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CHELSEA RECORD

YOUR HOMETOWN NEWSPAPER SINCE 1890

VOLUME 135, NO. 38

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 18, 2025

35 CENTS



Chelsea Superintendent of Public Schools Dr. Almi Abeyta with staff and students of Chelsea High School that took part in the DiDomenico Foundation Annual Toy Drive. These students played a major part in the purchasing and setting up over \$50,000 of toys for needy children around the area.

THE 11TH ANNUAL DIDOMENICO FOUNDATION TOY DRIVE A HUGE SUCCESS

Senator Sal DiDomenico and the DiDomenico Foundation had a banner 2025 toy drive event, over \$50,000 in toys were purchased by Senator DiDomenico and his tireless crew of holiday volunteers, from around the communities, Everett, Chelsea, Revere, and Saugus.

Senator DiDomenico publicly thanked the Wong family for its continued hospitality and generosity, and Everett Councillor Al Latanzi for his support in supplying the nine U-Haul Box Trucks for a week to deliver the toys. See Page 3 for more photos.



City Councillor Lisa Santagate with State Representative Sal DiDomenico.

License commission approves extended New Year's Eve hours

By Adam Swift

Bars and restaurants will be able to stay open a little bit later this New Year's Eve.

As it has done in past years, the license commission approved an extension of closing hours on New Year's Eve to 2 a.m. for establishments that serve alcohol on premises.

There was little discussion on the motion from the commission and no public input prior to the vote.

In other business, the commission continued a vote on a change of stockholders for Rancho Las Pupas on Second Street until its January meeting.

The commission also approved a transfer of a

See **HOURS** Page 2

City of Chelsea announces holiday season building closures

Special to the Record

Chelsea municipal buildings will be closed in observance of the holidays on December 25 and 26, 2025, and January 1 and 2, 2026 to provide City employees with time to relax, travel, and celebrate with their families. Public safety buildings will remain open.

In addition, the following changes in service will be implemented:

- Curbside trash and recycling collection will not be collected on December 25 or January 1 resulting in a one-day delay in collection

for the remainder of each respective week, with Thursday's routes collected on Friday, and Friday's routes collected on Saturday.

- Enforcement of the City's Residential Parking Program will be suspended during the following periods:
 - December 24 at 4 p.m. through December 29 at 12 a.m.; and
 - December 31 at 4 p.m. through January 5 at 12 a.m.
- Parking enforcement for street sweeping will not take place on December 25

See **CLOSURES** Page 2

Significant Impact

Chelsea's Housing & Community Development Dept. deliver testimony to Joint Committee on emergency preparedness after grant canceled

Special to the Record

In response to the cancellation of a federal grant, leaders of Chelsea's Housing & Community Development Department delivered testimony to the Joint Committee on Emergency Preparedness and Management

and the House Committee on Federal Funding, Policy and Accountability at the Massachusetts State House on November 20.

The testimony spotlighted the impacts on Chelsea of the federal government's

See **TESTIMONY** Page 2

ZBA approves Pearl Street apartment addition

By Adam Swift

The Zoning Board of Appeals approved variances and special permits for several projects at its December meeting last week, including the addition of nine residential units to an existing commercial space at 124-126 Pearl St.

In addition, the ZBA held the initial public hearing on a plan to add nine residential units over an existing garage space at 46-48 Library St.

Juan Gallago and Ever Zavala of GZ Realty Trust had initially proposed a plan to construct three floors above the existing commercial space on Pearl Street to create 12 residential units.

However, after hearing concerns from the planning and zoning boards about the number and size of the units, the applicants agreed to reduce the scope of the project by three units. Each floor will have two one-bedroom units and one two-bedroom units.

"One of the suggestions from the planning board was that the units were too small, so they added the two-bedroom units," said project attorney David Mindlin. "They also

See **ZBA** Page 2

Rep. Garcia tapped for Early Education & Care Workforce Council

Special to the Record

State Representative Judith Garcia (D-Chelsea) has been appointed by Speaker of the House Ronald J. Mariano to serve on the Early Education and Care Workforce Council, a state-wide body established to strengthen and stabilize the early education and care workforce in Massachusetts. Representative Garcia's three-year term begins immediately.

The Early Education and Care Workforce Council is charged with developing



State Representative Judith Garcia

strategies to recruit, retain, and support early educators, recognizing them as

the backbone of the Commonwealth's efforts to ensure that every child has access to high-quality early learning. The council brings together state officials, educators, workforce experts, and community leaders to address persistent staffing shortages, strengthen professional pathways, and improve compensation and workplace conditions for early childhood educators.

"I'm proud to appoint Representative Garcia to the Early Education and Care Workforce Council, as her experience serving on the Legislature's Joint Committee on Education will allow her to bring a unique and valuable perspective to the important work that the Council will do," said House Speaker Ronald J. Mariano (D-Quincy). "I'm confident that the Council's

work will help to ensure that the Commonwealth continues to support the early education and care sector, while also advancing the progress that we've already made towards providing more affordable, high-quality programming for families across Massachusetts."

Representative Garcia, a member of the Legislature's Joint Committee on Education, called the appointment an extraordinary opportunity to elevate the voices of families, educators, and working parents in communities like Chelsea and Everett.

"Early educators play a crucial role in supporting children and families," said Representative Garcia. "They are caregivers, teachers, mentors, and es-

See **GARCIA** Page 2



PHOTO COURTESY OF REPRESENTATIVE GARCIA

Pictured at the Massachusetts State House: (left to right) State Representative Judith Garcia, Chelsea Housing & Community Development Director Ben Cares, Chelsea Housing & Community Deputy Director Emily Granoff, and State Senator Sal DiDomenico.

INDEPENDENT

Newspaper Group

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TRASH NOTICE

Trash will be delayed by one day due to the Christmas Holiday

Thursday, Dec. 25, 2025

The Chelsea Record will be published a day early, December 24, next week.

Renewal period for Chelsea’s Residential Parking Program begins January 5

Special to the record

The renewal period for Chelsea’s Residential Parking Program begins January 5, 2026, at midnight. The program, which has always operated as a digital system where permits are electronically linked to a vehicle’s license plate, will no longer require a permit-holder to place a parking sticker on their windshield.

Residents can submit their applications for a digital parking permit in-person, by mail, or online at chelseama.cmrpay.com and should do so well in advance of February 28, 2026 – the

day 2025 permits expire – to avoid being ticketed for parking on city streets.

Permits are free between January 5 and February 28. Beginning March 1, the fee for a permit will be \$10. Due to the large volume of applications received, online and mailed applications should be submitted by February 24, 2026, to ensure timely review.

Chelsea’s Residential Parking Program allows residents with a permit to park on a street in their neighborhood and aims to discourage non-residents from taking up those spaces.

The decision to eliminate the sticker from the program was approved by the City’s Traffic and Parking Commission and City Council in 2025. By eliminating the sticker, the City reduces costs and aims to improve user experience.

To apply, you must be a Chelsea resident and provide a valid driver’s license, vehicle registration, and a utility bill from the last 60 days. For mail-in applications, residents must include in photocopies of these documents.

To renew online, please visit chelseama.cmrpay.com. The City encourages residents to apply for their permits online to avoid long wait times in-person.

How to purchase a 2026 Permit Online:

- 1 Please visit the City of Chelsea platform at chelseama.cmrpay.com.
- 2 Select Sign Up or Log In near the bottom of the page.
- 3 Select Sign Up (below the “Login” Button) and create a new account. Complete the steps and verify your email address.
- 4 After your new account is created, Log In with your newly created credentials.

5 In the Apply for a New Permit tab, use the drop-down arrow under Select a New Permit and select the permit. Then click Start New Permit Application.

6 Enter your information including Vehicle Information and Permit Holder Details, then select Review.

7 Verify all information is correct. Select Back if you need to make any changes.

8 Select Add to Cart and then select Check Out to proceed for checkout.

9 Add your payment information and select “place order.”

The address to renew

in-person or by mail is: Parking Department
500 Broadway, Room 209
Chelsea, MA 02150

To accommodate the high-volume of applicants who apply in-person, the Parking Department will observe extended hours during the last week of February and the first week of March 2026.

For questions about the 2026 Renewal Process for Chelsea’s Residential Parking Program, please contact Chelsea 311 at 617-466-4209 during City Hall business hours.

Chelsea joins MassCEC’s “No-Cost Service”

The Massachusetts Clean Energy Center (MassCEC) has announced the expansion of the Home Modernization Navigator pilot program, a no-cost service that helps residents improve their homes and lower their energy bills. This initiative provides personalized support for energy upgrades, electrification, and efficiency improvements. Following the success of the program’s first phase in Springfield and Lowell, the second phase will now expand to three new communities—Chelsea, Framingham, and Lynn. Additionally, the Home Modernization Navigator will expand into Taunton in January.

“The Home Modernization Navigator pilot program is helping break down barriers that keep too many families from making badly needed upgrades to their homes, saving them money,” said Energy and Environmental Affairs Secretary Rebecca Tepper. “As we grow into more communities, we’re ensuring that more people can access savings and the best heating and cooling technology.”

MassCEC Interim CEO

Dr. Jennifer Le Blond said the MassCEC is committed to helping every Massachusetts resident modernize their home in ways that are good for their wallet and their health.

“The Home Modernization Navigator simplifies what can be a complex process—offering one-on-one support so residents can confidently take the next step toward efficient, electrified, and affordable homes,” she said.

The program provides one-on-one guidance via phone, video calls, and community office hours to help residents identify their goals, access available incentives and financing, and provide technical guidance on the following:

- Appliances and Yard Equipment
- Clean Electricity
- Electrical Upgrades
- Energy Bill Savings
- Heating and Cooling
- Transportation
- Weatherization

The Home Modernization Navigator pilot program prioritizes engagement with renters, rental property owners, low-income households, and residents who speak languages other than

English—addressing persistent gaps in participation in clean energy programs and ensuring equitable access to savings and comfort. This one-stop resource empowers residents to take steps toward reducing energy costs and exploring more sustainable living.

“Chelsea families, including homeowners, face disproportionately high energy burdens. With energy costs at an all-time high in our region, it’s more important than ever for residents to have real opportunities to lower their bills and improve their homes,” said Chelsea City Manager Fidel Maltez. “Personalized support for energy upgrades, electrification, and efficiency improvements can make a meaningful difference. The MassCEC’s Home Modernization Navigator Program helps make that possible, and we’re grateful that our community has been recognized.”

For more information about the Home Modernization Navigator, visit <https://goclean.masscec.com/home-modernization-navigator>.

