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CHRISTMAS WITH LA COLABORATIVA



La Colaborative Executive Director Gladys Vega and City Manager Tom Ambrosino joined workers and volunteers who helped make the “Christmas With La Colaborativa” event a success. See more photos on Page 6.

A year in review

Looking back at Chelsea happenings in 2022

By Adam Swift

The city faced a number of major changes and departures during 2022, with the City Council president, the police chief, the public works director, and the city manager all leaving their positions this year.

Toward the end of the year, City Manager Thomas Ambrosino announced he was stepping down to

take a position as the next Court Administrator of the Trial Court in Massachusetts.

“Tom did an outstanding job for our city,” said City Councilor Leo Robinson. “He will surely be missed when he leaves. He kept us on course to achieve the improvement of the city and (moved) the city forward.

Police Chief Brian

Kyes likewise moved onto another position in 2022, being named the next U.S. Marshal for Massachusetts.

Citing several excellent choices within the department, Ambrosino promoted long-time Captain Keith Houghton to take over from Kyes as the city’s new police chief.

“I am a son of this community, I was raised here,

educated here, played here, worshiped here, and for 36 years I have worked here as a proud officer of the Chelsea Police Department,” said Houghton at his official swearing in ceremony in early December. “I learned quite a bit here in Chelsea, it is true what they say, it really does take a village of ex-

See YEAR IN REVIEW Page 2



Robert “Bob” Hart displays the Los Angeles Outstanding Philanthropist of 2022 Award that he received from the Association of Fundraising Professionals at the awards luncheon.

HART OF GOLD

Chelsea native Robert ‘Bob’ Hart honored as LA’s Outstanding Philanthropist of 2022

Special To The Record

Chelsea High School classmates and friends who knew Robert “Bob” Hart remember a brilliant student who was always generous and kind to others. Hart went on to graduate from Worcester Polytechnic Institute (WPI) and became president of his class at the UCLA School of Management where he received his MBA.

Now the chief executive officer of TruAmerica Multifamily, a real estate investment firm based in Los Angeles, Hart is setting the standard for beneficence with his numerous philanthropic endeavors. Hart’s noteworthy leadership, personal giving, and participation in fundrais-

ing activities have served to inspire other business professionals.

Hart recently received the Los Angeles Outstanding Philanthropist of 2022 Award from the Association of Fundraising Professionals at AFP’s 37th annual National Philanthropy Day luncheon at the JW Marriott Los Angeles at LA Live.

‘Bob brings people together’

In addition to leading the firm he founded in 2013 to become one of the most active multifamily investors in the United States with more than \$18 billion in assets under management, Hart is ac-

See BOB HART Page 4



Members of the Boston Children’s Chorus during a rehearsal.

Chelsea Public Schools partners with Boston Children’s Chorus to create after school chorus program

Special to the Record

When the afternoon of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day arrives in January, a group of Chelsea Public Schools (CPS) students will take the stage at Symphony Hall in Boston, Massachusetts for the 20th annual MLK Tribute Con-

cert, “Becoming King”. This opportunity is available for students through a new partnership between CPS and the Boston Children’s Chorus (BCC), a first-of-its-kind dynamic in Chelsea that brings BCC choral instructors into Chelsea schools to create an after-school cho-

rus.

The chorus will rehearse at the Mary C. Burke Elementary Complex where students from the Berkowitz, Hooks, Kelly and Sokolowski Schools comprise the first CPS-BCC chorus. Students and BCC instructors will meet every Thursday after school at

the Elementary Complex (three rehearsals have already occurred) leading up to the concert in January. The CPS-BCC students will also perform a concert for families and friends in Chelsea in February.

This work aligns with

See CHORUS Page 2

INDEPENDENT Newspaper Group

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TRASH NOTICE

Trash will be delayed by one day due to New Years Day observed on Monday, Jan.2, 2023

HAPPY NEW YEAR

2023

The Independent Newspaper Group office will be **closed** on **Monday, Jan. 2** in observance of the New Year’s Day holiday..

Deadlines for next week’s issue will be **Friday, Dec. 27 at noon**

Planning Board against Spencer Avenue apartment proposal

By Adam Swift

A proposed 15-unit apartment building at 69-71 Spencer Ave. is too dense for the property, according to the majority of Planning Board members. Last week, the Planning Board voted 4-1 not to recommend approval of special permits and variances for the project, proposed by Zepal Development, to the Zoning Board of Appeals. The project is scheduled to come before the ZBA at its Jan. 10 meeting. “My client has also developed another project on Spencer Avenue, so he is familiar with the area and wants to keep doing business in Chelsea,” said Anthony Rossi, the attorney for the applicant. There is currently a two-family house on the nearly 15,000-square-foot lot that the developer is looking to tear down and

replace with the apartment building, which would have four affordable units among its 11 one-bedroom and four two-bedroom units. “Based on the amount of square footage on the lot, 12 units can be done by right by special permit,” said Rossi. “We are working with the city to try to compromise and offer additional affordable housing.” Under the city’s inclusionary zoning ordinance, the developer would have to offer three affordable units, but is offering up an additional unit. The apartment building would have 15 parking spaces, where 23 are required under zoning. If approved, residents of the apartment building would not be able to acquire on-street city parking permits. Since the lot is in a flood plain, Rossi said there would be no basement and

the elevation of the project would be raised about three feet to remove it from the flood plain. Planning Board member Sarah Ritch raised some questions about the parking abutting a neighboring property and said she was concerned that the abutter had not given any input on the project. Rossi said the developer could take some steps, including shrinking the travel land and adding some compact car parking spaces to create a small buffer with the neighboring property. But some of the board members said the issues extended beyond parking and setbacks. “I think the scale of the project is too big for the property,” said Planning Board member Sharleen McLean. “I think you could achieve having the necessary setbacks if you were to shrink the size of

the building.” Rossi noted that the building itself was similar in size to surrounding development on Spencer Avenue, including an adjacent apartment building built by the same developer. If the project were to shrink in size, Rossi said the project would not be economically feasible for the developer, and the city would lose an additional affordable housing unit. Planning Board member Mimi Rancatore said she felt the units were too small, and that the city was in need of affordable home ownership opportunities more than additional rental properties. In other business, the Planning Board recommended approval of a special permit to renovate an existing first floor space at 260 to 270 Second Street for use as a proposed retail marijuana facility.

NEWS IN BRIEF

MENA PARTICIPATES IN EMERSON STAGE'S PRODUCTION OF OLD JAKE'S SKIRTS
Luis Mena from Chelsea, participated in Emerson Stage's production of Old Jake's Skirts, which took place November 9th-13th, 2022 at the Semel Theater at Emerson College in Boston, MA.

Old Jake's Skirts tells of the story of a farmer living a dull life. Jake's life is turned around when he discovers a trunk of skirts - the discovery brings color to Jake's life. Luis Mena is majoring in Theatre and is a member of the Class of 2024.

Emerson Stage and the Department of Performing Arts are where the next generation of actors, designers, stage managers, technicians, administrators, and educators work alongside distinguished faculty, professional staff, and visiting artists to bring skills learned in the classroom to vibrant life on stage. Photos are available upon request. Based in Boston, Massachusetts, opposite the historic Boston Common and in the heart of the city's Theatre District, Emerson College educates individuals who will solve problems and change the world through engaged leadership in communication and the arts, a mission informed by liberal learning. The College has approximately 4,161 undergraduates and 554 graduate students from across the United States and nearly 70 countries. Supported by state-of-the-art facilities and a renowned faculty, students participate in more than

90 student organizations and performance groups. Emerson is known for its experiential learning programs at Emerson Los Angeles, located in Hollywood, and at its 14th-century castle, in the Netherlands. Additionally, there are opportunities to study in Washington, DC, London, China, and the Czech Republic, Spain, Austria, Greece, France, Ireland, Mexico, Cuba, England and South Africa. The College has an active network of 51,000+ alumni who hold leadership positions in communication and the arts. For more information, visit emerson.edu.

SUMNER TUNNEL OPEN THIS HOLIDAY WEEKEND

The Massachusetts Department of Transportation (MassDOT) is announcing the Sumner Tunnel will be open during the weekend of Friday, December 30, to accommodate the expected high volume of holiday vehicular traffic. Scheduled weekend closures as part of Phase 1 of the Sumner Tunnel Restoration Project will resume during the weekend of Friday, January 6. Phase 1 of the Sumner Tunnel Restoration Project work requires scheduled weekend closures of the Sumner Tunnel for 36 weekends between June 2022 and May 2023, (excluding holiday weekends.) To sign up for project updates, email alerts, and the latest information on the Sumner Tunnel project so that you can stay up to date as the project unfolds: Sign up for project updates.

