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CHELSEA RECORD

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VOLUME 135, NO. 9 THURSDAY, MAY 1, 2025 35 CENTS

RED DEVIL SOFTBALL ACTION



Monica Cespedes-Cruz made some great plays for the Red Devils. See Pages 7 for more photos.

Juliana Hassell rushes from the pitcher's mound to make a play at the plate.

Last Monday afternoon the Highlanders of Somerville High visited Carter Park at CHS to battle the Red Devils.

The Highlanders took an early lead, and never looked back, taking the match 19-7.

City Manager proposes \$261.7 million budget

Special to the Record

City Manager Fidel Maltez has officially submitted the City of Chelsea's proposed Fiscal Year 2026 (FY26) budget to the City Council, totaling \$261.7 million, marking a 6.82 percent increase over last year's budget. The proposed spending plan reflects the city's commitment to public safety, education, and infrastructure investment while maintaining a disciplined fiscal approach, according to Maltez.

"This budget continues to build on our investments in public safety, education, and infrastructure while maintaining fiscal discipline," said Maltez. "Chelsea's financial health remains strong, and we are focused

on balancing growth with affordability and essential services."

The general fund is proposed at \$110.8 million, while the school department would receive \$150.9 million, underscoring Chelsea's strong support for education, Maltez stated.

He added that public safety is a key priority in the FY26 proposal. "This funding ensures we can continue to invest in community policing initiatives and critical training to better serve all our residents," said Police Chief Keith Houghton.

Fire Chief John Quatieri also praised the proposed investments, noting, "With these resources, we will be able to modernize equip-

See BUDGET Page 2

Planning Board continues hearing on Park Street residential development

By Adam Swift

Citing concerns about traffic, parking, and the scope of the project, the Planning Board continued the public hearing on a 120-unit, six-story Park Street development until its May 27 meeting.

The proposed project calls for 120 residential units with 50 parking spaces on two decks, as well as seven commercial spaces on the first floor at 105-115 Park Street.

In addition to that parcel, which is the location of the former Pollo Campero restaurant, the development lot also includes 12 Essex St. and 1 Ellsworth St.

The project requires a special permit for the parking and a special permit for a planted screen of less than 10 feet between zoning districts, as well as a variance for the demolition of two structures on the property.

Several planning board members, as well as several residents, raised concerns about the project at last week's public hearing. The continuance means that the project will have to wait until June for the ZBA to act on any planning board recommendations.

The proposed 120 units include 95 one-bed-

See PARK STREET Page 3

Deputy City Manager selected to participate in the prestigious Leadership ICMA 2025 program

Special to the Record

Devon Fields, Deputy City Manager of Operations, has been selected as one of 35 municipal government leaders nationwide to participate in the prestigious Leadership ICMA 2025 program.

This competitive selection highlights Fields' exemplary leadership and commitment to advancing local government operations in Chelsea, according to City Manager Fidel Maltez.

As the Deputy City Manager of Operations, Fields oversees several key departments, including In-



Deputy City Manager Devon Fields.

spectional Services, Human Resources, Housing and Community Development, Permitting and Land Use Planning, and the Office of the City Clerk. In the last year, she has worked with these departments to realize increased operational efficiency, enhanced community engagement, and more effective service delivery.

The Leadership ICMA program, hosted by the International City/County Management Association (ICMA), aims to equip rising leaders in local govern-

ment with the knowledge, skills, and connections to drive innovative and effective solutions in their communities. The 2025 cohort was chosen from a pool of applicants across the country, recognizing individuals who have demonstrated outstanding leadership potential and a commitment to public service excellence.

The year-long Leadership ICMA program kicked off in April 2025 in Milwaukee, WI, and will provide participants with a comprehensive curriculum, including in-person sessions, virtual training, and networking opportunities. Throughout the program, participants will engage with industry leaders, experts, and peers to explore key topics such as strategic management, public policy, community engagement, and organizational effectiveness.

"I am honored to be selected for Leadership ICMA 2025," said Fields. "This is an exciting opportunity to learn from peers and experts across the country, and to

bring back valuable insights and strategies that will benefit the City of Chelsea and our residents. I'm proud to represent the City as part of this cohort."

The Leadership ICMA program is designed to develop the next generation of local government executives. Participants will engage in comprehensive training, leadership development, and networking opportunities, enabling them to create lasting impacts in their communities. The final capstone project completed by each participant will contribute to the body of work around pressing issues in public administration today.

"We are thrilled to see Devon recognized for this opportunity," said Maltez. "Her positivity, dedication to public service, and commitment to the City of Chelsea make her an ideal candidate for this program. We are confident that her participation will bring even greater success to our community."

SWEARING IN

New Chelsea Police Officer Joseph Cataldo was sworn in on Monday by City Clerk Jeannette Cintron, witnessed by City Manager Fidel Maltez, Chief Keith Houghton, & Professional Standards Division Command Staff. Also in attendance were his family members. Cataldo has been in

law enforcement since 2017 and is a lateral transfer from another police department.

He will undertake additional on-the-job training, riding with a veteran officer in the Chelsea Police Field Training Program, before hitting the streets on his own.



New Chelsea Police Officer Joseph Cataldo.

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DiDomenico provides update on Everett soccer stadium

By Adam Swift

State Senator Sal DiDomenico provided an update on plans for a new 25,000-seat professional soccer stadium for the New England Revolution on the Everett waterfront at Monday night’s Chelsea City Council meeting.

The state senator reviewed the history of the project to this point and discussed the methods that could be used to alleviate traffic from the stadium in Chelsea, Everett, and surrounding communities.

“The Revolution are proposing to build a soccer stadium on the waterfront in Everett, which currently looks like a place where we normally wouldn’t do any business,” said DiDomenico. “There is a power plant sitting there right now, and the power plant has been decommissioned and it’s basically an empty shell. But what is left of the power plant is dirty soil, dirty water on the waterfront, and for years, that power plant has been polluting our air.”

With the proposal for the soccer stadium, DiDomenico said Everett and the region are trying to turn the page on its industrial past.

“The challenge we had is that the power plant, where it sits today, is on a Designated Port Area (DPA),” DiDomenico.

The state senator said there are about 10 DPAs in the state, and that the one that runs from Everett through Chelsea is one of the largest in the state. With the DPA in place, DiDomenico said there has been little chance to properly develop the area.

“Through legislation, we lifted the DPA on that piece of land where the power plant is today and where the stadium is proposed to go,” he said. “The DPA that was lifted was 8.8 percent of the entire DPA, so there is a much larger DPA that goes beyond that.”

That legislation passed last November, and the official lifting of the DPA is contingent upon the cities of Everett and Boston (which owns a small part of the proposed stadium site) signing an agreement

with Revolution owners the Kraft family on a community benefits agreement.

DiDomenico said that if there is not an agreement signed by May 1, it would then go to mediation with the communities. If the agreement was not resolved through mediation, it would then go to arbitration by the end of the year and the arbitrator would then come in to determine what was best for the communities.

One of the big issues that has come up in relation to the possible stadium construction has been the impact on traffic in Chelsea and throughout the region.

Part of the DPA legislation included a requirement that the MBTA put together a plan of how it plans to move 25,000 people to and from the stadium on game and event days.

“There are only 75 parking spaces at the site, and that was by design,” said DiDomenico. “People have varying opinions on if that is good or bad. There is room to put a 10,000-car garage on that site, but by design, we eliminated parking because we know that if you put a garage there with a 10,000 car capacity, you will see more than 10,000 cars trying to get into that garage for every single game and concert.”

To make the stadium project work, DiDomenico said there has to be a robust transit plan.

The proposed transit plan for the stadium and the area includes the long-awaited commuter rail station behind the nearby Encore Casino, which the casino is committed to funding. DiDomenico said the rail station has been delayed because of the slope of the train tracks behind the casino, but that the latest train technology will make the station a reality.

In addition, the MBTA is planning to extend the Silver Line, which currently ends in Chelsea, down Rte. 99 into Everett and the stadium site.

“Also, we have a footbridge that is being built from the Assembly Row station on the Orange Line going to the casino site that will give access to the stadium,” said DiDomenico.

um,” said DiDomenico.

The funding for that project is already in place through the state’s department of transportation and should be completed by 2029, which is when the stadium should be ready to go.

The last component of the transportation plan is a water shuttle on the docks adjacent to the stadium at the four-acre public waterfront part the Krafts have stated they will build and maintain.

“When all this is built out, it will be one of the most accessible transit-created corridors in the entire state,” said DiDomenico. “This area has had no transit really for years, there was no reason to build anything in that area and it has been delayed because there was not a catalyst to make it happen. We knew when we proposed a soccer stadium on that site it would be the catalyst to make all the things that were on paper happen.”

As the project gets underway, DiDomenico said Chelsea will have a voice to make sure it has limited impacts on the community, such as the environmental permitting process.

“There are several steps where the public will be engaged,” he said. “There is a lot of excitement about this project, and I strongly believe this is a great project for our community and our region or I would not have put my name on it and put my reputation on the line and fought for this for almost three years to get it across the finish line.”

District 8 Councilor Calvin Brown asked why Chelsea was not a part of a community host agreement for the project.

DiDomenico noted that there was no designation of a host community in the DPA legislation.

“It is similar to the casino itself,” he said. “Chelsea was not a host community for the casino either, Chelsea was a surrounding community, and we haven’t gotten that far yet (with the soccer stadium). There will be time for Chelsea to have its voices heard, and I will be there as well.”

APPLICATIONS NOW AVAILABLE FOR CITY AIR CONDITIONER PROGRAM

The city recently announced that applications are now open for the AC Unit Program. This initiative provides free air conditioning units to help eligible low-income households stay cool during the summer, regardless of immigration status.

Due to limited supply, the city will conduct a weighted lottery to select recipients.

Priority will be given to applicants who:

- Are at high risk of heat-related illness, such as: people with disabilities, children, pregnant individuals and/or seniors (65+)
- Rent
- Do not currently have an AC unit
- Are veterans

The city encourages residents to apply if:

- Your household does not have an air conditioner
- Your household income is at or below 30% of the HUD Area Median Income

Please note, applicants will be excluded if:

- You have previously received an AC through this program
- You live in a building with central AC

Submit one application per household. If you rent a room, only include the family members who live in the same room. If you have any questions or need assistance completing the online application, please call (617) 366-2409 for support.