Closures // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

and 26. In addition, street sweeping will be suspended from January 1 to February 28 — a suspension that takes place each year.

Online services will remain available 24/7. To access those services at any time, visit www.chelseama.gov/online-services

“Extending our holiday break gives our dedicated employees more time to enjoy their families and rest this holiday season,” said Chelsea City Manager Fidel Maltez. “We’re also pausing the enforcement of our Residential Parking Program to create a welcoming atmosphere for visitors who will be spending time with our residents during this time. We wish everyone a happy and safe holiday season.”

Questions about the closures or changes in service can be directed to Chelsea 311 at 617-466-4209 during City Hall business hours.

ZBA // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

redrew the plans to include a center entrance and hallway on the ground floor to make it more functional ... addressed window placement in consideration of the abutters, provided a roof plan, and after we met with the historical commission, paid special attention to the exterior finishes and the materials that were going to be used.”

The ZBA also approved a plan for 403-405 Broadway allowing the single residential unit on the third floor to be split into two units, as well as the expansion of existing restaurant space on the second floor of the building for use as a function room.

Project architect David Choi said there were some minor changes to the plans incorporating feedback from the zoning and planning boards, including a slight increase in the

overall size of the proposed one bedroom unit and an increase in the size of the bedrooms in the proposed two-bedroom unit. In addition, at the request of the planning board, the second floor will have increased storage space.

The ZBA also approved a special permit and variance allowing for the construction of a third floor at 59-61 Cary Ave. allowing for the creation of two new residential units. The board also approved a special permit and variance allowing for the reconstruction of a rear deck and the conversion of the existing residential structure at 271 Washington Ave. from a two-family to a three-family house.

The board opened the public hearing for 46-48 Library St.

“The project, as proposed, is going to construct three levels on top of the

existing garage, three units on each level for a total of nine,” said project attorney John Mackey. “The new construction will be attached to the existing three-family house. It’s going to be a tremendous asset to the neighborhood, it’s going to be a beautiful project.”

“There is not going to be any increase over the (footprint) of the property, the (footprint) will remain the same.”

The units will be two- and three-bedroom units to appeal to families, Mackey said, adding there will be two affordable units as part of the project.

The proposal was scheduled to be before the planning board for a recommendation at its meeting on Tuesday, Dec. 16, and back before the ZBA for a potential vote at its first meeting in January.

Hours // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

beer and wine sales license from BNC Market at 230 Broadway to Le Despensa de Chelsea, which will take over the business at 230 Broadway. Ana Ramos, the new owner, has also operated a business at 233 Broadway.

Ramos said she may move her existing store to 230 Broadway depending on if she gets a new lease at 233 Broadway. If she does get a new lease, Ramos said she will consider operating both locations, but noted that she does not have a liquor license for the 233 Broadway location.

License Commission Chair Marnie MacAlpine

told Ramos to make sure she has the new location’s video surveillance system up to date and running.

“If you watch any of our licensing meetings, you will see we sound like a broken record up here, speaking to establishments for two things,” said MacAlpine. “One, not maintaining the proper footage, which is 30 days of rolling footage. And the second is when they don’t provide that footage to the police department when the police department requested it.”

The commission also approved a a mobile food operation application for X6 Moshu Food, Inc. at

265 Carter Street, but that license is dependent on the proprietors finding a legal place to park their food truck during the night. The truck was being parked at a private lot, but commission member and inspectional services director Mike McAteer said the owner could not lease out the space per the zoning ordinance.

The approved hours of operation for the food truck are 1 p.m. to 9 p.m., Mondays through Fridays. The proprietors said they plan on having a menu that includes burgers, blintzes, and chicken teriyaki.

Garcia // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

sential contributors to our local economy. I am grateful to Speaker Mariano for entrusting me with this responsibility, and I look forward to working with the Council to ensure early childhood educators have the stability, respect, and resources they need to do their

jobs effectively, benefiting children, families, and our community as a whole.”

Garcia noted that the early education and care workforce is especially vital in gateway communities, where families rely on accessible and high-quality childcare to support employment, education, and economic mobility.

The Workforce Council meets regularly to develop recommendations for legislative, regulatory, and budgetary action to strengthen the early education and care workforce pipeline across Massachusetts.

Testimony // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

cancellation of the Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) program. The federal decision included a \$50 million award intended to support the Island End River Flood Resilience Project, a long-planned, jointly advanced initiative between Chelsea and Everett.

Emily Granoff, Deputy Director of Housing & Community Development outlined the significance of the project and its role in protecting key community assets. “The Island End River corridor supports thousands of residents and critical regional infrastructure. Today’s testimony was an opportunity to walk the Legislature through the data, the risks, and the tangible impacts of losing this federal funding,” Granoff

said. “It is important that the Committee understands how interconnected this area is with broader regional systems—from food distribution to transportation to health care.”

The project, now nearing final design, includes a 3,400-foot coastal flood barrier, tide gates to prevent storm-driven backflow, saltmarsh restoration, and a new public riverwalk. It is intended to protect a 500-acre floodplain that is home to 5,000 residents and major assets such as the New England Produce Center, Mass General’s Chelsea facility, three schools, and the area’s primary grocery store. A federally required benefit-cost analysis found the project would prevent an estimated \$3.7 billion in storm-related damages, providing \$30 of benefit for every \$1 spent on the project.

Ben Cares, Director of Housing & Community Development, provided additional context to the Committee regarding long-term trends in sea-level rise and flood frequency. “Our testimony focused on presenting the facts: the extent of the risk, the depth of the planning already completed, and the consequences of the federal withdrawal,” Cares said. “We appreciate the Committee’s attention to the issue and their willingness to understand the implications for both Chelsea and the wider region.”

Chelsea will continue coordinating with Everett, state agencies, and regional stakeholders as the future of federal resilience funding remains uncertain.

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THE 11TH ANNUAL DIDOMENICO FOUNDATION TOY DRIVE A HUGE SUCCESS

Senator Sal DiDomenico and the DiDomenico Foundation had a banner 2025 toy drive event, more than \$50,000 in toys were purchased by Senator DiDomenico and his tireless crew of holiday volunteers, from the communities of Everett, Chelsea, Revere, and Saugus.

Senator DiDomenico



Senator Sal DiDomenico greets Dennis Cataldo.

publicly thanked the Wong family for their continued hospitality and generosity, and Everett Councillor Al



Lucia Bartlett and Mary Vocino add a few more toys to the event.

Latanzi for his support in supplying the nine U-Haul Box Trucks for a week to deliver the toys.



The main room on the second floor of the Kowloon Restaurant in Saugus was filled with toys, exceeding \$50,000 thanks to the generosity of many donors to the DiDomenico Foundation.



Santa's #1 helper, Senator Sal DiDomenico.



Lots of happy helpers, Justin Du, Matthew DiDomenico, Marisa Giunta and Ben Logel.



The DiDomenico family Christmas tradition, filling the Kowloon Restaurant with bundles of toys to be delivered to less fortunate children around the area. Sal, Senator Sal, Trisha, and Matthew DiDomenico.



Supporting a great cause, Randy Boudreau, Megan O'Donnell, Stacy Schiavo, Senator Sal DiDomenico, Melissa O'Donnell, and Anna Kolokithas.



Rosa Carlo, Councillor Anthony DiPerro, Matteo DiNunzio, Angel Marie DiNunzio, and Rick Scirocco.



Senator Sal and Trisha DiDomenico welcome guests, Don Taylor, Kevin Chiles, and Ken Hodge.



Massachusetts General Hospital

Founding Member, Mass General Brigham

Chelsea Community Health Center

2025 Holiday Hours

All Practices/Departments

Urgent Care

<u>Christmas Eve</u> <u>Wednesday, Dec. 24th</u>	<u>8:30am - 1:00pm.</u>	<u>8:00am - 3:45pm</u>
<u>Christmas Day</u> <u>Thursday, Dec. 25th</u>	CLOSED	CLOSED
<u>Friday, Dec. 26th</u>	<u>8:30 am- 5:00pm</u>	<u>8:00am - 7:30pm</u>
<u>Saturday, Dec. 27th</u>	<u>8:30:am- 12:00pm</u>	<u>8:00am - 3:45pm</u>
<u>New Year Eve</u> <u>Wednesday, Dec. 31st</u>	<u>8:30am - 3:00pm</u>	<u>8:00am - 3:45pm</u>
<u>New Years Day</u> <u>Thursday, Jan. 1st</u>	CLOSED	<u>8:00am - 3:45pm</u>
<u>Friday, Jan. 2nd</u>	<u>8:30am - 5:00pm</u>	<u>8:00am - 7:30pm</u>

2025 Horario de festivs

Todas las prcticas/departamentos

Atencin urgente

Noche Buena Miércoles, 24 de Diciembre	<u>8:30am - 1:00pm.</u>	8:00am - 3:45pm
<u>Día de Navidad</u> Jueves, 25 de Diciembre	CERRADO	CERRADO
Viernes, 26 de Diciembre	8:30 am- 5:00pm	8:00am - 7:30pm
Sábado, 27 de Diciembre	8:30:am- 12:00pm	8:00am - 3:45pm
Noche Vieja Miércoles, 31 de Diciembre	<u>8:30am - 3:00pm</u>	8:00am - 3:45pm
<u>Día de Año Nuevo</u> Jueves, 1 de Enero	CERRADO	8:00am - 3:45pm
Viernes, 2 de Enero	8:30am - 5:00pm	8:00am - 7:30pm

151 and 100 Everett Avenue, Chelsea MA

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Chelsea

RECORD

PRESIDENT: Stephen Quigley

EDITOR IN CHIEF: Cary Shuman

THE MASS SHOOTING IN AUSTRALIA: SHOCKING, BUT SADLY, NOT SURPRISING

This past weekend’s tragic shooting in Australia at a Hanukkah festival once again has demonstrated to the world the pernicious and evil effects of anit-semitism, which is the world’s oldest form of prejudice.

Anti-semitism may have reached its peak with the Holocaust in Nazi Germany in the 1930s and ‘40s, but it still remains the number one source of hate in the world today.

In the United States, acts of anti-semitism have spiked exponentially in the past 10 years (long predating the war in Gaza). According to the Anti-Defamation League, there were 9,354 anti-semitic incidents in 2024, the highest number since it began tracking the data in 1979, representing a 344% increase over the past five years and an 893% increase over the past decade.

The stark nature and depth of anti-semitism in our country was on full display in the August, 2017, white nationalist demonstration in Charlottesville, Virginia, when a group of white supremacists marched with candles chanting, “The Jews will not replace us.”