Year in Review / CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

traordinary individuals, and I have been blessed with their guidance and kindness over the years as it has exposed me to opportunities leading me right here to stand before you as chief.” Council President Roy Avellaneda stepped down from the council in early October, stating that he could not serve as president while also handling expanding business responsibilities. “Throughout the last few years, we’ve worked terrifically together and worked tirelessly in support of bringing this city together,” said Precinct 8 Councilor Calvin Brown, who took over as council president following Avellaneda’s resignation. In December, the council selected former Councilor Brian Hatleberg to fill the remainder of Avellaneda’s term as an at-large councilor. Hatleberg said he has no intention to run for a full term when Avellaneda’s term expires. At the beginning of the year, Chelsea lost its public works commissioner, Fidel Maltez. Maltez was hired as Reading’s Town Manager. “Many of you know how highly I regard Fidel,” said Ambrosino. “I look at him as someone who is just an incredible administrator and an incredible public servant. He has made my life so much easier here, and a lot of the tremendous progress that we’ve made in the last five years has come because of his hard work and dedication.” In July, deputy public works commissioner Lou Mammolette was promoted to the top public works job. Thanks to the 2020



The lot below the Tobin Bridge viaduct was ablaze in dramatic lights on September 10, during Electronic Chelsea, presented by Chelsea Prospers and Jukebox Events. Shown above, friends gathering around the dance floor beneath the Tobin Bridge for Electronic Chelsea, on September 10.

census and redistricting, Chelsea finally got a state representative who represents the entire city in 2022. In the Democratic primary, City Councilor Judith Garcia topped fellow councilor Robinson and School Committee member Roberto Jimenez Rivera. In the general election, she defeated another city councilor, Republican Todd Taylor. “I am honored to be the first Chelsea native to represent my city in this capacity, the first woman or Latina in this position and the first Central American elected to the (Massachusetts) legislature,” Garcia stated following the election. “I have spent the last seven years fighting for Chelsea on the City Council, and am more than ready to advocate for Chelsea and Everett on Beacon Hill.” While there was much turnover in city government, school leadership was as stable as it has been since before the Covid-19 pandemic. The School Committee

extended a new five-year contract to Superintendent of Schools Dr. Almi Abeyta. “I am grateful that I have been given the opportunity to continue the work in Chelsea Public Schools,” said Abeyta. “We have an amazing team in place, and I look forward to working with our community to ensure we deliver a high-quality education to every student in every classroom.” As has been the case in many past years, Chelsea students were able to affect change in the school system. This year, it was with the district’s e-policy, which states a student who has three or more unexcused absences during a quarter receive a grade of 60, regardless of how they do on their work. Several students noted that the policy is unfair to students with mental health issues, those who have to work to help support their families, and can be confusing and seemingly arbitrary to try to appeal. One Chelsea High se-

nior noted that she received an E last year because she had to work two jobs, and wasn’t able to get up for early classes after getting home at three in the morning. Abeyta said a new policy was in the works for approval by the School Committee, and that the e-policy was suspended for the first two quarters of the school year. Early in the year, Chelsea voters went to the polls for a question on the funding of a new Northeast Metropolitan Technical Vocational High School on Tuesday. The 12 member communities of the vocational school district were asked to weigh in on the proposed \$317 million project. The vote was triggered by the Chelsea City Council’s vote not to support the funding of the project, stating it would place an unfair financial burden on the city. While the project passed by an overwhelming margin across the 12 communities of the district, the majority of Chelsea voters who went to the polls said they did not support the cost of the project. Over 2022, the city continued to focus on infrastructure and improvement projects in the downtown corridor. The city is moving forward with a partnership to redevelop the former Salvation Army building on Broadway with a mix of affordable housing and retail space. Local nonprofit GreenRoots, along with the city and several other local and state nonprofits, began the process of attempting to purchase the former Forbes site to develop that 17.7-acre waterfront site to create affordable housing and a public, environmentally resilient waterfront area for residents.

Council / CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

the Priority Items as identified in the current five-year CPS Strategic Plan for Improving Teaching and Learning for Every Student, Every Day: Bridge to Success 2.0. CPS has dedicated itself to increasing access to engaging and enriching opportunities for all students, such as this one with BCC. Involving community organizations like BCC improves both the educational and after-school experience for our students. “I am thrilled about this partnership! To see the vision come to life is absolutely amazing. I am grateful that our students will get to experience the power and joy of music after school!” commented CPS Superintendent Dr. Almi G. Abeyta. The development of the CPS-BCC partnership has been ongoing since last school year. Staff members from CPS, including Dr. Abeyta, Equity, Diversity, & Excellence Officer Dr. Aaron T. Jennings and Director of Extended Learning Malik Howshan, worked with BCC staff including Executive Director Andrés Holder to organize, plan and implement the chorus program. The CPS team worked to secure funding for the program, obtaining a grant from the Hestia Fund. “As an immigrant to this country, and one who was able to use my voice and talents through music from a young age, I am thrilled for Boston Children’s Chorus to be

serving in Chelsea. Our collaboration with the fantastic team at Chelsea Public Schools will be a turning point for Boston Children’s Chorus, one that will allow our institution to learn how to best serve the needs of young, bright, and talented people in even deeper ways,” said Holder. “We are fortunate to have an excellent partner in Chelsea Public Schools and look forward to many years of collaboration.” “We are thrilled to have been able to build a partnership with the Boston’s Children’s Chorus and CPS. It is truly wonderful for our elementary students to have an additional opportunity of after school enrichment with an organization that prides itself on excellence in supporting and connecting Greater Boston’s local youth and diverse communities,” commented Extended Learning Coordinator Malik Howshan. Since last school year, CPS has both expanded existing relationships with community providers and added new partnerships like BCC to increase opportunities after school for all. Organizations such as For Kids Only, Penn State/YES Engineering, Soccer without Borders and others are examples of CPS partnerships that provide valuable experiences for students and have enhanced the enrichment of CPS after school programs.

Real Estate Transfers

BUYER 1	SELLER 1	ADDRESS	PRICE
Fraser, Timothy A	Demko, Lauren K	7 Laurel St	\$705,000
Alarcon, Oscar L	Perez, Manuel	11 Springvale Ave	\$510,000
Ventura, Antonio	Lanci Anthony Sr Est	15 High St	\$25,000
Belam Realty LLC	Debane Joyce Anne Est	34 Pembroke St	\$900,000
Almonte, Daniel J	Carlan Margaret M Est	50 Boatswains Way #210	\$390,000
Pezzi, Remo M	Chowdhury, Tapan	165 Garfield Ave	\$485,000
218-230 Broadway LLC	220 Broadway LLC	218-230 Broadway	\$6,625,000
Sossi, Serena M	Dennis, Katelyn	221 Shurtleff St #1	\$355,000
Dion, Debra	Delic, Sviatlana	505 Washington Ave #38	\$285,000



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Chelsea

RECORD

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EDITOR IN CHIEF: Cary Shuman

ENJOY A HAPPY -- AND SAFE -- NEW YEAR'S EVE

The end of one year and the start of another provides all of us with an opportunity for reflection. We are a year older -- but have we become any wiser?

Alfred Lord Tennyson's "Ring Out Wild Bells," which was published in 1850, offers timeless advice about the lessons we hopefully have learned from the past that we can use to guide our future. We quote some of the best-known lines from that poem here:

Ring out the old, ring in the new,
Ring, happy bells, across the snow:
The year is going, let him go;
Ring out the false, ring in the true....
Ring out the feud of rich and poor,
Ring in redress to all mankind.
Ring out a slowly dying cause,
And ancient forms of party strife;
Ring in the nobler modes of life...
Ring out the want, the care, the sin,
The faithless coldness of the times;
Ring out, ring out thy mournful rhymes,
But ring the fuller minstrel in....
Ring in the love of truth and right,
Ring in the common love of good.
Ring out old shapes of foul disease...
Ring out the narrowing lust of gold;
Ring out the thousand wars of old,
Ring in the thousand years of peace.

As always, we urge all of our readers to ensure that they celebrate the New Year safely and take care that their friends and loved ones do so as well. No one ever died by having a friend take their keys away if they have had too much to drink.

We wish all of our readers a Happy and Healthy 2023.

Forum

GUEST OP-ED

2023 – Love yourself so you can love others

By Dr. Glenn Mollette

You can lose about one pound a week if you try. If you don't try you won't lose any.

If you need to save some money then you need to pay yourself first. If you have a paycheck coming in then set a goal for \$500 a month if possible. Whatever the amount is will grow if you are faithful each week and month of setting money aside. You can always find a place to spend money. Even if you don't need it, you have it just in case you might.

What do you want to accomplish in 2023? If you do not have a goal of some kind, you will accomplish nothing. Maybe your goal is to just enjoy each day. Enjoy your food. Enjoy your family and friends. Make the best of each ay. These are good goals.

Be good to yourself in 2023. Love others as you love yourself. If you

don't love yourself, it's almost impossible to love others. Recently we have heard of people committing suicide. They had given up on themselves but wanted to hurt or kill others before they killed themselves. It's tragic when an individual's so hates themselves that they wanted to hurt others. If they loved themselves more then they wouldn't have had so much venom and hate for others.

One of the tools of the devil is to bring your life down to where you hate all the things you've done. He brings it up to you of-ten so you can feel horrible about your life's mistakes. People often have trouble forgiving themselves so they begin to binge drink, take drugs and hurt themselves to try to deal with their life's pain. God has forgiveness and hope for all. People don't always forgive but God forgives As God forgives you then

you must work on forgiv-ing yourself, loving your-self and forgiving and lov-ing others. You see, that's a great formula. God for-gives us, loves us and we are to forgive and love ourselves and then offer this same forgiveness and love to others.

In 2023 you might do something different. May-be you want to embark on an adventure, change ca-reers or just do better with all you have been hand-ed. Often, all we need to do is focus on what we al-ready have to do ad do it a little better.

My prayer for our na-tion in the year ahead is that we might see poli-ticians work together to accomplish worthy goals that will benefit our coun-try. I hope Ukraine can overcome Russia but oth-er countries need to step up to the plate. America cannot fight everyone's war physically or finan-cially. We must get con-

trol of our border. Our nation is being overtaken by millions of undocu-mented immigrants. Who are these people? Do they all really have noble in-tentions in America? We must bring back our jobs from China in 2023.

Throughout this year may you a continuation of what we talk about and pray for during the Christ-mas season. May it be on-going every day and may we share it with all along the way, Peace on earth and good will to all peo-ple. May you first experi-ence it in your life so you can extend it to others.

