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# CHELSEA RECORD

YOUR HOMETOWN NEWSPAPER SINCE 1890

VOLUME 132, No. 47

THURSDAY, JANUARY 23, 2025

35 CENTS

THE LEGACY OF DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. CELEBRATED BY THE CITY OF CHELSEA



Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s life was celebrated last Monday, as a National Holiday across America. In the City of Chelsea, the annual breakfast and speaking program at the Clark Street Middle School was sponsored by the People's Chelsea A.M.E. Church and Chelsea Public Schools. Shown (top left) are CPS Middle School Band members, Rachael Perez, Nicole Mejia, and Daniela Ramirez. Shown (top right) Chelsea City Manager Fidel Maltez, Councillor Lisa Santagate, President of CBC Joan Cromwell, and Councillor Leo Robinson. Councillor Lisa Santagate's Michael's Pantry, with seven locations across Chelsea, was recognized as inspirational and supported by the People's Chelsea African Methodist Episcopal Church. See Pages 6 and 7 for more photos.

## Potential Traffic Problems

### Parkway bridge replacement could get underway in summer of 2026

By Adam Swift

The replacement of the Revere Beach Parkway Bridge, built in 1930, could get underway in the early summer of 2026.

The project, with an estimated cost of about \$16 million, would be undertaken in three phases and last for three construction seasons, according to MassDOT officials. Federal Highway Administration funds would cover about 80 percent of the cost, while MassDOT funding would pay for the remainder.

MassDOT officials and consultants held a public hearing on the design of the full bridge replacement at city hall last week. Design plans are currently at the 25 percent completion mark.

In addition to the full replacement of the bridge, temporary repairs to the deteriorating structure of the bridge are scheduled to take place through the winter and early spring.

"The design (of the full bridge replacement) is expected to be completed in the spring of 2026 and construction is expected to be completed within three years," said MassDOT Project Manager Kristine Chestna.

The existing bridge was widened in 1958 and provides vital community ac-



The Revere Beach Parkway Bridge as seen from Broadway in Chelsea.

cess to Medford, Everett, and Chelsea, as well as Revere, Chestna said.

"The current bridge over Broadway provides substandard vertical clearance and the existing bridge in poor condition," she said. "There are numerous noted deficiencies, which is why MassDOT has identified the bridge for replacement."

An inspection of the bridge last March prompt-

ly led to the decision to replace the bridge.

"Currently, there are limited pedestrian accommodations and no bike accommodations along Revere Beach Parkway," Chestna said.

There are also no current bicycle accommodations underneath the bridge along Broadway, she added.

"The primary goal of this project is to replace the ex-

See PARKWAY Page 7

### MassDOT, consultants begin study process for potential Tobin Bridge replacement

By Adam Swift

The Tobin Bridge is not going to disappear any time soon, but MassDOT has begun the process of studying potential future replacement options for the bridge.

Last week, MassDOT and its team of consultants held its second working group meeting at the Charlestown Library on its plans for the Maurice J. Tobin Bridge Long-Term Strategic Planning Study.

The study aims to develop and analyze options for the eventual replacement of the Tobin Bridge, while also exploring alternatives for the bridge, according to MassDOT officials. The study will focus on ways to reconnect surrounding communities in Chelsea and Charlestown.

Public and working group meetings on the long-term study are expected to take place over the next 18

See TOBIN Page 5



PHOTO BY ARNIE JARMAK

The Tobin Bridge as seen from the streets of Chelsea during the Blizzard of 1978.

### HAPPY 90TH BIRTHDAY, BOB



CARY SHUMAN PHOTO

Jess Fee Sprouse presents the birthday cake to her grandfather, Bob Fee, at the party, as Bob's brother, Tommy Fee, shares the happy occasion. See Pages 8 and 9 for more photos.

### ZBA speeds through January business

By Adam Swift

The zoning board quickly worked its way through a light agenda during its first meeting of the year last week.

The biggest project on the agenda, a request to construct a two-unit residential structure at 73 Library St. was continued at the request of the applicant to the board's February meeting. That project requires a special permit and variance

because it does not meet the minimum requirements for number of parking spaces, front yard setback and lot size.

The board heard a case involving parking at 57 and 75 Palmer Streets for the first time last week.

The two lots were at one time under common ownership and the parking for 75 Palmer was on 57 Palmer. However, the lots are now owned separately and a two-family project is un-

derway at 57 Palmer St. The owners are seeking an easement to continue to allow parking for 75 Palmer St. on a portion of 57 Palmer St.

The project next goes to the planning board for a recommendation on Jan. 28 before coming back before the ZBA in February.

The ZBA also determined that planned modifications to a driveway at 63 Harvard St. is not a major modifica-

See ZBA Page 2

INDEPENDENT  
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Catholic Schools Week Special Section on Page 3.

# Chelsea

R E C O R D

PRESIDENT: Stephen Quigley

EDITOR IN CHIEF: Cary Shuman

## OUR REMARKABLY UNREMARKABLE WEATHER

When the National Weather Service made its long-range forecast for the winter last fall, it was a good news/bad news scenario. They were predicting warmer-than-normal temperatures for our region, which was the good news (after all, who likes cold weather), but the bad news meant that this was further evidence of climate change and global warming. The past two winters in Eastern Mass. had been the warmest on record and that trend seemed poised to continue.

However, Ol' Man Winter has had other ideas. Instead of spinning his polar vortex in a nice tight loop around the North Pole (which keeps the cold air tightly-wound around the pole), he's been doing a sort of yo-yo effect with the vortex, allowing it to dip south and bring that frigid air to us.

The chronic instability of the polar vortex has been a relatively recent phenomenon. Climatologists tell us that the colder air that we experience when the vortex dips south ironically is a sign of overall global warming. The Arctic region has been among the fastest-warming places on the planet (four times faster than the rest of the world, which is why the polar bears don't have enough sea ice for hunting seals in the summer months) -- and that warming trend is upsetting the delicate balance of the vortex. According to some scientists, the warming Arctic is causing a weakening of the jet stream and ultimately sending cold air further south than usual.

So for us, what this has meant is that instead of having a warmer winter, we've had an unrelenting pattern of cold, dry, and windy days. This weekend's light snowfall notwithstanding, almost every day from the end of December through January has been pretty much the same -- temperatures in the 20s, brisk winds, and no precipitation.

It's as if we're living a real-life version of the movie Groundhog Day. The only saving grace is that we've had lots of sunshine.

For those of us who have oil heat, prices thankfully are the lowest they've been in a few years, although natural gas prices are higher than in the recent past.

So yes, it would be nice if this winter were warmer -- but let's face it, as cold as the weather has been, it could be a lot worse (and yes, we're thinking of the Snowmageddon we experienced 10 years ago!).

## THIS IS THE SAD-DEST TIME OF THE YEAR -- SO GET OUTSIDE

With the holiday season long in the rear-view mirror and the oppressiveness of a New England winter fully upon us, for many this can be the saddest time of the year -- quite literally.

The medical community has long-recognized that the shortened days of winter affect all of us to a certain extent and have given it a name -- Seasonal Affective Disorder (SAD).

Scientists do not understand exactly how the lack of daylight works on our brains, but demonstrable symptoms of the syndrome include heightened anxiety, a decrease in energy, oversleeping, an increase in appetite, social withdrawal, and negative thoughts in general.

Treatments for SAD include light therapy (phototherapy), antidepressants, and vitamin D supplements, spending more time outside during daylight hours, and exercising regularly.

In our personal experience, we've found the latter prescriptions -- exercising and going outside, even on the coldest days -- have proven the best antidote to winter's doldrums.

All of us can recall the exhilaration we felt as children when we went sledding, skating on a pond, and shoveling snow. Although we're a bit too old these days to do most of those things (plus, there's no snow anymore), we've found that taking on the wintry blasts that we've endured these past few weeks by jogging and walking (even when the wind chills are in the single digits) each and every day never fails to bring us that renewed sense of vitality that we experienced in our youth when we bravely embraced nature's harshest elements without a care.

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# Forum

## Chelsea Uniting Against the War joins hundreds in march against immigration raids and deportations

By Fran Roznowski -  
Chelsea Uniting Against the War

Members of Chelsea Uniting Against the War joined an estimated 400 people at the JFK Building in Boston on January 20, Martin Luther King Day and the Presidential Inauguration to protest incoming President Trump's pledge for massive deportations.

The youth majority march to the State House with chants rang through the streets, "Donald Trump, let's be clear, immigrants are welcome here." and "The people united will never be defeated" in English and Spanish.

Speaker Peggy Wong demanded that money from the large budget of Immigration and Customs Enforcement (and responsible



Shown are some of the members of Chelsea Uniting Against the War at the JFK Building in Boston on January 20.

for immigrant raids and deportations) go instead to supporting schools and health care.

Another speaker, a native from Brazil, living in East Boston raised the question, "What would East Boston,

Boston, Massachusetts and the United States do without immigrant labor?" He added, "Are immigrants responsible for the federal minimum wage of \$7.25?" The crowd shouted back "NO!" "Are immigrants

responsible for more than 15% of all children in the U.S. living in poverty?" again a resounding "NO!" from the demonstrators.

The size of the large rally, in spite of the frigid and windy weather, was an indicator to immigrants who may be targeted by the new president that there is support for them in the Boston area. Here in Chelsea, we also have La Colaborativa which already held two trainings on Rights of Immigrants/Los Derechos de Los Imigrantes on 1/16/25.

For more information about Chelsea Uniting Against the War/Chelsea Uniéndose en Contra La Guerra contact Joel Romero - 617-688-1197 (English and Español) or Facebook - Chelsea Uniting Against the War.

## DiDomenico celebrates new law boosting oversight of pharmaceutical industry

Special to the Record

Last month, Senator DiDomenico and his colleagues in the Legislature passed comprehensive reforms that will lower the cost of prescription drugs at the pharmacy counter and improve oversight of the state's pharmaceutical industry. This month, Governor Healey signed S.3012, An Act relative to pharmaceutical access, costs, and transparency, into law which requires health insurers to cover life-saving medications for diabetes, asthma, and certain heart conditions with no or limited out-of-pocket costs for patients. The measure is particularly critical for residents of color, who disproportionately face chronic illnesses.

The bill takes bold action to lower out-of-pocket costs and ensure access to life saving medications by offering immediate price relief for prescription drugs used to treat diabetes, asthma, and certain heart conditions. For each condition, the bill requires insurers to eliminate

cost-sharing requirements for one generic drug and to cap co-payments on one brand-name drug at \$25 per 30-day supply.

It further brings down consumer costs by ensuring that consumers are 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.

"People throughout my district and our state rely on prescription medication to live, which is why I am thrilled to have helped pass this law which will bring down costs and ensure individuals don't have to decide between paying for food and rent and accessing lifesaving drugs," said Senator Sal DiDomenico. "I have long been a supporter of bringing down the costs of prescription drugs and I know this new law will save lives across our state. I want to thank Senate President Spilka, Senator Friedman, and all of the advocates who worked diligently to get this important piece of legisla-

tion passed before the previous legislative session came to an end."

Approximately nine per cent of Massachusetts residents have diagnosed diabetes and 6.2 per cent of adults over 35 live with heart disease. In 2015, more than 10 per cent of residents lived with asthma. Black residents face each at a higher rate—over 12 per cent live with diabetes and nearly 14 per cent of Black adults live with asthma.

