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# CHELSEA RECORD

YOUR HOMETOWN NEWSPAPER SINCE 1890

VOLUME 131, No. 51

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 22, 2023

35 CENTS

## LA COLABORATIVA HOLDS CHELSEA SURVIVAL CENTER GALA



Above, dignitaries and guests are pictured at La Colaborativa's gala celebrating the grand opening of the Chelsea Survival Center located on Sixth Street.

La Colaborativa, under the leadership of Executive Director Gladys Vega, hosted a gala to celebrate the opening of La Colaborativa's Chelsea Survival Center Nov. 17 at the beautiful new facility located at 63 Sixth Street.

Right, School Committee member Ana Hernandez, Supt. of Schools Dr. Almi Abeyta, and City Council President Leo Robinson. See pages 6 and 7 for more photos.



## Council appropriates funding for park projects

By Adam Swift

The City Council took care of business quickly Monday night, approving several financial matters that had previously come before the council and addressing some traffic issues in the city.

The council voted 8-0 to appropriate money for park projects at 212 Congress Ave. and 88 Clinton St. Councilors Judith Garcia, Tanairi Garcia, and Melinda Vega were absent from Monday night's meeting.

The proposed park at 212 Congress Ave. received a \$500,000 state PARC grant that is reimbursable, so City Manager Ned Keefe asked the council to appropriate \$850,000 for the project, of which the \$500,000 will be reimbursed. The council previously appropriated \$350,000 through the Capital Improvement Program for the project.

The council approved appropriating leftover funds from the Voke Park renovation project for use for the 88 Clinton St. project.

In other business, District 6 Councilor Giovanni Recupero filed a motion asking that the city's Affordable Housing Trust Fund Board look into dedicating all affordable

housing opportunities to Chelsea residents.

"We keep building affordable housing, but it's always (less and less) Chelsea people who live there," said Recupero. "If you build affordable housing, build it for people who are here."

Councilor-at-Large Brian Hatleberg said he also respects the idea of giving us much affordable housing as the city can to residents who already live in Chelsea, but he added that he is sensitive to federal fair housing laws that dictate how much affordable housing can be set aside for residents and non-residents of a community.

"I do not object (to the motion), but I also want to make it very clear that we do not violate fair housing law," said Hatleberg.

District 8 Councilor Calvin Brown also agreed that it was a sensitive issue, but added that he would like to see the city work on some sort of process where current Chelsea residents get the highest priority for affordable units.

"We build so much affordable housing, but we have to make sure our residents get their fair share," said Brown.

Recupero also introduced a motion asking

See COUNCIL Page 3

## EBNHC launches new Behavioral Health Urgent Care Service

Special to the Record

East Boston Neighborhood Health Center (EBNHC), the largest community-based primary care health system in Massachusetts, gathered with city, state and community leaders last week, to officially announce the opening of its new Behavioral Health Urgent Care Service (BHUCS). Part of the EBNHC's integrated behavioral health program, the BHUCS provides same-day and urgent mental health services for children, adolescents, and adults, in East Boston and surrounding communities, transforming how community members -- predominantly low-income immigrants -- can access the high-quality behavioral health services they need and deserve.

"Timely access to high-quality behavioral health services is a common challenge across the Commonwealth, especially for vulnerable families. I'm proud to say that EBNHC's Behavioral Health Urgent Care Service addresses this growing need head on," said EBNHC President and CEO, Greg



Leaders gathered on November 9th at the Taylor Building at 10 Gove Street to celebrate the opening of the new BHUCS site. Featured from left to right: EBNHC Chief Medical Officer Dr. Jackie Fantes, EBNHC CEO and President Greg Wilmot, Boston EMS Medical Director Dr. Sophia Dyer, MD, FACEP, FAEMS Chief of Department of Boston EMS James Hooley, State Rep. Adrian Madaro.

Wilmot. "Our industry must offer innovative ways to close long-standing gaps in care. This expansion of our behavioral health program is a monumental step in the right direction as we strive to achieve health equity for our patients and neighbors."

The new service is innovative and different from other behavioral

health urgent care options across the state as it is co-located with the state's only community-based satellite emergency facility, operated by EBNHC. Additionally, the service is fully integrated within the health center and EBNHC's larger behavioral health and recovery services program. This unparalleled care model allows patients in the

community to be connected to a wide range of care services, seamlessly and immediately moving from the BHUCS to emergency medical care, primary care, additional behavioral health care, and other health and wellness programs available through the Center.

Addressing health equi-

See EBNHC Page 2

## ZBA considers affordable project on Williams Street

By Adam Swift

A 20-unit affordable housing development consisting of all one-bedroom condominium units that was first approved nearly two years ago is back before the city's Zoning and Planning boards.

Mikael Vienneau of Broadway Capital Development is seeking a special permit and variances to demolish an existing structure and combine lots at 146, 150, and 156 Williams St. and 65 Pine St. for the development, which will feature an inner courtyard, 20 parking spaces, and will be two-stories high.

"This case came before the Zoning Board about a year-and-a-half, two years ago, and since then, we've really been trying to get our finances in order to make this project a reality," said Vienneau. "This project is in the R-1 zoning

district, and our proposal is to create 20 affordable owner/occupied condo units. So this is not a rental property, this is strictly 20 affordable condos."

The proposed affordability level would have three units offered at 60 percent of AMI (Area Median Income), nine at 80 percent AMI, and eight at 100 percent AMI, according to Vienneau.

Vienneau said the affordability levels are a minor change from what was approved by the ZBA in early 2022. However, he said the design of the building has not changed from the original approvals.

"A lot of this was trying to get the finances in order to make this project a reality," he said. "We do have to seek grants from MassHousing, so we had to tweak our numbers. As

See ZBA Page 3

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**Our office will be closed Thanksgiving Day, Nov. 23<sup>RD</sup> and Friday, Nov. 24<sup>th</sup>**

# EBNHC / CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

ty gaps, like disparities in access to behavioral health care for Black and Latinx communities, has long been a focus for EBNHC which was recently recognized by the Department of Health and Human Services Administration (HRSA) as a 2023 National Quality Leader and one of the nation's leading health centers in reducing health disparities.

To help put patients at ease, the new BHUCS suite features state-of-the-art behavioral health care design. A calming space, intentionally constructed to be safe and aesthetically pleasing for those struggling with a mental health or substance use disorder, the BHUCS provides access to immediate crisis evaluation, next-step planning, and support for all patients ages six and above. The BHUCS currently welcomes walk-ins five days a week and will move to seven-day a week access in early 2024.

"We are in the midst of a behavioral health crisis that requires new ideas, more resources, and a strong investment to meet this demand," said EBNHC Executive Vice President and COO, Ryan Boxill, PhD, MBA. "Since our soft-opening last month, we've already seen great demand for this service that will be especially vi-

tal for low-income and non-English speaking patients. Our highly trained, diverse, multi-disciplinary behavioral health team members are eager to welcome many first-time patients and are equipped to offer care in their native language."

Thanks to earmarked state funding advocated for by Massachusetts State Rep. Adrian Madaro, EBNHC has hired more than 20 diverse new staff, experienced in providing behavioral health care to adults, adolescents, and youth.

"Behavioral health care providers are still seeing the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, which, for many children was a two-year hiatus from achieving key developmental, academic and social milestones," said Michael Mancusi, MSW, LICSW, EBNHC Vice President and Chief Behavioral Health Officer. "This has had a deleterious effect on the mental health of our young people, and we realized a better model was needed to address community behavioral health — one with an immediately accessible entry point and a range of care to match our patients' needs. That is why we created the BHUCS -- to provide an urgent response to an urgent health care crisis."

Patients can now access

the following services at the BHUCS, Monday-Friday, 9:30 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. (weekend hours will be available in 2024):

- Same-day clinical triage, crisis evaluation, next step planning and support
- On-site medical evaluation and necessary laboratory tests
- Psychopharmacology evaluation and medication prescription
- Crisis response and stabilization
- Care navigation and care coordination
- Enrollment in EBNHC primary care, based on availability

EBNHC has also expanded mind/body offerings for patients, such as reiki, trauma-informed yoga, community peace circles and other community interventions to meet interest in non-traditional, indigenous, and culturally relevant healing methods.



Featured from left to right: EBNHC's Chief Behavioral Health Officer Michael Mancusi, LICSW; Behavioral Health Medical Director Dr. Laura Petrillo; and Behavioral Health Urgent Care Administrative Director Nicholas Smietniak pose with members of the BHUCS care team inside the new site at East Boston Neighborhood Health Center.



Featured from left to right: EBNHC Chief Medical Officer Dr. Jackie Fantes, EBNHC Board of Directors Chair Rita Sorrento, Behavioral Health Medical Director Dr. Laura Petrillo, State Rep. Adrian Madaro, Chief of Department of Boston EMS James Hoolley, EBNHC CEO and President Greg Wilmot, EBNHC Chief Operating Officer Dr. Ryan Boxill, PhD, MBA, and EBNHC Chief Behavioral Health Officer Michael Mancusi, LICSW.



EBNHC Chief Operating Officer Dr. Ryan Boxill, PhD, MBA, addresses the crowd alongside EBNHC Chief Behavioral Health Officer Michael Mancusi, LICSW.

# Council / CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

that the public works commissioner remove a rubber mat obstructing the handicap ramp near the bus stop on Broadway at Everett Avenue. Councilors Enio Lopez and Todd Taylor both noted that there are handicap accessibility is-

ssues at that location as well as a number of others throughout the city that need to be addressed.

In another motion, Recupero asked that the public works department paint all the speed bumps in the city for greater visibility.