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

CHELSEA

RECORD

ESTABLISHED 1890

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781-485-0588 • www.chelsearecord.com

SUBSCRIPTION INFORMATION

Chelsea Record is published every Thursday by the Revere-based Independent Newspaper Group. Periodical postage rates paid at Boston, MA. Subscription rates are \$30 per year in Chelsea, and \$60 per year outside the city. The Chelsea Record assumes no financial responsibility for typographical errors in advertisements, but will reprint that part of the advertisement in which the error occurs. Advertisers will please notify the management immediately of any errors that may occur. Chelsea Record, 101-680, at 385 Broadway, the Citizens Bank Building, Suite 105, Revere, MA 02151, is a weekly publication. Periodicals postage paid at Boston, MA 02110. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Independent Newspaper Group, 385 Broadway, Suite 105, Revere, MA 02151. Subscription price in-town is \$26 and out of town is \$50.
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Bob Hart / CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

tively involved in a wide variety of charitable and academic organizations, helping to raise tens of millions of dollars. Generously giving of his time, Bob also sits on the Board Directors for Chrysalis, Board of Governors for The City of Hope and Board of Trustees for his alma mater, Worcester Polytechnic Institute, and The Marlborough School in Los Angeles.

"Bob is a builder - bringing people together to create something better than the sum of its parts," said Chrysalis President and CEO Mark Loranger, who nominated Bob for the award. "He has connected Chrysalis with a huge network of donors, hiring partners, volunteers, and other champions, and he has raised millions to further our mission to change lives through jobs."

"As professional fund-raisers we dream of working with donors like Mr. Hart - individuals who are willing to make long-term commitments of time, talent and treasure to causes they care deeply about," added Yvette Herrera, Vice President, Netzel Grigsby Associates and AFP - Greater Los Angeles, 2022 Board President.

He delivers a humble acceptance speech

Bob Hart was presented the Outstanding Philanthropist Award at AFP's 37th annual National Philanthropy Day luncheon at the JW Marriott Los Angeles at LA Live.

Before the large as-semblage at the luncheon, Hart delivered his award acceptance speech, humbly thanking the Association of Fundraising Professional for the esteemed recognition of his continuing, philanthropic efforts.

Following are Bob Hart's remarks:

Thank you Mark (Loranger) very much for that

kind introduction and to the Association of Fund-raising Professionals for this recognition. It has been a great pleasure and inspiration to have worked closely with Mark for the last 15 years. I must also recognize Mark's highly dedicated team of executives who make Chrysalis the success it has become ---and my fellow board members who share the same passion that I do about helping others. Thank you also to my colleagues and friends here today whom I am always asking for help and money-- and to my wife Cynthia and daughter Mia who unfortunately could not be here today but faithfully support my spirit of volunteerism and philanthropy through their own efforts. And of course, I want to congratulate my fellow honorees here today for the much-deserved recognition they are receiving.

As I look out into the crowd, I'm humbled that you have singled me out. I see before me so many good and decent people who also have dedicated their lives, as much if not more than I, to making an impact on the causes they care most about.

The word philanthropy comes from two Greek words, Philein (Phil-Lane) meaning to love and Anthros (Anthro Poe) meaning humankind. And while many associate the word with donating large sums of money, the true definition of philanthropy is---the love of humanity. And while I have been fortunate to be able to have helped raise millions of dollars through personal giving and fundraising activities, it is being linked to the original definition for which I'm most proud, and I'm sure all of you are as well. Striving to be more Humanitarian --provides a bright light that guides the journey of our lives.



Outstanding Philanthropist Award recipient Robert "Bob" Hart (right) is pictured with long-time friend and business partner, Jim Rosten and Chrysalis Board Chair Joan Kramer at the awards luncheon.

Philanthropy is a state of mind that drives action and requires compassion, empathy and intent, and yes, dollars don't hurt. Philanthropy does not know age, space, or any other boundaries. It is shown every day by the good deeds of individuals and corporations alike, which help benefactors, like Chrysalis make our communities better.

We are all here because we want to impact the lives of those people that need a helping hand. And one of the organizations that I'm most passionate about is Chrysalis which helps individuals emerging from homelessness to find jobs and get the training and encouragement they need throughout that process. I'm extremely proud that I have been a member of their board for the past 20 years. During that time, while we've raised millions of dollars, a lot of my satisfaction comes from working with Mark and his dedicated team to help shape the mission and direction of this vital organization.

An important part of philanthropy is trying to inspire the act of giving to those around us. Not only is my firm TruAmerica an enthusiastic steward of corporate and social responsibility, but we also encourage our employees

to take an active role in organizations that effect meaningful change. And they have met that challenge, providing their individual support and assistance to worthy organizations such as the City of Hope, which touches so many lives through groundbreaking cancer treatment and research. Our long involvement with City of Hope was highlighted in 2017 with a Spirit of Life Award.

This award recognizes our deep commitment to making a difference in the lives of others. Our own Eryn Mack, Chief People Officer, serves on the Board of the Ronald McDonald House of Southern California. They provide comfort, care and support to families of sick children. Other organizations that TruAmericans Support include the St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital, the Juvenile Diabetes Foundation, The Guardians and the Navy Seal Foundation, just to name a few.

I am humbled by the opportunities I have had to work with local organizations like Chrysalis that serve the forgotten individuals of our community and by the knowledge that the world is a little better place because of the thoughtfulness of the people like you in this room.

Thank you very much.

CHELSEA POLICE HOLD ‘SHOP WITH A COP’ EVENT

Cary Shuman Photos

The Chelsea Police Department held a “Shop With A Cop” event Dec. 15 at the John Silber Early Learning Center.

The Police raised money to provide 25 \$75 gift cards for children and their families to enjoy shopping for the holidays.

The guests enjoyed a buffet dinner and dessert

before the gift card presentation ceremony

David Rizzuto, lieutenant of CPD Community Services, led the organizing of the event that brought much joy to Chelsea families. ELC Family Liaison Delmy Mejia and ELC Assistant Principal Margo DiBiasio contributed to the success of the event with their assistance and hospitality.



ELC Assistant Principal Margo DiBiasio and Alfredo Ramos are greeted by the ELC school mascot, Bee.



Sgt. John Nofle (left) and Capt. Thomas Dunn are welcomed to the Early Childhood Learning Center by the school mascot, Bee.



Diego Aguirre, Bessy Aguirre, and Wendy Gonzalez.



ELC Family Liaison Delmy Mejia joins children for a photo with the ELC school mascot, Bee, as in Busy As A Bee at the ELC.



Chelsea Police officers Richard Bellomo, Garrison Daniel, David Delaney, and David Batchelor Jr. are pictured with ELC Assistant Principal Margo DiBiasio, ELC Family Liaison Delmy Mejia and some of the many children who attended the “Shop With A Cop” event.



Ariel Baxter, Aiden Soto, and Alexis Soto.



Isadora Andrade, Michael Andrade, and Santiago Arita Rivera, with ELC Family Liaison Delmy Mejia.



Officer David Batchelor Jr. Officer David Delaney (and police dog Brutt), Sgt. John Nofle, Capt. Thomas Dunn, Officer Richard Bellomo, and Officer Garrison Daniel are pictured with ELC teacher Kristen Faiella ELC Social Work and Counseling Intern Stephanie Boudreau, ELC Assistant Principal Margo DiBiasio, and ELC Family Liaison Delmy Mejia, who all helped make the “Shop With A Cop” event a success.



CITY PAWS

What we learn from dogs

By Penny & Ed Cherubino

The change from one year to another is a time of reflection on the past and hope for the future. We’ve been thinking about the lessons we learned from the special dogs we’ve known and the people they’ve brought into our lives.

Show Your Love

We should all emulate the greetings a dog gives to someone they love. Think about how disappointing it is to come home when your dog isn’t there. No matter what the reaction of others in the home is, you can count on your dog to greet you with glee and make you feel welcome. Perhaps we should greet

the family with a hearty “welcome home.”

Use All Your Senses

Dogs are great role models for us when it comes to using all our senses. Their world is made richer by the sights, sounds, aromas, tastes, and textures around them. They pay attention to all incoming data.

On the other hand, we often ignore the richness on offer while distracted by our busy minds or addiction to our devices. In the year ahead, watch the dogs in your life and learn to pay attention to what they’re investigating in the sensory world. See if you can notice and enjoy some of what they do.

Trust Your Instincts

We learned this lesson from our first dog, Sassy. She was a great judge of people. Her official title around our office was Vice President for security and morale. Security went beyond barking when the mailman arrived.

Sassy had three approaches to most people. Some of the best people we ever knew were greeted with exuberance and treated to cuddles and kisses. Most people, she welcomed politely.

However, she raised her hackles and growled at visitors in a few instances. In one case, it was a client who eventually proved to



Poppy likes to cuddle up with a friend after a good play session and nap.

be an unethical person. Another example was a person at a hiring interview. In the end, other staff members voted with Sassy against this hire.

Self Care

Naps are a way of life for dogs. When they’re tired, they find a cozy spot and doze. When

we’re tired, we try to push through and accomplish more. Perhaps we should build some naptime into our days as a better way to be productive.

Exercise is essential to dogs, and so is stretching. How many times a day do you see your companion doing a downward dog? When they get up from a resting position, they stretch. We are encouraged to stretch by trainers and physical therapists. Learn from your dog and take moments each day to give your body a relaxing stretch.

One way or another, dogs ask for what they need. Poppy jumps up with one of us when she wants a good massage and cuddles. She knows we can’t resist giving her the touches she craves. Your

dog may lead you to the door when they need to go out. Now think, how often do you let those around you know what you need right at that moment?

Be Thankful for Dogs

We’ll end with wise words from one of our all-time favorite dog people, author and animal activist Roger Caras who wrote, “Dogs have given us their absolute all. We are the center of their universe. We are the focus of their love and faith, and trust. They serve us in return for scraps. It is without a doubt the best deal man has ever made.”

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

CELEBRATING CHRISTMAS WITH LA COLABORATIVA

Cary Shuman Photos

La Colaborativa held a “Christmas With La Colaborativa” event on Sixth Street during which the

organization headed by Executive Director Gladys Vega distributed 10,000 boxes of food and 4,000 toys to Chelsea families and children.



