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VOLUME 132, NO. 37

THURSDAY, JULY 14, 2022

35 CENTS



Chelsea Poetry Walk Founder Lorenzo Recupero (far right) stands proudly with childhood pals and fellow Chelsea natives (from left) Wilver Vasquez, Eduardo Pineda, and Joseph Resnek at the wrapping up of last year’s successful event.

Recupero Builds An Event

Chelsea Poetry Walk returns for its second year

By Cary Shuman

The theme of Lorenzo Recupero’s second annual Chelsea 2022 Poetry Walk will be: The Growth of Chelsea.

Perhaps no one better exemplifies that than the event founder himself who

is taking The Chelsea Poetry Walk to another level this year.

The event, which will be held Saturday, Aug. 27 at 11 a.m. at the Chelsea Walk on Broadway, will feature, among other new additions, a raffle for a brand-new electric guitar

in the familiar Chelsea colors of red, black, and white.

“Anybody that submits a poem is automatically entered into the raffle free of charge,” said Recupero, noting that his friend, Joe Resnek, donated the guitar.

An early affinity for writing

Recupero, 33, is a former Boston Globe contributing sports reporter who first became enamored with writing after winning a contest as a 12-year-old

See POETRY Page 2

Police make several arrests over past week

By Adam Swift

The past week has been a busy one for the Chelsea Police Department.

On Thursday, July 7, local and state police arrested four men on drugs and weapons charges.

With the assistance of the Massachusetts State Police STOP and Violent Fugitive Section, Chelsea detectives conducted early morning search warrants at two Chelsea loca-



COURTESY PHOTO CHELSEA POLICE
Drugs and guns seized while executing search warrants at 78 Washington Ave. on July 7.

Proposal for pot shop withdrawn

By Adam Swift

The proponent for a retail marijuana establishment on Broadway withdrew his application for the project at Tuesday night’s Zoning Board of Appeals meeting in the face of uncertainty about the condition of the property at 307 Broadway and the property owner’s record with the city.

Vladimir Samuel, the director of Concrete Garden, Inc., asked the ZBA for an extension of the public hearing to get a handle on the myriad of violations at 307 Broadway in an attempt to address them.

Last month, the Planning Board voted not to recommend approval for the special permit for Concrete Garden, citing the long list of violations and pending legal action the city has against the owner of the property, Peach Enterprises, Inc.

At Tuesday’s ZBA meeting, city officials voiced many of the same concerns they raised at the earlier Planning Board meeting on the application, stating they had no issue with Samuel’s proposal, but did have issues with Peach Enterprises.

“This city has no objections substantively to a marijuana retail facility on Broadway,” said City Manager Thomas Ambrosino. “The city has adopted this and we encourage this type of development, we think it is good for business and we think it is good for the downtown. We are opposed to anything happening at this specific location because this owner has repeatedly refused to comply with the city’s request to remedy outstanding code violations.”

Ambrosino said there have been long standing

See PROPOSAL Page 2

ZBA approves variances for 11-story research building

By Adam Swift

The Zoning Board of Appeals unanimously approved the variances and special permit for the construction of an 11-story research and development building at the Floramo’s Restaurant site at 213 Everett Avenue on Tuesday night.

However, the approvals do not necessarily mean the end of the popular Floramo’s Restaurant.

The project, which has a construction cost of \$267 million, has already won the support of the city administration and several city councilors. Doug Medvetz, the principal from developer Verdylnt, said it will likely take three years before the project is completed and ready for occupancy.

“The city strongly supports this project,” said City Manager Thomas Ambrosino. He said the project is exactly the kind of major commercial development it wants to see in its commercial districts.

Ambrosino said the project will provide good paying jobs for the community and provide nu-

merous economic benefits for Chelsea.

City Council President Roy Avellaneda said the project will be the first one that falls under the city’s new community mitigation guidance, and could bring in over \$4 million in linkage fees for Chelsea, money that can be used for any number of community improvements.

The 150-foot plus building will include three stories of parking within the building above grade rather than underground because of water table and soil issues.

Avellaneda said that while some people have raised concerns about the height of the building, he said it was consistent with surrounding development

See ZBA Page 2

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11th Suffolk Representative candidates forum

Special to the Record

Join a Virtual Forum to listen to three of Chelsea’s four candidates for State Representative describe what changes they support to make Chelsea a better place to live, July 19 at 7:30 PM. tinyurl.com/chelsea2022

• For the first time ever, Chelsea voters will be able to cast a vote for their preferred state house Representative candidate in a new majority, minority district made up primarily of their city, in the 11th Suffolk.

ZBA/ Continued from page 1

and that having the parking within the building was preferable to having it surrounded by a large parking lot.

While the project details have been hashed out over a number of public board meetings over the past months, the biggest news of the night might have been the revelation that the new building might not necessarily mean the end of a decades-long run for Floramo’s Restaurant. Part of the proposal by Verdynt includes school science space, a conference room, and a restaurant open to the public on the first floor.

“I know they didn’t speak about this, but they have encouraged and asked Floramo’s to stay on,” said Avellaneda. “Now, whether or not the

• 67% Latino, Chelsea’s electoral voice was combined in the past with that of the whiter voters of Revere, Everett and Winthrop in their old district. Now they can choose a leader who reflects the values and wishes of the majority in Chelsea.

Judith Garcia, Leo Robinson and Todd Taylor, all city councilors, and Roberto Jimenez Rivera, a school committee member, have tossed their hats in the ring to compete for the honor of representing Chelsea in the State House. Of the four, Todd Taylor was the only can-

didate to decline the invitation of the organizing committee, saying that the venue of the forum did not feel welcoming to his views.

The forum is co-sponsored by Our Revolution Massachusetts, (an organization of supporters of Bernie Sanders); local non-profits, GreenRoots and La Colaborativa, and all four Chelsea Democratic Ward Committees. Candidates will respond to questions from these organizations and from the audience. The virtual forum will have simultaneous translation into Spanish.

Floramo family wants to stay is a separate agreement, but they have offered.”

Medvetz confirmed that there have been talks with the Floramo family about how they could successfully return to 213 Everett Ave. after construction is completed.

“I’ve gotten to know John Floramo quite well, we have had numerous conversations, he’s the son,” said Medvetz. “There is a strong interest in them coming back, it’s just a matter of logistics.”

The biggest concern for the Floramo family is what happens to the current staff when the restaurant closes during construction, Medvetz said.

“He doesn’t want to open with a different staff,” he said. “He is working

on an alternative strategy to keep the staff together at a different restaurant during construction. That is the biggest challenge and that is going to be in flux throughout the entire project.”

Medvetz said he would love to see Floramo’s return once the new building is open.

“They are great people and we have had great communication with them throughout the entire process,” he said. “We are leaving it up to them. Based on everything that is going on in this area with the apartments and the development, there are going to be many restaurants that want to fill that space, but we are reserving it for them if they want to do that.”

Proposal/ Continued from page 1

zoning, building code, and electrical code violations at the address that have never been remedied.

“I don’t think any city board should be accommodating this owner by granting continuances,” he said. “I say again to this applicant, find another location and I urge the board to deny this request.”

ZBA Chair Janice Tarkata noted that the only benefit in granting the extension could be that the applicant would fix issues that the owner has ignored in an effort to get his business up and running.

“We don’t have an objection to this petitioner, I’m not saying Mr. Peach

has to make these repairs, but this gentleman might find that it is worth it for him and his business to make the repairs that Mr. Peach refuses to make,” she said. “If that is the case, and I don’t know if it is or isn’t, but then you get the repairs you are looking for, because we know Mr. Peach isn’t going to do it.”

City Council President Roy Avellaneda voiced his vehement opposition to making any concessions at 307 Broadway.

“It rubs me the wrong way that we are rewarding bad behavior,” he said. “If you act like a good, up-standing owner, then we can come and work with

you.”

Tarkata eventually raised the option that Samuel could withdraw his application without prejudice. With that option, she said Samuel can either look for a new location and come back to the ZBA, or, if the outstanding issues at 307 Broadway are taken care of, he could file a new application for his business at that address.

“You could potentially continue to work with Mr. Peach and come back later when the actual work is done with the same proposal,” Tarkata said.

Arrests / Continued from page 1

tions. The search warrants resulted from detectives targeting local acts of violence, including a recent armed home invasion.

Investigators seized six firearms, crack cocaine, fentanyl, heroin, cash, and other evidence in the morning operation. Four individuals, all from Chelsea were taken into custody from 78 Washington Ave. The investigation is ongoing and more arrests are likely. All four were arraigned in Chelsea District Court and will face multiple charges.

Those arrested were Elijah Acevedo, age 26, Timothy Ramos, age 27, Geovannio Gomez, age 29 and Javier Dejesus, age 30.

On Wednesday, July 6, a traffic stop on Beacham led to the arrest of a 21-year-old Medford man.

A Chelsea police sergeant observed Patrick Eatherton shortly after 12:30 a.m. driving over 70 mph on Beacham Street, which is under construction and unpaved.

Officers stopped the Ford Focus, and during the stop, seized an illegal firearm with a silencer and drugs.

Eatherton was arrested without incident and charged with multiple firearm violations and drug charges.

Chelsea and State Police are also continuing to investigate a serious accident that happened on

Eastern Avenue on Saturday afternoon.

Officers responded to a 3:26 p.m. call of a collision between an operator of a Honda motorcycle and a Toyota Highlander. Witnesses stated that the Highlander, attempting to turn left onto Bellingham Street, was struck in the rear by the motorcycle traveling south on Eastern Ave. The 29-year-old male operator of the bike from Brookline was taken to MGH in Boston with severe injuries.

Chelsea, State Police Detectives, and the Massachusetts State Police Reconstruction Team continue investigating the factors and causes of the accident.

Poetry/ Continued from page 1

middle school student. While in high school, he collaborated with Resnek to rebuild the Chelsea High School student newspaper.

Recupero will be returning as master of ceremonies for The Chelsea Poetry Walk, which drew a large turnout a year ago and was highlighted by Jay Velez’s incredibly well-received poem. Velez will reportedly be showcasing his talents with a new poem this year.

“There will also be free give-a-ways of T-shirts and souvenir Poetry Walk buttons and some light refreshments.”

Recupero noted that The Poetry Walk is open to people of all ages. “Last year we had entry submissions from the ages of 12 to 91 years old,” he said. “If you’re a writer and it’s a passion of yours, please submit your poetry and join the community and share it with everyone.”

Chelsea organizations will have information tables

In his goal to promote Chelsea, Recupero has asked that local institutions such as the Chelsea Public Library and the Chelsea Senior Center host information tables to raise awareness about their services.

“I want to get everybody involved and tie everything about Chelsea together using this creative expression,” said Recupero. “I also expect several of our city officials to be in attendance.”

One special guest will undoubtedly be Lorenzo’s

father, Giovanni Recupero, the well-known District 6 city councilor.

All four candidates in Chelsea’s newly created state representative district, Councilor-at-Large Leo Robinson, District 5 Councilor Judith Garcia, Chelsea School Committee member Roberto Jimenez Rivera, and District 1 Councilor Todd Taylor, will be invited to attend the event.

The Growth of Chelsea

Recupero feels he has selected just the right theme for The Poetry Walk at this juncture in the city’s history.

“I think between our new developments, a lot more people coming to live in Chelsea, and our residents reemerging with vigor and vibrancy after the pandemic - the Poetry Walk is one way to highlight that growth and for our residents to talk about their experiences growing up in Chelsea,” said Recupero, who is an administrative assistant in the Chelsea Treasury Department.

Moderador



Zaida Ismatul Oliva

?

Foro Virtual:
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Mejorar a Chelsea

Candidatos a Representante, Distrito Once Suffolk



Judith Garcia



Roberto Jimenez Rivera



Leo Robinson



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A SHORT STORY ABOUT
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As one of the last American children to contract polio, Jeffrey Galpin grew up in a world of iron lungs and body casts, alone with his imagination. His story would be dramatic enough if it was just about his battle with this dreaded disease.
But Jeffrey Galpin did more than survive polio. He went on to a list of achievements in medical research—including being the principal investigator in applying the first gene therapy for HIV/AIDS.
Dr. Galpin actually credits his own incurable condition for giving him the focus that made him so passionate in his research. His story leaves us with two of the most contagious messages we know. Don't give up, and remember to give back. If Dr. Galpin's story inspires just one more person to make a difference, then its telling here has been well worth while.

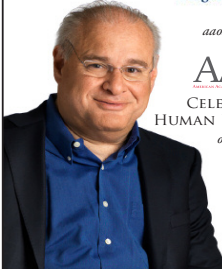
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DiDomenico votes to pass early education, childcare bill

Last week, Senator Sal DiDomenico joined his colleagues in the Massachusetts State Senate to unanimously pass S.2973. An Act to expand access to high-quality, affordable early education and care. This bipartisan legislation will transform early education and childcare in the Commonwealth by making it more accessible and affordable for families, providing high-quality care for young children, strengthening early education providers, improving compensation and professional development for the early education workforce, and addressing the workforce needs of Massachusetts employers. The bill draws from the recommendations made by the Special Legislative Early Education and Care Economic Review Commission, which was created by the legislature in 2020 and issued its final report in March 2022.

“This issue has been a top priority of mine for many years, and I am thrilled to pass this transformative piece of legislation alongside my Senate colleagues,” said Senator DiDomenico, Assistant Majority Leader of the Massachusetts Senate and a member of the Special Legislative Early Education and Care Economic Review Commission. “As a father of two children, I know that affordable and quality early education and care is indispensable for families and their economic security. This bill will increase childcare access and help thousands of families obtain care at lower costs. Just as importantly, these investments will provide support to childcare providers and ensure people working in



Senator Sal DiDomenico addressing the Senate to pass S.2973.

this field can earn a living wage, acquire higher education, and support their own families. I want to thank Senate President Karen Spilka for making this a priority and Chair Jason Lewis and Chair Michael Rodrigues for all their work to bring this important issue to the Senate floor.”