CHELSEA DAY TO FEATURE TALK WITH ARTIST BEN SLOAT

Be the Change, the first-ever outdoor con-

temporary art exhibit at City Hall, was originally launched in The Fenway in the fall of 2024. This impactful exhibit will be on display in Chelsea through May 19. More info about this project is at <https://jewisharts.org/theme/be-the-change/>

Celebrate the intersection of Jewish American and Asian American Pacific Islander Heritage Months with the city on Chelsea Day, May 4 at City Hall with Be the Change artist Ben Sloat. He will share how his Taiwanese Jewish identity informs his work, and what it means to be part of this justice themed show. Reception includes a local favorite, Katz’s Bagels, inventors of the pizza bagel.

Register at <https://vill-nashul.org/events/event/celebrating-shared-cultures-through-art>

The event is scheduled to run from 2 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Born and raised in New York City, Sloat earned degrees from UC Berkeley and SMFA/Tufts. His work has been shown in venues such as the Havana Biennial (Matanzas), Radium Art Center (Busan), Kunsthall Charlottenborg (Copenhagen), Museum of Fine Arts (Boston), Dublin City Gallery/The Hugh Lane (Dublin), Peabody Essex Museum (Salem), Virginia Museum of Fine Arts (Richmond), and the Queens Museum. Solo exhibitions include those at Das Klohauschen (Munich), Steven Zevitas Gallery (Boston); Coop Gallery (Nashville), Galerie Laroche/Joncas (Montreal), Gallery 126 (Galway), Front Gallery (Oakland), and the American Cultural Center (Taipei).

Ben Sloat’s website: <https://www.bensloat.com/>

LYNN MAN CHARGED WITH CHELSEA MURDER

Carlos Utrera, 27, of Lynn, was arraigned on several charges, including first-degree murder, in connection with a fatal shooting that occurred Saturday morning at 40 Watts Street.

Chelsea Police detectives, working in collaboration with State Police detectives from the Suffolk County District Attorney’s office, arrested Utrera later in the day on Saturday.

This arrest follows a swift and coordinated investigation by Chelsea Police and the Suffolk County State Police Detective Unit, according to Chelsea Police Chief Keith Houghton. The investigation remains active as authorities continue to pursue all leads related to this incident.

“We are committed to ensuring that those responsible for violent acts in our community are held accountable,” said Chelsea Police Chief Keith Houghton. “I want to thank our detectives and the Suffolk County District Attorney’s Office for their immediate and tireless work on this case.”

Shortly after 12:30 a.m. on Saturday, Chelsea Police Officers responded to the area of 40 Watts Street following a report of a shooting. Upon arrival, officers located a 20-year-old male victim suffering from a gunshot wound. Despite life-saving efforts, the victim was pronounced dead, according to police.

On Monday, Utrera was charged with first-degree murder, carrying a firearm without a license, and carrying a loaded firearm without a license in Chelsea District Court. He was ordered held without bail and is due back in Chelsea District Court on June 12 for a probable cause hearing.

Council provided with feedback on parking fine fees

By Adam Swift

Parking on the congested streets of Chelsea has consistently been one of the biggest issues in the city.

At Monday night’s city council meeting, City Manager Fidel Maltez responded to a council order filed by District 5 Councilor Lisa Santagate requesting the city review its existing structure for traffic and parking violations with an emphasis on overnight parking without a residential sticker.

“Our Director of Constituent Services completed a thorough review of neighboring communities,” stated Maltez. “During our engagement with residents, parking is among the top concerns. We appreciate the concern raised by Councilor Santagate and agree whole-

heartedly that there needs to be an improvement within our current parking program to prioritize parking for our residents.”

Chelsea’s current structure for traffic and parking violations is comparable with surrounding communities, according to the city manager.

“The \$25 fee for parking without a residential sticker overnight is equal to that of our neighbors in Everett and Winthrop,” Maltez stated. “While doing research for this council order, Everett announced that all parking fines would be increased by \$5 effective July 1, 2025. Revere currently charges \$20 for the same infraction. Somerville Charges \$50 for this infraction.”

One potential approach to the issue could be target-

ing specific vehicles versus making a citywide change, according to Maltez.

In Everett, there is a \$50 fee for commercial vehicles and \$50 for an overnight parking violation.

“Everett also charges a different amount, \$50, for overnight parking fines in the downtown area,” said Maltez. “We are mindful of striking the balance between effective parking enforcement and burdening residents with additional costs.”

Santagate thanked Maltez and his office for the research they provided.

“That was really my goal with bringing this up was that we could start to have a conversation and start to think of other ways to tackle this issue,” she said.

Councillor-at-Large Roberto Jimenez Rivera said there should be further conversation about the issue in the council’s parking planning subcommittee. He said the council might also want to consider extending the hours of enforcement for the resident parking permits.

“Bans are not a way to make money, it is a way for us to enforce the rules, and if we don’t want people parking we should look at increasing the fees so it prevents people from doing it,” he said.

District 1 Councilor Todd Taylor said the council needs to gather more community input and engagement before it decides to discuss any changes in subcommittee.

Budget // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

ment and enhance firefighter staffing and training to improve response times and safety for our community.”

Beyond public safety, the budget supports enhancements in infrastructure, technology, and community programs. It also addresses cost pressures such as rising health insurance premiums and contractual salary increases across departments,

according to Maltez.

Important upcoming dates for the budget process include:


- Department Budget Presentations and Hearings to the City Council: Scheduled for May 12 - 15, 2025
- City Council vote on the FY26 Budget: Scheduled for June 2, 2025

“An engaged community is vital to our budget process. We want to hear from everyone,” said Deputy City Manager for Finance Michael Mason.

Under Mason’s direction the City held the first public budget forums one in March and one in April leading up to the formal budget process as a tool to engage residents and community stakeholders.

Real Estate Transfers


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Martinez, Mario	Ricupero Jr, Richard	136 Williams St	\$870,000
Martinez, Mario	Ricupero Jr, Richard	138 Williams St	\$870,000
Martinez, Mario	Ricupero Jr, Richard	140 Williams St	\$870,000
Martinez, Mario	Ricupero Jr, Richard	142 Williams St	\$870,000
Martinez, Mario	Ricupero Jr, Richard	144 Williams St	\$870,000
Li, Yanchuan	Hafeez-Lodhi Ft	29 Madison Ave	\$1,128,000
Martinez, Oscar	Delao, Jose W	31 Heard St	\$880,000
Arevalo, Jesus E	Zhadeeva, Aleksey	70 Warren Ave #4-2	\$382,500



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The Neighborhood Developers acquires Park and Pearl properties to preserve affordable housing

Special to the Record

The Neighborhood Developers (TND) has acquired a group of multifamily properties in Chelsea, a move aimed at preserving affordable housing and preventing displacement in the community. The properties include 148 Park Street, 158 Pearl Street, 156–160 Park Street, and 161–165 Pearl Street, totaling 30 residential units.

With resources from the Eastern Bank Foundation, Boston Impact Initiative, the City of Chelsea, and the Opportunity Communities (OppCo) Housing Accelerator Fund, TND was able to acquire these historic properties and ensure they remain affordable and in good condition for tenants. The acquisition and long-term sustainability of these properties was additionally supported with financing from MHIC NOAH Regional Fund and the Property and Casualty Initiative (PCI). In fact, TND was the first nonprofit to access MHIC’s new NOAH Regional Fund, a fund set up to support acquisition of existing multi-family properties like

those at Park & Pearl. “The Commonwealth’s housing affordability crisis demands bold leadership, new strategies and innovative partnerships. PCI is proud to invest its capital alongside OppCo and MHIC to support TND’s groundbreaking portfolio acquisition initiative that will preserve and deepen affordability at scale across Chelsea neighborhoods,” said Michelle Volpe, President of PCI.

“The acquisition of Park and Pearl in Chelsea marks the first loan from MHIC’s Regional NOAH Fund—an initiative designed to help mission-driven developers preserve at-risk, naturally affordable housing,” said Moddie Turay, MHIC’s President and CEO. “These 30 units, acquired by The Neighborhood Developers, represent the kind of unsubsidized housing that is rapidly disappearing across Massachusetts. By acting quickly, the fund protects affordability, prevents displacement, and secures long-term housing stability for our communities.”

“We’re deeply grateful to the donors and mis-

sion-driven investors who made this acquisition possible,” said Kathy McGilvray, CEO of OppCo. “Their commitment allowed TND to act swiftly and secure these homes at Park and Pearl, protecting tenants and preserving affordability in Chelsea. This is the kind of catalytic support that strengthens neighborhoods and lives.”

TND, a member of OppCo, has made housing preservation a priority. The acquisition of these properties aligns with the organization’s efforts to stabilize neighborhoods and support residents at risk of displacement.

“Thanks to the trust and investment of our funding partners, we were able to move quickly to preserve these homes for Chelsea residents,” said Rafael Mares, Executive Director of TND. “Their support is a vote of confidence in our community and the people who live here. We’re proud to partner with them to protect and improve and preserve the homes at Park and Pearl.”

For tenants striving to improve living conditions



TND’s acquisition of the Park and Pearl property in Chelsea was made possible through support from the OppCo Housing Accelerator Fund, the Property and Casualty Initiative (PCI), and MHIC’s new Regional Acquisition NOAH Fund — which TND was the first CDC to utilize.

and fight rent hikes, this sale offers hope. TND plans to make necessary upgrades and transition the properties into permanently affordable homes.

So far, TND has secured 64 affordable housing units,

with plans to add another 27 in the near future. This latest step underscores the organization’s commitment to strengthening Chelsea’s neighborhoods and keeping housing within reach for working families.

For more information about the Housing Accelerator Fund and their work, visit: <https://www.oppcommunities.org/oppc-housing-accelerator-fund>

Leonard Florence Center residents and staff join Lizzo on the set of Saturday Night Live

Special to the Record

Steve Saling and Patrick O’Brien had one of their lifelong dreams come to fruition on Saturday, April 14. As part of the Leonard Florence Center for Living’s Outward Bound program, the two ALS residents traveled to New York City with staff and Chelsea Jewish Lifecare CEO Barry Berman to attend the taping of Saturday Night Live (SNL), the iconic late-night live sketch comedy variety show on NBC that is currently celebrating its 50th anniversary.

Both Steve and Patrick are huge fans of SNL. Although tickets are almost impossible to get, Barry Berman arranged for Steve and Patrick, both of whom are on ventilators, to attend the April 14th episode. Nighttime Emmy Award winner Jon Hamm was the guest host, and the incredibly talented Lizzo served as the musical guest. Critics have said it was the best show of the season.

Patrick, who himself is an award-winning filmmaker and DJ, concurred that being at SNL, and especially meeting Lizzo, was a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity. “Hearing Lizzo say ‘I love you, Patrick’ was totally amazing,” said Patrick. He added, “Lizzo is a truly beautiful person.”