City Manager Tom Ambrosino stopped by the La Colaborativa holiday event on Sixth Street to thank La Colaborativa Executive Director Gladys Vega for her efforts in the organization's distribution of 10,000 boxes of food and 4,000 toys to Chelsea families and children.



Santa Claus makes a special appearance at the “Christmas With La Colaborativa” event on Sixth Street.

All of Us
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The *All of Us* Research Program has a simple mission: **to help advance research** so we can learn more about what makes us sick and what keeps us healthy. Participants are from different races and ethnicities, age groups, and regions of the country. They are also diverse in gender identity, sexual orientation and health status.

This holiday season, give the **gift of research** by joining the *All of Us* Research Program and help make the world a healthier place to live.

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*All participants will receive a \$25 gift card after completion of their visit. To complete the visit, participants must create an account, give consent, agree to share their electronic health records, decide whether they want information about their DNA, answer health surveys, have their physical measurements taken (height, weight, blood pressure, etc.), and give blood and urine samples, if asked.

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New England

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BOSTON MEDICAL

A Farewell Celebration for
City Manager
Tom Ambrosino

City Manager Ambrosino has served the City of Chelsea for seven and a half years. Please join us in showing appreciation for his leadership and service to our community.

Thursday, January 12, 2023
Clark Ave School (8 Clark Ave)
5pm–7pm

All members of the community are welcome.
Refreshments will be served.

Questions? Email lalvarez@chelseama.gov

Una celebración de despedida para el
Administrador de la Ciudad
Tom Ambrosino

El administrador de la ciudad, Ambrosino, ha servido a la ciudad de Chelsea durante siete años y medio. Participe de la ceremonia para mostrar agradecimiento por su liderazgo y servicio a nuestra comunidad.

Jueves, 12 de enero de 2023
Escuela de Clark Ave (8 Clark Ave)
5pm–7pm

Todos los miembros de la comunidad son bienvenidos.
Se servirán refrigerios.

¿Preguntas? Correo electrónico lalvarez@chelseama.gov

Sports

Cesar Castro's In Charge

Chelsea's second all-time leader scorer hopes to lead a resurgence as head coach

By Cary Shuman

Cesar Castro's basketball career at Chelsea High School was as good as it gets. A dynamic, long-range shooting, 6-foot guard, Castro was a four-year starter and highly regarded by all observers as a freshman phenom, sophomore sensation, junior jewel, and senior superstar. His scoring exploits – 1,252 career points – are second only to the great Craig Walker, a 1981 graduate. The awards were plentiful. Castro was a three-time Commonwealth Athletic Conference All-Star, CAC Most Valuable Player, and two-time MVP of the CAC All-Star Game. He later played prep school basketball at Lee Academy in Maine and became an All-Region backcourtman in the

Bunker Hill Community College men's basketball program. Today, Castro is hoping to recapture Chelsea High basketball's past glories as the new head coach of the boys varsity team. Chelsea High Director of Athletics Amanda Alpert selected Castro as head coach in June, continuing her well-received trend of naming CHS alumni to leadership positions in the Red Devils' sports programs. "I love the way Ms. Alpert runs the athletic program, and I thank her for the opportunity to let me be head coach and run this program," said Castro. "She believed in me, and I hope I can lead this program in the right direction."

Building a winning program
A 2010 graduate, Cas-



Chelsea High School head basketball coach Cesar Castro (left) and assistant varsity coach Armani Cheek (right) are pictured with basketball players in the program at a recent practice in the Saul Nechtem Gymnasium.

tro has been an assistant coach at Chelsea High since the 2014-15 season, working on the staff of then-head coach Jay Seigal. "Jay's a great guy. He was my high school bas-

ketball coach and I admire him a lot," said Castro. "I can call him to this day for advice, and he's there for me. I was able to coach at all levels, freshman, JV, and varsity (assistant) with Jay."

Castro, who turns 32 in January, is quickly making his own mark on the program, trying to establish togetherness and team spirit among all players in the program.

Castro took his team on a pre-season field trip to Springfield, where the team played a game against Springfield Central and toured the Basket-

ball Hall of Fame building.

Castro is hoping to lead Chelsea to a state tournament berth, which would require 10 victories in the regular season.

"We're in the Greater Boston League now, and it's a tough, Division 1 league," noted Castro. "We've scheduled some tough non-league games against Cambridge, Waverlytown, and East Boston as well. My whole motto is: to be the best, you have to play against the best."

Castro said he is coaching a young group, but he is seeing improvement

every day in practice. "I have a lot of trust in these guys," said Castro. "They don't know how special they're going to be, but I feel we're going to shock a lot of people this season. We want to be one of the best programs around."

Having faith in his assistant coaching staff
Cesar Castro is being assisted in the Chelsea program by Armani Cheek, a 2020 graduate and former standout guard for the Red Devils.

"Armani is my former

CHS ROUNDUP

CHS GIRLS RUN PAST CLASSICAL

The Chelsea High girls indoor track and field team cruised to their second victory of the season with a 43-22 triumph over Lynn Classical last Wednesday. Keiri Hernandez led a Chelsea sweep in the 300 with a time of 55.4 seconds, followed by teammates Emily Singh (59.3) and Jada Amezquita (100.6).

The Lady Red Devils went 1-2 in the shot-put behind the duo of Dhalia Christmas (26'-5") and Lamari Davis (24'-11"). Gizelle Rodriguez outdistanced the field to capture the two-mile in a time of 14:06 and Darily Sanchez won the mile in a clocking of 6:30.8.

Chelsea went 2-3 in the 50 yard dash behind Farrah Henderson (7.3) and Vanesa Lopez (7.5) and in the 600 meter dash thanks to Hazel Hatleburg (2:10.2) and Reina Martino (2:22.4).

Lauren Nadow added three points to the CHS

scoresheet with a second in the 50 yard hurdles in a clocking of 10.3

The Lady Red Devil 4 x 400 quartet of Rodriguez, Sanchez, Henderson, and Rosalinda Rojas won their race with a time of 5:14, which was 14 seconds faster than their Classical opponents.

Coach Cesar Hernandez and his crew are scheduled to take on Everett next Wednesday.

BOYS TRACK ROLLS OVER CLASSICAL

The Chelsea High boys indoor track and field team improved their record to 2-0 on the season with a 51-29 victory over Greater Boston League (GBL) rival Lynn Classical last Wednesday.

The Red Devils swept the shot-put behind the fine performances of the trio of Greandoll Oliva (34'-10"), Emerson Melgar (33'-5.75"), and Jonathan Barrientos (31'-6.5").

Five other Red Devils captured first place in their respective events: Kevin

Flores in the mile with a clocking of 5:38; Jose Olivar in the 300 dash in 43.9; Nate Nadow in the 600 in 1:43.6; Kyle Leong in the 1000 in 3:29.6; and Josue Hernandez in the two-mile in 13:21.6.

Adding three points to the CHS side of the scoresheet with second-place efforts were: Xavier Guzman in the 600 (1:51.7); Jose Amaya in the 1000 (3:43); and Ajay Singh in the two-mile (13:41).

Contributing single points with third-place finishes were: Ali Warsame in the 50 yard dash (6.3); Jason Rodrigues in the mile (6:17.5); and Joao Cassim in the 300 (47.0).

The Chelsea foursome of Olivar, Nadow, Cassim, and Flores placed a bow on the Chelsea victory with a win in the 4 x 400 relay in which they edged their Classical counterparts by three seconds, 4:17 vs. 4:20.

Coach Cesar Hernandez and his Red Devils will return to the oval next Wednesday when they take on Everett.

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BCBSMA Foundation announces grants

Staff Report

The Blue Cross Blue Shield of Massachusetts Foundation announced \$250,000 in grant funding to support nonprofit organizations including Centro Present of East Boston that helps connect new immigrants to resources and services for their health care needs in communities across the Commonwealth.

Each of the 10 organizations receiving funding from the Foundation's Special Initiatives grant

program has extensive experience assisting with the health care needs of immigrants, refugees, asylum seekers and migrants. Their work has taken on a new level of urgency with the recent influx of individuals and families arriving in Massachusetts.

"Community-based organizations across Massachusetts have stepped up to meet the needs of families entering the United States with limited means, by connecting them with health care and other needed services," said Au-

drey Shelto, President and CEO of the Blue Cross Blue Shield of Massachusetts Foundation. “As we did when the COVID pandemic first hit, we are investing in the organizations on the front lines that are filling critical gaps and providing the life-sustaining services that these new members of our community urgently need.”

The Foundation regularly awards Special Initiatives grants, in addition to its major grantmaking programs, to support nonprofits that seek to

positively impact health or health care access for Massachusetts residents who have been economically, socially, culturally or racially marginalized.

Centro Presente, a statewide Latin American immigrant organization based in East Boston, is dedicated to the self-determination and self-sufficiency of the Latino immigrant community of Massachusetts will receive \$25,000 in one-year funding.

MassDOT study considers alternatives for Rte. 1A corridor

By Adam Swift

It's still in the early stages, but MassDOT is coming to the end of a study on the best use of the inactive rail line corridor along Rte. 1A and Chelsea Creek.

MassDOT held an on-line forum last week to discuss two potential alternatives for the corridor stretching from Day Square in East Boston to Bell Circle in Revere. The first alternative is a shared use path for bicycles and pedestrians along the MBTA right of way, and the second is a shared use path combined with a bypass road that could be used by authorized truck traffic.

“Back in 2019, there was a lease proposal that was before the MassDOT board to use an inactive rail line running along the Chelsea Creek, and based on feedback we received at that public meeting, MassDOT did not lease the parcels,” said MassDOT project manager Ethan Britland. “Instead, they initiated the study to look at the rail parcels from a transportation perspective for what could be done in the corridor.”