# ZBA / CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

you know, construction costs have increased, so this has been quite a challenge to get this project to this point in that time."

If the project passes the latest round of zoning and planning approvals, the goal is to start construction

next February or March, Vienneau said.

Roy Blum of Beacon Street read a letter from a number of residents in the neighborhood who oppose the project.

Blum said he and the neighbors have many of

the same concerns they raised about the project back in 2021, including traffic congestion, parking, trash disposal, and the size of the project.

"We strongly maintain that this area is unsuitable for a multi-unit residential

building," said Blum.

The project will be before the Planning Board on Nov. 28 before coming back to the ZBA on Dec. 12. Residents will have the opportunity to speak on the project at both of those meetings.

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# DiDomenico secures funding for diabetes medical supplies in PACT ACT 3.0

Last week, Senator Sal DiDomenico joined his colleagues in the Massachusetts Senate to unanimously pass the bipartisan Act Relative to Pharmaceutical Access, Costs, and Transparency, (PACT) otherwise known as the PACT Act 3.0. The legislation would make urgent and much-needed reforms to the pharmaceutical system in the state by lowering the cost of drugs at the pharmacy counter and improving oversight of the pharmaceutical industry. It also takes firm steps to create more equitable access to life-saving medications by providing a free, no-cost sharing option for certain drugs used to treat chronic illnesses that disproportionately affect people of color.

DiDomenico spoke on the Senate floor in favor of his amendment to the bill which would ensure patients have access to continuous glucose monitors and supplies they need to treat diabetes. Being diabetic is expensive and if someone with diabetes is prescribed insulin, they need to buy not only their insulin, but also supplies like needles, syringes, and lancets. These supplies can cost hundreds of thousands of dollars a year. This amendment would ensure that we get insulin into patients' hands and the supplies they need to take that insulin and manage their diabetes.

"People across communities and backgrounds are drowning under the weight of prescription drug costs and it is incumbent on us to ensure people can access lifesaving medications," said Senator Sal DiDomenico, Assistant Majority Leader of the Massachusetts Senate. "I am proud to support this proposal that will put people first and make our state more affordable for everyone. I want to thank Senate President Karen Spilka, Senator Cindy Friedman and my colleagues for their dedication to passing this important legislation that will help my constituents and millions of residents across the Commonwealth."

"Relief from prescription drug costs can't wait when lives are at stake," said Senate President Karen E. Spilka (D-Ashland).



Senator Sal DiDomenico addressing the Senate.

"I look forward to this bill getting signed into law so that residents and seniors who go to the pharmacy counter will finally pay less for the medications they use to stay alive and maintain their quality of life. This reform is in line with the Senate's commitment to addressing affordability, equity, and transparency, and maintaining the Commonwealth's competitiveness as a place to live and work. I am extremely grateful for the diligent and tireless work of Senator Friedman and Chair Rodrigues for their leadership on this bill, and to the rest of my colleagues in the Senate for their strong support."

By connecting the need for greater drug price transparency with policies to improve oversight for the pharmaceutical industry, the PACT Act 3.0 puts the Senate at the forefront of the state's efforts to tackle rapidly increasing prescription drug costs. It will also reduce drug costs for patients and lower health care costs overall.

### Lowering costs for life-saving medications

Far too often, patients cannot access the medications they need due to high prescription drug prices. This legislation takes a step towards addressing this by offering immediate price relief and limiting out-of-pocket spending for prescription drugs used to treat diabetes, asthma, and chronic heart conditions, all of which disproportionately affect black and brown residents of Massachusetts.

For each of the chronic conditions identified, the bill requires insurers to eliminate deductibles and cost-sharing requirements for one generic drug and to cap co-payments on one brand-name drug at \$25 per 30-day supply. Capping the costs of these

medications will help improve access and reduce the financial burden of prescriptions, which far too often causes the dangerous practice of rationing life-saving drugs.

To make sure patients pay the lowest possible cost at the pharmacy counter, the PACT Act 3.0 also ensures that a patient purchasing a prescription drug is not charged a cost-sharing amount, such as a co-pay, if it would be cheaper for them to purchase the drug without using their insurance.

### Ensuring patients can use their preferred pharmacy

The bill takes significant steps toward ensuring that patients can get their prescription drugs from the pharmacy that they choose. This bill will allow independent pharmacists the opportunity to become licensed to dispense specialty medications and allow any network pharmacy to contract with carriers to provide mail-order prescriptions, changing the current practice of carriers determining what pharmacies are available to patients for mail-order prescriptions.

### Holding drug companies accountable

The PACT Act 3.0 contains enhanced accountability tools to address rising costs of medications and other barriers to care. Currently, Massachusetts cannot effectively identify the drugs that have burdensome costs. These cost barriers also contribute to unaddressed health issues and often worsen conditions. To combat this, the bill directs the Health Policy Commission (HPC), in consultation with stakeholders, to establish a process for identifying high drug prices that create access barriers to essential medicines that address the priority health care needs of residents of the Commonwealth. In addition, it allows the HPC to recommend pricing measures to increase patient access to necessary medications.

Pharmaceutical manufacturers that fail to comply with this process will be required to pay a fee that will go into a trust fund for a new drug cost assistance program to sup-

port patients with certain chronic health conditions that disproportionately impact communities of color and low-income communities.

To help control costs further, the PACT Act 3.0 requires pharmaceutical manufacturers to notify the state in advance of new drugs coming to market, and of significant price increases for existing drugs. With advanced notification, the state's MassHealth program can better prepare for potential cost increases by exploring ways to mitigate the cost or negotiating improved prices.

In addition, advance notification will enable the HPC to focus on these cost drivers at their Cost Trends Hearings, which are held each year to examine the drivers of health care costs; identify challenges and opportunities for improving care and reducing costs in Massachusetts; increase transparency and accountability for health care providers and insurers; and help the state to meet its annual health care cost growth benchmark.

This bill also empowers the Center for Health Information and Analysis (CHIA), an independent state agency that provides objective analysis of the quality, affordability, utilization, and access to the Massachusetts health care system, to collect a range of drug cost information from pharmaceutical manufacturers and pharmacy benefit managers to include in its annual health care cost report, which does not currently include comprehensive data on drug costs. Collecting this data will allow policymakers and consumers to better understand the role of pharmaceutical manufacturers in driving health care costs moving forward.

### Pharmacy Benefit Manager (PBM) Oversight

To address another potential cost driver, the bill brings oversight to pharmacy benefit managers (PBMs), which play a major role in determining how prescription drugs are tiered and priced on insurance plans. PBMs serve as middlemen between pre-

scription drug buyers and sellers and currently operate with little oversight, making it unclear if they act in the best interest of consumers or health plans when they negotiate the price of drugs with pharmaceutical manufacturers. The PACT Act 3.0 authorizes the Division of Insurance (DOI) to provide much-needed oversight by licensing and regulating PBMs—and establishing sanctions for PBMs that fail to meet certain standards.

Additionally, pharmaceutical manufacturers and PBMs will be included in the HPC's annual Cost Trends Hearings for the first time. By participating in the hearings process, pharmaceutical manufacturers and PBMs will be required to provide public testimony on the factors that influence drug costs and provide documentation to back up their claims. HPC will use this information to analyze how pharmaceutical industry costs impact the state's health care market—and the ultimate cost of health care for Massachusetts residents.

The bill has also gained support from leading advocates for healthcare access.

In a statement, the Health Equity Compact praised the legislation, saying, "The Health Equity Compact commends the Senate for including provisions to address the increasing cost burden of certain medications for chronic conditions in An Act Relative to Pharmaceutical Access, Costs and Transparency. Providing affordable medications for diabetes, asthma, and heart conditions is an important step toward addressing health inequities, and these provisions are also included in the health equity omnibus bill which would pave the way for the next chapter of health reform. We thank the Senate President and Senator Friedman for their work to address health disparities in the Commonwealth and look forward to continued partnership with our legislative colleagues."

"The cost of prescription drugs has risen rapidly, putting critical medications out of reach for many," said Amy Rosen-

thal, Executive Director of Health Care For All. "This legislation will ensure thousands of residents are able to better afford the necessary medications to manage their diabetes, asthma and heart conditions, and bring transparency and accountability to the drug industry through the state's cost trends process."

During the debate, the Senate adopted an amendment from Senator Pavel Payano (D-Lawrence) to ensure that safety net hospitals and federally qualified community health centers can purchase discounted drugs from drug manufacturers through the federal 340B program. This program helps to keep costs low for patients who are served by hospitals in vulnerable communities.

Furthermore, the Senate adopted an amendment from Senator Cynthia Creem (D-Newton) that directs a study whether the state should adopt a statewide policy requiring schools, police stations, and fire stations to maintain a supply of epinephrine injectors on hand, to support students and residents in need. The Senate has been a leader in putting forth policies that address unaffordable drug costs. The HEALTH Act, passed by the Senate in 2017, proposed policies to incorporate pharmaceutical costs into the state's annual health care cost oversight process and ensure that consumers are offered the lowest available prices at the pharmacy.

The Senate also championed the inclusion of provisions in the Fiscal Year 2020 budget to allow MassHealth to directly negotiate supplemental drug rebates to save the state millions of dollars each year.

Today's passage marks the third consecutive session that the Senate has passed legislation to rein in drug costs and reform the pharmaceutical system, as drug costs have continued to climb higher with each passing year.

The PACT Act 3.0 now moves to the Massachusetts House of Representatives for consideration.

## Happy 97<sup>th</sup> Birthday, Alice Nicewicz!

Mrs. Nicewicz, a lifelong resident of Chelsea, who now resides in Topsfield, recently celebrated her 97<sup>th</sup> birthday with family and friends.