The bill drastically increases state oversight of pharmacy benefit managers (PBMs), which currently negotiate prescription drug prices with little oversight, making it unclear if they consistently act in the best interest of consumers. To do so, the legislation authorizes the Division of Insurance (DOI) to license and regulate PBMs. PBMs are also prohibited from making payments to pharmacy benefit consultants or brokers who work on behalf of health plan sponsors during a contracting or bidding process.

To create a more complete data-driven picture of drug costs in Massachusetts, the Center for Health Information and Analysis (CHIA) will collect a range of drug cost information from pharmaceutical manufacturers and PBMs. With

the data, CHIA can offer a more complete examination of the drivers of health care costs in its annual health care cost report, allowing policymakers and consumers to better understand the role of pharmaceutical manufacturers and PBMs in the health care system.

In addition to CHIA's cost analysis, pharmaceutical manufacturers and PBMs will be included in the Health Policy Commission (HPC)'s Annual Health Care Cost Trends Hearing for the first time. Participation in the hearings will require manufacturers and PBMs to provide public testimony on the factors that influence drug costs, allowing those factors to be taken into account as the commission identifies how to improve care and reduce costs for residents.

Further, the legislation establishes the Office for Pharmaceutical Policy and Analysis within HPC, which will be tasked with analyzing trends related to pharmaceutical access, affordability, and spending in Massachusetts. The office will publish an annual report with recommendations for strategies to mitigate pharmaceutical spending growth, promote affordability and enhance pharmaceutical access.

## ZBA // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

tion to the previous approvals to the property and does not need to come back to the board for further approvals. The owner is seeking to expand the driveway and shift the retaining wall on one side of his property to

compensate for issues with a retaining wall construction on the other side of the property.

The next ZBA meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, Feb. 11.

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**Catholic Schools**  
United in Faith and Community

# Celebrate Catholic Schools Week 2025

January 26 - February 1

#CSW25

The Catholic Schools Week (CSW) 2023 – 2026 theme is “Catholic Schools: United in Faith and Community.” Catholic schools have an irreplaceable role in the Church’s evangelizing mission. Building on the central goal of Catholic schools to form saints, Catholic schools teach and embrace the whole person, body, mind and spirit. The fact that all members of a Catholic school community share the Christian vision of faith that Christ is the foundation of Catholic education is what unites the school as a faith-filled community. While faith is the binding element in Catholic schools, the Church reiterates that parents are the first teachers of their children. Holding this tenet, Catholic school communities expand beyond the walls of school buildings to envelop the family as an integral part of the school community. Together teachers, administrators, staff, students and parents fuel the light of faith by integrating culture with faith and faith with living.

## Saint John School will celebrate 130<sup>th</sup> anniversary at May 9 gala

By Cary Shuman

Saint John School is in the heart of the historic North End, but it’s been making its own glorious history in Catholic education for the past 130 years.

In fact, Saint John will recognize its decades of excellence at a “Back To Our Roots” spring gala May 9 at the Battery Wharf Hotel.

The school will turn back the clock and celebrate the neighborhood’s Italian immigrants and Catholic families at the gala. The event

is generating a strong response from alumni, parents, and local businesses, with a huge crowd expected to attend the festivities.

### New Head of School

For the first time in its history, Saint John has a Head of School. Annmarie Quezada became the Head of School at Saint John in April, 2024, having previously served in that position at Mother Caroline in Dorchester.

A highly respected administrator with 35 years

of experience in education, Quezada is enjoying her first year at the helm of the school that has an enrollment of 176 students from Boston and the suburbs. Saint John holds a unique stature in the City of Boston.

“We’re the only Catholic school remaining in the Greater Boston area for pre-kindergarten-through-eighth grade,” said Quezada proudly. “A lot of schools have closed but we’ve stayed open in the North

End. So, we’re like an icon in the North End. It’s a community over here. Everyone knows everyone, and the family business owners know the school. They went to Saint John. Their grandparents were once students there. It’s a unique throwback as to how school communities used to be.”

The momentum is not slowing down, and the immediate future looks exceedingly bright. Saint John has received 45 applications for seats in the 2025-26 academic year.

“I think people want this now,” said Quezada. “It’s an alternative to a public school. You get pride in Catholic education, high standards with academics, and we send our students to all the great high schools: BC High, Fontbonne, Saint John’s Prep (Danvers). And our students are well-prepared.

### Student-to-teacher ratio of 7:1

One factor that elevates the Saint John educational experience is its phenomenal student-to-teacher ratio of 7:1.

“It’s amazing,” said Quezada.

The school has non-cler-



St. John School Head of School Annmarie Quezada with students.

gy teachers, but it is associated with Saint Leonard’s Parish in the North End. The church’s pastor, the Rev. Michael Della Penna, is a member of the Saint John board of directors. Each student in the school takes a Catholic education class.

### Italian language, science programs

Two other programs also separate Saint John from other schools, according to Quezada.

“We have an immersion Italian program,” she noted. “The kids learn Italian all the way from pre-K up to eighth grade,” said Quezada. “We also have a hydroponic indoor garden, and all the students take classes in there as well.”

The garden produces herbs and plants that in a display of community ser-

vice and philanthropy are ultimately delivered to Saint Anthony Shrine and homeless shelters.

### A taste of North End history

Saint John faculty regularly schedules field trips to such nearby North End landmarks as the Paul Revere House and the Old North Church and walks along the famous Freedom Trail.

“We partner with the Italian societies that host the festivals during the summer, so our students are very immersed in the North End,” said Quezada.

Reflecting on her first year as Head of School, Quezada concluded, “I’m so honored to be a part of this wonderful school community.”

## EBCCS celebrates Catholic Schools Week

Story & Photos by Marianne Salza

Catholic schools throughout the country will be observing Catholic Schools Week January 26-February 1 in celebration of Catholic education in the United States. East Boston Central Catholic School (EBCCS) will be among the intuitions participating with special events and activities that will bring together students and their families with the national theme: “United in Faith and Community.”

“Each day of Catholic Schools Week has its own, individual theme. On Sunday, it’s ‘parish;’ on Monday, it’s ‘community and students,’” said Principal Robert Casaletto. “Throughout the week, every teacher invites families into the classroom to see an academic, but fun lesson, so parents can enjoy themselves.”

Families will be welcome to join kindergartners for an art project, a Lunar New Year activity with second grade, and a seventh and

eighth grade science fair in the auditorium. There will also be pizza party and ice-skating field trips, as well as a bullying prevention seminar presented by the District Attorney’s Office.

Parents of incoming students will also be invited to tour the building throughout the week, as well.

“It’s a great opportunity for people to see our families, talk to other parents, and talk to me,” said Principal Casaletto. “They get to see our academic work and our community.”

East Boston Central Catholic School will begin Catholic Schools Week with a 10 AM family mass on Sunday, January 26, featuring the school choir. Traditionally affiliated with Sacred Heart and Most Holy Redeemer Parishes, EBCCS will be celebrating mass at Saint Michael the Archangel Parish, in Winthrop, to raise awareness about the school.

Principal Casaletto feels that the two-day-long

Young Author’s Presentation in the auditorium will be particularly impactful because parents will be able to pick up finished, hard copies of books written by their children.

“Every student in our school -- from our three-year-olds through our eighth grade -- writes their own book,” described Principal Casaletto. “They’ve been working on them since the beginning of the school year. For those who have been here for years, hopefully they will get to see the progression. The seventh and eighth grade have well-written novels with beautiful artwork. It’s a ton of fun.”

Like every Monday, middle school students will continue to volunteer at the East Boston Community Soup Kitchen in Maverick Square, where they will be preparing bags of food for those struggling with homelessness and substance use.

“It’s a way to build community within the school, which is really nice,” explained Principal Casaletto. “We’re excited about that.”

At the end of the week, there will be a casual dress day for students, and an appreciation luncheon for teachers, staff, and volunteers provided by the Parent Involvement Committee.

“It’s a cool week,” beamed Principal Casaletto, whose office is decorated with LEGO models. “It gives us the opportunity to celebrate the unique qualities of Catholic schools. Everybody walks in and feels like family here.”



First graders, Bodhi L., Valentina T., Maya O., David A., Victoria B., and Miya N, reading stories from Scott Foresman’s “Reading Favorite Things Old and New.”



## Rooted in Faith, Growing in Community

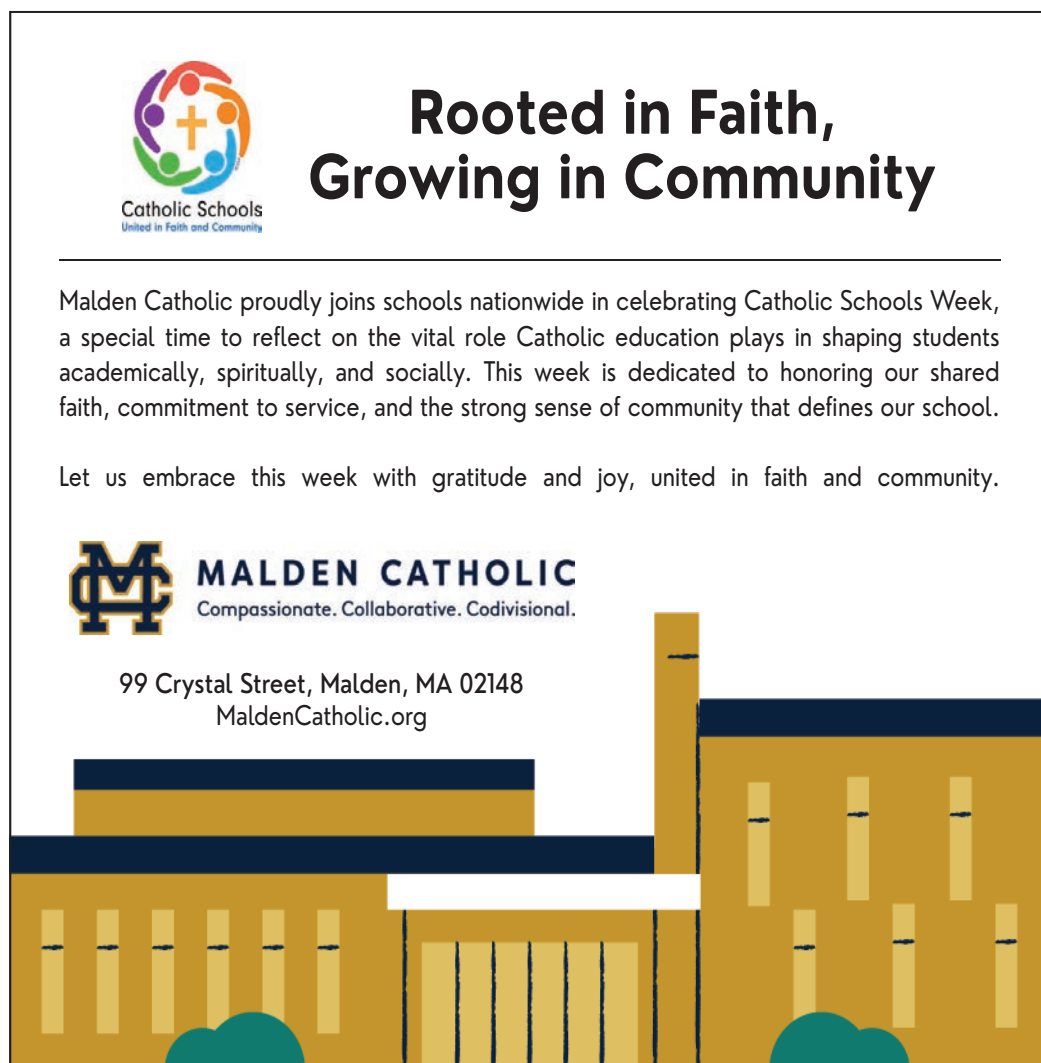
Malden Catholic proudly joins schools nationwide in celebrating Catholic Schools Week, a special time to reflect on the vital role Catholic education plays in shaping students academically, spiritually, and socially. This week is dedicated to honoring our shared faith, commitment to service, and the strong sense of community that defines our school.

