



# CHelsea RECORD

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35 CENTS

## Lt. Gov. Driscoll joins state and local officials on the 111 bus

Special to the Record

Lieutenant Governor Kim Driscoll, Transportation Secretary and CEO Gina Fiandaca, MBTA General Manager Phillip Eng, and other state and local officials took the MBTA bus 111 from Chelsea to work on Monday, August 7, to continue to raise awareness about the alternative travel options available to help travelers “Ditch the Drive” during the Sumner Tunnel closure.



MBTA General Manager Phillip Eng, City Manager Ned Keefe with Lt. Governor Kim Driscoll.

These options include certain fare-free bus routes in Chelsea in addition to multiple free or reduced cost subway, commuter rail, ferry, and parking options.

“We really want to encourage people to take public transportation not just while this project is underway, but hopefully afterwards, as well,” said Driscoll.

See MBTA Page 6



Lt. Gov. Driscoll and City Councilor Calvin Brown on the 111.

## Boarding house hearing continues

By Adam Swift

The Zoning Board of Appeals continued the case for the rehabilitation of 165 Hawthorne St. at its meeting on Tuesday night.

The petitioner requested the continuance until the September meeting, since the applicant’s representative was unable to make Tuesday night’s meeting.

Currently, the building has 18 single-room occupancy units on the top floors with communal bathroom and kitchen spaces, and a retail produce shop occupies the front space.

Developer Rick Costa is seeking to renovate the 18 single room occupancies

and lowering the number of those units to 12 by adding private bathrooms and small kitchen areas. He is also seeking to replace the retail area on the first floor and add six small apartment units.

At a Planning Board meeting last month, Costa said that the current management of the building is currently less than ideal, with rooms rented daily or by the week and a transient population. He said he will make sure the rooms are of a higher caliber, and that there would be improved maintenance and management of the units.

See ZBA Page 2

### APPRECIATION

## Chester Zaremba, U.S. Army veteran, lifelong Chelsea resident, 96

Special to the Record

Chester Zaremba, a member of the Greatest Generation who served his country during World War II and the Korean Conflict, died on July 29, 2023, one month shy of his 97th birthday.

Mr. Zaremba was a lifelong resident of Chelsea. He was a lifetime member and officer of the Polish American Veterans, Post 13, Chelsea. He was a devoted parishioner at St. Stanislaus Church on Chestnut Street, his lifelong church, and later at Our Lady of Grace Parish.

Mr. Zaremba was the father of four daughters, Anne Fisher and her husband, Martin, Susan Moore and her husband,



Chester Zaremba.

John, Jane Szarythe and her husband, Richard “Turk”, and Nancy Dawson and her husband Jay.

The youngest of his four loving daughters, Nancy Zaremba Dawson, delivered a beautiful eulogy on behalf of her mother and sisters during a funeral.

See ZAREMBA Page 2

## Races shaping up for municipal election

By Adam Swift

This year’s municipal election promises a mix of contested races, as well as several incumbents running unopposed on the City Council and School Committee.

The deadline to submit nomination papers and signatures to the City Clerk for the Nov. 7 municipal election was on Tuesday. City Solicitor Cheryl Watson Fisher said those signatures will be certified on or before the August 22 deadline.

If all signatures are certified, there looks to be preliminary elections on Sept. 26 in District 4 for City Councilor and in District 7 for School Committee.

In District 4, current Councilor Tanairi Garcia is running alongside current Licensing Commission Chair Marnie MacAlpine and Adriel Rodriguez.

Due to redistricting,

Garcia is not technically a candidate for reelection, since she currently represents District 7. Long-time current District 4 Councilor Enio Lopez is not running for reelection this year.

The other potential primary for School Committee in District 7 features candidates Lucia Henriquez, Loren Sokol, and Celeste Williams.

There are five candidates running for three seats as Councilors-at-Large.

The only incumbent in the at-large race is Council President and dean of the council Leo Robinson.

However, the other four candidates are all familiar faces in City politics, as School Committee chair Kelly Garcia, School Committee member Roberto Jimenez-Rivera, former Councilor Yamir Rodriguez, and local attorney and former candidate

See ELECTION Page 2

## JORDAN CLUB IN CHELSEA HOSTS SOCCER CLINIC



BGCB members pose for a picture at the BGCB/Santander Soccer Clinic with the New England Revolution at the Gerald and Darlene Jordan Boys and Girls Club in Chelsea. See more photos on Page 7.

In partnership with Santander Bank, Boys & Girls Clubs of Boston’s (BGCB) Gerald and Darlene Jordan Club hosted a soccer clinic taught by New England Revolution players Thursday, August 3. Sixty-five BGCB members, ages 6-12 years old, were led through a two-hour training session where they learned innovative skills and techniques to help them train and play in a fun and competitive setting. The day included a hands-on clinic and autograph session, as well as a check presentation for a \$100,000 grant



A BGCB member dribbles down the pitch at the BGCB/Santander Soccer Clinic with the New England Revolution at the Gerald and Darlene Jordan Club in Chelsea.

As BGCB and Santander Bank continue to invest in Boston’s youth and development, this event breaks down stigmas and barriers around athletics,



Santander Bank presents the \$100,000 check to BGCB Nicholas President and CEO Robert Lewis Jr.

contribution to the Gerald and Darlene Jordan Club in Chelsea.

As BGCB and Santander Bank continue to invest in Boston’s youth and development, this event breaks down stigmas and barriers around athletics,

as well as generates opportunities for young children of color. The program hopes to draw awareness of inequities around sports including “pay-to-play” fees and access to safe and reliable fields.

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# Budget permanently funds DiDomenico’s universal school meals priority

Special to the Record

This week, Senator Sal DiDomenico approved the Fiscal Year 2024 State Budget alongside his legislative colleagues, which included permanent funding for universal school meals, one of his top priorities. This program will provide free breakfast and lunch to students at every K-12 school in Massachusetts. Senator DiDomenico has advocated and filed legislation in support of this program for several sessions alongside his colleague, Representative Andy Vargas, and

anti-hunger organizations led by Project Bread. “This program demonstrates the best of our state’s ideals, using funding to guarantee every Massachusetts student will access food at school,” said Senator DiDomenico, Assistant Majority Leader of the Massachusetts Senate. “We have heard time and again from educators, advocates, and parents, that children cannot learn when they are hungry, so this program will ensure all our children can concentrate in class and enjoy being a kid. I want to thank Senate President

Spilka, Chair Rodrigues, and all my colleagues for their work to get this transformative program funded.” Schools across the state have been providing universal school meals throughout the pandemic because costs for this program were temporarily footed by the federal government. In 2022, federal support for the program was cut off, but Senator DiDomenico worked with his colleagues to secure enough funding in last year’s state budget to continue funding free school meals through-

out the Commonwealth for the 2022-2023 school year. Thanks to this year’s budget, this program will be funded permanently so every K-12 school in Massachusetts will continue providing free breakfast and lunch to all students. This program has been a massive success in Massachusetts over the past few school years. Over 80,000 more students were eating lunch daily when costs were lifted, which allowed them to focus on class and relieved a financial burden from their parents. This is a crucial program especially as costs for housing,



Sen. DiDomenico speaking on the Senate Floor.

transportation, healthcare, and more have risen. Universal school meals will continue to improve the wellbeing of our children and working families throughout the Commonwealth for years to come.

## DIDOMENICO ADVOCATES FOR PROVIDING MORE SUPPORT TO STUDENTS WITH DIABETES



Senator DiDomenico testified at an Education Committee hearing in support of his bill, S.262, which would help children with diabetes management in school. DiDomenico explained to his committee colleagues, “I know how hard and time-consuming it is to manage diabetes for many of our students. We are in a time right now where we are re-imagining schools and how we can best support our families. This bill will allow countless students to remain in their classrooms and receive the education and school experience they deserve.” The bill, an Act providing for diabetes management in schools, would allow a school nurse or school physician to designate other school staff to give a glucose monitoring test or insulin in the case a student is unable to self-administer the test or give themselves insulin.

## Consumer notification service now available

Suffolk Register of Deeds Stephen J. Murphy announces a new Consumer Notification Service available on Suffolkdeeds.com. The Consumer Notification Service alerts a homeowner by email when a document is recorded at the Suffolk Registry of Deeds in their name or at their address. Click on the link Consumer Notification Service appearing in the banner at the top of the Suffolkdeeds.com website to create an account

and register up to 3 separate properties in Suffolk County (Boston, Chelsea, Revere, and Winthrop) about which you want to be notified. Our free notification service, like the paid subscription services you see advertised on TV and radio, does not prevent a document from being recorded. If a document is recorded in the name or address of a Consumer Notification Service account holder - an email will be sent to the account holder notifying them of

the document’s recording. If you receive an email, please review the document at Suffolkdeeds.com by clicking on Document Search and searching your name and address. After you review the document, if you have any concerns or believe you are a victim of fraud, please call (617) 788-6221 and ask to speak with an Assistant Register of Deeds. All victims of fraud should contact local law enforcement authorities.