Shown left, Mrs. Nicewicz with her sons, left-to-right John, Richard, and Robert

Shown right, Mrs. Nicewicz with her son, John, daughter-in-law, Tammy, and their sons, Christian and Justin

### AVISO PÚBLICO DE REVISÃO AMBIENTAL

**PROJETO:** Island End River Flood Resilience Project  
**LOCAL:** Beacham Street at Market Street, Chelsea and Everett, MA  
**PROPONENTE:** Cities of Chelsea and Everett  
 O(A) signatário(a) está enviando, pelo presente documento, um Versão Preliminar do Relatório de Impacto Ambiental ("DEIR") a(o) Secretário(a) de Energy & Environmental Affairs (Questões Ambientais e de Energia) no dia November 15, 2023. Isso iniciará a revisão do projeto mencionado acima de acordo com a Lei de Política Ambiental de Massachusetts ("MEPA", L.G.M. c. 30, ss. 61-62L). Cópias do DEIR podem ser obtidas com: Katie Moniz, kmoniz@fpa-inc.com, (617) 279-4388  
 Cópias eletrônicas do DEIR também estão sendo enviadas à Comissão de Conservação e ao Conselho de Chelsea and Everett.  
 O(A) Secretário(a) de Energy & Environmental Affairs publicará o aviso do DEIR no Monitor ambiental, receberá os comentários públicos sobre o projeto e, depois, decidirá se um Relatório de impacto ambiental é necessário. Uma visita ao local e/ou sessão de consulta remota sobre o projeto também poderá ser agendada. Todas as pessoas que desejem comentar sobre o projeto, ou serem avisadas de uma visita ao local e/ou sessão de consulta remota, devem enviar um e-mail para: MEPA@mass.gov ou para o(a) analista do MEPA listado(a) no Monitor ambiental. Solicitações de interpretação ou outras acomodações devem ser direcionadas para o mesmo endereço de e-mail. A correspondência postal deve ser direcionada para: Secretary of Energy & Environmental Affairs, 100 Cambridge St., Suite 900, Boston, Massachusetts 02114, Atenção: MEPA Office, referenciando o projeto acima.  
 Por Alexander Train, City of Chelsea, and Erik Swanson, City of Everett

### PUBLIC NOTICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW

**PROJECT:** Island End River Flood Resilience Project  
**LOCATION:** Beacham Street at Market Street, Chelsea and Everett, MA  
**PROponent:** Cities of Chelsea and Everett  
 The undersigned is submitting a Draft Environmental Impact Report ("DEIR") to the Secretary of Energy & Environmental Affairs on or before November 15, 2023. This will initiate review of the above project pursuant to the Massachusetts Environmental Policy Act ("MEPA", M.G.L. c. 30, ss. 61-62L). Copies of the DEIR may be obtained from: Katie Moniz, kmoniz@fpa-inc.com, (617) 279-4388  
 Electronic copies of the DEIR are also being sent to the Conservation Commission and Planning Board of Chelsea and Everett.  
 The Secretary of Energy & Environmental Affairs will publish notice of the DEIR in the Environmental Monitor, receive public comments on the project, and then decide if an Environmental Impact Report is required. A site visit and/or remote consultation session on the project may also be scheduled. All persons wishing to comment on the project, or to be notified of a site visit and/or remote consultation session, should email MEPA@mass.gov or the MEPA analyst listed in the Environmental Monitor. Requests for language translation or other accommodations should be directed to the same email address. Mail correspondence should be directed to the Secretary of Energy & Environmental Affairs, 100 Cambridge St., Suite 900, Boston, Massachusetts 02114, Attention: MEPA Office, referencing the above project.  
 By Alexander Train, City of Chelsea, and Erik Swanson, City of Everett

### AVI PUBLIK POU REVIZYON ANVIWÖNMAN

**PWOJÈ:** Island End River Flood Resilience Project  
**LOKAL:** Beacham Street at Market Street, Chelsea and Everett, MA  
**PWOMOTÈ:** Cities of Chelsea and Everett  
 Moun ki siyen an ap soumèt yon Rapò enpak sou anviwònman an ("DEIR") bay Sekretè Enèji ak Afè Anviwònman an oswa anvan. November 15, 2023  
 Sa pral kòmanse revizyon pwojè ki anwo a dapre Lwa sou Regleman Anviwònman Massachusetts ("MEPA", M.G.L. c. 30, ss. 61-62L). Ou ka jwenn kopi DEIR nan: Katie Moniz, kmoniz@fpa-inc.com, (617) 279-4388  
 Yo voye kopi elektwonik DEIR tou bay Komisyon Konsèvasyon ak Konsèy Planifikasyon Chelsea and Everett.  
 Sekretè Enèji ak Afè Anviwònman an pral pibliye avi sou DEIR nan Siveyans Anviwònman an, y ap resewva kòmantè piblik sou pwojè a, epi apre sa yo pral deside si yon Rapò Enpak sou Anviwònman an nesese. Ou ka pwogramme yon vizit sou sit ak/oswa sesyon konsiltasyon adistans sou pwojè a. Tout moun ki vle fè kòmantè sou pwojè a, oswa pou yo resewva enfòmasyon sou yon vizit sou sit ak/oswa sesyon konsiltasyon adistans, ta dwe voye yon imèl. MEPA@mass.gov oswa analis MEPA ki nan lis nan Siveyans Anviwònman an. Demann pou tradiksyon lang oswa lòt aranjman yo ta dwe dirije nan menm adrès imel la. Yo ta dwe voye korespondans pa lapòs bay Sekretè Enèji ak Afè Anviwònman an, 100 Cambridge St., Suite 900, Boston, Massachusetts 02114, Atansyon: Biwo MEPA, fè referans a pwojè ki endike anwo a.  
 Selon Alexander Train, City of Chelsea, and Erik Swanson, City of Everett

### 有关环境需要审查的公示

**项目:** Island End River Flood Resilience Project  
**地点:** Beacham Street at Market Street, Chelsea and Everett, MA  
**支持者:** Cities of Chelsea and Everett  
 签署人将在 November 15, 2023当天或之前向能源与环境事务部长提交环境影响报告草案 (以下简称"DEIR")表  
 根据麻萨诸塞州环境政策法案 ("MEPA", M.G.L. c. 30, ss. 61-62L) 本信将开启对上述项目的审查。有关DEIR表的副本可从以下渠道获得:  
 Katie Moniz, kmoniz@fpa-inc.com, (617) 279-4388  
 有关DEIR表的电子副本也将抄送给Chelsea and Everett的保护委员会和规划委员会。能源与环境事务部长将在环境监测中发布DEIR通知, 该通知将告知有关公众对项目的意见接受, 然后决定是否需要进行环境影响报告。也可以安排对该项目的实地考察和/或程咨询会议。所有希望对项目发表评论或收到现场访谈和/或程咨询会议通知的人应发送电子邮件至MEPA@mass.gov或环境监测中列出的MEPA分析师。语言翻译或其他便利的请求应发送至同一电子邮件地址。所有关于上述项目的邮件应寄至能源与环境事务部长, 地址为: 100 Cambridge St., Suite 900, Boston, Massachusetts 02114, Attention: MEPA Office。  
 署名 Alexander Train, City of Chelsea, and Erik Swanson, City of Everett

# Chelsea

R E C O R D

PRESIDENT: Stephen Quigley

EDITOR IN CHIEF: Cary Shuman

## HAPPY THANKSGIVING

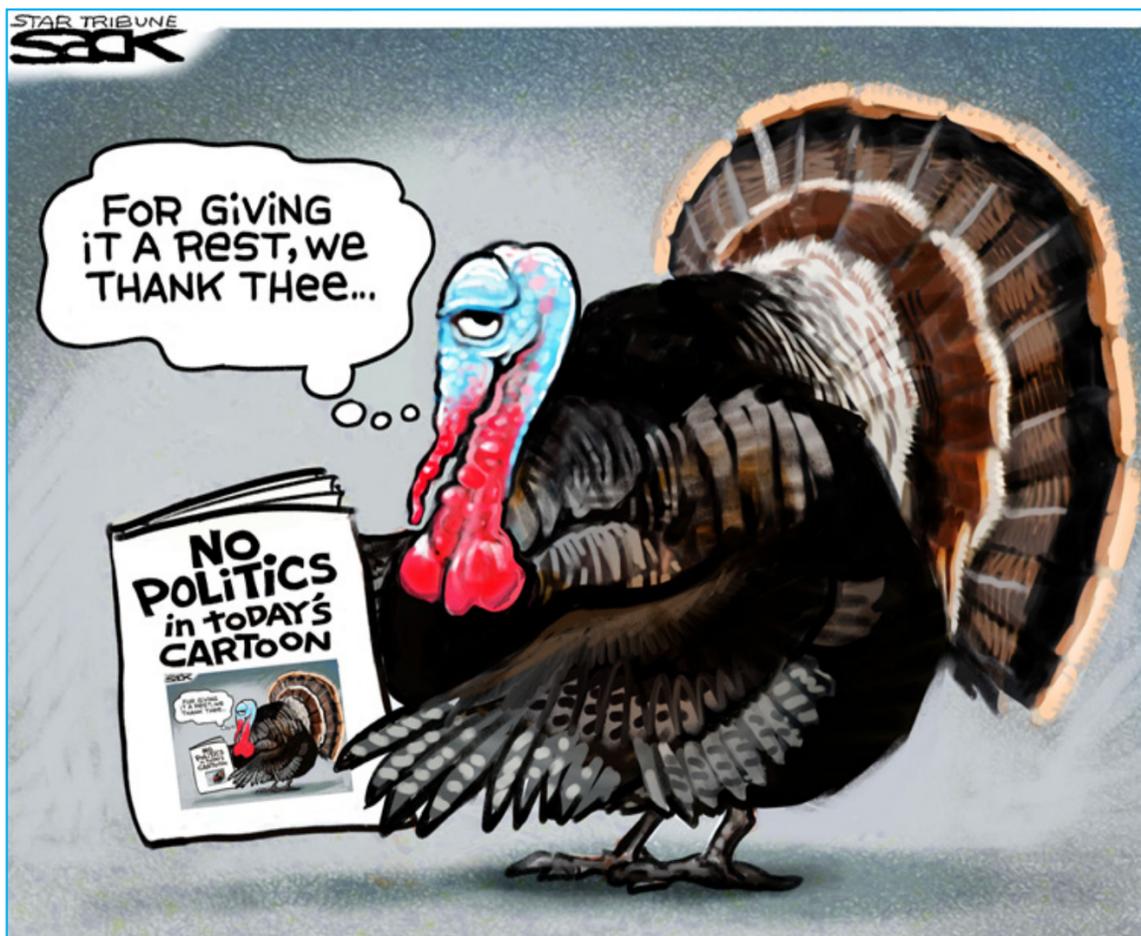
A Harris poll a few years ago revealed that Christmas is the favorite holiday of the year among all age groups of Americans, but we think that Thanksgiving, our uniquely American holiday, has much more to recommend it than Christmas. Thanksgiving has its roots with the Pilgrims, long before the concept of a United States had crossed anyone's mind. It always has been a secular celebration of peace and relaxation. It simply is a day to be grateful for what we have, however much that may be.