Let us embrace this week with gratitude and joy, united in faith and community.



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CSW: January 27<sup>th</sup> - January 31<sup>st</sup>  
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A Catholic school education empowers students to “Go Further With Faith” – in academics and life.

# New England Aquarium participates in this year's Winteractive in Boston

Special to the Record

The New England Aquarium is part of the popular public art experience Winteractive this year by hosting "Nature's Solace," a light installation that symbolizes the balance between the spirit and nature. Winteractive, which drew 650,000 visitors to Boston last year, runs through March 30, welcoming visitors 24/7 to view public art works at 17 locations across the city's Downtown business district.

"We are thrilled to be part of Winteractive this year," said the Aquarium's Director of Community Engagement Luz Arregoces. "Year-round, we are working to raise the accessibility of Boston's waterfront from

our Central Wharf location as part of our ocean conservation work. If the public feels welcome, engaged, and connected to the ocean here, we believe they will be better educated about climate change, sea level rise, and other issues affecting our coastal environment."

Fittingly, the Aquarium is hosting "Nature's Solace" by artist Mike Geiger on its front plaza. Lit up at night, the artwork's design aims to capture the essence of multiple forest guardians with three layers of lushly growing greenery inside the structure, serving as a reminder of the human connection to earth and its caretakers all times of year.

Winteractive was inspired by the festive winter events in Quebec, Canada and was

named "Best Public Art Exhibition" in Boston by both Boston Magazine and Time Out Boston last year. Boston Design Week also honored the Downtown Boston Alliance, which brought the event to the city last year.

"In bringing Winteractive back in 2025, expanding into broader local partnerships with organizations like the New England Aquarium was important because, like the Downtown Boston Alliance, they believe in the power of art to draw people together," said Downtown Business Alliance President Michael Nichols. "We're thrilled to see how Winteractive continues to captivate residents and visitors alike while driving meaningful activity in the heart of Boston."

Winteractive is just one way that organizations and businesses are looking to



"Nature's Solace" by Mike Geiger is located on the New England Aquarium's Central Wharf Plaza through March 30 as part of the Downtown Boston Alliance's WINTERACTIVE experience. The public is invited to visit it 24/7.

give an economic and cultural boost to Boston in the heart of winter. Arregoces toured Toronto last fall as part of a delegation interested in learning, in part, how Canadians have successfully spurred winter tourism, visitorship, and community

engagement with winter activities.

"It was so inspiring to see how civic, hospitality, and government officials worked together to generate enthusiasm for recreational and cultural activities, such as public art and outdoor

performances, in spite of the winter weather," Arregoces said. "We look forward to doing the same in Boston, and Winteractive is a fun way to encourage it."

For more information about Winteractive, visit [winteractive.org](http://winteractive.org).

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## CHELSEA BOYS WIN MEDAL AT D-3 RELAYS

The Chelsea High boys indoor track and field team brought home a fourth-place medal in the shot-put at this past weekend's MSTCA Division 3 State Relay Meet held at the Reggie Lewis Track Center in Roxbury.

The combined throws of the trio of Ariel Chacon-Aracena, Adonis Alvarez-Umana, and Kevin Romero-Molina totaled 36.64 meters. Individually, Chacon-Aracena's toss of 45'-3.75" placed him fifth among the entire field. Alvarez-Umana's throw of 39'-8.75" ranked him 13th-best in the field and Romero-Molina's toss of 35'-2" clinched the fourth-place medal that gave the Red Devils five points in the overall team standings.

Two other CHS relay teams also turned in strong performances at the meet. The girls' 200 meter relay quartet of Ashly Damas Ruiz, Emelin Rosales, Lilly Serrano, and Thania Simon finished in 26th place with a time of 2:00.30.

For the boys, the 200 meter relay team of Joao Cassim, Sherwin Kim, Xavier Guzman, and Juan Portillo came across the line in 27th place with a clocking of 1:40.98.

## SIMIN SHINES FOR CHS GIRLS IN TRI-MEET

Chelsea High sophomore Thania Simon turned in another dominating performance for the Lady Red Devil indoor track and field team in last Thursday's tri-meet with Greater Boston League (GBL) rivals Re-

vere and Lynn English.

Thania captured first place against both opponents in the 55 meter dash with a sprint of 7.51 seconds and the long jump with a leap of 16'-7". In addition, both of those efforts were the top performances of the night among the GBL schools, all of whom were competing that evening, with Thania's long jump about a foot-and-one-half further than her closest competitor.

Kiara Ramirez-Villata turned in an outstanding effort in the shot-put, defeating all of her Lady Patriot and Lady Bulldog opponents with a throw of 31'-3.5", a performance that was the best in the GBL that night by more than two feet.

The Lady Red Devils handily defeated their Lynn English counterparts, 57-28, and although they came up short to Revere, 57-37, that was the closest score of any meet this season for the undefeated Lady Patriots.

A number of Chelsea girls took first place vs. their English rivals: Lily Serrano won the 300 meter dash with a time of 48.57; Hazel Hatleberg won the 600 with a clocking of 2:01.93; Katherine Benitez captured the 1000 in a time of 4:05.15; Angely Mejia-Martinez took the mile in 7:48.69 (Angely also finished second in the shot-put); and Perez Aly won the two-mile with a time of 16:29.13.

In addition, the CHS 4 x 400 quartet of Ashly Damas Ruiz, Emelin Rosales, Hatleberg, and Cesia Flores came across in 5:14.41, which was 11 seconds faster than their Lady Bulldog counterparts.

Scoring three

points for the Chelsea side of the scoresheet with second-place efforts vs. English were: Lauren Nadow in the 55 hurdles; Maria Sola-Hernandez in the mile; and Emelin Rosales in the 300.

In the portion of the meet with Revere, the CHS point-scorers, in addition to the winning efforts of Simon and Ramirez-Villata, were: Serrano with a third in the 55 dash and a second in the 300 dash; Hatleberg with a second in the 600; Benitez with a second in the 1000; Mejia-Martinez with a third in the mile and a third in the shot; Nadow with a third in the hurdles; and Aly with a second in the two-mile.

## CHS BOYS TRACK TOPS LYNN ENGLISH

The Chelsea High boys indoor track and field team split its recent tri-meet with Greater Boston League rivals Lynn English and Revere, defeating English 53-29, but falling to the first place Revere squad.

Two Red Devils turned in superbly-notable performances. Ariel Chacon-Aracena won the shot-put vs. both English and Revere with a toss of 46'-5". Even more impressive, Ariel's toss was two feet further than the next-closest competitor among the GBL schools, all of whom were competing that night. In addition, Ariel took first place vs. English and second vs. Revere in the high jump with a leap of 5'-0".

Teammate Xavier Guzman also turned in an outstanding effort in his specialty, the 600 dash, defeating not only all of his Bulldog and Patriot opponents with a time of 1:34.13, but also every other GBL 600 runner on the night.

Kyle Leong enjoyed an excellent night, defeating all of his English and Revere rivals in the two-mile run with a clocking of 12:18.03.

Additional Red Devils who recorded first-place finishes vs. English were: Joao Cassim in the 300 meter dash with a sprint of 40.58; Ivan Irias in the mile in a clocking of 5:26.93; and Sherwin Kim in the 55 hurdles with a time of 9.17.

Scoring three points for their second-place finishes vs. English were: Kim in the 300 dash; Bryan Amaya-Yanes in the 1000; and Adoni Alvarez-Umana in the shot.

Adding single points to the CHS tally vs. English with third-place performances were: Kevin Romero-Molina in the shot; Joao

Cassim in the 55 dash; Dariel Medina in the 600; and Carlos Perez-Acosta in the 1000.

In addition, the 4 x 400 relay quartet of Cassim, Juan Portillo, Irias, and Amaya-Yanes defeated their Bulldog counterparts by 8.51 seconds with a clocking of 4:04.44.

In the Revere portion of the meet, the Red Devils came up short by a score of 62-32. Second-place finishers vs. the Patriots were Joao Cassim in the 300 dash, Amaya-Yanes in the 1000, Irias in the mile, and Kim in the hurdles. Adding third-place points vs. Revere were Perez-Acosta in the 1000 and Alvarez-Umana in the shot.

## CHS BOYS HOOP TO HOST EVERETT; PLAY AT REVERE TUES.

The Chelsea High boys basketball team will host Greater Boston League (GBL) rival Everett this evening (Thursday) at the CHS gym. The opening tip with their Crimson Tide rivals from the other side of the Parkway is set for 6:00.

The Red Devils, who stand at 3-5 on the season after dropping a hard-fought battle last Friday to perennial GBL power Lynn English, 67-61, will travel to the Brooke Academy School on Saturday for a 2:30 encounter.

Coach Cesar Castro and his crew then will trek northward up Broadway to Revere on Tuesday evening for Round II of the Battle of Broadway. The opening tip with the Patriots is set for 7:00. The ancient rivalry between the hoop programs -- which originally dates back to the 1920s -- was reinvigorated about 15 years ago when the schools renewed relations (after an absence of about 20 years) while Chelsea was a member of the Commonwealth Conference. With both schools now back in the GBL, their twice-yearly encounters, known to all as the "Battle of Broadway," have become even more intense.

Revere prevailed in the first meeting two weeks ago in front of a big crowd at Chelsea High by a score of 74-51 that was not indicative of the closeness of the game. Revere held a tight 52-45 lead after three quarters before pulling away in the final eight minutes. Coach Castro and his Red Devil crew will be seeking to even-up the series for 2025 when they tip off at Revere's Merullo Fieldhouse.

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# City invites eligible seniors, veterans to apply to 2025 Tax Work-Off Programs

The City of Chelsea recently announced that applications are now being accepted for its 2025 Senior Tax Work-Off Program and Veterans Tax Work-Off Program from eligible Chelsea seniors aged 60+ and veterans. The deadline for all applications is Friday, Jan. 31.

The program provides an opportunity for Chelsea seniors and veterans to perform clerical tasks and other office duties in exchange for \$15 per hour for up to 100 hours for a maximum of \$1,500 per year. The total amount earned is provided to the worker in the form of a property tax credit on their 2026 tax bill.

The programs are intended to help financially eligible seniors and veterans receive a reduction off of their annual real estate taxes. If

a senior/veteran qualifies for this program, they then work for a City department. However, there is a limit of 25 participants per year, in the event the city receives more than 25 participants a lottery will be held to determine the current year's participants.

Interested seniors and veterans can call the Human Resources Department at Chelsea City Hall at 617-466-4170 for an application. Applications are also available at [www.chelseama.gov/HR](http://www.chelseama.gov/HR).

Completed applications can be mailed or hand-delivered to Human Resources, 500 Broadway, Room 301, Chelsea, MA 02150. All Property Tax Workers must reapply every year. Assignments are not automatically renewed and are

approved based on the need and required skill level.

**Eligibility Requirements**  
Chelsea resident; Age 60+ or veteran

Must be homeowner or current spouse of homeowner

Must own and occupy the property for which abatement is being sought

Only one abatement per household

Must not be currently employed by the City of Chelsea

**Items needed to complete a Tax Work-off Program Application:**

- W-4
- CORI
- Tax Work-off Paperwork/ Application
- Tax Work-off Program Cover Page.