The SNL team was so welcoming and gracious,” said Barry Berman. “To see the looks on Steve and Patrick’s faces brought us so much joy. It truly was a memorable night for all.”

Bringing residents on ventilators to an out-of-state event is no small feat—it requires an extraordinary level of coordination, expertise, and care. From dedicated respiratory therapists who ensure each resident’s breathing support is continuously monitored, to a registered nurse who provides critical medical oversight throughout the journey, every detail matters. A specially equipped vehicle and trained driver are essential for safe and comfortable transport, offering the necessary environment and stability they need.

Steve Saling concurred that it was a night to remember. “Wow, SNL was an experience of a lifetime. We were treated like VIPs and got a meet and greet with Lizzo before the show,” said



Lizzo and Patrick O’Brien.



Steve Saling and Lizzo.

Steve. “It was super cool to see how they put together the show. Good times.”

Many Leonard Florence Center staff members made it possible for Steve and Patrick to attend the show. Recreational Programming Director Jimmy Honohan drove the organization’s van, accompanied by staff members Shelly Scarpa, Amalia Almeida, Paula McKay, Darly Charles, and Ruth Gonzales. This incredible effort simply wouldn’t be possible without the generous support of our donors. Their contributions make

these meaningful experiences a reality.

As the country’s first urban model Green House® skilled nursing facility, the Leonard Florence Center for Living, operated by nonprofit Chelsea Jewish Lifecare, provides a level of independence not typically found in other skilled nursing facilities. The Stein Family Center for Well-Being, the only Green House® ventilator program in the country, opened within the Center in 2020. Currently, the Leonard Florence Center takes care of more in-

dividuals living with ALS than any place else in the world.

To learn more about the Leonard Florence Center for Living or how the Outward Bound Program is making incredible life experiences possible for residents, please visit www.chelseajewish.org.

Park Street // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

room or studio units, 15 two-bedroom units, and 10 three-bedroom units, according to project attorney Anthony Rossi. He added that 18 of the units will be affordable units under the city’s inclusionary zoning ordinance.

The seven retail spaces range from about 700 to 1,700 square feet, but Rossi said there is the possibility that two or more units could be combined to create a larger retail space.

Since the project does not meet the required number of parking spaces for the zoning district, Rossi said residents would not be eligible to take part in the city’s residential parking sticker program.

“We actually have more parking than other projects that were built in the Broadway district,” said Rossi.

Rossi noted that a traffic analysis of the project was close to completion as of last week’s public hearing.

The goal of the project with its large mix of one-bedroom units is to limit the amount of parking with the tenants who come in so that there is some parking remaining for visitors and the people who will work in the retail spaces, Rossi added.

Planning Board member Mimi Rancatore raised concerns about the retail units, as well as the development having only two elevators. In addition, Rancatore was one of several people to point out that Chelsea is in need of housing for families, not small, one-person units.

“Chelsea needs family housing, it doesn’t need 95 micro units, that is not what Chelsea is, Chelsea is

chelseajewish.org.

Chelsea Jewish Lifecare is redefining senior care and re-envisioning what life should be like for those living with disabling conditions. The eldercare community includes a wide array of skilled and short-term rehab residences, ALS, MS

and ventilator dependent specialized care residences, traditional and specialized assisted living options, memory care, independent living, adult day health, and homecare and hospice agencies that deliver customized and compassionate care.

a family community,” she said. “This is one of the biggest projects we’ve built, and it doesn’t include families; and I have a real hard time with that, and the two elevators are never going to work.”

Rossi noted that the smaller commercial spaces is one aspect of the project that the developer worked on with the city so that it is in line with the city’s vision for the Broadway corridor.

“There are numerous reasons why I do not feel this meets the needs of the community,” said Chester Avenue resident Sandy Maynard. “We have a housing crisis and I am all for building more housing, but this particular project does not meet our community’s needs.”

Maynard also noted that she believed the 18 affordable units, given the size of the project, was only a token gesture. She added that even with the restriction on resident sticker parking, the project would still add to parking and traffic congestion issues in an already busy area of the city.

Mark Lederman, who owns a property adjacent to the proposed project, said he also has many of the same concerns that were raised by Rancatore and Maynard.

“I’m concerned with the density, it is out of character with the neighborhood,” he said. “I do want to see something developed over here, I just think some more work needs to be done with the neighborhood.”

District 7 City Councilor Manuel Teshe also said the city needs more housing for families, and that he would like to see the developer come back with a slightly

revised plan for the parcel.

Rossi stated that while the 120 units may seem like a large development in the area, the project encompasses several parcels of land.

“This easily could have been four 30-unit buildings based on the lot size,” said Rossi. “This is 60 percent of an acre in downtown Chelsea. The reason it sounds like a lot is because my client has acquired multiple, multiple parcels and made them into one development project.”

Rossi said he had no issue tabling the public hearing on the development to see if any adjustments could be made.

“My only concern is even if we reduce the unit count and add more multiple bedrooms, I’m thinking we’re creating a bigger parking problem by doing that,” said Rossi.

Decreasing the unit count would also decrease the number of affordable units in the project, Rossi noted, adding that financing for the project would be more difficult with a lower unit count and more affordable units.

The project will be back before the planning board at its May 27 meeting.

The planning board also continued the public hearing for a two-family home proposed for 18-24 Grandview Road. The applicants came back with a smaller proposal for a two-story house as opposed to a side-by-side duplex that was previously before the board, but neighbors and some board members said they still had concerns about parking and the impact the project would have on neighboring properties.

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RECORD

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THE TRAGIC WAR IN VIETNAM ENDED 50 YEARS AGO THIS WEEK

It was 50 years ago this week on April 30, 1975, that the U.S. involvement in the War in Vietnam officially came to an end when the last U.S. military helicopter flew ignominiously from the roof of the U.S. Embassy in Saigon (as the capital of South Vietnam was known at that time, but which is now Ho Chi Minh City, named after the No. Vietnamese leader who once worked as a pastry chef in Boston’s Parker House from 1911-13).

For the generations of Americans over the past 50 years who know about the Vietnam War only from their U.S. history classes, the few pages in their textbooks devoted to the war cannot even remotely describe both the upheaval that the war caused in American society at that time and the lasting impacts upon our nation that reverberate today.

More than nine million brave young Americans served during the war, of whom more than 58,000 gave their lives, while another 300,000 were wounded. In addition, there were hundreds of thousands more who suffered the psychological effects from PTSD, as well as the latent toll from Agent Orange (the powerful chemical herbicide that took its name from the orange striping on the barrels in which it was stored) and other weapons used by the U.S. military that resulted in later-life cancers and birth defects that affected tens of thousands of our soldiers and Vietnamese civilians.

For those of us who came of age during that era from 1965-75, we recall watching the war brought into our living rooms every night on the national TV news shows with reports from correspondents who were embedded with our military as they went on their infamous search and destroy missions that transformed the beautiful and placid Vietnamese countryside into a living hell for the Vietnamese people.

We recall reading with stunned disbelief in Time Magazine (Time was delivered to our home every week) about the massacre by U.S. Army American soldiers, led by Lieutenant William Calley, at the Vietnamese village of My Lai, in which hundreds of civilians, almost all of them women, children, and elderly men, were raped and murdered.

We remember the “body count” of “enemy soldiers” that was issued daily by U.S. military officials, under the direction of General William Westmoreland, which was so huge that it seemed that it would be only a matter of time before the small country of No. Vietnam would run out of soldiers.

Only later did we learn that these so-called body counts included hundreds of thousands of So. Vietnamese civilians who were killed by our bombs and assaults on their villages.

Then in 1971 came the publication of the Pentagon Papers, which had been leaked by Daniel Ellsberg to the New York Times, which detailed the secret history of the war (compiled by the Pentagon itself). The Pentagon Papers spelled out how President Lyndon Johnson and previous administrations had systematically lied both to the American people and Congress about what was going on in Vietnam.

The Pentagon Papers detailed the covert actions by the U.S. military that involved us ever-deeper into the process of escalation that culminated with the Tonkin Gulf Resolution passed by Congress in August, 1964, that basically gave Johnson carte blanche to send millions of soldiers to Vietnam without Congress ever having issued a Declaration of War.

Senator Ernest Gruening of Alaska was one of only two senators to oppose the resolution with words that would become prophetic, saying he was voting against the resolution because “...we are sending our American boys into combat in a war in which we have no business, which is not our war, into which we have been misguidedly drawn, and which is steadily being escalated.”

Only years later was it revealed that the basis of the Tonkin Gulf Resolution -- the supposed attack on U.S. naval vessels by No. Vietnam in the Tonkin Gulf off the coast of No Vietnam -- was a complete fiction.

Moreover, the overall justification for the war was the oft-stated Domino Theory, by which American policy-makers suggested that if one country in Southeast Asia were to fall to the Communists, the others would fall like dominoes and would become vassal states of China and the Soviet / union.

But that analysis completely ignored the simple fact that the Vietnam War was a civil war in which the Vietnamese were seeking to throw off their colonial rulers -- the country had been invaded and governed first by the Chinese, then the Japanese, then the French, and then the Americans.

Robert McNamara, who served as Secretary of Defense under Presidents John F. Kennedy and Johnson from 1961-68, and who was one of the chief architects of the American strategy, admitted 40 years later that American involvement in the war in Vietnam was “wrong.”

In the aftermath of the war, trust in our government reached an all-time low and has continued to plummet ever since, even among those of us who generally believe in the values of our democracy and the need for a strong national government.

The War in Vietnam was a tragedy for everyone who even remotely was touched by it. It was a war built on lies on top of lies -- and its legacy is a large part of the reason why Americans have such distrust of our government and institutions today.

MAKE A DIFFERENCE

To the Editor,
Readers of The Chelsea Record have an opportunity to make a difference.

The male residents at the local YMCA could benefit from new or clothing in very good condition.

Items such as jeans, pants, shorts, shirts, t-shirts, tank tops, sweats, light

jackets, sneakers and shoes are appreciated.

To arrange for drop off at the YMCA, 207 Shurtleff St. Chelsea, please call Hector at 617-884-5132.

Fran Roznowski

WE CAN ALL DO OUR PART

To the Editor,
What was the purpose of

Chelsea resident honored with Project Bread’s Patrick Hughes Award for Social Justice at 57th annual Walk for Hunger

Special to the Record

On May 4, Giovanni Armando Zuniga Piamba of Chelsea, will be honored as one of Project Bread’s inaugural Council of Experts with Lived Experience at the 57th annual Walk for Hunger with the 2025 Patrick Hughes Award for Social Justice. Project Bread recognizes the meaningful work of the Council in addressing the root causes of hunger and bravely sharing their personal experiences to advocate for sustainable solutions for stateside food security.

