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DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. HONORED BY THE PEOPLE’S A.M.E. CHURCH AND THE CHELSEA PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Monday January 16 was celebrated as Dr Martin Luther King Jr. Day, a national holiday. King is best remembered for his nationwide peaceful protests and marches, bringing racial injustice to the forefront of America.

Dr. King was a prominent civil rights leader and an outstanding orator. King’s “I Have A Dream Speech,” that was delivered in Washington, D.C. on Aug. 28, 1963, is regarded as one of the greatest speeches in the nation’s history.



Senator DiDomenico presents Christina Griswold her certificate for her award-winning drawing themed with the celebration of MLK Day. See Page 12 for more photos.



The “Justice Song” was danced to by Celeste Williams.



A Reading of a MLK Letter from a Birmingham Jail, George Sleyton Jr., Senai Finch and William Walters-Sleyton.

City and partners developing two new parks

By Adam Swift

Through collaborative work by the Chelsea City Council alongside the Department of Housing and Community Development, two new public parks will be developed in Chelsea.

The City recently completed the acquisition of two parcels of land at 15 Eastern Avenue and 212 Congress Avenue that will serve as the sites for the future parks. These two spaces will increase the network of public and accessible open space for all residents in Chelsea, according to city officials.

The site on Eastern Avenue overlooks the Chelsea Creek and is approximately one acre in size. The park will rest on the waterfront alongside the Chelsea Street Bridge. The Department of Housing and Community Development will work with the Mystic River Watershed Association, GreenRoots, and the Nature Conservancy to involve residents in the



City and community leaders are behind the development of two new public parks on Eastern and Congress Avenues.

design process of the park.

A neighborhood park is the vision for the future of the 212 Congress Avenue site. Over the past year, the space was beautified through the efforts of GreenRoots as well as the City of Chelsea. Its future will see the public space develop into a park that will provide a variety of recreational opportunities, mitigate poor air quality, and offer a cooling space during the summer months.

“This piece of property is incredibly important. It is in one of the hottest neighborhoods, and as we

all know, Chelsea is an environmental justice community and we have some of the hottest neighborhoods in the entire Greater Boston area,” said GreenRoots Executive Director Roseann Bongiovanni when the City Council voted to accept the donation of the Congress Avenue land last November.

Bongiovanni noted that even within the heat island of Chelsea, there are some neighborhoods that are hotter than others.

“We have been monitoring this piece of land and this block and this whole area with our part-

ners at the Boston University School of Public Health and the City of Chelsea,” she said. “We have mapped the entire city and shown that this is one of the hottest areas.”

The creation of green space at 212 Congress is part of an integrated implementation of a “cool block” approach GreenRoots is taking that includes the planting of street trees in the neighborhood, the implementation of a white roof on the Boys and Girls Club, and the transformation of 212 Congress Ave. into a new green space.

Council updated on affordable housing numbers

By Adam Swift

Chelsea has one of the highest percentages of affordable housing units in the state, but one City Councilor wants to ensure that housing remains truly affordable for Chelsea residents.

District 6 Councilor Giovanni Recupero recently requested an update on the number of affordable housing units in the city.

At last week’s council meeting, outgoing City Manager Thomas Ambrosino provided an update with the latest subsidized housing inventory prepared by the state’s Department of Housing and Community Development

(DHCD) in April of 2022.

“It provides a breakdown of each building with affordable units in the city,” stated Ambrosino. “The DHCD recognized 2,416 subsidized units, or 19.19 percent of our total housing inventory.”

However, Ambrosino said there are several caveats with that figure.

“The city has notified DHCD that a handful of subsidized units are missing from this inventory,” stated Ambrosino. “Further, and more importantly, this inventory is based on housing statistics from the 2010 census. DHCD does not anticipate updating this inventory with

See HOUSING Page 3

Public comment period open for CSO outfall notification plan

By Adam Swift

The city has prepared and submitted a final combined sewer overflow (CSO) plan to the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP).

The plan details the process for notifying the public when there is an event that necessitates a combined sewer overflow activation. Chelsea is allowed, under a state environmen-

tal permit, to discharge sewage to the Chelsea Creek during heavy rain events through three CSO outfalls, according to the city’s plan.

The complete plan can be viewed at www.chelseama.gov/csonotificationplan and written comments can be submitted to the MassDEP until Feb. 22 by email at mass-dep.sewagenotification@

See CSO Page 3

City Manager Tom Ambrosino honored at farewell celebration

By Cary Shuman

Chelsea officials and residents honored outgoing city manager Tom Ambrosino at a farewell celebration Jan. 12 at the Morris Seigal Clark Avenue School.

It was a touching and uplifting ceremony as Chelsea gave a heartfelt “thank you” to Ambrosino, who served seven-and-a-half years in the top administrative position in city government.

City Council President

Leo Robinson, dean of city government, presided over the awards presentation and speaking program.

With Supt. of Schools Dr. Almi Abeyta and former superintendent, Dr. Mary Bourque, in attendance, the CHS Concert Band, directed by Shannon Chick, the CHS Orchestra, directed by Ali You, and CHS students Lissell Padilla-Herrera and Anthony Martinez

See AMBROSINO Page 6



Tom Ambrosino receives a Citation from the Massachusetts State Senate by Senator Sal DiDomenico for serving the City of Chelsea as City Manager.

Head of Chelsea Soldiers’ Home fired

By Adam Swift

The head of the Chelsea Soldiers’ Home was fired by new Governor Maura Healey’s administration on Thursday, Jan. 12.

The firing of Eric Johnson came a week after the state Inspector General sent a letter to outgoing Health and Human Services Director Mary Lou Sudders detailing and reiterating disturbing incidents of mismanagement and mistreatment at the soldiers home during the Covid-19 pandemic. The Boston Globe also recently reported on excessive overtime payments to the home’s nursing director.

The soldiers home will be overseen by Robert Engell, the state’s assistant secretary of Veterans’ Homes and Housing.

In the letter from Inspector General Jeffrey Shapiro, he states his office has now reviewed seven reports from the EHS Investigations Unit and one report from a member of the health and human services leadership team. The Inspector General’s office also requested and received documentation of dozens of complaints from the Commonwealth’s Investigations

Center for Expertise (COE) into the Home and its management.

“Together, these reports paint a grim picture of the Home’s treatment of the veterans who live there, and a concerning portrait of the superintendent’s leadership and the work environment at the Home,” Shapiro stated in the Jan. 6 letter. “Equally troubling is the fact that EHS has been aware of these issues since at least the summer of 2022 but has not taken significant corrective action. Most importantly, two of these reports described the unacceptable living conditions and clinical care for some of the Home’s veterans.”

A July 12, 2022, report by an EHS employee focused on the conduct of a certified nurse assistant. That report concluded that veterans at the home had been found lying “soaked in urine and sitting in feces” or “saturated in urine and double briefed.”

That report also alleged that a member of the nursing staff failed to use the proper equipment to move a patient “many times” and that performance issues on the nursing staff were “going unchecked.”

Shapiro stated that in Au-

gust 2022, a senior member of Sudders’ leadership team wrote that at least a dozen rooms in the Domiciliary were in “terrible” condition, with feces, dead rodents, dirt and bugs present. “These conditions point to a catastrophic failure of the Home’s leadership,” Shapiro stated. “In addition, the reports make it clear that Superintendent Eric Johnson lacks the capacity and integrity to manage the Home.”

Shapiro went on to state that the issues raised strongly indicated that the soldiers’ home was not functioning properly and the leadership under Johnson was actively failing. He stated that the issues that were highlighted echoed those found by the Inspector General’s office at the troubled Holyoke Soldiers’ Home between 2016 and early 2020.

On Tuesday, Jan. 17, a number of state and local leaders toured the Chelsea Soldiers’ Home, including state Representative Judith Garcia and state Senator Sal DiDomenico. Garcia stated they met with administrators and residents, and were committed to redesigning the home for a safer, happier future.

AGENCIES ANNOUNCE NEW ROUND OF HIGH SCHOOL FINANCIAL EDUCATION FAIR FUNDING

The State Treasurer’s Office of Economic Empowerment (OEE), in partnership with the Massachusetts Division of Banks (DOB) and the Office of Consumer Affairs and Business Regulation (OCABR), announced additional funding for the 2022-2023 Financial Education Innovation Fund Grant. This grant opportunity provides financial assistance for Massachusetts high schools hosting financial education fairs during the 2022-2023 school year.

Known as Credit for Life fairs, these workshops offer fun and unique experiences for students to learn about personal finance topics before they graduate. Massachusetts public or charter high schools and special education programs approved by the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) are eligible to apply.

Schools that were already awarded a grant for the 2022-2023 school year are not eligible to receive additional funding.

Applications are open until Friday, February 17th. Schools can learn more and apply here.

This marks the 11th round of the grant since its inception in 2015 and the second round for the 2022-2023 school year. In December, the agencies awarded a total of \$115,400 to 39 schools to create new or expand pre-existing financial ed-

NEWS IN BRIEF

ucation fairs, which will serve around 9,000 students according to the grantees’ estimates.

Since 2015, over 40,000 Massachusetts students have attended Credit for Life Fairs. The Financial Education Innovation Fund Grant was established as an ongoing effort to strengthen access to financial literacy throughout Massachusetts. This financial education program is funded by the Division of Banks through a settlement over alleged unlawful lending practices.

ALL ABOUT HEAT PUMPS--WEBINAR FEBRUARY 1

Heat pumps have been getting a lot of buzz—and a lot of questions. This free webinar, Wednesday February 1 from 7-8 pm, is your chance to learn. It’s worth learning even if you think heat pumps don’t apply to your housing situation.

The Downtown Chapter of Mothers Out Front, a non-profit mobilizing for a livable future, is presenting Loie Hayes of the Green Energy Consumers, a non-profit that harnesses consumer power to speed the transition to a low-carbon future.