“Just as the Senate led on transforming the Commonwealth’s K-12 education system through the Student Opportunity Act, today’s bill would similarly transform the early education system,” said Senate President Karen E. Spilka (D-Ashland). “Unfortunately, high-quality early education remains out of reach for most Massachusetts families, and our providers struggle to keep their doors open. This bill will address those issues and make our Commonwealth stronger by making early education more affordable, investing in our early educators, and ensuring the sustainability of our providers. I want to thank Senator Lewis and the members of the Special Legislative Early Education and Care Economic Review Commission for their extensive work on

this bill, as well as for the work of Chair Rodrigues and the many, many advocates and stakeholders that got us to today.”

Senator DiDomenico has been a champion for early education and care expansion since he first took office 12 years ago. In 2013, DiDomenico played a pivotal role in creating an Early Education and Out of School Time (EEOST) capital fund that provided \$45M in loans and grants to early learning centers and out-of-school-time programs serving low-income families. Recently, during the onset of the pandemic, Senator DiDomenico secured \$10 Million for COVID-19 Preparedness and Stabilization Grants to provide critical support to Massachusetts afterschool and out-of-school time programs.

Throughout the past two years, DiDomenico served on the Special Legislative Early Education and Care Economic Review Commission and worked with colleagues to create a blueprint for the investments Massachusetts needs to make in the care economy. The Senator worked tirelessly to push this massive early education and childcare bill across the finish line and will continue to fight for even more investments in the years to come.

High-quality early education helps young children to develop stronger communication, social, and cognitive skills. Investments in early education have been shown to yield considerable long-term benefits, such as higher academic achievement and greater lifetime earnings. Many families in Massachusetts, however,

lack access to high-quality, affordable early education. This impacts the ability of parents, especially working mothers, to enter or remain in the workforce. The financial strain of childcare on families is a contributing factor to workforce shortages and threatens to hamper the state’s economic recovery.

The Senate bill would improve access to high-quality and affordable care for Massachusetts families in several ways. The bill would:

- Increase subsidy eligibility over time from the current level of 50% of state median income (\$65,626 annual household income for a family of four) to 125% of state median income (\$164,065 annual household income for a family of four)
- Make it easier for subsidized providers to offer scholarships or discounted tuition for their private pay families
- Require the Department of Early Education and Care (EEC) to evaluate and eliminate barriers to subsidy access for families on an annual basis
- Require parent fees for subsidized families to be affordable and updated at least every five years
- Require EEC to assess the extent of the current supply of licensed childcare availability across the state and the unmet needs of families

Even though childcare is expensive for families in Massachusetts, early education and childcare providers are themselves in crisis. Given the low wages and poor benefits that providers can afford to pay their staff, providers face chronic challenges with attracting and retaining early educa-

tors, almost all of whom are women and many of whom are women of color. Federal pandemic relief funding has been a lifeline for the early education and care sector, but these funds are one-time.

This Senate legislation will help stabilize providers, improve program quality, and expand capacity in several ways. The bill:

- Makes permanent the operational grants to providers that were first distributed during the pandemic and requires that a provider must be willing to enroll subsidized children in order to qualify for a grant
- Requires EEC to use an actual cost-of-quality-care methodology for setting subsidy reimbursement rates and calculating operational grants
- Requires EEC to reimburse subsidized providers based on quarterly enrollment rather than daily attendance of children
- Takes steps to strengthen the recruitment and pipeline of early educators

Early educators with bachelor’s degrees earn far less than their counterparts who teach in public elementary schools, and one in six early educators lives in poverty.

To improve compensation, benefits, and professional development opportunities for the early educator workforce, this legislation:

- Requires EEC to develop a career ladder that links educational attainment and work experience to compensation and benefits and recommends that compensation levels be commensurate with public school teachers who are similarly credentialed

- Establishes early educator scholarship and loan forgiveness programs to provide greater access to higher education and professional development opportunities

- Enables subsidized providers to offer free or discounted seats for the children of their own staff
- Other provisions would further improve and strengthen early education and childcare in Massachusetts. The bill:

- Creates a commission to study and recommend to the legislature ways that employers could provide more support to their workers to help meet their early education and childcare needs
- Requires EEC to report to the legislature on ways to expand successful local partnerships, such as the Commonwealth Preschool Partnership Initiative (CPPI)
- Requires EEC and the Children’s Investment Fund to report to the legislature on ways to improve and expand the impact of the Early Education and Out of School Time (EEOST) Capital Fund for making improvements to early education facilities

- Requires EEC to create a plan to pilot and scale shared service models that can improve the efficient delivery of high-quality care
- Creates a data advisory commission to work with EEC on expanded data collection and reporting, and the improved use of data to inform the cost and quality of care

Having passed the Senate, An Act to expand access to high-quality, affordable early education and care now moves to the House of Representatives for further consideration.

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LOCAL STUDENTS EARN ACADEMIC HONORS

ALIMAMY NAMED TO DEAN'S LIST

Named to the Dean’s List at Saint Michael’s College for the Spring 2022 semester was Nundalo Alimamy, a sophomore health science major from Chelsea and a graduate of Excel Academy Charter High School.

Saint Michael’s College, founded on principles of social justice and leading lives of purpose and consequence, is a selective, Catholic college just outside Burlington, Vermont, one of the country’s best college towns. Located between the Green Mountains and Lake Champlain, our closely connected community guarantees housing all four years and delivers internationally respected liberal arts together with an innovative Purposeful Learning Program, preparing students for fulfilling careers and meaningful lives. Young adults here grow intellectually, socially, and moral-

ly, learning to be responsible for themselves, each other, and their world.

BONNER NAMED TO DEAN'S LIST

The University of Hartford is pleased to announce Athena Bonner of Chelsea has been named to the Dean’s List for Spring 2022.

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Notice of Openings for Boards and Commissions in the City of Chelsea

Pursuant to the City of Chelsea Charter, Section 9-5(d), this is a Notice of all Board and Commission upcoming vacancies in the City of Chelsea through December 31, 2022.

During that timeframe, openings will occur in the following Boards and Commissions:

The Board of Registrars of Voters; the Chelsea Community Scholarship Committee; the Community Recreation Advisory Board; the Cultural Council; the Chelsea Disability Commission; the Economic Development Board; the Historical Commission; Planning Board; the Tree Board; and the Youth Commission. Information about each of these Boards is available at <https://www.chelseama.gov/home/pages/board-openings>. All of these Boards have three year terms except for the Youth Commission, which is a one year term. Those interested in applying should send both a letter of interest and a resume either by mail to the City Manager, Chelsea City Hall, 500 Broadway, Chelsea, Massachusetts 02150 or by email to tambrosino@chelseama.gov.

Materials should be received by the close of business on Friday, September 30, 2022.

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RECORD

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SUMMER IS HALF OVER -- MAKE THE MOST OF WHAT’S LEFT

We realize that most of the kids have been out of school for only a few weeks, but in terms of what we think of as the full summer season from Memorial Day to Labor Day, this coming weekend will mark the midpoint of the Summer of ‘22.

Thus far we have been blessed with generally perfect weather -- dry, with lots of sun; warm, but not too hot -- for outdoor activities of every kind.

Admittedly, for those among us who crave the heat and humidity (which is how we liked it when we were younger), the weather has been a bit on the cool side. But the flip part to that is that our electric bills have been low because we rarely have needed to use the air conditioning.

Those of us who are fortunate to live along the coast have been able to keep our windows open at night to bring in the cool sea breezes, which have been more prevalent this year than usual, to fill our homes.

In addition, the above-normal ocean temperature -- we noticed the warmer temps in the middle of May -- have allowed for the sort of refreshing dip for which we typically have to wait until late July and August.

Compared to much of the rest of the country, which has seen extreme weather with record-setting heat domes, wildfires, drought, and powerful winds, our corner of the world here in the Northeast has been idyllic.

But we know that Mother Nature is unpredictable and that in the end, things always even out, so to speak.

So we urge our readers to make the most of the second half of the Summer of ‘22 with our family, friends, and loved ones and to create memories that will last a lifetime.

The nice thing about summer is that in our experience, we’ve found the most memorable moments often are the simplest, such as getting an ice cream with the kids or just spending a day at the beach or going to a big summer movie, whether with the family or a date.

We will leave with these words from the song by the great Nat King Cole from the early 1960s that captures what summertime is all about:

Roll out those lazy, hazy, crazy days of summer
Those days of soda and pretzels and beer
Roll out those lazy, hazy, crazy days of summer
You’ll wish that summer could always be here

AMERICA ALWAYS HAS HAD AN ANTI-DEMOCRATIC ELEMENT

As the January 6 Committee continues its hearings, many of us (including an increasing number of former Trump supporters) have been shocked by the extent to which Trump and those around him plotted to overturn the election of Joe Biden.

Yes, we’ve long-known about the basic outline of the plot and many of the specifics of Trump’s machinations -- such as the infamous call to the Georgia Secretary of State to “find” him 11,780 votes (a conversation that would make an organized crime boss proud) -- but the January 6 Committee has tied it all together and added some new facts through the testimony of witnesses’ who have revealed many new details.

However, undeniably there is a large segment of Americans who think Trump did nothing wrong and continue to applaud what he did prior to, on, and after January 6.

For anyone who knows their U.S. history, the large number of Americans who are sticking with Trump is not surprising. There always has been a faction in America from the time of our Founding that has been authoritarian, white-male supremacist, and anti-democratic.

In the segregated South of the Jim Crow era, the anti-democratic extremists were Democrats from the end of the Civil War until the 1960s. Joe Biden liked to brag about how he could work with Strom Thurmond and other conservatives in the Senate, but those guys were just as extremist and as anti-democratic as anyone today, maybe even more so.

The difference between today and those eras is that many of the sub-groups of American culture that formerly were invisible now are out there, front and center. Joe Biden could “work” with rabid segregationists like Strom Thurmond because it largely was accepted by the majority of Americans, even “liberal” Democrats, that this is the way things were. But that sort of thinking no longer aligns with the attitude of the majority of Americans.

However, there still is a sizable portion of our fellow citizens who are not willing to acknowledge that times have changed. They’re the ones who wear T-shirts that proclaim, “I’d rather be Russian than a Democrat.”

The January 6 Committee is to be applauded for its work in laying out the full extent of Trump’s plotting to overturn the election, but it has exposed the deep rifts in our society that literally are threatening to bring us to the brink of another Civil War.

Ominously, although what we are learning from the January 6 Committee hearings of the recent past may be informative, it does not bode well for the future of our democracy.

Forum

GUEST OP-ED

Airline travel woes, flying is frustrating

By Dr. Glenn Mollette

Airline travelers have experienced frustration since the 2021 holidays as covered by national news. Travel delays and even trip cancellations have been aggravating experiences for travelers. If you only have a weekend and your trip includes a flight on Friday and a return flight on Sunday you are chancing a lost weekend. Being delayed from Friday to Saturday is surely to sour your trip.

My wife and I have flown a few times and it seems as if there is a new devil at every level. Last Spring, we hoped for a few days in Florida. We booked our flight from Indiana to change planes in Atlanta before going on to Florida. We checked our luggage and had minimum provisions in our backpacks. We arrived in Atlanta on a Saturday afternoon only to learn that our plane on to Florida was cancelled because of weather. We also heard from fellow disgruntled travelers and a TSA agent that the cancellation was really due to problems with air traffic controllers. We also heard that Delta was very short-staffed. After standing in line at a ticket counter for two hours I was told the next available flight was two nights later at 7PM. We were advised that our luggage was already on another plane to our destination.

We had no choice but to find a hotel room. Thousands of other flights were delayed or had been cancelled that day. Hotel rooms were not easy to find. We finally found one. We were forced to get a taxi and stay two nights in Atlanta with minimal provisions. Needless to say, it was an extra unplanned expense.

When we finally arrived in Florida, I knew we were good on transportation. I had paid in advance for a rental car. We got the car pretty fast. However, I wasn’t told that our upfront payment was forfeited because we didn’t pick up the car within a 24-hour time frame of the reservation date. I didn’t realize I was paying a sec-

ond time until I reviewed my bank statement later. Since I had paid for the car up front, I did not think that Budget would care if we were delayed. I thought wrong. According to Budget you have to let them know within 24 hours if your plans change. I learned something new. Education is always expensive. I disputed the charge but my bank stood with Budget.

All in all, my wife and I had a good time in Ft. Myer’s Beach, Florida. Except, flying was miserable that time around. Delta Airlines made no offers to compensate us with any new or free tickets. They felt no obligation to cover any of the additional expenses we incurred in Atlanta. Budget Rent A Car made double money for an old Camry they rented me. The car was a take it or leave it. They said it was all they had available when I arrived.

Are there any answers? Sure. Stay home. Or, try to find flights that are direct if possible. This seems harder and harder. Buy a small suitcase that fits the

legal carry-on dimensions. Then you will have your bag with you. If you can handle your trip without a rental car, you might be happier. Sometimes this is impossible but not always. We recently traveled to Baltimore and stuck with Taxis. We saved quite a bit because we didn’t pay for a rental car and we didn’t have to pay parking fees at the hotel.

I don’t like to fly in storms. I do want the airlines to make my safety a priority. I would rather arrive late than never. Just be aware that in the age we currently live in flying can be frustrating.

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

ally, a lack of affordable childcare, and our public higher education system that keeps increasing tuition on MA residents --- \$500 million will be sent out, without a penny going to the most needy, in a short-term way that will not make a lasting impact.