The nonprofit’s most prestigious award was created to honor the legacy of Patrick Hughes, whose deep-seated passion for social justice and entrepreneurial spirit led him to found Project Bread’s Walk for Hunger in 1969. His activism and advocacy were anchored in optimism and stemmed from his belief in the inherent worth and dignity of every human being.

“I’m truly honored to receive the Patrick Hughes Award for Social Justice,” says Zuniga. “This award is not just a personal recognition—it represents the collective work and the power of voices that are too often left out of important conversations. My time with Project Bread’s Council of Experts has been transformative. I didn’t just learn about public policy and the food system—I learned how powerful it is when people



Giovanni Armando Zuniga Piamba.

with lived experience are truly heard and valued. I’ve met inspiring community leaders, and I’ve seen how our stories can shape real change. I accept this award on behalf of my community — immigrants, workers, families — who face daily challenges just to put food on the table. Social justice begins when everyone has a seat at the table, and I thank Project Bread for making that possible.”

Launched in 2023, the Council of Experts integrates the lived experiences of individuals and families facing food insecurity into Project Bread’s decision-making, programming, and policy initiatives. The eight Council of Experts members, including Zuniga, of the 2023-2024 cohort contributed to projects like improving evaluation tools with the research team, refining communications for The Walk for Hunger, increasing awareness of nutri-

your Earth Day editorial? You ended it with the statement: “The present is bad and the future will be worse -- and there is nothing we can do about it.”

Global warming is a grave problem, but your statement suggests we just give up. There are many scientists and researchers who are working on the problem. We can all do our

part to reduce carbon emissions and encourage other people and countries to do the same. We can hope and we can act.

Editorial writers should identify problems, but they should also point to solutions; no matter how dire the situation.

Tom Wilson

tion programs like Summer Eats, and lending their expertise to the development and launch of the statewide Make Hunger History coalition. Their involvement enhanced outreach, resource sharing, policy strategy, and program development, ensuring that the needs of the community are met in a sustainable way.

“The inaugural Council of Experts embodies the same entrepreneurial spirit of Patrick Hughes,” says Erin McAleer, CEO of Project Bread. “They are community leaders who share Project Bread’s passion for food justice. Giovanni is an inspiration to us all, deeply committed to ensuring that everyone in Massachusetts can access and afford food with dignity.”

The Council members will share remarks with the over 3,500 people expected to participate in Project Bread’s 57th Walk for Hunger on Sunday, May 4. Community members can join them in-person for the 3-mile loop around Boston Common or participate in the “Walk Your Own Way” option from anywhere in the Commonwealth. The nonprofit’s flagship community fundraiser will raise more than \$1 million to support the leading statewide food security organization’s approach to ensure food access for all children and families in Massachusetts.

To register as a partic-

ipant for Project Bread’s Walk for Hunger, or to support a walker or team with a donation, visit give.projectbread.org/walk. All individual walkers are encouraged to fundraise a minimum of \$25 and teams \$250. Participants who raise \$500 or more are recognized as Heart & Sole walkers and receive access to personalized fundraising support, exclusive event gear, free breakfast on Walk Day, and invitations to exclusive events.

People experiencing food insecurity should call Project Bread’s FoodSource Hotline (1-800-645-8333), which provides confidential, free assistance getting connected to a variety of food resources in 180 languages and for the hearing impaired. Counselors can pre-screen families and help them to apply for SNAP. Learn more at projectbread.org/get-help.

Project Bread is the leading statewide food security organization in Massachusetts. Beginning in 1969 with the first Walk for Hunger, the nonprofit focuses on driving systemic change to ensure people of all ages have reliable access to healthy food. Project Bread works collaboratively across sectors to create innovative solutions to end hunger and improve lives across the Commonwealth. For more information, visit: www.projectbread.org.

Your opinions, please

The Record welcomes letters to the editor. Our mailing address is 385 Broadway, Revere, MA 02151.

Letters may also be e-mailed to stephen.quigley@reverejournal.com.

Letters must be signed.

We reserve the right to edit for length and content.

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Federal Bureau of Investigation’s Joint Terrorism Task Force turns 45

Special to the Record

The Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) is marking the 45th anniversary of the creation of its first Joint Terrorism Task Force (JTTF). Formed in 1980, the first JTTF became a model for law enforcement cooperation across the nation.

The Boston Division of the FBI organized its first JTTF in April 1986. Known as the New England Terrorism Task Force, it was comprised of the FBI, the Boston and Cambridge Police Departments, and the state police departments in Massachusetts, Maine, New Hampshire, and Rhode Island. On September 19, 1997, the Boston Joint Terrorism Task Force split off from the New England Terrorism Task Force and became its own entity. Five years later, on November 7, 2003, the Rhode Island JTTF was established, and shortly after that, the New Hampshire, Maine, and Western Massachusetts JTTFs were created. In 2011, FBI Boston opened the nation’s first airport-based JTTF office at Logan International Airport. In total, FBI Boston sponsors five JTTFs in our area of responsibility.

JTTFs gather trained investigators, intelligence analysts, linguists, and tactical experts from federal, state, local, territorial, and tribal law enforcement and intelligence agencies. Task force members share intelligence and investigative leads and respond to threats and incidents.

“Every day, FBI Boston’s Joint Terrorism Task Forces are working fervently to detect, disrupt, and dismantle extremist plots before they happen because in today’s dynamic threat environment, no one agency can do it alone,” said James Crowley, Acting Special Agent in Charge of the FBI Boston Division. “All our partners bring their unique skills, perspectives, and expertise to these teams and work with us and our private sector and community partners to keep our communities safe. We thank them for their dedication to this important mission.”

The FBI’s JTTF model dates to 1979, when the New York Police Department and the FBI’s New York Field Office created a joint task force to tackle violent bank robberies. They initiated the model in 1980, when terrorist bombings, bomb threats, and other violence plagued the city.

Following the 9/11 attacks, FBI leadership directed all FBI field offices to establish a JTTF. Additionally, the FBI established a National Joint Terrorism Task Force to support the local task forces in June of 2002. The NJTTF at FBI Headquarters

enhances communication, coordination, and cooperation from partner agencies.

JTTFs have disrupted dozens of plots in the last four decades, including a plan to attack millennial celebrations in Los Angeles in 2000, a plan to detonate a car bomb in Times Square in New York in 2010, and plans to sow chaos in Baltimore, Maryland in 2022 and 2023 by destroying energy facilities.

The FBI Boston Division counts numerous disruptions of its own, including:

- a plot by Tarek Mehanna from Sudbury, Massachusetts to provide material support to terrorists. In 2012, Mehanna was sentenced to 17 years in federal prison following an eight-week trial where he was convicted of conspiracy to provide material support to Al Qaeda, providing material support to terrorists, conspiracy to commit murder in a foreign country, conspiracy to make false statements to the FBI, and two counts of making false statements. According to testimony at trial, Mehanna and his co-conspirators discussed their desire to participate in violent jihad against American interests and their desire to die on the battlefield.

- Rezwan Ferdaus from Ashland, Massachusetts, was sentenced to 17 years in federal prison on November 1, 2012 for plotting an attack on the Pentagon and U.S. Capitol, and for attempting to provide detonation devices to terrorists.

- David Wright, of Everett, Massachusetts, was sentenced to 30 years in prison on September 29, 2020, after a federal jury convicted him of conspiring to murder U.S. citizens, including police, on behalf of the Islamic State of Iraq & Syria (ISIS). Shortly after, Nicholas Rovinski, of Warwick, Rhode Island, was sentenced to 15 years in prison for conspiring with Wright and Usaamah Abdullah Rahim (now deceased) to commit acts of terrorism to support ISIS, specifically, to behead Americans and kill police.

- Alexander Ciccolo, of Adams, Massachusetts, was arrested by FBI Boston’s Western Massachusetts JTTF on July 4, 2015, for plotting to engage in ISIS- inspired terrorist activity. He was sentenced to 20 years in prison after admitting to providing material support to a foreign terrorist organization, attempting to use weapons of mass destruction, felony possession of firearms, and assaulting a nurse during a jail intake process by use of a deadly weapon causing bodily injury.

- Edward McLarnon, of Malden, Massachusetts, was sentenced to 25 years in federal prison on May 16, 2018 for buying explosives and firearms with the intent to

murder a federal judge, a former Massachusetts Attorney General, and his ex-wife’s husband.

- Xavier Pelkey, of Waterville, Maine, was arrested by FBI Boston’s Maine JTTF and later admitted to self-radicalizing, pledging loyalty to ISIS, and conspiring with two minors to commit a mass shooting at a mosque in Illinois. He was sentenced to 15 years in federal prison on November 6, 2023.

JTTFs are also among the first responders to arrive at the scenes of horrific violence – whether they are terror-based or not – and lead the investigations of terrorist incidents.

Among the cases Boston’s JTTF has investigated are:

- the 9/11 attacks, given that two of the hijacked flights – American Airlines Flight 11 and United Airlines 175, both of which were deliberately crashed into the World Trade Center – originated from Logan International Airport in Boston. Additionally, Mohammed Atta, the ringleader of the hijackers, had traveled to Logan Airport via a connecting flight from Portland, Maine.

- Richard Reid attempted to destroy American Airlines Flight 63 as it traveled from Paris to Miami in December 2001. Alert passengers thwarted his attempts to ignite a bomb in his shoe, and the flight was diverted to Logan International Airport where he was taken into cus-

tody. In January 2003, Reid was found guilty of terrorism and sentenced to life in prison.

- Two self-radicalized brothers, Tamerlan and Dzhokhar Tsarnaev, executed the largest terrorist attack on U.S. soil since 9/11 at the finish line of the Boston Marathon. They detonated two powerful explosives, killing three people and injuring more than 500 others. Days later, on April 18, 2013, the brothers—armed with five IEDs, a Ruger P95 semi-automatic handgun, ammunition, a machete, and a hunting knife—drove their Honda Civic to the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) campus, where they shot and killed MIT

Police Officer Sean Collier and attempted to steal his service weapon. Following a manhunt that culminated in a shoot-out with police in Watertown, Tamerlan Tsarnaev was killed, and his younger brother Dzhokhar was taken into custody after hiding out in a boat. He was charged with use of a weapon of mass destruction resulting in death and conspiracy along with 29 additional terrorism related charges. Tsarnaev was convicted and formally sentenced to death in June 2015. He is currently appealing that sentence.

