION AMBIENTAL
PROYECTO: 295 Eastern Avenue, Chelsea
UBICACIÓN: 295 Eastern Avenue, Chelsea
PROPOSANTE: 295 Eastern Chelsea, LLC
El abajo firmante presenta un Formulario de Notificación Ambiental Ampliado ("EENF") al Secretario de Energía y Asuntos Ambientales en o antes de 18 de Enero de 2022.
Esto iniciará la revisión del proyecto anterior de conformidad con la Ley de Política Ambiental de Massachusetts ("MEPA", M.G.L. c. 30, s.s. 61-62I). Se pueden obtener copias de:
Chuck Anastas, consultor MEPA
Chuck@durandanastas.com
774-249-8199

También se están enviando copias electrónicas de la EENF a la Comisión de Conservación y la Junta de Planificación de Chelsea. La Secretaría de Energía y Asuntos Ambientales publicará un aviso de la EENF en el Monitor Ambiental, recibirá comentarios públicos sobre el proyecto por 30 días y luego decidirá, dentro de los siete días, si se necesita Impacto Ambiental Único Informe (SEIR). También se puede programar una visita al sitio y / o una sesión de consulta remota sobre el proyecto. Todas las personas que deseen comentar sobre el proyecto, o recibir notificación de una visita al sitio y / o una sesión de consulta remota, deben enviar un correo electrónico a MEPA@mass.gov. Se seguirá aceptando correspondencia por correo, aunque las respuestas pueden demorarse. La correspondencia por correo debe ser directa a la Secretaría de Energía y Asuntos Ambientales, 100 Cambridge St., Suite 900, Boston, Massachusetts 02114, Atención: Oficina de MEPA, haciendo referencia al proyecto anterior. De 295 Eastern Chelsea, LLC (Proponente)

LEGAL NOTICE

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS THE TRIAL COURT PROBATE AND FAMILY COURT NOTICE AND ORDER:
Petition for Appointment of Guardian of a Minor
Docket No. SU20P1877GD
Suffolk Probate and Family Court
24 New Chardon St. Boston, MA 02114
In the interests Of: Ariella J. Guevara
Of:Chelsea, MA
Minor
NOTICE TO ALL

INTERESTED PARTIES
A hearing on a Petition for Appointment of Guardian of a Minor filed on 10/07/2020 by Beatriz Gonzalz of Chelsea, MA will be held 02/08/2022 08:30 AM Guardianship of a Minor Hearing. You may respond by filing a written response to the Petition or by appearing in person at the hearing. If you choose to file a written response, you need to: File the original with the Court; and Mail a copy to all interested parties at least five (5) business days before the hearing. The minor (or an adult on behalf of the minor) has the right to request that counsel be appointed for the minor. If you are a parent of the minor child who is the subject of this proceeding you have a right to be represented by an attorney. If you want an attorney and cannot afford to pay for one and if you give proof that you are indigent, an attorney will be assigned to you. Your request for an attorney should be made immediately by filling out the Application of Appointment of Counsel form. Submit the application form in person or by mail at the court location where your case is going to be heard. A minor over age 14 has the right to be present at any hearing, unless the Court finds that it is not in the minor's best interests. **THIS IS A LEGAL NOTICE:** An important court proceeding that may affect your rights has been scheduled. If you do not understand this notice or other court papers, please contact an attorney for legal advice. Date: January 5, 2022
Felix D. Arroyo
Register of Probate

1/13/22

LEGAL NOTICE



CITY OF CHELSEA REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
ARPA Project Management Services
The City of Chelsea, Massachusetts, through its Chief Procurement Officer, is seeking Proposals for marked "ARPA Project Management Services". Request for Proposals will be available on or after January 13, 2022 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 "ARPA Project Management Services" and submitted to the Office of the Chief Procurement Officer no later than 10:00AM on Thursday, February 3, 2022. 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
1/13/22