-During a period of inflation, money is given to the income range most likely to spend it on supply-constrained goods and services, thus making inflation worse.

I 100% get trying to help families facing the crunch of inflation right now, but a short-term cash infusion increases demand, which increases inflation... what would actually fight inflation would be increasing the supply of things that are driving cost of living up

- like housing and childcare.

If the Legislature feels the best use of the state’s surplus is tax cuts rather than investing it in public goods, then let’s do actual tax cuts that are permanent and promote long-run economic growth.

The state could increase the earned-income tax credit or the child tax credit, cut the sales tax, reduce filing fees and licensing fees on small businesses, or marginally reduce business taxation in general on small businesses... all kinds of things that have a long-term impact, rather than a sugar high that is only appropriate in a time of urgent need for short-run economic growth, which is not the situation we are in right now, as any economist left, right or center

would attest to.

I disagree with Governor Baker’s proposed suite of long-term tax reductions, many of which would predominantly help upper-income earners, but at least there’s a logic to them, in terms of promoting the state’s economic competitiveness in the long-term.

This proposal is deeply unserious, short-term thinking, which wildly misses the opportunity we have to make investments in the state’s future -- all to try to conveniently time checks around election time, even though more than half of the Legislature doesn’t even have an opponent. For the sake of thinking long term about MA’s future, I hope it is sunk.

Joe Gravellese

TAX REBATE PROPOSAL MISSES THE MARK

To the Editor,

The Massachusetts Legislature’s proposal to send \$250-\$500 checks to a particular income range (38-150k) is economically misguided and fails to meet the moment.

Under this proposal:

-A widowed mother of two kids making \$30,000 a year in the service industry gets \$0... but a dual-income, no kids married couple in their late 20s making \$135,000 a year gets \$500. (Why???)

-With a historic opportunity to invest in things we’ve long ignored, like our transportation system, crumbling public housing and a lack of affordable housing gener-

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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FAMILY, FRIENDS HONOR BOB HART AT HIS 65TH BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION

Bob Hart, who grew up in Chelsea and graduated as a top student at Chelsea High School in 1975, celebrated his 65th birthday at a party in his honor at the elegant Mastro's Ocean Club in Boston.

Bob, who is the president and CEO of Los Angeles-based TruAmerica Multifamily, was joined at the party by his wife, Cindy, members of his proud family, his fellow WPI alumni, and friends from Chelsea.

Bob's daughter, Mia, prepared a heartfelt video tribute to her father that was shown at the celebration. The brilliantly produced video was well received by the guests.

Jeff Blonder and Jerry Bornstein, who were close friends with Bob during his years in Chelsea, delivered remarks at the party.

Blonder recalled that it was he who gave Bob his first automobile driving lessons. He credited Bob for "taking a risk" in switching careers in life and then building a phenomenally successful company that has become a leader in the industry.

Bornstein told the gathering, "It's great that we are all together as for some of us it has been a few years since we have seen each other. This is the Bob Hart East coast version of Friends and Family here tonight."

Jerry then offered a toast to his long-time friend and former CHS classmate, "To Robert, a great husband, father, cousin, CEO, mentor, philanthropist and lifelong brother...Let's raise our glasses to Robert for a Happy Birthday".

Bob Hart thanked the many guests for being present at his party. Interestingly, Bob delivered his remarks with the familiar Tobin Bridge visible in the background.

"I want to thank everybody who is here," said Bob. "I couldn't have found a more appropriate backdrop than this part of South Boston that was redeveloped from just mudflats, looking back at what Jerrv, Jeff, and I called the

Mystic River Bridge back
in the day.

"And I made many trips over that bridge from Chelsea to South Boston to pick up my dad when he was a postal worker at South Postal Annex for 40 years," Bob recalled. "My father-in-law was a postal worker for the same amount of time. So, we're all humbled by where we came from, and we should never forget that, because we surround ourselves with people we love, regardless of circumstance in life, and it's that treasure that can never be mined again, and it's great to have you all here. I regret that I haven't talked to many of you on a daily or weekly or monthly basis, but you rallied to come here to this event this evening, and I appreciate that, totally. There are no real words that convey that appreciation, other than, thank

you very much, and thanks for being here, and I hope you enjoy the rest of the evening and the birthday cake. I

hope to do this again with you."

It was a great evening of reminiscing and celebrating for Bob Hart.

one of the city's greatest individual success stories.



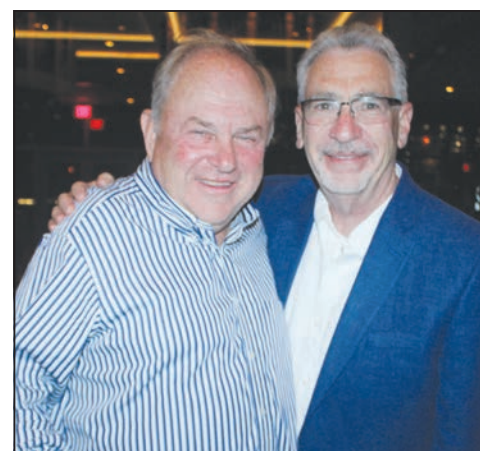
Bob Hart, a graduate of Worcester Polytechnic Institute (WPI), and his wife, Cindy, are pictured with his classmates and friends from the prestigious college who enjoyed his 65th birthday celebration.



Guest of honor Bob Hart, with his birthday cake at the party held in his honor.



Jeff Blonder and his wife, Cindy Blonder, pictured at the 65th birthday celebration for former Chelsea resident Bob Hart.



Friends and classmates Bob Hart and Jerry Bornstein, who graduated from Chelsea High School in 1975. They are pictured at Bob's 65th birthday celebration at Mastro's Ocean Club in Boston.



Bob Hart and his wife, Cindy Hart.



Bob Hart, pictured with his friends from Chelsea, Burt Freedman, Jeffrey Blonder, and Jerry Bornstein, at his 65th birthday celebration at Mastro's Ocean Club in the Seaport District



Summer Sizzling Savings

Join us in July for Sizzling Savings all month long!

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**Ad must run for 4 weeks consecutively*

Call 781-485-0588 or email your Rep. to get set up today!

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Illustration of a sizzling steak on a grill with flames.

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SUFFOLK COUNTY DA FORUM

DISTRICT ATTORNEY KEVIN HAYDEN & COUNCILOR RICARDO ARROYO



MODERATED BY: ADRIAN WALKER,
ASSOCIATE EDITOR, BOSTON GLOBE



WHEN: JULY 25TH AT 6:30PM

WHERE: BCYF 112 PARIS ST, EAST BOSTON

RSVP AND SEND QUESTIONS TO: INFO@LYDIAEDWARDS.ORG



**“GETTING THEM
VACCINATED
& BOOSTED
AGAINST
COVID-19
MEANS LESS
WORRY.”**

Vaccination is available for children 6 months+. Boosters are available for children 5 years+ after initial series. Learn more about protecting your child from COVID-19 at **ebnhc.org**.



To schedule your vaccine or booster, visit us at **ebnhc.org** or call **617-568-4500**.



**EAST BOSTON
NEIGHBORHOOD
HEALTH CENTER**



Showing proof of your vaccines is easy with **MyChart**

Insured by NCUA | Member MSIC *Annual Percentage Yield (APY) is accurate as of 07.05.2022 and subject to change at any time without notice. Minimum to open and earn APY is \$500.00. A penalty will be imposed for early withdrawals. Fees may reduce earnings. Account requires new money; to satisfy this requirement, an additional \$5,000 in external funds must be added to transfers from existing Metro Credit Union accounts. For online account opening only: Maximum funding amount is \$25,000. Visit MetroCU.org for current rates, terms and account requirements.

CHELSEA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE HOSTS BREAKFAST



Chelsea Fire Chief Len Albanese and Chamber of Commerce Past President Joseph Vinard.



Chelsea Civic Design and Engagement Specialist Mimi Graney and Jackie Jenkins-Scott of JJS Advising.



Sarit Rizzuto, Gina Guange, Steve Haley, and Renee Caso.



Chelsea Fire Chief Len Albanese, Jennifer Hassell, and Past Chamber of Commerce President Dennis Cataldo.



Councillor-at-Large Leo Robinson, District 7 Councilor Tanairi Garcia, Jennifer Hassell, School Committee member Roberto Jimenez Garcia, State Rep. Jessica Giannino, City Manager Thomas Ambrosino, and Chamber of Commerce President Paul Nowicki.



Keisha Brown, CBC President Joan Cromwell, CAPIC Executive Director Richelle Cromwell, Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Jennifer Hassell, CAPIC Program Director Gladys Valentin-Agneta, Chelsea Police Capt. Keith Houghton, State Rep. Jessica Giannino, and Chamber of Commerce President Paul Nowicki.



Jennifer Hassell presents world-famous Chelsea Clock timepieces to the guest speakers, Marta Rosa (left) and Jackie Jenkins-Scott (right).



Jennifer Hassell, former City Manager Jay Ash, and Chamber Office Administrator Carolina Bonilla.



Chamber of Commerce leaders and board members, (from left) Paul Nowicki, Maureen Foley, David Mindlin, Beth McDougal, Jennifer Hassell, Arthur Arsenault, Joseph Vinard, and Kelina Orlando.



Annual Household Hazardous Waste Day

Dispose of the items that do not belong in the trash:
paint, light bulbs, batteries, oil, and more

Household Hazardous Waste Day will be on **Saturday, July 23, 2022** in the back parking lot of the Mary C. Burke Elementary Complex from **9:00am - 1:00pm**. No more than 25 gallons of liquid or 25 pounds of solids per vehicle. Proof of Chelsea residency **will be required**, and residents will be required to pay for excess volumes.

When: Saturday, July 23, 9:00am - 1:00pm

Where: Mary C. Burke Elementary Complex


City of Chelsea
Public Works
Call 311 or 617-466-4209



FATS, OILS AND GREASE-F.O.G.

F.O.G. can cause sewer blockages!

When used cooking oils get washed down the drain, F.O.G. builds up in pipes & can cause sewer backups, stoppages or overflows.



SUBSTANCES THAT CONTAIN FATS, OILS & GREASE INCLUDE:

cooking oil, meat fats, lard, butter, grease, margarine, sauces, food scraps, milk, cream & slow cooker liquid.

HELP PREVENT FOG BLOCKAGES

1. Wait for F.O.G. to cool after cooking, then place in a reusable container to recycle.
2. Scrape food scraps from dishes into garbage. Avoid using garbage disposal.
3. Use paper towels to soak up excess grease on dishes before washing.

RECYCLE F.O.G.


Saturdays

7 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Chelsea Public Works

380 Beacham St.

For more information:
Call 311 for Chelsea DPW or visit website



www.chelseama.gov/public-works

CITY PAWS

Pets are good to us

Those of us who live with animals worry about friends when they tell us of the death of a furry family member. We know this loss can mean changes in their day-to-day activities, and that a lack of emotional support from their pet may endanger their well-being.

The Research

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) says, “There are many health benefits of owning a pet. They can increase opportunities to exercise, get outside, and socialize. Regular walking or playing with pets can decrease blood pressure, cholesterol levels, and triglyceride levels. Pets can help manage loneliness and depression by giving us companionship.”

The National Institutes for Health (NHI) sponsors research to learn more about ways animals can help specific people in specific ways. For example, one study examined

how therapy dogs working in hospitals or nursing homes help reduce patients’ stress and anxiety. Another study found, “... caring for fish helped teens with diabetes better manage their disease.” The routine of feeding the fish and cleaning the tank made them more responsible for checking their blood sugar levels.

The day may come when medical professionals prescribe watching fish swim about, walking a dog, or playing with a cat as readily as they now prescribe pills or physical therapy.

Seniors and Pets

The CDC has found that loneliness and social isolation put older adults at risk for dementia and other medical conditions. Research tells us that pets reduce these risks. Those of us with dogs know how many friends and acquaintances were introduced to us by our dogs.

A friend who had

lived alone adopted a cat. We can see the positive change in her attitude and mood. She connects with the dog people in her life by showing cat pictures. She likes having a reason to go home and being responsible for another creature.

At any age, we should carefully consider the type of animal that is best for us. Think about your likes and dislikes, lifestyle, and budgetary and physical limitations. Another friend of ours adopted a cat after she lost a large dog. The cat is good company. She doesn’t have to take it out for walks on snowy winter days. It is easier for her to travel and have a pet sitter come in and take care of the kitty on a daily visit.

We all should consider our animals’ futures and have a plan to care for them if we are unable to do so. Some seniors see this as a reason they can’t add an animal to their lives. Sometimes this is a wise decision. However, that



Trudy (on a squirrel hunt) is a star in our album of dogs who make us smile.

does not mean they can’t enjoy the benefits animals provide. Perhaps they can help a friend, family member, or neighbor care for a pet.

Community Benefits

Penny takes a lot of photos of dogs on her morning walk. We have an album of dog photos that make us smile. Our neighbor’s silly puppy, Trudy, made Penny laugh when

she posed full-length up a tree chasing a squirrel. We also laugh when that photo pops up on a computer screen.

On our dog walks, we connect with neighbors, exchange information, and share a few minutes of our dog’s time with those who miss their pets. We file reports on the Boston 311 app for items that require city action. We’ve

called 911 to report a person needing help, an auto accident, or to report needles and other drug paraphernalia. Dog walkers can be the eyes and ears of their neighborhood.

Do you have a question or topic for City Paws? Send an email to Penny@BostonZest.com with your request.

BLO brings free orchestral music to Hatch Shell

Staff Report

Boston Landmarks Orchestra, under the direction of Music Director Christopher Wilkins, brings its annual summer series of free, live orchestral concerts to the iconic DCR Hatch Memorial Shell on the Esplanade, with a special focus on concerts in East Boston, Chelsea, Roxbury, and Mattapan. Rooted in the mission “we build community through great music,” Landmarks Orchestra is thrilled to present a concert series of free events which showcase a diversity of music and cultures.