## Election / CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Olivia Walsh are all vying for an at-Large seat. Current at-Large councilors Damali Vidot and Brian Hatleberg did not take out nomination papers for this year’s election. Vidot served several terms as Council President, and Hatleberg was selected to fill the seat of former Councilor Roy Avellaneda. At the time, Hatleberg said he would not see a full term on the council. In District 1, incumbent Councilor Todd Taylor is running unopposed. In District 2, incumbent Melinda Vega is facing a challenge from Constantinos Boussios. In District

3, incumbent Norielez DeJesus is running unopposed. Lisa Santagate is running unopposed in District 5 to fill the seat currently held by Judith Garcia. Garcia did not run for reelection so she could devote her time to her position as state representative for Chelsea. In District 6, longtime incumbent Giovanni Recupero is running unopposed. In District 7, Manuel Teshe is unopposed in his first run for public office in the city. District 8 Councilor Calvin Brown, who survived a close election two years ago, is running un-

opposed this year. In other School Committee races, Katherine Cabral is running unopposed for an at-Large position, incumbent Shawn O’Regan is running unopposed in District 1 and Sarah Neville is running unopposed in District 2. In District 3, incumbent Naomi Zabot is being challenged by Jonathan Gomez-Pereira, and in District 4, the candidates are Mayra Balderas and Zaida Ismatul. District 6 incumbent Ana Hernandez and District 8 incumbent Yessenia Alfaro are both running unopposed.

## Legislature passes bill authorizing Chapter 90 funding benefiting DiDomenico’s district

Senator Sal DiDomenico joined his colleagues in the Massachusetts Legislature in passing a bill that includes \$375 million in bond authorizations for transportation needs across the state, including \$200 million for the state’s Chapter 90 program, which provides municipalities with a reliable funding source for transportation-related improvements, including road and bridge repairs. Last week, Governor Healey signed the bill into law, ensuring this critical funding will be distributed across the state. “Our communities and economy are stitched together by roads, bridges, the MBTA and regional transit authorities, so ensuring this infrastructure is safe, accessible, and up to 21st century standards is nonnegotiable,” said Senator DiDomenico, Assistant Majority Leader of the Massachusetts Senate. “These investments will repair outdated transpor-

tation infrastructure and keep our state on track to cut greenhouse gas emissions by supporting efforts to electrify our cars and provide high quality public transportation. These investments will have a big impact in my district and throughout the Commonwealth.” “Ensuring that people in every region of Massachusetts have safe and dependable transportation options is fundamental to creating a competitive and equitable Commonwealth,” said Senate President Karen E. Spilka (D-Ashland). “This funding invests in our infrastructure and transit systems everywhere, allocating much-needed funds to local roads and bridges, regional transit, EV infrastructure, and parts of the MBTA. I want to thank Senator Crighton for making this a priority, my Senate colleagues for their support, and Speaker Mariano and the House for agreeing on these critical investments in our in-

frastructure.” This legislation also authorizes \$175 million in programs that will support various transportation-related projects. This includes \$25 million for each of the following:

- The municipal small bridge program;
- The complete streets program;
- A bus transit infrastructure program;
- Grants to increase access to mass transit and commuter rail stations;
- Grants for municipalities and regional transit authorities to purchase electric vehicles and the infrastructure needed to support them;
- Funding for pavement and surface improvements on state and municipal roadways; and
- New funding dedicated to additional transportation support based on road mileage, which is particularly helpful for rural communities.

## ZBA / CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

The Planning Board recommended approval of the special permit and variances needed to move forward with the project at its July meeting. In other business, the ZBA determined that a request by La Colaborativa for a modification to its plans at its new building on Arlington Street consti-

tuted a major change and will have to go through the public hearing process. That case is also scheduled to be heard at the ZBA’s September meeting. La Colaborativa is seeking to change the planned teaching kitchen into a community development kitchen, add two new

non-commercial kitchens for staff use, and replace an existing garage with an open-concept gazebo. Last month, the Planning Board ruled that the gazebo did not constitute a major change to the project’s site plan, but the proposed changes to the kitchens fell outside that board’s purview.

## Zaremba / CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

al Mass for Mr. Zaremba last Friday at the Our Lady of Grace Church. Nancy told of how her parents, Chester and Annie (McInnis) Zaremba, first met at a dance at the Polish Political Club in Chelsea. “It’s where he met our sweet mom, Annie, a country girl from Danvers,” said Nancy. “Not only did he charm her into marrying him, but he even managed to turn her into a Chelsea girl. “Dad proposed to her at the Union Oyster House in Boston. They married on November 24, 1956, marking the official start of Dad’s new family,” said Nancy.

needed to be fixed, paperwork that needed to be filled out, or half-finished projects that needed to be completed, he somehow always found the time for what was most important to him: faith, family, and service,” said Nancy. She lovingly described her father, as “an extraordinary, ordinary man. He was simple, and people loved him for it. He was authentic. He was real. People knew he possessed a rare quality: he cared. “Dad, if your purpose in life was to make the world a better place, you have succeeded. You did it all. You finished your race and you finished it strong. You will be remembered for your big heart, resilience, love for animals, home-cooked meals, contagious smile, and your sparkling blue eyes. I speak for all four of your girls when I say, ‘Thank you, for caring for us so deeply and so fully. What a gift it was to do the same for you.’”

collaboratively by his children and grandchildren, “Everything came back to one theme and that’s love – love for God, love for family, love for country, and a genuine love for life. We will miss you so much. Dad, it is our honor to give you your final salute.” Warm, heartfelt applause emanated from the assemblage in the church following Nancy’s brilliantly composed tribute to her dear father’s remarkable life.

Nancy concluded her remarks by stating that through all the great memories of his life expressed

We at the Chelsea Record will forever remember his visits to our office in Revere where he would greet everyone with a warm smile. Mr. Zaremba was quite humble about his record of outstanding military service to his country and was so eminently proud of his four daughters. As Nancy Zaremba Dawson stated so eloquently at the Funeral mass last Friday, “He lived his life with a purpose and left a lasting impression on everyone lucky enough to know him.”

# LOOK WHO’S 95



Long time resident Alfred Visconti will celebrate his 95th Birthday on August 19th. We hope this birthday brings you joy, laughter and love, all the things you deserve.

Much love Always.  
Cheryl, Marilyn, Justin,  
Michael, Mike, Sara & Wiame

Birthdays are like holidays,  
only better!



APOLLINAIRE THEATRE COMPANY PRESENTS HAMLET

A ghost haunted the fountain, a sword fight broke out in the street, and a pop-up beer garden was host to a royal wedding. The free, immersive, bilingual, on-your-feet, adaptation of Hamlet took audiences on a wild journey throughout Chelsea Square this past Saturday. Presented by Apollinaire Theatre Company, in collaboration with Teatro Chelsea and the City of Chelsea, the evening

began at 6:30 with Live Music, Performances, and Craft Brews at the pop-up BearMoose Beer Garden on Winnisimmet Street by the Chelsea Theatre Works. Guests also enjoyed dinner via take-out from Chelsea’s exciting culinary delights. Hamlet returns this Friday. The free performances are Fridays and Saturdays through August 19, at 8 p.m.

BearMoose pop-up

Beer Garden opens at 6:00, and pre-show performances begin at 6:30. The action starts in Chelsea Square outside the Chelsea Theatre Works, 189 Winnisimmet Street, Chelsea. Information, Directions, and Parking Locations are at: [www.apollinairetheatre.com](http://www.apollinairetheatre.com).

Run-time is about 90 minutes. In case of rain, call (617) 887-2336 to check status.

Major Support from MassDevelopment, The City of Chelsea, Chelsea Heritage Grant Celebrations, Yawkey Foundation, and the Chelsea Cultural Council. Sponsorship support from MassPort.



PHOTO: DANIELLE FAUTEUX JACQUES

Armando Rivera as Hamlet, Paul Benford-Bruce as the Ghost.



PHOTO: MATT FRANK

Ron Lacey as Polonius, Paola Ferrer as Gertrude, Brooks Reeves as Claudius, Armando Rivera as Hamlet.



PHOTO: DANIELLE FAUTEUX JACQUES

Alan Kuang performing his Rap introduction to the play.

