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LIGHTING THE MENORAH IN CHELSEA SQUARE



Chelsea residents and friends are pictured at the Hanukkah Menorah Lighting Ceremony Dec. 11 in Chelsea Square. See more photos on Page 5.



Walnut Street Synagogue President Ed Medros, Rabbi Oksana Chapman of Temple Emmanuel, and Rabbi Sruli Baron of Tobin Bridge Chabbad, pictured at the Hanukkah menorah lighting ceremony in Chelsea Square.



Rabbi Sruli Baron, with his sons, Chezzzy Baron and Mendy Baron.

APPRECIATION

CHS football star Reggie Wilkerson passes away at the age of 52

By Cary Shuman

Reginal “Reggie” Wilkerson, an All-Scholastic quarterback who led Chelsea High School to one of its greatest seasons, died Monday, Dec. 18 after a courageous, three-year battle against cancer. He was 52 years old.

While Reggie was recognized for his athletic excellence in football and basketball with induction into the Chelsea High School Hall of Fame, it was his magnetic personality, his charming demeanor, and his reaching out to youths to guide them on a positive path in

life that made him a Hall of Fame-caliber person as well. Jennifer Hassell, the wife of John Hassell, who was Reggie’s teammate at CHS, said of his bigger-than-life aura, “Reggie was a force, and everybody that he came in contact with, he made a huge,

long-lasting impression on them. He will definitely be missed.”

A display of talent and at a young age
Chelsea Youth Basketball League Bucks coach Bruce Harrison was the

See WILKERSON Page 9

ZBA denies new permit extension request for Forbes project

By Adam Swift

The Forbes development plan remains in limbo.

Last week, the Zoning Board of Appeals denied a request from the owners and potential developers of the Forbes property to extend the previously granted special permit for the project for one year.

The ZBA initially denied the special permit extension request from YIHE Forbes, LLC last year.

Since that time, the case

has been in state Superior Court, although no final judgment on the case has come down.

In 2019, the Zoning Board approved a 585 residential unit project for the Forbes site, a significantly scaled back version of a plan first introduced by developers, YIHE Forbes of China, in 2015. The proposal also included some commercial development on the 17-plus acre site.

“About a year ago, you denied the petition (for the extension of the permits,” said Strephon Treadway,

the solicitor for the ZBA. “It was appealed to Superior Court. The petitioner made some good legal points that we wanted an opportunity to address.”

While no judge has yet weighed in on the ZBA decision to deny the permit extension, Treadway said the city requested last week’s remand hearing to give the city an opportunity to address some of the points made by the petitioner.

ZBA Chair Janice Tarkata asked city land use planner John DePriest if

the ZBA could put additional conditions on the special permit in addition to those that were initially approved almost five years ago.

DePriest noted that the original special permits were granted prior to the city making changes to its waterfront plan. Under that plan, the number of units allowed on the site would be reduced by about 30 percent.

Several times during the remand hearing, Tatarka brought up the potential of a compromise with the developer that could see a reduction in the number of proposed units on the site, as well as the developer working with the city to pay liens that have been placed on the property for clean up and work to remediate the soil and dilapidated building issues.

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City Council honors outgoing members

By Adam Swift

It was a bittersweet meeting for the City Council on Monday night, as four departing members were honored for their time in office.

Damali Vidot, Judith Garcia, and Enio Lopez all first came to office in a historic 2015 election that saw a wave of Latino and female candidates. Councilor-at-Large Brian Hatleberg, who had served as a councilor in the past, was appointed to an empty seat earlier this year when former Council President Roy Avellaneda resigned.

All four councilors did not run for reelection, although Garcia will continue to serve on Beacon Hill as the state representative for Chelsea.

“I think that being a leader is knowing when to hang up the gloves and pass the torch,” said Vidot.

Vidot’s initial run in 2015 was a product of her community activism and desire to see greater representation and diversity on the city council. When she first decided to run, she said she did not realize at first that other candidates such as Lopez, Garcia, and former councilors Luis Tejada and Yamir Rodriguez would also be on the ballot.

“We made history when we came in in 2016; finally, we had representation,” said Vidot. “When I say representation, I don’t just mean ethnicity or culture, but diversity in thought

See COUNCIL Page 3



Rev. Dr. George Walters of People’s Chelsea A.M.E. Church gives the blessing before the ribbon is cut.

CBC has a new home on Washington Ave.

By Adam Swift

After more than a decade, Chelsea Black Community finally has a home to call its own.

On Thursday, Dec. 14, city officials, residents, and CBC members gathered to cut the ribbon for the nonprofit’s new offices at 56 Washington Ave.

“I do appreciate you all for being here,” said CBC President Joan Cromwell. “It has been a long time ... We’re not quite on Broadway, but Washington Ave. is pretty close.”

Cromwell said the opening of the new home is a historic event both for the CBC and the community.

“We are going to have a sign here, open for business, with its own flair, integrity, and pride,” said Cromwell. “We show up, we help out, we speak up, and we continue to be our sisters and brothers keepers, advocating for fairness ... and providing a sense of belonging for all of us.”

Cromwell thanked a host of city and local of-

ficials, and pointed out the commitment of City Councilors Leo Robinson and Calvin Brown.

City Solicitor Cheryl Watson Fisher spoke about the origins of CBC, and also read a statement from incoming City Manager Fidel Maltez prior to the ribbon cutting.

Fisher spoke of how the CBC and its founding members would meet at the library to hash out its goals and focus, and worked for a decade to finally have its own space.

In the message from Maltez, the new city manager stated that he was excited to see the new space for the CBC and would

See CBC Page 2

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Trash will be delayed by one day due to Christmas Day holiday observed on Monday, Dec. 25, 2023

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MONDAY, DEC. 25

in observance of the Christmas holiday

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work to keep up the strong commitment from the city to the organization.

Also speaking during the ceremony were state Senator Sal DiDomenico, Assistant District Attorney Amelia D. Singh on behalf of Suffolk County District Attorney Kevin Hayden, Pastor Dr. George Walters Sleyon, CBC Vice President Dakeya Christmas, and Dayana Donisca on behalf of Congresswoman Ayanna Pressley.



CBC President Joan Cromwell, Chelsea Councillors Leo Robinson and Calvin Brown, Rev. Dr. George Walters and the Board of Directors of Chelsea Black Community at the grand opening at 56 Washington Ave last week.



It's a grand day for a Grand Opening for Chelsea Black Community, and President Joan Cromwell and the many residents CBC reaches out to help. The newly opened office is located directly across from Chelsea Fire Station, at 56 Washington Ave, the corner office.



CBC President Joan Cromwell, and Rev. Dr. George Walters, with Patricia Iyer, Paul Smith, Eula Bloom, Grace McKimlon, Marlene Tyler, and Nicole McKoy.



Senator Sal DiDomenico addressed the crowd while JCBC President Joan Cromwell, and Councillors Leo Robinson and Calvin Brown stand with the senator.



Juan Gallego, Hector Prieto and Councillor Calvin Brown at the opening of the office of Chelsea Black Community.



Celeste Williams prepares for a grand opening at 56 Washington Avenue for the CBC.



Executive Director of the Chelsea Chamber of Commerce Jen Hassell with Eula Bloom

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Forbes / CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

“The bottom line is it is a benefit to the city to be able to develop this land, it doesn’t help to have a site that looks like crap, pardon my language,” said Tatarka.

However, several ZBA members and city officials raised concerns about the unresponsiveness of YIHE Forbes to address current issues at the site.

Karl Allen, the city’s economic development planner stated that the property owner has not responded to concerns about asbestos and lead on the property, as well as the state of several of the buildings on the land.

“We desperately want this parcel to be developed, but we have no faith that the current property owner is capable of doing that,” said Allen. “We look forward to the property changing hands and starting the process over again.”

City Councilors Leo Robinson and Norieliz DeJesus also raised concerns about the current state of the Forbes site and the unresponsiveness from the owner to address the issues.

Shawn McCormack, the attorney representing YIHE Forbes noted that the ZBA did not have jurisdiction over the state of the property.

“Everybody is in agreement that something has to happen with this property, and I am coming here on behalf of the property owner,” said McCormack. “Nothing is going to happen if there are not answers on the permitting stature.”

McCormack later stated that he would bring back a potential proposal to his client recommended by Tatarka to reduce the size of the development to 500 units and have the developer address the issues with the liens and the mediation of the property.

However, a motion to extend the special permit for one year with those conditions failed when ZBA members Hugo Perdomo and Marilyn Vega-Torres both said there were unwilling to commit to the permit extension because of issues with the commitment of the property owner. For a special permit to gain approval, it would need the positive vote of four of five board members.