Thanksgiving is a day of no pressure. It is the ultimate family-centered holiday. It has no religious meaning, no national-celebration connotations, and no required gift-giving. It lacks the commercialism, solemnity, and political overtones of all of our other national observances. In a world where anxiety follows us 24/7, Thanksgiving provides a welcome respite from the commercialism that accompanies Christmas and most of our other holidays. There is no obligation to spend a lot of money (that many of us do not have in the first place) to buy the perfect gift in order to be the perfect spouse, or the perfect parent, or the perfect friend. Thanksgiving demands nothing more from each of us (other than for the person who is doing all the cooking!) beyond just showing up and enjoying the company of our family and friends and then having a great meal.

When we think of the Christmas vs. Thanksgiving debate, we think it's analogous to the late comedian George Carlin's skit about football vs. baseball (check it out on YouTube if you've never seen it). Football is the equivalent of war, while baseball is all about going home. Similarly, while Christmas epitomizes our hyper-capitalist, consumerist, and frenetic society, Thanksgiving is its antithesis.

Thanksgiving is a national celebration that serves to remind us how blessed we are at a time when circumstances are so cruel for so many others in a world in which there are more refugees than at any time since the end of World War II. Despite our own trials and tribulations, Thanksgiving reminds us how remarkably fortunate we are to live in this country. And in a day and age when so many of us are connected 24/7 to some instrument of communication, it truly is a relief to have a day when we can just shut it all off (other than perhaps watching a football game.)

We wish all of our readers a happy -- and restful -- Thanksgiving.



## GUEST OP-ED

### Bay Staters deserve opportunities to build a better financial future

By Jeffrey Rosario Turco,  
and Francisco E. Paulino

Whether you grew up in Revere, Winthrop, Lawrence, Brighton, or Boston, every community in the Commonwealth values kitchen-table issues; an honest day's work, safe streets, affordable homes, good schools, access to quality and affordable healthcare, and the ability to earn a good living and save for the future.

Just last month, we were able to pass a historic Tax Relief Bill which will make the Commonwealth more affordable, competitive and equitable by putting real dollars directly back into the pockets of hardworking Bay Staters. Whether it's by increasing the child and dependent tax credit for families or lowering the capital gains tax so folks see more of their money when they invest in their Robinhood or Fidelity accounts, this legislation will provide immediate relief and opportunities for working class people fighting hard every day to make a living.

There's more work to be done. It's no secret that for much of this country's history, the financial system has been largely closed off to most Americans. Teachers, plumbers, steamfitters, steelworkers, nurses, members of the military, and men and women in uniform simply have not always had the same opportunities to save and build wealth as the one percent.

Until recently, owning stocks was largely reserved for older, wealthy, and less diverse Americans, including those with the means to pay a finan-

cial professional to do it for them. Fortunately, recent innovations aimed at empowering a new age of investors tore down these barriers, reshaped our financial system, and paved the way for a massive influx of new investors into the stock market. These millions of new investors are younger, more diverse, and come from every community and every part of the country, including hundreds of thousands of people right here in Massachusetts.

Not only did this transformative shift expand access to the stock market for an entirely new generation of Americans, it has made finance and investing more approachable and relevant to millions of people who had previously avoided it because of its intimidating and exclusive nature. Today, technology has democratized investing with easy-to-use, low-cost mobile platforms like Robinhood that for the first time provide tools allowing ordinary Americans to save a little more, make a few extra dollars in income, and invest in great American companies they believe in, including companies that are based here in the Commonwealth. These new platforms have not only simplified the act of purchasing a stock, they've increased the overall relevance and interest in personal finance. Whether it's through podcasts, newsletters, or in-app education modules, these platforms are using technology to communicate with and educate investors, making financial literacy more accessible by breaking-down complex concepts such as

compounding and dollar cost averaging, as well as the differences between a traditional and Roth IRA and the implications of a 'wash sale' or capital gains.

We must encourage these platforms, who are uniquely positioned, with their reach and resources, to continue prioritizing financial literacy with the understanding that developing a new generation of informed investors will lead them to a more sustainable financial future. We also need to promote sound policies that will help keep these new investors involved for the long-term while protecting them from fraud and abuse. Unfortunately, recent efforts by financial regulators are threatening to throw these new investors right back out of the markets. At both the state and federal levels, securities regulators are considering new rules that, while intended to protect investors, would strike at the very heart of the online model most prefer to use to invest today. These rules could even make it impossible for financial providers to use the very same innovative technologies that have brought millions into the stock market in the first place. And they are likely to disproportionately harm those underserved populations that for decades have been told they aren't smart

enough or wealthy enough to invest.

We reject this narrative, as do many of our colleagues. We've personally spoken to our neighbors — construction workers in Lawrence, firefighters in Revere, cab drivers around Boston, and the staff here in the State House — many of whom tell us that they feel more empowered and equipped than ever before to make their own financial decisions. These are normal people who don't necessarily have the resources, the need, or the desire to completely turn the management of their finances over to expensive professionals. Instead, they've gravitated toward affordable and easy-to-use mobile platforms that allow them to take a more hands-on approach in managing their finances. These investors deserve strong, sensible regulations that protect them from fraud and abuse, but they also deserve the opportunity to participate fully in our financial system and achieve the American dream. We will continue to fight in the State House for policies that give our communities both.

*Jeffrey Rosario Turco, Esq., is a State Representative, and represents the 19th Suffolk District and Francisco E. Paulino, is a State Representative, and represents the 16th Essex District.*

## SEND US YOUR NEWS

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We reserve the right to edit for length and content.

## SUBSCRIPTION INFORMATION

Chelsea Record is published every Thursday by the Revere-based Independent Newspaper Group.

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

USPS NO. 101-680

### CBC HOLDS HOLIDAY FAMILY PORTRAIT EVENT AND FOOD DRIVE

The Chelsea Black Community (CBC), under the direction of President Joan Cromwell, hosted the Holiday Family Portrait

Event and Food Drive Nov. 11 at the Gallery, 212 Arlington St. Local families, who donated to the food drive, re-

ceived a free professional portrait that was taken at the event. The CBC is wrapping up another successful year of

events that united the city and elevated the organization to new heights in terms of generosity of spirit and community-building.



Joaquin Flores, Shania Tejada (holding canine friend, Oliver), Ilesha Rodas, and Allan Rodas.



Fashion models, Jayde Umemba, Kyle Umemba, Dave, and Steve Javier, pictured at the CBC Holiday family Portrait Event and Food Drive.



Bri Ramos, Careliz Figueroa, and the Gingerbread Man (Victor Carrion).



Jes Lopez (right), with her son, Messiah Rubin, and friend, Marcy Smith (left).



City Councilor Calvin Brown, his wife, Sandra Valentin Brown, and their granddaughter, Jayde Abreu, attired festively for the CBC holiday event.



Brandan Tinsley, with his daughter, Syhaida and Tyleegh Tinsley, set for a holiday family portrait.



Jes Lopez and Doreen Martin, pictured at the CBC Holiday Family Portrait Event and Food Drive Saturday at 212 Arlington St.



CBC President Joan Cromwell welcomes professional photographer Darlene DeVita and guests to the holiday event at 212 Arlington St.



CBC President Joan Cromwell and board member Beverly Martin-Ross, pictured at the CBC Holiday Family Portrait Event and Food Drive.

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**THE BROWN JUG**

The Brown Jug will once again be doing a  
*Christmas Toy Drive for Children*  
in our community. We will be donating the toys to the Salvation Army of Chelsea. Please consider participating in this fun and rewarding event. Please bring an unopened/unwrapped toy for a boy or girl between Nov. 24<sup>th</sup> and Dec. 15<sup>th</sup> and receive a single topping pizza for \$5<sup>00</sup>. Thank You so much for your help.