That study should be completed by the end of January, according to Britland.

Once the study is completed, Britland said any

further action will depend on the will of the community and stakeholders to move forward and funding for the alternatives.

The two alternatives would both connect into the Mary Ellen Welch Greenway at its southern end and travel to Bell Circle in Revere to the north.

The bypass road alternative would see the road end at Tomasello Way, and have just a shared use path to Bell Circle.

Brittland said the goal with either alternative is to increase safety, provide environmental benefits, and address equity issues in the communities it travels through.

While Britland said there are not a lot of good connections for the path to connect to once it gets to Bell Circle.

“We just wanted to try to bring the shared use path as far as possible,” he said. “We often build pieces in segments and connect later, and also, along the shared use path, we do assume that Suffolk Downs will be building out a lot of their infrastructure. There are opportunities in the future to potentially connect into whatever Suffolk Downs is going to do.”

Ned Codd, a consultant on the study, said both alternatives were evaluated relative to the major categories of safety con-

nectivity, resilience, and equity

"We also looked at the feasibility of the alternatives relative to the cost and permitting challenges," said Codd.

Codd said both of the alternatives would raise the level of the water's edge to 16 feet above existing mean sea level to address 2070 projections for sea level rise and storm surge. However, he said the shared use-only alternative would create more park and green space.

“Relative to connectivity and vehicular access and mobility, the principal feature of alternative two is the provision of a two-lane bypass road that we have assumed is limited to authorized vehicles only, including heavy trucks,” said Codd.

That bypass road would provide a more reliable connection for some trucks traveling to and from Logan Airport.

"This bypass road would be less subject to congestion and variabilities in travel time and would be more reliable and faster than a highway connection, mostly during peak periods in the peak-demand direction," Codd said.

Estimates show the bypass road would carry roughly 42 to 67 trucks in each direction during peak hours. That number

represents about 35 percent of the Rte. 1A current truck traffic, and about 2 percent of total traffic, Codd said.

The bypass alternative also provides potential future access for public transportation.

Both alternatives would improve safety, although Codd said the second alternative would create pedestrian and bike conflicts with the traffic from trucks on the bypass route nearby.

When it comes to equity, Codd said the first alternative would be better for path users since users would be separated from all truck and vehicle traffic. The second alternative, he said, would benefit East Boston residents by taking more truck traffic off Rte. 1A.

"Both alternatives provide better neighborhood connections for environmental justice communities, but alternative one (shared use path only) would provide better recreation and access to natural resources for environmental justice communities."

The shared use path would have a lower capital cost, coming in at roughly \$71 million, while the path with the bypass road would have a price tag about 50 percent higher at \$106 million.



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— Bob Morello *Bruins Beat*



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James Kenneth Smith

June 16, 1932 - December 26, 2022

James Kenneth Smith (90), formerly of Chelsea, Massachusetts and originally of Winterset, Ohio passed away on December 26, 2022 surrounded by family. Services will be held at 10:30am on Friday, December 30th at Torf Funeral Chapel, 151 Washington Ave, Chelsea, MA with burial to follow at Chevra Kadisha cemetery, 232 Fuller St, Everett, MA. We are endlessly grateful for your support and welcome you to join us in celebrating his life.



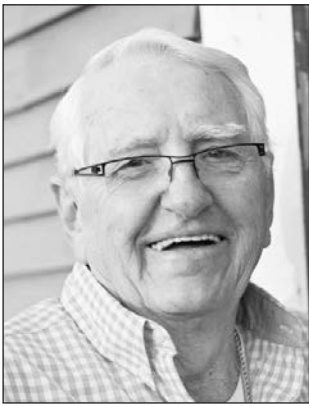
Jim was predeceased by his beloved wife of 58 years, Lillian, the woman to whom he devoted every fiber of his being. Also preceding him in death were his parents Ethel and Arley; and his older brothers, Richard “Dick” and Arley “Junior”.

Jim was born in 1932 and grew up a country farm boy, both a charmer and a class clown. He attended a one-room schoolhouse before graduating in 1950 from Madison High School in Lore City, Ohio, where he loved playing basketball and had the underhand free throw nearly perfected. Jim enlisted in the U.S. Navy where he attained the rank of Petty Officer Second Class during the Korean War aboard the Destroyer USS Charles H. Ware. His experience in the service brought him to numerous countries around the globe and eventually to the love of his life, Lillian.

James went on to work for Johnson Heater Corporation, while at the same time moonlighting at Chelsea Tire and Cycle and delivering groceries for a local market. Years later, he and Lillian obtained their Real Estate Broker’s Licenses and owned and operated Smith Realty until their retirement.

He is survived by his beloved family - Children, Howard & Laurie Smith, Sherri Rubin and Rose D’Orazio & Jim Dascoli; Grandchildren, Alana & Moe Butler, Joshua & Lesley Smith and Jared & Nicole Smith. Nothing made him happier than being a great-grandfather/“Papa”/ and “Papa Jim” to Calynn, Hannah, Ethan, Madison, William, Liliana, and Alexandra.

He is also survived by his sister-in-law, Myra, and nieces and nephews, Patty, Debbie, Bryan, Timmy, Nick, Kelly, Kim, Brittany, Nikki, Arley,



Krissie; and of course, Fred. He will additionally be missed immensely by his “lapdog” Buster.

Jim’s humor, white New Balance sneakers, and his radiating smile brought joy to us all and he will be forever missed by his many adored friends in Massachusetts, Ohio, Florida, Michigan, as well as “the boys” at various Mickey D’s across New England.

Jim, along with his late wife Lillian, dedicated time to volunteering with the Chelsea Jewish Nursing Home and the Cohen, Florence, Levine Estates where their charisma, kindness, and generosity brought comfort to all.

Jim was an excellent baker, an avid fisherman, and questionable stir fry chef. He cherished new experiences, travel, and time with those he loved. Honoring his memory is to work tirelessly with a strong commitment to helping those you care about however, wherever, and whenever possible.

Our Dad/Papa/Uncle Jim has left us with a legacy of love, compassion, and the importance of family which we will hold in our hearts forever and strive to pay forward as our way of honoring his memory. We thank our friends and family for your support over the years and certainly during these last several months. He loved you all as do we.

We are forever grateful to the incredible care providers at the Connecticut VA Hospitals and Hospice. Special thanks to the medical team of Dr. Chao, Tracy, Marsha (and your fellows, nurses, techs, support staff), Dr. Wadia, Dr. Maduka, Rosemary, and the Thoracic Surgery team at Yale New Haven Hospital. You made the hardest things so much gentler and gave us a little extra time along the way. Thank you.

He is now at rest and reunited in eternal peace with his beloved Lillian. His memory is forever our blessing.

In lieu of flowers, please do something to honor his memory. Volunteer with a cause close to your heart, take someone you love fishing on a bright spring morning and if you have the means, consider a donation to the US Department of Veterans Affairs, Hospice, or a cancer-fighting organization of your choice.

Ann Marie Leonard

A most unselfish and giving person

A Funeral Mass was celebrated in Immaculate Conception Church on Tuesday, December 27 for Ann Marie Rita (Melchione) Leonard, 88, of Chelsea who passed away peacefully on Sunday afternoon surrounded by her loved ones. Interment was in Woodlawn Cemetery, Everett.

Born in Boston and raised in East Boston, she attended Mount Carmel School and Fitton Central High School. When she married, she moved to Chelsea where she raised her family and remained for the rest of her life.

Ann Marie was the most unselfish and giving person, always thinking of others before herself. She was an amazing cook, which made her happy to see how much others enjoyed her meals. She soon became a true homeowner, mastering repairs, maintenance and stunning landscaping for her gardens.

Ann Marie cherished her two grandchildren and “Loved” her Nana role, spending as much time as possible in their day to day lives.

Even at an older age, she would go sledding, roller blading, biking, dancing and more, just to spend time with them. She was an avid reader, loved British TV, mystery novels and gardening. She



had a heart of gold and was loved by anyone who knew her.

The devoted wife of the late Lawrence T. Leonard, she was the beloved mother of Laurene A. Palladino of North Hampton, NH, Lisa Leonard, Lynne Ann Leonard and Lydia Leonard, all of Chelsea; daughter of the late Anthony D. and Marie C. (Bonimano) Melchione; sister of Lillian Cahill and her late husband, Patrick of Roslindale, Rosalie Castellano of Wilmington and Elaine Twitchell and her husband, James of Ipswich; cherished grandmother of Kristin Marie Thompson and her husband, MacGregor, Andreas Leonard-Calcano and great grandmother of Peyton Jaymes Thompson. She is also lovingly survived by many nieces and nephews.

The family suggests any memorial contributions be made to the Chelsea Public Library, 569 Broadway, Chelsea.

Robert Desrochers

Of Saugus, formerly of Chelsea

Robert J. Desrochers, a resident of Saugus and formerly of Chelsea, passed away on Thursday, December 22, at the Melrose Wakefield hospital after living courageously with cancer for several months. He was 58 years of age.

Born in Revere, he grew up in Chelsea and was the beloved son of the late Albert and Lorraine (Arsenault) Desrochers. Robert attended Our Lady of the Assumption Parochial School and graduated from Chelsea High School. He was a resident of Sixth Street in Chelsea for most of his life and settled in Saugus sixteen years ago.

Robert worked as a deli counter manager for MacKinnon’s Meat Market and recently with J. Pace in Saugus.

In his lifetime, Robert was an all-around Boston sports fan and dedicated Bruins Fan. He enjoyed dining at Floramo’s and playing Keno as his pastime.