ZBA grants special permit for Veterans’ Home development

By Adam Swift

The ZBA approved the special permit for the public-private Veterans’ Home in Chelsea redevelopment project at its regular meeting last week.

The presentation before the ZBA was essentially the same that has come before the Planning Board and the ZBA previously over the past several months.

There were some minor changes to the landscaping plan, as well as clarification on the lighting plan, loading areas, and more detailed floor plans of the buildings and the individual units at last week’s meeting.

There will be 241 units throughout the redeveloped property, which is a public-private partnership between the state and developer Pennrose. Pennrose representatives stated that all 121 veterans currently living on site will be able to remain on

the property during construction and will have a place in one of the newly updated units.

Veterans will have 100 percent preference for the affordable units at the redeveloped Veterans’ Home, according to Karmen Cheung, a senior developer for Pennrose.

There will be centralized social services provided onsite provided by Soldier On, a private non-profit organization that provides veterans services at similar locations, according to Pennrose.

Pennrose is preserving all nine buildings that are on the current Soldiers’ Home site, with the only scheduled demolition set for the one-story incinerator building.

The new construction for the project includes 18 units of townhouses, a two-story cafe and community building, and a new building on the east parcel at the corner of Hillside and Crest Avenue.

At last week’s ZBA meeting, several residents raised continued concerns about the level of care that the current residents will receive at the development, as well as about traffic, parking, and a loss of green space on the property.

“You’re basically developing every square inch of the property,” said Eleanor Street resident Victor Tiernan.

Tiernan said he was also concerned that the construction of the east parcel building would destroy a green space that is used by many veterans, as well as residents in the area.

Eleanor Street resident Constantinos Boussios said he was concerned that residents who have greater needs and depend on the three meals a day currently provided will be pushed out of the new development.

Robert Engell, the in-

See SPECIAL PERMIT Page 4



Chelsea Housing Authority Supportive Services Manager Matt Frank, GreenRoots Executive Director Roseann Bongiovanni, Chelsea Director of Elder Services Tracy Nowicki, Chelsea Housing Authority Executive Director Paul Nowicki, and District 7 Councilor-Elect Manuel Tesche.

GreenRoots’ ‘Teaching Kitchen’ opens in Chelsea to bridge nutrition, environmental justice, and culture

Special to the Record

Chef and Restaurateur Jose Duarte and Chef and Caterer Charlton Becker joined the grand opening of the kitchen, located next to GreenRoots’ urban farm

On Thursday, December 14, GreenRoots, a community-based organization dedicated to improving and enhancing the urban environment

and public health in Chelsea, East Boston and beyond, celebrated the grand opening of the “Teaching Kitchen,” a new space created by Chelsea residents to make and share food in the way they enjoy most – as an exchange of recipes and cultures that builds healthier communities.

Seeking to capture the flavors and traditions of the ethnically diverse

communities represented in the city, the Kitchen will be a first-of-its-kind space in Chelsea. It will offer a place to gather as well as inclusive cooking, health, and wellness programming.

“As we prepare to celebrate GreenRoots’ 30th anniversary in 2024, the teaching kitchen is a testament to what we’ve

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Council / CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

and diversity in ability.”

Vidot said she can look back at her eight years on the council, including back-to-back terms as Council President, and know that she built relationships with every person with whom she served.

“People like me don’t typically make it to spaces like this,” said Vidot, adding that she wanted to make sure she could help create a world where her daughter and all young people can thrive.

Lopez said he began his journey eight years ago when he became the first Guatemalan-born city councilor.

“It has been an honor to serve Chelsea, and it has brought me great joy,” said Lopez, who thanked his wife, family, and friends for all of their support. “I especially want to thank the voters who elected me and gave me the opportunity and the trust they gave me over these years. To my colleagues, it has been a pleasure working with you.

“We haven’t always agreed, but our main focus has been always to make Chelsea a better place.”

Hatleberg thanked the people of the city and the council for supporting him during his time in office.

“I appreciate you trusting me with the role, and I hope I served as you would like,” he said.

Garcia noted that every councilor has taught her something and helped to make her a better leader.

“It’s been eight years and it’s very difficult to reflect and highlight the accomplishments throughout these eight years, but I can say if there is anything



City Councilor Enio Lopez receives a standing ovation from his colleagues following his speech at Monday’s Council meeting.



District 3 Councilor Norieliz DeJesus presents a special award to Councilor-at-Large Damali Vidot in recognition of her dedication and service on the City Council.



State Rep. Judith Garcia, who was honored for her dedication and service as a city councillor, is pictured with her fiancé, Rob Waters, at Monday’s Council meeting.

that this city has taught me, it is that we are more powerful when we work together in partnership,” said Garcia.

Each outgoing councilor was presented with a plaque in acknowledgment of their service to the city.



Councilor-at-Large Damali Vidot, is pictured with the daughter, Nina Rosa, and her husband, Antonio Rosa, who watched proudly from the audience as Councilor Vidot was honored by her colleagues in city government.



Outgoing City Councilors Damali Vidot, Judith Garcia, and Enio Lopez were honored at the City Council for their years of outstanding service on the Council.

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Pictured at the Chelsea City Council meeting Monday night at which time three councilors were honored for their dedication and service to the Council are members, from left, Enio Lopez, Norieliz DeJesus, Giovanni Recupero, Tanairi Garcia, Damali Vidot, Melinda Vega, Leo Robinson, Judith Garcia, Calvin Brown, Brian Hatleberg, and Todd Taylor.

Chelsea

RECORD

PRESIDENT: Stephen Quigley
EDITOR IN CHIEF: Cary Shuman

MERRY CHRISTMAS

This is the most wonderful time of the year, to paraphrase the popular song, with holiday music playing in the malls and on our car radios, resurrecting our earliest childhood memories of Christmases-past.

We choose just the right tree, decorate it carefully with our family-heirloom ornaments, and when we first turn on the lights, it brings a smile to the faces of even the most-jaded among us.

Despite our hectic rushing to and fro, everybody, it seems, is in a good mood. We endure the traffic and the long lines in stores because we know that what we are doing will bring joy and happiness to others.

For those of us with young children, we get to see Christmas through their eyes, giving us a second chance to experience the wonder and joy that we felt when we were their age.

Although all of us celebrate the holiday season in our own way, the common thread is one of peace, joy, and happiness, regardless of religious or secular beliefs. Whether it be Christmas, Hanukkah, Kwanzaa, or a Seinfeldian Festivus, the spirit of the season imbues us with a sense of togetherness that transcends whatever negativity may exist both in our own lives and in the world around us.

We wish all of our readers a Merry Christmas and a happy holiday season.

THERE’S STILL TIME TO HELP THOSE IN NEED

The stock market is booming and unemployment is near an all-time low, but there was the depressing news this past week that homelessness among Americans has increased by 12 percent in the past year.

The cold, harsh reality for many Americans in 2023 is that the promise of a booming economy still is only a dream in our country, where even those who are lucky enough to work full-time are barely getting by thanks to the crushingly-high cost of housing.

And for those who cannot find a job, or who are unable to work -- and especially for their children -- the holiday joy that most of us take for granted is just an illusion.

We recognize that in our hurry-hurry world where we barely have time to think, the Christmas season brings with it the pressure of last-minute shopping and holiday preparations. But we urge all of our readers, who have the means to do so, to take a deep breath and a brief “time-out” in order to consider doing something to make the holiday season a bit brighter for those who are less fortunate.

We can assure our readers that any gift of charity that you make, whether it be to a Toys for Tots program or to a Salvation Army Santa or a food bank donation, will be the most meaningful — and most satisfying — act that you can make this holiday season.

ENJOY THE LONG HOLIDAY WEEKEND SAFELY

The upcoming long-weekend means that most of us will be partaking in traditional gatherings with our families, friends, and co-workers to share the joy of the holiday season.

Unfortunately, this also means that many among us will be overindulging in holiday “spirits.”

It is the responsibility of each of us to ensure that where alcohol is present, it is used responsibly, not only by ourselves, but by those around us at our holiday gatherings. None of us wants to wake up the next morning with the regret, “If only I had taken their car keys.”

We wish all of our readers a happy, and safe, holiday weekend.

NEW CITY MANAGER GIVES THOUGHTS

Dear Editor and Chelsea residents,

On January 2nd, 2024, I will be sworn in as your next City Manager. I am deeply honored to serve in this critical role and want to thank the honorable Chelsea City Council for their trust and confidence in me to serve in this capacity. It is not something I take lightly.