Why Should I Care About Heat Pumps? They are a necessary part of our future. We must move away from fossil fuels to mitigate climate change and meet our city and state goals for reducing greenhouse gas emissions. Buildings in Boston account for a whopping 70% of the City’s emissions.

What Are Heat Pumps? Heat pumps can transfer heat into your home from air, water, or the ground

outside your home. The webinar will focus on air-source heat pumps, which have a compressor unit outside connected to either a system of heating/cooling ducts or to one or more ductless air handlers or “heads”.

Do They Really Work in New England? Yes! They work in low temperatures—and provide cooling in summer as well!

Really-- a Heat Pump Could Replace My Air Conditioner? Absolutely. Some suggest they should be called “heat and cool pumps”.

Aren’t They Expensive? The webinar will note a variety of subsidies, credits, and tax incentives that help with the initial investment, as well as the savings over time.

Do they work in small apartments, or only in single family homes? Heat pumps can be effective in a great variety of settings, including a single room or office, a single-family home, or a multi-unit building. Configurations vary. Ductless systems can work for a single room or apartment, with a “mini-split” fixture mounted on the floor or wall or ceiling. Buildings with a central duct system for a furnace or air conditioning can often use those duct systems.

How Do I Figure Out Whether Heat Pumps Make Sense for My Apartment or Building? The webinar is a great first step. It will address these and many other questions and invite you to ask your own.

To join the webinar, you can sign up at https://www.mothersoutfront.org/events/boston_ma_20230201/.

ZBA approves permits for Broadway marijuana retailer

By Adam Swift

It’s been a rocky road for a proposed retail marijuana dispensary at 307 Broadway, but Concrete Garden is now a step closer to opening at the prime downtown location.

Over the past year, the main point of contention about the proposed dispensary has been the condition of and violations at the 307 Broadway building owned by Peach Enterprises.

City officials have expressed concerns about a number of violations and continuing illegal business uses at the location.

For their part, Concrete Garden and its principals, Vladimir Samuel and Alex Yoyo, have stated that they will take on the cost of the upgrades to the building in order to get their business off the ground.

Last week, the Zoning Board of Appeals voted to approve the special permit for the business, despite reservations from outgoing City Manager Thomas Ambrosino. The project will next be before the Planning Board on Jan. 24 for major site plan review.

“I am a lame duck here, so you can take what I say with a grain of salt, but my administration’s position on this proposal has not changed,” said Ambrosino. “We are opposed, completely opposed to the board granting this permit. It has nothing to do with the use being proposed; I have never opposed a marijuana retail facility.

“As far as I am concerned, the board can approve everyone that comes before it and let the market

decide who survives and who doesn’t.”

Ambrosino said the city’s opposition was based on the specific location, which is the site of numerous violations that have never been properly addressed by the owner.

“The city has tried to get cooperation and has tried to remedy these problems, but has not gotten the support,” said Ambrosino. “We have not made the progress that was promised to this board in the past month. That was the reason two members of the Planning Board voted against recommending this, and the reason I continue to advocate that this permit not be issued.”

But Valerio Romano, the attorney representing Concrete Garden, said the best path forward for the city to see improvements to the property is by issued the permits that will allow the dispensary owners to complete the approximately \$50,000 to \$75,000 worth of work needed to bring the building up to code.

“We’re not going to sink a ton of money into the building until we know we’re going to be able to site there, and this is sort of the first step in being able to site there,” said Romano. “I get it, if we want to get the building fixed up and figure out the violations, this is the avenue to do it. Whatever water is under the bridge between the city and the property owner is not the fault of Concrete Garden, and now we can fix these issues.”

Romano noted that one of the prior alleged illegal uses in the building, a tax office on the second floor, has moved out. The second

use, a bakery that operates up to the basement, would be able to comply with zoning once the upgrades to the building are completed, he added.

Samuel said the plan is to have the construction necessary to bring the building up to code completed by April.

“Somehow, you expect a social equity applicant to come in and fix up the building and kick out two tenants in the building before they can even come before the board and expect a permit,” Romano said. “It just isn’t reasonable.”

Several ZBA members said they were concerned that Concrete Garden was taking on the responsibilities that should be completed by the building owner.

Romano said he also cautioned Samuel about taking on the responsibilities, but that ultimately, Concrete Garden wanted to move the process along and be able to open for business in a high visibility, downtown location.

“With the market forces for cannabis in Massachusetts, to spend an extra \$50,000 to open a great location like the Broadway location, the costs are not such so that they are prohibitive,” said Romano.

ZBA acting Chair Arthur Arsenault said he supported the petitioner with the condition that the renovations are complete before Concrete Garden occupies the building. The ZBA voted 4-0 to approve the special permit.

“The occupancy permit cannot be issued until the problems are remedied,” said Arsenault.

EBNHC opens applications for Nurse Practitioner Residency Training Program

East Boston Neighborhood Health Center (EBNHC) is pleased to announce it is accepting applications for its third cohort of residents to join its Family Nurse Practitioner (FNP) Residency Program. This residency program aims to expand the pool of primary care providers who are well-prepared and committed to serving underserved populations.

EBNHC was one of five health care organizations in the Commonwealth selected to participate in the Delivery System Reform Incentive Payment Program (DSRIP) State-wide Investments Family Nurse Practitioner Residency Training Program in 2021. Since then, the program has shown to be invaluable in the training of new Family Nurse Practitioners.

The residency is a highly structured year of intensive clinical training that provides mentorship in a high-performance model of care. Training includes primary care sessions with a preceptor in a community health center setting, specialty rotations, didactic sessions, and quality improvement training. By the end of the program, residents will have gained the competence, mastery and confidence needed to be a NP primary care provider that serves culturally diverse and clinically complex patients.

“We are thrilled to continue our Family Nurse Practitioner Residency Program,” said Jackie Fantes, MD, FAAFP Executive Vice President, Chief Medical Officer at East Boston Neighborhood Health Center. “Our goal is to bridge the gap between academia and practice for new FNPs so that they feel competent and confident to hit the ground running as they enter the fast-paced world of health care. We want every patient to have a provider who empowers their decision making and respects their language, culture, race or ethnicity, and health care preferences.”

The goal of the FNP training program is to ensure every new provider is prepared, supported, and satisfied with their career in primary care. “When I started at EBNHC 14 years ago as a new NP, the support, training and mentorship I received shaped me as a clinician and has driven me to want to do the same for the next generation of providers,” said Residency Program Director Katherine O’Brien, MSN, FNP-C. “This individualized residency, with an abundance of hands-on teaching, feedback and clinical mentoring, does just that.”

Based at EBNHC sites in the South End, East Boston and Winthrop, the program will run from

September 2023 to August 2024. The residency is a full-time, 12-month salaried position. Three slots are available. New Family Nurse Practitioners graduating in May 2023 or within the previous 18 months are encouraged to apply. Bilingual candidates preferred. Visit Family Nurse Practitioner Residency: Overview — EBNHC 2022 for more information and an online application.

East Boston Neighborhood Health Center (EBNHC) is one of the nation’s largest Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs) and the largest community health center in Massachusetts, serving over 100,000 patients and recognized by the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) as a Health Center Quality Leader. For more than 50 years, EBNHC has offered access to comprehensive care for the underserved populations of Chelsea, East Boston, Revere, Winthrop, Everett and Boston’s South End. EBNHC is dedicated to promoting and sustaining healthy communities, families, and individuals by providing accessible, person-centered, compassionate, and high-quality health care services to all who live and work in our service area. For more information, please visit www.ebnhc.org.

Real Estate Transfers

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|------------------|-------------------|----------------------|-----------|
| Sun, Ronnie | Oneil, John P | 16 Breakwater Dr #16 | \$700,000 |
| Molina, Efrain I | Dookharan, Andrew | 39 Cherry St | \$410,000 |
| Navarro, Angel F | Alagic, Sead | 107 Sagamore Ave | \$710,000 |

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Housing / CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

more recent numbers from the 2020 census until mid-2023, so this inventory and the percentage numbers are a little misleading.”

Ambrosino also addressed Recupero’s questions about the number of units occupied by residents who already lived in Chelsea.

“Unfortunately, it is impossible to determine how many residents residing in these units were previous Chelsea residents before occupying these subsidized units,” stated Ambrosino. “You should note that the city does encourage all developers of new affordable units to provide a preference for existing Chelsea residents for the maximum allowed by federal housing laws.”

Recupero said affordable housing is an important issue and a big need in the city.

“I wish there was more affordable housing, but actually for the people of

Chelsea to be able to afford it,” said Recupero.

He said that oftentimes, the developers of the affordable units get a tax break for those affordable units, and that the price of the market rate apartments are driven up and aren’t affordable for Chelsea residents.

“You build 70 units, and 10 out of those 70 units are affordable, and seven go to Chelsea people, so all the other units are not affordable for Chelsea people,” he said.

Recupero said he would like to see the next major building development in Chelsea consist of 100 percent affordable units and for the city to continue to advocate for affordable units for Chelsea residents.

District 1 Councilor Todd Taylor questioned the numbers used by Ambrosino from the state.

“I believe the state put out numbers in 2014,” said Taylor. “These num-

bers are fairly antiquated and I didn’t realize we had to go back to 2010. I believe there are state numbers from 2014 and they have a higher percentage of affordable housing than 19 percent, I believe it is 21 or 22 percent.”

Ambrosino noted that the information from DHCD was from April of last year, even though the statistics relied on 2010 census data.

“The total housing unit number that is the denominator is based on the 2010 census,” said Ambrosino. “They will change it eventually based on the housing statistics from the 2020 census. As soon as they change that denominator, I expect our percentage, even with additional units, will drop from 19 percent.

“We will still be far and away one of the communities in the commonwealth with the most affordable housing, but we could be in the 17 percent range.”

CSO / CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

mass.gov or by mail to 100 Cambridge St., Suite 900, Boston, MA 02214. Written comments can be submitted to the City of Chelsea by email to scallahan@chelseama.gov or by mail to Chelsea Public Works, 500 Broadway, Suite 310, Chelsea, MA 02150.