*Seasons Greetings*  
Mike, Cheryl, & Michael Matrinko

DON'T FORGET ABOUT THE TWEENS! AGES 10-16

# La Colaborativa holds Chelsea Survival Center Gala

La Colaborativa, under the leadership of Executive Director Gladys Vega, hosted a gala to celebrate the opening of La Colaborativa's Chelsea Survival Center Nov. 17 at the beautiful new facility located at 63 Sixth Street.

The event was truly one of the most elegant and momentous evenings in recent years. The Center is a superbly designed 30,000-square foot space, dedicated to the economic sustainability and mobility for the people of Chelsea and beyond.

Lt. Gov. Kim Driscoll was among the dignitaries congratulating Gladys Vega and her staff for the outstanding work they have done through the years, especially during the COVID-19 pandemic when La Colaborativa's presence was so vital and critical to Chelsea residents' daily lives.

Norielez DeJesus, a Chelsea city councilor and policy and organizing director at La Colaborativa,

told the large gathering, "What an emotional night. What a dream come true. It is amazing to stand with you all today in La Nueva Casa. What this means today for Chelsea, what this means for our families, what this means for our team – you can't imagine what we've been through in the last few years trying to make sure that we stand strong and we are the face that give our families hope. Now they have this place to call home."

After an excellent video showing La Colaborativa's extraordinary 35-year history in Chelsea, City Councilor Melinda Vega had the honor of introducing her mother, Gladys Vega.

Gladys Vega received a hearty and well-deserved standing ovation as she took the stage. "We love you, si se puede," shouted the crowd reverentially in recognition of Gladys' immense and positive impact on Chelsea people's lives for decades.

"For 35 years, I always wanted to leave a legacy of La Colaborativa, a building that continues to make history," said Vega.

Vega asked Dinanyili Del Carmen Paulino, chief operating officer, to join her on the platform.

"Thank you so much for everything you did," Gladys told Dinanyili, who shared the vision of building the incomparable Chelsea Survival Center. Vega thanked the

Healey-Driscoll administration for its support. She credited La Colaborativa's board of directors, led by President Rosie Medina, saying, "Thank you for all the years that you have spent with all of us, for supporting us and believing in our mission and our vision. This was a huge vision, and we were able to accomplish it."

And thanks to that in-

See GALA Page 7



Attorney Ruth Deras and State Assistant Secretary for Communities and Programs Juan Vega.



Sen. Sal DiDomenico and Lt. Gov. Kim Driscoll, pictured at the gala.



Steven Rivera and Valentina Moreno.



Dr. Joseph Betancourt delivers the keynote address.



Chelsea Public Library Board Chair Beth Novak, Matt Frank of Chelsea Housing Authority Supportive Services, and Latino CART Clinician Carolyn Boumila-Vega.



Executive Director Gladys Vega and Chief Operating Officer Dinanyilli Del Carmen Paulino.



Ayla Thornton, Kelly Garcia, Sooky Vega, Tanairi Garcia, Norielez DeJesus, Sen. Sal DiDomenico, and former Lawrence mayor Dan Rivera.



Newly appointed City Manager Fidel Maltez, La Colaborativa Vice President Carol Resnek, City Councilor Tanairi Garcia and her son, Nathan Vega, La Colaborativa Board President Rosie Medina, Board member Magaly Valentin, and City Councilor Brian Hatleberg.



Police Chief Keeith Houghton, Director of Elder Services Tracey Nowicki, Rep. Judith Garcia, her fiancé, Rob Waters, Police Det. Fernando Camacho, and Chelsea Housing Authority Executive Director Paul Nowicki.



Tomas Lopez, Ariana Lagos, Estefany Pemberty, Tony Ramos, Benjamin Adeyinka, Alex Salderrama, and Len Spada.

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# Gala/ CONTINUED FROM PAGE 6

credible vision, Gladys Vega and her staff have one of the most impressive buildings of its kind, with a staff ready to serve residents in need of assistance.

"You have impacted our lives in a very meaningful way," Vega told the people

in attendance. "La Colaborativa is about every individual that is here supporting us day in and day out."

But if you were to name an MVP in Chelsea over the last 35 years, Gladys Vega and La Colaborativa would be at the top of the list.



HarborCOV CFO Claudia Carias and HarborCOV Executive Director Kourou Pich.



GreenRoots Executive Director Roseann Bongiovanni and Tony Hernandez.



Representing the Chelsea Chamber of Commerce, Carolina Bonilla, Executive Director Jennifer Hassell, Karim Perez, and Ammi Velez.



Executive Director Gladys Vega and Chief Operating Officer Dinayilli Del Carmen Paulino.



Councilor-at-Large Elect Roberto Jimenez Rivera and his wife, School Committee Member-Elect Dr. Sarah Elizabeth Neville.



Marcos Rivera and Brenda Romero of La Colaborativa.



Anna Hadingham, newly appointed Cuity Manager Fidel Maltez, School Committee Member Yessenia Alfaro, and Supt. of Schools Dr. Almi Abeyta.



Chelsea Housing Authority Executive Director Paul Nowicki, La Colaborativa Executive Director Gladys Vega, and Director of Elder Services Tracy Nowicki.



School Committee Vice Chair Katherine Cabral, School Committee Members Elect Dr. Sarah Elizabeth Neville and Jonathan Gomez-Pereira, and Chelsea Police Chief Keith Houghton.



Chelsea Housing Authority Executive Director Paul Nowicki, Lt. Governor Kim Driscoll, and Director of Elder Services Tracy Nowicki, who was a paralegal in Kim Driscoll's office when she served as chief legal counsel for Chelsea.



Metro Credit Union Vice President Saritin Rizzuto, La Colaborativa Executive Director Gladys Vega, La Colaborativa Board President Rosie Medina, and Police Capt. David Rizzuto, who honored his professional colleague in law enforcement, Det. Rosie Medina, with his presence at the gala.



Penny Hasseli, Alexa Shabecoff, Rep. Judith Garcia, Rob Waters, and Fidel Maltez.



Donna Mitria, Laiza Telas, Yarel Daguer, Anais Toa, Cherlin Dubon, Jessica Armijo, and Alexa Zayas.



Guests are pictured at La Colaborativa gala held Nov. 17 at the new Chelsea Survival Center complex on Sixth Street.



Rep. Judith Garcia, School Committee Chair Kelly Garcia, City Councilor Norielez DeJesus, and City Councilor Tanairi Garcia.

# CHELSEA STUDENTS, STAFF PRESENT TO MASS. EDUCATORS AT MASC-MASS JOINT CONFERENCE



From left to right: Jaiven Diaz, Sarai Galdamez Ariola and Jeanette Velez.

A Chelsea contingent featuring two Chelsea High School students, Chelsea School Committee members and CPS District staff presented about CPS' systems approach to equity at the joint MASC-MASS Conference last week. The 2023 conference was held in Hyannis, Mass. It is the largest annual gathering of educators in Massachusetts.

CHS students Jaiven Diaz and Sarai Galdamez Ariola joined School Committee members Kati Cabral, Roberto Jimenez-Rivera and Jeanette Velez; Superintendent Dr. Almi G. Abeyta; Equity, Diversity, & Ex-

cellence Office Dr. Aaron Jennings and Director of Administration and Finance Monica Lamboy to conduct a panel presentation in front of representatives from across Massachusetts.

The group discussed the value of having alignment at each level of the school system in order to build a school system focused on equity. The presentation incorporated the student voices of Jaiven and Sarai to showcase how their experiences in school are directly impacted by this work. They shared personal stories about their experiences in classrooms in Chelsea, and how students

benefit from a district that is focused on equitable outcomes for all.

Another emphasis of the presentation was the importance of the wholistic approach to equity in Chelsea. This work is supported from the school committee to the district office and to the school. The goal is creating schools where every student is known by name, strength and story.

Additionally, it was a special conference for School Committee member Jeanette Velez who received the All-State School Committee Award. A 12-year veteran of the school committee, Velez



Jeanette Velez pictured with husband Jay Velez.

earned the honor to recognize the significant contributions she has made to the Chelsea community and Chelsea students.



Chelsea School Committee member Kati Cabral speaking at CPS' presentation at MASC-MASS Conference.



Back Row: Jeanette Velez, Robert Jimenez-Rivera, Dr. Aaron Jennings and Jaiven Diaz. Front Row: Dr. Almi G. Abeyta, Monica Lamboy, Kati Cabral and Sarai Galdamez Ariola.



Jeanette Velez (center) pictured with CPS Superintendent Dr. Almi G. Abeyta (left) and former CPS Superintendent Mary Bourque (right).



From left to right: Sarah Neville, Kati Cabral, Mary Bourque, Jeanette Velez, Jay Velez, Dr. Almi G. Abeyta and Monica Lamboy.

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# Metropolitan Beaches Commission holds in-person meeting



Metropolitan Beaches Commissioners left to right: Representative Tackey Chan, Kerin O'Toole, Mercy Robinson, Representative Jessica Giannino, Senator Brendan Crighton, Representative Adrian Madaro, Representative Joan Meschino, Assistant Deputy Commissioner Susan Hamilton.

For the first time since the COVID-19 shutdown, the Metropolitan Beaches Commission gathered on Beacon Hill on October 31 for an in-person hearing on the state of the region's beaches. This was also the first opportunity for the Commission to hear from recently appointed DCR Commissioner Brian Arrigo on his priorities and vision for the agency. The Metropolitan Beaches Commission is managed by Save the Harbor/Save the Bay and is responsible for making recommendations on the maintenance, improvement and accessibility of the region's public beaches from Nahant to Nantasket.

tified concrete action steps to help address very complex long-standing issues that impact our beaches and communities."