I want to express my deepest gratitude to Ned Keefe, our City Manager, for his support and dedication. Since I was selected as your next City Manager, I have met with Department Heads, our Public Safety teams, and our front-line employees. I am so proud to be joining a team with so many dedicated staff members that work hard every day to ensure the highest level of service is provided to our community.

Though for the last two years I have served as the Town Manager in Reading, Chelsea is my home. Prior to my ser-

vice in Reading, I was the Commissioner of Dept. of Public Works here in Chelsea for five years. I came to Chelsea under the leadership of Tom Ambrosino and worked tirelessly for the residents of Chelsea including the hardest years of the pandemic. It was during that time that I witnessed firsthand the vibrant, resilient and tight-knit community that Chelsea truly is. The way community members banded together to support one another is representative of the values that I’ve witnessed time and again in every corner of our city.

Like many in Chelsea, I migrated to the United States as a child and witnessed the hardships of my single mother raising three children on her own. Watching my mother provide for my siblings and I by cleaning offices and without speaking English is a story that is all familiar to us. Her sacrifices are why I worked diligently to attend college and pursue a career in Civil Engineering. I worked in the private sector for 13 years as a civil engineer in China,

Miami, Philadelphia, and Boston. In those 13 years, I learned the importance of providing excellent customer service. This is why I center our residents in every decision and will work hard to improve levels of service for Chelsea.

I am committed to serving Chelsea and improving the lives of all our residents. I am deeply committed to building strong connections with the City Council and with all of you, the heart and soul of this vibrant community. Chelsea's strength lies in its diversity, rich history, and the resilience of its people. I am here to listen, learn, and work together with each one of you to address the challenges we face. I believe the best solutions come from within the community, and your voices are invaluable.

My goal is to work for all residents that call Chelsea our home, and to do so I need your active involvement and feedback. In the coming months, I will be holding regular meetings, open forums, and seeking input through surveys and

various feedback mechanisms. My door will always be open to hear your concerns, ideas, and aspirations.

As we look ahead, I envision a Chelsea that continues to grow and prosper while preserving the essence that makes our city so special. We will work tirelessly to ensure all residents, especially those most in need, have access to essential services. We will improve municipal operations, invest in infrastructure, create economic opportunities, and support our small businesses. I am committed to transparent, accountable, and efficient governance that works for you, our residents.

Together, we will build a Chelsea that we can all be proud of, where every voice is heard, and every resident is valued. I want to reiterate my deepest gratitude to the City Council for the trust placed in me. I look forward to starting this journey together on January 2, 2024.

Respectfully,
Fidel Maltez

Emergency Management Department nears completion of evacuation plan

By Adam Swift

Over the past several years, some city councilors have been calling for a detailed emergency evacuation plan for Chelsea.

That plan should be complete early next year, according to Emergency Management Director Steve Staffier.

Staffier said there are several plans that fall under the purview of the emergency management department, but noted that there has not been an evacuation plan.

“The plan is almost ready to be launched; we

are going to need the rest of December into the beginning of the new year and it will be published,” Staffier told the city council on Monday night.

Staffier said the evacuation plan will be relatively simple and straightforward and be only about six pages long.

The plan will include a summary, as well as activation triggers that lay out who can activate the plan and under what circumstances, Staffier said.

“It talks about levels of response, so the plan is scalable,” said Staffier.

There will be three lev-

els of response, ranging from the evacuation of a building or a street to the potential evacuation of the entire city.

“The plan also talks about notifications, exactly how we are going to notify the folks who are going to implement the plan, and notifying the citizens,” said Staffier.

There will be a number of different tactics that will be used to notify the public if the plan is implemented, he added.

Another section of the plan will list out all of the major arteries and evacuation routes out of the city.

“Part of that will be working with the DPW

and the police traffic division in purchasing some signs, and we will make a decision collaboratively about where those signs are going to go throughout the city,” said Staffier.

The plan will include an interactive map and will be available on the city’s website once it is complete.

In addition to working with the DPW, police, and fire departments on the implementation of the plan, Staffier said the city will also reach out to neighboring communities to share the plan and get input from those cities on their evacuation plans.

Special Permit / CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

terim director for the Veterans’ Home at Chelsea and the executive director for housing for the state’s Executive Office of Veterans Services said the state believes the project will be transformational for the campus and will support the needs of current residents as well as future veterans.

“This will be affordable housing where each individual veteran will have the opportunity to live independently in their own home,” said Engell. “The Commonwealth remains committed to serving veterans at Chelsea and in the entire Commonwealth. The combination of rehabilitation and new construction for this project meets the needs of our veterans today and tomorrow and it’s very forward thinking for our Massachusetts veterans.”

The project is proposed to be in phases, with the first phase being Sargent, the Laundry Building,

the connector building, Williams, and the victory garden.

The priority for the first phase was to renovate the existing buildings that are mostly vacant, so that there would be fewer existing residents as possible moved.

The second phase will consist of the Adams building and the East Parcel, the third phase will be the Sullivan building and the townhouses, and the final phase will be the headquarters building, the power plant, and the Keville Building.

The overall parking plan calls for the creation of a parking deck with 119 off-street parking spots, and the creation of a parking district along Crest Avenue and Hillside which will provide 78 on-street parking spaces for Veterans’ Home residents.

On Tuesday night, the Planning Board approved the site plan for the project.

CHELSEA

RECORD

ESTABLISHED 1890

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

Periodical postage rates paid at Boston, MA.

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Subscription price in-town is \$26 and out of town is \$50.

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HANUKKAH MENORAH LIGHTING CEREMONY IN CHELSEA SQUARE



Nick Marino, Minna Karas-Marino, and Ruth Medros.



Multi-talented sisters, Roberta Rubin, CHS Class of 1972, and Jan Rubin, CHS Class of 1976.

Photos by Cary Shuman

Rabbi Sruli Baron of Tobin Bridge Chabad led a Hanukkah Menorah Lighting Ceremony in Chelsea Square in celebration of the eight-day Jewish holiday.

Rabbi Oksana Chapman of Temple Emman-

uel and Walnut Street Synagogue President Ed Medros also participated in the ceremony.

The group thanked Chelsea Police Chief Keith Houghton and the Police Department for their presence at the ceremony.



Minna Karas-Marino and Alan Kandinov.



The Chelsea Police Department is pictured at the Hanukkah Menorah Lighting Ceremony in Chelsea Square. From left, are Officer Nicole McLoughlin, Lt. Joe Fern, Chief Keith Houghton, Officer David Delaney, Sgt. Star Chung, and Capt. David Rizzuto.



Former city councilor Matt Frank and Chelsea Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Jennifer Hassell.



Rick Gordon of Allen Cut Rite and Chelsea Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Jennifer Hassell.



Rabbi Sruli Baron, spiritual leader of Tobin Bridge Chabad, speaks to the gathering at the Hanukkah Menorah Lighting Ceremony.



Chaya Baron and her daughter, Miriam Baron, are pictured at the Hanukkah Menorah Lighting Ceremony that was led by her husband, Rabbi Sruli Baron.

MCU announces new round of 2023 charitable foundation grant recipients

Special to the Record

Metro Credit Union, the largest state-chartered credit union in Massachusetts, announced that it has awarded \$55,000 in grant funding to six local non-profit organizations through the Metro Credit Union Foundation. Metro launched the Foundation in April, 2023, and these grants represent the most recent round of awards to support organizations, initiatives, and programs that contribute to the economic well-being of local communities and their residents through grant funding.

“Giving back to the communities we serve is at the heart of everything we do at Metro,” said Robert Cashman, President and CEO, Metro Credit Union. “We are happy to further our efforts through the Metro Foundation and support the impactful work these organizations do in these communities with grant funding.”

The most recent Foundation recipients include:

- Bread & Roses Community Kitchen, Lawrence - \$10,000, Emergency Food Pantry Program
- Italian Home for Children, Jamaica Plain - \$10,000, Empowering

Low-Income and Behavioral Health Workforce Program

- LEAP for Education Inc., Salem - \$10,000, Youth Leadership Council
- Midas Collaborative, Boston - \$10,000, Matched Savings
- Mosaic: Interfaith Youth Action, Medford and Dorchester - \$5,000, Circles of Action Program
- The Real Program, Lynn - \$10,000, Little Free Library Campaign

The Metro Foundation awards grants to organizations with a focus on:

- Community Development — creating vibrant and equitable neighborhoods.
- Securing Safe & Affordable Housing — providing opportunities for affordable housing and home ownership with down-payment assistance and homebuyer education programs.
- Financial Wellness & Advancement — promoting financial competency by providing knowledge and skills.

For more information about the Foundation, application guidelines, and upcoming application deadlines visit Foundation.MetroCU.org.