## PRESIDENT CARTER IN BOSTON



This Arnie Jarmak photo of the late President Jimmy Carter and First Lady Rosalynn Carter at the dedication of the JFK Library appeared in the Record in October, 1979. President Carter spoke at the dedication ceremonies.

## Tobin // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

months, with the draft and final reports anticipated to be released in the summer of 2026.

During the working group meeting, MassDOT officials and consultants reviewed the current conditions of the Tobin Bridge, as well as discussed the goals of the study.

"We are taking a holistic point of view with this study, and I want to emphasize that equity is an overarching focus of the study as well ... as we consider long-term potential changes to the Tobin Bridge to reconnect communities and consider how these elements of the transportation network itself tie into the surrounding community," said MassDOT project manager Patrick Snyder.

Mike Regan, the project manager for the study from engineering firm VHB said nine evaluation criteria have been selected to measure the effectiveness of any recommendations that come as a result of the study. Those criteria include social equity, mobility and accessibility for transportation modes, safety for roadway users, economic and land use impacts, climate change resilience and mitigation, health and environmental effects, cost and cost effectiveness, and feasibility of construction.

A detailed assessment of the existing conditions has been completed to help set the stage for a future conditions analysis, said Regan.

"We've completed a really detailed and exhaustive existing details assessment, especially for transportation and mobility that includes traffic patterns, traffic operation, safety, ... and transit conditions, locally and regionally," said Regan.

A study of the current land use in the areas near the bridge shows that there is a critical need for housing, along with a pandemic-weekend office market, an oversupply of lab space, and urban development around transit hubs, said Jon Trementozzi, and land use and economic development consultant.

Niki Hastings of VHB said the study of the existing transportation conditions of the Tobin Bridge and Chelsea and Charlestown show that active transportation facilities do not extend into neighboring communities. She also noted that the existing Tobin Bridge lacks sidewalk and bicycle facilities, creating a significant gap in the regional pedestrian and bicycle networks.

Hastings said the Tobin Bridge is a vital regional corridor and part of a larger system that serves commuter populations between the

North Shore and Boston. The majority of the vehicle trips are from or to Route 1 North of Route 16, Hastings added.

There are congestion and travel time reliability issues, especially southbound, where 43 percent of trips from the Tobin Bridge are destined for I-93, according to the analysis. In addition, much of the local study area in Chelsea experiences higher crash rates in comparison to the region.

Charlestown State Representative Dan Ryan noted that the lack of a direct connection to Rte. 93 North on the Tobin has been a major issue in his district for decades.

"It doesn't matter what signs you put on the other side of the North Washington Bridge, human nature is that people will not drive south to go north," said Ryan. "You can put all the signs in the world you want, people are just not going to do that."

Ryan said any alternative needs to have an option to get people who are on the other side of the North Washington Bridge to have access to 93 North and South.

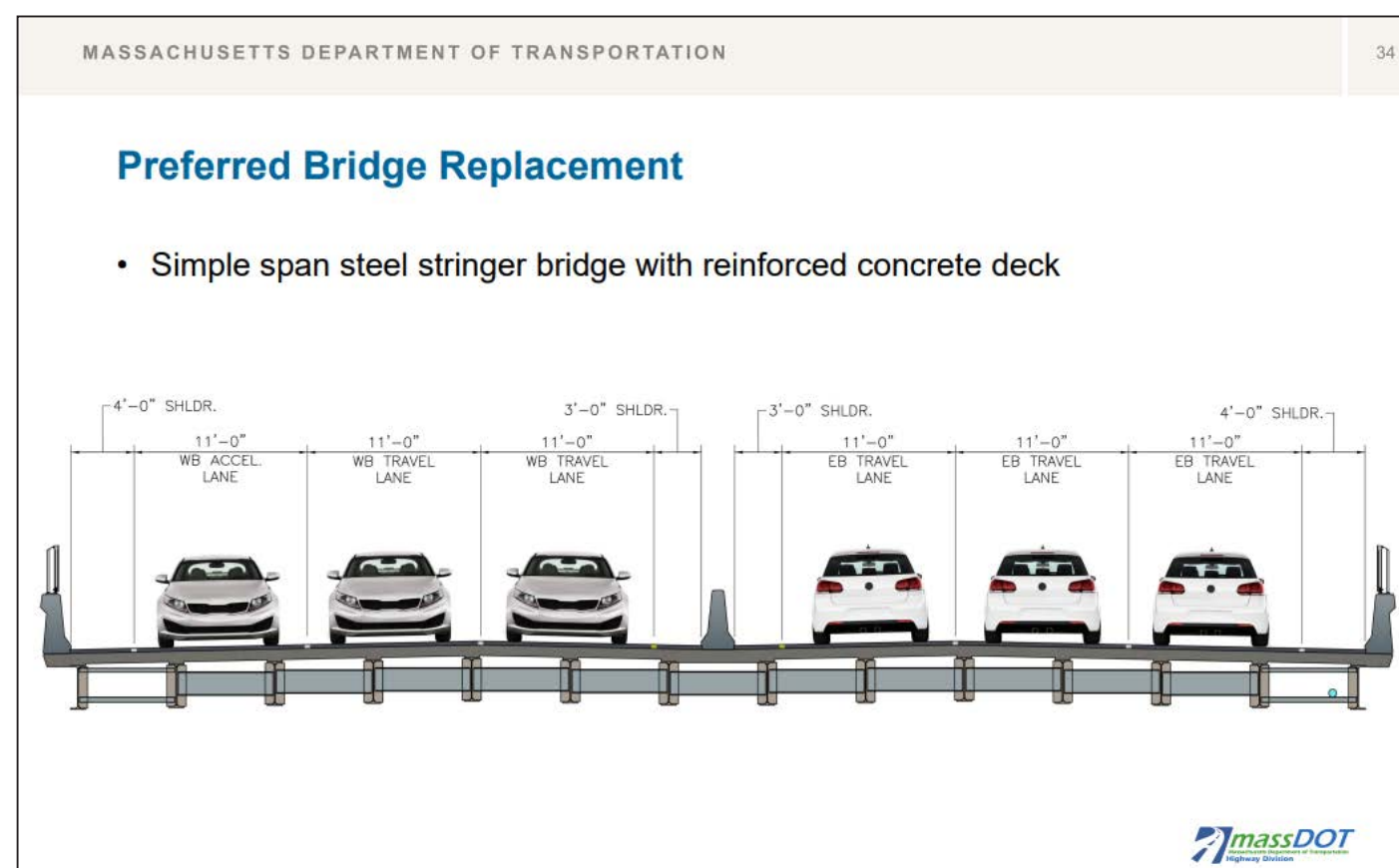
As a long-term strategic planning study, the consultants said the key next step is to project the existing conditions to a 2050 future condition, with alternatives for the bridge replacement being evaluated using those conditions. Part of those conditions include determining major planned infrastructure projects and transit service improvements in place by 2050 based on available documentation.

Those potential projects will then set the baseline for the alternatives that are considered, according to the consultants.

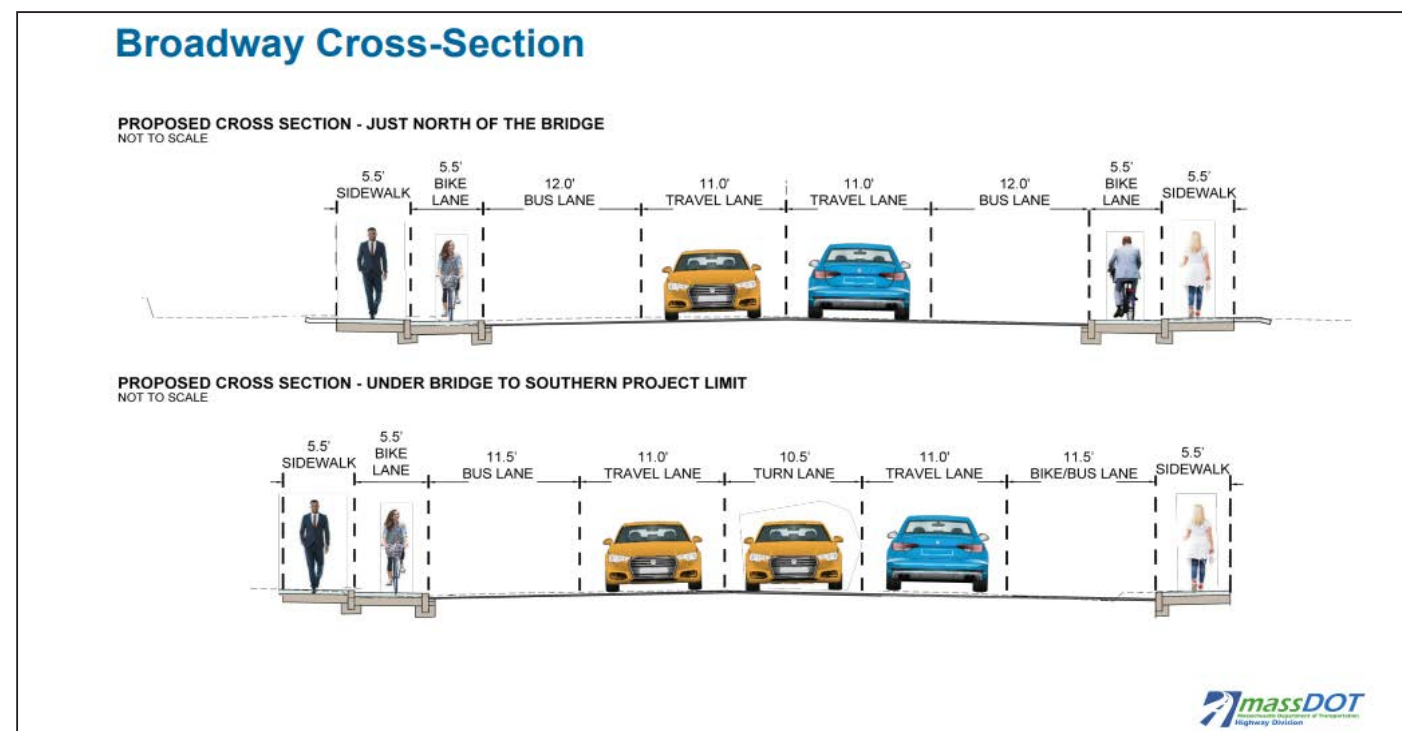
Revere City Councilor Ira Novoselsky questioned why the study area for the existing conditions did not extend north to Copeland Circle in Revere. He stated that the noise level and environmental factors from the traffic affect residents in the city.

Regan stated that there are both local and regional study areas for the project, with the local study area focusing on Chelsea and Charlestown, and the regional area extending out into Revere and other communities.

"The reason we didn't do the in-depth existing conditions analysis ... for the entire regional study area is because our likely Tobin Bridge alternative will likely not extend that far north," said Regan. "We are talking about what to do about future replacement of the bridge and extending that type of infrastructure that far north is not anticipated, so we did



Rendering of the proposed new Revere Beach Parkway bridge over Broadway



Cross section of plans for the area of Broadway approaching and under the bridge.

not do that analysis up to that area."

The future analysis also includes looking at demographic growth and environmental factors, Snyder said.

One of the goals of the working group, Snyder said, is to discuss options for four key future considerations, including future roadway and transit conditions, the future travel demand forecast, future land use and demographic projects, and future climate change and sea level rise forecast.