Legislature passes Fiscal Year 2024 budget including millions in DiDomenico priorities

Special to the Record

Last week, the legislature approved a \$56.2 billion budget for Fiscal Year 2024 (FY24), including many of DiDomenico’s legislative priorities and millions of dollars for his district. This budget provides historic levels of investment in education, housing, regional transportation, health care, workforce development, and more, as part of a broad strategy to grow our state’s economy and make Massachusetts more affordable, inclusive, and competitive.

“I am proud of this transformative budget that reflects our state’s values by prioritizing children and working-class families,” said Senator DiDomenico, Assistant Majority Leader of the Massachusetts Senate. “I was able to secure funding for programs I have championed for years, including permanent funding for universal school meals so every K-12 student will get free breakfast and lunch, an increase in cash benefits for families in deep poverty, an expansion of the children’s clothing allowance so every kid has access to quality clothes, and historic investments in education funding to name a few. I want to thank Senate President Karen E. Spilka, Chair Rodrigues, the Ways and Means staff, and all my colleagues for a budget that will keep Massachusetts economically competitive and welcoming for people across all backgrounds and incomes”

“This budget represents a major step forward for our Commonwealth, particularly in making higher education more affordable and more accessible to everyone,” stated Senate President Karen E. Spilka (D-Ashland). “Tuition equity, free community college for nursing students

and students 25 and older, and laying the groundwork for free universal community college starting next fall—all part of the Senate’s Student Opportunity Plan—are crucial to securing our long-term competitiveness, providing residents with concrete ways to create the futures they dream of, and continuing our state’s commitment to education at every level. Included in that commitment is a historic \$1.5 billion in early education and care, as well as making universal free school meals permanent and school construction funds more accessible. As we seek to improve access to quality health care, our investment in nurses—combined with a policy provision to allow more professional nurses to train the next generation—will help ease the burden on our workforce, while we update protocols for stroke and protect preventive health services that are currently covered by the Affordable Care Act. These are just a few of the many important provisions included in the final Fiscal Year 2024 budget, all designed to keep Massachusetts moving forward as we continue to go back to better after COVID. I am so very grateful to all of my Senate colleagues, with whom so many of the great initiatives included in the final budget initiated, as well as to Senate Ways and Means Chair Michael Rodrigues, Vice Chair Cindy Friedman, and Assistant Vice Chair Jo Comerford, Senate Ways and Means staff, Speaker Mariano, the conferees and everyone who worked so hard to get this impressive budget over the finish line.”

Senator DiDomenico worked with his colleagues to help secure funding and language for many programs and initiatives in the FY24 budget

including:

- Food insecurity
- Universal School Meals: \$171.5 million to provide free universal school meals to all students throughout the Commonwealth making Massachusetts the seventh state in the country to make the program permanent. Over 80,000 additional children will be eating school meals as a result of this program compared to 2019 before free meals were offered statewide.

- Food assistance: \$36 million for the Massachusetts Emergency Food Assistance Program after securing \$1 million additional funding through the amendment process.

Supporting families in poverty

- Children’s clothing allowance: providing \$450 per child for eligible families (an increase of \$50 per child) to buy clothes for the upcoming school year.
- Cash benefit increase for those in deep poverty: the budget includes a 10 percent increase to Transitional Aid to Families with Dependent Children (TAFDC) and Emergency Aid to the Elderly, Disabled and Children (EAEDC) benefit levels compared to June 2023.

Education

- \$6.59 billion in Chapter 70 funding, an increase of \$604 million over FY 2023, as well as doubling minimum Chapter 70 aid from \$30 to \$60 per pupil.
- Early Education & Care: \$1.5 billion investment in early education and care—the largest-ever annual appropriation for early education and care in Massachusetts history.

- \$475 million for the Commonwealth Cares for Children (C3) grants; FY24 is the first fiscal year in which the annual state budget includes a full year of funding for C3 grants, signaling a historic commitment to maintain

this crucial lifeline for our early education and care sector.

- Early Intervention services: \$42.9 million for Early Intervention (EI) services, ensuring supports remain accessible and available to infants and young toddlers with developmental delays and disabilities.

Housing

- Eviction protection: makes permanent a pandemic-era eviction pro-

tection for renters with pending applications for emergency rental assistance under RAFT or any other program administered by the Executive Office of Housing and Livable Communities (EOHLC), a municipality, or a nonprofit entity. Under the program, a judge cannot execute an eviction before an emergency rental assistance application has been approved or denied.

Expanding rights

- No Cost Calls: the FY24 budget removes barriers to communication services for persons who are incarcerated and their loved ones. Under this provision, the Department of Correction (DOC) and sheriffs must provide phone calls at no cost to persons receiving and initiating phone calls, without a cap on the number of minutes or calls.

Real Estate Transfers

BUYER 1	SELLER 1	ADDRESS	PRICE
Grindle, Daniel M	Arrington, Amy L	2 Lawrence St #2	\$580,000
Youn RET	Income Prop Design LLC	12 Jones Ave #1	\$470,182
Rubel, Alona	51 Crescent LLC	51 Crescent Ave #204	\$730,000
Bcrmj Enterprises LLC	168 Maverick Street LLC	168 Maverick St	\$750,000
Salazar, Hugo M	Santos, Juan J	796 Broadway	\$695,000



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# Chelsea

## RECORD

**PRESIDENT:** Stephen Quigley  
**EDITOR IN CHIEF:** Cary Shuman

### DID YOU LIKE BARBIE?

Barbie, the blockbuster movie that is this year’s mass culture phenomenon, has drawn a mixed reaction from critics and the public alike.

Some love it -- they’re the ones who have gone multiple times to see the movie -- while others either have shrugged their shoulders, “It was okay....” or have been outright hostile to it.

It is both surprising, but not shocking, that Barbie has grossed more than a billion dollars. While it has had the good fortune to come out in a summer of fairly-boring movies, it also undeniably is a film that is like no other in recent memory. It appeals to young and old alike, featuring an all-star, multi-generational cast, including two of Hollywood’s Most Beautiful People (Ryan Gosling and Margot Robbie), Rhea Perlman, Issa Rae, Kate McKinnon, Dua Lipa (in a cameo role), Will Ferrell, America Ferrera, Simu Liu, and Helen Mirren (as the Narrator).

For those of us of an older generation, Barbie brings to mind the Wizard of Oz (though the plot of Barbie is the reverse of Dorothy’s journey from reality to fantasy), both on a superficial level (the bright visuals and use of music) and its deeper meaning (the loss of innocence).

Barbie is not without its flaws and, as with any work of art, has its proponents and detractors. However, it undeniably is just plain fun and accomplishes the goal of every great summertime movie -- it transports us to another world for two hours in an air-conditioned theatre, far removed from the searing heat and troubles of the world outside.

### HAVE WE REACHED THE TIPPING POINT?

The steady stream of news reports this summer about the ever-worsening effects of climate change have been depressing, ranging from the 100% loss of coral reefs off the Florida Keys (because water temperatures have reached 100 degrees), to the unprecedented floods in China, to the daily heat records in the American Southwest (where people are being treated for serious, third-degree burns if they touch the asphalt pavement).

Although the dire effects of climate change brought about by the burning of fossil fuels have been predicted for decades, the off-the-charts anomalies we are seeing this summer have far exceeded even the starkest of predictions. It is clear that scientists’ warnings about climate change have been greatly understated and that climate change is happening faster than anyone had predicted.

During the height of World War II, after England had thwarted the Germans in the air (known as the Battle of Britain) and then defeated Rommel’s army on the battlefield in North Africa, Prime Minister Winston Churchill uttered these famous lines, “Now, this is not the end. It is not even the beginning of the end. But it is, perhaps, the end of the beginning.”

Churchill’s message was one of hope -- the war that Hitler had begun finally was turning against him and in favor of the Allies.

But in terms of climate change, we fear we are witnessing the reverse of Churchill’s words: Climate change already has begun. But, unlike World War II, it will not be taking a turn for the better -- it’s only going to get worse, with far-reaching consequences that we do not even want to contemplate.

## Your opinions, please

The Chelsea Record welcomes letters to the editor.

Our mailing address is

385 Broadway, Revere, MA 02151.

Letters may also be e-mailed to  
[editor@chelsearecord.com](mailto:editor@chelsearecord.com).

Letters must be signed.

We reserve the right to edit for length and content.

# Forum

## GUEST OP-ED

### Want a friend? Be a friend

By Dr. Glenn Mollette

You may have heard this before. I went out to find a friend and none were to be found. I went out to be a friend and found them all around.

Where do you find friends?