Each year, Metro gives back to local communities

through a number of philanthropic initiatives, partnerships, scholarships, and

volunteer programs. Metro has been recognized for its charitable contributions

with the Boston Business Journal Corporate Citizenship Award for the past

four years.

Front row (left to right): Ronald Bernier, MOSAIC: Interfaith Youth Action; Molly Goodman, Midas Collaborative; Robert Cashman, President and CEO, Metro Credit Union; Jessica Perreault-Gordon, Helen Gabin, and Ashleigh Shaw, Bread & Roses Community Kitchen. Back row: Marc Davino, Italian Home for Children; Matt Anderson, MOSAIC: Interfaith Youth Action; Walter Stone, The Real Program; and John Dudley, LEAP for Education.

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Sports

CHS ROUNDUP

CHS GIRLS TRACK TOPS TWO GBL FOES

The Chelsea High girls indoor track and field team got its season off to a fast start with a pair of victories over Greater Boston League (GBL) rivals Everett (57-28) and Lynn Classical (61-20) last Friday in a tri-meet held at the Reggie Lewis Track and Athletic Center in Boston.

Leading the way for the Lady Red Devils was freshman Thania Simon (the younger sister of former CHS track star Stephanie Simon), who topped the field in the 55 meter dash with a clocking of 7.73 and the long jump with a leap of 14'-2.75". Thania's winning dash of 7.73 saw her drop a tenth of a second from her fifth-place performance of 7.83 the previous week at the MSTCA Winter Classic and was the fastest time of any female athlete competing among the GBL teams on Friday. In addition, her long jump of 14'-2.75" was the second-best in the GBL that night.

Thania's performance at the Winter Festival, in which she placed fifth, already has qualified her for the New Balance Nationals 60 meter freshman event. "We expected her to accomplish this, but it was nice to hit the benchmark right at the start of the season," said CHS head coach Cesar Hernandez.

The Lady Red Devils took first place in almost all of the events vs. Everett: Keiri Hernandez led a Chelsea sweep in the 300 dash with a clocking of 52.00; Hazel Hatleburg won the 600 dash in a time of 2:09.75; Gizelle Rodriguez took the 1000 in 3:51.48 (which was the second-fastest time among the GBL competitors); Lyssis Henderson won the mile in 6:58.01; Kiara Ramirez topped the field in the shot-put with a throw of 31'-4"; and Giselle Olivar won the 55 hurdles in 10.82.

Adding three points to the CHS cause with second-place finishes were: Meleny Hernandez in the 300; Jada Amezcuita in the 1000; Mar caylla Louis Jean in the long jump; and Reina Moreira in the two-mile.

Contributing points with third-place efforts were: Faith Dunbar in the 55 dash; Mar caylla Louis Jean in the 300; Alma Alia in the 600; Katherine Benitez in the 1000 in 4:27.28; and Lauren Nadow in the mile and the 55 hurdles.

In the competition with Classical, additional point-scorers for Chelsea were Lamari Davis with a second-place in the shot-put and Hazel Martinez with a third-place in the shot.

The next tri-meet for Chelsea is set for January 2 at the Reggie, where all of the GBL's meets will be held this season.

CHS BOYS TRACK TOPS LYNN CLASSICAL; ARACENA SETS RECORD

The Chelsea High boys indoor track and field team earned a split in its season-opening tri-meet,

defeating Lynn Classical (61-20), but falling to Everett (57-36) last Friday at the Reggie Lewis Track and Athletic Center in Boston.

In the Everett side of the meet, Ariel Aracena smashed the field in the shot-put with a throw of 46'-2.5", establishing a new Chelsea High record that Ariel himself had set the week before at the MSTCA Winter Classic when his toss of 45'-9" broke the previous CHS indoor record by nearly three feet (previously set in 2022 by Jeffrey Ponce with a throw of 43'-2.5") and which placed Ariel second at the Winter Festival.

"Ariel has put in a ton of work since the outdoor season ended and it shows, considering this throw was about five feet further than his previous best," said CHS head coach Cesar Hernandez.

Other first-place finishers for Chelsea vs. Everett were Kyle Leong, who captured the 1000 meter event with a time of 3:13.81; Jose Amaya Raudales, who took the two mile in a clocking of 11:59.71; and Alex Flores, who won the mile in 5:03.52, which was the second-fastest time in the GBL that day.

Adding three points for the Chelsea side of the scoresheet with second-place efforts were: Joao Cassim in the 300 dash; Xavier Guzman in the 600 dash; Alejandro Zepeda in the mile; and Sherwin Kim in the 55 hurdles;

Contributing third-place points were: Sherwin Kim in the 600; Bryan Amaya in the 1000; Joao Cassim in the long jump; and Theo Seale in the shot-put.

"Overall, it was a good starting dual-meet for both teams," said Hernandez, "and we hope to continue to build and improve with a lot of time until our next set of dual meets."

NEW CHS MARKS IN THE WEIGHT THROW

A small contingent of members of the Chelsea High boys and girls indoor track and field teams competed in the Speed Classic this past Saturday at the Reggie Lewis Center in Boston.

"With this being the day after our first dual meet, we decided to only bring athletes to compete in the weight throw, as there are not many opportunities for kids to compete in that event," said CHS head coach Cesar Hernandez. "This would be the first recorded time Chelsea High would ever be competing in the event."

The highlights for Chelsea were the performances of Theo Joseph-Seale, who set the school record in the weight throw with a toss of 45'2" (which placed him second overall in the meet) and Lamari Davis, who set the girls' school record with a toss of 27'-9.5", placing fifth overall.

Sean Perez-Ramos threw 35'-7", which also qualified him for the Boston Holiday Challenge during the holiday break at New Balance.

See ROUNDUP Page 8



COURTESY OF THE BASE

Pictured in Photo (L to R): The BASE youth Luis Amgel of Hyde Park, Adrian Baez of Dorchester, Angel Gomez Gustavo of Roxbury, Jael De Leon of Holbrook, Carlos Francisco of Dorchester, Yowelfri Guerrero of Mission Hill, Yana Guerrero of Mission Hill, Justin Arias of Dorchester, Yager Velarde of Jamaica Plain, Yomar Cabrera of Chelsea and Jolty Diaz of the South End hold up a newly painted "K" sign that will be posted on the Green Monster by the Boston K Men next season.

Chelsea youth paints iconic 'K' signs at Fenway Park for the 2024 season with The BASE and Boston K Men

Special to the Record

Chelsea resident [Yomar Cabrera] was part of special group of youth from The BASE who painted iconic "K" signs at Fenway Park with the Boston K Men. The newly painted "K" signs will be

posted above the Green Monster by the K Men every time the Red Sox ace pitcher strikes out a batter next season. The "K" painting event was part of a holiday fundraiser the K Men are holding to support The BASE, selling limited edition t-shirts

and hats with 100 percent of proceeds benefitting the Roxbury non-profit at www.bostonkmen.org.

The BASE is a Roxbury-based nonprofit that leverages the power and passion of sports to transform lives of urban youths, providing path-

ways to higher education and careers for student-athletes. It operates a premier urban youth academy that offers exceptional athletic training and competition combined with academic and career support.

CHS BASKETBALL TRIUMPHS OVER SOMERVILLE



BOB MARRA PHOTO

SEEING THE LIGHT: JD Arias fought between a pair of Somerville defenders to find his way to the basket. See more photos on next Page.

BRUINS Beat by Bob Morello

Bruins look to turn the beat around

You can almost imagine hearing at the end of the Bruins-Wild game, the music playing in the background: The Four Tops performing their 1965 Motown hit, "It's The Same Old Song." Tuesday night's 4-3 overtime loss by the Bruins to the Minnesota Wild at TD Garden, it was 'the same old song' as the locals went down with their fourth consecutive overtime game loss, and the third time they have been on the losing end of those four games (1-0-3). Once again it was Boston's inability to finish off their foes in the third period, as they again had trouble in the third, with ineffective play, and gave up the lead, that earned them their sixth overtime loss this season. In a contest that featured physical play, dynamic goaltending

by both netminders, with 40 saves by the 39-year-old Marc-Andre Fleury, and 26 saves from the Bruins' Linus Ullmark. Boston's offensive attack featured a pair of impressive goals (18/19) from David Pastrnak, both in the first period, and Brad Marchand's tying goal (13) with 1:06 left in regulation to tie the game and force the overtime.