LEGAL NOTICE



Re: La Economica Corp. d/b/a La Economica Meat Market

164 Park Street, Chelsea, MA
Chelsea Licensing Commission
Notice is hereby given that a public hearing will be held by the Chelsea Licensing Commission on Thursday, January 20, 2022 at 6:00 p.m. at the City Council Conference Room, Chelsea City Hall, 500 Broadway, Chelsea, MA, for an Amusement & Entertainment License application for La Economica Corp. d/b/a La Economica Meat Market at 164 Park Street, Chelsea, MA. 02150. Please be advised that you must notify, via Certified Return Receipt mail, all abutters of this hearing. **CHELSEA LICENSING COMMISSION**
Naomi Libran
Licensing Administrator
1/13/22, 1/20/22


LEGAL NOTICE



(LEGAL NOTICE) CITY OF CHELSEA INVITATION FOR BIDS
HVAC Service and Repairs - City
The City of Chelsea, Massachusetts, through its Chief Procurement Officer, is seeking sealed bids for all labor and materials for "HVAC Service and Repairs - City". Invitation for Bids will be available on or after January 13, 2022 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 "HVAC Service and Repairs - City" and submitted to the Purchasing Office, Room 204, no later than 11:00AM on Thursday, February 3, 2022. 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 149. Dragica Ivanis
Chief Procurement Officer
1/13/22

LEGAL NOTICE




Re: JDC 65R Owner, LLC, 100 Justin Drive, Chelsea, MA
Chelsea Licensing Commission
Notice is hereby given that the Chelsea Licensing Commission will hold a public hearing on Thursday, January 20, 2022 at 6:00 p.m., at the City Council Chambers, 500 Broadway, Chelsea, MA, to consider a Petroleum Storage License application for JDC 65R Owner, LLC, 100 Justin Drive, Chelsea, MA 02150. Please be advised that you must notify all abutters, via Certified Return Receipt mail, of this hearing. **CHELSEA LICENSING COMMISSION**
Naomi Libran
Licensing Administrator
1/6/22, 1/13/22

LEGAL NOTICE

LEGAL NOTICE METRO CREDIT UNION SPECIAL MEETING OF THE MEMBERSHIP
Notice is hereby given that a Special Meeting of the Membership of Metro Credit Union will be held virtually via WebEx on Friday, January 28, 2022 at 11:30 a.m. to transact the following:
(1) To give notice of the Special Meeting; and
(2) To amend Metro Credit Union's by-laws Article II, Section I which qualify persons for membership by adding the Counties of Hampden, Hampshire, and Franklin Massachusetts, and Cheshire County New Hampshire. If approved, Section I would read: "Membership in this corporation shall be limited to persons (a) living, working, and having a place of business or attending an educational institution in the following Massachusetts counties: Essex, Middlesex, Norfolk, Suffolk, Worcester; Plymouth; Barnstable; Bristol, Franklin, Hampshire, and Hampden; and the following New Hampshire counties: Hillsborough, Rockingham and Cheshire or (b) who are family members of eligible persons, regardless of location."
(3) To amend Metro Credit Union's by-laws Meeting of Members Article XI by (1) adding, notice shall specify whether voting will be in person, by mail, by electronic means, or a combination thereof as determined by the Board in its discretion subject to such conditions or limitations as may be prescribed by the Commissioner, (2) make certain other technical changes to conform with statutory amendments that eliminated regulatory approval of Metro Credit Union's location or name.
(4) To transact any and all business that may legally come before the meeting.

To request to join the Special Meeting, please submit an email to specialmeeting@metrocu.org with your name, address, email address, and phone number no later than Thursday, January 27, 2022. All attendees must be members of Metro Credit Union. Respectfully submitted, Arthur Cohan Clerk

LEGAL NOTICE



LEGAL NOTICE NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING CHELSEA LICENSING COMMISSION ISSUANCE OF NEW ON PREMISE LIQUOR LICENSES
Notice is hereby given that the City of Chelsea acting through the Chelsea City Licensing Commission Board and in accordance with the provisions of the Massachusetts General Laws c. 138. A hearing on Thursday, January 20, 2022 at 6:00 p.m. in Chelsea City Hall, City Council Chambers, Third Floor, 500 Broadway, to discuss the proposed change of acquiring New On Premise Liquor Licenses. The proposed subject matter will be to discuss the criteria for new applicants and the public need for new on premise liquor licenses. A copy of the City Administration proposal is on file and available for public inspection in the Office of the Licensing Department, Room 307, Chelsea City Hall, Chelsea, MA; Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., Tuesday 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. and Friday from 8 a.m. to Noon. Naomi Libran
Licensing Administrator
1/6/22, 1/13/22

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OBITUARIES

Edna Ruth Cosme

December 7, 1970 – January 8, 2022

Edna Ruth Cosme passed away on Saturday, January 8 with her loving and caring family by her side in the peaceful surroundings of her home. Edna has been living courageously with cancer for the past 18 months. She was 51 years old.