Your best friends may be your family. You may be close to siblings, cousins, and others related to you. Growing up, I was blessed to be around a lot of aunts, uncles, cousins, grandparents, siblings, and parents. I didn’t have to think much about searching for friends because so many relatives were always around. This is not always the case. Many people have small families or maybe even no family. Some families go in different directions, live in different places, or move on with different interests and lives.

We often find friends in school. Some of the people we shared elementa-

ry and high school with become lifelong connections. Even if we don’t see each other much, we still have those great past times that help us reconnect quickly.

We connect with people at our places of employment. Some of the people you spend hours with every day become lifelong friends.

Houses of faith are often good places to make new friends. People get to know each other in Bible study classes and other small group religious settings. The people you share your faith with will often become like brothers and sisters.

The local gym is often a place where people socialize. If you become a routine attender of an exercise class you will eventually develop some friends.

The Internet and social media have become the world’s biggest connection place. To many peo-

ple this is their only connection. All their “friends” are on Facebook or Instagram. Many people have thousands of social media friends. Too often the loneliest people on the planet are those who are only connected by a keypad.

There are many more places where you can connect. Many communities have baking, quilting, hunting, sports clubs, and more. Civic groups from Kiwanis, Rotary, and Ruritan groups will often meet weekly and do community projects.

You might make some friends volunteering at the hospital or nursing home. There will be people in most of these places who will be glad to make a new friend. Talk to your local nursing home about your interest and you may be surprised how quickly your talents are utilized. You will also find some people who will be glad to make a new friend. Keep

in mind this is not always easy as you will be trying to make friends with many who feel alone and forgotten.

You can always become active in the local political circles. This all depends on your level of desperation and if you don’t mind being shunned by whichever party you don’t declare affiliation.

Don’t try to have too many friends. The Bible says a person of many companions may soon come to ruin. However, you need a few friends and hopefully you will have some good ones.

*Glenn Mollette is the publisher of Newburgh Press, Liberty Torch and various other publishing imprints; a national columnist – American Issues and Common Sense opinions, analysis, stories, and features appear each week in over 500 newspapers, websites and blogs across the United States.*

## LETTER to the Editor

mate Change Service has stated that “July is poised to be the hottest month ever on record.”

Recently, the New York Times exposed the area known as the Fertile Crescent (Israel, Iraq, Lebanon, Syria, Turkey, Iran, West Bank, and Gaza) to be devastated by the effect of the shriveling up of the Euphrates River. This has caused the Mesopotamia Region to be without water in many regions. Forty percent of Iraq, an area roughly the size of Florida, has been overtaken by blowing desert sands.

Italy and Greece have also been hit hard by record setting temperatures. Severe wildfires have scorched and devastated

forests, homes, farms and animals.

All regions on our Earth have been affected. Climate change has become real and not just words. It is not a time to be frightened but it is a time for ACTION! We must all join hands in an attempt to work together to stop this “BEAST.”

We all acknowledge that there are wars across our world, destroying lives. But climate change is destroying our whole world!

It is vital for all global governments to band together to find and implement solutions to “Climate Change.” We must stop supporting the oil and gas producing industries

that create the fossil fuels causing the emission of poisonous gases into our atmosphere and cause climate change.

Wealthier countries need to financially support under-developed countries, so they will be able to share in our goals.

Finally, we all have an obligation to protect our planet but more importantly, our first obligation is to take care of our children and the generations of children to come.

Please join your environmental community in supporting the fight against fossil fuels, thus protecting our children and our Earth.

**Maryalice Sharkey  
Mothers Out Front**

### PROTECT OUR PLANET

To the Editor,

We have all felt the horrendous weather this summer. Heat, humidity, rain, thunderstorms, floods, and tornadoes have wreaked havoc on our country.

The Southwest has gotten clobbered. The heated ocean waters off the coast of Florida are destroying the coral reefs. Whales are dying as they beach themselves on our shores. Ice caps are melting causing sea levels to rise. Firestorms have hit Canada hard, destroying Canadian forests and causing a tremendous amount of smoke to permeate our air.

The Copernicus Cli-

## SEND US YOUR NEWS

The Record encourages residents to submit engagement, wedding and birth announcements, news releases, business and education briefs, sports stories and photos for publication. Items should be forwarded to our offices at 385 Broadway, Revere, MA 02151.

We also encourage readers to e-mail news releases and photos to [stephen.quigley@reverejournal.com](mailto:stephen.quigley@reverejournal.com)

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# MBTA/CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

The Summer Tunnel closed Wednesday, July 5, and is scheduled to reopen Thursday, August 31.

Eng said the MBTA is working to make sure there is adequate bus service for riders during and beyond the tunnel closure.

“We’ve done everything to keep the frequency really robust, because we know this is an important route,” said Eng. “As we bring on more bus operators, we’d like to increase ... bus service even better across the whole system.”

The closure is the next phase of a project that began in April of 2022 and will include work on the tunnel ceiling, roadway, walls, lighting and additional improvements which will increase safety and climate resiliency. MassDOT has put together a plan to mitigate as much as possible the impact of the project to residents and travelers.

In addition to the 111 bus in Chelsea, the 112, 114, 116 and 117 bus routes are also free

through the end of August.

In addition, the SL3 is free inbound only at the Chelsea, Bellingham Square, Box District, Eastern Avenue, and Airport stops, as was the case during the Chelsea Curves project a few years ago.

As part of the overall mitigation efforts, the Blue Line will be free for all commuters this summer, and there are reduced parking rates at MBTA garages along the Blue Line.



Lt. Governor Kim Driscoll, State Rep. Judith Garcia, and MBTA GM Eng, City Manager Ned Keefe.



MBTA General Manager Phillip Eng talks to those attending the event.



Lt. Gov. Driscoll with Councilor Calvin Brown, Council President Leo Robinson, and State Rep. Judith Garcia as they wait for the 111 bus.

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NE REVOLUTION HOLD SANTANDER SUMMER SOCCER CLINIC FOR JBGC MEMBERS

The New England Revolution soccer team held a Santander Summer Soccer Clinic for members of the Jordan Boys and Girls Club Aug. 3 at Highland Park.

JBGC members participated in soccer drills under the direction of Revolution personnel and received special gift bags from Santander.

Slyde, the Revolution's popular mascot, was also on hand to make it an enjoyable day for the youths.

JBGC Executive Director Gina Centrella thanked NE Revolution and Santander officials for bringing the soccer clinic to Chelsea.



Slyde, the Revolution mascot, and Revolution Brand Ambassador Shannon Leclere are pictured at the Santander Summer Soccer Clinic Aug. 3 at Highland Park.



Jordan Boys and Girls Club members and staff join Slyde, the New England Revolution's team mascot, for a photo at the Santander Summer Soccer Clinic.



Pictured at the Santander Summer Soccer Clinic at Highland Park are Santander Chief Development Officer Tara Spalding, Santander NE Region President Mike Bruno, Santander Head of Consumer and Business Banking Patrick Smith, JBGC Executive Director Gina Centrella, and BGCB President and CEO Robert Lewis Jr.



Pictured at the Santander Summer Soccer Clinic are Leah Reich, JBGC Executive Director Gina Centrella, BGCB Social Media Manager Emily Mitchell and JBGC Teen Director John Montes.

NEWS FROM GREEN ROOTS



Earlier this month, we experienced Earth's likely hottest day in 125,000 years! And just last week, mayors across the state declared heat advisories. This summer's sweltering heat isn't just shattering records—it's shattering our public health outcomes as extreme heat also exacerbate unhealthy air quality. We need bold action to lower extreme heat events and center environmental justice communities like Chelsea and East Boston from the impacts. We were delighted to welcome Senator Ed Markey to our temporary park of 212 Congress Avenue in Chelsea to announce the Preventing HEAT Illness and Death Act! This Act would allocate \$100 million for community projects to reduce exposure to extreme heat and develop climate resiliency measures.



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DANDEE DONUT FACTORY HOLDS PARKING LOT PARTY

Cary Shuman Photos

The Dandee Donut Factory, located at 1141 Revere Beach Parkway, hosted a Parking Lot Party on Saturday, Aug. 5.

Guests enjoyed free samples of Dandee's delicious doughnuts and participated in fun activities. There was also musical entertainment.

Actor Arthur Wahlberg, the oldest of the famous Wahlberg brothers that includes Mark Wahlberg and Donnie Wahlberg, made a special guest appearance.

Shown right, Nicole Dedo (right) and her daughter, Maureen Flynn, sample Dandee's delicious doughnuts that were served free of charge to guests.



Roxanne Covalucci and her granddaughter, Mayah Covalucci.