Kirill Kaprizov was the constant thorn in Boston's side, scoring twice, his first in the third period knotted the score at 2-2, and was followed less than two minutes later by Ryan Hartman's goal which gave the Wild a 3-2 lead, before Marchand's goal on the power play, and the

extra skater gave the Bruins the single point on the night. The game also featured a heavyweight battle between Boston's Jakub Lauko and Minnesota's Connor Dewar, being Lauko's first fight since returning from his facial fracture back in October. The win for Lauko sparked the team, while also providing high energy to the fourth line (Lauko, John Beecher and Oskar Steen). Pavel Zacha's return to the lineup Tuesday was highlighted by his two assists, the first on Pastrnak's second goal, and the second on Marchand's tying goal. It also marked the return of Boston defenseman Charlie McAvoy.

Putting the Minnesota

loss in the rearview mirror, the Bs next action will be a three-game road trip that includes back-to-back games, with the first game taking place tomorrow (Friday), to face the Winnipeg Jets on Canada Life Centre ice, followed by a chance to seek rapid revenge for their Tuesday night loss to the Minnesota Wild, with a game on Saturday night. The final stop on this road will be a visit to Buffalo on Wednesday, to be hosted by division rival Sabres who hold the next to last spot in the Atlantic Division. Boston (19-5-6-44 points) is currently in second place in the Eastern Conference standings, a single point behind the New York Rangers (22-7-1-45 points).

CHELSEA HIGH SCHOOL BASKETBALL TRIUMPHS OVER SOMERVILLE

Photos by Bob Marra

Sophomore guard Moe Osman erupted for 24 points to lead Chelsea to an impressive 53-47 over visiting Somerville in the basketball regular-season opener Tuesday night at

Chelsea High. The Red Devils trailed by as much as 9 points in the first half and by five at halftime, but battled to a 39-39 tie at the end of three quarters. Chelsea defense took command in the fourth quarter, Osman led

the way on offense, and Chelsea had their first win of the season. Abdi Mohamed had nine points for Chelsea, all in the second half, and Brauli Quezada Tineo also contributed 9 points to the win.



DIVING EFFORT: Justin Toro dives to try and keep a ball in play.



LONG REACH: Brauli Quezada Tineo reaches for a loose ball.



PESKY DEFENSE: Justin Toro keeps Somerville's Jackson Pyman in protective mode.



SCORING MACHINE: Moe Osman (22) poured in 24 points to lead the Chelsea offense in the Red Devils 53-47 win over Somerville Tuesday night.



LATE BLOOMER: Sophomore Moe Osman scored no points in the first quarter, then racked up 26 over the final three quarters to lead Chelsea to a 53-47 win over Somerville Tuesday night.



NO SIR: Chelsea's defense was immense all night, here David Wright denies a Somerville drive to the basket.



DOUBLE TROUBLE: Chelsea's Moses Kerenzo and Brauli Quezada Tineo (1) seal off a path to the basket and Somerville's Eddie Hudson Jones changes direction.



I GOT IT: Brauli Quezada Tineo comes away with a rebound.



AIR CONTROL: Abdi Mohamed keeps the ball away from Somerville's Ian Born as he looks to make a pass.

Roundup / CONTINUED FROM PAGE 7

YOUNG CHS GIRLS BASKETBALL TEAM WORKING HARD

Although the Chelsea High girls basketball team has come up short in its first three contests of the season, new CHS head coach Benjamin Jette is optimistic as his squad progresses through the coming campaign.

"We have a young team with many girls new to the sport," said Jette. "For the first time in a few years we have enough girls to have a JV team. We hope to build off the momentum we had from last season and to continue to improve as the season progresses."

This past Tuesday, the Lady Red Devils, who will be led in 2024 by the captain duo of Monica Cespedes-Cruz and Isabella Chevez Barrera, dropped a 56-29 decision to Malden. Cespedes paced the Lady Red Devils with 22 points. Keara Chavez Trejo played a large part

in the game for Chelsea with multiple assists, steals, and rebounds and freshman Rahama Sidow started in her first varsity game.

The members of the CHS varsity squad are: sophomores Melize Siliro, Monica Cespedes-Cruz, and Dieunie Cademus; seniors Lindsay Pineda; Keara Chevez Trejo, Alessandra Campos, and Isabella Chevez Barrera; and freshman Jolaynnie Zayas.

The junior varsity team members, some of whom also will join the varsity for some games, are: freshmen Zeinab Iman, Jessica Gonzalez Hernandez, Alivia Lavigne, Thiah Young, Rahama Sidow, and Maryan Abdi; sophomores Karla Anzora Amaya, Yarisbel Torres, and Lorena Carriel Acevedo; and junior Nina Reyes.

Joining Jette on the sidelines this season will be assistant coaches Devin

Rauh and Joe DiGaetano.

Chelsea will host Revere this evening (Thursday) at 5:30.

CHS BOYS HOOP AT REVERE TONIGHT

The Chelsea High boys basketball team will make the short trek down Broadway this evening (Thursday) to take on Greater Boston League archrival Revere. The opening tip is set for 7:00.

Revere's Merullo Fieldhouse should be packed with fans for both the Red Devils and Patriots, whose clashes on the basketball court have been epic since the schools renewed their rivalry more than 10 years ago.

Coach Cesar Castro and his crew, who stand at 1-2 on the season, will take part in the Legends Classic tournament to be held at Cambridge Rindge and Latin during the holiday break next Thursday and Friday.

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Reginal “Reggie” Wilkerson was an All-Star guard for the CYBL playoff champion Bucks team. Pictured in the front row, from left, are Reggie Wilkerson, Richie Torres, Leo Chafin, and Kevin Griffin. Back row, from left, are coach Ray Bell, head coach Bruce Harrison, Kevin Wall, Roy Avellana-da, Rony Villela, Anthony Duarte, and coach Leo Robinson.

Wilkerson / CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

first to discover Reggie Wilkerson’s athletic talent.

“I first met Reggie when he was eight years old. I remember his uncle’s car was a Buick, a I told Reggie if you take the ‘i’ out of a Buick, it becomes a Buck,” recalled Brucie, who was assisted on the Bucks’ bench by coaches Leo Robinson and Ray Bell. “I said, Reggie, if you sign up for Youth Basketball, I’ll try to pick you. I was able to pick Reggie and he excelled on my team for five years.”

In his final season, Reggie emerged as the league’s best defensive player, sharing the Bucks’ backcourt with the incomparable guard, Leo Chafin.

CYBL fans had been hoping for a Bucks-Sixers final and a much-anticipated individual matchup of Reggie Wilkerson versus Bobby Mullaney, the Sixers’ league MVP guard, in the championship game. But the Sixers were upset by the Lakers in the semifinals, and Reggie and Company cruised past the Lakers to claim the championship.

“His teammates loved him,” recalled Brucie. “Reggie made basketball fun for everybody on the team. He had a great smile. He was happy all the time. He had a wonderful attitude. It was an honor to coach him. I was so proud when he became the quarterback at Chelsea High and was selected an All-Scholastic.”

Brucie said the Wilkerson and Robinson families were so supportive and inspired Reggie throughout his childhood.

“I knew his whole family,” said Brucie.

“I went to school with Margaret Robinson. I knew the grandparents. I knew Reggie’s mother. I knew his sister. They’re such great Chelsea people. Reggie was an awesome kid. It’s a sad day. There are a lot of tears for Reggie.”

Former Chelsea High athletic director Frank DePatto said, “Reggie Wilkerson was so deserving of his many awards. He was the Commonwealth Conference MVP and an All-Scholastic. He was not only a great student-athlete, but he was a gentleman.”

Representing a proud Chelsea family

Gwen Robinson Greene, Reggie’s aunt, was among the many family members, including Reggie’s proud sister, Trina, and equally proud mom, Irena Wilkerson, who lovingly supported Reggie in his athletic en-

deavors and in his life.

“His athletic abilities were amazing, but I think the thing that people probably didn’t realize was his leadership capabilities at that time,” said Gwen.

Gwen said it became apparent early on that her nephew’s “smile and engaging personality” were positive qualities that drew people into Reggie’s sphere. “Everybody wanted to be his friend,” she said. “He was a celebration in himself. When you met him, you just felt like this is going to be a good day. His smile drew you in and it may you want to be a part of whatever he was laughing about. And if you needed help, all you had to do is let Reggie know.”

Gwen recalled how her nephew wanted to give back to Chelsea, so he became a Pop Warner football coach.

“Reggie understood that you can turn kids left, or you could turn them in the right direction,” said Gwen. “He drew kids to the program. A major plus was that parents could entrust their kids to him and have the confidence that their kids were going to be alright. Reggie was going to make sure that they got their shot and got to play. And he was going get his players to understand what it meant to play as a team.