Born in Guatemala City, Guatemala, a beloved daughter of Eda (Contreras) Gonzalez and the late Juan Gonzalez, Edna was raised in Chelsea and was a lifelong resident here. She attended local schools and graduated from Chelsea High School in 1989. She married Miguel Cosme and together they raised their son and daughter from their home in Chelsea.

For the past 24 years, Edna worked as the WIC Program Operations Supervisor at the Massachusetts General Hospital in Chelsea, Revere, and Charlestown.

She was the quintessential party planner, seeing to all the details organizing special events for family and friends -- birthdays, quinceañeras and weddings. She was also a talented baker and cake decorator. Edna would treat any and every event as a special occasion, choosing to revel in the optimistic and joyous aspects of life.

Several years ago, Edna returned to college receiving her Associates Degree from Southern New Hampshire University and was pursuing her Bachelor's Degree at the time of her first cancer diagnosis. She continued to demonstrate great dedication and strength throughout her life, setting an example of grace and resilience for those close to her.

She was most devoted to home and family and she enjoyed all arts and crafts, dancing, zestfully taking and working out at "Zumba Classes." In her 40's, she trained and participated in her first 5-K road race. Whenever she was faced with a daunting ordeal, she would face it head on with great resolve and creativity. Edna believed every problem had a solution that could eventually be found with the



right mindset.

Edna was full of generosity and kindness, and to know her was to love her. Her compassion extended to all those around her as she sought to spread warmth and aid anyone in need of assistance.

She was the beloved wife of 32 years of Miguel Cosme at home in Chelsea. She was the devoted mother of Fernando Cosme and Alicia Cosme and a motherly figure to their significant others, Gardy Elivert and Joseph Arroyo, loving daughter of Eda Gonzalez of Lynn and the late Juan Gonzalez, dear sister of Jennifer E. Gonzalez and she is also survived by her five fur-babies, several extended family members and dear friends.

Visiting hours will be held from the Welsh Funeral Home, 718 Broadway, Chelsea today, Thursday, January 13 from 4 to 8 p.m. Relatives and friends are most kindly invited to attend. Per order of the Chelsea Board of Health, all visitors are required to wear face masks while in the Funeral Home and physical distancing is advised.

Relatives and friends are asked to gather for her Funeral Mass at St. Rose Church, 600 Broadway on Friday, January 14 at 10 a.m.

In lieu of flowers, to assist with past medical and current family expenses, donations can be made in Edna's memory to www.gofundme.com/f/Edna-Cosme

Arrangements entrusted to the Welsh Funeral Home, Chelsea. For online guest book, please visit: www.WelshFH.com.

Baker-Polito administration launches tool for residents to access COVID-19 Digital Vaccine Card

Staff Report

The Baker-Polito Administration has announced a tool that gives residents a new way to access their COVID-19 digital vaccine card and vaccination history. The new tool, called My Vax Records, allows people who received their vaccination in Massachusetts to access their own vaccination history and generate a COVID-19 digital vaccine card, which would contain similar vaccination information to a paper CDC card. The COVID-19 digital vaccine cards produced by the system utilize the SMART Health Card platform and generate a QR code that can be used to verify vaccination. The Administration is not requiring residents to show proof of vaccination to enter any venue, but this tool will help residents who would like to access and produce a digital copy of their record.

Access the new tool at MyVaxRecords.Mass.Gov.

How It Works: The new tool is easy to use: a person enters their name, date of birth, and mobile phone number or email associated with their vaccine record. After creating a 4-digit PIN, the user receives a link to their vaccine record that will open upon re-entry of the PIN.