He is survived by his sisters, Josephine Wilson



and her husband, Richard of Saugus and Marie Trapani and her husband, Andrew of Derry NH. He was the cherished uncle of Andrea Trapani, Melissa Perrin, Ashley Pollumbo, Amber Wilson, and adored granduncle to his “little scooch” Mason Perrin and Sean Trapani and Anthony Pollumbo

Funeral Services were private.

Arrangements were given to the care and direction of the Welsh Funeral Home. For online guest book or to send expressions of sympathy, please visit; www.WelshFH.com.



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Larry H. Levine

Graduate of Chelsea High School, Class of 1964

Larry H. Levine, 76, of Malden, entered eternal rest on December 23.

Born and raised in Chelsea, he was a graduate of Chelsea High School, Class of 1964.

The son of the late Sidney and Lena Levine, he was the devoted husband of Carol (Kaplan) Levine; beloved father of Heather Levine-Vogel and her husband, Jason Vogel and Amy Levine and her partner, Tim Bernier; adored



grandfather of Alyssa, Rani, Alexandra, and Audrey and dear brother of Linda and Richard Dall and Debra Keller.

Frank D. Spinale

Retired Restaurant Owner

Frank D. Spinale of Fort Myers, FL passed away peacefully, on December 10 at Hope Hospice in Fort Myers with family by his side. He was 82 years of age.

Born in the West End of Boston, he was the son of the late Salvatore and Letizia (Savoia) Spinale. Frank grew up in Chelsea but moved to Saugus with his wife Lucille, where they raised their children and built a life for themselves.

Together they owned and operated Spinale’s Pizza and Sub in Saugus. They later opened Spinale’s Italian Restaurant in Milton, NH, which they ran very successfully for 25 years before retiring to Fort Myers, FL.

Frank was predeceased by his wife of 54 years, Lucille, his parents and his brothers and sister. He is survived by his five children: Frank, John, Dan, Rob and Elena, their significant others, his grandchildren and great grandchildren and many family members and friends. He was loved by many and will be missed.



Frank’s Funeral Mass will be celebrated today, Thursday, December 29 at Our Lady of Grace Church, 59 Nichols St., Chelsea at 10 a.m. Services will conclude with inurnment at the Laurel Room Columbarium, Woodlawn Cemetery in Everett. In lieu of flowers, please donate to the Michael J. Fox Foundation for Parkinsons Research, P.O. Box 5014 Hagerstown, MD 21741.

Funeral arrangements entrusted to the Carafa Family Funeral Home in Chelsea. We encourage family and friends to offer condolences at this time by means of the online guest book at carafafuneralhome.com or to send a personalized sympathy card.

Josefina Pazos

November 4, 1937 – December 24, 2022

Josefina Pazos passed away at home on her favorite day of the year, December 24, after a long battle with Alzheimer’s disease. She was 85 years old.

She is lovingly survived by her soulmate Jose V. Pazos, who has been by her side for more than 60 years. Together they left Cuba to raise their two children in Chelsea which they have called home for five decades.

Fina, as she is affectionately known, was a fantastic cook. Her personality was as feisty and hospitable as her food was savory and nourishing. Preparing feasts for others brought her as much joy and satisfaction as it did to those who were blessed enough to partake in those meals.

Fina marveled at the beauty and elegance of the world. Some of her favorite places include Cuba, the Dominican Republic, Cape Cod and the mountains of New Hampshire. She delighted in observing her grandchildren at amusement parks, the ocean or simply at a barbecue in her backyard.

In addition to her husband, Fina is survived by her two sons and their spouses: Lazarus and Karen Pazos of Chelsea, Jorge and Danielle Pazos of Chelsea, her seven grandchildren: Christopher James Pazos of Wenatchee, Washington, Joseph Pazos, Anthony Pazos of Chelsea. Chris-



topher Gerard and Kaitlyn of Haverhill, Emily Rose Pazos of Rowley, Jacob Andrew Pazos of Medford and Nathaniel Lewis Pazos of Chelsea. She is also survived by two great grandchildren, Easton Michael and Myles Lawrence Pazos of Haverhill.

Relatives and friends are most kindly invited to attend visiting hours at the Welsh Funeral Home, 718 Broadway, Chelsea on Tuesday, January 3, from 5 to 7 p.m. A memorial service will immediately follow the visitation at 7 p.m. Services will conclude at the funeral home.

Should friends desire, in lieu of flowers, contributions in her memory may be made to the Alzheimer’s Association Massachusetts Chapter, 309 Waverly Oaks Rd., Waltham, MA 02452 www.Alz.org/ donate

For online guest book or to send expressions of sympathy, please visit; www.WelshFH.com.



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NEWS FROM AROUND THE REGION

LOCAL RESIDENTS IN MOVIE

EVERETT - Phunk Phenomenon dance choreographer and instructor Devin Woolridge and teenage dancer Maya Sutton will appear in the new Whitney Houston movie, "I Wanna Dance With Somebody," which hits theaters nationwide this Dec. 23.

The Phunk Phenomenon Dance Complex has a studio in Everett and is owned by former New England Patriots cheerleader Reia Briggs-Connor, whose husband Rick Connor, is an Everett Police officer.

At the popular studio this week, the excitement was brewing for the premiere of the movie about Houston, one of the greatest vocalists of all time.

"It's awesome to have two people from our studio in this movie," said Briggs-Connor. "Devin is an amazing choreographer and performer, and Maya is a tremendously talented dancer for L'il Phunk. We are so excited that Devin and Maya have this incredible opportunity to be featured in a major motion picture. I can't wait to see them on screen."

Woolridge, 37, will appear in the movie as a back-up dancer to singer and songwriter Bobby

Brown, who is being portrayed by Ashton Sanders. Sutton, a 13-year-old, eighth-grade student, will appear as a back-up dancer to Whitney Houston, who is being portrayed in the movie by Naomi Ackie.

Woolridge is an international award-winning dancer and choreographer who holds a degree in Fashion Design and Merchandising from Fisher College.

Woolridge previously appeared in the movie, "Ghostbusters 2," and performed with Phunk on the TV reality show, "America's Best Dance Crew." He also performed in Hip Hop International and was featured in a videogame, "Dance Central," for Xbox 360.

Woolridge is especially excited about his role in the Whitney Houston movie because his mother, Robin Woolridge, was a huge fan of the best-selling musical artist.

"My mother was the biggest fan of Whitney Houston," said Woolridge. "She was a singer and used to perform Whitney Houston songs, and I became familiar with her music. It's really heartwarming to see Naomi Ackie act as Whitney and hear her sing these songs that my mother used to

play all the time."

Woolridge said his scene in the movie was filmed last year at the Wang Theatre in Boston.

"The set was made to look like the Soul Train Music Awards," related Woolridge. "It took two days of rehearsals for the choreography, which consisted of old-school dance moves."

Woolridge was humbled by being selected for a role in the movie. Hundreds of dancers auditioned for the role.

"I was glad I was picked for the movie because there are so many talented dancers in Boston," said Woolridge, who will be heading to theater Friday to view the movie.

Maya Sutton, daughter of Gregory Sutton and Cathy Sutton, has been a hip-hop dancer at Phunk Phenomenon for four years. She has performed for Lil Phunk at Boston Celtics home games in front of 19,000 fans at TD Garden. Her brother, Isaiah, 15, is a current dancer at Phunk. An older sister, Jada, is a former dancer at Phunk.

In the movie, Maya is one of three dancers backing up Naomi Ackie to the song, "I'm Every Woman." The concert scene was filmed in November (2021) at the House of

WINTHROP LODGE OF ELKS HOST CHRISTMAS PARTY FOR THE KIDS



Children of the Winthrop Elks members gear up for present time at the Winthrop Lodge of Elks Christmas Party and Santa has a list of all the names.

Blues in Boston.

"It's really exciting to be in the movie," said Maya. "The whole process was a great experience. Everyone was so nice when we were filming our scene."

Maya said she is thankful to Briggs-Connor and her staff for developing her dancing skills and being an inspiration in her life.

"I just want people to know what a great person Reia is, and she really loves what she does," said Sutton. "She is such a great influence to all of her students."

Cathy Sutton also ex-

pressed her gratitude to Phunk for setting the foundation to her daughter being selected among hundreds of dancers for a role in the movie.

"It's very, very exciting," said Cathy. "We didn't expect it. It was an amazing opportunity and we're so proud of her. We're so thankful to Phunk for giving her this opportunity. The actress, Naomi Ackie, who plays Whitney, was super nice. It was just a really cool experience for Maya and the other girls to go through hair and makeup, then actually be filmed for the

movie, and see how the whole movie scene takes place."