To report suspicious activity, call 1-800-CALL-FBI (225-5324). You can also submit a tip online at tips.fbi.gov.

OBITUARIES

Paula MacFarlane

She is remembered as an epitome of kindness, a beacon of creativity and a testament to selfless service

Paula (Carpenter) MacFarlane of Winthrop passed away on April 18, 2025, at the age of 76.

Born in Ames, Iowa on October 13, 1948 to the late John B. Carpenter and Kathryn (Marxer), she was the beloved wife for 29 years to the late Robert MacFarlane. As we navigate through this time of sorrow, we remember her as an epitome of kindness, a beacon of creativity and a testament to selfless service.

Paula’s journey was nothing short of remarkable. After graduating from the Mercy College of Health Sciences in De Moines Iowa, she dedicated her life to the noble profession of nursing, healing not just the body but also the soul of every patient she tended to. Her thoughtfulness shone through her actions, comforting families during their most challenging times.

Her dedication to her work in healthcare was paramount, yet Paula managed to find time to hone her creativity. Her love for knitting and creating greeting cards was well-known. She even held classes at her residence, sharing her knowledge, and igniting a spark of creativity in others. As Maya Angelou once said, “You can’t use up creativity. The more you use, the more you have,” Paula lived by this mantra, her creative spirit ever flowing and inspiring.

She is survived by her dear brother, John Carpenter and his wife, Janice of Arizona. Paula was an



adored aunt of Jessica Carpenter and her husband, David Tyler of Texas and cherished great aunt of Cameron Lowery and Stella Tyler.

In this time of grief, her memory serves as a reminder of a life lived with purpose, a life filled with love, and a life that touched countless others. Paula was a living testament to the quote by Albert Schweitzer, “The purpose of human life is to serve, and to show compassion and the will to help others.”

A Visitation will be held at the Paul Buonfiglio & Sons Funeral Home, 128 Revere St, Revere on Saturday, May 3, 2025, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. followed by a Prayer Service at 1 p.m. in the Funeral Home. Relatives and friends are kindly invited. Private Interment.

We invite you to share your fond memories of Paula and upload your cherished photos on the memorial page at www.buonfiglio.com. Your stories and pictures will serve as a comforting reminder of the beautiful life that Paula lived. Let us celebrate her life by remembering her with love and gratitude.

Beverly Feinstein

Active member and office manager of Temple Emmanuel, Chelsea

Beverly Feinstein, who recently celebrated her 92nd birthday, passed away on April 24, 2025.

Beverly was the beloved wife of the late Hebert Feinstein, mother of Scott Feinstein and Stacey and Mitchell Marcus and grandmother of Rachel Marcus and Emily Marcus Gong (Yunyi). She was born on April 7, 1933, in Stoneham to Ethel and Manny Weiss.

Beverly was an active member and office manager at Temple Emmanuel in Chelsea. She was an avid Scrabble, Canasta, and Mah Jong player and stellar bowler. She enjoyed the simple pleasures of life like a cinnamon crunch bagel



at Panera and talking with friends.

A private graveside family service was held on April 27. Donations in her memory can be made to Temple Emmanuel Chelsea, 60 Tudor Street, Chelsea, MA. For online guestbook and directions, please visit the funeral home website: www.torffuneralservice.com.

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Youth Rise Festival set for May 3

Special to the Record

On Saturday May 3, the Chelsea teen community will come together for the first annual Youth Rise Festival! A vibrant and empowering free event organized by the Chelsea Youth Commission, GreenRoots Eco, and local youth organizations held at Chelsea High School, 299 Everett Avenue from 12:00-4:00pm.

Organized to raise awareness around the growing concerns of youth mental health, the festival will feature a wide range of resources, programs and interactive opportunities, aimed at supporting teens. Local organizations will be on site offering information on jobs, programs, sports, career opportunities, inter-

active arts, stress relief, and civic engagement stations.

A key highlight of the event will be the Youth Speak Out, where teens will share their experiences, perspectives, and ideas directly with community leaders – including the City Manager of Chelsea – creating a powerful platform for youth voices to inform and shape the future of local policies and resources. The Youth Rise Festival is free and open to teens in the community to support the mental, emotional, and social well-being of Chelsea youth.

For more information, please contact the Department of Chelsea Recreation & Cultural Affairs at 617-466-4070 or youthcommission@chelsea.ma.gov.

OBITUARIES

All obituaries and death notices will be at a cost of \$195.00 per paper.

Includes photo.No word Limit.

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In Loving Memory of
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Of all the special gifts in life however great or small, To have you as our Brother was the greatest gift of all.

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Deep in our hearts, your life is kept to love and cherish, not forget. No more tomorrows we can share but yesterdays are always there.

A silent thought, a secret tear keeps your memory ever near in our hearts forever.

Lovingly missed by all who knew you, especially sisters Laurie and Barbara, nephews and nieces, and your Mass General family

ST ROSE DE LIMA HOLDS STATIONS OF THE CROSS PROCESSION

DEREK KOUYOUMJIAN PHOTOS

St Rose de Lima held its Stations Of The Cross procession as reenactors portray the march Roman soldiers forced Jesus to embark on carrying his cross while his disciples followed. The procession made a circuit from the church around Bellingham Square.



Reenactors portray Roman soldiers whipping Jesus as he carries his cross to his execution.



The reenactor portraying Jesus falls the first time in carrying his cross.



The procession makes its way behind Chelsea City Hall.



Reenactors portraying Roman soldiers whip Jesus after his first fall carrying his cross.



Father Reynaldo Escobar leads the Parish in prayer before the procession begins.



The procession makes its way up Broadway in a dramatic show of the suffering endured by Jesus and the faith from his church.



Spectators march with the procession down Broadway in Bellingham Square.



Parish musicians preform and song sorrowfully as Jesus carries his cross.



Parish volunteers keep spectators from blocking the movement of the reenactors.



Parish volunteers keep spectators from blocking the movement of the reenactors.



Reenactors portraying Roman soldiers have dice on their spar as a detail in the scripture of throwing lots for Jesus' cloak.



A volunteer hands out crosses for parishioners



Alter helpers wait for the procession to begin.

Sports

RED DEVIL SOFTBALL ACTION

Last Monday afternoon the Highlanders of Somerville High visited Carter Park at CHS to battle the Red Devils.

The Highlanders took an early lead, and never looked back, taking the match 19-7.



Ashley Martinez makes a play from third base.

CHS Roundup

SIMON WINS TRIPLE-JUMP AT INVACATIONAL MEET; SERRANO SECOND IN 400

Chelsea High sophomore track and field star Thania Simon turned in an impressive performance at this past Friday's MSTCA InVacational Meet that was held at No. Andover.

Thania brought home the first-place medal in the triple jump with a final landing of 35'-3.75" and earned a third-place medal in the 200 dash with a sprint of 26.79 (which was just 0.52 off the first place time) and a fourth-place medal in the 100 meter dash with a sprint of 13.14 seconds (which was just 0.25 off the winning time).

Fellow sophomore sensation Lilly Serano also delivered an exceptional performance at the meet. Lilly took second place in the 400 dash with a clocking of 1:00.85 that was a mere 0.06 off the winning time and grabbed a seventh-place medal in the 100 dash in a time of 13.44.

Senior Kiara Ramirez-Vilata brought home a seventh-place medal in the shot-put with a throw of 30'-9.75". Kiara also just missed making the medal podium in the discus, with her toss of 86'-7" leaving her just short in ninth place.

A number of Lady Red Devils turned in fine performances the meet:

-- Hazel Hatleberg finished 21st in the javelin with a toss of 55'-1" and 31st in the 800 with a time of 2:52.82.

-- Kimberly Fuentes
Chavez finished 37th in the

800 in 2:59.02.

-- Lauren Nadow finished 16th in the javelin with a throw of 62'-5" and 31st in the 100 hurdles in 20.48.

-- Anjely Mejia-Martinez finished 24th in the shot-put with a toss of 23'-11".

-- Dieunie Cademus was right behind in 25th spot with her throw of 23'-10.25".

On the boys' side, the quartet of Sherwin Kim, Bryan Amaya-Ynes, Leandro Castro, and Xavy Guzman earned a fourth-place medal in the 4 x 400 with a time of 3:43.27.

The top Red Devil individual performer was senior Ariel Chaon-Arena, who won two medals with a fifth place in the discus with a toss of 133'-11" and a seventh place in the shot-put with a throw of 46'-7".

Additional top performers for Chelsea included:

-- Sherwin Kim with a 12th place finish in the 400 hurdles in a time of 1:02.92;

-- Xavy Guzman, who finished 13th in the 400 dash with a clocking of 54.86;

-- Kevin Romero-Molina with a 17th place shot-put throw of 40'-0.50" and a 21st discus toss of 108'-7";

-- Leeandro Castro with an 18th place effort in the 400 hurdles in 1:06.27;

-- Younes Sharif with a 22nd place in the 400 hurdles in 1:12.81;

-- Bryan Amaya-Yanes
with a 26th place effort in
the 800 in 2:15.93;

-- Adonis Alvarez-Umana, who finished 20th in the javelin with a throw of 116'-

00" and 29th in both the shot with a toss of 38'-3.5" and the discus with a spin of 102'-5";



Starting pitcher for the Red Devils, Juliana Hassell.



Olivia Clark calls off the infield and makes a catch from her 1st Base position.



At bat is Hazel Martinez.



Behind the plate, calling the signals is Lidya Castillo-Rodriguez.

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North Shore Philharmonic Orchestra presents 'Wild Symphony' at Children's Concert Sunday

The North Shore Philharmonic Orchestra presents a Children's Concert and Instrument Petting Zoo on May 4 at the First Baptist Church in Beverly beginning at 2 p.m., led by guest conductor Marshunda Smith, Music Director and Conductor of the Lowell Philharmonic Orchestra.

The concert program will feature Dan Brown's "Wild Symphony", based on the best-selling author's book of the same name that details the adventures of Maestro Mouse and his companions from the animal kingdom.

Tickets are available online at NSPO.org or at the door for \$12, \$5.75 for ages 5 to 18, and children four

and under are admitted free.

The events will begin with an Instrument Petting Zoo, where youngsters can get to feel what it's like to hold and play a classical instrument. A variety of crafts and student performers will highlight the pre-concert festivities.

Dan Brown, creator of the Wild Symphony, is renowned as author of such thrillers as "The DaVinci Code" and "The Secret of Secrets," among others. His delightful "Wild Symphony" features two dozen musical portraits drawn from the animal kingdom, such as Bouncing Kangaroo, Wondrous Whale, and Brilliant Bat, to name a few. The symphony has been

welcomed and enjoyed world-wide since its release five years ago.