According to the plan, approximately 70 percent of Chelsea is serviced by combined sewers, and the remaining 30 percent is serviced by separate sanitary sewers and storm drains. Chelsea’s system consists of one collection system and one stormwater pump station. There are no sewage treatment plants in Chelsea.

During normal conditions, sewage and combined sewage is discharged to MWRA interceptors that transport flows to the Deer Island Treatment Plant.

Chelsea is currently working towards separating its combined storm drains and sewers to reduce the amount of

untreated sewage that is discharged from the CSOs during high volume precipitation events. According to the plan, this reduction in volume and activation frequency will help improve water quality in the Mystic-Chelsea Confluence.

The CSO public notification plan outlines steps for when there will be a CSO outfall activation and how the public will be notified.

Water and sewer department staff will monitor the weather for possible rain events, and alarms that indicate a possible CSO activation are sent by text message to water and sewer department employees. After receiving a text alert, staff will review the Flow Assessment Services (FAS) web page to determine if an activation has occurred, a process that can take up to four hours.

After an activation has been confirmed, staff will take up to two hours to send out notifications via Constant Contact that will

include information for all CSO outfalls in the city. The email will note the start and stop time, along with the volume for any outfalls activated. If an outfall was not activated, the line associated with that outfall will read “no discharge.”

Notifications will be sent out to the Boston Public Health Commission, all community members who signed up on Chelsea’s web page, and a list of community stakeholders that currently receive notifications. That list consists of members of the EPA, MassDEP, MWRA, Mystic River Watershed Alliance, GreenRoots, local newspapers, the city’s public health director, city employees, and other interested parties.

All activations will be posted on the city web page as soon as practicable, but no later than the next business day. All volumes of the outfalls will be calculated by FAS and entered into the system monthly as required.

MAPC awarded grant to combat youth violence for 17th consecutive year

The former Baker-Polito Administration awarded the Metropolitan Area Planning Council (MAPC) \$757,147.86 through the Senator Charles E. Shannon, Jr. Community Safety Initiative (CSI) Grant Program for the Metro Mayors CSI. A subset of the Metro Mayors Coalition, the Metro Mayors CSIncludes the cities/towns of Cambridge, Chelsea, Everett, Malden, Quincy, Revere, Somerville, and Winthrop. The Metro Mayors CSI seeks to reduce youth violence and gang-related crime in metropolitan Boston and the surrounding communities by implementing a multi-disciplinary, anti-gang strategy.

“Since taking office, I have worked to ensure that Massachusetts communities have the resources necessary to promote public safety while providing positive opportunities for young people. There is no single agency or approach that can achieve this goal. The partnerships built through the Shannon Community Safety Initiative [Grant Program] are an important part of our work creating safer communities,” said former Governor Charlie Baker.

The Shannon Grant Program, funded through the Executive Office of Public Safety and Security Office of Grants and Research, supports regional and multi-disciplinary approaches to youth violence intervention, prevention, enforcement, prosecution, and reintegration services. The initiative is designed to serve youth and emerging adults between the ages of 10 and 24 living in a community that has been identified as a hotspot and who are at-risk or high-risk of gang involvement.

As the Metro Mayors CSI site, MAPC coordinates programs that serve thousands of youth to help them achieve positive life outcomes. Various types of activities are supported by Shannon Grant funding, including directed hotspot patrols, after school programs, job trainings, and mental health counseling. The grant process is

competitive: every year, MAPC submits a comprehensive plan to provide a coordinated prevention and suppression strategy across the Metro Mayors CSI.

“These grant dollars go straight to community-based organizations and government agencies in the Metro Mayors CSI that offer programs to help youth achieve positive life outcomes and keep communities safe,” said Amy Reilly, assistant director of municipal collaboration at MAPC. “Collectively, the cities and towns implement evidence-based strategies and share best practices to increase positive opportunities for youth.”

“Chief Cronin always states that anything we do above and beyond during the year and especially the summer is due to the Shannon Community Safety Initiative. I am certain that is why we have been able to build relationships, which has helped to reduce crime overall,” said Mayor of Malden Gary Christenson.

“As a direct result of the financial support provided by the Shannon Grant, our police department has been fortunate to immerse themselves in almost every youth related program within our city. This has been the cornerstone of our success in reducing youth related violence, and more importantly, the impetus that has led to positive relationships between the officers and the youth they serve,” continued Mayor Christenson.

Each of the Shannon Grant-funded sites (more than \$10 million was awarded in total) works with numerous partner agencies, such as law enforcement, social service providers and other agencies focused on intervention, prevention, suppression, youth programming and community mobilization efforts. Shannon sites also partner with Local Action Research Partners who provide grant recipients technical and research support, assistance in completing reports and feedback to ensure that partner programs are uti-

lizing best practices.

“This important grant funding allows the City of Cambridge to strategically expand its outreach and dedicate resources to mitigating high-risk and/or violent behavior by building positive, supportive frameworks for youth in Cambridge and the region,” said Cambridge Police Commissioner Christine Elow.

The Metro Mayors CSI’s eight municipalities partner with 18 organizations, including: the Cambridge Community Art Center; Cambridge Police Department; Cambridge Youth Programs; CAPIC - Revere Police Activities League; Center for Teen Empowerment; Chelsea Police Department; Gerald and Darlene Jordan Boys & Girls Club; Everett Police Department; City of Malden; Malden Police Department; Malden/Mystic Valley YMCA; Quincy Police Department; Quincy Recreation Department; Revere Police Department; Roca Inc.; Somerville Police Department; Winthrop Community Against Substance Abuse; and the Winthrop Police Department.

The Shannon Grant was established in 2006, when the Metro Mayors Coalition worked with the Legislature to allocate funding to combat youth violence, gang violence, and substance use through regional, multi-disciplinary efforts. The program is nationally recognized for its effective approach to deterring gang and youth violence through targeted enforcement and prevention strategies.

The grant honors Senator Charles Shannon, a Massachusetts state senator who represented the Second Middlesex district from 1991 until 2005. He served as a police officer for 20 years and worked to diminish gang violence in Somerville during his time in the Senate. After his death, the Executive Office of Public Safety and Security began administering the Charles E. Shannon Jr. Community Safety Initiative.

ZBA approves special permit for Second Street marijuana dispensary

By Adam Swift

The Zoning Board of Appeals unanimously approved a special permit for a retail marijuana dispensary at 260-270 Second St. last week.

Unlike the debate over a proposed dispensary on Broadway the same night, there was little controversy over issuing the permit to Trinity Naturals, which is looking to open in the spring.

“The space is zoned industrial, which allows for this use, and it is currently office space and being utilized by a flower wholesaler,” said Sheila Grant, the attorney representing applicant DMS Trinity. “We would be using a space on the first floor which has a separate entrance.”

Grant said the location has the necessary amount of parking required for the business.

At the last public hearing before the ZBA, Grant said there were some questions about the dumpster location, signage, and the security plan. Grant said

the applicants submitted additional documentation to address those issues.

The dispensary will have a six-yard dumpster in a fenced area, and no cannabis products will be disposed of in the dumpster. There will also be two signs, one at the front entrance and one on the side.

It will take about 12 weeks for the buildout of the space, once all the permits are secured. The entrance and exit to the business will be separate from any other business in the building. The approved hours for the dispensary are 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.

In other business before

the ZBA, two hearings were moved to the board’s Feb. 14 meeting.

Zepal Development is seeking to demolish an existing two-family structure at 69-71 Spencer Ave. and build a 15-unit apartment building.

Enterprise Rent-A-Car is seeking a special permit for airport-related storage and parking of motor vehicles at 245-257 Marginal St.

The ZBA also approved a special permit for Steven McDonough at 311 Eastern Ave. allowing him to move his personal training business to a larger space within the same building.

Real Estate AUCTION



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Property Preview:
Friday, January 27
(11am-1pm)

**PUBLIC NOTICE
RIGHT OF WAY MAINTENANCE**

As required by Massachusetts General Law Chapter 132B, National Grid (New England Power and/or Massachusetts Electric Company) hereby gives notice that it intends to selectively apply herbicides along specific transmission line rights-of-way in 2023.

The selective use of herbicides to manage vegetation along rights-of-way is done within the context of an Integrated Vegetation Management (IVM) program consisting of mechanical, chemical, natural and cultural components. In right-of-way vegetation management the pest or target is vegetation (primarily tall growing) that will cause outages and safety issues. National Grid’s IVM program encourages natural controls by promoting low growing plant communities that resist invasion by target vegetation. The selective use of herbicides and mechanical controls are the direct techniques used to control target vegetation and help establish and maintain natural controls.

Rodeo, and possibly one of the following herbicides, Arsenal or Arsenal Powerline, will be applied directly to the surface of stumps immediately after target vegetation is cut (Cut Stump Treatment). Garlon 4 or Garlon 4 Ultra will be applied selectively to the stems of target vegetation using hand-held equipment (Basal Treatment and Dormant stem treatment). Krenite S or Rodeo, mixed with Escort XP, and one of the following herbicides, Arsenal or Arsenal Powerline, or Milestone will be applied selectively to the foliage of target vegetation using hand-held equipment (Foliar Treatment). Applications shall not commence more than ten days before nor conclude more than ten days after the following treatment periods. The herbicide mixes and additional information about rights of way management in Massachusetts can be found here: <https://www.mass.gov/rights-of-way-vegetation-management>

Municipalities that have rights-of-way scheduled for herbicide treatments in 2023:
Chelsea

Treatment Periods

| January 23, 2023 – May 30, 2023 | May 30, 2023 - Oct 15, 2023 | Oct 15, 2023 – Dec 31, 2023 |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| CST | Foliar | CST |
| Basal | CST | Basal |
| Dormant Stem | Basal | Dormant Stem |
| | Cut stubble | |

**The exact treatment dates are dependent upon weather conditions and field crew progress.*

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Chelsea

RECORD

PRESIDENT: Stephen Quigley
EDITOR IN CHIEF: Cary Shuman

SO FAR, WE’VE DODGED THE ENERGY BULLET

The winter season can be viewed in two ways. Meteorological winter is considered to be the three months of December, January, and February. Astronomical winter runs from December 22, the date of the winter solstice, to March 21, the date of the vernal or spring equinox.