“Everyone gave Reggie the accolades, but he made sure his teammates understood that he could not have been as good as he was, without the support of great teammates like John and Andre Hassell, John Saunders, Gilberto Castro, John Ruiz, Robert Yee, Roy Valentin, Chris Cardarelli, and so many others,” said Gwen. “And as Reggie matured, he talked to younger people about how important it was how you lived your life.”

Reggie loved his family and friends and was always striving to help others. When his beautiful mother, Irena, passed away in 2014, Reggie and his sister, Trina, began organizing the Wilkerson and Robinson Family Benefit, a fundraiser to benefit cancer research. The family’s annual get-togethers packed the Merritt Club as they celebrated the life of Irena Wilkerson while raising thousands of dollars for charity.

Chelsea has lost one of its most outstanding and popular athletes, Reginal “Reggie” Wilkerson. He was a unique person, with a warm and endearing presence in so many people’s lives.

He will be missed.

Linda J. Myers

November 5, 1957 - December 15, 2023

Relatives and friends are most kindly invited to attend a celebration of life and memorial service for Linda Myers, 66, in the Welsh Funeral Home, 718 Broadway Chelsea today, Thursday, December 21st from 4 to 6 p.m.

Linda Myers, of Melrose and previously of Saugus, passed away on December 15, 2023. Linda was born to Jeannette and John Manning in Boston in 1957. She attended Braintree High School where she was a majorette.

After graduating nursing school from Lasalle Junior College, she had a 30-year nursing career working at St. John of God and St. Elizabeth’s Hospital in Brighton, Melrose Wakefield Hospital, CHA Everett (formerly the Whidden Hospital), among others. She held a variety of roles on the IV resource team, in the emergency room, and even supervising/training other nurses.

In her personal life, Linda was also a caretaker. While raising two children in a single-family household, she always found space in her home for others in need. She gave her children all the tools they needed to go out into the world and forge successful futures. She enjoyed cooking for anyone who would eat, hosting friends in her backyard by the firepit, and gardening. She was happiest on the beach lying in the sand and soaking in the sun. Family and friends describe her as fun loving, free spirited and truly hilarious



She is survived by her daughter, Vanessa Jacobson of Chelsea, her son-in-law, Peter and her first grandchild, Thomas, her son, Thomas John Myers and his wife, Mikayla Maillet of Haverhill, her mother, Jeannette Manning, and her sister, Diane Doyle of Saugus, and her brother, Joseph Manning, of Acushnet. She was predeceased by her father, John Manning, and her significant other, Robert Grant with whom she spent almost 20 years.

Should friends desire, contributions in Linda’s name may be made to The American Nurses Foundation, P.O. Box 504342, Saint Louis, MO 63150-4342 <https://www.nursingworld.org/foundation/donate/or> to the Global Fund for Women, P.O. Box 973309 Washington, DC 20090. <https://www.globalfundforwomen.org/get-involved/give-now/>

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



Richard Green

His loss weighs heavily on all the lives he touched and he will be dearly missed

Richard L. Green passed away unexpectedly at the age of 62 on Thursday, December 14. He was known to his friends and loved ones by “Muskie.”

He was born in Boston and raised in Chelsea, the cherished son to his mother Joan Green (Chillemi), father Richard and wife Valarie Green; treasured husband to Linda (Crespo), beloved brother of Deborah, Stephanie and Tim; dear father to Alexandria (Green) and husband, Wendell Lancaster and proud grandfather to Hutchinson. He was a beloved brother-in-law, uncle to his nephews and loved by many aunts, uncles and cousins.

Muskie graduated Chelsea High School in 1979, he had a brilliant and curious mind with an unmatched charm to spread laughter and joy all around. His chosen profession was as a Painter, and he did so for over 35 years.

His interests spanned across several fields including space, criminology, ancient civilizations and enjoying nature. He loved sports, played soft-



ball for many years and was passionate about music, Led Zeppelin, Lynyrd Skynyrd and Pink Floyd were among his favorites. However, he was truly passionate about his family, spending time and playing with his grandson, Hutchinson -- this is what made him most happy.

His loss weighs heavily on all the lives he touched and will be dearly missed.

Services were held at the Carafa Family Funeral Home, 389 Washington Ave, Chelsea MA on Wednesday, December 20.

In lieu of flowers, we are asking that donations be made to help fight Alzheimer’s in honor of his beloved Noni, Mary Yearout. www.act.alz.org.

OBITUARIES

Reginal James “Reggie” Wilkerson

Self-employed Graphic Artist and member of Chelsea High School Hall of Fame whose life’s devotion was always first to family

Reginal James “Reggie” Wilkerson, entered fully into the presence of his Lord and Savior on Monday, December 18th with his family at his side, he was 52 years old.

Born in Boston and raised in Chelsea, he was the beloved son of the late James Julian Wilkerson and Irena Ann (Robinson) Wilkerson.

Reggie was a lifelong resident of Chelsea. He attended Williams Elementary School and graduated from Chelsea High School where he excelled in athletics. He was admitted to the Chelsea High School Hall of Fame in 2011. He also attended Fitchburg State University and was a member of the Phi Beta Sigma, inc. a historically African American fraternity.

He possessed a great entrepreneurial spirit, a self-employed Graphic Artist, specializing in the computer field.

His life’s devotion was always first to family. He was an avid sports fan, following the NY Yankees, Golden State Warriors, the Kansas City Chiefs, and favoring the careers of sports greats like Payton Manning and Patrick Mahomes.

In addition to his parents, Reggie was also predeceased by his sister, Trina Louise “Peanut” Wilkerson, his grandparents, James I. and Louise (Marshall) Robinsron, Julian and Bessie L (Moon) Wilkerson.

To cherish his memory, he leaves his beloved wife, Marisol Rodriguez; his loving children; Reginal J. Wilkerson II, Emmanuel “Manne” Alexan-



der Wilkerson, Demetreus James, “DJ” Wilkerson and Alexxa Quianna Wilkerson; his cherished grandchildren: Jorenzo Herida, Mason Wilkerson, Madison Wilkerson, Zenaya Wilkerson, Alayna Wilkerson and Quinzy Fraser.

Also, to mourn his passing and cherish his memory, he leaves his great aunts, Elizabeth Mitchel, and Minnie Marshall; his beloved aunts and uncles Gwendolyn Greene of North Carolina, Mamie Robinson-Lopez, James Robinson Jr., Terry Robinson and Margaret Robinson, all of Chelsea, Jacqueline Robinson-Perry of New Jersey, Bessie Mae Robinson and her husband, Keith, Pauline Wilkerson of North Carolina, Michael Wilkerson and his wife, Pamela of Indian, and Leona Cruz-Smith of Chelsea.

Funeral services for Reggie will be held next week and will be announced on the Welsh Funeral Home website.

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



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NEWS FROM AROUND THE REGION

MADARO APPOINTED TO ORRF BOARD

EAST BOSTON - Rep. Adrian C. Madaro (D-1st Suffolk), chair of the Joint Committee on Mental Health, Substance Use and Recovery, was appointed to the Opioid Recovery and Remediation Fund (“ORRF”) Advisory Council. The Legislature established both the ORRF and the Advisory Council in 2021 in anticipation of then-Attorney General and current Governor Maura Healey successfully reaching settlement agreements with several opioid manufacturers and distributors. These settlement agreements are intended to hold accountable several corporations that flooded Massachusetts with opioids and bring desperately needed relief to people who are struggling with substance use disorder.

Over the next 15 years, Massachusetts is projected to receive over \$600 million from companies that manufactured, marketed, and distributed opioids in the Commonwealth, \$100 million of which has already been received and deposited into the ORRF. This is in addition to the \$400 million that cities and towns across the Commonwealth will receive, as well as significant industry changes required by the global resolution of the multiple state, local, and individual cases filed against these companies.

The ORRF is administered by the Massachusetts Secretary of Health and Human Services in consultation with the Advisory Council. The Advisory Council began its work in the spring of 2021 and has directed millions to expanding harm reduction services, increasing access to medications for addiction treatment, supporting the workforce, strengthening supportive housing programs, and conducting community outreach and engagement.

“I’m proud to appoint Representative Madaro to the Opioid Recovery and Remediation Fund Advisory Council,” said House Speaker Ronald J. Mariano (D-Quincy). “As House Chair of the Joint Committee on Mental Health, Substance Use and Recovery, Representative Madaro truly understands the catastrophic impact the opioid epidemic has had in our communities. I’m confident he will be a huge asset to the Advisory Council as they work to direct millions of dollars in settlement funds to meaningful programs.”