Chelsea Deputy Director of Housing and Community Development Emily Granoff said she would like to have further conversations about the initial future housing demand demographic analysis. She added that the city is working on a comprehensive planning process that will also touch upon some of the analysis within the Tobin Bridge study.

When it comes to future

sea level rise and climate change, the consultants stated that the future preliminary design will determine exact bridge height based on a combination of sea level rise, storm surge, and required marine vessel height clearances.

"We're establishing base-

lines, future baselines for analysis and comparison," said Regan. "The next step is really brainstorming and coming up with alternatives and building those with the working group and really refining that."

The next working group and public meeting on the

study is anticipated for the late spring/early summer, Snyder said.

"We are anticipating that this study is going to run into the summer of 2026, when we hope to present our results and findings and recommendations as well as the summary," he said.

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### THE LEGACY OF DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. CELEBRATED BY THE CITY OF CHELSEA

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s life was celebrated last Monday, as a National Holiday across America. In the City of Chelsea, the annual breakfast and speak-

ing program at the Clark Street Middle School was sponsored by the People's Chelsea A.M.E. Church and Chelsea Public Schools.

A continental break-

fast was held prior to the official MLK Program at the Clark Street Middle School, featuring the CPS Middle School Band, and DJ George Atlas. Chelsea

Black Community was on hand to assist with the food and greeting all who came to the event



Dave Labovich of Katz Bagels of Chelsea donated the fresh bagels for the MLK Breakfast, shown with close friend, Councillor Leo Robinson.



Mistress of Ceremonies Evangelist Deborah Washington welcomes everyone to the annual MLK Program.



State Representative Judith Garcia reaffirmed her pledge to support and represent the City of Chelsea.



Keynote Speaker and new Pastor of the Chelsea A.M.E. Church, Pastor Reverend Sarah Smith.



Sister Nicole McKoy with the invocation.



From CBC CeCe Stallworth and Claudia Dias.



Superintendent of Chelsea Public Schools Dr. Almi Abeyta with her greetings and pledge of support to the City of Chelsea's students.



Chelsea City Manager Felix Maltez with his remarks and greetings.



President of CBC Joan Cromwell and Vice President Dakeya Christmas.



President Joan Cromwell of Chelsea Black Community, her officers, and Councillor Leo Robinson at the Clark Street Middle School for the MLK Celebration.

THE LEGACY OF DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. CELEBRATED BY THE CITY OF CHELSEA



Chelsea Police Chief Keith Houghton with students, Tiffany Henriquez, Haylee Costanza, and Melina Disney.



The Chelsea High Cantara with musical selections.

Parkway // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

hance multimodal access and transit priority along Broadway.”

The current design plans call for the westbound shoulder of the new bridge to become an acceleration lane for traffic entering the parkway.

On Broadway, Berthiaume said there will be sidewalk reconstruction, added bicycle accommodations, and bus priority measures where feasible.

There are also planned intersection improvements at the Revere Beach Parkway eastbound and westbound ramps, he added.

On the eastbound ramp, plans call for signalized intersection improvements and upgrades, multimodal accommodations, and ADA compliant curb cuts and ramps. The westbound ramp is slated to remain a stop intersection, with multimodal accommodations and ADA

compliant curb cuts and ramps.

The preferred alternative for the bridge itself is a simple span steel stringer bridge with reinforced concrete deck. The westbound side would have an 11-foot acceleration lane, two 11-foot travel lanes and a four-foot shoulder, while on the eastbound side would have three 11-foot travel lanes and a four-foot shoulder. Plans call for a variable-width median between the eastbound and westbound lanes.

On Broadway, just north of the bridge, there would be a single travel lane in each direction, as well as a bus lane, a sidewalk, and bicycle lane on each side of the road. Under the bridge to the south there would be a travel lane in each direction in addition to a turn lane. One side of the road would have a shared bus/bike lane, while the other would have dedicated

bike and bus lanes.

As for the construction itself, Berthiaume said nighttime work is only anticipated for selected construction operations such as bridge demolition and the placement of the new steel superstructure elements.

“The project is going to maintain two lanes of traffic in both eastbound and westbound directions at all times,” said Berthiaume. “The work zones will be safely delineated with temporary lane crossovers. There will be limited nighttime closures to Broadway, and abutter access will be always maintained.”

The project will require three temporary easements for the duration of the project at 80, 85, and 88 Broadway. MassDOT officials are scheduled to meet individually with the owners of each of the properties.

During last week’s pub-

lic hearing, several employees and officials from the For Kids Only afterschool program at 85 Broadway expressed concerns about safety and parking associated with both the temporary bridge work this spring and the full replacement over the following three years.

Revere Director of Planning and Community Development Tom Skwierawski said he wanted to ensure that the project takes into account the concerns of FKO and the other businesses that will be affected. He also said he hoped the city has input into the design of the Broadway area under the bridge, since it is a gateway to the city.

Residents with questions about the project or feedback on the design plans are encouraged to email MassDOTProjectManagement@dot.state.ma.us.



Pianist Olvin Ramirez.

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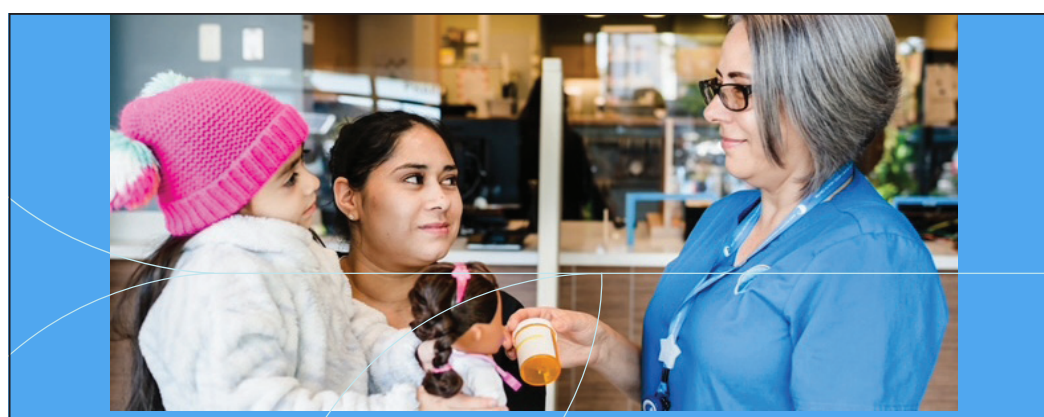
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### CHELSEA SALUTES LEGENDARY FOOTBALL STAR BOB FEE ON HIS 90TH BIRTHDAY

Friends, family, and former Chelsea High School athletes turned out to honor Bob Fee at his 90th birthday celebration Jan. 11 at the Merritt Club.

As a football player, few enjoyed as spectacular and as far-reaching a career as Bobby Fee, who followed up his All-Scholastic days at Chelsea High by excelling

on the gridiron for the Division I Indiana Hoosiers. Fee was drafted by the National Football League and had a tryout with the Boston Patriots of the old American Football League. He also played semi-professional for the Nu-Way Sweepers.

Fee returned to his beloved alma mater at Chelsea High and became the head

football coach. His 1980 team shocked Everett High on Thanksgiving, rallying from a 20-0 deficit to win, 34-20, before one of the largest crowds ever at Memorial Stadium.

Dom LaMarra, an All-Scholastic at CHS himself, said of Fee, "Bobby Fee is the greatest guy. He was an excellent coach. I loved him.

He made me wear No. 34 because he wore that number in college. I still have that number in my drawer at home. Growing up in Chelsea, I heard about Bobby Fee and how great he was at Indiana, and they even have a street named after him, Fee Lane, out there. God bless him."

Mr. Fee's sons, Bob Fee

Jr. and Kevin Fee, helped organize the wonderful afternoon for their father. Jess Fee, Mr. Fee's personable

granddaughter, led off the speaking program.

See BOB FEE Page 9



Former Chelsea High basketball star Richard Zullo recalled that he first met Bobby Fee when he presented him with a hoodsie ice cream during the Fourth of July races that were held annually at Bosson Park. In the photo above, Zullo congratulates Fee on his lifetime of achievement in sports and for being an outstanding person.



Guest of honor Bob Fee, pictured with his siblings, brother Tom Fee, sisters Dorothy Bradley and Evelyn Dahlquist, and brother Eddie Fee.



Chelsea High and Indiana University football standout Bob Fee, pictured with Herbie Kupersmith, and former Chelsea High School athletic director Frank DePatto.



Bob Fee, pictured with former Chelsea High School football stars Joey Constantino, Dominic LaMarra, and Michael Thompson.



Bob Fee, pictured with friends, Michael Breau and Fred Petersen, at the 90th birthday celebration.



Bob Fee Jr., pictured with former Chelsea High School cheerleading captain Deb Cronin and her mother, Mary Lou Yurko.



Coach Bob Fee, with former standout lineman Rico Venturelli and his wife, Rachel Venturelli, enjoying the 90th birthday celebration at the Merritt Club.



Bob Fee with two of his Chelsea neighbors, former city free throw champion Patrick Pelosi (left) and Joe Trial (right).



All on hand to honor Bob Fee are former Chelsea Little League superstars, Bobby Breau, Bobby Spinney, Dr. William Eaves, who pitched a shutout to win the Minor League championship against fireballing lefthander Carmen Gallo (far right) and the Red Legs.



Recalling the 1980 Thanksgiving football game as the most memorable of his Chelsea High coaching career, Bob Fee is pictured with receiver Paul Driscoll (left) and quarterback Richard Maronski (right), who combined for three touchdown passes as the Red Devils stormed back from a 20-0 deficit to defeat Everett, 34-26, before 8,500 fans at Chelsea Memorial Stadium.



Upon his arrival for 90th birthday celebration, guest of honor Bob Fee received a warm welcome from friends, including Herbie Kupersmith, Nick Marino, and Minna Karas-Marino, his sons, Bob Fee Jr. and Kevin Fee, his granddaughter Jessica Fee and others last Saturday at the Merritt Club.



Councilor-at-Large Leo Robinson presented a congratulatory citation to Bob Fee at his 90th birthday celebration. Also pictured are Tracy Carroll (seated) and (standing, from left), Lisa Fantasia, Rex Hayden, former Chelsea High coach and field standout Drenda Carroll Hayden, Carol Ann Cetina, Estelle Savage, and Jackie Finnegan.



# Bob Fee // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8

“Happy Birthday to my grandfather, Coach Bob Fee, the man, the myth, the legend,” said Jess, to the delight of the large crowd in attendance, adding, “Happy birthday, Papa,” before turning off the microphone to her father, Bob Fee Jr.

Bob Fee Jr. delivered a

touching speech, stating, “I would like to thank everyone for coming to this wonderful event and this celebration. It’s an honor for myself and my family to have everyone here as we honor this outstanding husband, coach, father, and friend.”

Matt Fee, Mr. Fee’s grand-

son, thanked the many people in attendance. “I want to thank everyone for coming out today to see my Papa on his 90th birthday. It’s a momentous occasion. I look up this man. He’s my hero. He’s my father’s hero.”

Bob Fee Sr. was humble as usual in his “guest of hon-

or” speech, highlighting a couple of his most memorable games at Indiana (where he played on offense and defense) and the touching story of how as a 17-year-old junior at Chelsea High School, he met his future wife, Phyllis, on Revere Beach near the Bandstand on an 85-de-

gree Saturday in June.

“About 30 yards from the beach wall, I was looking down at the water, and I saw a teammate of mine, Bobby Youngman, sitting with this girl with a white bathing suit. When I looked at her, I fell in love with her, and I said, ‘that girl is going to be

my bride.’”