Programming this summer celebrates a dazzling

array of composers and music. Highlights include the world premiere of “Many Mansions,” a new orchestral and choral work by Diane White-Clayton based on Roland Carter’s arrangement of “In Bright Mansions Above”; the Boston premiere of William Dawson’s “Negro Folk Symphony”; Beethoven’s 9th Symphony with the One City Choir, Coro Allegro, and vocal soloists; a new partnership with the Four Strings Academy; and the announcement of cuatrista Fabiola Méndez as Composer-In-Residence for 2022-23 to work with Boston students on composition and performance workshops.

Music Director Christopher Wilkins says “The 2022 season is filled with music the whole family will enjoy—works by Gershwin and Bernstein, the William Tell Overture, a performance of Pines of Rome in the series finale, and much more. There are great monuments of the orchestral literature, including the Beethoven ‘Ninth’ and Berlioz’s Symphonie fantastique. And as always, performances fulfilling Landmarks Orchestra’s unique cultural mission, addressing Boston history, cultural diversity, and conflict and reconciliation. We are also thrilled to begin an exciting long-term collaboration with

Puerto Rican cuatro virtuoso, Fabiola Méndez.

Following a strategic planning process led by Chair of the Board of Advisors, Jean Scarrow and Landmarks Orchestra Board Chair Emmett G. Price III, the organization is embarking on a 10-year strategic plan. Primary goals stemming from the plan are to increase the diversity of audiences, ensembles, and staff to be more representative of the residents of the City of Boston; bring more community-based programming into Boston neighborhoods; and develop deep and authentic partnerships with partner communities within the next decade.

New Partnerships and Community Outreach

At the heart of each Landmarks Orchestra season is the spirit of community and collaboration.

This year’s partnerships and collaborations include:

- A new relationship with Four Strings Academy, a music training institution founded by Mariana Hill. Students from the Academy will join Landmarks principal string players for a Prelude Performance on July 20.
- Partnering with the Hyde Square Task Force and Ágora, founded by Elsa Mosquera Sterenberg, led to a grant from the Yawkey Foundation to fund our first Composer in Residence—cuatrista Fabiola Méndez. She will spend a year in residence, working with students to create a new work that will premiere on the Landmark’s 2023 summer season. A preview concert of the work will happen in January 2023 (details TBA).
- A grant from The Cummings Foundation which will support Landmarks Orchestra’s Music & Memory program with performances in assisted living centers which specialize in care for patients with memory loss and dementia.
- In partnership with Carnegie Hall, Link Up introduces students grades 3-5 to an orchestra by helping them become part of it. Students are given the opportunity to join Boston Landmarks Or-

chestra in a highly participatory program in which they learn to sing or play an instrument in the classroom, with a culminating performance. Landmarks Orchestra is the only orchestra in the state to work with Link Up.

- Landmarks has partnered with longtime Performing Arts ASL Interpreter with the Orchestra, Christopher Robinson, who will lead a group of advisors to develop strategies which will make Landmarks events more accessible. This summer’s performances will include ASL interpreters at many performances, and SUB-PAC’s will be available at select performances. SUB-PAC is a patented tactile audio system that provides a high-resolution immersive experience by quietly and accurately transferring deep bass frequencies to create an immersive, physical, full-body experience.

2022 Summer Concerts and Events

An ASL interpreter will be present at many performances; see the website for current details.

TELLING TALES

Wednesday, July 20, 2022, 7pm ET | Hatch Shell

Boston Landmarks Orchestra, Christopher Wilkins, conductor

Prelude Concert: Four Strings Academy with Landmarks Orchestra Principal Strings

Bedřich Smetana, “The Moldau” from Ma Vlast (My Fatherland)

Ethyl Smyth, The Wreckers Overture

Paul Dukas, The Sorcerer’s Apprentice

Hector Berlioz, Symphonie fantastique

SWEET SORROW

Wednesday, July 27, 2022, 7pm ET | Hatch Shell

Boston Landmarks Orchestra, Christopher Wilkins, conductor

Giuseppe Verdi, Nabucco Overture

Florence Price, Ethiopia’s Shadow in America

Boris Lyatoshinsky, Symphony No. 3 in B minor, Peace Shall Defeat War

Andante maestoso—Allegro impetuoso (1st movement)

Jan Sibelius, Finlandia

David Amram, Symphony: Songs of the Soul

(Shiray Neshama) Freilekh (Dance of Joy) (3rd movement)

Piotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky, Romeo and Juliet Overture-Fantasy

BEETHOVEN’S 9th SYMPHONY

Saturday, August 6, 2022, 7pm ET | Hatch Shell

Boston Landmarks Orchestra, Christopher Wilkins, conductor

Sirgourney Cook, soprano

Tichina Vaughn, mezzo-soprano

Ethan Bremner, tenor

Phillip Bullock, baritone

David W. Hodgkins, chorus master

One City Choir

Coro Allegro

Gioachino Rossini, William Tell Overture

Johann Strauss, Jr., To America: Fair Columbia Waltzes

Diane White-Clayton, Many Mansions (world premiere performance)

Ludwig van Beethoven, Symphony No. 9 in D minor, op. 125

Wednesday, August 17, 2022, 7pm ET | Hatch Shell

Boston Landmarks Orchestra, Christopher Wilkins, conductor

Fabiola Méndez, cuatro

George Gershwin, Cuban Overture

Georges Bizet, L’Arlésienne (excerpts from original version)

Carlos Chávez, Sinfonia india

Florence Price, Folk-songs in Counterpoint (selections)

Fabiola Méndez, Bomba pa’ la diáspora and other selections

Felix Mendelssohn, Symphony No. 4 in A major, “Italian”

THE VIRTUOSO ORCHESTRA

Wednesday, August 24, 2022, 7pm ET | Hatch Shell

Boston Landmarks Orchestra, Christopher Wilkins, conductor

Leonard Bernstein, Candide Overture

William Dawson, Negro Folk Symphony (Boston premiere)

Georges Enesco, Romanian Rhapsody in A major, op. 11, No. 1

Ottorino Respighi, The Pines of Rome

It's that time of year!

22nd Annual Beach Babe Pages

Share your favorite Beach Babe!

Adults, Children, Pets, All are welcome!

Photos should be at a beach or swimming pool setting. Please include your child's name and the paper you wish to be published in.

SEND YOUR BEACH BABY TO: promo@reverejournal.com by

Thursday, August 18th

Photos will be published in our Aug. 25 and 26 issues of The Revere Journal, Winthrop Sun Transcript, Lynn Journal, The Everett Independent, Chelsea Record & East Boston Times.

Not responsible for lost or unpublished Photos.

NEWS IN BRIEF

MALDEN SUMMER FESTIVALS ADD THREE MORE PUB CRAWL DATES

The City of Malden is pleased to announce that with the continued success of the Murder at the Malden Bank Pub Crawls, the City has added three more dates. Can you solve the crime while having a great time with friends and family? Visit www.MaldenGamingDistrict.com for the additional dates and tickets.

Based upon the actual locations from the first bank robbery murder in the United States, the easy 17-minute walk takes you to multiple locations connected to the murder of a member of the esteemed Converse family. At each location you will encounter interesting characters who will present you with challenges and puzzles to unlock the mystery behind the 1863 murder.

Best of all, each location is now a great dining and drinking establishment, and the author of the book Abel Bodied: Murder at the Malden Bank, Michael Cloherty, will be at the final location for a book signing. These events are part of the Malden Summer Festivals and are sponsored by the Office of Mayor Gary Christenson.

Located next to the Malden Center MBTA Orange Line station, the restaurant-filled area is also home to Malden’s Gaming District. This is the place to go if you want to quest at Boda Borg, conduct a science experiment that is a lot like mini-golf, play and stock up on Magic cards, shoot some billiards, try a racing simulator or sing your heart out at Kara-

oke.. Easily accessible by Orange Line, but FREE Parking is available at both of the City’s garages at 170 Centre Street or 7 Jackson Street. Please visit www.MaldenGamingDistrict.com to learn more.

RMV ANNOUNCES LOW PLATE LOTTERY

The Massachusetts Registry of Motor Vehicles (RMV) is announcing that applications are now being accepted online for the 2022 Low Number Plate Lottery at Mass.Gov/RMV using the Online Service Center. To be eligible, applicants must apply for this year’s lottery by 5 p.m., Friday, September 2. If selected for a low number plate, winners will be notified by mail.

This year, there are 199 plates available through the low plate lottery. Some of this year’s low plates are F7, 36, 78K, X44, 1S, and 6666.

Applicants should note that there is no fee to apply. However, should the applicant be selected as a winner, there is a special plate fee that will be required, as well as a standard registration fee.

Customers are encouraged to visit the RMV’s website or follow @MassRMV on Twitter for details on the lottery plate drawing to be announced later this summer, including the date, time, and location of the event. In addition, lottery plate applicants will be sent a notification from the RMV to the email address they provided with event details. The lottery results will be posted after the drawing on the RMV website.

Lottery Rules and Eligibility Requirements

- Only one entry per

applicant will be accepted, regardless of the number of active registrations the applicant has.

- An applicant must be a Massachusetts resident with a currently active, registered, and insured passenger vehicle.
- Companies/corporations may not apply.
- MassDOT (Registry of Motor Vehicles, Highway, Mass Transit, and Aeronautics) employees, including contract employees, and their immediate family members are not eligible. (“Immediate family member” refers to one’s parents, spouse, children, and brothers & sisters.)
- Requests for specific plate numbers will not be honored. Eligible applicants will be considered for all plates listed. Plates will be awarded in the order in which they are listed on Mass.Gov/RMV.
- An applicant’s registration and license cannot be in a non-renewal, suspended, or revoked status at the time of entry, the time of the drawing, or the time of the plate swap. As such, an applicant must not have any outstanding excise taxes, parking tickets, child support, warrants, or unpaid E-Z Pass/Pay by Plate violations.
- Online entries will be accepted only and must be completed by 5 p.m., Friday, September 2.
- Lottery results will be available on the RMV website: Mass.Gov/RMV. By law, lottery winners must be announced by September 15, 2022.
- All winners will be notified mail with instructions on how to transfer their current registration to their new lottery plate. Winners will have until Friday, December 30, 2022, to swap

their plates. Unclaimed plates will be forfeited after Friday, December 30, 2022. Plates will be registered to the winning applicant only.

- All plates remain the property of the RMV even after registration.
- All information received, including names of all applicants and the list of winners, is subject to release in accordance with the Massachusetts Public Records law.

ARROYO FILES A HEARING ORDER ON THE BPD AND BRIC RESPONSE TO THE RECENT ACTIONS OF WHITE SUPREMACIST GROUPS

Boston Councilor Ricardo Arroyo today announced he has filed an order calling for a public hearing to discuss the Boston Regional Intelligence Center (BRIC) and Boston Police Department’s response to the growing presence of white supremacist hate groups in the City of Boston. The Council Order asks that representatives from the Boston Police Department, Federal Bureau of Investigations, Attorney General’s Office, US Attorney’s Office and other interested parties be invited to speak before the Council.

“These hate groups are reprehensible and pose real and serious threats to the safety of our communities here in Boston and nationally. They can never be allowed to freely terrorize our neighborhoods or assault individuals with impunity,” Arroyo said. “BRIC was established in 2005 explicitly to target acts of terrorism, and Boston residents

deserve answers about their response to recent incidents in Boston and what is being done to address the lack of actionable intelligence prior to the Patriot Front’s march in Boston and the inadequate response that followed, leading to the assault of Charles Murrell III. The City of Boston must take significant steps to ensure the safety of our Black, Latinx, immigrant, Jewish, Muslim, LGBTQ+, and all communities targeted by organized white supremacist hate groups.”

Boston has seen an uptick in public displays of white supremacist actions. On Saturday, July 2, approximately 100 white supremacists marched through Downtown Boston under the banner of the Patriot Front, and physically attacked artist and activist Charles Murrell III. According to the Southern Poverty Law Center, Patriot Front is a white nationalist hate group that formed in the aftermath of the deadly 2017 “Unite the Right” rally in Charlottesville, Virginia.

In March, members of the Nationalist Socialist Club 131 (NSC-131) displayed the banner “Keep Boston Irish” along the route of the historic St. Patrick’s Day Parade in Boston. And earlier this year, on January 22, two-dozen members of NSC-131 protested in front of Brigham & Womens Hospital in Boston against efforts made by the hospital towards establishing greater equity in health care for communities of color.

According to a 2021 Anti-Defamation League (ADL) report, incidents of white supremacist propaganda has surged across the U.S. in the pre-

vious year to “alarming levels,” and concluded that NSC-131 is one of three groups responsible for 92% of the activity.

In the Council Order, Arroyo says: “The Boston Regional Intelligence Center (BRIC) under the authority of the Boston Police Department (BPD) was established in 2005 with the purported purpose to reduce crime and prevent acts of terrorism throughout the Metropolitan Boston Homeland Security Region (MBHSR)...to date, BPD and BRIC have had insufficient intelligence and inadequate responses to recent actions and demonstrations led by white supremacist hate groups, those actions are escalating, raising concerns about their ability to effectively monitor and track these domestic terrorist organizations as they are required.”

EXPLORE TIDEPOLLS WITH DCR AT SHORT BEACH

The Friends of Belle Isle Marsh, the DCR, and Save the Harbor, Save the Bay are offering Tidepool Discovery outings with the DCR’s Matthew Nash. Tuesdays, July 5, from 10-11 a.m., and Aug. 2 and 16 from 8:30 - 9:30 a.m.