So, ever the optimists that we are, we’ll take the former version of the winter season, which means that as of this week, we’ve crossed the midpoint of this winter.

With the war in Ukraine disrupting world energy supplies, government policy-makers and energy experts across the globe analyzed the approaching winter season with trepidation. A harsh winter had the potential to leave Europe with severe energy shortages and America with sky-high prices for oil and natural gas, with some even predicting rolling blackouts in New England in the event of a cold winter because of a lack of energy supplies to power our electrical grid.

However, the winter of 2022-23 has been exceptionally mild in the Northern Hemisphere, reducing world demand for energy. Here in New England, other than a brief cold snap at Christmas-time, we have been fortunate to have experienced a warmer-than-normal weather pattern that has extended from the beginning of November through all of January.

A colder-than-normal winter could have had a devastating impact on the pocketbooks of New Englanders. The inability to construct a natural gas pipeline from the Marcellus Shale in nearby Pennsylvania (which is estimated to have the second-largest natural gas reserves in the world), coupled with the outdated Jones Act (which essentially means that we cannot transport liquefied natural gas via ship from our own Gulf of Mexico), has left us vulnerable to the wild swings of the global energy market and an unnecessary reliance on dirtier-burning oil.

There has been a large, negative impact to the environment because of our shortsightedness in assuring access to our domestic natural gas supplies here in the U.S.: We have had to use so much oil to power our electric grid -- which normally relies on natural gas -- that we have negated many of the gains of recent years in reducing our carbon emissions. Coupled with the increase in the use of coal for electricity generation in Europe (which they have used to replace their natural gas shortfalls because of the cutoff of supply by the Russians), the climate has been made far dirtier this year.

The warm winter thus far has been a good news/bad news situation: Our energy supplies have been sufficient to keep us warm at manageable (though still-high) prices, but it has come at a great cost to the environment.

And beyond the immediate aspect of this winter, that we are having such a mild winter in the first place is just further evidence that climate change is here to stay.

THE HUSBAND ALWAYS IS THE PRIME SUSPECT

The disappearance of a Cohasset mother of three who has been missing since January 1, once again has highlighted the tragic, but undeniable, reality that a woman in the United States is more likely to be killed by an intimate partner than by a random stranger or anyone else in her life.

We realize that her husband, who presently is under arrest for misleading police in their investigation into her disappearance, is presumed innocent until proven guilty. However, we would note that the circumstantial evidence at this point that has been reported in the press points overwhelmingly to her cold-blooded murder by a man with a sociopathic personality.

(The husband is awaiting sentencing in federal district court on felony charges stemming from his theft of artwork from a college roommate’s family and subsequent forging of that artwork that duped buyers. In addition, according to news reports, he also allegedly bilked his father out of a substantial sum of money and then, when his father cut him out of his will, took items from his father’s estate.)

A woman is beaten every nine seconds in the U.S., totaling more than five million incidents of domestic violence among U.S. women aged 18 and older every year, resulting in nearly 1300 deaths and two million injuries, in communities both rich and poor.

To put it another way, more than three women are killed by their husbands/boyfriends (or ex-es) every single day in America.

This incident also has highlighted that domestic violence crosses all socioeconomic levels. It was another incident in 1978 in Cohasset, the small and extremely wealthy community on the South Shore, when a woman was shot by her husband, who in turn shot their three young children (all of whom survived) before turning the gun on himself, that led to the law that allows a victim of domestic violence to obtain a restraining order (commonly-known as a 209A order) to keep her abuser away from her.

This sad incident further highlights that women are most at risk to violence during separation from their intimate partner -- and that was the case for the Cohasset woman, who had bought a home in Washington, D.C., where she had taken a job and planned to move with her three boys, while the husband awaits a lengthy federal prison sentence for his financial crimes.

We will reiterate that the husband is presumed innocent until proven guilty in this matter.

However, regardless of how this sad and tragic incident plays out, it has shone the spotlight on the scourge of domestic violence -- now known as Intimate Partner Violence -- that still pervades our culture despite decades of awareness and changes in the law at the state and federal levels.

Dr. Glenn Mollette

A retired minister and his wife had never owned a house. They had spent all their married lives living in housing provided by churches. At age 65 they bought a house and financed it for 15 years. They had been frugal and had saved a good down payment. They paid for the house by age 80. The value of the house increased over the years and at age 83 they sold the house and received a very nice check. The money from the sale was enough to help them fund their next ten years in a nice assisted living apartment. While taking on a mortgage at 65 appeared crazy to some it afforded them financial security further down the road.

Many years ago, I bought a modest new house that cost \$151,000. I barely scraped together the nearly \$30,000 down payment. The house was financed for 15 years. I began the laborious journey of writing a monthly check to the bank. After about eight years, I needed money to pay medical bills and was able to borrow \$30,000 against my

equity. It was nice that I had the equity because at that time I really needed the cash. Looking back, I would never do that again because it made the actual cost of my house increase to \$181,000. For a couple of years, I had two payments to make to the bank. A couple of years later my wife passed. If I had needed to borrow \$10,000 against my house, I could have done so to pay for funeral expenses. Fortunately, we had both taken out small insurance policies that covered that cost. Eventually I refinanced and consolidated the mortgages. By the grace of God I still paid for the house in 15 years.

I don’t like monthly payments or paying rent. For most of us, at some point in our lives there will be a monthly payment of some kind. I’ve lived in apartments on several occasions and even houses furnished to me by congregations I served. I didn’t care for either one. I’m not saying I wouldn’t do it again but my preference is to live in a place that is actually mine for as long as possible.

Renting a house or an apartment works for many

at different stages of life. Buying a house is tough because it is a major financial commitment. You normally have to come up with 20% of the price to pay down as well as have the income to make the payments. That’s not always easy.

New houses in a nearby neighborhood are presently selling for \$400,000. Most of them are modest three to four-bedroom houses. Having enough money to make the down payment and monthly payments is a lot for any person or family.

However, rent is expensive. Depending on where you live you may be paying \$800 to \$3,000 a month for a small apartment. You don’t have maintenance or property taxes but you’ll also never see that money again. A friend of mine sold her house at age 70 and moved into an apartment complex for people over age 55. She pays rent but she says the landlord treats her well and is timely with upkeep. A landlord who is very untimely with upkeep is very frustrating.

There are pros and cons to owning and renting. Choosing depends on

your situation and personal preferences. A landlord can raise your rent and have rules pertaining to pets, painting, and more. However, it may be just exactly what you need. Typically, you don’t want to sink your money into property if you are going to move in three or four years. You might come out ahead if you buy a fixer upper and have the time and money to improve the property. You don’t want to make a bad buy. Buying property that you can’t resell is a bad idea, unless you love it and plan to live there a long time.

Keep in mind that a big chunk of most American’s wealth is in the house they own. If you pay for it and maintain it you can normally sell it to someone and recoup a lot of your money. You might even make a nice profit.

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.

TSA highlights its top accomplishments of 2022

The Transportation Security Administration (TSA) recognized a year of accomplishments and progress in 2022, setting a new record in firearm interceptions by Transportation Security Officers (TSOs) at checkpoints, making significant strides to improve transportation security and screening an average of more than two million passengers daily at airports across the country.

TSA provided airport screening at or near pre-pandemic travel volumes despite multiple instances of challenging weather conditions; enhanced cybersecurity resilience of critical transportation infrastructure with performance-based security directives and continued to test and deploy new technologies that significantly improve security effectiveness, efficiency and the passenger experience throughout the transportation system. Additionally, TSA officers stopped more than 6,500 firearms at airport checkpoints.

“I am incredibly proud of our dedicated TSA employees who perform the critical task of securing our nation’s transportation systems each day,” said TSA Administrator David Pekoske. “We had a very successful year that ended with the enactment of the FY 2023 Omnibus Appropriations Bill, which included funding

to bring TSA employee compensation to a level commensurate with other federal employees, in addition to funding to expand collective bargaining rights for our non-supervisory screening workforce. For years, our employees have not been paid fairly, and securing pay parity was necessary from an operational standpoint as we continue to see increasing travel volumes, and will also help our ability to recruit and hire new employees and retain the talent we have.”

During 2022, TSA achieved the following highlights and accomplishments:

Our Security Operations

20 years of federalized security: TSA recognized the 20th year of checkpoint federalization as more than 400 airports nationwide reached this milestone anniversary.

Technology improvements: TSA improved security effectiveness and reduced physical contact by deploying 534 Credential Authentication Technology (CAT) units and adding 243 Computed Tomography (CT) X-ray scanners at airport checkpoints. The FY23 Omnibus Bill, which President Biden signed into law in December 2022, will enable technology deployments to continue across the agency’s nearly 2,400

security checkpoint lanes to raise the bar on identity verification and security efficiency, accommodate future improvements in liquids screening and take initial steps for screening at speed.

Cybersecurity resilience efforts: TSA worked with industry partners to revise previous rail and pipeline Security Directives and issue performance-based pipeline Security Directives to enhance cybersecurity resilience for the nation’s critical pipelines and rail systems. Performance-based criteria recognizes the diversity of organizations and systems that exist throughout the transportation sector and seeks to incorporate practices that strengthen those systems against attack.

Officers stopped a record number of firearms: TSOs prevented more than 6,542 firearms from entering the

secure areas of airports in 2022; 88% of the firearms were loaded. TSA also announced several new measures to mitigate firearms threats including enhanced screening for passengers in possession of a firearm at a TSA checkpoint and loss of TSA PreCheck® eligibility for up to five years. In December 2022, TSA also increased the maximum civil penalty for a firearms violation to nearly \$15,000.