Sure enough, Bob introduced himself to Phyllis, and the two Chelsea teenagers eventually became husband and wife. They shared more than 58 years of marriage and loving devotion and raised two children, Bob Jr. and Kevin.



Wishing Bob Fee a happy 90th birthday at the party are (from left) Steve Harris, Ralph Feinberg, and Stuart Feinberg.



Celebrating the 90th birthday with Bob Fee are members of the Chelsea High School Class of 1983, Denise Tedesco, Patty Scarpetti, (back row) Jerry Curtis, Barbara Lee-McCarthy, Wanda DiGaetano, and Christine Barnes.



Guest of honor Bob Fee, with his proud family, sister Dorothy Bradley, nephew Bob Bradley and his wife, Kimberly Brown Bradley, and brother, Eddie Fee.



Bob Fee, pictured with his high school classmate, Richard Welch.



Though known for his baseball prowess, Mike Lush also excelled in football on a Red Devil team for which Bob Fee was an assistant coach on Anthony “Chubby” Tiro’s staff. In the photo above, Mike Lush greets his former coach.



Former Chelsea High School players traveled from far and wide to salute their beloved coach, Bob Fee, on his 90th birthday. From left, are David Wood, Rico Venturelli, AIC All-American Keith Barry, Bill Gould, Scotty Yianacopolus, Scott Winer, Richard Maronski, Bobby Carolan, Paul Driscoll, and Wayne McGill.



Former Chelsea High School hockey star Dr. William Eaves, 1974 Thom McAn Football Award winner Turk Szarythe, guest of honor Bob Fee, and multi-sport greats Bobby Spinney, Bobby Breau, and Dominic LaMarra, who is arguably the greatest linebacker in CHS history, edging out Mike Barboza and Andy Diranian for that distinction.



The Fee and Mugford families have shared a friendship for more than five decades. Pictured with guest of honor Bob Fee are (from left) Bob Mugford, Kevin Fee, Bob Fee Jr., Jimmy Mugford, and Matt Fee, son of Bob Fee Jr.



There were all smiles of joy to be in the company of Chelsea legend Bob Fee at his 90th birthday celebration. From left are Bobby Carolan, Deb Cronin, Paul Driscoll, Bill Gould, Wayne McGill, and Michael Day.



Chelsea football legend Bob Fee, pictured at the 90th birthday celebration with his proud family, sons Kevin Fee and Bob Fee Jr., grandchildren, Jess Fee Sprouse and Matt Fee, and great-grandchildren, Luna Sprouse, 11, and Zara Sprouse, 6.

NEWS FROM AROUND THE REGION

MADARO'S BILL IN PREVENTING OVERDOSE DEATHS SIGNED INTO LAW

EAST BOSTON - Rep. Adrian Madaro worked with Governor Maura Healey in creating a law to help prevent overdose deaths. In his statement during the signing of the law, Madaro said, "Overdose remains the leading cause of death for people aged 18 to 45, with rates among Black and Latino men more than doubling in recent years. This stark reality underscores the disproportionate impact public health crises have on communities of color. We continue to lose far too many lives to overdose, which is why action is urgently needed."

That's why I was honored to join Governor Maura Healey for the signing of An Act Relative to Treatments and Coverage for Substance Use Disorder and Recovery Coach Licensure. Thanks to Speaker Ron Mariano's vision and leadership, I had the privilege of assembling this legislation for the House of Representatives in response to the opioid crisis. It reflects the input of many colleagues who drew from their experiences and those of their constituents to craft a bill that better supports individuals seeking treatment or recovery and helps prevent overdose deaths.

Now signed into law, this legislation ensures that we continue to make substance use disorder treatment and recovery support more affordable and accessible in Massachusetts."

COUNCIL VOTES TO ALLOW LIMITED ANIMAL TESTING

EVERETT - The Everett City Council voted by a 6-4 margin to allow limited animal testing at life science centers or laboratory buildings that could be located in Everett in the future.

Before the vote, City Clerk Sergio Cornelio clarified that Councilor-at-Large Stephanie Smith's motion related to the animal testing of "rats, mice, and fish."

Smith then offered further clarification of her request to amend the live animal testing ordinance which previously had been a total ban on testing.

"It already said 'small vertebrate' but now we've called out that there's no [testing] of cats, dogs, horses, goats, or large vertebrate."

Smith was joined by Councilors Anthony DiPierro, John Hanlon, Wayne Matewsky, Peter Pietrantonio, and Robert Van Campen in voting for the ordinance.

Councilor-at-Large Katy Rogers, a prominent animal rights advocate, Council President Stephanie Martins, Councilor-at-Large Guerline Alcy-Jabouin, and Ward 4 Councilor Holly Garcia, voted against the measure.

In a clash of rising titans in Everett city government, Smith and Rogers were clearly on opposing sides of the issue. Smith put together a colorful, informative flier showing that jobs associated with the life science industry are higher paying than jobs in finance, education, and the leisure and hospitality industry. Smith's flier also showed photos of current life science facilities in Cambridge, Somerville, Watertown, and Boston.

Rogers distributed a printout of six stories from Boston-area journalists claiming that there has been an oversaturation of laboratory space built in the last year.

Smith came out firing, offering prepared remarks and later sending a statement to the Independent.

"This is not a personal opinion, this is what's best for the city of Everett," said Smith. "These are the jobs that we want to have in the City of Everett. Everyone is going to all of our surrounding cities, and they're getting these facilities and the money and the taxes and the high-paying high-skilled jobs."

"I support Everett being a leader in life sciences and scientific advancement, including breakthroughs in medical research," continued Smith. "This is an opportunity for job creation and workforce development. Life sciences bring in entry level lab technicians to advanced roles for scientists and engineers. Not to mention the supporting functions like legal, compliance and finance. This is a once in a lifetime opportunity for economic growth, sustainability and innovation. Wouldn't it be amazing if Everett got global prestige for breakthrough research that occurred here - similar to what just happened next door in Cambridge less than two years ago where a vaccine was created and that vaccine was pivotal in stopping a global pandemic? That could be us. But not without amending the current ordinance."

Rogers also spoke passionately about the issue. "I urge you to uphold the animal testing ban as it was written—a policy that embodies the will of our residents and reflects Everett's commitment to a brighter, more ethical future. This ban isn't just about stopping harmful practices; it's about defining what Everett stands for—a city that prioritizes innovation, progress, and integrity," said Rogers. "Today, we are being asked to overturn this decision—not for the benefit of our community, but to serve the corporate agenda of one entity: The Davis Companies. Let's be clear: there is no commitment from a specific pharmaceutical company, there are no guarantees of job creation for Everett residents, and there are no assurances of tangible community benefits like senior or veteran housing, school funding, or public safety infrastructure."

"What's being proposed is not progress; it's a corporate agenda that disregards the voices of our constituents," contended Rogers. "Tonight, we have an opportunity to sustain the trust of the people and ensure Everett's potential isn't handed over to corporations with no commitments to our community. Let's protect the progress we've made and lead Everett toward a future that truly innovates on behalf of its people."

Following the vote by the Council in favor of her amendment, Smith expressed gratitude to the councilors who supported her in the matter. "I just want to thank my colleagues for doing what's best for the City of Everett to move us in the right direction for better jobs, more companies coming into the city," said Smith. "I think it's the right thing to do. I agree with my colleagues that if we are phasing out animal testing, then it's good to have a life sciences building in Everett so that we can get ahead of it, so the jobs are not going to all of our surrounding communities."

Leonardo Andujar Sanchez, 28, was charged by criminal complaint with one count of possession with intent to distribute more than 400 grams of fentanyl and one count of being an alien in possession of a firearm who has entered the United States unlawfully. Sanchez was allegedly found with approximately 5 kilograms of suspected fentanyl and an assault rifle at the Quality Inn, which was being used as an emergency assistance shelter by the state.

CONGRATS, REVERE'S BRAYAN MEDINA, GLOBE 2024 ALL SCHOLASTIC!



PHOTO BY BOB MARRA

Revere's Brayan Medina was named to the Boston Globe 2024 All Scholastic boys soccer team. Medina was a key component of Revere's 14-3-2 season that earned the Patriots their first-ever Greater Boston League title. Revere advanced to the quarterfinal round of the MIAA Division 2 championship tournament. Medina was a captain of the team during his sophomore, junior, and senior years. Shown above, Brayan Medina in action during Revere's 2-1 victory over East Longmeadow in the opening round of the MIAA Division 2 championship tournament.

Ward 3 Councilor Anthony Cogliandro filed a motion requesting that the mayor direct the police chief to work together with hotel management from each hotel within the city to investigate each occupied room for suspicious and/or illegal activity. Councilor-at-Large Michelle Kelley introduced a motion asking that the mayor and the state legislative delegation request that representatives from the Executive Office of Housing and Livable Communities appear before a Committee of the Whole of the Revere City Council to discuss the procedures for vetting people who obtain emergency assistance shelter. "This is 100 percent in See REGION Page 11

COUNCIL REQUESTS MEETING WITH STATE ON SHELTER INCIDENT

REVERE - The city council took up two motions at its first meeting of the year Monday night in response to the Dec. 27 arrest of a Dominican national residing at the Quality Inn in Revere.

Leonardo Andujar Sanchez, 28, was charged by criminal complaint with one count of possession with intent to distribute more than 400 grams of fentanyl and one count of being an alien in possession of a firearm who has entered the United States unlawfully. Sanchez was allegedly found with approximately 5 kilograms of suspected fentanyl and an assault rifle at the Quality Inn, which was being used as an emergency assistance shelter by the state.

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LEGAL NOTICES

LEGAL NOTICE



CHELSEA CONSERVATION COMMISSION

In accordance with the Massachusetts Wetland Protection Act, the Chelsea Conservation Commission will hold a Public Hearing on: Wednesday, February 19, 2025, 6:00 PM via Zoom video conference to review the Notice of Intent submitted by Jose M. Sanchez, Ministerio Internacional, Cristo Vive, Inc. for the construction of a parking lot, installation of fencing and landscaping, and installation of a drainage system at 10 Wesley Street. Register to join here: https://us06web.zoom.us/j/6465588656 Meeting ID: 824 9190 7889 A copy of the Notice is available for review in the Department of Permitting and Land Use Planning, Rm 106, City Hall, during City Hall business hours. Per Order Stephen Sarikas Chair 1/23/25 C

LEGAL NOTICE

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS THE TRIAL COURT PROBATE AND FAMILY COURT Suffolk Division

INFORMAL PROBATE PUBLICATION NOTICE

Docket No. SU25PO011EA Estate of: Alejandro Coello Also Known As: Alex Coello Date of Death: March 28, 2024 To all persons interested in the above captioned estate, by Petition of Petitioner Gerardo A. Coello of Chelsea, MA Gerardo A. Coello of Chelsea, MA has been informally appointed as the Personal Representative of the estate to serve without surety on the bond. The estate is being administered under informal procedure by the Personal Representative under the Massachusetts Uniform Probate Code without supervision by the Court. Inventory and accounts are not required to be filed with the Court, but interested parties are entitled to notice regarding the administration from the Personal Representative and can petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including distribution of assets and expenses of administration. Interested parties are entitled to petition the Court to institute formal proceedings and to obtain orders terminating or restricting the powers of Personal Representatives appointed under informal procedure. A copy of the Petition and Will, if any, can be obtained from the Petitioner. 01/23/25 C