"DCR's public beaches belong to everyone, and all of our residents should be able to safely access and enjoy them," said DCR Commissioner Brian Arrigo. "We are committed to working with the Commission and Save the Harbor/Save the Bay to ensure our metropolitan region's public beaches are welcoming places for everyone regardless of race, ability, language or income."

The MBC and Commissioner Arrigo also discussed potential for improving the flagging protocols on our region's beaches to communicate to the public more clearly on the infrequent days when water quality may be potentially unsafe for swimming, usually following a heavy rainfall. While Massachusetts continues to boast some of the country's cleanest urban beaches, stormwater runoff can impact that quality. Director of Green Infrastructure for the City of Boston Kate England addressed the increased impacts of stormwater due to climate change and the potential to mitigate those impacts through strategic green infrastructure improvements, teeing up the Commission's next efforts to address climate resiliency and sea level rise along our coast.

Over 100 people attended the hearing in person or over Teams as DCR Commissioner Brian Arrigo testified to the agency's efforts to address recommendations from the MBC's Breaking Barriers report, including steps towards equity and diversity-focused hiring practices and improvements to ADA-accessibility. Commissioner Arrigo also committed to adding more multilingual signage to the region's beaches before the 2024 beach season. "We are really proud of all the work that has brought us to this point today," said Commission Co-Chair Senator Brendan Crighton. "Our collective work to break down with a particular focus on racial equity and language equity has iden-

"The beaches are absolutely a critical open space and natural resource for the Commonwealth and need ongoing improvements," said Co-Chair Rep. Adrian Madaro. "We have had great success working in partnership with DCR to upgrade our public beaches and are looking forward to continuing our collaboration so all families can enjoy them no matter what part of the world they come from."

The Commission also heard testimony from members of the public who spoke to the success of the Better Beaches Program, which brought over 200 free public and diverse cultural events to the beaches this past summer, and also addressed community specific concerns

about water quality in Lynn and Dorchester that the Commission will continue to try and address.

"It's terrific to have a Commissioner that shares our goals and values when it comes to making our spectacular urban beaches accessible to everyone," said Save the Harbor Executive Director Chris Mancini. "We're looking

forward to supporting and collaborating with our partners at DCR to continue breaking barriers for people of color, people with disabilities and those who don't speak English as a first language. And to see if we can't do something about rising seas while we're at it."

Next steps for the MBC are to keep partnering with

DCR to address the infrastructure and equity priorities discussed at the hearing, and to host a series of community charrettes in beachfront neighborhoods on strategies for dealing with rising seas and other effects of climate change.

For more information and to connect with the MBC, visit [www.savetheharbor.org/mbc](http://www.savetheharbor.org/mbc).

## Discussion on the Outer Brewster Island Diaries at Winthrop Historical meeting

Story & Photos by Marianne Salza

Four Lowell women set out on a 17-day excursion on Great Brewster Island in July 1891. They referred to themselves as the Scribe, the Aristocrat, the Acrobat, and the Autocrat; and documented their self-discoveries in a handwritten diary that was later discovered in a Cape Ann used bookstore.

"Women at the time did not go to college, or have opportunities to go off and study as they would like to," explained Carol Fithian, retired national park ranger, and coordinator of volunteers for the Friends of the Boston Harbor Islands, now called Boston Harbor Islands National and State Park. "These women had some money, but were still under restriction. Women would form groups and clubs. They'd read and study together."

Fithian is the co-author of "A Boston Harbor Islands Adventure: The Great Brewster Journal of 1891," by Stephanie Schorow and the Friends of the Boston Harbor Islands. Published in 2023, the book is a transcription of the ladies' diary, which chronicles their activities and observations, and includes poetry and photographs.

"They reflected on seeing the fog lift, looking



Carol Fithian, co-author of "A Boston Harbor Islands Adventure: The Great Brewster Journal of 1891"

across to Boston at the dome of the State House, and watching the waves hit the shore," Fithian expounded. "They would paint watercolors of these things to preserve their harbor experience."

Fithian presented the collaborative project during the Winthrop Improvement & Historical Association's (WIHA) Thanksgiving dinner meeting in the Deane Winthrop House barn on November 7.

"These women supported each other," Fithian emphasized. "We got to know them through this experience, and started to tell their story."

The ladies detailed their meals, and diagramed the cottage that they used as living quarters, with photographs of each room.

"It's interesting how

they made it a home away from home," said Fithian.

The Friends of the Boston Harbor Islands team comprised of fashion, photography, history, and handwriting experts. Fithian researched the women's backgrounds and provided historical information about Boston Harbor Islands. Eventually, the identities of these adventurers were determined.

The "voracious scribe" was discovered to be Helen Augusta Whittier, who ran a cotton mill in Lowell.

Fithian believes that Boston Harbor's unique, bustling environment offered the women freedom. Great Brewster Island was a safe place for the ladies to express themselves and record their experiences.

"If you read the book, discover through them what is possible out there," encouraged Fithian, with her soon-to-be retired seeing eye dog, Georgette, beside her.

Fithian is an Ipswich resident and mother of two children. She has been a guidance counselor and a literature teacher. For Halloween, Fithian appeared as a giraffe during a Department of Conservation and Recreation celebration on Georges Island. Fithian is presently studying French and fencing.

## BRUINS Beat by Bob Morello

### Bruins: The Beat Goes On



In a game that if it had a soundtrack, it could be... The Four Seasons' "Oh What A Night." The Tampa Bay Lightning proved to not be a very nice host as they took on the visiting Bruins, toyed with them, and then ended the game with the home team winning the two points in overtime. The Bruins' entourage included the players' fathers who accompanied the team on the annual "Dads Trip." For the team it was a struggle right to the end. Discipline was lacking from the locals who drew seven penalties, two in the third period, giving an edge to the Lightning who had boasted success on their power play with a 34% average. Boston's Penalty Killing crew was diligent while killing five of six Tampa extra man advantages. Bruins coach Jim Montgomery liked the resilience of his team, fighting back, but he was not happy that they also squandered two third period leads. Monty's words did not fall on deaf ears, as Charlie Coyle, who posted his sixth goal of the season added - "You've got to play to the end and it's a shame we couldn't pull it off. We had a couple of third period leads and we can't afford to give those up. We've got to make sure we play the right way and

we're doing the right thing, especially with a lead." Even more frustrating was the fact that Boston took just five shots in the third period, and scored on three of them, only to go on to lose.

In a surprising move, Montgomery chose to play Jeremy Swayman in back-to-back games, for the first time this season, moving away from his usual alternating two-goalie system. Swayman carried the heavy load on a busy night; setting a career high by stopping 41 of 46 shots he faced in the 5-4-overtime loss. The game-winning goal came off the stick of Brandon Hagel who took advantage of a poor line change by Boston, scoring on a breakaway just 1:19 into the overtime on the only shot taken in the overtime period. The Tampa opportunity came about when Steven Stamkos took a slick pass from Nikita Kucherov and put the puck behind a helpless Swayman with less than five seconds remaining in regulation time, to earn the tie and the overtime session. While overtime had not been a positive

thing for the 9-6-4 Lightning, having lost their previous four overtime opportunities, they were able to notch their first OT winner in this one. Tampa was able to score in each of the four periods (1-1-2-1) as they exhibited good puck management throughout the game. Bruins scorers on the night were Pavel Zacha (7), David Pastrnak (12), John Beecher (2), and Coyle (6). Pasta's goal and assist on the night continued his seven-game point streak with 15 points total on four goals and 11 assists.

The Bruins' Florida road trip continues tonight (Wednesday 7:00pm) with a final stop to take on the Panthers who are currently riding a two-game win streak. Florida with 25 points to date is tied with the New York Rangers for second place in the Eastern Conference, behind the Bruins' 29. The Detroit Red Wings will be at TD Garden for a Friday 1:00pm matinee, and the Bruins head back on the road for a pair of stops in New York on Saturday at 1:00pm, and then on Monday, 7:00pm, they will be hosted by the Columbus Blue Jackets who have lost four games in a row, and stand in last place of the Metropolitan Division, and the Eastern Conference.

## CHS SPORTS ROUNDUP

### CHS FOOTBALL TEAM TO HOST CATHEDRAL THANKSGIVING EVE AT 5 P.M.

The Chelsea High football team will close out its 2023 season when the Red

Devils host its traditional Thanksgiving Eve rival, Cathedral High, this evening (Wednesday) under the lights at Chelsea Stadium.

The opening kick-off is set for 5:00.

Chelsea enters the fray with a 3-7 record, while

Cathedral, which qualified for the post-season state tournament in Division 8 as the fourth seed and advanced to the final four before being ousted by undefeated West Boylston in the semifinals last week, stands at 7-3.



Colin Cash, Point Shirley resident, Tom Loring, 25-year volunteer for Friends of the Boston Harbor Islands, Carol Fithian, retired national park ranger and Friends of the Boston Harbor Islands volunteer, and Michael Herbert, WIHA President.

## Chelsea man sentenced in 2020 killing of Boston man

A 37-year-old Chelsea man was sentenced to 17-20 years in prison for the July 2020 murder of 27-year-old Damien Hughes of Boston.

Cesar Valentin was convicted of manslaughter on Nov. 14.

On Monday, Suffolk Superior Court Judge Josh Wall ordered Valentin's sentence to start following the current 2-½ year sentence Valentin is serving for beating a fellow inmate at the Nashua Street Jail while he was being held on the Hughes case.

On the morning of July 31, 2020, Boston Police and EMS work-

ers responded to calls for a person stabbed outside 112 Southampton St. The victim, Hughes, suffered numerous stab wounds and was pronounced dead at Boston Medical Center.