Federal Air Marshal Service 60th Anniversary: In March 2022, TSA recognized its Federal Air Marshal Service (FAMS) for 60 years of protecting domestic and international flights and providing a visible security presence for surface transportation modes. The FAMS was initially founded as part of the Federal Aviation Administration

See TSA Page 10

CHELSEA

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stephen.quigley@reverejournal.com

Advertising and Marketing

Director of Marketing
Debra DiGregorio
deb@reverejournal.com

Assistant Marketing Directors
Maureen DiBella

Advertising
Ellen Bertino

Editorial Reporters, Regular Contributors

Cary Shuman
(Cary@lynnjournal.com)

Copy Editing, Layout
Scott Yates

Business Accounts
Executive
Judy Russi

Printer
GateHouse Media

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SEN. DIDOMENICO ATTENDS EMBRACE MEMORIAL UNVEILING

On January 13th, Sen. Sal DiDomenico attended the unveiling of “The Embrace” in Boston Common. Attendees included the family of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., elected officials, and leaders from across Massachusetts and the country. This beautiful memorial commemorates the legacies of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., and Coretta Scott King, who met and studied here in Boston. The sculpture depicts their embrace after MLK received the Nobel Peace Prize in 1964.

“It was an absolute honor to witness the unveiling of this beautiful and important sculpture,” said Senator DiDomenico, Assistant Majority Leader of the Massachusetts Senate. “Their legacy lives on today and every day because of the sacrifices they made to advance civil rights, combat racism and discrimination, fight for equity, and preach love for each other. I am proud that we have such an important memorial in our community that reminds us of the equitable and inclusive world we must continue to work toward.”



Marvin Gilmore and Sen. Sal DiDomenico.



Marie St. Fleur and Sen. Sal DiDomenico.



“The Embrace” in Boston Common.

Local students take part in statewide youth service program

Special to the Record

Eighth-grade service Ambassadors representing every city and town in Massachusetts kicked-off their year of youth-led service with Project 351 Saturday, joined by Governor Maura Healey.

The event included Ambassadors from Revere, Chelsea, and Winthrop.

Project 351, a nonprofit organization, annually unites a class of unsung heroes for a transformative year of leadership development, enrichment, and impact through unique service opportunities. More than 425 Ambassadors and Alumni mentors took part in Project 351’s 13th annual Launch and Service Day in honor of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and Coretta Scott King.

Representing Chelsea were Geovany Brito from the Eugene Wright Science & Technology Academy and Esme Martinez from the Clarke Avenue Middle School.

Grace McCurdy represented Winthrop from the Winthrop Middle School.

Representing Revere were Sarah Naz from the Susan B. Anthony Middle School, Alison Diez Jaramillo from the Garfield Middle School, and Achraf Boukirou from the Rumney Marsh Academy.

“I’m excited to meet this year’s class of Project 351 Ambassadors as they begin their year of service,” said Healey. “This program is a reminder of how every one of us has the power to make a difference in our communities. These young people represent the very best of our state and I know that their impact will be felt in every city and town for years to come.”

Launch Day kicks-off 12 months of leadership development through unifying service, alumni mentorship, and enrichment through Project 351’s Service Leadership Academy.

Over their year’s term, Ambassadors develop the skills and confidence to mobilize schools and communities in four statewide service campaigns: Spring Service, benefit-



COURTESY PHOTO

Eighth graders representing all 351 cities and towns in Massachusetts gathered at Faneuil Hall in Boston on Saturday, Jan. 13, to kick off a year of service.

ting Cradles and Crayons, Hope & Gratitude Walk benefiting nonprofits selected by Ambassadors; 9-11 Tribute Service with the Massachusetts Military Heroes Fund; and Fall Service, which seeks to eradicate hunger through support of hundreds of hometown Food Pantries. At the close of their service year, Ambassadors are invited to continue to hone skills and lead communities as a member of the Alumni Organization.

“The 35ONE generation is compassion-in-action. We’re honored to welcome our 13th Class of leaders, dreamers, and doers,” said Carolyn Casey, Project 351’s Founder and Executive Director. “We are proud of their commitment to unite as the Class of 2023 to build the knowledge, skills, and confidence to lead the change they wish to see in the world.”

Launch Day celebrated the Class of 2023 and honored the legacy of the Kings, with a special tribute of the “The Embrace”, the Commonwealth’s first

memorial to Dr. and Mrs. King. Highlights include a kick-off program at Faneuil Hall and an end-of-day celebration at the John F. Kennedy Presidential Library & Museum. Jim Gallagher, General Counsel, Manulife and Imari Paris Jeffries, Executive Director, Embrace Boston will be featured speakers at Faneuil Hall.

Ambassadors dedicated the afternoon to high impact service with 10 nonprofit organizations including La Colaborativa, Cradles to Crayons, Hope & Comfort, and the Wonderfund. United across 351 cities and towns, Ambassadors addressed critical issues including hunger, educational opportunity, childhood poverty, mental health and wellness, and care for military and veterans – impacting thousands of neighbors across Boston and the Commonwealth.

Since 2011, 4,492 Ambassadors have positively impacted more than 1.2 million neighbors through unifying statewide service.



Celebrate Catholic Schools Week 2023

January 29 - February 4

#CSW23

This year's theme is “Catholic Schools: Faith. Excellence. Service.” Catholic schools have a specific purpose to form students to be good citizens of the world, love God and neighbor and enrich society with the leaven of the gospel and by example of faith.

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Deb DiGregorio - deb@reverejournal.com

Maureen DiBella - mdibella@winthroptranscript.com

Sioux Gerow - charlestownads@hotmail.com

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Items can also be faxed to 781-485-1403.

We also encourage readers to e-mail news releases and photos to stephen.quigley@reverejournal.com

Ambrosino / CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Trigueros performed impressively in front of the large gathering.

Dr. Abeyta and School Committee Chair Kelly Garcia presented a Public Schools Service Award to Ambrosino. State Reps. Judith Garcia and Jessica Giannino presented state citations, while Councilor-at-Large Damali Vidot delivered the Council's Set of Resolutions on behalf of her colleagues.

The slideshow depicting Ambrosino in scenes at events during his tenure in Chelsea was masterful.

Chelsea Senior Center Director Tracy Nowicki presented a gift basket from Chelsea and offered some kind words on behalf of city department leaders.

"I personally wanted to thank you for being so trustworthy of us," said Nowicki. "For us to be able to provide the great municipal services to residents of Chelsea – that trust that you gave in us allowed us to the wonderful job that we do do."

Prior to Ambrosino's farewell address, Leo Robinson, on behalf of the city, presented to Ambrosino a Chelsea Clock in appreciation of his outstanding work and commitment to Chelsea as its city manager.

Ambrosino received standing ovations from the audience before and after his speech.

"I really am touched by the kindness that you showed me tonight and the entire time I've been here as city manager," said Ambrosino. "I have absolutely loved being the city manager of this city."

I have enjoyed being the city manager here more than I enjoyed any other job in my life. Everyone has been so good to me in my time here. My city councils have been incredibly supportive to me. They were so wonderful and trusting of what I was trying to do, and I'm so grateful."

Ambrosino thanked the community-based organizations for their collaboration and accomplishments through the last seven years. "It's been such an honor to work with you. The city is so blessed to have incredible community-based organizations. It really makes this place

a special place."

Speaking about the residents of Chelsea, Ambrosino said, "They were always such a pleasure to work with. Even though I do not live in Chelsea, they always made me feel like this was my home and they welcomed me with open arms. I'm going to miss this place so much. I felt that I was always doing God's work here. It just made me feel so good to serve the people of this community."

In his remarks, Ambrosino made it a point to thank the farewell celebra-

tion planning committee who did a tremendous job. The committee's members were Leo Robinson, Dr. Almi Abeyta, Ned Keefe,



Massachusetts State Rep. Judith Garcia offers remarks.

Cheryl Watson-Fisher, Lourdes Alvarez, Fatima Melara, Veronica Dy-

er-Medina, Ricky Velez, and Michael Sullivan.



Chelsea Council On Aging Director Tracy Nowicki speaks before presenting Tom Ambrosino with a gift basket filled with treasures made by elders in Chelsea.



Chelsea City Council President Leo Robinson welcomed everyone to the farewell ceremony and presided over it.



Chelsea City Councilor Damali Vidot reads a Resolution from the City Council to be given to Tom Ambrosino.



Chelsea High School students Lissel Padilla Herrera and Anthony Martinez Trigueros perform a song "Paper Hearts".



Tom Ambrosino with Chelsea City Council President Leo Robinson and Massachusetts State Senator Sal DiDomenico.



Outgoing City Manager Tom Ambrosino is presented with a gift from the City Council President, Leo Robinson, a Chelsea Clock.



Tom Ambrosino (2nd from left) with Metro Credit Union VP Saritin Rizzuto, Chamber Of Commerce Executive Director Jennifer Hassell, and US Marshall Brian Kyes, the former chief of Chelsea Police.



Outgoing Chelsea City Manager Tom Ambrosino receives a Citation from Massachusetts State Representatives Judith Garcia and Jessica Ann Giannino.



Outgoing Chelsea City Manager Tom Ambrosino with former Superintendent Mary Bourque and current Superintendent Dr Almudena Abeyta.



Outgoing City Manager Tom Ambrosino steps up to the podium to respond to the outpouring of gratitude shown from the city he served for over 7 years.



Tom Ambrosino receives the Chelsea Public Schools Award for his support for public education by Superintendent Dr Almudena Abeyta and School Committee Chairwoman Kelly Garcia.



Tom Ambrosino with the Chelsea Land Trust.



Outgoing City Manager Tom Ambrosino with the Chelsea City Council.



Outgoing Chelsea City Manager is presented with a Resolution from the City Council.



The audience offers a standing ovation after Tom Ambrosino finished speaking.