The electronic record shows the same information as a paper CDC vaccine card: name, date of birth, date of vaccinations, and vaccine manufacturer. It also includes a QR code that makes these same details readable by a QR scanner, including smartphone apps. Once the SMART Health Card is received, users are able to save the QR code to their phone, such as the Apple Wallet, screenshot the information and save it to their phone's photos, or print out a copy for a paper record. The system follows national standards for security and privacy.

This system provides an optional way that residents can access their vaccination information and a COVID-19 digital vaccine card. This will provide residents with another tool to provide proof of COVID-19 vaccination, should it be requested by businesses, local governments, or other entities.

The system leverages the Massachusetts Immunization Information System (MIIS), the official database used by health care providers across the state to record vaccination information. The system relies on hundreds of providers inputting demographic and health information. Some users may not be able to immediately find their record, or may find an incomplete record. Residents whose record cannot be found or is incomplete can either

contact their health care provider or contact the MIIS team to update their records. Learn more about the tool and view frequently-asked-questions at www.mass.gov/myvax-record.

Massachusetts has worked with VCI,™ a voluntary coalition of public and private organizations which developed the open-source SMART Health Card Framework in use by other states. The VCI coalition is dedicated

to improving privacy and security of patient information, making medical records portable and reducing healthcare fraud.

My Vax Records is just one way residents can obtain their COVID vaccination record. Pharmacies that administered the COVID vaccine and many health care providers also are making SMART Health Cards available, or are providing additional options. Learn more.

COVID 19 Test Result

What to do if you test positive

Staff Report

Most people have mild COVID-19 illness and can recover at home without medical care.

If you used a COVID home test kit and your result is POSITIVE

- You have COVID and do NOT need to confirm result with another test.

If you have NO symptoms

- Stay at home for 5 days.
- Continue to wear a mask around others for an additional 5 days.

If you have mild cold like symptoms

- Stay at home for 5 days.
- If you have no symptoms or your symptoms

are improving after 5 days, you can leave your house.

- If you have a fever, continue to stay at home until your fever resolves.

- Continue to wear a mask around others for an additional 5days.

- If your symptoms are concerning, please call your primary care provider for a telehealth visit.

If you have severe symptoms or shortness of breath

- Please seek immediate care at the closest emergency department.

- Our Emergency Department at 10 Gove St in East Boston is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Please check our website www.ebnhc.org for more information.

FEMA awards more than \$14.6 million to Massachusetts for COVID PPE expenses

Staff Report

The Federal Emergency Management Agency will be granting more than \$14.6 million to the Commonwealth of Massachusetts to reimburse the costs of purchasing personal protective equipment (PPE) for use during the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020 and 2021.

The \$14,659,688 in Public Assistance grants will go to the Massachusetts Executive Office of Health and Human Services (EOHHS) to reimburse it for purchasing

nitrile gloves, hand sanitizer, alcohol wipes, N95 disposable respirators, disposable face masks, non-surgical isolation gowns, medical goggles and hand sanitizing wipes for healthcare workers, patients with confirmed or suspected COVID-19 infection, and first responders.

In total, EOHHS received and managed the distribution of emergency materials and equipment on behalf of over 250 state agencies, group homes, congregate facilities, and essential healthcare facilities, including hospitals and nursing homes.

ities, including hospitals and nursing homes.

"FEMA is pleased to be able to assist Massachusetts with these costs," said FEMA Region I Acting Regional Administrator Paul Ford. "Providing resources for our partners on the front lines of the pandemic fight is critical to their success, and our success as a nation."

FEMA's Public Assistance program is an essential source of funding for states and communities recovering from a federally declared disaster or emergency.

So far, FEMA has provided almost \$835 million in Public Assistance grants to Massachusetts to reimburse the commonwealth for pandemic-related expenses.