Discover and learn about the fascinating plants and animals of the tidepool and why we should care for both these fragile creatures and the tidepool that represents their home. Nets will be provided for brief capture and release of the tidepool creatures. Be prepared for slippery rocks and for getting your feet wet!”

Baker proclaims ‘Hurricane Preparedness Week’

Staff Report

Hurricane Preparedness Week, as proclaimed by Governor Charlie Baker, runs through July 16. All week, the Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency (MEMA) will engage local communities across Massachusetts to highlight the risk of tropical storms and hurricanes, and encourage residents to take steps to prepare. As part of MEMA’s commitment to diversity and equity in emergency planning, this year’s campaign will include information to equip those living with disabilities and specific medical needs.

“Hurricane Preparedness Week is an annual reminder of the hazards that the Commonwealth faces and how residents can prepare during hurricane season,” said Public Safety and Security Secretary Terrence Reidy. “While it’s been 31 years since Hurricane Bob made landfall in New England, hurricanes and tropical storms remain a threat to Massachusetts and we ask residents to learn if they live in a hurricane evacuation zone, develop an emergency plan, build an emergency kit, and stay informed.”

For the 2022 hurricane season, MEMA has continued its longstanding

commitment to deepen local, state, federal, and private sector partnerships. The Agency has convened meetings to discuss logistics, operational plans, and capabilities; facilitated a series of tabletop exercises; and participated in a large tabletop exercise with Emergency Support Function (ESF) partners and the National Weather Service. Additionally, MEMA Acting Director Dawn Brantley serves as Co-Chair of the National Emergency Management Association Diversity and Equity Committee which focuses on identifying opportunities to advance diversity and inclusion in the workforce; and ensures equity and accessibility of emergency management policies and programs. While MEMA and its partners are taking steps to ensure the Commonwealth is ready, preparedness is a shared responsibility that all should take part in.

“While MEMA continues to prepare for disasters, we can’t do it alone – preparedness is a whole community responsibility and we want everyone to be prepared for the challenges and impacts they may face in an emergency,” said Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency (MEMA) Acting Director Dawn Brantley. “I urge

residents with disabilities and medical needs to take steps to prepare for their circumstances by customizing their emergency plans, gathering necessary supplies and planning with their support network who may be able to assist during a disaster. For those individuals, I want to assure you that MEMA takes accessibility of emergency programs and services very seriously and we work year-round to ensure that we are prepared to support all individuals equally and equitably before, during, and after disasters.”

Plan for Your Unique Needs

Every person and family may have different needs in an emergency. Individuals with disabilities or medical needs may take extra steps to prepare:

- If you receive medical treatment or home health care services, work with your medical provider to determine how to maintain care and service if you are unable to leave your home or have to evacuate.
- If you live in an area that may flood and may need an accessible transportation option to evacuate, plan with family, neighbors, and friends who may assist you. Contact local public safety officials to make them

aware of your needs.

- If your medical equipment uses electricity, talk to health care providers, your utility company & your personal support network for options during a power outage.
- Ensure that your emergency kit has all the items you and your family would need including medications, spare eyeglasses, medical equipment and supplies, and children’s items such as diapers and formula.

Ways to Prepare

Know Your Zone – In Massachusetts, there are three designated hurricane evacuation zones - Zone A, Zone B, and Zone C, for coastal areas of the state at risk for storm surge flooding during hurricanes. Visit MEMA’s interactive hurricane evacuation zone map to learn if you live or work in a hurricane evacuation zone:www.mass.gov/knowyourzone.

Make an Emergency Plan – Talk to your family and create an emergency plan of how your family would evacuate, shelter in place, and stay in touch. Consider children, seniors, individuals with disabilities and medical needs, and pets in your emergency plans. <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/make-a-family-emergency-plan>

Build an Emergency

Kit - Build an emergency kit that includes all the items your household would need for three to five days without power. Every emergency kit should include bottled water, food, a flashlight, a radio and extra batteries, a first aid kit, and personal & hygiene items. Kits should also be customized for any additional items your family would need given medical conditions, pets, and other considerations: <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/build-an-emergency-kit>.

Stay Informed – Individuals should have several ways to receiving emergency alerts. Residents are urged to sign up for their community’s local notification systems. Other ways to receive alerts and information include the Emergency Alert System, Wireless Emergency Alerts, NOAA Weather Radio, and social and traditional news media. The Commonwealth’s 2-1-1 hotline is available 24x7 for non-emergency assistance and is available with translation in 150+ languages and can be accessed via video relay services. <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/be-informed-and-receive-emergency-alerts>

For more information, including interactive evacuation zone maps,

a social media toolkit, flyers, preparedness tips, videos and more, visit MEMA’s Hurricane Season Preparedness webpage.

MEMA is the state agency charged with ensuring the state is prepared to withstand, respond to, and recover from all types of emergencies and disasters, including natural hazards, accidents, deliberate attacks, and technological and infrastructure failures. MEMA’s staff of professional planners, communications specialists and operations and support personnel is committed to an all hazards approach to emergency management. By building and sustaining effective partnerships with federal, state and local government agencies, and with the private sector - individuals, families, non-profits and businesses - MEMA ensures the Commonwealth’s ability to rapidly recover from large and small disasters by assessing and mitigating threats and hazards, enhancing preparedness, ensuring effective response, and strengthening our capacity to rebuild and recover. For additional information about MEMA and Emergency Preparedness, go to www.mass.gov/mema.

OBITUARIES

Irene E. (Kozlowski) May

September 12, 1928 – July 10, 2022

Irene E. May passed away on Sunday, July 10 after a brief decline of health. She was 93 years of age.

Born and raised in Chelsea, she was a beloved daughter of the late Adam and Mary (Tomaszewski) Kozlowski and the wife of Joseph F. May with whom she shared 61 years of love and devotion raising their three daughters.

Irene attended local schools and graduated from Chelsea High School, Class of 1945. As a young lady, Irene worked as a telephone operator at the Chelsea Central Office for NE Tel & Tel. Co. She left work to devote time to raising her family and caring for her home. After her family grew, she returned to work for Massachusetts Commission for the Blind “MCB” at the Chelsea Soldiers Home Canteen.

Throughout her life, Irene’s devotion remained centered around her much loved home and family. She was proud of her Polish Heritage and her adopted Italian Heritage. She would prepare traditional Polish and Italian meals for the many family gatherings and holidays. She enjoyed spending summers at the family cottage on White Pond in Windsor, NH. Together with her husband they acquired additional cottages on the pond to enable their daughters and their families to share vacations, together creating wonderful memories. Irene enjoyed growing flowers and tending to her extensive rock garden. She took great pleasure in doing puzzles, reading, and especially teaching her grandchildren card games.

Irene was predeceased by her husband, Joseph F. May, her siblings; Louise Nowicki-Hurley, Joseph Kozlowski, Charles Kozlowski and several beloved sisters and brothers-in-law. She was the loving mother of Christine DePrizio of Chelsea and her late husband, Louis; Joyce May-Boudreau and her husband, Stephen of Peabody; Mary Ellyn May-Webb and her hus-



band, David of Townsend; cherished grandmother of: Michael DePrizio and his wife, Kate, Jennifer DePrizio and her husband, Tom Fleming, Allison Frometa and her husband, Ramelfo “Fito,” Jessica Cole and her husband, Levar, Nicholas DePrizio. Leighanne Duvall and her husband, Justin, Stephanie Boudreau, Justina Webb, Heatherlee Estes and her husband, Christopher and David Webb and his wife, Jessica; the adored great-grandmother of Sophie, Sadie, Will and Charlie DePrizio; Josie Fleming; RJ Frometa; Jonathan, Benjamin, Nicholas, Julia and Robert Cole; Haylee, Christopher and Ryker Estes; and Max Webb. She is also lovingly remembered by many nieces, nephews, extended family members and friends.

Visiting hours will be held from the Welsh Funeral Home, 718 Broadway, Chelsea on Friday, July 15 from 4 to 8 p.m. Relatives and friends are most kindly invited to attend. Funeral from the Welsh Funeral Home on Saturday, July 16 at 9 a.m. followed by a Funeral Mass at Our Lady of Grace Church, 59 Nichols St. Chelsea at 10 a.m. Services will conclude with interment at Woodlawn Cemetery, Everett.

Should friends desire, contributions in her memory may be made to St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital, 501 St. Jude Pl., Memphis, TN 38105-1905. WWW.StJude.org/Donate

For directions or to send expressions of sympathy, please visit: www.Welsh-FH.com.

Arrangements were given to the care and direction of the Welsh Funeral Home.

Hector Lao, Sr.

September 28.1948 – July 6, 2022

Hector Juan Lao-Alicea, Sr. passed away on Wednesday, July 6 at the Mass. General Hospital in Boston after a sudden illness. He was 73 years old.

Born and raised in Arroyo, Puerto Rico, he was one of seven children and a beloved son of late Rosa Alicea-Alicea and Nicolas Lao-Vega.

He was the beloved husband of Sonia Morales of Chelsea and together they raised seven children of their own. He is survived by his beloved wife, the devoted father of: Rosa Lao of Chelsea and Hector J. Lao, Jr., both of Chelsea, Mike Santiago of Hyde Park, Angel Santiago of Indianapolis, Indiana, Jose Santiago of Puerto Rico, Carmen Lao of Lynn and the late Sonia B. Lao. He is also survived by several grandchildren, many great grandchildren, a host of extended family members and friends.



Relatives and friends are most kindly invited to attend his funeral from the Welsh Funeral Home, 718 Broadway, Chelsea, today, Thursday, July 14 at 8:30 a.m. followed by a Funeral Mass at St. Rose Church, 600 Broadway, Chelsea at 10 a.m. Services will conclude with interment at Pine Grove Cemetery in Lynn.

For directions or to send expressions of sympathy, please visit: www.WelshFH.com.

Arrangements were given to the care and direction of the Welsh Funeral Home.

Lydia Esther Nieves Romero

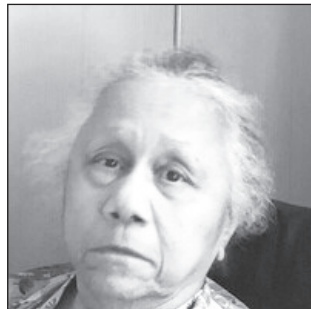
January 1, 1945 – July 7, 2022

Lydia Esther Nieves-Romero, 77, passed away on Tuesday, July 7. She was one of eighteen children born to the late Hippolyta Romero-Nieves and Ceferino Nieves.

Born in Bayamon Puerto Rico, she was raised in Comerio, PR. She came to Chelsea in 1975 and has been a resident of Chelsea for most of her life and a longtime resident of 14 Bloomingdale St. in Chelsea. Lydia has spent the past 18 in years receiving supportive care in area nursing homes and was in residence at the Light-house Nursing Center in Revere at the time of her passing.

In her lifetime, she was devoted to her extended family and she enjoyed dancing and making “Pasteles” to share with her family. A product of a large and loving family, she formed a special bond with two sisters, Carmen Nieves and Gladys Martinez, together they were best known as the “Three Amigos,” and she had a unique kinship with her brother, Angel Nieves living across the hall from him on Bloomingdale St. She is fondly remembered for her kind and giving nature, her perpetual smile and willingness to help all she knew.

In addition to her parents, she was predeceased by her infant daughter, Sara Medurio and several



siblings including the late Gladys Martinez, Angel Nieves and Rosa “Canita” Nieves. To mourn her passing, she is survived by several siblings including: Carmen Nieves of Chelsea, Juana Andino, Andy Nieves-Romero, Mercedes Nieves and Dan Nieves, all of Puerto Rico. She is also survived by numerous nieces, nephews, many grand and great grandnieces and nephews.

Relatives and friends are most kindly invited to attend her Funeral Mass on Friday, July 15 at St. Rose Church, 600 Broadway, Chelsea at 10 a.m. Services will conclude with interment at Holy Cross Cemetery, Malden.

In lieu of flowers, please consider making a donation to the funeral fund, your contributions are greatly appreciated - The Family of Lydia Nieves.

For directions or to send expressions of sympathy, please visit: www.Welsh-FH.com.

Arrangements were given to the care and direction of the Welsh Funeral Home.

OBITUARIES

All obituaries and death notices will be at a cost of \$150.00 per paper.

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401-222-2661/62
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Eight alternative ways to keep cool without air conditioning

Motorists are being given suggestions on how to cope with the heat this summer - when they don't have the luxury of using an air-con.

The holiday car rental experts at StressFreeCar-Rental.com have outlined eight ways to keep cool and improve your driving experience while travelling over the summer.

Although most new cars come with a sufficient climate control system, many drivers are still having to put up with sweltering conditions while they're out on the road.

There's nothing worse than being trapped in a

hot car for a long journey, however it's sometimes unavoidable, especially if you're commuting to work or going on a road trip.

Those who have ACs but are looking to cut back on their motoring expenses should also consider alternatives, because using air-con can increase fuel consumption by as much as 20%.

Among those making the list of suggestions are freezing water bottles to use as ice packs and shielding your car from the sun with a dashboard cover.

A spokesperson for StressFreeCarRental.com

said: "Driving in the blazing sun can cause motorists to feel dizzy and ill from heat exhaustion, which in return is dangerous for all the road users.

"There are some cost-effective alternatives that help motorists tackle the heat and prevent accidents while they're out and about on a hot day."

Here are StressFreeCar-Rental.com's best tips for cooling down without the help of an air-con:

Stay hydrated

Make sure to bring a refreshing cold beverage with you on your journey to avoid dehydration and store

it under the seat to maintain its cool temperature.