LEGAL NOTICE



NOTICE OF HEARING Case No. 2024-26

In accordance with the Massachusetts Zoning Act, Chapter 40A, a public hearing of the Chelsea Planning Board will be held at Council Chambers, City Hall, 500 Broadway Tuesday, February 25, 2025, 6:00 PM For Major Site Plan Review seeking approval to demolish two structures and for the construction of a one hundred twenty (120) residential dwelling unit structure with seven (7) first floor retail units at the premises known as: 105-115 Park Street, 12 Essex Street, 1 Ellsworth Street All interested parties are encouraged to attend. A copy of the application and petition is available for review at: City Clerk's Office during normal business hours: Monday, Wednesday and Thursday 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. - Tuesday, 8 a.m. - 7 p.m. - Friday, 8 a.m. to noon 1/23/25, 1/30/25 C

LEGAL NOTICE



Re:Jolo Can LLC. d/b/a Harbor House Collective

80 Eastern Avenue, Chelsea, MA Chelsea Licensing Commission, February 13, 2025 Notice is hereby given that a public hearing will be held by the Chelsea Licensing Commission on Thursday, February 13, 2025 at 6:00 p.m. at the City Council Chambers, 500 Broadway, Chelsea, MA. For a Change of Hours from Sunday-Saturday 9am-9pm to Sunday-Saturday 9am-11pm on a New Amusement & Entertainment License application for Jolo Can LLC. d/b/a Harbor House Collective at 80 Eastern Avenue, Chelsea, MA. 02150. Please be advised that you must notify, via Certified Return Receipt mail, all abutters to the licensed premise. CHELSEA LICENSING COMMISSION Naomi Libran Licensing Administrator 1/16/25, 1/23/25 C

LEGAL NOTICE



Re:Los Amigos Diner & Restaurant Corp. d/b/a Los Amigos Diner 92 Washington Avenue, Chelsea, MA Chelsea Licensing Commission, February 13, 2025 Notice is hereby given that a public hearing will be held by the Chelsea Licensing Commission on Thursday, February 13, 2025 at 6:00 p.m. at the

City Council Chambers, 500 Broadway, Chelsea, MA. For New Hours and New Categories (radio, tv, disc jockey, use of amplification and Karaoke) on a New Amusement & Entertainment License application for Los Amigos Diner & Restaurant Corp.d/b/a Los Amigos Diner at 92 Washington Avenue, Chelsea, MA. Please be advised that you must notify, via Certified Return Receipt mail, all abutters to the licensed premise. CHELSEA LICENSING COMMISSION Naomi Libran Licensing Administrator 1/16/25, 1/23/25 C

LEGAL NOTICE



Re:Starbucks Corp. d/b/a Starbucks Coffee #78977 1100 Revere Beach Parkway, Chelsea, MA Chelsea Licensing Commission, February 13, 2025 Notice is hereby given that a public hearing will be held by the Chelsea Licensing Commission on Thursday, February 13, 2025 at 6:00 p.m. at the City Council Chambers, 500 Broadway, Chelsea, MA. For New Hours and New Category (radio) on a New Amusement & Entertainment License application for Starbucks Corp. d/b/a Starbucks Coffee #78977 at 1100 Revere Beach Parkway, Chelsea, MA. Please

be advised that you must notify, via Certified Return Receipt mail, all abutters to the licensed premise. CHELSEA LICENSING COMMISSION Naomi Libran Licensing Administrator 1/16/25, 1/23/25 C

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. SU25PO039GD Suffolk Probate and Family Court 24 New Chardon Street Boston, MA 02114 (617) 788-8300 In the matter of: Tristan Decelles Of: Chelsea, MA RESPONDED Alleged Incapacitated Person To the named Respondent and all other interested persons, a petition has been filed by Massachusetts Dept. of Mental Health of Westborough, MA in the above captioned matter alleging that Tristan Decelles is in need of a Guardian and requesting that (or some other suitable person) be appointed as Guardian to serve 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 02/04/2025. 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: January 09, 2025 Stephanie L. Everett Register of Probate 01/23/25 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 CHANGE OF NAME Docket No. SU25CO050CA In the matter of: Aniceta Torres Rodriguez A Petition to Change Name of Adult has been filed by Aniceta Torres Rodriguez of Chelsea, MA requesting that the court enter a Decree changing their name to: Ana Gonzalez IMPORTANT NOTICE Any person may appear for purposes of objecting to the petition by filing an appearance at:Suffolk Probate and Family Court before 10:00 a.m.on the return date of 02/13/2025. This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance if you object to this proceeding. WITNESS, Hon. Brian J. Dunn, First Justice of this Court. Date: January 15, 2025 Stephanie L. Everett, Register of Probate 1/23/25 C

Region // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 10

response to the weapons and drugs that were found inside of a hotel," said Cogliandro of his motion. "I just want to make it clear about something, I've gotten a ton of calls about this, and nowhere on this motion does it say anything about migrants. This is a public safety issue, the migrant issue is a different issue."

Cogliandro said he has spoken to the mayor and the police, and that the city has received a letter from hotel management stating that everyone was working together on the issue.

"I have full faith in the Revere Police Department and the administration to handle this properly within our power that we can handle it," he said.

Kelley said she did have some concerns about whether the motion would violate Fourth Amendment rights on illegal search and seizure and if the motion would apply to all hotels in the city or just the Quality Inn which is serving as an emergency shelter.

Cogliandro said it would apply to all hotels and requested the motion be placed on file.

Ward 5 Councillor Angela Guarino-Sawaya said she supported the motion.

"Ensuring public safety requires diligence and screening individuals who obtain emergency shelters to prevent similar instances from occurring," she said. "Hotels have the responsibility to take measures into their hands and do background checks when accepting guests under such circumstances. The collaborative effort would enhance public safety, uphold community trust, and ensure that Revere remains a safe environment for all our residents and visitors."

Kelley said her motion also addresses the incident at the emergency assistance shelter at the Quality Inn.

"The public's anger is justified and I stand with them in demanding answers," said Kelley. "It is appalling that a state-run resource funded by taxpayer dollars operating under a unique right-to-shelter law was so fundamentally flawed."

Kelley said the incident showed an overwhelming failure of procedural safeguards by the state.

"But sadly, it doesn't end there," she said. "In December 2024, after months of delays, the Healey administration finally released public records revealing that over a thousand serious incidents were reported at state shelters between January, 2023, and August, 2024. This staggering number should have raised immediate red flags and prompted action long before this most recent incident."

Kelley said criminal and background checks were not done on the people placed in the emergency assistance shelters.

"The safety, wellbeing, and quality of life of our residents must be our top priority in all decision-making processes, and in this instance, the Commonwealth's decision-making process failed us miserably," said Kelley.

As the emergency shelters are phased out and residents transitioned to more permanent housing, Kelley said it is crucial that the city is fully informed about the processes and procedures that will be implemented not only at the Quality Inn, but also for future housing initiatives.

"My motion specifically asks that this council support a request for the mayor and state delegation to for-

mally ask representatives from the Executive Office of Housing and Liveable Communities to appear before the committee of the whole and vote favorably upon it this evening," said Kelley. "It is imperative that we have a full and transparent discussion about this recent incident, the failures of the current shelter system, and the procedures that will be implemented going forward to ensure that this never happens again in the Commonwealth and especially in our city."

Councillor-at-Large Anthony Zambuto said the right-to-shelter law was never meant for migrants, it was meant for citizens, but that good intentions went wrong.

Council President Marc Silvestri said it was an emotional topic and that there were protections and guidelines in place that were missed by the state.

"I do want to state, that yes, it is a problem in our community, and yes, it is dangerous the amount of drugs, the weapon, it's reprehensible," he said. "But the person staying (there) was a mom, and no one knows her issue or what she was in from, but we do know that she appreciated what she had so much that she called 911 herself and she had the man that she had the man who was living in that room arrested. I'm not saying it makes it right ... but I am saying that it's a situation that (has) a lot of moving pieces."

"The governor has spoken on it, the mayor has confirmed to me that he was in touch with the governor, and I think now is the time not to point fingers and take blame; it's time to rally together and make sure what happens is legally and lawfully done."

**COUNCIL CONTINUES DEVELOPMENT DEBATE FOR OLD SCHOOL SITE**

**WINTHROP** - The town council debated the merits of several possibilities for the future of the old middle school on Pauline Street during a special meeting Tuesday night.

Workforce and 55-plus affordable housing, commercial use, green space, recreational use, an ice rink, and a performing arts center were all raised as potential uses for at least a portion of the property.

Council President Jim Letterie called for the special roundtable meeting to discuss the use of the property.

Several councilors expressed an interest in moving forward with a motion for the town manager to put out a request for proposals for the use of the property. But Letterie said since Tuesday night's meeting was a special meeting for discussion purposes with no public comment, he didn't want to accept any motions without the ability for public input until the next regular council meeting.

The old Winthrop Middle School on Pauline Street has been closed since 2016 when the new Middle/High School opened.

There have been efforts over the past years for the reuse of the site, but the town has yet to settle on a final plan for the property. The old middle school was one of two potential locations for a new fire station considered by the town council in 2024, but the council voted to move forward with a proposal at the town-owned

basketball courts on Walden Street.

"The middle school has been vacant since the later part of 2016 ... going on nine years," said Letterie. "Over the past nine years we have had several proposals, several thoughts, we've had a (request for information) go out, we've had surveys done. We've had different plans, those plans started ... back in 2017."

At that time, Letterie said there was a working group that thought the old school could be the site of a new ice rink at the top of the hill with some residential development down at the bottom.

By 2018, Letterie said there was some interest from a developer about the use of the middle school only, not the gym and auditorium.

"The proposal then, what he was interested in, was to gut the middle school, not tear it down, and to build 65-odd units within the old middle school," said Letterie.

There was also a previous possibility of tearing down the old middle school and building up to 150 units at Walden and Pauline that never went anywhere, he added.

"I came here a year and a half ago with the thought of having a sports complex there, they would have built an additional field house that would have been used by the town and the school department, the property would have stayed with the town of Winthrop," he said.

However, at that time, Letterie said there did not seem to be any consensus among the council about moving forward with that plan.

"There have been thoughts to tear down the gym, the auditorium, and the school down and have green space, there's been discussion of a 50 and over community," said Letterie.

Letterie said there has also been discussion about keeping the property in case the town needs to build a new school in the future.

"The most recent discussion has been about tearing down the school and the auditorium and leaving green space between the gym and potentially five townhouse lots at the top of Wheelock," he said. "This way, it would provide a natural buffer for the neighborhood and kind of complete that neighborhood."

Letterie said there has been a general consensus to maintain the current ice rink as it is or build a secondary rink. He added that he believes the town should also use the gym and recreation space because of a lack of gym space for students in the town.

"The other thought that has been out there as we discuss numerous options is income for the town," Letterie said. "There has always been that discussion that we need to look for additional revenue streams, we need to look for stimulus for businesses in town."

Precinct 6 Councilor John DaRos said the middle school property is one of the only remaining parts of town where it can build something that is revenue generating.

"I think the place to start, as opposed to the specific ideas ..., is what are the outcomes that we want?" DaRos said.

DaRos noted that residents in his precinct and throughout the town have pointed out that they have to leave Winthrop to take advantage of recreational amenities such as swimming pools and indoor

tracks.

Letterie noted that the town did contact local YMCAs to see if there was any interest in the site for a facility, but they were not interested.

Councilor Suzanne Swope said she is interested in further discussion about using the property for increased greenspace for the town, along with affordable 55-plus housing.