“It’s an honor to have been appointed by Speaker Mariano to serve on the Advisory Council, and I’m incredibly grateful to the Speaker and my colleagues for their continued commitment to prioritizing behavioral health, including substance use services and supports, in both funding and legislation. I’m also grateful to

COATS FOR KIDS HOLIDAY FUNDRAISER AT DRYFT



Revere’s Ward 5 Councillor-Elect Angela Guarino Sawaya (left), Ward 1 Councillor Joanne McKenna (center) and Felicia Napolitano shown with coats in hand to donate as part of the Eighth annual Ugly Sweater Praty for Coats for Kids, held at Dryft Restaurant on Revere Beach.

Governor Healey for leading the national effort to get these settlement funds, and for the work that has been done by the Council already. I’m looking forward to listening and learning as I get up to speed, and to contributing to the important work of the Council.”

DAVIS COMPANIES READY TO BUY SITE

EVERETT - Everett Landco, LLC, a real estate development venture led by affiliates of The Davis

Companies (Davis) and Global Partners LP (Global), today acquired a 100-acre property in Everett, MA from Exxon Mobil Corporation. The development offers the venture and the City of Everett a generational opportunity to transform a site on which fossil fuels have been refined and stored for the last century into a dynamic 21st century residential and commercial center that embraces the creativity and vitality of the area while contributing to the community’s prosperity and environ-

mental well-being.

The former Exxon parcels, located in Everett’s Lower Broadway Economic Development District, include a deep-water marine terminal on the Mystic River and two former tank farms close to Routes 16 and 99, the MBTA commuter rail, and the Encore casino.

“We have been attracted to the tremendous potential of this site for quite some time,” said Michael Cantalupa, Chief Development Officer at Davis. “The size and configuration of the tank farm parcels can accommodate a wide mix of uses, including critically needed housing, clean energy uses, advanced research facilities, and high-tech manufacturing.”

“More than a decade ago, we set out to make Lower Broadway a jewel for Everett and an entrance to the city that makes us all proud,” said Everett Mayor Carlo DeMaria. “We look forward to working with this venture to remediate and re-develop the former Exxon site to advance this transformation and bring clean energy and green tech jobs to our city. Within another ten years, Lower Broadway will be of even greater benefit to all our residents and the broader community.”

With the acquisition now closed, Davis will embark on a multi-year environmental remediation of the site, which has operated as an oil tank

farm since 1965. Davis has partnered with Global, a long-established and local family-founded company. As a leading provider of essential energy products in the Northeast and beyond, Global has extensive and deep expertise in the management and clean-up of properties with complex environmental conditions. The remediation will prepare the site for more efficient and progressive ventures including green tech research and manufacturing. This venture and project are representative of the comprehensive approach Global takes to maximizing the value of its real estate holdings through diversification and optimization.

“The historic use of this land is emblematic of 20th century industry. Not only are we cleaning it up, but we have the chance to completely reimagine how this property will be used for the next century,” said Stephen Davis, President of Davis. “As a strong partnership between two local firms, it is an honor to have the opportunity to invest in Everett’s ongoing renaissance, rolling up our sleeves alongside city, state, and federal officials to dramatically transform a vital part of our own backyard. We look forward to collaborating with the community to unlock the potential of this site and add to Everett’s vibrancy, environmental

See REGION Page 11

LEGAL NOTICES

LEGAL NOTICE



NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING TRAFFIC AND PARKING COMMISSION PUBLIC HEARING

Notice is hereby given in accordance with Chapter 90 of the General Laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and pursuant to Section 6-3 of the Charter of the City of Chelsea that a Public Hearing of the Chelsea Traffic and Parking Commission will be held on: Tuesday, January 9, 2024 at 6:00 P.M. City Council Chambers 500 Broadway Pursuant to Section 6-3 of the Charter of the City of Chelsea, the purpose of the public hearing is to receive comment regarding a request for a Commercial Loading Zone and a fifteen (15) minute Parking Zone at 140 Pearl Street, the Kushala Sip Coffee House and Tapas Bar. Per Order Chief Keith E. Houghton Chairperson 12/21/23, 01/04/24 C

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Parking Zone at 128 Pearl Street, the Taqueria El Charrito Restaurant. Per Order Chief Keith E. Houghton Chairperson 12/21/23, 01/04/24 C

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Public Hearing - Executive Office of Veterans Service - 108 CMR 15.00 CORI Regulations Contact: Jenna Buonopane at jenna.buonopane5@mass.gov Please be advised that, in accordance with M.G.L. c. 30A, §2, Notice is hereby given that the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Executive Office of Veterans Services (“EOVS”) will hold a public hearing in connection with the proposed Regulations at 108 CMR 15.00: Criminal Offender Record Checks. The proposed Regulations establish a core standardized policy and procedure for EOVS, its agencies, and vendor programs regarding the review of criminal records of candidates for employment, applicants to the state operated veterans’ homes, and volunteers and are authorized 108 CMR 65.00: M.G.L. c. 115, § 2 and c. 115A, § 13. EOVS will hold this public hearing remotely on Friday, January 12, 2024 at 10:00 AM via WebEx. To participate in the remote public hearing, please join from the meeting link https://eohhs.webex.com/eohhs/j.php?MTID=m-550fe4ced3974948783469d7931e0c5 or join by phone by dialing +1-617-315-0704 United States Toll (Boston) or +1-650-479-3208 United States Toll] when prompted. A copy of the proposed Regulations referenced above may be viewed by visiting Executive Office of Veterans Services Notice of Public Hearing | Mass.gov. Any person who

would like to offer comments may participate in the public hearing at the date and time indicated above or submit written comments. Those who wish to receive a written copy of the proposed Regulations, or to submit written comments, may do so by sending an email to jenna.buonopane5@mass.gov, or by mail to: Jenna Buonopane - Paralegal Commonwealth of Massachusetts Executive Office of Veterans’ Services 600 Washington Street, 2nd Floor Boston, MA 02111 Written comments must be received by 5:00 p.m. on January 15, 2024. 12/21/23 C

LEGAL NOTICE

Commonwealth Of Massachusetts The Trial Court Probate and Family Court Suffolk Probate And Family Court 24 New Chardon St. Boston, MA 02114 DIVORCE SUMMONS BY PUBLICATION AND MAILING Docket No. SU23D1671DR Luis Felipe Lopez vs. Carolina Anzola To the Defendant: The Plaintiff has filed a Complaint for Divorce requesting that the Court grant a divorce for Irretrievable Breakdown. The Complaint is on file at the Court. An Automatic Restraining Order has been entered in this matter preventing you from taking any action which would negatively impact the current financial status of either party. SEE Supplemental Probate Court Rule 411. You are hereby summoned and required to serve upon: Eliana C. Sepulveda, Esq. One Sprague St. Revere, MA 02151, your answer, if any, on or before 02/15/2024. If you fail to do so, the court will proceed to the hearing and adjudication of this

action. You are also required to file a copy of your answer, if any, in the office of the Register of this Court. WITNESS, Hon. Brian J. Dunn, First Justice of this Court. Date: December 11, 2023 Stephanie Everett Register of Probate 12/21/23 C

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LEGAL NOTICE

Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court Probate and Family Court CITATION GIVING NOTICE OF PETITION FOR APPOINTMENT OF GUARDIAN FOR INCAPACITATED PERSON PURSUANT TO G.L. C. 190B, §5-304 Docket No. SU23P2733GD Suffolk Probate and Family Court

24 New Chardon Street Boston, MA 02114 (617) 788-8300 In the matter of: Eric Flores Of: Chelsea, MA RESPONDENT Alleged Incapacitated Person To the named Respondent and all other interested persons, a petition has been filed by Department of Developmental Services of Waltham, MA in the above captioned matter alleging that Eric Flores is in need of a Guardian and requesting that Bruce G. Fortunate, Esq. of Chestnut Hill, MA (or some other suitable person) be appointed as Guardian to serve Without Surety on the bond. The petition asks the court to determine that the Respondent is incapacitated, that the appointment of a Guardian is necessary, and that the proposed Guardian is appropriate. The petition is on file with this court and may contain a request for certain specific authority. You have the right to object to this proceeding. If you wish to do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance at this court on or before 10:00 A.M. on the return date of 02/06/2024. This day is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline date by which you have to file the written appearance if you object to the petition. If you fail the written appearance by the return date, action may be taken in this matter without further notice to you. In addition to filing the written appearance, you or your attorney must file a written affidavit stating the specific facts and grounds of your objection within 30 days after the return date. IMPORTANT NOTICE The outcome of this proceeding may limit or completely take away the above-named person’s right to make decisions about personal affairs or financial affairs or both. The above-named person has the right to ask for a lawyer. Anyone may make this request on behalf of the

above-named person. If the above-named person cannot afford a lawyer, one may be appointed at State expense. WITNESS, Hon. Brian J. Dunn, First Justice of this Court. Date: December 13, 2023 Stephanie L. Everett Register of Probate 12/21/23 C