Hughes's mother, Ashley Tenczar, delivered a victim impact statement at Monday's sentencing.

"Damien Hughes's family and friends have waited more than three years to see justice served on the person whose cruel burst of violence took the life of the man they knew and loved," Suffolk County District Attorney Kevin Hayden said.

### LEGAL NOTICES

#### LEGAL NOTICE



NOTICE OF HEARING  
Case No. 2018-38

Notice is 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, December 12, 2023  
Chelsea City Hall - 500 Broadway - City Council Chambers, 3rd Floor 6:00 p.m.

On remand for reconsideration of the denial of the request for a one-year extension of the lapse provision of the Special Permit for a Planned Development by: YIHE Forbes, LLC at the premises known as:

1 Forbes 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. to noon

11/22/23, 11/30/23

#### LEGAL NOTICE



NOTICE OF HEARING  
Case No. 2018-595

Notice is given in accordance with the

Massachusetts Zoning Act, Chapter 40A that a Regular Meeting of the Chelsea Planning Board will be held on:

Tuesday, December 19, 2023  
Chelsea City Hall - 500 Broadway - City Council Chambers, 3rd Floor 6:00 p.m.

On remand for reconsideration of the denial of the request for a one-year extension of the lapse provision of the Major Site Plan Approval for a Planned Development by: YIHE Forbes, LLC at the premises known as:

1 Forbes 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. to noon

11/22/23, 11/30/23

#### LEGAL NOTICE



NOTICE OF HEARING  
Case No. 2023-29

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, December 12, 2023  
Chelsea City Hall - 500 Broadway - City Council Chambers, 3rd Floor 6:00 p.m.

With reference to the

application of: Alejandra Gonzalez For Special Permit and Variance seeking approval to extend a driveway which does not meet the minimum requirements side setback and minimum open space at the premises known as:

128 Grove 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

11/22/23, 11/30/23

#### LEGAL NOTICE



LEGAL NOTICE  
CITY OF CHELSEA  
PUBLIC HEARING

All taxpayers are invited to attend a Public Hearing by the City Council in conjunction with the Board of Assessors on Monday, December 4, 2023 at 7:00 P.M. in the City Council Chambers, Chelsea City Hall, regarding the MINIMUM RESIDENTIAL FACTOR, CLASSIFICATION, and THE RESIDENTIAL EXEMPTION and their effect on the Fiscal Year 2024 tax rates.

Leo Robinson, President  
Chelsea City Council  
Michael Flynn, Chairperson  
Board of Assessors.  
ALL RESIDENTS ARE INVITED TO ATTEND.

11/16/23, 11/22/23

## Sonny Richard Lepore

"Legendary Chelsea Barber"

Relatives and friends are most kindly invited to attend visiting hours in the Welsh Funeral Home, 718 Broadway, Chelsea on Friday, November 24, from 4 to 8 p.m. for Sonny Richard J. Lepore, who passed away suddenly after a brief and sharp decline in health. He was 90 years of age. His funeral will begin at the funeral home on Saturday, November 25th at 9:30 a.m. immediately followed by a Funeral Mass in St. Anthony of Padua Church, 250 Revere St., Revere at 11 a.m. Services will conclude with interment at Woodlawn Cemetery, Everett.

Born and raised in Chelsea, he was the beloved son of the late Melinto "Morley" Lepore and Louise (Cambria) Lepore. Sonny was a lifelong resident of Chelsea and attended schools in Chelsea, Somerville and Boston School of Barbering.

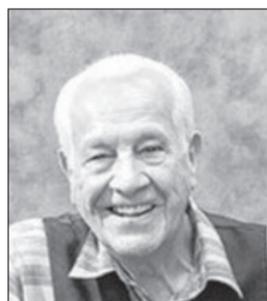
He was married to Patricia C. (Fern) for 50 years and together raised their daughter and later welcomed two grandchildren into their home.

Family was always first in his heart, no one meant more to him than his wife, daughter, son-in-law and grandchildren. One only needed to talk with him briefly for a second and you would know this to be true.

You would also soon realize that his second joy in life was Barbering! Sonny was a third-generation family barber. His grandfather and Italian immigrant Serafino Lepore established the "Modern Barber Shop" on Broadway. The shop was next passed to Sonny's father, Melinto "Morley" Lepore and was renamed "Morley's Barber Shop" and with Sonny and his father working together the shop became a Chelsea institution.

Several years ago, Sonny relocated the shop into his Chelsea home. Patrons would travel across the state, country and even the globe, to get their haircut, commiserate with old friends, catch up on Chelsea affairs or just have a visit in the shop with a cup of Sonny's "Special Back-room Coffee." His patrons came from various walks of life, from the rich and famous, politicians, or the regular working man. Whether famous or notorious, nobody was better than anyone else to Sonny, except maybe his grandchildren.

Sonny never retired, he was a barber extraordi-



naire for 70 years, and he gave his last haircuts in his Home-Based Shop on Friday, November 11. He will be remembered as one of Chelsea greatest sons and a true local legend.

Sonny was an integral part of his grandchildren's lives, supporting them in all of their pursuits, mentoring them and offering them his old school knowledge of the world and people.

Sonny also enjoyed gardening, as any of the shop patrons would attest. He was a talented cook, cooking in his traditional Italian Home Style. In his earlier lifetime, he and his wife enjoyed vacationing in New Hampshire. He would make several trips to Las Vegas with his own "Chelsea Rat Pack" and recently shorter trips to local casinos.

Sonny was predeceased by his parents, a sister, Rose Mullett, who is survived by her husband, James and brothers and sisters-in-law; the late Ralph and Dolly Fern, Elizabeth and Guy Toro, Carolyn and Robert Holsten and John and Otavia Fern.

Sonny was widowed in 2007, the beloved husband of the late Patricia C. (Fern) Lepore. He is survived by his loving and caring daughter, Lisa Lepore-Perry and her husband, William "Bill" Perry of Middleton, the devoted and cherished grandfather of Anthony Perry and Arianna Perry of Middleton, and dear brother-in-law of Joseph Fern and his wife, Christine of Chelsea. He is also survived by many loving nieces, nephews and treasured friends.

Should friends desire contributions in Sonny's name can be made to American Heart Assoc., 20 Speen St., Framingham, MA 01701. <https://www.heart.org/en/get-involved/ways-to-give>

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



## Alvin Bernard "Pee Wee" Moore

MBTA Retiree



Relatives and friends are most kindly invited to attend

a celebration of love for Alvin Bernard "Pee-Wee" Moore on Saturday, November 18, from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m., in the Welsh Funeral Home, 718 Broadway, Chelsea. Immediately following the services, please join the family at Anthony's of Malden, 105 Canal St., Malden for a continued Celebration of Life.

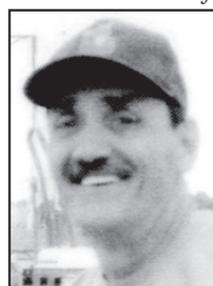
On Friday, October 20, 2023, the Moore family lost their hero and patriot, Alvin Moore. Alvin was born on December 3rd, 1934, to the late Irving Moore and Evelyn Dennis-Moore-Gardner. Alvin passed away at the home of his beloved daughter in Decatur, GA after a valiant fight with Amyloidosis. He was 88 years of age.

He grew up in Chelsea, MA with six siblings, and was predeceased by his brothers Irving, Earl, William "Billy" Moore, and sisters Arlene Moore and Natalie Butler. He is survived by Charlotte Bonds, his only living sibling.

Alvin attended the Chelsea School system and excelled in both academics and athletics. Following graduation, he enlisted in the United States Army and upon completion of his tour of duty received an honorable discharge. He then went on to learn the construction trade and soon became a construction worker/engineer. He retired from the Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority (MBTA) where he worked on some major historical projects throughout the Boston area.

Al's love for his family ran deep, just like his love for Boston. After living in some of Boston's surrounding areas, he moved to Mashpee, MA to care for his beloved mother.

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He is survived by his children Darcelle (Michael) Jones and Nicole (Lyn) Moore-Jackson. He was preceded in death by his children Deana and Shawn Moore and granddaughters Sacoya and Tyler Moore.

Al also leaves to cherish his memory grandchildren Vincent, Darren, Jasmyn, Michael Jr., La-Donne, Tyshaun, Jasmine, and Amber.

He is also survived his partner, Anna Lewis, and her family; Johanna (Renardo) Andrade, Karen (Vern) Cowan, Ferdinand and Kevin (Leslie) Singleton.

Al will be missed by a host of family members and friends.



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# MBTA releases Capital Needs Assessment and Inventory

The MBTA released its Capital Needs Assessment and Inventory (CNAI), an MBTA-led analysis conducted every three-four years to inventory the MBTA's assets, understand the overall condition of the transit system, and identify assets that are not in a State of Good Repair in order to determine the level of investment needed to support the existing network.

"Restoring reliability and ensuring safety are priorities as we rebuild MBTA infrastructure. Understanding and acknowledging the significant resources needed to bring our system to a State of Good Repair is just one step towards fixing our infrastructure to deliver more robust and frequent service. The MBTA is one of the oldest transit agencies in the country, and while there are a number of contributing factors, it's clear that years of underinvestment have added to the cost of bringing our system back to a state of good repair," said MBTA General Manager and CEO Phillip Eng. "Timely and appropriate actions are key to mitigating and avoiding more costly and potentially impactful efforts. Know that we are committed to aggressively

addressing our immediate needs – like the recent 16-day outage on the Ashmont Branch to perform track work – as we strive to deliver a modernized system to serve future generations."