Hang a wet rag over the vent

The air blown out will be much cooler, but make sure you have a few wet rags ready to replace it with as it will dry out quite quickly. Also remember to take them out of your car and wash them afterwards to prevent mildew.

Freeze water bottles to use as ice packs

Wrap a frozen bottle in a towel and rest it against your seat behind your neck. Once it defrosts, you'll have ice cold water to drink and cool off too.

Park in the shade

There's nothing worse than getting into a boiling hot car at the end of the day, so be mindful of where you leave your vehicle. Under trees is the obvious choice - but you can also try to find a large truck or lorry for shade.

Get a mini-fan

A portable fan can make all the difference, even on the hottest summer days. These fans are small but mighty when it comes to cooling yourself down while you're stuck in a hot car.

Get cold packs

Although cold packs

don't provide a long-term solution, they can be used as a quick relief from the heat.

Use a dashboard cover

Put on a dashboard cover on your car's windshield to keep sunlight away from the car's interior. You won't feel as overwhelmed by the heat if you don't have to touch hot vinyl surfaces.

Keep windows slightly cracked

It's obviously not a good idea to open your windows all the way but leaving just a small crack will promote ventilation and help to keep your car cool.

LEGAL NOTICES

LEGAL NOTICE
NOTICE OF MORTGAGEE'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE
Premises: 58 Chestnut Street, Chelsea, Massachusetts
By virtue of and execution of the Power of Sale contained in a certain mortgage given by Rose Ann Tilton and Theresa V. McDonald to Wells Fargo Financial Massachusetts, Inc., said mortgage dated December 8, 2003, and recorded in the Suffolk County Registry of Deeds, in Book 33465 at Page 117 and now held by Wilmington Savings Fund Society, FSB, d/b/a Christiana Trust, not individually but as Trustee for Pretium Mortgage Acquisition Trust by virtue of an assignment from Citibank, N.A., as Trustee for CMLTI Asset Trust to Wilmington Savings Fund Society, FSB, d/b/a Christiana Trust, not individually but as Trustee for Pretium Mortgage Acquisition Trust dated June 17, 2019 and recorded in Book 61422 at Page 75 of the Suffolk County Registry of Deeds; previously assigned by US Bank Trust, N.A., as Trustee for LSF9 Master Participation Trust, to Citibank, N.A., as Trustee for CMLTI Asset Trust, by virtue of an assignment dated July 12, 2018 and recorded in Book 59983 at Page 87 of the Suffolk County Registry of Deeds, previously assigned by Wells Fargo Financial Massachusetts, Inc., to US Bank Trust NA, as Trustee for LSF9 Master Participation Trust, by virtue of an assignment dated August 29, 2016 and recorded in Book 56708 at Page 199 of the Suffolk County Registry of Deeds, for breach of the conditions in said mortgage and for the purpose of fore-

closing the same, will be sold at Public Auction on August 5, 2022 at 11:00 AM Local Time upon the premises, all and singular the premises described in said mortgage, to wit: A parcel of land located in Chelsea, County of Suffolk, State of Massachusetts with a street location address of 58 Chestnut Street, Chelsea, MA 02150 currently owned by Theresa V. McDonald and Rose Ann Tilton and more fully described in the Vesting Document dated 11/24/98, recorded on 11/25/98, in Liber 23155 Page 184 and designated as metes and bounds property. More particularly described as: The land with the buildings thereon situated in Chelsea, Suffolk County, known and numbered 58 Chestnut Street and being shown as part of Lot 29 on Williams Street on the plan entitled "Plan of Lands of the Winnisimmet Company and others in Chelsea and Malden" by J.H. Shearer, Engineer, dated 1864, and recorded with Suffolk Deeds at the end of Book 616 bounded and described as follows: Commencing on said Chestnut Street at the passageway between Beacon Street and Williams Street and then running: Northeastly: on said Chestnut Street, thirty-one (31) feet, then turning and running: Northwestly: on a line parallel with said passageway forty-four (44) feet; more or less to Lot 28 as shown on said plan; then turning and running Southwesterly: on said Lot 28, Thirty-One (31) feet to said passageway then

turning and running Southeastly: on said passageway Forty-four (44) feet to the point of beginning. The description of the property that appears in the mortgage to be foreclosed shall control in the event of a typographical error in this publication. For Mortgagors' Title see deed dated November 24, 1998, and recorded in Book 23155 at Page 184 with the Suffolk County Registry of Deeds. TERMS OF SALE: Said premises will be sold and conveyed subject to all liens, encumbrances, unpaid taxes, tax titles, municipal liens and assessments, if any, which take precedence over the said mortgage above described. FIVE THOUSAND (\$5,000.00) Dollars of the purchase price must be paid by a certified check, bank treasurer's or cashier's check at the time and place of the sale by the purchaser. The balance of the purchase price shall be paid in cash, certified check, bank treasurer's or cashier's check within sixty (60) days after the date of sale. Other terms to be announced at the sale. BENEDT & MCHUGH, PC 270 Farmington Avenue Farmington, CT 06032 Attorney for Wilmington Savings Fund Society, FSB,

d/b/a Christiana Trust, not individually but as Trustee for Pretium Mortgage Acquisition Trust Present Holder of the Mortgage (860) 677-2868 6/30/22, 7/7/22, 7/14/22 C

LEGAL NOTICE
Re: Sandovalmja, Inc. d/b/a Los Amigos 339 Broadway, Chelsea MA
Chelsea Licensing Commission, July 14, 2022 Notice is hereby given that a public hearing will be held by the Chelsea Licensing Commission on Thursday, July 14, 2022 at 6:00 p.m. at the City Council Chambers, Chelsea City Hall, 500 Broadway, Chelsea, MA, to consider a Transfer of a Wine and Malt Beverages License application (On Premise) from Los Amigos Corp. d/b/a Restaurante Los Amigos to Sandovalmja, Inc. d/b/a Los Amigos 339 Broadway, 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 7/7/22, 7/14/22 C

LEGAL NOTICE
COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS THE TRIAL COURT PROBATE AND FAMILY COURT
Suffolk Probate and Family Court 24 New Chardon St. Boston, MA 02114 (617)788-8300 CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION Docket No. SU22P1340EA Estate of: Mario Zullo Date of Death 09/30/2016 To all interested persons: A Petition for Late and Limited Formal Testacy and/or Appointment has been filed by William Festa of Peabody, MA requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition. The Petitioner requests that: William Festa of Peabody, MA be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve Without Surety on the bond in unsupervised administration. IMPORTANT NOTICE You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 08/05/2022. This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you. UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC) A Personal Representative appointed under the MUPC in an unsupervised administration is not required to file an inventory or annual accounts with the Court. Persons interested in the estate are entitled to notice regarding the administration directly from the Personal Representative and may petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including the distribution of assets and expenses of administration. WITNESS, Hon. Brian J. Dunn, First Justice of this Court. Date: June 24, 2022 Felix D. Arroyo Register of Probate 7/14/22 C

LEGAL NOTICE
CITY OF CHELSEA REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
Provision of Basic Necessities and Household Supplies
The City of Chelsea, Massachusetts, through its Chief Procurement Officer, is seeking Request for Proposals for "Provision of Basic Necessities and Household Supplies". Request for Proposals will be available on or after July 14, 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 "Provision of Basic Necessities and Household Supplies" and submitted to the Office of the Chief Procurement Officer no later than 10:00AM on Thursday, July 28, 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 7/14/22 C

LEGAL NOTICE
SALE OF REAL ESTATE
By virtue of the Judgment and Order of the Chelsea District Court (Docket # 2214CV00019) in favor of the Trustees of the 729-731 Broadway Condominium Trust against Olga Chacon and The Bank of New York Mellon f/k/a The Bank of New York, As Trustee For The Certificate Holders of CWABS, Inc., Asset-Backed Certificates, Series 2006-11, establishing a lien pursuant to M.G.L. 183A § 6, on the real estate known as Unit #1 in the 729-731 Broadway Condominium, 729-731 Broadway, Chelsea, Massachusetts 02150 ("Unit") by the Trustees of the 729-731 Broadway Condominium Trust ("Condominium"), for the purpose of satisfying such lien, the same will be sold at a public auction sale at 11:00 a.m. on Wednesday, August 3, 2022 at the subject Unit. The Unit to be sold is more particularly described as follows: The Unit is in that condominium known as 729-731 Broadway Condominium, established under Declaration of Trust and pursuant to Master Deed, each dated October 5, 2005, and recorded at Suffolk County Registry of Deeds ("Registry of Deeds"), at Book 38297, Pages 107 and 124, respectively, together with said Unit's undivided interest in the common area and facilities as described in said Master Deed. The post office address of the Condominium is 729-731 Broadway Condominium, 729-731 Broadway, Chelsea, Massachusetts 02150. The Unit and the Condominium are subject to the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 183A. The Unit hereby conveyed is shown on the plans of the building filed simultaneously with the Master Deed with said Deed, a copy of a portion of which plans are attached to the first Unit Deed. Said Unit is conveyed together with an undivided percentage interest in the common areas and facilities of the Condominium as set forth in said Master Deed. Said Unit is conveyed subject to and with the benefit of (1) the provisions of M.G.L. Chapter 183A, as amended; (2) the provisions and matters as set forth in the Master Deed, as amended; (3) the provisions and matters as set forth in the first unit deed and floor plans recorded therewith; and (4) the provisions of said Declaration of Trust of the Condominium, as amended. Said Unit is conveyed together with the right of easements appurtenant to said Unit as described in the Master Deed. Being all and the same premises conveyed to Olga Chacon by deed dated May 31, 2006, duly executed, sealed, delivered, and recorded at said Registry of Deeds, Book 39705, Page 100. The Unit is to be sold subject to and with the benefit of all easements, restrictions, building and zoning laws, tenants or occupants, prior mortgages, unpaid taxes, tax titles, water bills, municipal liens and assessments, common area charges, and all other claims in the nature of liens, having priority over the said Judgment, if any there be. No representation is or shall be made as to any mortgages, liens, encumbrances, or the condition of the subject Unit. TERMS OF SALE: A non-refundable deposit of Five Thousand (\$5,000.00) Dollars shall be required to be made payable to 729-731 Broadway Condominium Trust in cash, by certified check or by Bank Cashier's check at the time and place of sale. The balance of the purchase price is to be paid to 729-731 Broadway Condominium Trust in cash, by certified check, or by Bank Cashier's check in or within thirty (30) days from the date of sale to be held in escrow until delivery of the deed. Other terms, if any, to be announced at the sale. Trustees of the 729-731 Broadway Condominium Trust By their Attorney, Howard S. Goldman BBO#199030 Goldman & Pease LLC 160 Gould Street Suite 320 Needham, MA 02494 (781) 292-1080 Dated: June 27, 2022 6/30/22, 7/7/22, 7/14/22 C

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NEWS FROM AROUND THE REGION

COUNCIL SEEKS RESIDENTS' FEEDBACK

EVERETT - City Council members at last week's meeting made it very clear that they want neighborhood feedback before they vote on what to do with the former Pope John High XXIII High School site.

At last week's meeting, members from the team at The Neighborhood Developers (TND) gave an overview of their proposed affordable housing plans for the Broadway site, hoping to have the council vote for the disposition of the site at 588 Broadway by transferring ownership to TND.

The current plans call for 76 units of family housing and 62 units of senior housing. Everett residents are guaranteed 70% of these units.

The TND team told the council of the desperate need for affordable housing in the city, as evidenced by the overwhelming demand for affordable units at TND's St. Theresa's development. TND officials said that there were 77 units of senior housing and six single-family homes that were placed into the lottery. They said there were more than 540 applications for the senior housing, of whom 170 were Everett residents, and more than 338 families had applied for the single-family housing, of whom 104 were Everett residents.

There will be parking for 110 cars at the Pope John site and it is estimated that the city will receive in the vicinity of \$200,000 per year in taxes. The project will be managed by both TND and Hebrew Senior Life.

The City Council voted to acquire the Pope John site in 2019 after the

school had become insolvent. The city has spent more than \$10 million to buy and maintain the building to-date.

TND was the only bidder on the project when it went out to bid in 2021. Erin Deveney, Mayor Carlo DeMaria's Chief of Staff, said that the building has many deferred maintenance issues, and when the school was built more than 60 years ago, many of the state's present-day mandatory accessibility requirements were not in force.

"This school is not ready for students," said Deveney, addressing the issue of whether the former school building could be used to relieve overcrowding in the city's public schools. She also noted that it takes time to get into the state school pipeline for money to repair and upgrade the school.

"The Webster School roof took more than a year to get the state funds," she added.

The neighborhood meeting date has not been set, but was tentatively scheduled for August.

In other matters, the council voted to accept the following donations:

An order recommending the acceptance of donations totaling \$14,000.00 for the Summer Jobs Program from the following:

The Leavitt Corporation \$1,000.00, Malden Transportation \$1,000.00, Davis Management Co. \$2,500.00, Greystar Development \$5,000.00, Everett Coop Bank \$2,500.00, Everett Supply & True Value \$1,000.00, and Dagle Electrical Construction \$1,000.00

The council also voted to accept the following grants:

An order recommending the acceptance of a grant from the Metro-

politan Area Planning Council in the amount of \$36,276.00 to support a COVID-safe cooling project;

An order recommending the acceptance of a grant from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency, in the amount of \$20,150.00 for marine safety and training equipment; and

An order recommending the acceptance of a grant from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, Department of Environmental Protection, in the amount of \$40,450.00 for the installation of infiltration trenches for stormwater and groundwater recharge.