Robert Ficalmin, Annabelle Freedman, and her father, Marc Freedman, enjoying the Parking Lot Party at Dandee Donut Factory.



From left, Anthony Parziale, Dandee Donut Factory General Manager Dave Ferrara, Stephen Damiano Jr., and special guest Arthur Wahlberg.



Pictured at the Hot 96.9 Boston Radio booth are, from left, Kelly Lampedecchio Edmunds, Angela Guarino Sawaya, actor Arthur Wahlberg, Nicole Grome of Hot 96.9., Dandee Donut Factory General Manager Dave Ferrara, and Evan Mallios of Hot 96.9.



Residents from across the City and beyond filled into the Dandee Donut Factory parking lot on Saturday for a parking lot party from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.



Revere Councillor-at-Large Dan Rizzo presented David Ferrara, general manager of Dandee Donut Factory, with a resolution from the City Council, declaring Aug. 5, 2023 as Dandee Donut Factory Day in the City.



Chloe gets a chance to sit behind the wheel of a fire engine, courtesy of the Revere Fire Department.



David Ferrara, General Manager of Dandee Donut Factory, with his sister, Theresa Schirappa, holding up his resolution.



Toni-Ann Merlina (left), a former Revere Pop Warner and Pope John XXIII High School cheerleader, pictured with her husband, Mark Merlina, and their children, A.J. Merlina, and Julianna Merlina, at the Dandee Donut Parking Lot Party last Saturday.



Enjoying the Dandee Donut Factory's Parking Lot Party are Sofia Rhalimi, Don Martelli, John Stamotopoulos, Alex Rhalimi, and his son, Jad Rhalimi, and their canine friend, Rocky.

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# Second annual Adopt-a-Pole campaign

Story & Photo by Marianne Salza

The second annual Adopt-a-Pole campaign will be hanging purple ribbons and name tags along the streets of Chelsea, East Boston, Revere, South Boston, Roxbury, and Charlestown in late summer in memory of loved ones who lost their lives to substance-related causes.

“It’s a way to bring awareness, remember those who are lost without stigma, and bring hope to families that are left behind,” said Charlestown resident, Shannon Lundin, Director of Recovery and Community Engagement, Chapters Recovery Center, Danvers.

In observance of Overdose Awareness Month in August, and National Recovery Month in September, Adopt-a-Pole will be raising awareness about the public health crisis, acknowledging the grief of family and friends, and compassionately honoring those who have passed



Shannon Lundin, Director of Recovery and Community Engagement, Chapters Recover Center.

away. “Charlestown is a small, tight-knit community. We’re all connected; so when we lose someone, we’re all impacted,” recognized Lundin, who celebrated 19 years in long-term recovery in May.

The Adopt-a-Pole organizer became sober from her heroin addiction at 25-years-old, and is dedicated to helping individuals and families find appropriate support and

care. Lundin has raised hundreds of thousands of dollars over the years to assist families with unexpected funeral services.

“I am grateful that I am alive, clean, and able to give back to my community,” shared Lundin, mother of four daughters.

Ludin recently founded her non-profit organization, Scars in Heaven, which provides financial assistance to families with connections to Charlestown. Scars in Heaven offers recovery scholarship opportunities for individuals in treatment, promotes healing, and provides addiction education to the public. Donations can be made through Venmo @ ScarsInHeaven.

“We still have a lot of work to do in terms of stigma,” recognized Lundin, member of the Charlestown Trauma Response Team. “The overdose crisis is still plaguing our community. It’s the number one cause of death.”

Lundin recalled how Charlestown had the highest fatal overdose rate in Massachusetts in the early 2000s, and admitted that it can seem like the predicament is worsening. She has observed the difficulties caused by the pandemic, when isolation and depression provoked alcohol and substance use problems.

Quarantine was detrimental to the recovery community that relies on social connection and comradery; and so Lundin held outdoor meetings, providing support for some 80 people.

“A lot of people in recovery felt like the risk of relapsing was greater than the risk of catching Covid,” Lundin revealed. “We had over 50 people celebrate one year of recovery during Covid – that’s unheard of.”

Bows will be provided for free through sponsorship by Chapters Recovery Center, All Roads Lead to Charlestown, North Suffolk Community Services, Think of Michael, and the Gavin Foundation. Last year, Adopt-a-Pole hung 100 bows; and Lundin hopes that more communities will continue to join the campaign in the future.

Adopt-a-Pole bows will be on display beginning the week of August 20 through September. Submit names for remembrance by August 15, by contacting Shannon Lundin at SLundin@ChaptersRecoveryCenter.com for light poles in Charlestown, or Rose Stone at RStone@NorthSuffolk.org for poles in Winthrop, Revere, Chelsea, East Boston, South Boston, and Roxbury.

## OBITUARIES

### Paul Francis Moulton, Sr.

January 07, 1942 - August 07, 2023

At 81 years of age, Paul Francis Moulton, Sr. passed away unexpectedly in his Haverhill home.

Born and raised in Chelsea, he was a beloved son of the late Roy Leslie and Pauline P. (Bent) Moulton. In his later years, he settled briefly in Raymond, NH and for the past 26 years he has resided in Haverhill.

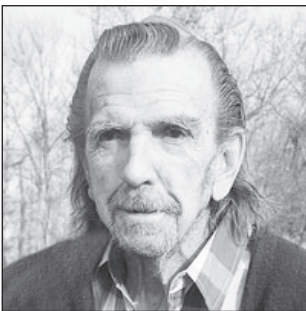
He was the former husband of Jaqueline M. (Gaudet) Moulton of Chelsea and fathered three sons and one daughter.

At 16 years old, his first job was at Lester Shoes in Chelsea. He went on to work for Murdock Corporation of Chelsea, fulfilling government contracts making headphones for schools all over the United States.

In 1968, the Chelsea Record named him Chelsea’s first artist. “Creations Unlimited” was located at Arlington Street in Chelsea and he later established “Paul,” also in Chelsea. And he also specialized in custom painting signs and designs for local businesses on their trucks and vans.

Paul would often regale family and friends about home town.

In addition to his parents, Paul was also pre-



deceased by his longtime companion, Susan Lewis, a son, James L. Moulton, brothers, Roy Moulton and infant sibling, Robert Moulton, and his dearest aunt, Esther Bent.

He is survived by his loving son and recent caregiver, Paul F. Moulton, Jr. and he was also the beloved father of Robert C. Moulton and his wife, Pam of Boscawen, NH, and Christine M. Moulton of Chelsea, Jacqueline M. Moulton of Chelsea, and several Lewis Family grandchildren.

Relatives and friends are most kindly invited to attend visiting hours in the Welsh Funeral Home, 718 Broadway, Chelsea on Friday morning, August 11, from 9 a.m.

For online guest book or to send expressions of sympathy, please visit: [www.WelshFH.com](http://www.WelshFH.com).

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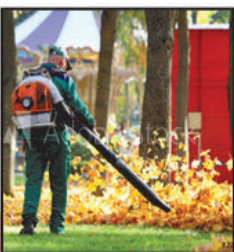
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# Department of Public Health launches statewide survey to improve community health

The Massachusetts Department of Public Health (DPH) is offering Commonwealth residents an opportunity to shape the future health of their communities through a statewide survey aimed at collecting input on the challenges their communities face and where resources should be directed.

DPH's Community Health Equity Initiative will use the survey findings to build on the state's efforts to provide access to social and economic opportunities that keep people healthy, like affordable housing, reliable transportation, and nutritious, affordable food.

The 2023 Community Health Equity Survey was

co-designed with residents and community partners across the state and examines the root causes of health outcomes to identify community strengths, gaps, health needs, concerns, inequities, and unintended consequences related to public health crises.

"To improve the health of people in Massachusetts, we need to hear from everyone, including the communities and individuals who have been too long denied an equal chance at health," said Public Health Commissioner Robert Goldstein, MD, PhD. "We know Black and Brown communities have historically faced barriers to health, as have those who are dis-

abled and many who were not born in this country. These communities have traditionally been left out of the conversation. It is especially important for their voices and experiences to be heard."

DPH will use the survey results to improve its programs, make decisions about funding and resources, and support policies to improve health inequities. Survey results will be made available to the public and community-based organizations so they can use the findings to better serve community needs.

Residents will be asked to answer questions on topics such as:

- Access to basic needs, like health care and trans-

portation

- Physical and mental health and well-being
- Experiences with COVID-19
- Experiences with housing, education, and work
- Demographic information, such as age, gender, and race.

The Community Health Equity Survey is anonymous, does not ask for identifying information such as immigration status, and cannot be connected back to residents in any way.