New York City’s Police Commissioner, Jessica Tisch, speaking on Sunday about the shooting in Australia, unequivocally stated the extent of the scourge of anti-semitism: “This is not an isolated incident. It is part of a wider assault on Jewish life. Jewish communities are being forced to confront a threat that is persistent, adaptive and, as evidenced yet again today, global in scope.”

Every synagogue and temple in our country now has armed security guards, something that would have been unimaginable even 10 years ago.

Up until this past weekend, Bondi Beach in Sydney had been a world-famous destination, known for its surf and long stretch of beautiful beach. But now it will be forever remembered as a place where scores of innocent people were gunned down for one reason and one reason only: They were Jews.

A LONG, HARD WINTER LIES AHEAD

We didn’t need a weatherman to tell us that the first part of December has been unusually cold. So it was not at all surprising when we recently read that this has been the coldest start to December in our area in 17 years.

We’ve been pretty fortunate in our part of the world to have had mild Decembers for quite a while. Winter isn’t that tough to take when it’s only the months of January and February that dish out wintry weather.

We recall that even the Snowmageddon Winter of 2015 was not really all that bad. We had about six weeks of record-breaking snowfall (115 inches), but that was it (although the mounds of snow lingered until well into the spring on playgrounds and parking lots).

Last winter was oppressive for most of January and February. The daily high temperatures barely broke 30 and the wind chills every morning were in the single digits. But we had plenty of sunshine and that made our daily run on the sandbar near our home (at low tide) easy-enough to take.

We would even go so far as to say that enduring six or seven weeks of blustery winter days makes us feel alive and truly appreciative of the nicer weather when it arrives.

But these last three weeks of below-normal temperatures since Thanksgiving have broken the recent pattern of easing us into winter. Winter’s grip already feels oppressive, thanks to the cold and the constant winds that have sent the wind chills dipping into the low single (and even below zero) digits. In addition, the sun has been absent more often than not.

And with our heating bills already going through the roof, spring seems like a long, long time away.

THERE’S STILL TIME TO HELP THOSE IN NEED

It’s hard to believe that Christmas is just a week away. We realize that the compressed holiday shopping season has put even more pressure than usual on all of us, but we hope that all of our readers can find the time to remember those in need this holiday season.

The stock market may be booming and unemployment may be near an all-time low, but there was the depressing news this past week that homelessness among Americans once again has increased in the past year and millions of American children (1 in 8) face food insecurity on a regular basis.

The cold, harsh reality for many Americans in 2024 is that the promise of benefitting from a booming economy still is only a dream, where even those who are lucky enough to work full-time are barely getting by thanks to the crushingly-high cost of housing.

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

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

We can assure our readers that any gift of charity that we make, whether it be to a Toys for Tots program or to a Salvation Army Santa (the Salvation Army provided services to 27 million Americans last year) or a food bank donation, will be the most meaningful — and most satisfying — act that we can make this holiday season.

Forum

Teen center eyed for Broadway

By Adam Swift

The city is looking to partner with the Boys & Girls Club of Boston to bring a teen center to Chelsea.

“The city acquired 440 Broadway from the Salvation Army in 2017 with the intention of revitalizing the site for community benefit,” stated City Manager Fidel Maltez. “Since then, we have worked closely with a developer to bring forward a transformative project that includes 29 affordable home ownership condominiums.”

Over the past year, Maltez said the city has focused on bringing a dedicated teen center to the ground floor of the space.

“For many years, the City

Council has asked for safe, enriching, and accessible spaces for Chelsea’s teens,” said Maltez. “A Teen Center on Broadway is, in every sense, a ‘dream come true.’ It sits in the heart of our downtown, within walking distance of our middle schools, and only a short distance from Chelsea High School.”

To identify the right partner to operate the center, the city issued a request for proposals for a long-term lease of the space, and selected the Boys & Girls Club of Boston.

“The Boys & Girls Club has a longstanding history in Chelsea,” said Maltez. “The Jordan club has demonstrated its deep com-

mitment to our young people consistently.”

The city manager said that while there is still a significant amount of work to do, the milestone represents a major step forward.

“We have begun discussions with the Boys & Girls Club regarding a potential long-term lease,” said Maltez. “The lease will likely exceed three years and will require City Council approval. The City may need to support construction to ensure that the Center can open as soon as possible.”

Maltez said there will be additional information about the project and the lease in the coming months.

District 6 Councilor Giovanni Recupero said the

teen center will be a good thing for the city, but noted that the city is still looking for space for a potential community center that would be open for all the city’s residents.

Maltez said city officials toured the Mattapan Boys & Girls Club, which is a similar size to the Chelsea space. He said the first floor space is about 4,000 square feet and would be open just to teenagers. Maltez added that a potential all-ages community center would likely be larger to encompass more programs.

While teens would need a membership to use the teen center, Maltez said the Boys & Girls Club memberships are free.

Change coming to snow parking bans

By Adam Swift

There will be a change in how the public works department tows cars during snow emergencies once the snow starts to fall in January.

Beginning on Jan. 1, only vehicles parked on the even side of each of the Emergency Arteries during a snow parking ban will be required to move.

“During even numbered years, the Snow Parking Ban will only apply to vehicles parked on the even side of the street and vehicles on the odd side of the street can

remain in place,” stated City Manager Fidel Maltez. “In odd-numbered years, like 2027, the ban will apply to vehicles on the odd side of the street and vehicles will be permitted to park on the even side.”

Maltez said the changes came after careful consideration by the public works department and consultation with other communities.

“Historically, the DPW has issued parking bans for large snow storms, or after consecutive snow storms,” said Maltez. “While well intentioned, the parking bans

are called based on weather forecasts that can completely miss the mark. We all recall storms that are forecasted to be large, only to get a dusting in Chelsea.”

The parking bans are enforced with towing that is labor intensive for the police department and financially impacts residents, Maltez said.

“We know the change requires a big communications push for our residents,” said Maltez. “Over the next few weeks, our team will work hard to get this message out. We will

also remind residents of this change throughout the winter months, and ahead of any snow parking bans.”

Several councilors voiced their support for the change, but said that communication to residents was key in making sure it is effective

District 5 Councilor Lisa Santagate requested that handicap parking spaces be exempt from the snow parking ban, regardless of the side of the street.

“For those people, it would be difficult to move a car in any circumstance that involves a storm,” she said.

State Fire Marshal reminds residents beware of Christmas tree fire hazards

Special to the Record

As the holiday season gets underway, State Fire Marshal Jon M. Davine is reminding residents to select Christmas trees carefully, water them every day, and decorate them safely to reduce the risk of a fire.

“A dry Christmas tree can burn like a forest fire in your home,” said State Fire Marshal Davine. “Water it every day, or firefighters might have to do it for you.”

The Department of Fire Services recommends the following Christmas tree safety tips to help you have a Silent Night:

Choosing a Tree

- Select a fresh tree with needles that bend and stay fixed to the branches. If a tree’s needles crack when you bend them, or if they fall off when you run your hand along a branch, the tree is already drying out and you should choose a different tree.
- Have about two inches cut from the bottom of the trunk before you put it up.

Sap can clog an older cut and prevent it from absorbing water in the stand.

Picking the Right Spot at Home

- Place your tree in a sturdy stand away from doors and windows. These are your escape routes in the event of an emergency, and firefighters may need to use them to enter.
- Keep the tree at least three feet from any heat source, including fireplaces, wood stoves, heating vents, radiators, and space heaters.

Water the Tree Every Day

- A fresh tree will drink a lot of water. It may need to be watered more than once a day at first, so keep the water level high. If the bottom of the trunk is exposed to air, sap could seal it off and cause it to dry out prematurely.
 - Even the freshest tree will start to dry out after a few days. Dispose of it promptly after the holiday.
- Decorate Safely**
- Choose lights that are listed by an independent

testing laboratory like UL or Intertek/ETL and follow the manufacturer’s instructions and safety information.

- Before plugging in a string of lights or hanging it on the tree, check the wiring for cracks, pinches, and wear. Discard any damaged strings.
- When decorating outdoors, be sure the lights and extension cords are rated for outdoor use and plug them into an outlet with a Ground Fault Circuit Interrupter.

- Almost half of home decoration fires start with candles and other heat sources too close to decorations: Keep lit candles on a sturdy saucer or candleholder at least three feet from the tree. Even better, switch to battery-powered “flameless” candles, which flicker just like real thing.

For a video clip showing a Christmas tree fire under controlled conditions, visit the Department of Fire Services YouTube channel.

CHELSEA RECORD

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stephen.quigley@reverejournal.com

Advertising and Marketing

Director of Marketing

Debra DiGregorio
deb@reverejournal.com

Assistant Marketing Directors

Maureen DiBella

Legal Advertising

legals@chelsearecord.com

Editorial

Reporters, Regular Contributors

Cary Shuman
(Cary@lynnjournal.com)

Copy Editing, Layout

Scott Yates

Business Accounts

Executive
Judy Russi

Printer

Concord Monitor

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Grazioso joins Massachusetts’ leading anti-hunger organization

Special to the Record

Project Bread welcomes Barrett Grazioso as Chef Educator. For Chef Barrett Grazioso, food has always been more than a meal - it’s been a way to bring people together, nourish communities, and spark meaningful change. Now, after more than 30 years spent cooking, leading school nutrition programs, and strengthening local food systems, Grazioso is bringing that passion to Project Bread as the organization’s newest Chef Educator.

Rooted in a childhood spent between California and Massachusetts, Grazioso grew up in a family of



PHOTO COURTESY OF PROJECT BREAD
Barrett Grazioso.

gardeners and learned early what it meant to respect food and the labor behind

it. Inspired by her grandmother’s homegrown cooking and a kitchen that always welcomed visitors, she knew by age seven she wanted to be a chef. After formal culinary training in Los Angeles, she built a diverse career apprenticing under chefs across the country and abroad, and working as a pastry chef, private chef, executive chef, and school nutrition director.

Most recently, Grazioso led the self-operated K-12 meal program for Belcher-town Public Schools, where she first partnered with Project Bread through a Summer Eats Grant to bring free summer meals to local families. Now, she will support

schools statewide in elevating meal quality, strengthening food education, and advancing sustainable practices like composting, recycling, and food donation.

“I wanted to share my experience with a wider audience,” says Grazioso. “Everyone should have access to healthy food, and helping schools create nutritious, welcoming meal programs is incredibly meaningful work.”

Outside the kitchen, Grazioso enjoys swimming, gardening, and spending time with her family and pets. She previously served on the Massachusetts Farm to School Advisory Committee and continues to

support local food donation efforts.