Additional information about FEMA's Public Assistance program is available at <https://www.fema.gov/public-assistance-local-state-tribal-and-non-profit>. To learn more about the COVID-19 response in Massachusetts, please visit <https://www.fema.gov/disaster/4496>

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Celebrating 20 years of partnership, Dreaming A Future Together

Staff Report

On Monday, January 17, the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston (MFA), and Citizens will invite the community to commemorate the life and work of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. at a free open house. This year’s event marks the 20th anniversary of the MFA’s partnership with Citizens on this annual celebration, which has welcomed more than 120,000 attendees over two decades. The event offers free admission—including access to special exhibitions—to Massachusetts residents, and tickets will be available in person on a first-come, first-served basis. Upon entry, visitors will be asked to validate their Massachusetts zip code to enjoy free admission.

The open house runs from 10 am to 5 pm, welcoming visitors to experience over a dozen exhibitions on view, including Paper Stories, Layered Dreams: The Art of Ekuia Holmes. Also sponsored by Citizens, the exhibition features more than 40 vibrant illustrations by the Roxbury native that reflect her commitment to Black imagery and representation. Visitors will also have their final chance to experience Black Histories, Black Futures, the teen-curated exhibition

focusing on works by 20th-century artists of color, which ends its successful run on MLK Day—the same day its opening was celebrated in 2020. Programming offerings connected to both exhibitions will be announced in January.

“Thank you to the MFA for their continued partnership in this effort to honor and celebrate the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.,” said Lisa Murray, Massachusetts State President, Citizens. “This annual event is an opportunity for families and friends to come together and enjoy the incredible artwork on display, and we encourage everyone to take advantage of it this January.”

Effective Monday, January 3, 2022, the Museum will be open for visitors Thursday through Monday and remain closed to the public on Tuesdays and Wednesdays.

Citizens Financial Group, Inc. is one of the nation’s oldest and largest financial institutions, with \$187.0 billion in assets as of September 30, 2021. Headquartered in Providence, Rhode Island, Citizens offers a broad range of retail and commercial banking products and services to individuals, small businesses, middle-market companies, large corpora-

tions and institutions. Citizens helps its customers reach their potential by listening to them and by understanding their needs in order to offer tailored advice, ideas and solutions. In Consumer Banking, Citizens provides an integrated experience that includes mobile and on-line banking, a 24/7 customer contact center and the convenience of approximately 3,000 ATMs and approximately 1,000 branches in 11 states in the New England, Mid-Atlantic and Midwest regions. Consumer Banking products and services include a full range of banking, lending, savings, wealth management and small business offerings. In Commercial Banking, Citizens offers a broad complement of financial products and solutions, including lending and leasing, deposit and treasury management services, foreign exchange, interest rate and commodity risk management solutions, as well as loan syndication, corporate finance, merger and acquisition, and debt and equity capital markets capabilities. More information is available at www.citizensbank.com or visit us on Twitter, LinkedIn or Facebook.

Founded on February 4, 1870, the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston (MFA),



Two visitors to the museum stop for a selfie in the “Paper Stories, Layered Dreams: The Art of Ekuia Holmes” exhibit.

stands on the historic homelands of the Massachusetts people, a site which has long served as a place of meeting and exchange among different nations. The Museum opened its doors to the public on July 4, 1876—the nation’s centennial—at its original location in

Copley Square. Over the next several decades, the MFA’s collection and visitation grew exponentially, and in 1909, the Museum moved to its current home on Huntington Avenue. Today, the MFA houses a global collection encompassing nearly 500,000 works of art, from ancient

to contemporary.

The Museum is located at 465 Huntington Avenue, Boston, MA 02115. For more information, call 617.267.9300, visit mfa.org or follow the MFA on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.

LOCAL STUDENTS EARN ACADEMIC HONORS

BELL EARNS A SPOT ON THE DEAN’S LIST

Nearly 2,500 undergraduate students at Coastal Carolina University were named to the Dean’s List for the Fall 2021 semester, including Victoria Bell, a Public Health major from Chelsea.

Coastal Carolina University is a dynamic, public comprehensive liberal arts institution located in Conway, located just minutes from the resort area of Myrtle Beach, S.C.

CCU offers baccalaureate degrees in 95 major fields of study. Among the University’s graduate-level programs are 27 master’s degrees, two educational specialist degrees, and the doctorates in education and in marine science: coastal and marine systems science. CCU boasts a growing array of internship, research, and international opportunities for students, as well as numerous online programs through Coastal Online.