DPH wants to hear from a broad range of Commonwealth residents, including people and communities often disproportionately affected by health emergencies. Surveys are espe-

cially needed from people experiencing housing insecurity, frontline workers, people with disabilities, people who identify as LGBTQ+, older adults (aged 60+), parents and caregivers of children with special health care needs, people who are pregnant, rural residents, people who speak a primary language other than English, parents under 25, young people (aged 14 to 24), veterans, and immigrants. Vital to the effectiveness of the survey is the participation of people representing racial/ethnic groups disproportionately impacted by health emergencies, including American Indian/Alaska Native, Asian American/Pacific Islander, Black, and His-

panic/Latino/Latine residents.

The survey opened July 31, and it will be available through early fall 2023. Anyone aged 14 and older can take the survey. It takes approximately 15 to 25 minutes to complete and is available in 11 languages: Arabic, Cape Verdean Creole, Chinese (simplified), Chinese traditional, English, Haitian Creole, Khmer, Portuguese, Russian, Spanish and Vietnamese. The survey will also be available in American Sign Language later this summer.

To participate in this online survey, visit <https://www.mass.gov/chei>.

## LEGAL NOTICES

### LEGAL NOTICE

Public Announcement of Invitation to submit a REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL FOR PROPOSAL (RFP) and accompanying Specifications are for your convenience in submitting a proposal for the enclosed referenced products and services: Transportation Services for CAPIC's After School Program

**CLOSING DAY AND TIME:** Sealed proposals will be received no later than: 12:00 P.M. EST August 7, 2023

Small and minority firms are encouraged to apply. The advertisement is subject in all respects to the terms and conditions of the request for proposals. CAPIC, Inc. is an Equal Opportunity Employer/Affirmative Action Agency. PLEASE MARK SEALED ENVELOPE: "Transportation Services for CAPIC's After School Program" RETURN PROPOSAL TO: Community Action Pro-

grams Inter-City, Inc. Attn: Richelle Cromwell, Executive Director 100 Everett Avenue, Unit 14 Chelsea, MA 02150

Organizational Overview Community Action Programs Inter-City, Inc. (CAPIC) invites qualified vendors to submit proposals for contracted school bus transportation. CAPIC is a private, non-profit corporation chartered in 1967 and designated to identify and eradicate the root causes of poverty in Chelsea, Revere and Winthrop. CAPIC has been designated by the State and Federal Government as a Community Action Agency and currently employs approximately 115 employees. CAPIC's After School Program provides Project Description Scope of Work Community Action Programs Inter-City, Inc. (CAPIC) invites qualified vendors to submit proposals for contracted school bus transportation for children enrolled

in the After School Program; This includes school bus and driver. Hours from 1:30pm to 4:30pm. Pick up at the following schools: Mary C. Burke Complex, John Silber Early Learning Center, Clark School, Williams School, and Excel Academy and drop off at 9 Arlington Street Chelsea. \*During the summer transportation is also needed for field trips. Applications to include but not limited to: Required Documents a) Driver's License b) BRC suitable determination from LEAD c) MA 7D certificate or School Bus license for drivers d) First Aid and CPR certificates, as appropriate e) StrongStart Transporting Children Certificate of Completion f) Acknowledgement of receipt of applicable transportation plan 2. Vehicle File Checklist for all vehicles, Including current copies of: a) Vehicle Certificate of

Registration b) RMV Annual Vehicle Inspection sticker and 7D or School Bus Semi-annual Inspection decal (photo ok) c) Insurance Coverage d) Copy of Professional Qualifications Registry (PQR) list for drivers and monitors TAXES CAPIC is exempt from Federal Excise and State Sales tax; therefore, tax must not be included in the proposal price. RESERVATION OF RIGHTS \* CAPIC reserves the right to accept any proposal or alternative proposal proposed in whole or in part, to reject any or all proposals or alternatives proposals in whole or in part and to waive irregularity and/or informalities in any proposal and to make the award in any manner deemed in the best interest of CAPIC. \* CAPIC reserves the right not to consider any proposal which it determines to be unresponsive and deficient in any of the information request-

ed within the RFP. \* CAPIC reserves the right to determine whether the scope of the project will be implemented entirely as described in the RFP, a portion of the scope, or that a revised scope be implemented. CAPIC appreciates your time and effort in preparing this proposal. Please note that all proposals must be received at the designated location by the above referenced deadline. Proposals received after the deadline will not be considered for the award of the contract, and will be considered void and unacceptable.

8/10/23 C

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**CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION** Docket No. SU23P1631EA

Estate of: Diane Claire Masucci

Date of Death: 04/04/2023


To all interested persons: A Petition for Formal Probate of Will with Appointment of Personal Representative has been filed by Michael F. Masucci of Reading, MA requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition. The Petitioner requests that: Michael F. Masucci of Reading, MA be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve Without Surety on the bond in unsupervised administration. IMPORTANT NOTICE You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner

or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 08/29/2023. This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty days (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.

**UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC)** A Personal Representative appointed under the MUPC in an unsupervised administration is not required to file an inventory or annual accounts with the Court. Persons interested in the estate are entitled to notice

regarding the administration directly from the Personal Representative and may petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including the distribution of assets and expenses of administration. WITNESS, Hon. Brian J. Dunn, First Justice of this Court. Date: August 01, 2023 Vincent Procopio, Register of Probate 8/10/23 C

### LEGAL NOTICE

 LEGAL NOTICE CITY OF CHELSEA DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING The Department of Public Works will conduct 2 Public Hearings on Tuesday, August 22, 2023 at 6:15pm & 6:30pm at City

Hall 3rd Floor in the DPW Conference room. Proposed Work and Purpose: Petition of Verizon for the following petitions: #1 Verizon: Washington Ave. (Meeting time - 6:15pm) Place one (1) pole, P.30/19A on the easterly side of Washington Avenue approximately sixty-five (65) feet north-easterly of existing pole, P.30/19. #2 Verizon: Marginal St. (Meeting time - 6:30pm) Relocate one (1) pole, P.70/24, on the northerly side of Marginal Street approximately 25' southeasterly for its' current location. Place one (1) new pole, P.70/24A, on the northerly side of Marginal Street approximately 183' northwesterly of existing pole, P.70/25. The public is invited to attend. Cate Fox Lent Commissioner Run on 8/3/23 8/10/23 C

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# Healey calls for support for new migrant families

Governor Maura T. Healey declared that a state of emergency exists in Massachusetts due to rapidly rising numbers of migrant families arriving in Massachusetts in need of shelter and services and a severe lack of shelter availability in the state. The declaration serves as a notice to the federal government and the Commonwealth that the state’s shelter system is rapidly expanding capacity in an unsustainable manner, and that further assistance is urgently needed. There are currently nearly 5,600 families or more than 20,000 individuals in state shelter, including children and pregnant women.

In a letter to Secretary of Homeland Security Alejandro Mayorkas, Governor Healey pointed to work authorizations as a primary driver of the crisis. She called on the federal government to take urgent action to streamline and expedite work authorizations and increase funding to states to assist in providing shelter and services to families. She called on bipartisan leaders in Congress to address outdated and punitive immigration laws. She also called on the cities and towns, charities, advocates, faith organizations and providers to continue to partner with the administration to meet the need for shelter and work. Information about how the public can help is available at [mass.gov/sheltercrisis](https://mass.gov/sheltercrisis). Anyone who can offer assistance should contact the state at [shelterhelp@mass.gov](mailto:shelterhelp@mass.gov) or by dialing 211, which will be monitored by MEMA.

The administration recently launched the Immigrant Assistance Services (IAS) program, which

provides case management, legal services and other support for families in state shelters. This program, not yet replicated in any other state, is providing an unprecedented level of legal support toward asylum, work authorization, and other legal steps to help new arrivals integrate into Massachusetts. The state is also working to establish new and innovative pathways for new arrivals to secure work. The Massachusetts federal delegation also recently wrote to Secretary of Homeland Security Alejandro Mayorkas and U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services Director Ur M. Jaddou urging them to expedite and streamline the work authorization process.

“State employees and our partners have been miracle workers throughout this crisis – going above and beyond to support families and using every tool at their disposal to expand shelter capacity by nearly 80 percent in the last year. But in recent months, demand has increased to levels that our emergency shelter system cannot keep up with, especially as the number of families leaving shelter has dwindled due to a lack of affordable housing options and barriers to securing work,” said Governor Maura Healey. “I am declaring a state of emergency in Massachusetts and urging my partners in the federal government to take the action we need to address this crisis by streamlining the work authorization process and passing comprehensive immigration reform. Many of the new arrivals to our state desperately want to work, and we have historic workforce demands across all industries. I am

also calling on all of our partners – from cities and towns to the faith community, philanthropic organizations, and human service providers – to rise to this challenge and do whatever you can to help us meet this moment.”