Councilor wants quicker action on traffic issues at Congress and Broadway

By Adam Swift

There is a traffic light planned for the busy intersection of Congress and Broadway, but it could still be several years away. District 6 City Councilor Giovanni Recupero recently asked outgoing City Manager Thomas Ambrosino for an update on the status of the traffic light at the intersection, noting that there are both traffic and safety concerns. “Please note that the installation of a traffic signal at this location is anticipated to be a component of the revitalizing lower Broadway construction project,” Ambrosino stated in a letter to the council. “There will be several traffic signals along Broadway as part of that reconstruction. Unfortunately,

construction on the roadway portion of this project is still several years away.” In the meantime, Ambrosino stated that the city will continue to explore options for improving safety at the intersection. “This is a very dangerous intersection,” said Recupero. “I’ve got the communication here that says it will be a few years before we do get a light, but meanwhile, they should do something about it. Either put a stop sign or have an officer there directing traffic during peak hours when people are trying to move around.” Recupero said the traffic can get heavily congested with long delays on Congress Avenue. “If you live at the top of Congress, to go to Mar-

ket Basket, it will take an hour sometimes just to get there,” said Recupero. The councilor noted that due to a bike lane on Congress Avenue, the road is also narrower than it used to be, making it even more difficult to negotiate traffic. Recupero added that there is no stop sign on Broadway at the intersection, meaning cars waiting on Congress can be left sitting and waiting for cars to pass for an extended time. “Can we do something now, either put a stop sign or make sure we have an officer there to direct traffic so that this will go smoothly?” he asked. “Because one day, someone is going to get hurt really bad and I hate to be the person to say I told you so.”

Local Firefighters graduate from Firefighting Academy

State Fire Marshal Peter J. Ostroskey and Massachusetts Firefighting Academy Director Jeffrey P. Winn announced the graduation of 28 firefighters from the MFA’s 50-day Career Recruit Firefighting Training Program. “First responders are on the frontlines protecting their communities, and these newest firefighters are needed now more than ever,” said State Fire Marshal Ostroskey. “The rigorous professional training they’ve received provides them with the physical, mental, and technical skills to perform their jobs effectively and safely.” The graduating firefighters of Class #S30 trained at the MFA’s Springfield Campus. They represent the fire departments of Agawam, Amherst, Belchertown, Chelsea, Chicopee, Dudley, Holyoke, Ludlow, Natick, North Adams, Northampton, Northbridge, Pittsfield, Southbridge, Turners Falls, Westfield, and Westminster. Students receive classroom training in all basic firefighter skills. They practice first under non-fire conditions and then during controlled fire conditions. To graduate, students must demonstrate proficiency in life safety, search and rescue, ladder operations, water supply, pump operation, and fire



Chelsea’s Walter Ramirez among the 28 to graduate from the Massachusetts Firefighting Academy.

attack. Fire attack operations range from mailbox fires to multiple-floor or multiple-room structural fires. Upon successful completion of the Recruit Program all students have met the national standards of National Fire Protection Association 1001 and are certified to the level of Firefighter I and II, and Hazardous Materials First Responder Operational Level by the Massachusetts Fire Training Council, which is accredited by the National Board on Fire Service Professional Qualifications. Today’s firefighters do far more than fight fires. They train to respond to all types of hazards and emergencies. They are the first ones called to respond to chemical and environmental emergen-

cies, ranging from the suspected presence of carbon monoxide to fentanyl overdoses or a gas leak. They may be called to rescue a child who has fallen through the ice or who has locked himself in a bathroom. They rescue people from stalled elevators and those who are trapped in vehicle crashes. They test and maintain their equipment including self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA), hydrants, hoses, power tools, and apparatus. At the Massachusetts Firefighting Academy, they learn all these skills and more, including the latest science of fire behavior and suppression tactics, from certified fire instructors. They also receive training in public fire education, hazardous material incident mitigation, flammable liquids, stress management, and self-rescue techniques. The intensive, 10-week program for municipal firefighters involves classroom instruction, physical fitness training, firefighter skills training, and live firefighting practice. The MFA provides recruit and in-service training for Massachusetts firefighters at campuses in Stow, Springfield, and Bridgewater. To date, about 14,000 firefighters have graduated in more than 450 classes.



Congratulations to the staff of the East Boston Neighborhood Health Center for helping us win The Boston Globe’s *Top Places to Work* for an eighth time. We are proud to be a team that delivers compassionate, high-quality care to our community.



EAST BOSTON NEIGHBORHOOD HEALTH CENTER



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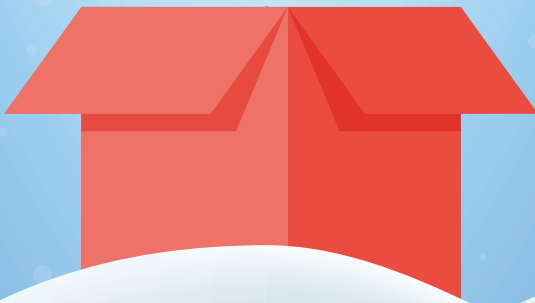
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Sports

CHS BOYS IN HOOP ACTION AGAINST REVERE

ROBERT MARRA PHOTOS

Revere waited until the final minutes of the game before finally overtaking Chelsea, 50-47 in a fast-paced game at Chelsea High School Tuesday, January 10. The Red Devils ran out to an 8-point lead in the first quarter but Revere crept back, trailing

by 3 or 4 points most of the night. Chelsea held a 45-42 lead with 4:25 left in the game, then Revere tied it at 47 with 2:35 left then took a one point lead, 48-47 with 17 seconds left, then added a couple of free throws in the waning moments for the win.



TAKE IT: Justin Toro (10) flicks a pass past a Revere defender.



LOOSE BALL: The ball bounces away from Chelsea's Brauli Tineo (1) as Revere's Vincent Nichols, and Chelsea's Abdullahi Mohamed.



MAKING A MOVE: Chelsea's Abdullahi Mohamed drives on Revere's Alejandro Hincapie.



STANDOFF: Chelsea's Brauli Quezada Tineo eyes the defensive stance of Revere's Ethan Day.



OPEN SPACE: Roify Otenez DelRosario finds a path past Revere's Sal DeAngelis.



ONLY ONE BALL: Revere's Vincent Nichols and Chelsea's Roify DelRosario are in a tug-of-war for the ball.



MAKING A STRETCH: Chelsea's Herman Mendez gets off a shot while defended by Revere's Luke Ellis (14) and Vincent Nichols (0).



NOW WHERE?: Chelsea's Abdullahi Mohamed looks for an opening as he is guarded by Revere's Vinny Lu (13) and Sal DeAngelis.



BIG BOY BASKETBALL: Chelsea forward Mannix Reso Jr. (5) leans into Revere forward Erick Mayorga.

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CHS ROUNDUP

NADOW, FLORES TAKE FIRST-PLACE FOR CHS BOYS

Although the Chelsea High boys indoor track and field team dropped a 60-25 decision to Malden, two Red Devils, Nate Nadow and Alex Flores, won their individual events.

Nate captured the 600 dash with a clocking of 1:37.1 and Alex won the mile race handily with a time of 5:25, which was 19 seconds faster than his closest Malden rival.

Emerson Melgar in the shot-put, Ali Warsame in the 300 dash, and Josue Hernandez in the two-mile added three points to the CHS scoresheet with second-place performances.

Contributing single points with third-place efforts were Greandoll Oliva in the shot, Austin Freeman in the 600, Ivan Irias in the 1000, and Jason Rodrigues in the mile.

The Red Devils made the short trip to Revere yesterday (Wednesday) and will take on Medford next Wednesday.

CHS GIRLS TRACK TOPS MALDEN, 49-37

The Chelsea High girls indoor track and field team captured first place in six of the nine individual events and cruised to victory in the 4 x 400 relay to earn a 49-37 victory at Greater Boston League (GBL) rival Malden last Wednesday.

The six first-place finishers for coach Cesar Hernandez’s squad were: Dhalia Christmas in the shot-put with a throw of 28’-5.75”; Darily Sanchez in the 300 dash with a clocking of 50.8 seconds; Hazel Hatleburg in the 600 dash in a time of 2:09.6; Giselle Olivar in the 1000 in 3:38.9; Gizelle Rodriguez in the mile in 6:09.8; and Reina Moreira

in the two-mile in 16:04. The winning 4 x 400 relay quartet consisted of Rodriguez, Olivar, Farrah Henderson, and Sanchez. Their winning time of 4:59.07 defeated their Malden counterparts by 18 seconds and was the fastest clocking of the four teams on hand at the Malden facility that day. (The other meet featured Everett vs. Lynn Classical.)

Adding three points to the CHS scoresheet with second-place performances were: Lauren Nadow in the hurdles; Henderson in the 55 dash; Valerie Ramirez in the 300 dash; and Reina Martino in the 600.

Rodriguez scored a point with a third place finish in the shot-put, as did Rosalinda Rojas in the mile.

The CHS girls, who now are 3-1 on the season, make the short trek down Broadway to GBL foe Revere today (Wednesday) and will take on GBL rival Medford next Wednesday.

CHS GIRLS BASKETBALL CONTINUES TO BATTLE

Although the Chelsea High girls basketball team came up on the short end of their contests with Greater Boston League rivals Medford and Lynn English this past week, there were a number of highlights for the Lady Red Devils.

In the matchup with Medford, freshman point guard Monica Cespedes-Cruz reached double figures with 12 points, hitting a quartet of three-pointers, and also pulling down two rebounds, dishing two assists, and making a steal.

Freshman center Katherine Landaverde snared seven rebounds and

chipped in two points in what was her final game for Chelsea (her family has moved to Everett).

Junior point guard Ke-ara Cheves Trejo scored two points, pulled down two rebounds, and made three steals. Freshman guard Melize Siliro hit a three-pointer to go with two rebounds and two steals.

Also making nice contributions were senior captain and forward Joselinne Moran-Palma with five rebounds, three steals, and a block and senior Maria Gracias-Carcamo, who snared four boards and made three assists.

In the contest at Lynn English, Cespedes-Cruz and Cheves-Trejo both scored five points, including a trey apiece. Moran-Palma chipped in four points.