“Barrett’s culinary skill, creativity, and dedication to feeding communities with dignity make her an incredible asset,” says Sam Icklan, Project Bread’s Director of Community Nutrition Services. “Her leadership brings us closer to ensuring every child in Massachusetts has access to healthy, delicious meals each day.”

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 www.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.

DFS adds new interior drone resources to support fire/rescue

Special to the Record

The Department of Fire Services has added three new drones to its Special Operations fleet that will allow fire/rescue personnel to stream footage from hazardous indoor environments, State Fire Marshal Jon M. Davine said.

“Drones were a giant step forward for situational awareness in the fire service,” said State Fire Marshal Davine. “Up until now, we’ve used them primarily to provide aerial footage from outside a structure

or above a large wildfire or search area. These new drones can operate reliably inside a building, which will be especially valuable for Hazmat, structural collapse, and other dangerous calls.”

DFS tested the drones over the course of 2025 and procured three of them during the fall. The Special Operations team demonstrated the drones for DFS Hazmat technicians, State Police fire investigators and bomb technicians assigned to the State Fire Marshal’s office, and the Massachusetts Firefighting Academy’s senior leadership for

input before announcing the new program publicly. The drones were also put into use onboard the USS Massachusetts during the Massachusetts Association of Technical Rescue Specialists’ 2025 Tech Rescue Challenge.

“We try to gather as much information on the hot zone environment as we can before sending a Hazmat technician downrange,” said Timothy Gallagher, deputy director of the DFS Hazardous Materials Emergency Response Division.

“The real-time footage from these drones could help us identify hazards or threats, allowing us to form an entry plan that’s safer for our personnel.”

“Fire investigators are often called to structures that are badly damaged and unsafe for entry,” said Lt. Marc Reidy, commander of the State Police Fire & Explosion Investigation Unit assigned to the State Fire Marshal’s office. “Our bomb technicians frequently have to assess suspicious devices and energetic materials in homes, business-

es, and other buildings. Streaming a live feed from these environments to a safe location is a smart use of technology to keep first responders and the public out of harm’s way.”

The DFS Special Operations team provided direct operational support to local fire departments with assets that many departments need occasionally but few can afford to purchase. Its resources include four Rehab units to keep firefighters healthy, hydrated, and fed at large-scale incidents; three Incident Support Units

to provide on-scene communications, conferencing, and mapping capabilities; all-terrain vehicles to shuttle personnel and equipment in remote or off-road environments; and a variety of trailer-based resources to make a tough job a little easier. It has delivered drones and certified pilots for about 10 years, consistently upgrading to reflect the latest advances. About a dozen are staged across Massachusetts for rapid response when requested.

CHS Roundup

SERRANO WINS FIRST PLACE IN TWO EVENTS AT MSTCA WINTERFEST

Chelsea High star track athlete Lilly Serrano won first-place in two events at Sunday’s Mass. State Track Coaches Assoc. (MSTCA) Winter Festival Meet that was held at the Reggie Lewis Athletic Center in Roxbury.

Lilly blew away the field in the 300 meter dash. Her winning time of 43.24 was almost two seconds (1.84 to be exact) faster than her closest competitor among the large field of 64 runners.

The Lady Red Devil junior also captured the high jump with a leap of 4’-10”, the only girl to clear the bar at that height.

Teammate and fellow junior Thania Simon also shone in the meet, placing

fifth in the 55m dash with a sprint of 7.70 and third in the long jump with a leap of 16’-5”.

Another big highlight for the Chelsea girls was the performance of the 4 x 200 relay quartet of Kimberly Fuentes Chavez, Serrano, Simon, and Ashly Damas Ruiz, who finished in second place in a time of 1:55.83.

Senior Hazel Hatleberg turned in a fifth-place performance in the 1000 with a clocking of 3:48.71. Dieu-nie Cademus came through with a sixth-place effort in the shot-put with her toss of 27’-2”.

Aly Perez came across the line in eighth place in the 1000 in 3:58.43 and sophomore Kimberly Fuentes Chavez finished a strong ninth in the 600 with a time of 2:03.96.

On the boys’ side, Xavi-

er Guzman was the top Red Devil performer with a third-place performance in the 600 in 1:31.20. Teammate Bryan Amaya-Yanes turned in a fine 11th-place effort in the 600 in 1:36.12.

Red Devil Sebastian Molina Regil shone in the two-mile run, finishing in sixth place with a clocking of 11:53.32.

The Chelsea 4 x 400 relay quartet of David Ponce, Xavier Guzman, Zakaria Moubtassim, and Bryan Amaya-Yanes finished in sixth place with a time of 3:56.08.

CHS BOYS BASKETBALL TO HOST EVERETT TONIGHT

The Chelsea High boys basketball team will face an key early-season test when coach Cesar Castro and his

crew host Greater Boston League rival Everett this evening (Thursday) in the CHS gym. The opening tip is scheduled for 6:00.

The Red Devils, who opened their season this past Tuesday against Somerville, will travel to Malden next Tuesday.

CHS GIRLS OPEN SEASON WITH 53-23 WIN OVER EXCEL

The Chelsea High girls basketball team opened its 2025-26 season under new head coach Bruce Harrison with a 53-23 victory over Excel Academy Monday afternoon at Chelsea High.

Jaylia Santiago Lozada led the Lady Red Devils in the scoring column with 18 points. Monica Cespedes-Cruz reached double figures with 11 points and dished out seven assists to her teammates.

Lidya Castillo Rodriguez turned in a powerful effort with a near double-double, pulling down 10 rebounds and hitting for nine points.

“We played okay,” said Harrison. “We need to improve on passing the ball. The defense was good, but the offense needs work. But overall it was a good showing for our first game!”

Harrison and his crew (who played at Somerville this past Tuesday) are scheduled to make the short trip across the Parkway to Everett today (Thursday) and will entertain Malden next Tuesday afternoon for a 2:00 tip-off in the CHS gym.

CHS BOYS TRACK FALLS JUST SHORT TO MEDFORD, 41-40

Although the Chelsea High boys indoor track team came up on the short end of its season-opening tri-meet with two Greater Boston League (GBL) rivals, the Medford Mustangs (41-40) and the Somerville Highlanders (81-12), last Friday

BRUINS Beat by Bob Morello

BRUINS UNVEIL UNIFORMS FOR 2026

The Boston Bruins unveiled the team’s uniform for the 2026 Navy Federal Credit Union NHL Stadium Series game versus the Tampa Bay Lightning on February 1, 2026, at Raymond James Stadium. The Bruins’ “gold & black” look is tailor-made for the moment as this marquee event will mark the first time in League history that an outdoor game will be played in a football stadium in Florida. The new sweaters reverse the team’s iconic color scheme, bringing a rich, vibrant gold to center stage, as well as include larger-than-life numbers on the sleeve and helmet, and elements that pay homage to the Bruins’ diehard New England fans who show up to cheer on their team at home and away.

“Through multiple Winter Classics and of course our club’s 100th anniversary, we’ve done a lot of retro and vintage style jerseys, but Stadium Series presented an opportunity to do something really unique,” said Boston Bruins President Cam Neely. “We’re excited to introduce a uniform that combines Bruins toughness and snarl with some really dialed up components and coloring. These sweaters are going to look great under the Sunday night lights.” The jerseys feature a variety of new brand marks and design elements: Sunshine Motif: In addition to the primary gold color, the jersey features debossed sun rays on the sleeves and on the hem loop label, which also features “BOS” – Boston’s airport code – a nod to the road warriors. Football-Inspired: The main “Boston” wordmark on the front of the jersey is akin to the

New England Patriots styling, an intentional nod to the game being hosted in an NFL football stadium, and features a lock-up treatment with the Bruins’ crawling bear logo. The crawling bear – traditionally a secondary brand asset – is bigger and more prominent for the Stadium Series. Bear Claw Slash: One side shoulder features a new secondary mark, an iconic varsity B with a bear claw slash to signifying the grit and toughness that have been synonymous with Bruins hockey for more than 100 years. The slash graphic element appears throughout the uniform, including on the jersey, helmet, and pants. Love For New England: The inside neck collar features the abbreviations of the six New England states as a reminder that the Bruins are proud to represent their region no matter where they play. The Bruins 2026 jerseys and additional Stadium Series merchandise will be available for purchase on December 15 at BostonProShop.com and in-store at the ProShop at The Hub on Causeway. The NHL Stadium Series will be broadcast by ESPN.

Upcoming: On Tuesday the Bruins took on the Utah Mammoth, to begin a five-game homestand. Tonight (Thursday 7:00pm) the locals will host the Edmonton Oilers and Connor McDavid, followed by a visit from the Vancouver Canucks (Saturday 7:00pm) to open a back-to-back weekend, with the Ottawa Senators (Sunday 7:00pm) to finish the set. The Montreal Canadiens will stop by TD Garden to continue the long time rivalry on Tuesday at 7:00pm.



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MBTA achieves major milestone with the historic Daniels-Finegold settlement

Special to the Journal

The Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority (MBTA), disability advocates, and original plaintiffs of a landmark accessibility lawsuit came together December 10, 2025, to celebrate a historic milestone in the ongoing effort to make public transit accessible to all.

After 19 years of steady improvements to the accessibility of its system, the MBTA has fulfilled a substantial amount of its obligations under the 2006 Joanne Daniels-Finegold, et al. v. Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority Settlement Agreement. As a result, court-appointed independent monitor Judge Patrick King will conclude his oversight role.

In honor of this milestone, and to demonstrate its ongoing commitment to advancing accessibility system-wide, the MBTA has worked with the original named plaintiffs, the Boston Center for Independent Living (BCIL), and Greater Boston Legal Services (GBLS) to enter into the Next Generation Accessibility Agreement with BCIL, which includes numerous commitments related to delivering best-in-class accessible service for all riders. This agreement also shifts oversight responsibility from a court-appointed monitor to the Riders' Transportation Access Group (RTAG). RTAG is the MBTA's citizen-led advisory committee on accessibility matters, and the

organizations will work together to make more progress across the entire MBTA network. Anyone is welcome to become a member of the group.