More than 10,400 students from across the country and around the world interact with a world-class faculty, and enjoy a nationally competitive NCAA I athletic program, an inspiring cultural calendar, and a tradition of community interaction

that is fueled by more than 180 student clubs and organizations.

ROBERTO PORTILLO PENA NAMED TO DEAN’S LIST

Roberto Portillo Pena, a Lasell University student from Chelsea (02150), was named to the dean’s list for their academic performance in the fall 2021 semester.

Students who receive this honor have completed at least 12 credits as a full-time student and have achieved a semester GPA of 3.5 or higher.

LOCAL STUDENTS INDUCTED INTO NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY AT BC HIGH

The following students have been inducted into the Robert J. Fulton, SJ Chapter of the National Honor Society at Boston College High School:

Alvaro Deras (Class of 2023)

The National Honor Society (NHS) was created by the National Association of Secondary School Principals to recognize high school students who have distinguished themselves in their school and

community.

Each year eligible juniors and seniors are invited to apply for membership in NHS. Applications are reviewed by a committee of BC High teachers to confirm that each student has attained a high standard of each of these characteristics: scholarship, character, leadership, and service.

At BC High, NHS members are committed to service in the school and in the broader community. All students applying for membership must be current with the completion of required community services hours for their grade level at BC High. After induction into NHS, all members are expected to offer significant service to the school community as tutors in the Academic Resource Center, as ambassadors at Open House and Admissions events, and in other capacities.

A minimum cumulative grade point average of 3.5 is required of all applicants. Beyond the grade point average, applicants must be a positive presence in their academic classes. They must show initiative and dependability, work well with other students, exhibit a strong work ethic, and demonstrate openness to growth.

Urgent need for kitchen volunteers at Community Servings

Staff Report

Kitchen volunteers are urgently needed at Community Servings to help the nonprofit’s professional kitchen staff prepare and package 18,000 medically tailored meals that are delivered weekly to critically and chronically ill individuals across the region.

While Community Servings operates one of Boston’s largest volunteer programs, the current COVID-19 surge has pushed January volunteer numbers to low levels. Demand for the nonprofit’s nutritious, life-saving meals has increased by over 80% since the pandemic began.

“Volunteers have been at the heart of our mission since we began, essential to ensuring that we can feed our neighbors in need and help maintain their health,” said David B. Waters, CEO of Community Servings. “Given the effects of this pandemic surge, we are making a plea for anyone with a few hours to lend a helping hand in our kitchen.”

Volunteers help peel and chop vegetables; portion soups, stews and salads; and pack weekly meal bags for clients living with HIV/AIDS, cancer, diabetes and heart disease, among other illnesses.

For health and safety reasons, all volunteers are required to be fully vaccinated, have their temperature taken, and wear a surgical or KN95 face mask

(provided) at Community Servings’ Food Campus in Jamaica Plain, which is on the T’s Orange Line. The kitchen is equipped with hospital-grade air ventilation and filtration systems.

Anyone interested in volunteering can visit www.servings.org/ volunteer to sign up for three-hour shifts Monday through Friday (9 a.m. to noon, 1 to 4 p.m. and 4 to 7 p.m.).

Founded in 1990, Community Servings’ mission is to actively engage the community to provide medically tailored, nutritious, scratch-made meals

to chronically and critically ill individuals and their families. To help clients maintain their health and dignity, we provide culturally appropriate meals, nutrition education and counseling, and other community programs. Our kitchen team, with support from thousands of volunteers, prepares over 800,000 medically tailored meals that are served to more than 3,200 clients annually. For more information about programs and opportunities to volunteer or donate, please visit www.servings.org.



Volunteers with Community Servings work on packaging some foods for in accordance with medically tailored meals.

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Making an impact in Chelsea

Jimenez-Rivera will run for State Representative

By Cary Shuman

Roberto Jimenez-Rivera has made a noteworthy impact during his two years on the School Committee and in the three years he has called Chelsea home.

The 31-year-old organizer for the Boston Teachers Union is hoping to continue those important contributions to the city at the state level. In a major announcement Tuesday, Jimenez-Rivera said he will be a candidate for the newly created 11th Suffolk seat in the Massachusetts House of Representatives.