The council unanimously voted to approve the following budget items for FY 2022:

An order recommending the approval of the Fiscal Year 2023 General Fund Budget as submitted by His Honor the Mayor and as amended by the City Council in the amount of \$239,396,734.00;

An order recommending the approval of the Fiscal Year 2023 Water & Sewer Enterprise Fund Budget as submitted by His Honor the Mayor in the amount of \$21,825,523.00;

An order recommending the approval of the Fiscal Year 2023 Everett Cable TV Enterprise Fund Budget as submitted by His Honor the Mayor in the amount of \$589,400.00; and

An order recommending the approval of the Fiscal Year 2023 Capital Improvement Plan as submitted by His Honor the Mayor in the amount of \$31,394,800.00.

The Council also voted to schedule its two meeting dates for the summer on July 11 and August 8.

ANNUAL HORRIBLES PARADE



PARTY IN THE USA: Shown above, Juliet, Emily, Anabel, and Gianna marched in the 140th Horribles Parade on July 3 celebrating Independence Day.

TWO NEW ART INSTALLATIONS TO MAKE DEBUT

EAST BOSTON - Two new public art installations by two will make their debut in East Boston on July 13, at the East Boston Social Centers and LoPresti Park.

With support of a Boston Transformative Public Art grant artist Yu-Wen Wu and artist Eli Brown have both commissioned to create the two new works of public art in Eastie.

Over at the Social Centers Wu, a Now and There Public Art Accelerator Artist, has created a light-based public art installation, We Belong, that debuts in East Boston by July 13. In LED neon, the work forms the text "We Belong, here, together, guided by the same stars" in an eight-foot circular sculptural art form with a constellation that maps and connects Boston's neighborhoods.

The continuously-lit piece will begin its city-wide journey at the East Boston Social Center, where the city's early immigration centers were located, and will move onto other diverse neighborhoods across Boston in the future. All are welcome to celebrate the opening party on Wed. July 13 in Central Square.

"Two years in the making, We Belong is an exciting push for my practice in public art and another opportunity to experiment with light-based media," said Wu. "I am so excited to bring the installation to East Boston, a neighborhood with vibrant culture, tight-knit community, and important history. I hope the work will help to initiate dialogue on belonging and inclusion among all communities in Boston."

Wu is an interdisciplinary artist living and working in Boston. Born in Taipei, Taiwan, Wu's subjectivity as an immigrant is central to her artwork. Arriving in the United States at an early age, her experiences have shaped her work in areas of migration—examining issues of displacement, arrival, assimilation, and the shape of identity in a new country.

Wu said she is passionate about data, mapping, and its storytelling and her work lies at the crossroads of art, science, politics, and social issues.

Her wide range of projects include large-scale drawings, sculpture, site-specific video installations, community-engaged practices, and public art. Wu has been awarded numerous grants,

exhibited nationally and internationally and is included in several private and public collections.

With the support of a Boston Transformative Public Art grant, Wu's "We Belong" will travel to multiple Boston neighborhoods in 2022-2023. Through community events at each site and digital engagement opportunities, local residents will be invited to participate in the project by sharing what the concept of "belonging" means to them.

"We are all about creating visionary new works for the city and highlighting inclusivity," said Executive Director of Now + There Kate Gilbert. "Yu-Wen Wu's installation emphasizes a welcoming spirit to residents, new and old, who have come here to Boston to make this their home."

At LoPresti Park, Now + There's Public Art Accelerator Artist Brown will premiere Beam Me Down, a public art installation of an unidentified flying object (UFO), on the same day.

The sculpture's design blends the qualities of a UFO and a shell, and is steered by a selection of hermaphroditic tidal animals such as oysters and barnacles. An accompanying comic book is co-illustrated by the artist and young Eastie residents.

Brown said "Beam Me Down" is meant to play on the power and wonder of the unknown and asks viewers to consider relationships with some of the smallest animals that sustain life at the water's edge and what they can teach about navigating rising seas. It is one of several installations that will be going up this summer as part of Now + There's Accelerator program, bringing site-specific, temporary public art works to all neighborhoods of Boston.

"I wanted to focus on the feeling of encountering the unknown, because it's something we're all facing right now as resources become more unstable and we come up against the dilemma of who is going to save us from ourselves," said Brown, who identifies as a trans artist. "But it's also been a huge part of my life as a trans person. And so the UFO as this universal symbol of 'the other' can serve to raise questions we are thinking through as a species, while also being a playful object for all ages."

Brown added that by featuring hermaphroditic creatures at the helm, his work hints at the lessons we can learn from human and non-human queer life, adaptation and survival.

Brown said by reframing the climate change narrative the artist hopes viewers move from a linear perspective, where society reaches an end, toward a cyclical perspective and look to the strength of ancient tidal species for survival strategies.

"This project is meant to encourage us toward small acts in response to big anxiety, like the Kid in the comic who forms a relationship with a neighborhood snail," said Brown.

From the installation in LoPresti Park, Brown draws on the work's tidal animals to become the main characters in a sci-fi comic book which he co-illustrated with East Boston students, ages 3 to 18, from Adams Elementary School. The comic book will be available by QR code and will be printed in English and Spanish. Local bodegas and shops will carry it for free, and people can contribute drawings to the virtual space at the East Boston Public Library.

Brown is an interdisciplinary artist working in sculpture, comics, and community organizing whose work explores queer and trans intimacies through time and cross-generational dynamics. They are especially interested in asking what the future of human evolution could look like if we reimagined reproduction as a queer, ecological strategy. Recent work has been featured at Flux Factory, deCordova Sculpture Park and Museum, Tailgate Projects in Tampa, FL. and Creative Time Summit X.

"I expect Beam Me Down will be as transformative to visitors as Eli's thoughtful participation in the fourth cohort of the N+T Public Art Accelerator," said Gilbert.

Now + There's Public Art Accelerator program grants Boston-based artists a \$25,000 stipend along with a six-month curriculum to help them with curatorial, technical, and financial support as they develop new temporary and site-specific works of art for the neighborhoods of Boston.

HONORING FREDERICK DOUGLASS

LYNN - North Shore Juneteenth hosted the Reading Frederick Douglass Together July 3 at Frederick Douglass Park in Central Square.

Guests participated in the reading of Mr. Douglass' famous Fourth of

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FBI warns of increase in rental and real estate scams

As rents, home prices, and inflation surge in today’s highly competitive real estate market, the FBI Boston Division is warning the public about the risk of rental scams, and the need to be cautious when posting and responding to rental properties and real-estate online.

“We have seen a significant increase in the amount of money being lost by people who are desperate for a good deal. Scammers are cashing in on renters who need to act quickly for fear of missing out, and it’s costing consumers thousands of dollars, and in some cases, leaving them stranded,” said Joseph R. Bonavolonta, Special Agent in Charge of the FBI Boston Division. “We are asking everyone to exercise caution, especially over the next few months, as folks look to book last minute summer getaways.”

Rental scams occur when the victim has rental property advertised and is contacted by an interested party. Once the rental price is agreed-upon, the scammer forwards a check for the deposit on the rental property to the victim. The check is

to cover housing expenses and is, either written in excess of the amount required, with the scammer asking for the remainder to be remitted back, or the check is written for the correct amount, but the scammer backs out of the rental agreement and asks for a refund. Since the banks do not usually place a hold on the funds, the victim has immediate access to them and believes the check has cleared. In the end, the check is found to be counterfeit and the victim is held responsible by the bank for all losses.

Another type of scam involves real estate that is advertised online. The scammer duplicates postings from legitimate real estate websites and reposts these ads, after altering them. Often, the scammers use the broker’s real name to create a fake email, which gives the fraud more legitimacy. When the victim sends an email through the classified advertisement website inquiring about the home, they receive a response from someone claiming to be the owner. The “owner” claims they’re unable to show the property without payment

because they are either out of town or out of the country. If the victim is interested in renting the home, they are asked to send money and shortly thereafter the property is no longer available.

According to the FBI’s Internet Crime Complaint Center (IC3), which provides the public with a means of reporting Internet-facilitated crimes, there has been a steady increase in losses reported by victims of real estate/rental scams in the last three years.

Nationwide, in 2021, 11,578 people reported losing \$350,328,166 due to these types of scams which is a 64% increase from the previous year. Here in the Boston Division, which includes all of Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, and Rhode Island, 415 victims reported \$13,424,269 in losses which is a 27% jump.

42 victims in Maine lost \$489,309

290 victims in Massachusetts lost \$8,944,041

41 victims in New Hampshire lost \$2,576,210

42 victims in Rhode Island lost \$1,414,709

The actual losses are

most likely much higher because many people are hesitant to report they were scammed. Within the FBI Boston Division’s area of responsibility, several incidents have been reported in recent months including:

An Idaho man was in the process of re-locating to Rhode Island and responded to a Craigslist ad for a year-long rental in Narragansett, RI. After securing a \$21,756 advance from his employer, he wired that money to the “owner” and set up a time to gain access to the residence. Prior to the agreed upon meeting time, the man received a text canceling the meeting because the “owner” was in Chicago tending to his sick son. The man went to the residence and was greeted by the actual property owner who told him it was not a rental property and he had not posted an online ad.

An East Providence, RI, man responded to an online advertisement for an apartment in Cambridge, MA, requiring the first and last month’s rent, along with a security deposit. The man was told he would not be given the keys and allowed

to access the apartment until the \$6,000 check cleared the bank. As soon as that happened, he made an appointment to collect the keys for the apartment but no one answered the door. After calling and texting the purported owner, the victim received a text stating “you got scammed, do not text this phone anymore.”

A University of Rhode Island student responded to an online advertisement on Facebook Marketplace for an apartment in Wakefield, Rhode Island. The student wired \$1,800 to secure the place after he was told he wouldn’t be allowed to see the apartment prior to moving in because the landlord is always traveling. When he showed up to move in, the address he was given was for the leasing office and he was told there were no units available.

How to avoid being victimized:

Do not wire funds to people you do not know.

Do not put money towards a house or apartment you have not seen.

Confirm the identity of the landlord by researching public records to find out

who owns the property you are seeking to rent or purchase.

Do not fill out applications online until you have met directly with the property manager.

Know local rental prices. Look for online reviews, references, and testimonials from past inhabitants.

Be wary if a potential tenant wants to rent property sight unseen.

Be wary if a potential renter says they are out of town and will send you cashiers’ check.

Be wary if a potential landlord says he is out of the country and wants the rent sent to a foreign account.

Do not accept overpayment for properties. If you receive a check for more than the specified amount, return it. Do not deposit it.

If you find yourself the target or victim of a rental scam, stop all contact immediately, and if you have already sent money, it is extremely important to report any transfer of funds to your financial institution and file a complaint with the FBI’s Internet Crime Complaint Center at ic3.gov.

Region / Continued from page 12

July Address.

North Shore Juneteenth President Nicole McClain welcomed residents to the twelfth annual event that had been previously held at High Rock Park.

Mayor Jared Nicholson delivered remarks at the event that honors Mr. Douglass’ outstanding contributions as a social reformer, abolitionist, orator, writer, and statesman.

“Thank you, North Shore Juneteenth, the Lynn Museum, Mass Humanities – thank you to all of you for being here,” Nicholson said. “This is such a marquee event and to have it in a marquee spot like this is really exciting for the city of Lynn. This is something that’s gone on for years, and it’s really important for us to recognize this story. It’s an important part of our local history, the role Frederick Douglass played, and you can see that with the memorial dedication of this park in his name. He’s been such an important part in our country’s history. Particularly now, as we are celebrating the nation’s birthday, it’s important to recognize that part of our country’s history that isn’t talked about during Fourth of July: the anniversary of the Declaration of Independence where it was declared that all men were created equal – and then and now, that struggle to make that true continues. Frederick Douglass knew it then when he said it, and more and more people are working to try address that. It’s a proud legacy for the city to have had someone fighting for that in our city, and it’s a proud legacy that so many of the folks that are here today are carrying on.”

Mr. Douglass lived in Lynn from 1841 to 1848 and wrote his autobiography, The Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass, while a resident of the city.

The event was founded by Wendy Joseph and is one of the longest running in the state honoring Frederick Douglass’ Fourth of July speech.

(Information from Mr. Douglass’ autobiographical data online was used in this story).

CHANGE IN ELECTION

PROCESS FOR SCHOOL COMMITTEE

REVERE - Long-time School Committee members Stacey Rizzo and Michael Ferrante have agreed on many issues during their years on the seven-member board. Both have advocated vigorously for the construction of new schools and voted often to ensure that Revere students have had the most state-of-the-art resources needed to excel.

They have been front and center supporting student-athletes in all sports, and they have taken great pride in Revere being a national model for urban education in America.

Ferrante, 65, has served on the School Committee for 17 years. Rizzo, 64, has served for 12 years and currently holds the position of vice-chair. She is also the president-elect of the Massachusetts Association of School Committees.

But Rizzo and Ferrante are on opposite sides of the City Council’s decision to approve Mayor Brian Arrigo’s proposal to change the election process for candidates seeking seats on the School Committee. Arrigo asked that six members be elected by the voters in their respective wards (Wards 1-6), while there also be a city-wide election for two at-large seats. The mayor would be the ex-officio chair of the School Committee, meaning future boards would have nine members as opposed to the current seven-member structure.

Both City Solicitor Paul Capizzi and Council President Gerry Visconti pointed out there would be a very good chance that Revere would face a lawsuit (as had happened in Worcester) if they maintained the current election process for the School Committee.

School Committee member John Kingston, who had obviously done his homework on the issue, correctly noted that while most communities have seven-member School Committees, the City of Malden does in fact, have nine members [eight ward seats and Mayor Gary Christenson as chair].

The Council voted 7-2

to approve Mayor Arrigo’s election proposal, with Councillors Ira Novoselsky and George Rotondo casting votes against the motion. Councillors Anthony Coglian-dro, Patrick Keefe, Joanne McKenna, Steven Morabito, Richard Serino, Marc Silvestri, and Gerry Visconti voted in favor of Arrigo’s proposal.