"Since my very initial days at the MBTA, it was evident that the plaintiffs in the Daniels-Finegold landmark lawsuit were now partners. Their long-term commitment of working with us to improve and advance accessibility was not about the case, but rather ensuring that all who wanted and needed to use mass transportation had the same access as everyone else — something that we at the T value equally. That is why this settlement agreement is not only a major milestone but so meaningful for myself and the MBTA leadership as we share that goal. While nationally, the MBTA is one of the most accessible legacy systems in the United States today, we also know we have much more to do," said Interim Secretary and MBTA General Manager Phillip Eng. "I value the dedication shown by each of the plaintiffs — in particular, Joanne Daniels-Finegold, Myrnairis Cepeda, Reginald Clark, Thomas Gilbert, Andrew Forman — along with BCIL led by Bill Henning, Taramattie Doucette and the entire team at GBLS, and Independent Monitor Judge King. I offer my sincerest gratitude for their decades of open communication and partnership as we strived to address accessibility at the MBTA. In addition, I would like to thank Christine Daniels, a community advocate,

for her help on this important work. I am so proud of System-Wide Accessibility Assistant General Manager Laura Brelsford and her entire team's efforts that led the progress we see today. We remain committed to ensuring one day, each and every individual can use the MBTA with safety, dignity, and confidence as we work with RTAG who has now assumed oversight responsibilities."

"The story of the Daniels-Finegold lawsuit and settlement is one that should be shared far and wide," said Assistant General Manager of System-Wide Accessibility, Laura Brelsford. "Two decades ago, a small group of disabled riders, with help from a dedicated legal services organization, spoke up after experiencing years of inaccessible service. And when no one would listen, they kept fighting — ultimately securing what has been recognized as the most comprehensive accessibility-related settlement agreement in public transportation. What's even more impressive is that, once the settlement was signed, they shifted quickly from litigants to partners and have consistently and constructively guided us into becoming one of the most accessible systems in the country today. It has been a privilege to work alongside them and be part of this story."

"For more than 20 years, the named plaintiffs, Greater Boston Legal Services (GBLS), and the community have worked with the MBTA to make accessibility improvements that benefit all riders. I'm glad that RTAG will now have the resources and a strong platform to take our legacy into the future," said Joanne Daniels-Finegold.

"It marks a huge step towards ensuring equal rights for riders of all abilities," said Myrnairis (Mic) Cepeda.

"I'm glad we were able to bring the right people at the MBTA together with the community to solve the access problems. Now, it's up to the community to keep the work going with RTAG," said Reginald Clark.

"It means we have come a really long way compared to 20 years ago. It's far better than it was. We



Pictured above (from L to R): Robert Park, Thomas Gilbert, Reginald Clark, Andrew Forman, Majda Abbas (GBLS), Bill Henning (BCIL), Laura Brelsford (MBTA), Taramattie Doucette (GBLS), Independent Monitor Judge Patrick King, Chris Hart (MBTA), additional GBLS counsel, Myrnairis (Mic) Cepeda, Joanne Daniels-Finegold, John Martin (MBTA), Interim MassDOT Secretary and MBTA General Manager Phillip Eng.

have made a real difference, not just for the MBTA, but worldwide. The MBTA has become a benchmark standard for accessibility," said Thomas Gilbert.

"Thanks to the leadership and foundational work of Greater Boston Legal Services and the plaintiffs, and with the strong team we have assembled — including System-Wide Accessibility, the Boston Center for Independent Living, and the Riders Transportation Access Group — I am confident that we will continue to advance accessibility at the MBTA. Although the transition presents significant challenges, our productive working relationship with the MBTA gives me confidence that full accessibility will ultimately be achieved," said Andrew Forman.

"Today, I am very pleased to see the MBTA's transformation from a decrepit system to one that is finally accessible, dependable, and built for all riders," said Gene Smith.

"BCIL extols the amazing individual plaintiffs who've given over twenty years of personal time to improve accessibility at the T, the great GBLS legal team, and the ongoing commitment throughout the MBTA's ranks to get it right on the ADA," said Bill Henning, the Director of the organizational plaintiff, Boston Center for Independent Living (BCIL).

"Now that plaintiffs will be transitioning to RTAG, it is important to note that the work is not done," said Taramattie Doucette, Esq., who serves as lead counsel for the plaintiffs on behalf of the Greater Boston Legal Services (GBLS). "Accessibility is not a box we check; it is a standard we must continue to raise. As systems age, as ridership grows, and as new technologies emerge, the community via BCIL/RTAG must insist that progress continues — steadily, boldly, and inclusively."

"On behalf of the Riders' Transportation Access Group (RTAG), I am honored to accept the baton of responsibility from the Daniels-Finegold plaintiffs, who have worked tirelessly for over two decades to improve MBTA access for everyone," said RTAG Facilitator and Community Organizer Katarina Torres Radisic. "Our commitment will extend beyond the settlement as we continue to promote transparency, equitable and inclusive service delivery, and build public trust in the MBTA."

Since the Settlement Agreement was reached in 2006, the MBTA has made sweeping improvements to virtually every aspect of its fixed-route system in order to ensure riders with disabilities have access to safe and reliable service. Upgrades have included:

- Creating and growing the Department of System-Wide Accessibility — a clearinghouse of accessibility expertise
- Prioritizing elevator maintenance — in the early 2000s, many of the MBTA's most frequently use elevators were out of service the majority of the time. Today, elevators on average are operational 99.4% of the time. Additionally, a new elevator standard was created, resulting in larger, more transparent elevators
- Transitioning to an entirely low-floor, ramp-equipped bus fleet
- Fully revising and refreshing trainings for front-line employees on how to provide best-in-class accessible service
- Restructuring the process for handling accessibility-related complaints to ensure a fully closed loop system
- Expanding outreach and engagement to older adults and people with disabilities through the MBTA's Mobility Center
- Developing and administering an Internal Accessibility Monitoring Program in order to systematically

evaluate the experience of riders with disabilities

• Significantly expanding station accessibility — in 2005, less than 60% of stations were accessible; today, 83% are; 93% of stations are projected to be accessible in the next five years

• Advancing dual-mode public information systems so that important information is broadcast audibly as well as visually

• Rolling out new way-finding signage standards to make navigating the system easier

• And although not part of the Daniels-Finegold settlement, the RIDE has seen a number of improvements in recent years — including improved on-time performance and a new rider-facing app

Numerous accessibility improvements are planned for the coming years, including:

- Major accessibility upgrades at over 30 stations
- Advancing the automatic enforcement of blocked bus stops using bus camera technology
- Issuing a first-of-its-kind accessibility training for Transit Police officers

For full list of ongoing initiatives, please visit [MBTA.com/accessibility-initiatives](https://www.mbta.com/accessibility-initiatives) and check out [MBTA.com/accessibility](https://www.mbta.com/accessibility) for additional information.

For more information, 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 infrastructure, 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](https://www.mbta.com) or follow @MBTA on social media.



First-named Plaintiff Joanne Daniels-Finegold signing the agreement.



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MOTOR SERVICES

Save the Harbor is giving out \$300,000 for free beach events

Special to the Record

Through the Better Beaches Program, Save the Harbor/Save the Bay and the Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) are looking for input from community organizations, local groups, and artists to bring diverse and interesting events to DCR beaches in Nahant, Lynn, Revere, Winthrop, East Boston, South Boston, Dorchester, Quincy, and Hull.

Events will be free for community members to attend and should reflect the many interests and identities of the community. Anyone can apply to this grant program, whether they are part of an organization, collective, or a creative individual with a vision for a more diverse and activated waterfront. This grant program is not just about securing funds; it is a way to get involved, bring community to the Boston Harbor beaches, and help shape the future

of the waterfront.

Grants from \$2,500 – \$8,500 will be awarded based on a tiered system depending on the number of people the proposed event will serve and the amount of different components involved.

The Better Beaches Program has funded different types of events including wellness/recreational programs, children’s programming, performances, to music and cultural events, as long as they involve the community and any one of our region’s many beaches. Some examples of previous events Save the Harbor has funded are:

“Community Care and Wellness Fair” with Mutual Aid Eastie where 200 people, mostly Spanish-speaking East Boston community members, participated in various health and wellness activities, like Reiki, massages, and arts and crafts on Constitution Beach, East Boston.

Abilities Dance Boston’s Dance Performance featured performances from dancers and musicians with disabilities who created beach inspired choreography and an original score that wowed over 100 attendees on Constitution Beach, East Boston.

NamaStay Sober Beach Yoga, where over 400 attendees participated in free weekly beach yoga on Revere Beach, especially created with those who are sober and are in recovery in mind.

To apply for a grant or ask any questions about the Better Beaches Program, please contact Maya Smith at smith@savetheharbor.org and Isabella Carrion at carrion@savetheharbor.org. Applications are due by January 31, 2025, 11:59 pm, after which Save the Harbor’s Better Beaches Grants Committee will review the proposals and reach out to selected grantees by March 11, 2026.



NamaStay Sober Beach Yoga.

For more information and a full list of the 2025 grantees, go to <https://www.savetheharbor.org/better-beaches/grant-information> or attend one of the information sessions.

We look forward to receiving your ideas on how to make our public beaches accessible and enjoyable spaces for all of our communities!

Save the Harbor/Save the Bay is the region’s leading

voice for clean water and continued public investment in Boston Harbor, the region’s public beaches, and the Boston Harbor Islands. Since 1986, our mission has been to restore and protect Boston Harbor, Massachusetts Bay, and the marine environment, and share them with the public for everyone to enjoy.

Save the Harbor is committed to making Boston Harbor, the Islands, our

beaches, and our programs inclusive, equitable, diverse, and accessible to everyone and anyone. We provide free programs, events and create opportunities for people to experience Boston Harbor and our spectacular urban natural resources first-hand, with an emphasis on breaking down barriers of race, language, income and ability.

Keolis Hosts Annual North Pole Express Train Ride

Special to the Record

Keolis Commuter Services (Keolis), the MBTA’s operations and maintenance partner for the Commuter Rail, hosted Greater Boston-area children for a festive North Pole Express train ride on Saturday. Wearing pajamas and singing holiday songs, more than 1,000 children and their families embarked on a journey to the “North Pole” and back as part of a full afternoon of free holiday activities.

At South Station, guests were greeted with music and holiday decorations, while children were treated to snacks, gifts and activities, prior to boarding the decorated train. On board, elected officials and community leaders read books and led holiday sing-alongs. The return portion of the trip featured a visit from Santa Claus and his elves. Tickets for this invitation-only event were provided to families served by local nonprofit organizations (see full list below).

“All aboard! It was awesome to join the MBTA and Keolis on the annual ride to the North Pole with so many families. Thank you to the operators, staff and volunteers who made today possible and for helping us spread the holiday cheer,” said Massachusetts Governor Maura Healey.