Guest Conductor Marshunda Smith has enjoyed a stellar career as a cellist with numerous orchestras in the Boston area and now is making her mark as a conductor. Smith is in her second year as Music Director with the Lowell Philharmonic. In February of 2018, she became only the second female—(and first African-American)—to conduct the North Shore Philharmonic Orchestra in a ground-breaking performance that became the focus of a YouTube/ReverieTV production “The Democracy of Sound: The Marshunda Smith Story.”

The North Shore Philharmonic Orchestra recently completed its 76th Concert season. The Orchestra strives to develop, train and provide opportunities for young and amateur musicians, while providing a large range of programs covering the full range of symphonic and pops repertoire for a diverse public. For full concert information, visit www.nspo.org or contact info@nsपो.οrg.

The Childrens Concert is supported in part by a grant from the Beverly Cultural Council, which is supported by the Mass Cultural Council, a state agency.



Register for the 37th Annual Jimmy Fund Walk; scheduled for October 5

Registration is open for the 2025 Jimmy Fund Walk presented by Hyundai. Scheduled for Sunday, Oct. 5, funds raised from the Jimmy Fund Walk support all forms of adult and pediatric care and research at Dana-Farber Cancer Institute. The Jimmy Fund Walk will aim to raise \$9.5 million this year in the effort to prevent, treat, and defy can-

The Jimmy Fund Walk is the only organized walk permitted to use the famed Boston Marathon® course, and participants have the flexibility to choose from four distance options:

- 5K walk: Starting at Dana-Farber's Longwood Medical Campus
- 10K walk: Starting in

Newton

- Half Marathon walk: Starting in Wellesley
- Marathon walk: Starting in Hopkinton

All along the route, walkers will be motivated by poster-sized photographs of patients—Jimmy Fund Walk Heroes—that are the heart of the event and appear along the course as inspiration. Walkers

will also be treated to refueling stations with refreshments throughout the course.

The event will conclude at the Jimmy Fund Walk Finish Line at Boston Common, by the corner of Charles and Beacon Streets. Finish line activities will include a celebration with food, entertainment, and more. Walkers who prefer to participate virtually can com-

plete their chosen distance
from any location

org or call 866-531-9255. Registrants can enter the promo code NEWS for \$5 off the registration fee. All registered walkers will receive a bib, medal, and a Jimmy Fund Walk T-shirt. You can also sign up to volunteer on Walk Day.

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MAY 16
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Hello,
Dolly!

Back
where
she
belongs.



Lyric Stage Boston presents
Hello, Dolly!

The Lyric Stage 2024/25 season closes the 2024/25 season with the classic American musical comedy *Hello, Dolly!*. Directed by Maurice Emmanuel Parent, Music Direction from Dan Rodriguez†, and Choreography by Ilyse Robbins°, and featuring classic songs like “Before the Parade Passes By”, “It Only Takes a Moment”, and “Hello, Dolly!”, audiences will leave their worries at the door and be taken away on a cloud of pure exuberance.

With Music and Lyrics by Jerry Herman and Book by Michael Stewart, *Hello, Dolly!* Is a must-see, feel-good treat for audiences of all ages this spring.

Brimming with classic musical theater tunes, endearing characters, and good-humor all

those looking for love as the incomparable matchmaker that she is. As romance blossoms and comedic adventures ensue, Dolly makes friends around every corner and charms her way into the hearts of everyone she meets. But is there hope of moving on from a lost love and finding a sweet-heart of her own "before the parade passes by?"

Director Maurice Emmanuel Parent says, "I am overjoyed to be telling this classic story with Lyric Stage, which has a treasured history of presenting classic musicals in a way that both honors the legacy of the show and sees it with a fresh perspective. I hope this show will inspire us to grab onto the things and people we love, to hold them tight before the parade passes us by."

Performances begin Friday, May 16 and run through Sunday, June 22.


Email heather_darrow@lyricstage.com for tickets.

Draw Your Mom!

Complete the picture by creating a picture of your mother with Pens, Pencils, Markers Or Crayons, Use Colors

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SHOW YOUR MOM HOW MUCH YOU LOVE HER!



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MAY 8th

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2025

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THIRD ANNUAL MS FUNDRAISER IN MEMORY OF MARY REED

The Third Annual MS Fundraiser in Memory of Mary Reed was held at the Chelsea Yacht club.

Guests enjoyed a delicious buffet dinner of an Italian meal and dessert which included: chicken broccoli ziti, marinara sauce pasta, chicken parmesan, meatballs, Italian sausages, garden salad and garlic bread, along with a variety of homemade cakes.

The large crowd also enjoyed a 30-minute comedy show by a Boston comedian, along with a special guest comedian from New York.

To help raise funds for this amazing event, the committee had 25 raffles items, 18 silent auctions items, a 50/50 cash raffle, and a pop-the-balloon game with 12 prizes.

Event chairperson Annmarie O'Rourke, Mrs. Reed's wonderful daughter, would like to say thank you to: Tom Pappa - CYC Commodore, for donating the hall and attending the event, and Sarrah Young, Development Manager National MS Society Greater NE Chapter.

Annmarie also thanked her support/event team consisting of Mike O'Rourke, Patty Mason, Dave Morency, Nina Brodie, Lynn Palmer, Neal Palmer, and Dennis Kushmerek.

"This event could not have been possible without the assistance of my support team," said Annmarie, who also thanked "everyone for attending and helping me raise money for this cause that means a lot to me."



Enjoying the event are Helen Keith, CYC Commodore Tom Pappa, Annmarie O'Rourke, Lynnette Samanski, and Maryann Grace (Mrs. Keith's daughter).



Sarrah Young (left) of the National Multiple Sclerosis Society Greater New England Chapter, and Annmarie O'Rourke, chairperson of the Third Annual MS Fundraiser In Memory of Mary Reed, who is Annmarie's mother.



The dynamic husband-and-wife duo behind the success of the annual fundraiser, Mike O'Rourke and Annmarie O'Rourke.



Annmarie O'Rourke welcomes Alex Gladwell to the event.



Annmarie O'Rourke, Grand Knight Dave Morency, and his girlfriend, Patty Garcia.



Annmarie O'Rourke (right) with Chelsea Yacht Club Commodore Tom Pappa and friend, Lynnette Samanski.



The bar coordination contingent, Carolyn Boumila Vega and Jen Batell, CYC Financial Secretary.



Annmarie O'Rourke, with support staff in green shorts (seated), Lynn Palmer and Nina Brodie; (standing) Neal Palmer, Danny Meade, and Mike O'Rourke.



Annmarie O'Rourke (second from left), with her brother Richard Reed (far left) Nicholas Reed (nephew), Samatha Reed (Nick's wife) Kim Reed (Donald Reed's wife) Donald Reed (brother), Tim Murry, and Erica Reed, (Donald Reed's daughter).



Seated are Denise Ragno, Christopher Hopkins, Corey Haskins, and Gale Bracken. Standing are Michelle Shine, Mike Shine, Annmarie O'Rourke, Frank McManus, and Lynn Reed.



Annmarie O'Rourke thanks O. Dimanche (DJ O so Smooth) and Claudy Leon (DJ Royal Lion) for the outstanding musical entertainment they provided at the fundraiser.

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Orange Line service suspended between North Station and Oak Grove night of May 9 and every day through May 18

Special to the Record

The MBTA is today reminding riders that Orange Line service will be suspended between North Station and Oak Grove beginning at approximately 8:30 PM on Friday, May 9, and continuing every day for the following nine days, May 10 – 18.

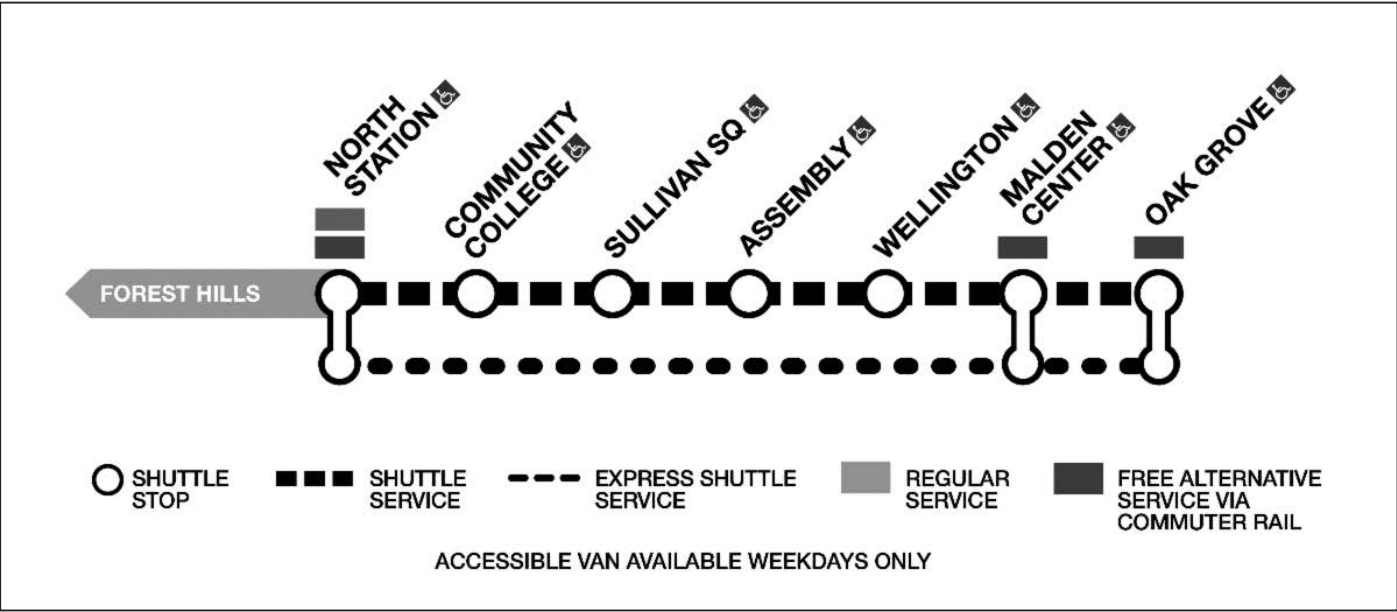
- Riders can find complete information at mbta.com/PlannedWork. More information on these service changes and alternate travel options:
- Free and accessible shuttle buses will make all stops between North Station and Oak Grove.
 - Riders using shuttle buses should budget ample extra travel time. For example, a rider traveling to Downtown Crossing from Oak Grove should budget an additional 45 – 60 minutes of travel time in addition to their regular commute.
 - Express shuttle buses will also serve Oak Grove, Malden Center, and North Station.
 - Accessible van service

will be available on week-days during this service change, directly serving all Orange Line stations between Oak Grove and North Station. Please see onsite personnel to request the accessible van.