Rizzo a strong supporter

Stacey Rizzo left no doubt on which side of the issue she stands, stating vigorously, “I am 110 percent for it. I just believe every ward does need its representation. I think it gives other candidates an opportunity to get into an election and not have it be based on name recognition. As far as having two at-large seats, I agree with the proposal because it just allows another set of eyes to look at the whole district.”

Noting some of the questions being raised about having two at-large seats, Rizzo added, “There are five councillors-at-large, I don’t know why there is such an opposition with the School Committee having two [at-large seats].

“I want people to run in those wards,” continued Rizzo. “The families are going to know the candidates because they see them living every day in their wards.”

Interestingly, Rizzo will see direct political ramifications from the new ward-election proposal as she has relocated to Ward 5 where School Committee member Aisha Mil-bury Ellis, a rising star in Revere politics, resides.

“I just moved to Ward 5 and Aisha lives in Ward 5, and more than likely she would win a Ward 5 election over me, because she has lived here and I just moved here,” added Rizzo, while noting that School Committee members Carol Tye and John Kingston reside in Ward 1 and could potentially be opponents in a 2023 Ward 1 School Committee election.

“But the election shouldn’t be about the incumbents,” said Rizzo. “It needs to be about the schools and the students.”

Rizzo has not announced whether she will be a candidate in the 2023

election.

“I have five grandchildren that I watch a lot, and if I can’t do my job 100 percent, I don’t know if it’s fair - I’m going to keep that in the back of my mind right up until probably April of next year,” said Rizzo. “I love my job, and every time we have a graduation and I see all these students that I’ve known since kindergarten – it breaks my heart that I would give it up.”

Ferrante likes the current SC election process

Michael Ferrante wants School Committee elections to remain the way they are. For one, he feels that nine members may make the School Committee less cohesive and less effective.

“You’re going to have nine people up there trying to make decisions – that’s not easy, you know that, and I know that,” Ferrante said candidly. “I just think the more people you have, the harder it is to make decisions. I like it the way it is, but it’s unfortunately, it’s probably not going to stay that way. Right now, if you have the ward fights, we’re going to lose two of our current members, although they could run for at-large seats and win a seat. So, are we trying to eliminate people there, or are we just trying to open it up for more people? I’m really not sure. If the system’s not broken, don’t fix it. Everybody has the same opportunity to run and win.”

Ferrante offered an excellent question that has yet to be addressed by officials, which is: how many candidates on the ballot in School Committee races will advance to the final election?

gets enacted, how many candidates will you need to have an at-large primary?” he asked rhetorically. “Does it revert to the rules where you need double the candidates, plus one, to hold a primary? We have to know the answer to that before we proceed to the next step.”

With the Council’s approval of Mayor Arrigo’s election proposal, the decision now rests with the state legislature.

DICICCO SHINES IN CHAMPIONSHIP PLAY

WINTHROP -Winthrop High star gymnast Brandi Dicicco played a key role as a member of the champion Team Massachusetts squad at the national high school championships held recently in Ft. Myers, Florida.

Brandi competed in two events, floor exercise and vault.

“Brandi has been working on upgrading her routines for this competition since the end of our season in February,” said WHS coach Pete Gobiell. “The meet is pretty intense with over 100 really good gymnasts competing.

“Massachusetts has developed a very intense rivalry with New Jersey,” Gobiell noted. “In the past two years, New Jersey beat us by .1 and the next year by 1.0.

“Brandi’s job was just to hit her routines and try to make the finals,” Gobiell added.

A couple of mistakes on the balance beam left Team Massachusetts feeling the pressure to stick their floor routines. However, Decicco did not disappoint her teammates and came through with a

ting her routine for a 9.35, her personal best of the season.

“Brandi rose to the level of all the top competitors and was unbelievable..” said Gobiell. “It was the best routine I’ve ever seen her do. Her 20 teammates surrounded her as she walked off the floor.”

The competition was close with Massachusetts battling New Jersey, Illinois, and Wisconsin. The vault was next and Brandi warmed up her tsukahara vault, which is a backwards flipping vault. She hit her vault, scoring a season-high score of 9.2, a mark that placed her among top four scores counting towards her team’s total.

After Team Massachusetts finished for the first day, they knew the meet was too close to call.

“Nobody felt that any one team dominated the meet,” said Gobiell. “It was going to be a close one. Everyone would have to wait until the next day after finals for the winning team to be announced.”

Brandi made finals on floor and missed vault finals by one place. Her routine during finals on the floor exercise was superb, with no major mistakes, but the competition was tremendous.

Brandi did her job once again, finishing her career with a great performance. With all of the teams sitting on the floor, Team Massachusetts was called out last -- finishing in first place and ending a drought since 2016.

“Brandi finished her high school career on top,” said Gobiell of his ace gymnast, who plans to compete for the Springfield College gymnastics

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MHP honors City of Chelsea with Housing Hero Award

Special to the Record

The Massachusetts Housing Partnership (MHP) has honored the City of Chelsea with one of its Housing Hero Awards for its work keeping residents housed during COVID-19 and its continued focus on creating more affordable housing.

The city was recognized on June 8 at MHP's 15th Housing Institute, a two-day conference for local officials and volunteers. Each year MHP recognizes communities and individuals for excellence in affordable housing. MHP is a state housing organization that uses bank funds and other capital sources to support and finance affordable housing.

Also honored were the Town of Wellfleet, community development and planning professional Jennifer Raitt and Engine 6, a housing advocacy group in Newton.

Chelsea was honored in part for a series of initiatives that helped the city avoid a public health disaster during COVID-19. A majority Latinx city of about 40,000 residents, the city was often referred to as "ground zero" for COVID due to its dense neighborhoods and overcrowded apartments, a symptom of the housing



Accepting the award from Chelsea were City Manager Tom Ambrosino (right) and Community Development Director Alex Train.

affordability crisis.

Compounding its vulnerability, many of Chelsea's workers were considered essential and had to go to work, further exposing themselves to COVID. Many more workers — housekeepers, painters etc. — lost their income. "It was sort of a perfect storm of events," said City Manager Tom Ambrosino.

Ambrosino said during COVID, the city pivoted to focusing more on housing stability. Among the initiatives it pushed were:

The city was one of the first to establish an emergency rental assistance program. It also supported

a free legal clinic, rapid rehousing and a temporary shelters.

The city was early in establishing a similar program for homeowners, targeting small owner-occupants in single to four-family homes.

Faced with the unsustainable task of running two city-operated food shelters with a staff of 15 serving up to 18,000 residents a week, the city shifted to a universal basic income program called "Chelsea Eats" which gave approximately 2000 residents monthly Visa cards of \$200-\$400 a month to purchase food. A study done recently found

85 percent of the funds were used for food and another significant portion was used to pay utilities.

The city also funded a rental assistance hotline that is still being maintained by The Neighborhood Developers (TND), a major housing nonprofit. It also supported, with financial resources and technical assistance, nonprofit efforts to scale up their own food pantries when the city switched to basic universal income.

The city had an extensive conversation with the community about how to use federal recovery act funds and because of this, will be prioritizing eviction prevention, anti-displacement and minority homeownership.

How did the local nonprofits feel about the city's actions? TND Executive Director Rafael Mare said, "They put out more rental assistance per capita than any community in the state. They were so dedicated. The city could've collapsed."

City Manager Tom Ambrosino credited Housing and Community Development Director Alex Train as being most responsible for the city's pivot to housing stability. Working out of the basement at city hall, Train functioned as a food distribution director at first but gradually shift-

ed the city toward paying attention to housing stability and eviction prevention.

"The situation was dire," said Train. "There was COVID 19, unemployment overnight, cash flow paralysis and very little social safety net for the people, many of them undocumented."

Train grew up in Boston, went to Suffolk University and UMass for urban planning, and began his career in Chelsea as a project manager focused on parks and playgrounds. He said he has a deep interest in environmental justice and creating a sense of welcoming in which everyone in the city looks out for each other.

In accepting the award, Train thanked the city manager and city council for being willing to "think outside the box" to help its citizens and praised the city's community-based nonprofits, such as La Colaborativa, Community Action Programs Inter-City Inc. (CAPIC), and TND, amongst many others, for being "true partners" in keeping people in their homes.

He also thanked the city's Affordable Housing Trust Fund Board and Community Preservation Act committee for supporting emergency housing efforts, the rehabilita-

tion of existing homes and the creation of new homes throughout the city and along the Silver Line.

Train said it's hard to look back on those early COVID days because he says the city is still in the midst of a crisis. "We are continuing to respond to the pandemic," said Train. "The recovery hasn't begun in Chelsea so we thank all of our state partners for continuing to invest in these resources to support housing stability and a recovery that's equitable to all residents."

MHP is a state nonprofit organization that uses bank funds and other capital sources to support affordable Housing. Since 1990, MHP has provided over \$1.4 billion for the financing of over 26,000 apartments and has helped over 23,000 low- and moderate-income households buy their first home through the SoftSecond and ONE Mortgage programs. MHP's Community Assistance team has provided support and technical assistance to over 300 communities and its Center for Housing Data does policy research and creates web-based tools to increase understanding and promote policies to allow more housing in response to demand.

Chelsea Superintendent looks ahead to new school year

By Adam Swift

While most Chelsea students are just getting into the swing of enjoying their summer break, there is little rest for school administrators.

Earlier this week, Superintendent of Schools Dr. Almi Abeyta reflected on the past school year and looked ahead to the coming school year.

Of course, the biggest challenge any superintendent has had to handle over the past three school years has been dealing with the Covid-19 pandemic. Abeyta came on

board as the new superintendent in January of 2020, and on March 13 of that year, the first schools were shut down because of the pandemic.

Hard to believe, but the 2022-23 school year will be the fourth school year where there will be at least some shadow of dealing with the pandemic. But Abeyta said she sees hopeful signs on that front.

"This is the first summer where we are not having to negotiate a memorandum of understanding for reopening with the teachers' union," she said. "We are looking forward

to the students having a normal start to the school year."

For the first time in a long time, there is also no current mask mandate in the schools.

"We lifted the mask mandate for summer school; for the first time, masks are optional," said Abeyta. "We hope to be mask optional when school starts and we hope to focus on meeting the needs of our students."

Looking back on the past school year, one particular point of pride is the graduating class of 2022.

"We had 312 graduates this year, which is the same amount we had pre-pandemic," Abeyta

said. "I'm very excited that we graduated a large class, with over \$5 million in scholarships and awards and students are attending over 76 different colleges and trade schools."

Abeyta said she is also proud of the work has done expanding its summer school and after-school programming, including its partnership with UPenn on an after-school program.

Another highlight of the past year has been the emphasis on family and community engagement in the district.

Zoom was one of the necessities of life during the pandemic, but Abeyta said it has shown its con-

tinued usefulness as a tool to increase parent engagement.

"We have a very active parent community, and one of the most active is at the high school, which we have been able to curate with Zoom," Abeyta said.

The district also continues its equity and diversity work, recruiting teachers through its pathways programs and diversifying the teacher and staff workforce.

That equity work will continue in the coming school year, Abeyta said, as the district brings an equity roadshow to the schools in the district to highlight the recent district equity audit on work

on the district's strategic plan.

"There is a huge focus on belonging and our mission statement that we welcome and educate all," said Abeyta. "That is a huge theme, and we are also doing deep work to build relationships with our students."

She said there are other indications that the school year should get off to a smoother start for students on August 31.

"We are hoping that we are not going to begin the school year with a bus shortage," said Abeyta. "Our district was one of the ones that brought in the National Guard last year."

Chelsea shares grant to support energy efficiency

Staff Report

The City of Chelsea, City of Revere and Town of Winthrop, through the North Suffolk Office of Resilience and Sustainability (the Office) and the Department of Housing and Community Development, have secured \$60,000 from the Mass Save Community First Partnership Program to promote residential and small business energy efficiency offerings through the Mass Save Program

and Community Action Programs Inter-City (CAPIC) and in partnership with the grassroots environmental justice organization GreenRoots.

Energy efficiency has important financial and public health benefits for residents and small businesses in Chelsea, Revere, and Winthrop. Residents and small businesses can save money on their monthly utility bills, reduce energy consumption, and be more environmen-

tally friendly. Homeowners, tenants, and small businesses may be eligible for no cost or discounted upgrades to lighting, appliances, insulation, and weatherproofing. Notably, this year, the program is offering a new array of affordable options to switch from gas or oil heating to electric heating and cooling systems.

"The transition towards a cleaner and healthier environment in the region cannot be achieved unless we prioritize residents without the means to bring these improvements to their homes and businesses," said Ibrahim López-Hernández, Sustainability Manager. "Affordably reducing the amount of energy households and small businesses consume is an essential step to provide relief to the most vulnerable residents."

In collaboration with CAPIC, GreenRoots, and the Sponsors of Mass Save, this grant will support community outreach aimed at bringing awareness to the opportunities offered by the program, including free energy as-

sessments, weatherization, insulation, efficient lighting and appliances, and significant rebates for heating and cooling upgrades. The Community First Partnership Program seeks to focus efforts on Environmental Justice communities, such as the North Suffolk region, using a maximum of \$180,000 in funds which the Office expects to receive by 2024.

The Office will oversee efforts between Chelsea, Revere and Winthrop to achieve a total of 600 resident and small business sign ups each year. To reach as many potential beneficiaries as possible, collaboration with community-based organizations is at the center of this program, bringing equity to the forefront of the region by providing bilingual assistance and multilingual educational materials.

Chelsea, Revere and Winthrop residents and small businesses can visit masssave.com/northsuffolk to learn more about energy efficiency opportunities and to schedule a free home or business assessment from an approved vendor.

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