“The annual North Pole Express represents the true spirit of the holidays and making dreams come true, inviting children and their loved ones on an adventure to the North Pole aboard a train filled with treats, stories, and festive cheer. Not only is this a memorable experience for the families and communities we serve, but the employees that plan and



Santa Claus makes his way through the train during last year’s trip.

participate truly embrace the spirit and enjoy seeing all the smiles on the faces of all that join us on this journey,” said Interim MassDOT Secretary and MBTA General Manager Phillip Eng. “Thank you to Keolis and their elves who take great pride in hosting and organizing this wonderful event every year, bringing holiday cheer to so many families. And a big shout-out to Governor Healey, our participating MBTA Board Directors, and other State leaders for adding to the holiday magic and joining us on our trip to the North Pole as we wish everyone a safe, healthy, and happy holiday season!”

“Keolis’ annual North Pole Express event celebrates the magic of the holiday season, and I love the opportunity to enjoy this festive train ride with families from across our communities,” said John Killeen, Keolis CEO and General Manager. “We are grateful to the leaders who join us every year to make

this day special for the nonprofit organizations and the hundreds of children who participate.”

Each coach car featured elected officials and community leaders as readers of Chris Van Allsburg’s classic “The Polar Express,” with other special guests attending the festivities, including:

- Governor Maura Healey
- Phil Eng, MassDOT Interim Secretary of Transportation and MBTA General Manager
- Thomas McGee, Chairman of MBTA Board of Directors
- Chanda Smart, MBTA Board of Directors
- Kevin Hayden, Suffolk County District Attorney
- State Senator Nick Collins
- State Representative David Biele
- State Representative Brandy Fluker-Reid
- State Representative Christopher Worrell
- Enrique Pepen, Boston City Councilor
- Henry Santana, Boston

City Councilor

- Brian Worrell, Boston City Councilor
- Mela Bush, Co-Chair of Fairmount Indigo Transit Coalition
- Caitlin Allen-Connelly,

Executive Director at TransitMatters

- Ryan Coholan, MBTA Chief Operating Officer
- Michael Rooks, MBTA Chief Railroad Officer
- John Killeen, CEO of Keolis Commuter Services

Keolis organized and sponsored the North Pole Express, working with many local nonprofit organizations to invite families with limited financial means to participate in this invitation-only event. Partnering organizations included:

- South Boston Neighborhood House
- The Home for Little Wanderers
- Boys & Girls Clubs of Boston
- Children’s Friend and Family Services – Salem and Lynn
- Rosie’s Place
- Boys and Girls Club of Lynn
- Horizons for Homeless Children

- Family Independence Initiative
- Boys & Girls Club of Dorchester
- Community Connections of Brockton
- Fairmount indigo Transit Coalition
- Jack and Jill

Keolis Commuter Services has operated and maintained the Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority’s commuter rail system, the sixth largest commuter rail operation in North America, for over ten years. KCS is a subsidiary of Keolis North America (KNA), both headquartered in Boston, and employs approximately 2,500 people throughout the region. KCS and KNA are part of Keolis Group, an innovative global leader in transit services with more than a century of passenger transportation experience and operations in 13 countries.

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PHOTOS PUBLISHED WEDS. DEC. 24th

OBITUARIES

Paula Marie Gallant

Her family was always her greatest priority and she will be remembered for her boundless love, selflessness and compassion

Paula Marie (Williams) Gallant, 63, a long-time resident of Wilmington, passed away on December 14, 2025, following a courageous and unwavering battle with GVHD.

Paula was born on March 23, 1962, in Chelsea, the cherished daughter of the late Paul Williams and Barbara E. (Slevoski) Dunn. She was raised and educated in Chelsea, where she formed lifelong friendships and met the love of her life.

Paula met her husband, Paul Gallant, while they were growing up in Chelsea. They married in the early 1980's and made their home in Wilmington, where they raised their two beloved daughters, Meaghan and Katelyn. Paula was a devoted wife, an exceptional homemaker, and a wonderful mother. Her family was always her greatest priority.

Known affectionately as the "cool mom," Paula opened her heart and her home to everyone. She had an open-door policy and welcomed her daughters' friends as if they were her own. Paula was born to be a host and took great joy in bringing people together. She especially loved the holidays—Thanksgiving and Christmas were her favorites—and she had a remarkable gift for making those times truly magical for her family.

Paula shared a special and loving bond with her husband, Paul and together they cherished watching their daughters grow, built their lives, and eventually became loving grandparents. They enjoyed relaxing together in their yard by the pool and soaking in the simple pleasures of being together.

Paula adored her daughters unconditionally and was their biggest confidant and supporter. She never missed a cheerleading competition, skating event, or school activity, and she was endlessly proud of Meaghan and Katelyn, never missing an opportunity to tell them how deeply she loved them.

Becoming "Nanny" to her grandchildren was one of Paula's greatest joys. She Facetimed daily, celebrating every milestone and moment, and her love for her grandchildren knew no bounds.

Paula was diagnosed with cancer more than twelve years ago and faced her illness head-on with strength, courage, and grace. After receiving a bone marrow transplant, she became a



survivor and continued to inspire everyone around her. With her positive attitude and warm spirit, Paula became affectionately known as the "mayor" of the Feldberg 7 and Shapiro 7 floors at Beth Israel Hospital. Even in the midst of her own fight, she brought joy, comfort, and encouragement to nurses, doctors, and fellow patients with her radiant smile and kind words.

Paula will be remembered for her boundless love, selflessness, and compassion. She loved without judgment, always putting others before herself, and never complained. She was a strong and inspiring role model to her family and all who knew her, and she will be deeply missed.

Paula was the beloved wife of Paul Gallant; devoted mother of Meaghan Gallant and her late fiancée, Nathan Regan, of Wilmington, and Katelyn Caruso and her husband, Jack, of Watertown; and loving "Nanny" to the late Logan Regan, Marley Caruso, and Archer Caruso. She was the dear sister of Walter Williams and his wife, Kim, of Revere; Robert Dunn of New Jersey; the late Shamus Dunn; and Cheryl Riley of Wilmington. She was also the sister-in-law of Janet Gallant and her late husband, Ricky Gallant. Paula is survived by many loving nieces and nephews.

Family and friends will gather for visitation at the Nichols Funeral Home, 187 Middlesex Avenue (Route 62), Wilmington, on Friday, December 19, from 9 to 11 a.m., immediately followed by a Mass of Christian Burial at 11:30 a.m. in St. Dorothy's Church, Main Street (Route 38), Wilmington.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations in Paula's name may be made to The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society (Blood Cancer United), P.O. Box 22470, New York, NY 10087-2470, or to New England Donor Services, 60 First Avenue, Waltham, MA 02451.

Carafa Family

Funeral Home Inc.

389 Washington Ave.

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Amy C-Almas

William R. Carafa -

Funeral Directors

carafafuneralhome.com



A long-time resident of Alexandria, VA, entered eternal rest on November 25, 2025.

He leaves his wife, of 55 years, Marjorie, son, Michael, brother, Robert (Susan) Kehoe, sister, Marion (Paul) Cameron and a host of cousins, nieces and nephews. He was born in Chelsea, son of the late Edward A. Kehoe, Sr. and Marion G. Kehoe.

He served in the 1st Cavalry Division during the Vietnam War. He was a member of that association; a member of the Knights of Columbus and was a Boy Scout leader of Troop 988. He retired from the U.S. Federal Government after 39 years of service. He was also actively involved in



many church activities.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be held on January 08, 2026 at 11 a.m. at Queen of Apostles Catholic Church, 4329 Sano Street, Alexandria, VA 22312. Interment will be held at a later date. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to a charity of your choice.

Kimberly M. (Kursonis) Ursino

Graduate of Chelsea High School, Class of 1985

Family and friends are respectfully invited to attend a Memorial Visitation on Friday, December 19th, from 4 to 7 p.m. in the Vertuccio Smith and Vazza, Beechwood Home for Funerals, 262 Beach Street, Revere for Kimberly M. (Kursonis) Ursino who passed away far too young after a brief battle with cancer. She was 58 years old. A funeral service will take place in the funeral home at 7 p.m., interment will be private.

Kimberly was born in Everett on January 7, 1967. She was the only child born to John W. Kursonis and Frances L. (Ciaramella) Kursonis. She was raised and educated in Chelsea and was a graduate of Chelsea High School, Class of 1985. During her time in high school, Kimberly was captain of the cheerleading squad and was also on the girls' volleyball team. Her greatest joy in life was becoming a mom and she was blessed with her two sons, Daniel and Dylan. Her love for them knew no bounds and never wavered.

She had an immense passion for Disney. She was beyond a superfan and looked forward to her many vacations there, each trip extra special to her. Kimberly worked for the Federal Government in a managerial role at the Hanscom Air Force Base in Bedford. Her federal career spanned over fifteen years until her diagnosis. Kimberly was also a lover of the beach and ocean. She and her fiancé, Jeff would spend the season on their boat "The Kimberly Marie." They would enjoy Sundays at the Back Beach Sand Bar in Essex with friends, family and their dog, Leia.

She was also enthusiastic about sports, specifically football, attending and supporting every one of her boy's games as their biggest fan. Kimberly was creative and loved decorating for all occasions. Whether it was



Halloween, Christmas, or the Fourth of July, her imagination was limitless, each year bringing new themes and decorative ideas. Her holiday gingerbread house parties were among one of her favorites. Each year she and her friends would compete for the best decorated gingerbread house. She was an extremely loyal and devoted friend. Kimberly, along with her friends, called themselves "The Stella's." This group of women have been friends for decades and they have always remained extremely close. Kimberly was a strong, caring, kind and passionate woman. Most importantly she will be remembered as a loving mother, daughter, companion, friend, and lover of all things Disney.

The loving mother of Daniel J. Ursino and Dylan A. Ursino, both of Middleton, she was the devoted daughter of Frances L. (Ciaramella) Kursonis of Chelsea and the late John W. Kursonis, the cherished fiancé of Jeffrey S. Mariano of Middleton, the loving niece of Josephine and the late Salvatore Fazio and Sherry and Tony Ciaramella, the treasured cousin of Salvatore "Teddy" Fazio and the late Nicholas "Nicky" Ciaramella and is also lovingly survived by her lab, Leia, the Stella Girls' Group, many other friends, and extended families.

At the family's request, please OMIT flowers and make a donation to Dana-Farber Cancer Institute and the Jimmy Fund, P.O. Box 849168, Boston, MA 02284-9188.

Patricia "Tricia" O'Donnell

July 18, 1963 - December 3, 2025

It is with deep sadness that we announce the passing of Patricia Jean O'Donnell, affectionately known as Tricia, who left this world unexpectedly on December 3, 2025, at the age of 62, surrounded by the love of her devoted husband, William H. O'Donnell, Jr.