CHS head coach Leslie Santiago and her crew host Lynn Classical today (Thursday) at 4:00, trek to Somerville next Tuesday, and go across the Parkway to Everett next Thursday.

CHS BOYS HOST SOMERVILLE, EVERETT

The Chelsea High boys basketball team will host Greater Boston League rivals Somerville and Everett next week.

Somerville will come to the CHS gym on Tuesday for a 5:30 tip-off and Everett comes to town next Thursday (January 26) for a 7:00 opening tip.

First-year head coach Cesar Castro and his crew, who travel to Lynn Classical today (Thursday), fell short in their recent battles with Medford and state powerhouse Lynn English this past week.

“We have nine games left in the season and we continue to get better and grow,” said Castro. “It’s going to take some time, but we will get there.”

OBITUARIES

Miller Lanair Starke, Sr.

His life was dedicated to home and family



Billerica 20 years ago.

His life was dedicated to home and family and recently was the companion.”

In addition to his parents, he was predeceased by his siblings, Donald Starke and Carole Davis and was widowed with the passing of his beloved wife, RoseAnn in 2011.

He was the devoted father of Edward G. Starke and his wife, Angela of Tewksbury, Andrew Starke and his wife, Judy of Gardner, Miller, Karen, Cheryl Palmacci and her husband, Anthony of Haverhill and

Carole-Lynn Needham and her husband, Paul of Franklin and dear brother-in-law of Edna Starke of Oregon, Lyndell Theberge and her husband, Bernard of New Hampshire and Gordon Smyth of Kentucky.

Relatives and friends are most kindly invited to attend a visitation at the Welsh Funeral Home, 718 Broadway, Chelsea on Friday, January 20 from 9:30 to 11 a.m. immediately followed by a Family Farewell and Service of Remembrance at 11 a.m. Services will conclude with interment in Woodlawn Cemetery, Everett with military honors and Miller being placed to rest with his wife.

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

Paul Carolan, Jr.

Freelance plumber



Paul T. Carolan, Jr. passed away from a brief illness and declining health on Monday, January 9 at Parkland Medical Center in Derry NH. He was 44 years of age.

He was born and raised in Chelsea and attended local schools. A former resident of Chelsea for many years, he was more recently residing between Merrimac, MA, and Danville, NH. He worked as a freelance plumber with various local plumbing companies and enjoyed listening to rap music.

attend a memorial gathering and remembrance service to be held from the Welsh Funeral Home, 718 Broadway, Chelsea on Monday, January 23 from 5 to 7 p.m.

Should friends desire, contributions in Paul’s memory may be made to charity of their choice.

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.

BRUINS Beat by Bob Morello

Bruins Krejci marks 1,000th game



David Krejci, over his years in Boston, could’ve easily used one of comedian Rodney Dangerfield’s classic lines – “I can’t get no respect,” as in the 16 seasons he played in Boston, he probably wasn’t shown as much respect as he deserved. In reaching the 1,000 games plateau this week, he has often played the role of “best man,” but never “the groom!” Krejci’s years of service in Boston were probably underappreciated, as over the years he has played in the shadows of Patrice Bergeron, Zdeno Chara, Brad Marchand, Tuukka Rask, and now his fellow countryman and sometime line mate, David Pastrnak. No. 46 just did his job, never complaining about which line he was on, playing through pain, and doing his part to earn his pay with solid, honest play.

Krejci has often been labeled as – “A solid play-off player,” something he proved often, especially during the memorable 2011 Stanley Cup run, when he was ‘the man,’ scoring 12 goals, 11 assists, and an impressive 23 points. A true franchise player to the Bruins, he is noted in the Boston record books as holding a

spot high up among the leaders, in both assists and points. He left Boston in 2021, insisting it was because he wanted to play in front of his family and friends in Czechia, which likely wasn’t the real reason for his departure. But, whatever his reason, it was the forward thinking of general manager Don Sweeney and the Bruins organization, to call back the 36-year-old and show that they still believed in him.

On Monday, Krejci again this season, showed his thanks for the invite, and that he still had something in the tank, currently joining forces with his fellow countrymen, Pavel Zacha and Pastrnak, contributing three points by assisting on three goals on Monday, to ground the Philadelphia Flyers 6-0. Those three points brought Krejci’s total this season to 34 points in 38 games (11-23). The Bruins have set a date for the celebration of Krejci’s 1,000th game, to

be held on Monday, February 20, when the locals will host the Ottawa Senators (1:00pm). Krejci is the seventh player in Boston Bruins history to have played 1,000 games with the organization, joining an elite group that includes, Bergeron, Chara, Sweeney, Ray Bourque, Wayne Cashman and Johnny Bucyk.

Talks continue on the Pastrnak signing, which have shown signs of progress, but nothing concrete as of yet. Yesterday (Wednesday) at press time, the Bruins took on the New York Islanders. Tonight (Thursday, 7:00pm) they visit Madison Square Garden and the New York Rangers, who have been playing well lately (6-2-2 last 10), in the second half of the back-to-back series. A single home game will have the locals back on TD Garden ice to take face the San Jose Sharks on Sunday 7:00pm., whose struggles continue (2-5-3 last 10). The Bruins head back out on the road for four games in six nights, with games versus the Montreal Canadiens (Tuesday, 7:00pm), Tampa Bay Lightning (Thursday, 7:00pm), and upcoming stops in Florida and Carolina.

To place a memoriam in the Chelsea Record please call 781-485-0588

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Includes photo.No word Limit.

Please send to


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or call 781-485-0588

visit www.chelsearecord.com

LEGAL NOTICES

LEGAL NOTICE



**RESCHEDULE
NOTICE OF HEARING**
Case No.
2022-40

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, February 14, 2023


Chelsea City Hall - 500 Broadway - City Council Chambers, 3rd Floor 6:00 p.m.

With reference to the application of: Enterprise Rent-A-Car Company of Boston, LLC For Special Permit seeking approval of a storage of vehicles for hire or return from hire at the premises known as: 245-257 Marginal 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

1/12/23, 1/19/23

LEGAL NOTICE



Re:Como en Casa Inc d/b/a Como en Casa 107-109 Shurtleff Street, Chelsea, MA

Chelsea Licensing Commission

Notice is hereby given that a public hearing will be held by the Chelsea Licensing Commission on Thursday, February 9, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. at the City Council Conference Room, Chelsea City Hall, 500 Broadway, Chelsea, MA. For an Amusement & Entertainment License application (Radio) for Como en Casa, Inc d/b/a Como en Casa at 107-109 Shurtleff Street, Chelsea, MA. 02150. Please be advised that you must notify, via Certified Return Receipt mail, all abutters of this hearing.


CHELSEA LICENSING COMMISSION

Naomi Libran

Licensing Administrator

1/19/23, 1/26/23

LEGAL NOTICE




NOTICE OF HEARING
Case No.
2023-01

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, February 14, 2023

Chelsea City Hall - 500 Broadway - City Council Chambers, 3rd Floor 6:00 p.m.

With reference to the application of:

LEGAL NOTICE



**LEGAL NOTICE
CITY OF CHELSEA
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**

The Department of Public Works will conduct a Public Hearing on Tuesday, January 24, 2023 at 6pm at City Hall 3rd Floor in the chambers room

Purposes:

Verizon: Eastern Avenue: Place two (2) JO poles, P.14S and P.15S on the easterly side of Eastern Avenue. Pole, P.14S to be placed ±53' southeasterly from existing Pole, P.14. Said pole being located on the westerly side of Eastern Avenue. Pole, P.15S to be placed ±52' southeasterly from existing Pole, P.15. Said pole being located on the westerly side of Eastern Avenue.

City of Chelsea DPW: The Department proposes to offer mattress and box spring pick up and recycling services, for a fee, for residents who do not receive City trash services.

The public is invited to attend.

Cate Fox Lent

Commissioner

1/12/23, 1/19/23

LEGAL NOTICE

**COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
LAND COURT
DEPARTMENT OF THE TRIAL COURT**

Docket No.: 23 SM 000199

ORDER OF NOTICE

TO: Melissa S. MacNeil and to all persons entitled to the benefit of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act, 50 U.S.C. c. 50 §3901 (et seq):

Rocket Mortgage, LLC f/k/a Quicken Loans, LLC f/k/a Quicken Loans Inc.

claiming to have an interest in a Mortgage covering real property in Chelsea, numbered 60 Dudley Street, Unit No. 123, of the Spencer Lofts Condominium, given by Melissa S. Macneil to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as mortgagee, acting solely as a nominee for Fairway Independent Mortgage Corporation, dated March 21, 2014,

and recorded in Suffolk County Registry of Deeds in Book 52777, Page 261, 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 answer in this court at Three Pemberton Square, Boston, MA 02108 on or before 2/27/2023 or you may lose the opportunity to challenge the foreclosure on the ground of non-compliance with the Act.

Witness, GORDON H. PIPER Chief Justice of this Court on 1/13/2023

Attest: Deborah J. Patterson, Recorder

1/19/23

LEGAL NOTICE

**COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
THE TRIAL COURT
PROBATE AND FAMILY COURT
Suffolk Division
INFORMAL PROBATE PUBLICATION
NOTICE**

Docket No. SU23P0065EA

Estate of: Ralph Edward Wallace, III

Also Known As: Ralph E. Wallace, III; Raphael Edward Wallace, III

Date of Death: November 28, 2022

To all persons interested in the above captioned estate by Petition of Petitioner Rachelle Wallace-Stanley of Milton, GA.

Rachelle Wallace-Stanley

of. Milton, GA has been informally appointed as the Personal Representative of the estate to serve without surety on the bond.

The estate is being administered under informal procedure by the Personal Representative under the Massachusetts Uniform Probate Code without supervision by the Court. Inventory and accounts are not required to be filed with the Court, but interested parties are entitled to notice regarding the administration from the Personal Representative and can petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including distribution of assets and expenses of administration. Interested parties are entitled to petition the Court to institute formal proceedings and to obtain orders terminating or restricting the powers of Personal Representatives appointed under informal procedure. A copy of the Petition and Will, if any, can be obtained from the Petitioner.