“Our Emergency Assistance system is designed to be a temporary, emergency safety-net program. It is not equipped to handle the demand that we have seen in recent months. While we have made herculean efforts to expand capacity as much as possible, we’ve reached a point where the expansion is unsustainable,” said Lieutenant Governor Kim Driscoll. “We know what it will take to truly address the root causes of this emergency – rapidly increasing housing production across the state and implementing comprehensive immigration reform at the federal level, including work authorizations. We invite our partners in the federal government and across the Commonwealth to join us in advancing these solutions and supporting all families in Massachusetts.”

In her letter, the Governor pointed to several primary drivers of this emergency, including federal policies on immigration and work authorizations, inadequate production of affordable housing over the last decade, and the end of COVID-era food and housing security programs. As a result, the demand for emergency shelter in Massachusetts has skyrocketed over the past year. Today, nearly 5,600 families, including very young children and pregnant women, are living in emergency shelter, many of whom are migrants who re-

cently arrived in Massachusetts. That’s up from around 3,100 families a year ago. Meanwhile, the number of families leaving emergency shelter for safe, permanent housing has dwindled, in large part due to a lack of affordable housing options.

“Teams of people from EOHHS have worked with our colleagues across state government relentlessly pursuing creative ways to provide essential resources for families in need, many of whom are new arrivals to Massachusetts,” said Health and Human Services Secretary Kate Walsh. “We are committed to supporting these resilient families as they find new opportunities in our state.”

“Over the past year, the teams at EOHLC have been able to expand emergency shelter capacity and support more families than ever before. But now we confront significant challenges. Our service provider partners are stretched beyond their means, and it has become increasingly difficult to add new shelter units to our EA portfolio,” said Housing and Livable Communities Secretary Ed Augustus. “The health and well-being of the families in emergency shelter are our first responsibility and we will continue to place eligible families when units become available. I thank the Governor and the Lieutenant Governor for leading an empathetic and collaborative approach to addressing this crisis, and I thank the communities and shelter service providers who have partnered with us in this incredible, ongoing effort.”

The administration also announced that the United Way of Massachu-

setts Bay and The Boston Foundation have launched the Massachusetts Migrant Families Relief Fund to help ensure that new arrivals in Massachusetts have their essential needs met. More information can be found at [unitedwaymassbay.org/migrant-relief](https://unitedwaymassbay.org/migrant-relief). The Fund will:

- Rapidly deploy emergency financial assistance through our trusted network of human services and shelter organizations in the Commonwealth to ensure individuals, children, and families have access to essential needs (temporary accommodations food, clothing, diapers, hygiene items, transportation).
- Fund livelihood opportunities and assistance such as health screenings, translation services, legal assistance, work authorizations, ESOL classes, and other socio-economic and cultural integration supports.
- Support the local community-based organizations providing direct services on already-stretched budgets and staff resources.

“As we face this unprecedented stress on our shelter system, we must embrace our collective responsibility to care for those individuals and families in need of housing and support, and to work in partnership with cities, towns and civic and community organizations leading this work,” said M. Lee Pelton, President and CEO of The Boston Foundation. “We are honored to join the Healey Administration, the United Way and the roster of community leaders who are tirelessly working to ensure the dignity, safety, and health and wellbeing of these new arrivals.”

“We are committed to

demonstrating we are a welcoming place for our newest arrivals and to connecting them to the resources and support needed to work and thrive,” said Bob Giannino, President and CEO at United Way of Massachusetts Bay. “By working together, we can ensure every person in Massachusetts has their essential needs met and is treated with the dignity and respect we would all want for our own families. We are proud to stand with the Healey-Driscoll Administration and The Boston Foundation to mobilize and distribute resources with urgency and compassion to address this humanitarian crisis.”

Since taking office in January, the Healey-Driscoll Administration has taken a whole-of-government approach and utilized every resource at its disposal to expand shelter capacity and support families. The administration created a standalone housing secretariat and dramatically expanded staff and resources dedicated to address this crisis. The Emergency Assistance system spread to more than 80 communities, added thousands of new units of emergency assistance housing, launched new shelter sites, including activating 50 National Guard Members at Joint Base Cape Cod, and created Family Welcome Centers to serve as central intake centers to connect families with shelter and services. Despite these efforts, demand has continued to rise at a pace that the Emergency Assistance system cannot sustain.

## Comments from Chelsea La Colaborativa on Governor Healey’s migrant state of emergency declaration

*Dear Community Members, Friends, and Supporters,*

I trust this message finds you well. We are pleased to communicate some recent developments concerning the influx of refugees to Massachusetts and our organization’s response. Throughout this year, Massachusetts has demonstrated its compassionate spirit by welcoming an unprecedented number of immigrants, primarily from Haiti, into our state. These individuals have endured formidable challenges to reach our shores, seeking a new beginning and a better life.

In July, La Colaborativa proudly collaborated with State agencies and other organizations and residents to extend a helping hand to these migrants. As a dedicated social justice organization situated in Chelsea, a community comprised of 80% immigrants, we readily answered the call to provide essential impromptu services during this crisis.

Our dedicated staff, in partnership with various sister organizations and local allies on the front lines, rallied to offer comprehensive emergency assistance, including the establishment of an emergency shelter in the enVision Hotel in Everett that swiftly accommodated over 300 families. We ensured the provision of culturally sensitive and nutritious meals, available throughout the day. Furthermore, we addressed the critical health needs of these newcomers by con-

ducting health screenings, administering necessary immunizations, and facilitating access to MassHealth insurance. During their time under our care, these migrants seamlessly became part of the La Colaborativa family. Together, we shared moments of laughter, tears, and even the joyous birth of four healthy new lives. We profoundly recognize the value that these families bring to our Commonwealth, and it is this recognition that drives our commitment.

The escalating number of migrants has highlighted the imperative need for united action, as underscored by Governor Maura Healey’s declaration of a State of Emergency. La Colaborativa is resolute in its determination to stand shoulder-to-shoulder with all stakeholders, both through our ongoing services and in collaboration with others ready to support this new wave of refugees. By aligning our day-to-day efforts with the Governor’s vision, we aim to support lasting solutions that empower these families to thrive within the vibrant tapestry of Massachusetts.

Continuing the path to Economic Stability

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to Governor Healey for allowing us to play a pivotal role in the integration journey of these new families. It is in times of crisis that our commitment to local partnerships and unwavering teamwork truly shines. We also express our deep-

est appreciation to the families who have held us close during these trying times.

La Colaborativa is now embarking on a transition from these emergency assistance services to a renewed focus on enhancing our existing community-building initiatives, all of which will remain accessible to our new neighbors.

As we redirect our focus to our core programs, we are better equipped to support these and other newly arrived immigrants in the subsequent phases of their integration process. Our ongoing services encompass a range of vital initiatives, including food distribution to 7,000 community members every week, rapid reemployment initiatives, ESOL classes, housing assistance, a robust youth employment program, and more.

As an integral component of our comprehensive Economic Development programs, we have successfully assisted over 650 individuals in crafting impactful resumes, guided others through their job interview processes, and provided essential job training throughout the entirety of July. Moreover, this summer has witnessed the meaningful employment of over 300 youth from Chelsea, alongside the noteworthy accomplishment of graduating numerous individuals from our citizenship classes. These collective endeavors underscore our unwavering com-

mitment to furnishing a comprehensive spectrum of assistance aimed at empowering our community,

fostering gainful employment, and propelling individuals toward financial autonomy.

**Gladys Vega**  
**Executive Director**  
**Dinanyili Paulino**  
**Chief Operating Officer**



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# The Pulse of Chelsea

Tanairi Garcia, Kelly Garcia, Melinda Vega, and Norieliz DeJesus are running as a slate

By Cary Shuman

They are already a force in city government. Tanairi Garcia, Melinda Vega, and Norieliz DeJesus are current city councilors. Kelly Garcia, serves on the Chelsea School Committee.

Bright, articulate, personable, and hard-working city officials, each lady brings a unique set of leadership skills to her positions in government. Together they are known as The Pulse (El Pulso) and they are running as a slate in the upcoming municipal election.

The four women have immersed themselves in all aspects of the community, from community service projects, to fundraising campaigns, to social events. Just recently Tanairi Garcia, 37, helped masterfully organize her 20th Chelsea High School class reunion. It was heartwarming to see classmates express their gratitude to Tanairi and congratulate her on her contributions to the city as the District 7 councilor. A business owner, Tanairi opened Aloe Natural, a coffee shop located at 61 Everett Ave., last July.