Tricia's journey began in Chelsea, where she was born on July 18, 1963, the cherished daughter of the late Chester V. and Charlotte J. Zaksheski.

Tricia's academic journey commenced at St. Stanislaus Parochial School and continued through Williams Jr. High School, culminating with her graduation from Chelsea High School in 1981. Demonstrating a keen interest in engineering from a young age, she pursued drafting and design studies at NE Technical School in Wakefield. Her educational achievements included earning an Associate's Degree in Tool and Die Design from Alliance College in Cambridge Springs, PA, followed by an Associate's Degree in Mechanical Drafting from Wentworth Institute of Technology. Over the span of a remarkable 40-year career, Tricia contributed significantly to the fields of engineering and quality assurance at E.G. & G. in Salem, which later became PerkinElmer Optoelectronics and then Excelitas Technologies. Starting as a Drafter, her career flourished as she ascended to the role of Senior Quality Analyst, a testament to her unwavering dedication and expertise. Her commitment to education continued, as she proudly earned a bachelor's degree in business administration and management in 2012.

Tricia married the love of her life, William, on May 1, 1988. Together, they forged a beautiful life for 37 years in Peabody, Massachusetts, where their shared love and devotion were evident to all who knew them. Tricia found joy in the simple pleasures of life—celebrating holidays with family, nurturing friendships, and curling up at home to watch her favorite sci-fi and reality



television shows.

She leaves behind her beloved husband, William, and her cherished family: her siblings: Linda S. Wood and her late husband, David of Arizona; Peter A. Zaksheski and his wife, Donna of Chelsea; Andrea Z. Jackowski of Royersford, PA and the late Dianne M. Zaksheski. Tricia was a treasured aunt to Amanda Jackowski and her partner, Kyle, as well as Christopher Jackowski, all of Pennsylvania, and her late Godson, Jonathan Jackowski.

She is also survived by a large extended family, including in-laws: Dorothy Morgan and her husband, Michael of Saugus; James O'Donnell of Jackson, NH; Joseph F. O'Donnell and his wife, Kellye of Newburyport; and Mary Welch and her husband, George of Saugus. Tricia's family was further enriched by her numerous nieces and nephews, including Whitney and Keri Morgan, Joey O'Donnell Jr., Brittany O'Donnell and her daughter,, Ruby Dixon, Michael and Brooke O'Donnell, George Welch III, his wife, Cristin and their son, Caiden, Meghan Welch, and the late Michael R. Morgan, Jr.

Tricia's life was honored with a private family farewell service and burial at Puritan Lawn Memorial Park, in Peabody where she was laid to rest. Those wishing to commemorate her are encouraged to consider contributing to a charity of their choosing in her name.

In her memory, we reflect upon the joy and love she brought into our lives, a lasting impression that will remain in our hearts forever.



To place a memoriam in the Chelsea Record please call 781-485-0588

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Hiram Flores
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Fill not your hearts with pain and sorrow, but remember me in every tomorrow. Remember the joy, laughter, the smiles. I've only gone to rest for a while. Although my leaving causes pain and grief, my going has eased my hurt and given me relief. So dry your eyes and remember me, not as I am but I as I used to be. Because, I will remember you all and look on with a smile. Understand in your hearts, I've only gone to rest a while. As long as I have the love of you, I can live my life in the hearts of all of you.

Your loving wife Sharleene, children Jordanna, Aisha and grandchildren.



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OBITUARIES

Patricia L. “Patty” (Creamer) Schlicher

She was an “Auntie” to everybody, and the beloved caretaker of the family

Patty entered eternal rest Tuesday morning, November 25, 2025, surrounded by the love and comfort of her husband, while at home in Saugus. She was 74 years of age.

Born and raised in Chelsea, the daughter of the late James S. and Lucy (Ryan) Creamer, Patty attended school in Chelsea and graduated from Chelsea High School, Class of 1969. She worked as a receptionist for various companies over the years, but retired from Microsurgical Eye Consultants in Peabody.

After getting married, Patty and her husband settled in Saugus, where she has resided all these years. Patty was an “Auntie” to everybody, and she was the beloved caretaker of the family. She loved the beach, going on cruises and taking vacations with her husband. She loved spending time with friends and family, especially during the holidays. Everyone went to Auntie’s for dessert on Christmas night! Patty will be forever loved and cherished by her family.

Patty was the devoted wife of Joseph R. Schlicher of Saugus, with whom she shared 54 years of marriage; dear sister of Dorothy E. Capone and her husband, Jerry of Saugus, Nancy J. Bright of Billerica, Robert H. Creamer of Billerica, and the late James S. Creamer, Jr, John M. Creamer, Richard G. Creamer and Linda



Hamel; beloved sister-in-law of Cheryl Creamer of Peabody, Lisa Creamer of Woburn and the late Jimmy Bright. She is also lovingly survived by many nieces and nephews.

Relatives and friends are kindly invited to attend visiting hours at the Carafa Family Funeral Home, 389 Washington Ave., Chelsea, on Saturday, January 3 from 10 to 11:30 a.m. Patty’s Memorial Service will be celebrated in the Funeral Home at 11:30 a.m. Services will conclude at the Funeral Home. Interment is private.

In lieu of flowers, donations in Patty’s memory may be made to the Alzheimer’s Association, 225 N Michigan Ave. Floor 17 Chicago, IL 60601 or online at www.alz.org.

We encourage family and friends to visit carafafuneralhome.com to offer condolences by means of the online guest book or to send a personalized sympathy card.

COLETTA ZAPATA HOLDS HEARING REGARDING UTILITY-RELATED HAZARDS

EAST BOSTON - Councilor Gabriela Coletta Zapata (District 1) held a hearing to examine the maintenance and safety protocols of overhead electrical equipment to keep communities safe from utility-related hazards. The hearing brought together City officials, utility companies, and residents to discuss ongoing concerns, current practices, and opportunities to strengthen emergency notifications and ensure multi-agency response systems function effectively. Councilor Coletta Zapata sponsored the hearing to review utility companies’ maintenance protocols, inspection schedules, and emergency response plans, and to evaluate long-term infrastructure solutions that better protect residents especially in high-density neighborhoods. The hearing was called in response to the July 29 incident on Bartlett Street in Charlestown, where overhead electrical wires caught fire, igniting parked vehicles and causing a power outage for dozens of residents.

“This hearing is a step towards trying to understand how to move forward in an effective way where we have broad buy-in from all stakeholders of the community if there are going to be impacts to their quality of life and financial impacts. Residents deserve to know that when they walk down their block, the wires above them are safe, inspected, and capable of withstanding increasingly volatile weather patterns,” said Councilor Coletta Zapata. “I look forward to future conversations. Thank you to everyone who joined to provide their perspectives and experiences.”

The Councilors heard from an administration panel who provided an overview of the City’s coordination efforts with utility companies and the challenges of undergrounding infrastructure in densely populated areas. The Public Improvement Commission clarified that its role is limited to reviewing the location of utility infrastructure and not determining its appropriateness, viability, or necessity. Those assessments fall to the utility companies and the State’s Department

NEWS FROM AROUND THE REGION



Mayor Michelle Wu with Santa and State Representative Adrian Madaro and his children, Nico and Matteo during the Mayor’s annual Trolley Tour.

of Public Utilities (DPU). Councilor Coletta Zapata emphasized the need for clearer communication, timely responses, and critical infrastructure upgrades.

Utility companies present discussed the challenges of coordinating multiple utility projects in the same area and the importance of clear communication with city agencies. Eversource and National Grid shared that undergrounding wires could cost millions per mile, with additional costs for conduits, permits, and excavation. They emphasized the complexity and high costs involved, noting that municipalities would bear the initial costs. During the hearing, the utility companies also addressed the impact of undergrounding on utility companies and their operations such as the complexity and cost of undergrounding, including the need for additional manholes and engineering costs.

This docket will remain in the Committee on City Services and Innovation Technology. A recording of the hearing can be found at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tCvk_co6PJQ

For additional information please contact the Office of Councilor Gabriela Coletta Zapata by phone at (617) 635-3200 or by email at gabriela.ramirez@boston.gov.

RESIDENT PARKING STICKER PROGRAM BEGINS JAN. 2 WITH NEW CHANGES

EVERETT - The Office of the Parking Clerk is pleased to announce the

official start of the 2026 Resident Parking Sticker Program. Beginning Friday, January 2, vehicle owners must submit an application to obtain their 2026 resident parking sticker.

Please note stickers will no longer be automatically mailed to residents who have applied and received a sticker before. To receive a 2026 sticker, Everett residents must take action by one of the following methods:

- Apply online at epay.cityhallsystems.com.
- Call Constituent Services at 617-394-2270 or visit City Hall (484 Broadway), Room 13, for in-person assistance.
- Call City Hall Systems at 508-381-5455.

Please note that to be approved, the vehicle must be registered in Everett and in good standing. Stickers will not be issued for vehicles with overdue parking tickets or unpaid excise taxes.

If you receive an email indicating that your address is not recognized, the Collector’s Office will update the system and notify you once your address has been added so you may reapply online.

Resident stickers for 2026 must be obtained and displayed on the vehicle by

March 1, 2026. As a courtesy, stickers will be free of charge from January 2 through February 28. A \$10 fee per sticker will apply starting March 1.

Residents applying for a first-time sticker or those with new plates or vehicles must apply in person at City Hall, Room 13. Please bring your vehicle registration and proof of address (such as a driver’s license or current utility bill).

Beginning January 2, Lower Broadway residents must also visit City Hall, Room 13, to renew their Lower Broadway sticker and visitor placard. Please bring your registration and proof of address (driver’s license, utility bill or last year’s visitor placard).

Commercial Vehicles Commercial vehicles must bring their registration to City Hall and pass an inspection to qualify for a residential sticker. The vehicle must weigh under 10,000 lbs. and have no more than four wheels. Box trucks are not eligible. The cost is \$300 per sticker and limited to one per household.

Visitor Passes and Placards

Residents may obtain a

See REGION Page 11

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10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
1	2	3	4	5	6	7

December

M	T	W	T	F	S
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Roundup // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5

evening at the Reggie Lewis Track and Athletic Center, a number of Red Devils turned in fine performances.

In the 55 meter dash, sophomore David Ponce took first place vs. Medford with a time of 7.42. Teammates Gregory Ulloa and Aiden Rivas-Ortega came across in second and third vs. Medford to complete a sweep over the Mustangs.

In the 300 dash, Ponce grabbed second and Ulloa took third place vs. Medford.