The MBTA is among the oldest and most complex transit agencies in the United States with some assets that date back more than 50 years. All MBTA assets – facilities, vehicles, infrastructure, and more – have varying expected useful lives and all assets eventually require rehabilitation or replacement on a rolling basis. State of Good Repair (SGR) does not indicate the level of safety, but rather is representative of an asset operating at its optimal and expected level of performance. An asset "out of SGR" is more likely to require rehabilitation or replacement.

The CNAI is an exercise that helps the MBTA understand the magnitude of assets needs across the system at a single point in time. The SGR Index is calculated as part of the CNAI and aims to capture the baseline condition and estimated value for all assets that have been identified as out of SGR. While it does not reflect total project costs or the total

ity of capital investment that may be needed, both the CNAI and SGR Index help the MBTA develop strategies about where to allocate funding resources and make investments toward a modernized transportation network as part of the MBTA's rolling five-year Capital Investment Plan (CIP). In the MBTA's FY24-28 CIP process, State of Good Repair and Safety were the most important prioritization factors, making up half of a project's total weighted score.

The MBTA estimates the current overall SGR Index for assets in need of rehabilitation or replacement to be approximately \$24.5 billion. This estimate includes:

- Facilities: \$6.4 billion (35% of assets)
- Rolling Stock: \$2.4 billion (55% of assets)
- Equipment: \$52 million (28% of assets)
- Structures: \$5.3 billion (22% of assets)
- Signals – CR: \$1.3 billion (80% of assets)
- Signals – Transit: \$753 million (53% of assets)
- Track – CR: \$1.2 billion (9% of assets)
- Track – Transit: \$2.0 billion (89% of assets)
- Power: \$5.1 billion (76% of assets)

This estimated figure is an increase of \$14.5 billion from the last CNAI performed in 2019 and is driven by a number of factors, including:

- a more robust, comprehensive, and data-driven inventory approach that significantly increases the total asset count from approximately 59,000 to nearly 83,700. For example, the MBTA's power asset count significantly increased from 4,959 in the 2019 to 14,514 in 2023 because the previous inventory did not include certain cables, overhead catenary, the South Boston power station, emergency generators, or high voltage yards. A more sophisticated inventory of these assets is now included in the 2023 CNAI;
  - significant infrastructure and construction cost increases driven by inflation and supply chain challenges;
  - the continued aging of the MBTA's assets faster than they are being replaced due to years of underinvestment; and
  - the length of time for capital investments to show improvements and be reflected in the CNAI.
- Many capital projects underway now are in varying planning, design, and construction phases. The

rehabilitation or replacement of those assets will be reflected in future iterations of the CNAI and SGR Index. Additionally, the cutoff for data to be included in this year's CNAI was in 2021 and some major investments since that time were not captured in this iteration of the CNAI.

The MBTA is already addressing many of the needs identified in the CNAI. For example, critical track work on the Red Line's Ashmont Branch and Mattapan Line was successfully completed over the course of a 16-day shuttle bus diversion in late October 2023 in which crews replaced nearly 5,000 feet of rail and 1,174 ties on the Ashmont Branch and nearly 4,700 feet of rail and 1,380 ties on the Mattapan Line, allowing for the removal of all speed restrictions in that area; 83 new bi-level Commuter Rail coach cars are currently underway to replace the existing fleet and increase system capacity; and Positive Train Control (PTC) implementation continues to advance on the Commuter Rail signal system.

Peer transit agencies across the country have launched similar exercises to identify and address their SGR needs.

Understanding the MBTA's SGR needs and the level of investment required to address them is a critical step toward improving the system. The MBTA is currently working to incorporate the findings of the CNAI into the capital project pipeline. The Asset Management and Capital Program Planning Departments are working together to institutionalize the use of condition, criticality, and risk scores to strengthen project development processes and capital investment decision-making. The Asset Management Department also continues to develop the asset inventory and build out additional data complexity to support ongoing analyses of the MBTA's capital needs. Ongoing and sustainable future capital funding sources will also be required to support safe and reliable service.

For more information, visit [mbta.com](http://mbta.com) or connect with the T on X (the site formerly known as Twitter) @MBTA and @MBTA\_CR, Facebook / TheMBTA, Instagram @thembta, Threads @thembta, or TikTok @thembta.

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FRESH AND LOCAL

Favorite kitchen tools

By Penny & Ed Cherubino

Some items we'll write about today may differ from what you think of as kitchen tools. However, if you watched Penny cook and looked at the equipment that is given counter space in our tiny kitchen, you might decide to add one or more of these to your holiday gift list for yourself or a favorite cook.

a cooking playlist if you prefer music to information. Ed opts for news from what it's his kitchen time.

If your assistant has a screen like an Echo Show or tablet, you can have it display a recipe. You can ask for help converting measurements, finding substitutions for ingredients, or adding timers or reminders for the foods you're cooking.

to operate the controls (even with messy hands) through a thin bag, and it keeps food out of the electronic connections and makes the appliance much easier to clean.

A piece of blue tape on the refrigerator door means there is something in there that should go out with the trash. On a bowl of tomatoes, it indicates which side to use first.

Voice Activated Assistant

Amazon's Alexa, Google Assistant, and Apple's Siri are examples of currently available voice-activated assistants. We use ours for a shopping list. When we see an item running low, we add it to our list. If it's not an urgent need, we might add the word "backup!" Penny checks this list every day before her morning walk.

When she's in the kitchen, Penny has her assistant play food podcasts. Create

Blue Tape and a Sharpie

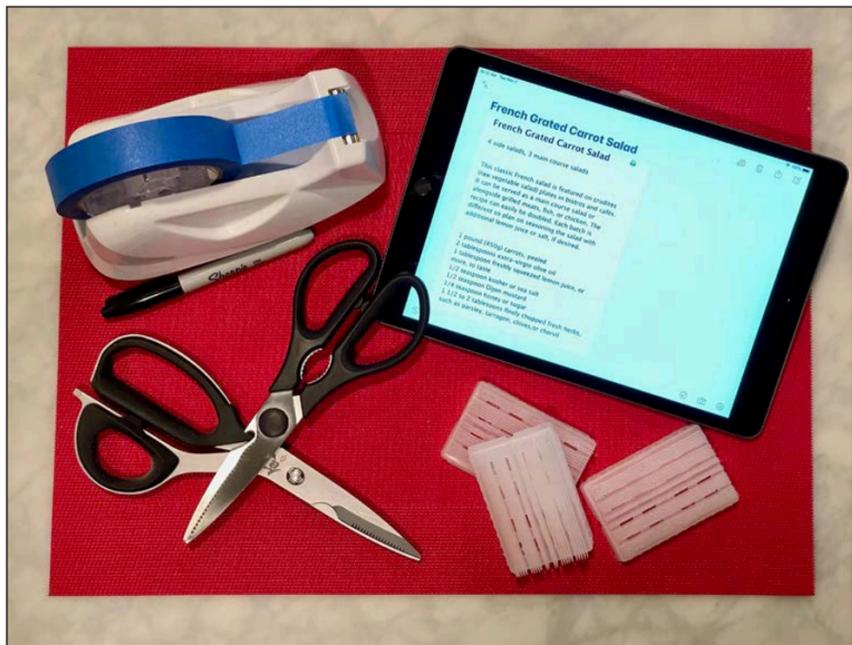
Other people call it "Blue Painter's Tape," but since we use it to keep track of food, we call it "Cook's Tape." If we open a carton of stock or a jar of roasted peppers, the date is added with a strip of blue tape before we pop the item into the fridge. When we freeze meals or ingredients, they wear a blue tape label.

We also use it to tape a plastic bag over the switches on a food processor or meat grinder when using them. It's easy

Scissors and Magnets

We have two pairs of kitchen scissors. One is a heavy-duty option for cutting through bones for a task like spatchcocking a chicken. The other is a sturdy but lightweight pair used so often that they reside in the dishrack. We use these to snip herbs or scallions or cut leftovers to top a salad without using a cutting board.

In addition to a magnetic knife rack to keep our knives safe and sharp, we use stick-on magnets to keep a can opener, box



You may think of these items as something other than kitchen tools, but we use them daily!

cutter, and tiny dustpan and brush handy on the side of the refrigerator.

Magnetic frames keep prints of Wendy MacNaughton chart illustrations from the book Salt, Fat, Acid, Heat on the front of our freezer for quick reference.

Surgeon's Brushes

Years ago, we discovered surgeon's brushes and soon found many uses

for them in the kitchen. We use them to clean our hands and nails before and after food prep. We buy ours from Lee Valley, where they are called "The World's Kindest Nail Brush" and cost about \$15 a dozen.

These gentle alternatives to rough scrub brushes also serve for cleaning mushrooms and root vegetables and even for gently removing stains on aprons

or dish towels.

You may already have some of these items and use them as we do. If not, consider a few stocking stuffers or a useful upgrade to your kitchen tools.

Do you have a question or topic for Fresh & Local? Send an email to Penny@BostonZest.com with your suggestion.

Happy Thanksgiving
From Your Friends at the Chelsea Record
Gratitude unlocks the fullness of life. It turns what we have into enough, and more. It turns denial into acceptance, chaos to order, confusion to clarity. It can turn a meal into a feast, a house into a home, a stranger into a friend. Gratitude makes sense of our past, brings peace for today and creates a vision for tomorrow.

Have a wonderful Thanksgiving!
State Senator Sal DiDomenico & Family

There is always something for which to be THANKFUL
health home family friends food

"Happy Thanksgiving! I am endlessly grateful for the community here in Chelsea. May we take this day to express our gratitude and count our blessings.
Judith Garcia State Rep. 11th Suffolk

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