GROUPS FILE APPEAL ON SUBSTATION

EAST BOSTON - Conservation Law Foundation (CLF) and GreenRoots have filed an appeal with the Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court of a recent state decision that would allow a proposed electrical substation in East Boston to bypass an important permitting process. After hours of com-


LEGAL NOTICES

LEGAL NOTICE


NOTICE OF HEARING
Case No. 2022-34
In accordance with the Massachusetts Zoning Act, Chapter 40A, a public hearing of the Chelsea Planning Board will be held at
City Hall, Council Chambers, 500 Broadway
Tuesday, January 24, 2023, 6:00 p.m.
with reference to the application of:
DMS Trinity, LLC for Major Site Plan
Review to establish a recreational marijuana dispensary at
260-270 Second Street
All interested parties are encouraged to attend. Plans and copies of the application and petition may be viewed at the office of the City Clerk, Chelsea City Hall, 500 Broadway, during City Hall business hours.
12/22/22, 12/29/22 C

public hearing of the Chelsea Planning Board will be held
City Hall, 500 Broadway, Rm 305
Tuesday, January 24, 2023, 6:00 p.m.
with reference to the application of:
Enterprise Rent-A-Car Company of Boston, LLC for Major Site Plan Review for storage of vehicles for hire or return from hire at the premises known as:
245-257 Marginal Street/146-150 Williams Street & 65 Pine Street
All interested parties are encouraged to attend. Plans and copies of the application and petition may be viewed at the office of the City Clerk, Chelsea City Hall, 500 Broadway, during City Hall business hours.
12/22/22, 12/29/22 C


LEGAL NOTICE


NOTICE OF HEARING
Case No. 2022-41
Notice is hereby given in accordance with the Massachusetts Zoning Act, Chapter 40A that a Regular Meeting of the Chelsea Zoning Board of Appeals will be held on:
Tuesday, January 10, 2023
Chelsea City Hall - 500 Broadway - City Council Chambers, 3rd Floor 6:00 p.m.
With reference to the application of:
St. Mary Orthodox Church
For Special Permit seeking approval for a curb cut at the premises known as
8 Addison Street
A copy of the application and petition is available for review at:
City Clerk's Office during normal business hours:
Monday, Wednesday and Thursday 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. - Tuesday, 8 a.m. - 7 p.m. - Friday, 8 a.m. to noon
12/22/22, 12/29/22 C

LEGAL NOTICE



NOTICE OF HEARING
Case No. 2022-38
In accordance with the Massachusetts Zoning Act, Chapter 40A, a public hearing of the Chelsea Planning Board will be held at
City Hall, Council Chambers, 500 Broadway
Tuesday, January 24, 2023, 6:00 p.m.
with reference to the application of:
Concrete Garden Inc for Major Site Plan Review to establish a recreational marijuana dispensary at
307 Broadway
All interested parties are encouraged to attend. Plans and copies of the application and petition may be viewed at the office of the City Clerk, Chelsea City Hall, 500 Broadway, during City Hall business hours.
12/22/22, 12/29/22 C

LEGAL NOTICE


CHELSEA CONSERVATION COMMISSION
In accordance with the Massachusetts Wetland Protection Act, the Chelsea Conservation Commission will hold a

Public Hearing on:
Wednesday, January 11, 2023, 6:00 PM
via Zoom video conference
to review the Notice of Intent submitted by Zepaj Development for the demolition of the existing building and the construction of a three story multifamily dwelling with new access driveway, bituminous concrete parking area, landscaped areas, utility connections, stormwater management facilities, and incidental site grading at 69-71 Spencer Avenue.
All interested parties wishing to provide a public comment or to join the meeting must communicate with John DePriest at jdepriest@chelseama.gov. Name and address must be included in order to be read during the Public Speaking section of the meeting and email address in order to join the meeting.
A copy of the Notice is available for review in the Department of Permitting and Land Use Planning, Rm 106, City Hall, during City Hall business hours.
Per Order
Stephen Sarikas
Chair
12/29/22 C

LEGAL NOTICE



CHELSEA CONSERVATION COMMISSION
In accordance with the Massachusetts Wetland Protection Act, the Chelsea Conservation Commission will hold a Public Hearing on:
Wednesday, January 11, 2023, 6:00 PM
via Zoom video conference
to review the Notice of Intent submitted by New England Produce Center for replacement of the fire and domestic water piping system at 300 Beacham Street.
All interested parties wishing to provide a public comment or to join the meeting must communicate with John DePriest at jdepriest@chelseama.gov. Name and address must be included in order to be read during the Public Speaking section of the meeting and email address in order to join the meeting.
A copy of the Notice is available for review in the Department of

Permitting and Land Use Planning, Rm 106, City Hall, during City Hall business hours.
Per Order
Stephen Sarikas
Chair
12/29/22 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
DIVORCE SUMMONS BY PUBLICATION AND MAILING
DOCKET NUMBER: SU22W1476WD
Vanessa Alfaro Plaintiff
VS.
Giovanni Guzman Defendant
To the above named Defendant: Giovanni Guzman
A Complaint has been presented to this Court by the Plaintiff, Vanessa Alfaro, seeking a Complaint for Custody-Support-Parenting Time.
You are required to serve upon the Plaintiff Vanessa Alfaro at 75 Bellingham St. Apt. 2 Chelsea, MA 02150, your a newer on or before 2/16/2023.
If you fail to do so, the court will proceed to the hearing and adjudication of this action. You are also required to file a copy of your answer in the office of the Register of this Court at 24 New Chardon St., Boston, MA 02114.
Witness, Hon. Brian J. Dunn, First Justice of this Court.
Date: December 09, 2022
Felix D. Arroyo
Register of Probate
12/29/22 C

LEGAL NOTICE


NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING CHELSEA TRAFFIC AND PARKING COMMISSION PUBLIC HEARING
Notice is hereby given in accordance with Chapter 90 of the General Laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and pursuant to Section 6-3 of the Charter of the City of Chelsea that a Public

Hearing of the Chelsea Traffic and Parking Commission will be held on:
Tuesday, January 3, 2023 at 6:00 P.M.
City Council Chambers 500 Broadway
Pursuant to Section 6-3 of the Charter of the City of Chelsea, the purpose of the public hearing is to receive comment regarding the permanent changes to the Bus/Bike lane on Broadway.
Per Order
Chief Keith E. Houghton
Chairperson
12/15/22, 12/29/22 C

LEGAL NOTICE


CLASSIFIED LEGAL ADVERTISEMENT MASSACHUSETTS EXECUTIVE OFFICE FOR ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE DIVISION OF CAPITAL ASSET MANAGEMENT & MAINTENANCE
Electronic Bids submitted in the format furnished by the Division of Capital Asset Management & Maintenance (DCAMM) and clearly identified as a bid will be received through DCAMM's E-Bid Room at www.bidexpress.com/businesses/10279/home no later than the date and time specified and will forthwith be publicly opened remotely by DCAMM Bid Room personnel and read aloud over a conference call line. Persons interested in accessing the remote bid opening can do so by using the following phone number: Audio Conferencing Dial-In Number (617)-315-0704, Meeting Number 2333 916 4237#. If prompted for attendee ID, please press #.
General Bids at 2:00 PM: January 24, 2023
Every General Bidder must be certified by DCAMM for the category of work listed below and for no less than the bid price plus all add alternates of this project, if applicable.
The Category of Work is: Electrical
Mass. State Project No. IFM2303 Contract No. 7003
Electrical Equipment Preventive Maintenance Contract, Mass. Information Technology Center, Chelsea, MA E.C.C. \$481,814
This project is scheduled for 1,095 calendar days


to substantial completion with three one-year options to renew. Scope: Provide Preventive Maintenance as specified to maintain daily operations and conduct all legally required and all regularly planned preventive and predictive services, but not limited to, all regular inspection, testing, and preventive maintenance of all Electrical Equipment in order to maintain optimum operating conditions and optimum safety levels. A Pre-Bid/Site Visit will be held on January 4, 2023 @ 10:00 AM at 200 Arlington Street, Chelsea, MA. Bring valid ID and register at the front desk prior to going through screening.
Minimum rates of wages to be paid on the project have been determined by the Commissioner of the Department of Labor Standards. These rates are incorporated into the bid documents.
Bid documents for this project may be accessed or downloaded at no cost to potential bidders exclusively through DCAMM's E-Bid Room https://www.bidexpress.com/businesses/10279/home, A hard copy set can be made available for viewing in DCAMM's Bid Room located at One Ashburton Place, 15th Floor, Boston, MA during normal business hours by appointment only by contacting DCAMM's Bid Room.
In order to access bid documents and submit bids through DCAMM's E-Bid Room potential bidders must first be verified by DCAMM's Bid Room and then register with the E-Bid Room vendor. Instructions on the processes can be found on DCAMM's website www.mass.gov/dcomm/bids or contact DCAMM's Bid Room at (617) 727-4003 or bidroom.dcomm@mass.gov.
Carol W. Gladstone
COMMISSIONER
12/29/22 C

LEGAL NOTICE


NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING CHELSEA TRAFFIC AND PARKING COMMISSION PUBLIC HEARING
Notice is hereby given in accordance with Chapter

90 of the General Laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and pursuant to Section 6-3 of the Charter of the City of Chelsea that a Public Hearing of the Chelsea Traffic and Parking Commission will be held on:
Tuesday, January 3, 2023 at 6:00 P.M.
City Council Chambers 500 Broadway
Pursuant to Section 6-3 of the Charter of the City of Chelsea, the purpose of the public hearing is to receive comment regarding the approval of a second vehicular A.M. peak lane on Everett Avenue southbound.
Per Order
Chief Keith E. Houghton
Chairperson
12/15/22, 12/29/22 C

LEGAL NOTICE



NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING CHELSEA TRAFFIC AND PARKING COMMISSION PUBLIC HEARING
Notice is hereby given in accordance with Chapter 90 of the General Laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and pursuant to Section 6-3 of the Charter of the City of Chelsea that a Public Hearing of the Chelsea Traffic and Parking Commission will be held on:
Tuesday, January 3, 2023 at 6:00 P.M.
City Council Chambers 500 Broadway
Pursuant to Section 6-3 of the Charter of the City of Chelsea, the purpose of the public hearing is to receive comment regarding the approval of the installation of curbing and sidewalk on Fremont Avenue.
Per Order
Chief Keith E. Houghton
Chairperson
12/15/22, 12/29/22 C

LEGAL NOTICE

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS LAND COURT DEPARTMENT OF THE TRIAL COURT DOCKET NO. 20 SM 000921 ORDER OF NOTICE
TO: Gonzalo Gonzalez and to all persons entitled to the benefit of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act, 50 U.S.C. C. 50 §3901 (et seq):
MidFirst Bank


claiming to have an interest in a Mortgage covering real property in Chelsea, numbered 153 Grove Street, given by Simon Gonzalez, Marina Gonzalez, and Gonzalo Gonzalez to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc, as mortgagee, acting solely as a nominee for Old Kent Mortgage Company, dated October 29, 1999, and recorded in Suffolk County Registry of Deeds in Book 24366, Page 243, as affected by a Loan Modification Agreement dated February 11, 2013, and recorded at said Registry of Deeds in Book 51160, Page 278, and further affected by Judgment recorded at said Registry of Deeds in Book 62634, Page 336, and now held by the Plaintiff by assignment, has/have filed with this court a complaint for determination of Defendant's/Defendants' Servicemembers status. If you now are, or recently have been, in the active military service of the United States of America, then you may be entitled to the benefits of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act. If you object to a foreclosure of the above-mentioned property on that basis, then you or your attorney must file a written appearance and 02/06/2023 answer in this court at Three Pemberton Square, Boston, MA 02108 on or before or you may lose the opportunity to challenge the foreclosure on the ground of noncompliance with the Act.
Witness, GORDON H. PIPER Chief Justice of this Court on 12/20/2022.
Attest: Deborah J. Patterson, Recorder
12/29/22 C

LEGAL NOTICE


(LEGAL NOTICE)
CITY OF CHELSEA
Request for Proposals After School Academic Tutoring Program for Low Performing Students in Grades 1 to 12
The City of Chelsea, Massachusetts, through its Chief Procurement Officer, is seeking proposals for an "After School Academic Tutoring Program for Low Performing Students in Grades 1 to 12".