Councilor Joseph Aiello said the town really needs to understand the site as well as it can.

"I know some mapping has been provided, but I think mapping that anybody in the community can understand which maps the various parcels of properties that were transferred over the years and under what circumstances up against what is there today," Aiello said. "I think we've got better information than we've had before, but I don't think it is in a form that's working."

Although the council previously voted on selecting the Walden Street basketball courts as the site for a new fire station, Aiello said it should keep an open mind about the middle school site as home of a new firehouse.

"It is very clear that we all support the firehouse on this council," he said. "We need to make sure that we kick the tires on the two alternatives again and satisfy ourselves that we've

got the one that the voters support. Because bottom line, we cannot fail to pass the measure for a firehouse this round, so if that means changing our mind because of further analysis, I'm happy to have that discussion."

Councilor-at-Large Rob DeMarco said he is in favor of tearing the middle school down now while still considering development options for the property.

"I think it would be awesome to have a green space to walk from the center into Ingleside Park," said DeMarco. "We have some decisions to make, we'll make those decisions."

DeMarco said he also believes it is important that the voters make decisions on issues, such as what ultimately happens on the site.

Council Vice President Hannah Belcher said that the cost associated with tearing the property down could cost \$1.5 to \$2 million.

Councilor John Munson said he would like to see the town put out requests for proposals for residential and other potential development of the property.

Belcher also noted that the auditorium could provide potential community space for the arts and theater.

"I think it would be very utilized for the community," she said, adding that the gym is also heavily used by the town's parks and recre-

ation department.

"We have these opportunities here that can be built upon, but I think that relies heavily on the addition of revenue from housing," said Belcher. "Now, whether that is workforce housing or senior housing, I'm not sure. But I think before we start moving in the direction of asking for engineering studies or urban design studies, we need to have a really clear scope of what we are asking for, otherwise we are just throwing money at more plans."

Councilor Pat Costigan said the council has serious choices to make about the town's revenue stream.

"Is the use of that area going to be community based, or are we going to chase the dollar down the hall?" said Costigan.

Costigan said he is in favor of development that benefits the community and its wellbeing. He added that if there is residential development on the property, he would want to see ownership units as opposed to rentals.

Councilor Max Tassinari said that while the town has had almost nine years to think about the use of the old middle school site, it has been lacking an overall vision for the future.

"We're taking one piece of land and we are looking at it in a vacuum when it may be the only piece that we can move right now," he

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PLEASE RECYCLE THIS NEWSPAPER

CITY PAWS

Winter Boredom

By Penny & Ed Cherubino

Have you heard the old saying that a tired dog is a good dog? But what if winter has your dog not only full of energy but also bored and unhappy? Then, you might be looking at behavior issues. A bored dog can be a naughty dog.

We recently encountered this issue with our dog, Poppy. She suddenly began barking, cuddling, and asking for more attention, even though her veterinarian had just given her a clean bill of health.

What's Going On With Poppy?

We did the usual at-home checks, with one of us gently touching around her torso and checking her ears, paws, and mouth for any signs of pain or abnormalities. Since she had a grooming appointment, we told her long-time groomer what was happening and asked her to see if she noticed any-

thing. She reported normal behavior throughout the appointment and no changes in Poppy's body.

Finally, we tried to think of anything else that had changed in Poppy's world. We came up with two clues: First, the weather had reduced her usual exercise, and second, we had been very busy and spent less time with her over the past few months. She had spent more time at home alone and for more extended periods.

Boredom in Dogs

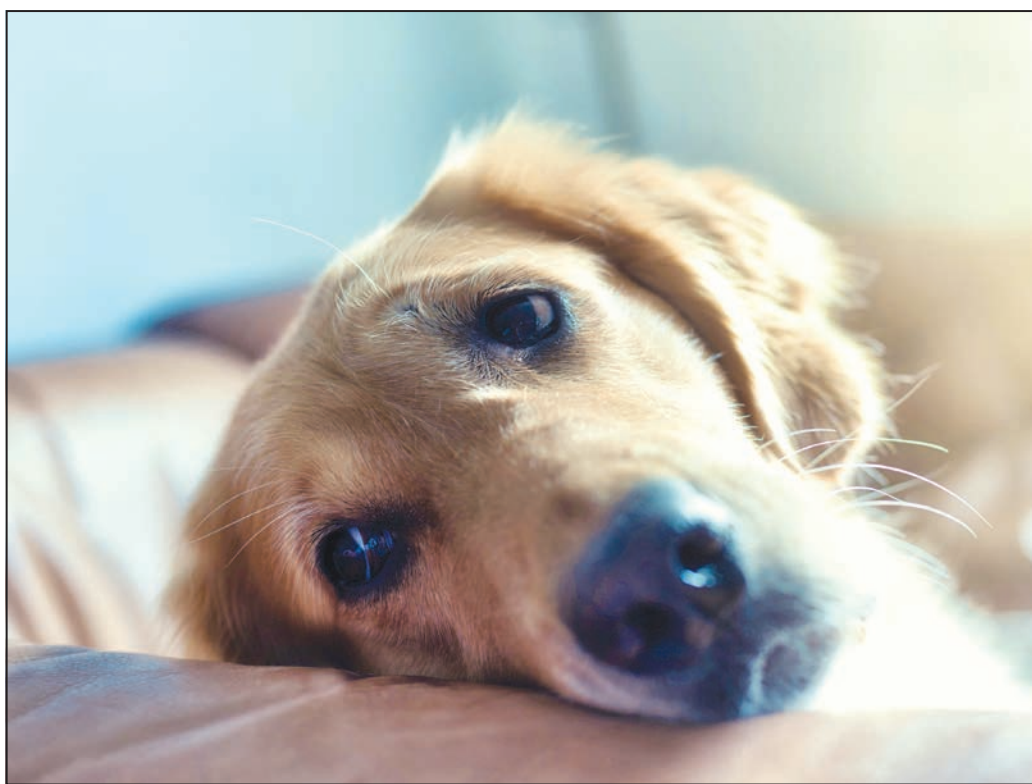
We share this problem with many readers who had to change from working from home to returning to the office. Dogs used to having their human around all the time now faced more alone time and, in many cases, less exercise and play.

A recent article in the Whole Dog Journal on the importance of mental stimulation outlined the prob-

lem. "Consistent periods of prolonged boredom can be frustrating for dogs, often leading to the dog trying to come up with her own entertainment to feel better. This often results in undesirable behaviors such as constant barking, nipping at human and dog family members for attention, or chewing on the furniture. A lack of mental stimulation can also contribute to a dog becoming disengaged and depressed, which can be harder to identify."

Winter Exercise

A winter workout plan is necessary to keep your dog physically fit, socialized, and well-behaved. While routine dog walks in winter require more energy and can leave you and an older or frail dog exhausted, they may not be enough for a young or more active dog. Moreover, the excess energy they need to burn could result in weight gain. We must take Poppy on



If your dog is giving you sad eyes like these, it may be from winter boredom that you can do something to end!

longer walks, even in the cold or wet. She also enjoys it when we all walk together, so we'll do it more often. Another way to make a winter walk more interesting is to choose a different route. For example, we can take the MBTA to a different neighborhood.

Stimulation

We can also spend more time teaching our old dog

new tricks in the cold weather. Training, new puzzle toys, food dispensing balls, hiding treats for your dog to find, and spending time with dogs and people they enjoy are ways to help them stay socialized and less bored.

If you have a bored dog, list what you can do to help. Don't be surprised if your efforts to give your dog more exercise and stimulation are incredibly benefi-

cial to you. We know that time spent cuddling and stroking our animals lowers our stress and blood pressure. Exercise, even at a walking pace, will keep both of you healthier.

Do you have a question or topic for City Paws? Email Penny@BostonZest.com with your request.

National Grid receives eight Edison Electric Institute Emergency Response awards

Special to the Record

National Grid has received eight Edison Electric Institute Emergency Response awards, recognizing the company's exceptional response for storm recovery and assistance efforts in 2024.

The company's Massachusetts and Upstate New York divisions each earned recognition in the Assistance category for deploying crews to Tennessee, Virginia and West Virginia in late September to assist with re-

covery from Hurricane Helene. Nearly 150 crews - 98 from New York and 50 from Massachusetts - aided in the restoration of service for customers impacted by the devastating storm. Many of those crews then proceeded to Florida to repair damage caused by Hurricane Milton, a Category 5 hurricane.

National Grid's Upstate New York team earned an additional Assistance award for support of in-state restoration efforts in Orange and Dutchess Counties after severe thunderstorms with

gusty winds and isolated hail struck areas of the Hudson Valley.

The company also received three awards in EEI's Recovery category. National Grid was cited for restoration efforts following a historic tornado outbreak. On July 10, the remnants of Hurricane Beryl spawned six EF0 and EF1 tornadoes in Western New York with speeds up to 110 mph that caused severe flash and river flooding. Less than a week later, a line of damaging thunderstorms caused 11 tornadoes

in Central and Eastern New York, including an EF2 tornado that significantly damaged the City of Rome.

The third Recovery award cited National Grid's efforts to restore customers impacted by the remnants of Hurricane Debby, which brought strong winds and heavy rains and flooding to parts of Central and Eastern New York.

The National Grid emergency response efforts included fleet personnel, forestry experts, safety personnel, field supervisors, and management employees, as well as the company's Mobile Emergency Operations Center vehicle.

"We are very pleased that EEI has recognized the extraordinary emergency response efforts of our field crews," said Sally Librera, President of National Grid New York. "Upstate New York faced unprecedented weather challenges in 2024 and I'm proud of how our

crews worked to restore our customers following the storms that swept through New York. And, on behalf of all of us at National Grid, I want to thank our colleagues for stepping up following Hurricanes Helene and Milton, which required them to be on the road for more than two weeks to restore service in areas we don't serve. These awards illustrate the tremendous dedication of our teams, and the incredible impact of their efforts."

"All of us at National Grid are immensely proud and honored to be receiving two EEI awards for our efforts in emergency response assistance during two of the most impactful weather events of 2024," said Lisa Wieland, President of National Grid Massachusetts. "This recognition highlights our company's commitment and unwavering dedication to doing the right thing and helping our neighbors in need."

Presented to EEI member companies twice a year, the Emergency Response Awards recognize recovery and assistance efforts of electric companies following service disruptions caused by extreme weather or other natural events. The winners were chosen by a panel of judges following an international nomination process. The awards were presented during EEI's winter Board of Directors and CEO meeting.

"Throughout 2024, America's electric companies and their dedicated workforce answered the call to help restore power and hope to communities impacted by extreme weather events and natural disasters," said EEI interim President and CEO Pat Vincent-Collawn. "This commitment to mutual assistance is vital to our efforts to serve customers safely and reliably, and I applaud National Grid for aiding neighboring electric companies in their times of need. National Grid and its storm response team are extremely deserving of these well-earned assistance awards."

EEI is the association that represents all U.S. investor-owned electric companies. Our members provide electricity for nearly 250 million Americans, and operate in all 50 states and the District of Columbia. The electric power industry supports more than 7 million jobs in communities across the United States. In addition to our U.S. members, EEI has more than 70 international electric companies, with operations in more than 90 countries, as International Members, and hundreds of industry suppliers and related organizations as Associate Members.

National Grid (NYSE: NNG) is an electricity, natural gas, and clean energy delivery company serving more than 20 million people through our networks in New York and Massachusetts. National Grid is focused on building a smarter, stronger, cleaner energy future - transforming our networks with more reliable and resilient energy solutions to meet state climate goals and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

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