Jimenez-Rivera is the first local candidate to announce in the new district that includes all of Chelsea and one precinct in Everett.

“I am running because the people of Chelsea and Everett deserve a state rep

who will lift our voices in Beacon Hill and who won’t settle for small fixes to the urgent issues we face,” Jimenez-Rivera said in a press release.

First elected to Committee in 2019

Roberto Jimenez-Rivera ran for the at-large seat on the Chelsea School Committee in November 2019, defeating Shawn O’Regan, who is now the District 1 member of the School Committee. He was the top vote getter citywide in that election and was re-elected this past November with 67 percent of the vote.

“It [2019] was a really great campaign, where I was knocking doors and talking to voters for two or three months,” recalled Jimenez-Rivera. “I knocked close to 1,200 doors myself. My wife Sarah knocked on another

500, and I had a few friends who volunteered. But it was important to me that we got to know as many people as we could, talk with people about why I care about our schools, and share the work I had done already in education. People were really excited to have somebody come talk with them about these important issues.”

Purchasing a home in Chelsea

Jimenez-Rivera and his wife, Sarah, had moved to Chelsea in 2019. He had earlier become acquainted with other residents of the city through his volunteer work on Ayanna Pressley’s congressional campaign.

“We had been looking for a home somewhere we could eventually raise kids in an area that reflected my cultural background and the values that Sarah and



School Committee Member-At-Large Roberto Jimenez-Rivera, pictured with his wife, Sarah, and their son, Robi.

I share,” said Jimenez-Rivera. “We came here, and you hear Spanish being spoken and it’s a normal thing, and it felt very much like home. That was one of the first things that we really loved about the city. We continued getting to know folks and realized how amazing this community is.”

“The values of this community, being so welcoming and here for working-class families, it’s something I’ve loved about Chelsea since I got here, and something I hope to keep lifting as we run this campaign and continue living here,” said Jimenez-Rivera.

Originally from Puerto Rico

Roberto Jimenez-Rivera was born in Norwood while his mother was a student at the Massachusetts College of Art.

“My parents [Roberto and Maribel] lived in Mission Hill and then they moved to Norwood when my mom was still in college,” he said. “She was a college student and a mom, while my dad worked odd jobs here and there. He was a security guard, then worked at a factory, and then at Bertucci’s in Cambridge. Af-

ter my mom graduated, they decided to move back to Puerto Rico because they wanted me to grow up around family.”

Jimenez-Rivera grew up in Manati, Puerto Rico until his graduation from high school. He then enrolled at the University of Michigan where he studied for six years, receiving his undergraduate degree in 2012 and his master’s degree in 2013.

Following graduate school, he moved to Massachusetts in 2014.

Advocating for a Chelsea state rep seat

Jimenez-Rivera said through his job at the Boston Teachers Union he was part of the Drawing Democracy Coalition that advocated for establishing a new Chelsea district in the House of Representatives and other “districts of opportunity” across Massachusetts.

“We were working to give working-class families and people of color, people that have been underrepresented in our state politics for a long time - the best opportunity to elect people of their choice,” said Jimenez-Rivera.

Among his many accomplishments,

Jimenez-Rivera organized 125 leaders from gateway cities across Massachusetts to push for state funding for the Student Opportunity Act (SOA).

“To me, it’s about doing the work inside the building and outside the building - so really doing the work in the School Committee deliberations, but also pushing our elected officials to do the right thing and to organize in the community,” said Jimenez-Rivera.

Campaign kickoff set for Jan. 25

Jimenez-Rivera is launching his campaign having raised over \$27K in preparation for this race and will be holding a virtual campaign kickoff event on Jan. 25. He is assembling a campaign team of advisers, many of whom are leaders in Chelsea and Everett.

“We’re really excited to launch and start talking to the people about what we can achieve when we work together,” said Jimenez-Rivera.

Roberto’s wife, Sarah, is a Ph.D. candidate in Social Work at Boston College after receiving her undergraduate and master’s degrees at Tufts. They have a son, Robi, 18 months.

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