- Riders are strongly encouraged to consider the Haverhill Commuter Rail Line for fare-free service to and from Oak Grove, Malden Center, and North Station. Regular fares should be purchased beyond Oak Grove.
- Travel time between Oak Grove and North Station on the Haverhill Line is approximately 20 minutes.

The service change is in place to support MassDOT’s Maffa Way/Mystic Avenue Bridge Superstructure Replacements project, which will replace the two deteriorated bridge superstructures and improve bicycle, pedestrian, and transit facilities.

More information is also available through in-station signage and public announcements. Transit Ambassadors and MBTA staff



will be available on-site to offer information and assistance during these service changes. Riders are encouraged to subscribe to T-Alerts or to follow the MBTA on X @MBTA for up-to-date service information.

For more information, please visit mbta.com/PlannedWork or connect with the T on X @MBTA, Facebook /TheMBTA, Instagram @theMBTA, Threads @thembta, or TikTok @thembta.

The Massachusetts Bay

Transportation Authority (MBTA) opened America’s first subway tunnel in 1897, pioneering public transportation in the United States. Today, the MBTA is one of the largest public transit systems in the country, operating an extensive network of subway, bus, Commuter Rail, ferry, and paratransit services across 176 cities and towns. The MBTA is undergoing a transformative period, focusing on cultivating a culture of safety and excellence, modernizing in-

frastructure, and improving reliability and accessibility. Current priorities include accelerating critical infrastructure repairs, expanding accessibility, and reducing emissions. The MBTA is committed to providing dependable, frequent, and accessible service that riders can rely on while supporting the region’s economic vitality. Through initiatives like the unprecedented Track Improvement Program, Bus Network Redesign, and Rail Vision, the MBTA aims to

connect communities and improve riders’ daily experiences and trips. For questions or assistance, riders are encouraged to contact the MBTA Customer Center at 617-222-3200. Members of the press are encouraged to contact mediarelations@mbta.com. For the latest updates on MBTA services, projects, and initiatives, visit MBTA.com or follow @MBTA on social media.

Freedom Trail Foundation expands tours in May

As the weather warms, the Freedom Trail Foundation’s 18th-century costumed guides are out on the Trail in full force offering an expanded menu of fun and educational tours.

Starting May 3, the Freedom Trail Foundation’s current spring tour schedule offers Walk Into History Tours from the Boston Common Visitor Information Center on the hour every hour, daily, from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. as well as 2:00 p.m. on Saturdays and Sundays. Additionally, the Foundation offers tours departing from the ArtsBoston

booth including Walk Into History Tours on Saturdays at 10:30 a.m. and 11:30 a.m. and Sundays at 10:30 a.m., as well as North End Tours on Saturdays at 1:30 p.m. and 2:30 p.m. and Sundays at 1:30 p.m.

“Boston’s iconic Freedom Trail, its historic sites, and the Foundation offer an array of activities to experience this spring and year-round,” said the Foundation’s Executive Director Suzanne Segura Taylor. “The expanded tours schedule gives residents and visitors more opportunities to enjoy learning about 250

years of history on the Freedom Trail for Preservation Month and as the Commonwealth and City commemorates the sestercentennial.”

Walk Into History Tours are the official 90-minute walking tour of the Freedom Trail featuring tales of high treason, mob agitations, revolutionary actions, and partisan fights, walking to 11 of Boston’s historic Freedom Trail sites to and from Boston Common and Faneuil Hall. The North End Tour features stops along the Trail including the Paul Revere House, Old North Church, Copp’s Hill

Burying Ground, and other historic places in Boston’s oldest neighborhood.

Led by 18th-century costumed guides, Freedom Trail Foundation walking tours are \$17 for adults, \$15 for seniors/students, and \$8 for children, and include a \$1 donation to the Freedom Trail Foundation’s Preservation Fund. Tickets may be purchased at the Boston Common Visitor Information Center and The BOS Traveling Mobile Visitor Center (various locations), Artists for Humanity and Crabby Jack’s shops inside historic Faneuil Hall, Sam-

uel Adams Downton Boston Taproom next to historic Faneuil Hall, Old Town Trolley locations and ticket booths, and online at TheFreedomTrail.org.

All walking tours are available for group tours year-round by appointment and are perfect for tourist groups, family outings, birthday parties, company parties, corporate activities, team building, and more, and may be booked via phone reservation at (617) 357-8300.

The Foundation and City of Boston also celebrates Preservation Month in

May with an array of tours, events, exhibits, and activities along the Freedom Trail for adults and children, history buffs and curious visitors. For more Preservation Month information, please visit <https://www.boston.gov/departments/landmarks-commission/boston-preservation-month>

For more information about the Freedom Trail and Freedom Trail sites, please visit TheFreedomTrail.org or call (617) 357-8300.

LEGAL NOTICES

LEGAL NOTICE
COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS THE TRIAL COURT PROBATE AND FAMILY COURT

SuffolkProbate and Family Court
24 New Chardon St.
Boston, MA 02114
(617)788-8300


CITATION ON PETITION FOR ORDER OF COMPLETE SETTLEMENT
Docket No. SU21P1624EA
Estate of: Benedict D. Faletra
Date of Death: 12/14/2020
A Petition for Order of Complete Settlement has been filed by Benedict P. Faletra of Chelsea, MA requesting that the court enter a formal Decree of Complete Settlement including the allowance of a final account, of the Personal Representative and other such relief as may be requested in the Petition.

IMPORTANT NOTICE
You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 05/30/2025. This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an

Affidavit of Objections within thirty (30) days of the return date, action may be taken without further notice to you. WITNESS, Hon. Brian J. Dunn, First Justice of this Court.
Date: April 25, 2025
Stephanie L. Everett, Esq., Register of Probate

5/01/25 C

LEGAL NOTICE



NOTICE OF HEARING
Case No. 2025-03

Notice is hereby given in accordance with the Massachusetts Zoning Act, Chapter 40A that a Regular Meeting of the Chelsea Zoning Board of Appeals will be held on: Tuesday, May 13, 2025 Chelsea Senior Center, 10 Riley Way, 6:00 p.m. With reference to the application of: Joseph Perlatonda For Special Permit seeking approval for the construction of a rear addition which is a change to an existing nonconforming structure at the premises known as: 89 Clinton Street A copy of the application and petition is available for review at: City Clerk’s Office during normal business hours: Monday, Wednesday and Thursday 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. – Tuesday, 8 a.m. – 7 p.m. – Friday, 8 a.m. to noon 4/24/25, 5/1/25 C

LEGAL NOTICE
NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS MASSACHUSETTS EXECUTIVE OFFICE FOR ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE DIVISION OF CAPITAL ASSET MANAGEMENT AND MAINTENANCE

Electronic Bids submitted in the format furnished by the Division of Capital Asset Management & Maintenance (DCAMM) and clearly identified as a bid will be received through DCAMM’s E-Bid Room at www.bidexpress.com/businesses/10279/ home no later than the date and time specified and will forthwith be publicly opened remotely by DCAMM Bid Room personnel and read aloud over a conference call line. Persons interested in accessing the remote bid opening can do so by using the following phone number: Audio Conferencing Dial-In Number (617) 315-0704, Meeting Number 2333 916 4237#. If prompted for attendee ID, please press #. Mass. State Project No. MMP-34 Elevator, Escalator and Lift Maintenance Services for Certain State Buildings in Boston, Chelsea, and Lawrence, MA General Bids at 2:00 PM: May 22, 2025 This Project bid in accordance with M.G.L. Chapter 30 Section 39M. E.C.C: \$4,168,176 This project is scheduled for 1,095 calendar days (3 years) to substantial completion, with three (3) one-year option terms, for a maximum term of six (6) years. Scope: Maintenance Service Contract

to include daily operations, testing, inspection, preventative maintenance, repairs, stationed elevator mechanics, incidental extra services, part replacement and 24/7 emergency services for all Elevator Equipment and Systems, Escalator Equipment and Systems, and Lift Equipment and Systems in the specified buildings. A Pre-Bid/Site Visit will be held on May 5, 2025, starting at 10:00 AM at One Ashburton Place, Boston, MA. Bring valid ID and meet in the Lobby. The Pre-Bid/Site Visit will continue at 12:00 PM at 200 Arlington St., Chelsea, MA. Bring valid ID and register at the front desk prior to going through screening. Meet in the Lobby. The Pre-Bid/Site Visit will continue at 1:30 PM at 37 Shattuck St., Lawrence, MA. Meet in the Lobby. Minimum rates of wages to be paid on the project have been determined by the Commissioner of the Department of Labor Standards. These rates are incorporated into the bid documents. Bid documents for this project may be accessed or downloaded at no cost to potential bidders exclusively through DCAMM’s E-Bid Room <https://www.bidexpress.com/businesses/10279/home> A hard copy set can be made available for viewing in DCAMM’s Bid Room located at One Ashburton Place, 15th Floor, Boston, MA during normal business hours by appointment only by contacting DCAMM’s Bid Room. In order to access bid documents and submit bids through DCAMM’s E-Bid Room potential bidders must first be verified by DCAMM’s Bid Room and

then register with the E-Bid Room vendor. Instructions on the processes can be found on DCAMM’s website www.mass.gov/dcam/bids or contact DCAMM’s Bid Room at bidroom.dcam@mass.gov or (617) 727-4003. Adam Boacke COMMISSIONER

5/01/25 C

LEGAL NOTICE
Chelsea Housing Authority REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS SOLICITATION FOR ARCHITECTURAL/ENGINEERING SERVICES 2024-2025 COMPREHENSIVE MODERNIZATION PROGRAM