Proposals will be available on or after December 29, 2022 by visiting the City's website at https://www.chelseama.gov/departments/purchasing/current_bids_solicitations.php.
Proposals must be sealed and clearly marked "After School Academic Tutoring Program for Low Performing Students in Grades 1 to 12" and submitted to the Office of the Chief Procurement Officer no later than 10:30AM on Thursday, January 12, 2023. The City of Chelsea reserves the right to accept any proposal, to reject any or all proposals and to waive minor irregularities and/or formalities as it deems to be in the best interest of the City. In accordance with our Minority Business Enterprise Plan, we are inviting all qualified women and minority business firms to respond. The City of Chelsea is an Equal Opportunity Employer. This invitation for bid is in accordance with M.G.L. Chapter 30B.
Dylan Cook
School Business Manager
12/29/22 C

LEGAL NOTICE


NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING CHELSEA TRAFFIC AND PARKING COMMISSION PUBLIC HEARING
Notice is hereby given in accordance with Chapter 90 of the General Laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and pursuant to Section 6-3 of the Charter of the City of Chelsea that a Public Hearing of the Chelsea Traffic and Parking Commission will be held on:
Tuesday, January 3, 2023 at 6:00 P.M.
City Council Chambers 500 Broadway
Pursuant to Section 6-3 of the Charter of the City of Chelsea, the purpose of the public hearing is to receive comment regarding the approval of a 10-minute short term parking zone at the end of Walnut Street.
Per Order
Chief Keith E. Houghton
Chairperson
12/15/22, 12/29/22 C

Boston Harbor Hotel announces lineup for 2023 Boston Wine and Food Festival

Special to the Record

The Boston Harbor Hotel is continuing its celebrated tradition of presenting exceptional wine events and dinners with the return of its annual Boston Wine and Food Festival this January 2023. The nation’s longest-running wine and food festival will be directed by Boston Harbor Hotel Executive Chef David Daniels and longtime food and wine festival expert, Nancy Bean, along with Boston Harbor Hotel Wine Sommelier Nick Daddona.

Kicking off on Janu-

ary 12, this year’s Boston Wine and Food Festival will feature an all-star lineup of intimate wine-maker-hosted dinners, seminars, thematic receptions, and celebratory brunches at the iconic Boston Harbor Hotel. A portion of the proceeds from this year’s festival will benefit the Greater Boston Food Bank and the James Beard Foundation.

“This year we will bring some new and exciting events and programming to the three-month long Boston Wine and Food Festival, courtesy of the hotel’s Executive Chef, David Daniels, the hotel’s

advanced sommelier Nick Daddona, and respected wine festival veteran, Nancy Bean.”

Tickets are available online now for purchase and will make a perfect holiday gift for the oenophile in your life. The upcoming Boston Wine and Food Festival features an array of events that will ignite the senses to lure both novice and expert wine aficionados out of the house this winter. The five-star Boston Harbor Hotel’s 34th annual celebration will continue the tradition of welcoming top vintners and personalities

from the world of wine and food. Events will run on the waterfront destination from January through March, kicking off with the opening weekend on January 12, 2023.

The exciting lineup of wine dinners for 2023 will include Opus One (Napa), Staglin Family Vineyard, Far Niente (Napa Valley), Battle of the Cabs, Hitchhiking through Napa with Kevin Zraly, a Wine, Dine, Divine Women’s Leadership Dinner, and many more.

Tickets to this year’s events are available on the website for pre-purchase.

There is a special Boston Wine & Food Festival package for guests that will make a perfect holiday gift.

All Boston Wine and Food Festival events take place within the iconic Boston Harbor Hotel. For additional information on the Boston Wine and Food Festival calendar or to purchase tickets, please visit www.bostonwineandfoodfestival.net.

A member of Preferred Hotels & Resorts LEGEND Collection, Boston’s only Forbes Five-Star waterfront hotel welcomes guests arriving by land or sea. Located on the histor-

ic Rowes Wharf Harbor, the Boston Harbor Hotel’s inviting ambiance and unparalleled service provide the ideal home away from home for travelers. Luxurious accommodations with sweeping views of Boston’s cityscape or breathtaking waterfront, world-class dining and a 34-slip marina make the Boston Harbor Hotel a destination Beyond compare. For additional information, please visit our website at www.bhh.com call 617-439-7000 or follow us on Twitter @harborhotel or on Facebook.

Drought persists in several regions of the Commonwealth; Cape Cod, islands, Northeast still impacted

Special to the Journal

While some parts of Massachusetts experienced minor improvements through the month of November, several regions within the state continue to be impacted by long-term drought conditions, and today Energy and Environmental Affairs (EEA) Secretary Beth Card announced the following drought declarations: the Northeast and Cape Cod Regions have been downgraded and will join the Islands Region at Level 2-Significant Drought, the Connecticut River Valley Region will remain at Level 1-Mild Drought, and the Western, Central, and Southeast Regions will remain at Level 0-Normal Conditions. Recent rain and snow events in the past few days offer potential improvements, particularly in the Northeast Region of the state; however, precipitation will need to continue in order to make a difference.

As outlined in the Massachusetts Drought Management Plan, a Level 1-Mild Drought warrants detailed monitoring of

drought conditions, close coordination among state and federal agencies, and technical outreach and assistance to the affected municipalities. Additionally, a Level 2-Significant Drought calls for the convening of an interagency mission group, which is already meeting, to more closely coordinate on drought assessments, impacts, and responses within state government.

“Even though the weather is getting colder and wetter, we can’t lose sight of the fact that several regions within Massachusetts continue to be impacted by drought conditions,” said Energy and Environmental Affairs Secretary Beth Card. “It is important that everyone, especially those living and working in the Northeast, Cape Cod, and Islands Regions, continue to practice water conservation in order to ensure that our water resources fully rebound.”

Today’s declarations are the result of recommendations made by the state’s Drought Management Task Force, which is composed of state and

federal officials, and other entities. The taskforce will continue to meet until water levels return to normal in all affected regions of the state. The task force noted that the Commonwealth experienced below-normal precipitation during the month of November, with departures ranging from 0 to 3 inches below normal, with the northeastern area ranging 2 to 3 inches below normal. Additionally, normal conditions in several regions of the state for this time of year have historically been even colder and wetter than what is currently being experienced.

Below are recommendations for communities and individuals living and working within a Level 2 – Significant Drought region and a Level 1 – Mild Drought region, including those utilizing a private well. Residents and businesses are also asked to check with their local water system in case more stringent watering restrictions are in place.

For Regions in Level 2 – Significant Drought

Residents and Busi-

nesses:

1. Minimize overall water use; and,
2. Follow local water use restrictions.

Immediate Steps for Communities:

3. Limit washing of hard surfaces (sidewalks, patios, driveways, siding); personal vehicle or boat washing; and,
4. Establish water-use reduction targets for all water users and identify top water users and conduct targeted outreach to help curb their use.

Short- and Medium-Term Steps for Communities:

5. Establish a year-round water conservation program that includes public education and communication;
6. Provide timely information to local residents and businesses;
7. Implement or establish drought surcharge or seasonal water rates;
8. Check emergency inter-connections for water supply; and,
9. Develop or refine your local drought management plan using guidance outlined in the

state Drought Management Plan.

For Region in Level 1 - Mild Drought

Residents and Businesses:

10. Toilets, faucets, and showers are more than 60% of indoor use. Make sure yours are WaterSense efficient;

Short- and Medium-Term Steps for Communities:

11. Establish a year-round water conservation program that includes public education and communication;
12. Provide timely information to local residents and businesses;
13. Check emergency inter-connections for water supply; and,
14. Develop a local drought management plan.

Furthermore, the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP) will continue to provide technical assistance to communities on managing systems, including assistance on use of emergency connections and water supplies.

“Despite the fact that

significant rain has fallen so far in December, droughts reflect deficits that build up over time and it will take time for water levels in some parts of the Commonwealth to return to normal,” said MassDEP Commissioner Martin Suuberg. “We continue to urge residents to follow the water-use recommendations of their local water supplier to help protect their water resources for the future.”

It is important to note that the Massachusetts Water Resources Authority (MWRA) water supply system is not experiencing drought conditions, as defined within its individual plan. Private wells, local streams, wetlands, vernal pools, and other water-dependent habitats located within MWRA-serviced areas are being impacted by drought conditions, while water quality in ponds can deteriorate due to lowering of levels and stagnation.

The Drought Management Task Force will meet again on Monday, January 9, 2023, at 12:30 p.m.