Her younger sister, Kelly, 30, has been so impressive in her eight-year tenure on the School Committee and her positive energy so contagious, that her colleagues elected her as committee chairperson four times, one of the youngest in city history to hold that position. Kelly has decided to leave the School Committee and run for a councilor-at-large seat.

Melinda Vega’s contributions as a councilor and a lifelong resident of this city are a source of pride to her constituents in District 2 and to her public service-minded family.

Her mother is the incomparable executive director of La Colaborativa, Gladys Vega, whose work during the COVID-19 pandemic was nationally and regionally recognized, earning the Boston Globe’s “Bostonian of the Year” honor. Melinda, 34, has been able to bring the family’s incredible work ethic to the Council in her



From left, Cristina Garcia (sister) School Committeewoman and candidate for Councilor-at-Large Kelly Garcia, District 7 Councilor Tanairi Garcia, District 2 Councilor Melinda Vega, Norma Garcia (aunt) Roberto Garcia Jr. (brother), and Roberto Garcia Sr. (father).

first term.

Norieliz DeJesus has been an integral part of La Colaborativa’s emergence as the “go-to” agency for crises such as the pandemic and for valuable, every-day assistance to Chelsea residents of all ages. DeJesus, 32, is the Director of Policy and Organizing at La Colaborativa where she has collaborated so extraordinarily with Gladys Vega. The agency holds a special place in the hearts of local residents.

DeJesus’s list of accomplishments on the La Colaborativa website is a record to admire. The residents of District 3 are clearly standing behind her with their ardent support of her work on the City Council: DeJesus is currently unopposed in her bid for re-election.

The members of the Pulse gathered for a Meet-and-Greet reception Saturday. The event was hosted by Juan Gallego at his home, and that alone says a lot about the esteem in which the Garcia sisters, Vega, and DeJesus are held across the city.

Gallego is an inspiring community leader himself whose philanthropic efforts on behalf of the Rotary Club of Chelsea have extended beyond international borders. Gallego is certainly a great supporter to have if you’re running for office in Chelsea.

The Record had an opportunity to speak with the four members of The Pulse at their campaign reception Saturday. Following are some of their thoughts about Chelsea and running as a slate of

## Norieliz DeJesus

“We are Chelsea natives. We are girls that have worked in the community for many, many years, whether it’s within the schools or the non-profits, with the youths, the adults, our long-time residents, or our new residents. We are constantly in the community, and we really do complement each other with our very individual and unique skills.

When I think about my sisters, I think about Kelly, with her experience, being the person that I can go to whenever I need advice regarding the school system. With my other two sisters whom I’ve had the pleasure of spending two years on the Council, we’re organizers. And when it comes to local business owners, our youth, and tenants in our community, we know what it’s like. We know



From left, Cristina Garcia (sister) School Committeewoman and candidate for Councilor-at-Large Kelly Garcia, District 7 Councilor Tanairi Garcia, District 2 Councilor Melinda Vega, Norma Garcia (aunt) Roberto Garcia Jr. (brother), and Roberto Garcia Sr. (father).

the realities, so we feel we are the best candidates to be able to represent them at the Council level.”

## Kelly Garcia

“I’m really excited for this transition to running for City Council. I would be excited to join my sisters in service. I’ve committed eight years to the School Committee, and I’m excited about the potential opportunity to bring all my skills to the Council. I also want to build a bridge between the Council and the School Committee, which I feel has been missing for so long. It really takes a collective effort to improve our schools and we need the Council just as much as we need the School Committee to do that.”

## Tanairi Garcia

“My two years on the Council have been quite a ride. Learning the trade of it has been a little technical for me, just because we are organizers, and we

are used to being outside screaming in for change.

But the political world is a little slower, just because we all have to be in agreement, and a lot of people in the community don’t understand that part, because we’re always fighting. We need unity and we need to be there for our residents. And I think The Pulse is exactly that – we are the pulse of the community. We feel for them, we are them. We have struggled just like them. Our parents raised us in this city with many struggles, with many jobs. We wanted more after-school programs and they weren’t available to us. Our resources were limited. We need to do better, and I think we are the right team to make that happen.”

## Melinda Vega

“It’s truly an honor being a member of El Pulso. We bring individual skills and talents, and we balance each other out. In

respect to the longevity of us living here, we are Chelsea. We were raised here. One of the reasons why it’s so important for me to be involved in Chelsea, I think of my freshman year at Chelsea High and one of my teachers speaking about Chelsea in unflattering terms. At that point, I decided not to leave Chelsea because I felt I could be a part of the betterment of this community. And collectively I feel we (The Pulse) can create positive change in Chelsea. We have worked on environmental justice issues and my sisters were part of making improvements to Chelsea.

As a mother, it’s truly an honor being able to serve on the Council and creating a legacy for our children. Our investment, our commitment, and our dedication are what drives us. We’re here to stay and work as a united front together.”



From left, Manuel Tishe (City Councilor candidate), Juan Gallego (Real estate owner, host of the Meet & Greet), Nelly Velasquez (Juan’s partner), Kelly Garcia (City Councilor-at-Large Candidate), Roberto Garcia (father) Norma Garcia (aunt) Tanairi Garcia (City Councilor), Jose Garcia (uncle) Dalia Gomes (neighbor), Calvin Brown (City Councilor) Jimmy Merino (CHS Student), Melinda Vega(City Councilor) Leo Robinson (City Councilor), and Manny Cruz (State Representative of Salem).

## CITY PAWS

### Summer pet care

By Penny and Ed Cherubino

We often think of summer dog companionship as walking, exercising, tossing balls, and other active pursuits. That’s perfect for some dogs but not for all. Age, health, breeding, physical limitations, and personality might call for a calmer time together.

#### Symptoms of Heat Stroke

It’s essential to recognize the symptoms of heat stroke in dogs and cats and get prompt emergency help if needed.

The ASPCA says you should “Know the symptoms of overheating in pets, which include excessive panting or difficulty breathing, increased heart and respiratory rate, drooling, mild weakness, stupor or even collapse. Symptoms can also in-

clude seizures, bloody diarrhea and vomit along with an elevated body temperature of over 104 degrees.”

On the way out the door to the emergency vet, you can begin treatment by wetting your dog or cat with cool (not cold) water and grabbing an ice pack or bag of frozen vegetables to place under your animal.

Animals with flat faces, like Pugs and Persian cats, are more susceptible to heat stroke since they cannot pant as effectively. These pets, along with the elderly, the overweight, and those with heart or lung diseases, should be kept cool in air-conditioned rooms as much as possible.

#### Water On the Go

Carry water to offer to your dog on walks. There

are special bottles and bowls designed for dogs on the go. Slipping a plastic bag over a cupped hand will form a workable water bowl for a thirsty pal.

#### Exercise Early or Late

Some dogs need lots of exercise, even in the heat. If you have one of these athletes, take long walks or runs early in the morning or after dark. Mid-day heat may be too much for even a healthy dog. Canine companions can push themselves into the danger zone to please us. Dogs are stoic animals and may not show distress until it’s too late.

#### Don’t Leave Your Dog in a Car

A stop for a quick errand could result in a dog in trouble. Or, you could find your car window broken by a first responder or

good Samaritan trying to save your pup.

The MSPCA has the information you need if you should discover a dog in trouble in a hot car. They say Massachusetts law, “Enables animal control officers, firefighters, and law enforcement to remove animals kept in vehicles in a manner reasonably expected to threaten the health of the animal due to extreme heat or cold.” It also, “... allows individuals to remove an animal when in immediate danger in a vehicle and no other options exist.”

#### Window Caution for Cats

Open windows can be a danger to cats. The ASPCA has warned about animals, especially cats, falling from windows this time of year. “Cats who never leave their residence



Animals with flat faces, like this pup, are more susceptible to heat stroke since they cannot pant as effectively. (Photo by Mirko Sajkov)

may not realize how high up they are, and if they are distracted by what’s going on outside, they can jump out of the window, or lose their balance and fall,” said Dr. Louise Murray, vice president of the ASPCA Animal Hospital.”

#### Enjoy Quiet Time Together

Slow down in the heat and enjoy quieter times together. Seniors, and any dog on the mend from ill-

ness or injury, may need to take a lot of breaks when out and about. While outside, relax on a bench or blanket in a shady spot. Offer your pal some water and perhaps a treat. And remember, some dogs of all sizes and ages simply love to sit quietly and watch the world go by.

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