The Chelsea Housing Authority (CHA) is currently accepting proposals from Architects/Engineers (A/E’s) who are registered in Massachusetts for the preparation of plans and specifications for bidding, construction supervision and final inspection of a modernization program that will consist of renovations at Scrivano Apartments (16-1 family housing 106 units), Mace (16-2 family housing 96 units) and Margolis (16-4 Elderly Housing 152 Units). The project will consist of: * GFIC Replacement in Kitchens, Bathrooms and Laundry Room * Supply Valve Replacement at Laundry Rooms * Entry Door Replacement Bathroom Exhaust Ventilation including fans, ductwork,

soffits, smart controls and SS wall caps. Contact jkrasco@chelseaha.com

5/01/25 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, ss5-304 Docket No. SU25P0632GD Suffolk Probate and Family Court 24 New Chardon Street Boston, MA 02114 (617) 788-8300 In the matter of: Elizabeth Izedonmwne Of: Chelsea, MA RESPONDENT Alleged Incapacitated Person To the named Respondent and all other interested persons, a petition has been filed by Brenda R. Richardson of Chelsea, MA in the above captioned matter alleging that Elizabeth Izedonmwne is in need of a Guardian and requesting that Brenda R. Richardson of Chelsea, MA (or some other suitable person) be appointed as Guardian to serve Without Surety on the bond. The petition asks the court to determine that the Respondent is incapacitated, that the appointment of a Guardian is necessary, and that the pro-

posed 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 05/21/2025. This day is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline date by which you have to file 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: April 23, 2025 Stephanie L. Everett Register of Probate

05/01/25 C

LEGAL NOTICE



CITY OF CHELSEA REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS PARKING ENFORCEMENT SERVICES

The City of Chelsea, Massachusetts, through its Chief Procurement Officer, is seeking Request for Proposals for “Parking Enforcement Services”. Request for Proposals will be available on or after May 01, 2025 by visiting the City’s website at https://www.chelseama.gov/departments/purchasing/current_bids_solicitations.php. Proposals must be sealed and clearly marked “Parking Enforcement Services” and submitted to the Office of the Chief Procurement Officer no later than 11:00AM on Thursday, May 15, 2025. The City of Chelsea reserves the right to accept any proposal, to reject any or all proposals and to waive minor irregularities and/or formalities as it deems to be in the best interest of the City. In accordance with our Minority Business Enterprise Plan, we are inviting all qualified women and minority business firms to respond. The City of Chelsea is an Equal Opportunity Employer. This Request for Proposals is in accordance with M.G.L. Chapter 30B. Dragica Ivanis Chief Procurement Officer 5/01/25 C

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LOST AND FOUND PETS NETWORK:
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SEND US YOUR NEWS

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

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

THE CITY OF CHELSEA HOLDS PEACE VIGIL

CARY SHUMAN PHOTOS

The City of Chelsea held its annual Peace Vigil and Prayer event Saturday in the City Council Chambers.

The event, which calls on the community to unite against violence, was originally scheduled to be held outdoors on the City Lawn. But city leaders, viewing the extended forecast for inclement weather, got the word out early that the event would be held indoors, and a large crowd packed the City Council Chambers.

City Manager Fidel Maltez welcomed the many residents to the Vigil.

“Thank you so much for being here today,” said Maltez. “Last year we had this event, and it was outside, and it was one of the best events last year. Unfortunately, because of the rain this morning, we moved the event inside.

“An event like this takes a lot of work. I want to say thank you to everyone, all the faith leaders, all the city departments who made this event possible,” added Maltez.

City Council President Norielez brought the official greetings of the Council, recognizing the city councilors and school committee members in attendance,

along with Supt. of Schools Dr. Almi Abeyta, Police Chief Keith Houghton, and Fire Chief John Quatieri.

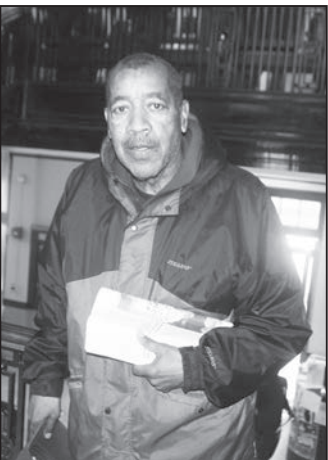
“We are gathered for peace,” said DeJesus. “We are gathered for you. We are gathered for the future that’s sitting right in front of us. It is important for us to make sure that we are united in everything that we are confronting nowadays. There is a lot.”

Rev. Sarah R Smith, Pastor People’s Chelsea AME Church, Diego Netto, Lead Pastor, Revive Community Church, Eliot Penn, Pastor the Rev. Edgar A. Gutiérrez-Duarte, Saint Luke’s-San Lucas Episcopal Church, Rabbi Oksana Chapman, Temple Emmanuel, and Pastor Ellen Rohan Ball, First Congregational Church, highlighted the event with their inspiring words about the community coming together as one, united in peace.

Many guests at the event praised City Manager Fidel Maltez and other organizers for having a souvenir program sheet available at the door, allowing residents to follow the order of the program and to identify the speakers and the performers.



Chelsea Police Sgt. Star Chung, recipient of the Chelsea Trailblazer Award in February, shows her support of the event promoting peace and unity in the city.



Councilor-at-Large Leo Robinson, dean of Chelsea city government, arrives for the Chelsea Vigil and Prayer event Saturday at City Hall.



Police Chief Keith Houghton and Fire Chief John Quatieri and their respective departments were strong supporters of the Chelsea Vigil and Prayer event.



School Committee Member Mayra Balderas, School Committee Chair Ana Hernandez, Council President Norieliz DeJesus, and School Committee Member Yessenia Alfaro, pictured at the annual Chelsea Peace Vigil and Prayer event at City Hall.



Chelsea Police Capt. Thomas McLain and Chelsea Police Officer Joseph Stutto Jr., whose father, the late Joseph Stutto Sr., was a unifying force for Chelsea’s youth as a coach and mentor.



School Committee Member Mayra Balderas, School Committee Member Yessenia Alfaro, Councilor-at-Large Roberto Jimenez Rivera (back, left), City Council President Norieliz DeJesus, City Manager Fildel Maltez, First Congregational Church Pastor Ellen Rohan Ball, Supt. of Schools Dr. Almi Abeyta, and School Committee Chair Ana Hernandez.



Members of the Iglesia La Luz De Cristo Children's Chorus perform songs at the event.



Grupo Torogoz De El Salvador is pictured at the vigil prior to its excellent performance before the large crowd in the City Council Chambers.

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PLEASE RECYCLE THIS NEWSPAPER

New Chelsea Youth Baseball and Softball League begins play

The new Chelsea Youth Baseball and Softball League held its opening day program Sunday at the Mary C. Burke Complex field.



It's "Play Ball" in Chelsea again for the Chelsea Youth Baseball and Softball League. Pictured are three instrumental leaders of the league's return on Opening Day. From left, are City Manager Fidel Maltez, League President Jack Grigorian, and Chelsea Director of Athletic Infrastructure Charles Giuffrida.



The officers of the new Chelsea Youth Baseball and Softball League (from left), Secretary-Treasure Fito Frometa, President Jack Grigorian, Board Member Fernando Gacharna, and Vice President Kevin O'Regan.

than 120 boys and girls (ages 7-15) will be participating this season. Grigorian thanked the Boston Red Sox for donating all the baseball jerseys and equipment to the league. "Whatever we needed, the Red Sox helped out," said Grigorian, who also thanked City Manager Fidel Maltez for his donation and support of the league. Fidel Maltez had the much-deserved honor of throwing out the first baseball of the 2025 season. "We are so excited to bring sports back," said Maltez. "This administration has had a huge focus on

increasing opportunities for all of our kids to participate in sporting activities. We made a huge decision by hiring a dedicated director of athletics [Charles Giuffrida], who's doing a phenomenal job and really bringing collaboration back into the city. Today [Sunday] we're honored to have the wonderful Red Sox Boston organization here in Chelsea. And of course, Wally [the Green Monster] came to visit with the championship trophy. These opportunities really highlight what is possible when we work together in Chelsea."

PHOTOS BY CARY SHUMAN



City Manager Fidel Maltez (far right) and Director of Athletic Infrastructure Charles Giuffrida Chelsea Youth Baseball and Softball League officers Fito Frometa, Fernando Gacharna, Kevin O'Regan (back row) and Jack Grigorian join members of the Boston Red Sox Fan and Youth Engagement team for a photo on Opening Day Sunday at the Mary C. Burke Complex Field.

CITY PAWS

Sign language

By Penny & Ed Cherubino

For professional trainers – those who work with service dogs; first responders handling K9 partners trained to detect guns, bombs, drugs, or find criminals; or people like us out for a walk with our dog – hand signals, gestures, and body language can be more effective than repeating words over and over to get a dog to perform. It's time we all considered using canine language to communicate with our dogs. When dogs interact with one another, you'll notice a lot of body language and rituals. At a distance, canines will begin signaling with their stance, the position and movement of their ears and tail, and their facial expression. You might hear an occasional bark, and during friendly play, you might hear some rumbles and play

growls. But, for the most part, dogs communicate non-verbally. **Basic Sign Language** Debby McMullen, CDBC, writing for Whole Dog Journal, wrote, "When dogs know both hand signals and verbal cues, they are far more likely to respond to the hand signal than a verbal cue." She suggested a list of hand signals you could consider using to communicate with your dog. Among those are "Sit," "Down," "Touch," "Wait," "By Me," "Can I Have That?" (Her name for "Drop It") "Here Here" (means come to me) and one of our favorites, "All Done," indicated with "Jazz Hands," for when we are finished with training or giving treats. Once you have the basics down, you can add some signs for tasks that are fun for both of you. Teach-

ing high-fives and shaking hands can add a playful aspect to a training program. **American Sign Language (ASL)** It is relatively common to teach a dog to respond to American Sign Language (ASL) if the dog or a family member is deaf or has hearing loss. The existence of a language spoken with hands and facial expressions can be helpful to those who want to have their own set of hand signals for their dog. The National Institutes of Health defines ASL as, "... a complete, natural language that has the same linguistic properties as spoken languages, with grammar that differs from English." The combination of manual and non-manual features parallels natural canine communication skills.



VIKTOR NIKOLAIENKO PHOTO

"High-five" is fun and adorable. However, other hand signals are more important.

Check out the ASL signs for love, brush teeth, wonderful, snuggle, come, and go to find signs for a few things you may want to communicate to your furry friend. Be sure to use appropriate facial expressions and

body language, as your dog uses those to understand you. What's more, according to Dr. Roy Hamilton, MD, trustee of the McKnight Brain Research Foundation. "Learning a new language can be immensely helpful for cognitive health, particularly as we age. This is because language learning engages a wide range of complex cognitive abilities, including memory, attention, and problem-solving, which can help to create and strengthen connections in the brain." It's a win-win! **Short and Sweet** Finally, make any words or sounds you use along with the sign language short and sweet. Be aware that to your dog, "Come over here right now" is translated as "yadda, yadda, yadda" or "blah, blah, blah." As far as your dog is concerned, you sound like a chattering chipmunk with an occasional word like "SIT!, GOOD GIRL!, or NO!" popping up here and there. The combination of the sign language they know and a simple, consistently used word will ensure they understand you.

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

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