LEGAL NOTICE



NOTICE OF HEARING Case No. 2023-30

Notice is hereby given in accordance with the Massachusetts Zoning Act, Chapter 40A that a Regular Meeting of the Chelsea Zoning Board of Appeals will be held on: Tuesday, January 9, 2024 Chelsea City Hall - 500 Broadway - City Council Chambers, 3rd Floor 6:00 p.m. With reference to the application of: City of Chelsea For Variance seeking approval for the demolition of an existing porch and construct a new lumber landing with a stairway and lift device which does not meet the minimum requirements for front yard setback in the Residential 1 District at the premises known as: 12 Warren Avenue A copy of the application and petition is available for review at: City Clerk’s Office during normal business hours: Monday, Wednesday and Thursday 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. - Tuesday, 8 a.m. - 7 p.m. - Friday, 8 a.m. to noon 12/21/23, 12/28/23 C

LEGAL NOTICE

CITY OF CHELSEA REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS FY24 Housing Legal Services-ARPA The City of Chelsea, Massachusetts, through its Chief Procurement

Officer, is seeking Request for Proposals for “FY24 Housing Legal Services-ARPA”. Request for Proposals will be available on or after December 21, 2023 by visiting the City’s website at https://www.chelseama.gov/departments/purchasing/current_bids____solicitations.php. Proposals must be sealed and clearly marked “FY24 Housing Legal Services-ARPA” and submitted to the Office of the Chief Procurement Officer no later than 11:00AM on Thursday, January 11, 2024. The City of Chelsea reserves the right to accept any proposal, to reject any or all proposals and to waive minor irregularities and/or formalities as it deems to be in the best interest of the City. In accordance with our Minority Business Enterprise Plan, we are inviting all qualified women and minority business firms to respond. The City of Chelsea is an Equal Opportunity Employer. This Request for Proposals is in accordance with M.G.L. Chapter 30B. Dragica Ivanis Chief Procurement Officer 12/21/23 C

LEGAL NOTICE



In accordance with Section 2-7 (b) and (d) of the Chelsea City Charter notice is hereby given that at a regular meeting of the Chelsea City Council held on December 18, 2023, the City Council voted after a second reading to adopt the following orders: Ordered, that the Chelsea City Council authorizes the appropriation of \$100,000.00 from General Stabilization Fund #7020 to supplement the Fiscal Year CIP2024 - Emergency Management Department - Emergency Housing/Shelter Operations Account #

0123052-538000.. Ordered, that the Chelsea City Council authorizes the transfer of \$68,500.00, representing the deferred project appropriated under General Fund in the FY2024 Capital Improvement Plan for Fire Department M1 Mobile Repair Vehicle - 0122058-584000 Account Series, to a new FY2024 CIP project, Fire Department H2 Training and Safety Division Vehicle - 0122058-584000 Account Series. Ordered, that the Chelsea City Council authorize the appropriation of \$140,000 from the General Stabilization Fund #7020 to the City Manager’s Salary expense line to establish two additional staff positions for a total of five staff for the FY’24. Ordered, that the Chelsea City Council authorize the appropriation of \$150,000 from the General Stabilization Account, Fund #7020 to a new FY24 CIP Project Account (Fund 5540 series) for Marginal Street Sidewalk. Copies of the orders are available at the Office of the City Clerk, City Hall, 500 Broadway, Room 209, Chelsea, MA 02150. Jeannette Cintron White City Clerk 12/21/23 C

LEGAL NOTICE

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS THE TRIAL COURT PROBATE AND FAMILY COURT Suffolk Probate and Family Court 24 New Chardon St. Boston, MA 02114 (617)788-8300 CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION Docket No. SU22P2233EA Rosendo Nacho-Lucas Date of Death 07/31/2022 To all interested persons: A Petition for Formal Adjudication of Intestacy and Appointment of Personal Representative has been filed by Juan

Carlos Lucas Velasquez of Chelsea, 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: Juan Carlos Lucas Velasquez of Chelsea, 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 01/16/2024. This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you. UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC) A Personal Representative appointed under the MUPC in an unsupervised administration is not required to file an inventory or annual accounts with the Court. Persons interested in the estate are entitled to notice regarding the administration directly from the Personal Representative and may petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including the distribution of assets and expenses of administration. WITNESS, Hon. Brian J. Dunn, First Justice of this Court. Date: December 05, 2023 Stephanie L. Everett, Esq. Register of Probate 12/21/23 C

Region / CONTINUED FROM PAGE 10

resiliency, economic vitality, and culture.”

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COUNCILLORS SEEK ADA PLAYGROUNDS

REVERE - Ward 5 City Councillor John Powers wants to put safety first at the Oak Island Playground.

At last week’s council meeting, Powers submitted a motion asking Mayor-elect Patrick Keefe to use Community Improvement Trust Fund money to resurface the playground with a handicap accessible rubberized surface.

“The park at Oak Island is probably the park in the city that doesn’t have a rubberized mat,” said Powers. “The mulch is not that effective, and I think that the people down there in Oak Island certainly deserve this. If this saves one child from being injured or worse, then we have spent money well and we have done our job.”

Councillor-at-Large Gerry Visconti said he supported the motion.

“I believe we chatted about this issue at the park at the budget hearings this year knowing that there were problems with that park,” said Visconti. “Thank you for putting this motion in. I know the administration was aware of this, and I would just love to see this get done because I know that there are quite a few kids who utilize the park.”

Visconti added that there have also been some needles found at the park, and that the city needs to be proactive to keep the area safe and clean.

“There is money in that account, let’s utilize it for the residents,” said Visconti.

Powers added that the Community Improvement Trust funds are not raised through taxes.

“When a developer builds something in the city, these are some of the rewards, if you want to call it that, that we get in return, a certain amount of money where we can handle these problems,” said Powers.

Councillor Marc Silvestri said that Ralph DeCicco, the head of the city’s disability commission and its ADA compliance director had reached out to home and asked that the playground at the Paul Revere School be added to Powers’ motion.

“The playground at the Paul Revere School currently has wood chips and that is against ADA compliance,” said Silvestri.

Powers said he had no objection to that playground being added to the motion, but added that he would like to see the cost involved and how much money the city has in the Community Improvement Trust Fund.

EARLY LITERACY AND PARENT EDUCATION PROGRAM EARNS PRAISE

WINTHROP - The Winthrop Parents Network has had a big impact on the development of the town’s youngest children and their families over the past decade-plus.

At Monday night’s School Committee meeting, Winthrop Parents Network coordinator Anita Preble gave an overview of the early literacy and parent education programs the network provides.

“I’ve been running the program since 2010,” said Preble, who is also the school adjustment counselor at the Arthur T. Cummings School. “Prior to that, it was the CPC grant, Communities for Partnership. Then the grant was changed to the CFCE grant, which is Coordinated Family and Community Engagement, which is when I started doing the grant.”

The CFCE is a grant from the Department of Early Education and Care and is primarily geared for families of children from birth to eight years old.

Through the grant, the Winthrop Parents Network runs the early literacy program through the playgroups at the E.B. Newton Center.

“Currently, we have about 55 families that are enrolled that attend weekly,” said Preble.

There are four playgroups in English and one on Friday that is in Spanish.

“We give priority to immigrant families or families whose children are not enrolled in any other type of preschool program, although we do have some kids that come who also have other programs,” said Preble.

The program runs on the same calendar as the school year, and there is a six-week summer program that is offered, as well, at the Pond Street Park.

“Up to now, we have provided early literacy and parenting education to over 500 families, if you go back the 12 or 13 years that we have been doing this,” said Preble.

In addition to literacy experience, the playgroup

programs also offer socialization for the children, and an opportunity for parents to meet one another.

“I’ve had a lot of parents tell me they are new to town and they didn’t know any other adults or parents,” said Preble. “This is an opportunity for them to socialize themselves and meet parents of kids of the same age.”

In addition to the playgroups, the Winthrop Par-

ents Network also offers monthly family events at the Gorman Fort Banks School. Those nights, which include emoji bingo, a family game night, and yoga, also provide a parenting education piece, said Preble.

One of the most popular events, the International Night, is coming up on Jan. 18 and will be held at the Old Middle School gym.

“There is another thing

that the program provides, and that is developmental screening for free for any family that is interested,” said Preble. “All of our playgroup families participate in this, which is called the Ages and Stages questionnaire. It’s for babies up to age 5, and it’s a bunch of questions that go through all the different domains to see if a child is on target for their developmental level.”

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