1/19/23

LEGAL NOTICE



The City of Chelsea has prepared and submitted a Final Combined Sewer Overflow (CSO) Public Notification Plan to the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP). Any interested party can view the plan at the following website: <https://www.chelseama.gov/csonotificationplan>


Written comments can be submitted until February 22, 2023. This is a period of 30 days after the date of publication in the Environmental Monitor. Submit written comments to MassDEP by email to massdep.sewagenotification@mass.gov or by mail to 100 Cambridge St, Suite 900 Boston, MA 02114.

Submit written comments to The City of Chelsea by email to scallahan@chelseama.gov or by mail to Chelsea Public Works 500 Broadway suite 310 Chelsea, MA 02150 .

This Public Notice is published in the Environmental Monitor, The Chelsea Record, The Boston Herald and El Planeta.

1/19/23

LEGAL NOTICE




La Ciudad de Chelsea ha preparado y presentado un Plan Final de Notificación Pública de Desbordamiento de Alcantarillado Combinado (CSO por sus siglas en inglés) al Departamento de Protección Ambiental de Massachusetts (MassDEP). Cualquiera interesado puede consultar el plan en la siguiente web: <http://www.chelseama.gov/csonotificationplan>

Los comentarios por escrito se pueden presentar hasta el 22 de febrero de 2023. Este es un período de 30 días después de la fecha de publicación en Environmental Monitor. Envíe comentarios por escrito a MassDEP por correo electrónico a massdep.sewagenotification@mass.gov o por correo a 100 Cambridge St, Suite 900 Boston, MA 02114. Envíe comentarios por escrito a la Ciudad de Chelsea por correo electrónico a scallahan@chelseama.gov o por correo a Chelsea Public Works 500 Broadway suite 310 Chelsea, MA 02150 .

Este Aviso Público se publica en Environmental Monitor, The Chelsea Record, The Boston Herald y El Planeta.

1/19/23

LEGAL NOTICE



**CITY OF CHELSEA
INVITATION FOR BIDS
SUBSTITUTE STAFFING
AND MANAGEMENT SERVICES**

The City of Chelsea, Massachusetts, through its Chief Procurement Officer, is seeking bids for the purchase of "Substitute Staffing and Management Services". Bids will be available on or after January 19, 2023 by visiting the City's website at https://www.chelseama.gov/departments/purchasing/current_bids__solicitations.php

Bids must be sealed and clearly marked "Substitute Staffing and Management Services" and submitted to the Office of the Chief Procurement Officer no later than 10:30AM on Thursday, February 02, 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

1/19/23

TSA / CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

in 1962 in response to increased international airline hijacking incidents, and transitioned to TSA after its establishment following the 9/11 attacks.

Expanded canine teams: TSA trained and deployed

more than 1,000 explosives detection canine teams at airports and mass-transit facilities to support large-scale events such as Super Bowl LVI, the Kentucky Derby, Indy 500 and enhance security operations at

airports and surface transportation systems nationwide.

Announced open architecture initiative: TSA partnered with Airports Council International (ACI) - Europe to begin piloting open architecture airport security technology. Open architecture offers agility in technology development, adoption and updates, promoting competition and improving security and the traveler experience.

TSA Insider Threat: Executed a multimedia insider threat awareness campaign, increasing workforce knowledge of potential risk indicators of an insider threat and reporting streams; expanded TSA office and program membership within the TSA Insider Risk Mitigation Hub and increased external domestic and international transportation stakeholder and partner outreach efforts. The agency also continued advancement of TSA Insider Threat with the deployment of a case management system and threat data analytics.

Global incident management: TSA supported Operation Allies Welcome with the safe transport of over 90,000 people from Afghanistan to the U.S. Following Russia's invasion of Ukraine, TSA continued to lead cybersecurity efforts as a sector risk management agency for transportation.

Our Customers And Partners

Passenger volumes continue to recover: Travel volumes returned to pre-pandemic levels in 2022, with TSOs screening 736 million passengers, averaging over two million passengers per day. On average, 99.4% of passengers waited less than 30 minutes at airport security checkpoints, while 99.4% of passengers in

TSA PreCheck lanes waited less than 10 minutes.

TSA PreCheck reduced enrollment fee: Seven new airlines joined the TSA PreCheck expedited screening program and over 3.3 million people enrolled, bringing the total number of active TSA PreCheck members to more than 14 million. The agency also reduced the initial enrollment cost to \$78 and renewal cost to \$70.

First TSA PreCheck at an international checkpoint: In February, TSA opened its first TSA PreCheck lanes outside of the U.S. making its debut in Nassau, Bahamas.

TSA improved the passenger experience: The TSA Contact Center answered 1.9 million traveler calls and email messages; AskTSA responded directly to 2.2 million traveler questions, typically within two minutes, over social media and introduced a new feature enabling airline passengers to text AskTSA (275-872) with security-related questions. The TSA Cares helpline provided assistance to 46,000 travelers with disabilities, medical conditions and other special circumstances. Additionally, TSA implemented enhanced screening technology, improving the Advanced Imaging Technology (AIT) units in airport checkpoints with a software update that enhances accuracy and efficiency. Through a partnership with Apple, TSA also continued to test the acceptance of mobile driver's licenses to enable a more seamless airport security experience for travelers in participating states including Arizona, Maryland and Colorado.

Collaboration and strategic partnerships: TSA conducted over 500 domestic response plan exercises;

provided self-defense training for airline employees; offered truck, port and rail workers online options to securely renew credentials and increased intelligence sharing with surface and aviation partners.

TSA leveraged innovation and identity management: TSA published its Innovation Doctrine to highlight how the agency embeds innovation into its business processes. Additionally, TSA issued an Identity Management Roadmap, outlining a cohesive identity management approach that enhances standards, improves data sharing and privacy protocols across systems and expands collaboration efforts among stakeholders to improve the traveler experience.

TSA introduced its virtual Mission Hall: In November 2022, TSA launched a virtual tour of TSA's Mission Hall, which is located at TSA headquarters. The exhibit is a collection of historical archives and artifacts documenting the agency's establishment, its evolution and critical events in transportation security.

Our People

Increased compensation for TSA employees: In late December 2022 President Biden signed into law the FY23 Omnibus Bill, which was a top priority for DHS and TSA, that includes funds to pay TSA employees at a level commensurate with other federal agencies. The new compensation plan will begin in July 2023 and recognizes the critical role TSA employees play in protecting the nation's transportation systems.

Expanded collective bargaining rights for non-supervisory screeners: The FY23 Omnibus Bill included funding to support implementation of an expanded labor framework,

including broad collective bargaining rights for the non-supervisory screening workforce. On December 30, 2022, Administrator Pekoske signed a new Determination on Transportation Security Officers and Collective Bargaining that sets forth this new labor framework. The spending bill also included funding for continued Merit Systems Protection Board rights for TSOs. The agency first established these rights for TSOs in September 2021.

TSA hired a Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Accessibility Officer: TSA hired its first-ever executive officer to lead diversity, equity, inclusion and accessibility initiatives for the agency. The Chief Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Accessibility (DEIA) Officer is responsible for designing, developing, and recommending a diversity management strategy that aligns with and contributes directly to TSA's mission and strategic goals.

TSA continues to hire and train officers: TSA hired more than 10,000 new TSOs and opened its new TSA Academy West adjacent to Harry Reid International Airport (LAS) in Las Vegas. The new training academy graduated over 1,000 TSOs while others were trained at the TSA Academy East in Glynnco, Ga. TSA offered a hiring bonus for TSO positions in some areas of the country where it is hard to recruit applicants and provided an opportunity for candidates to onboard as Security Support Assistants (SSA) within just a few weeks. The SSA position allows candidates to quickly obtain employment at TSA to perform non-screening duties in support of checkpoint operations, while they complete the TSO hiring process.

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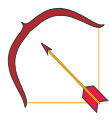
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DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. HONORED BY PEOPLE’S A.M.E. CHURCH AND CHELSEA PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Monday January 16 was celebrated as Dr Martin Luther King Jr. Day, a National Holiday. King is best remembered for his nationwide peaceful, non-violent protests and marches, bringing racial injustice to the forefront of America.



The Invocation delivered by Beverly Martin Ross.



The Welcoming Address was delivered by Chelsea Black Community (CBC) President Joan Cromwell. – Please change cutline – do not need “Mrs.” in front of her name, either.



Master of Ceremonies, Pastor of the AME Church, Rev. Dr. George Walters-Sleyon.



Keynote Speaker, Rev. Dr. Ellis I. Washington. From the St. Paul African Methodist Episcopal Church in Cambridge. The “voice” of Gospel Radio 1380 WAOK in Atlanta Georgia. A noted community leader, an inspiring speaker and a servant of God.



Greetings delivered by Chelsea Public Schools Chief Academic Officer, Dr. Tamara Blake-Canty.



Senator Sal DiDomenico spoke on Dr. King’s legacy and how much he accomplished.



The introduction of the keynote speaker by Dr. Aaron T. Jennings MSW.



Newly sworn in State Representative Judith Garcia addresses the crowd at the MLK Breakfast/Tribute.



Superintendent of Chelsea Public Schools, Dr. Almudena Abeyta.



Joan Cromwell (center) with Maureen Lee, Grace McKinnon, Nicole McKory and Stacey Smith.



Eula Balloon, Marlene Tyler, Maureen Lee, Sharon Caulfield and Beverly Ross.



Chelsea Police Chief Keith Houghton and Chelsea City Council President Leo Robinson.



Eli and Rebeka Reinoso enjoy a little breakfast before the event.



The Padilla family at the MLK Breakfast at the Clark Street School.

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The Middle School Advanced Band led by Lee Thomas.

The Chelsea High School Choir, directed by Michael Bednarsky, performed several selections at the ceremony.

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