In the 600, Xavier Guzman took first place vs. Medford and second vs. Somerville with a time of 1:34.81.

In the 1000, Bryan Amaya-Yanes finished first vs. Medford and second vs. Somerville with a clocking of 3:06.98.

Carlos Perez-Acosta took first place vs. Medford in the mile with a time of 5:28.34.

In the two-mile run, junior Sebastian Molina Regil came across the line in second place vs. both Medford and Somerville with a time of 12:06.48.

In the shot-put, Red Devil senior Kevin Romero-Molina took first place vs. Medford with a toss of 39’-5.5”, which was good for second vs. Somerville. Teammates Philip Robles and Ugali Thomas went 2-3 to make it a sweep vs. Medford.

The Red Devils will be back at the Reggie tomorrow (Friday) evening for another GBL tri-meet vs. Revere and Lynn English.

SIMON, SERRANO SHINE IN OPENING MEET FOR CHS GIRLS

Although the Chelsea High girls indoor track team came up on the short end of its tri-meet with

Greater Boston League (GBL) rivals Medford (48-45) and Somerville (62-31) last Friday evening at the Reggie Lewis Track and Athletic Center, a number of Lady Red Devils turned in fine performances.

Junior Thania Simon outclassed the entire field of all GBL competitors (all of the GBL schools compete on Friday nights at the Reggie in dual and tri-meets) in the long jump with a leap of 17’-8.75”, which was more than two feet further than the next-closest girl.

Thania also took first place vs. both opponents in the 300 dash with a time of 46.07 and finished third vs. Somerville in the 55 meter dash.

Fellow junior Lilly Serrano also turned in a superlative effort on the night. Lilly won the high jump with a leap of 4’11”, which was the top jump of the evening

among all GBL competitors. In the 300 dash, Serrano finished second vs. Somerville and third vs. Medford.

Other point-scorers for the Lady Red Devils included:

In the 55 meter dash, Ashly Damas Ruiz took third vs. Somerville.

In the 600, sophomore Katherine Benitez was the top Lady Red Devil with a third-place effort vs. both opponents.

In the 1000, sophomore Kimberly Fuentes Chavez took second place vs. Medford.

In the mile, senior Hazel Hatleberg grabbed second-place vs. Medford and third vs. Somerville.

In the 2-mile run, senior Aly Perez defeated her Medford counterparts with a time of 14:49.41 and came across in third vs. her Somerville foes.

In the 55 meter hurdles,

senior Kimberly Ardon Romero finished in second place vs. both opponents.

In the shot-put, senior Dieunie Cademus took first-place vs. Medford and second vs. Somerville with a throw of 26’-10.5”. Senior Harmony Rogers added a second place and junior Alijah Fortes took a third place vs. Medford.

In the 4 x 400 relay, the quartet of Katherine Benitez, Ashly Damas Ruiz, Kimberly Fuentes Chaves, and Hazel Hatleberg took first place vs. Medford.

The Lady Red Devils will be back at the Reggie tomorrow (Friday) evening to take on Revere and Lynn English.

CO-OP WRESTLING TEAM OPENS SEASON TODAY

The Greater Boston League (GBL) co-op wrestling team, which includes wrestlers from most of the GBL schools, is scheduled to open its season this evening (Wednesday) with a match at Cambridge Rindge and Latin.

The team once again will be under the direction of head coach Eli Guttentag and will feature a nice contingent from Chelsea: Hassan Aljiboury, Ilaijah Lebron, Lucas Prudencio, Axel Quintanilla, Sahelert Lemus, Christopher Pacheco Celaya, Carlos Canelas, and Lukan Rojas.

“We have a team full of new wrestlers and I am excited to see how we will develop throughout the season,” said Guttentag. “The goal is to grow and improve as a program each year and I have no doubt that the large turnout of motivated individuals has us moving in the right direction.”

LEGAL NOTICES - legals@chelsearecord.com

LEGAL NOTICE
REVISED
NOTICE OF HEARING
Case No. 2025-25
Notice is hereby given in accordance with the Massachusetts Zoning Act, Chapter 40A that a Regular Meeting of the Chelsea Zoning Board of Appeals will be held on:
Tuesday, January 13, 2026
Council Chambers. 3rd Floor, 500 Broadway
6:00 p.m.
With reference to the application of:
320 Revere Beach Realty, LLC.
For Special Permit and Variance approval for the construction of a sixty-seven (67) residential dwelling unit structures which does not meet the requirements for minimum lot size, off-street parking spaces, minimum side yard setback, maximum density, maximum height, maximum number of stories, minimum rear yard setback, minimum usable open space, minimum lot size per unit and minimum access aisle width at the premises known as:
320 Revere Beach Parkway
A copy of the application and petition is available for review at:
City Clerk's Office during normal business hours: Monday, Wednesday and Thursday 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. – Tuesday, 8 a.m. – 7 p.m. – Friday, 8 a.m. to noon
12/18, 12/24/25 C

LEGAL NOTICE
CITATION GIVING NOTICE OF PETITION TO EXPAND THE POWERS OF A GUARDIAN
Docket No. SU17P1625GD
Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Suffolk Probate and Family Court
24 New Chardon Street
Boston MA, 02114
In the Interests of: Virginia Hitaffer of: Chelsea, MA
RESPONDENT Incapacitated Person/Protected Person
To the named Respondent and all other interested persons, a petition has been filed by DMH c/o Office of General Counsel of Westborough, MA in the above captioned matter requesting that the court: Expand the powers of a Guardian of the Respondent.
The petition asks the court to make a determination that the powers of the Guardian and/or Conservator should be expanded, modified, or limited since the time of the appointment. The original petition is on file with the court.
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 AM on the return date of

12/26/2025. This day is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline date by which you have to file the written appearance if you object to the petition. If you fail 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. Janine D Rivers, First Justice of this Court.
Date: December 01, 2025
Stephanie Everett
Register of Probate
12/18/25 C

LEGAL NOTICE
DRAFT NOTICE OF FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT AND DRAFT NOTICE OF INTENT TO REQUEST RELEASE OF FUNDS
December 11, 2025
City of Chelsea, Department of Housing & Community Development
500 Broadway, Rm. 101
Chelsea, MA 02150
617-466-4000
These notices shall satisfy two separate but related procedural requirements for activities to be undertaken by the City of Chelsea.
REQUEST FOR RELEASE OF FUNDS
On or about January 6, the City of Chelsea will submit a request to the Massachusetts Executive Office of Housing and Livable Communities for the release of Community Development Block Grant FY25 funds under Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, as amended, to undertake projects known as the Voke Park Accessibility Project for the purpose of ensuring that children with mobility impairments are able to access and enjoy play equipment in Chelsea's parks.
FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT
The City of Chelsea has determined that the project will have no significant impact on the human environment. Therefore, an Environmental Impact Statement under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) is not

required. Additional project information is contained in the Environmental Review Record (ERR) on file at City of Chelsea, Chelsea City Hall, 500 Broadway, Chelsea, MA 02150 where ERR can be examined and may be examined or copied Mondays, Wednesdays, Thursdays 8 A.M. to 4 P.M., Tuesdays 8 A.M. to 7 P.M. and Fridays 8 A.M. to 12 P.M.
PUBLIC COMMENTS
Any individual, group, or agency may submit written comments on the ERR to the City of Chelsea, Benjamin Cares, Environmental Certifying Officer. All comments received by January 5 will be considered by the City of Chelsea prior to authorizing submission of a request for release of funds. Comments should specify which Notice they are addressing.
ENVIRONMENTAL CERTIFICATION
The City of Chelsea certifies to Massachusetts Executive Office of Housing and Livable Communities that Benjamin Cares in his capacity as Environmental Certifying Officer consents to accept the jurisdiction of the Federal Courts if an action is brought to enforce responsibilities in relation to the environmental review process and that these responsibilities have been satisfied. EOHLCS approval of the certification satisfies its responsibilities under NEPA and related laws and authorities and allows the City of Chelsea to use Program funds.
OBJECTIONS TO RELEASE OF FUNDS
EOHLC will accept objections to its release of fund and the City of Chelsea's certification for a period of fifteen days following the anticipated submission date or its actual receipt of the request (whichever is later) only if they are on one of the following bases: (a) the certification was not executed by the Certifying Officer of the City of Chelsea; (b) the City of Chelsea has omitted a step or failed to make a decision or finding required by HUD regulations at 24 CFR part 58; (c) the grant recipient or other participants in the development process have committed funds, incurred costs or undertaken activities not authorized by 24 CFR Part 58 before approval of a release of funds by EOHLC; or (d) another Federal agency acting pursuant to 40 CFR Part 1504 has submitted a written finding that the project is unsatisfactory from the standpoint of environmental quality. Objections must be prepared and submitted in accordance with the required procedures (24 CFR Part 58, Sec. 58.76) and shall be addressed to EOHLC at 100 Cambridge St., Ste. 300, Boston, MA 02114. Potential objectors should contact EOHLC to verify the actual last day of the objection

period.
Benjamin Cares, Director, Housing and Community Development
12/11, 12/18/25 C
LEGAL NOTICE
NOTICE OF HEARING
Case No. 2025-24
Notice is hereby given in accordance with the Massachusetts Zoning Act, Chapter 40A that a Regular Meeting of the Chelsea Zoning Board of Appeals will be held on:
Tuesday, January 13, 2026
Council Chambers. 3rd Floor, 500 Broadway
6:00 p.m.
With reference to the application of:
Frantz Noel
For Special Permits seeking for the extension of the current use of a catering service to also include fast food restaurant take-out delivery service to individual customers at the premises known as:
103 Broadway
A copy of the application and petition is available for review at:
City Clerk's Office during normal business hours: Monday, Wednesday and Thursday 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. – Tuesday, 8 a.m. – 7 p.m. – Friday, 8 a.m. to noon
12/11, 12/18/25 C

LEGAL NOTICE
COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS THE TRIAL COURT PROBATE AND FAMILY COURT
Suffolk Probate and Family Court
INFORMAL PROBATE PUBLICATION NOTICE
Docket No. SU25P2766EA
Estate of:
Charles Blake, Jr.
Also Known As: Charles Blake
Date of Death: October 27, 2025
To all persons interested in the above captioned estate, by Petition of Petitioner Nora Blake of Chelsea MA
A will has been admitted to information probate.
Nora Blake of Chelsea MA has been informally appointed as the Personal Representative of the Estate to serve without surety on the bond.
The estate is being administered under informal procedure by the Personal Representative under the Massachusetts Uniform Probate Code without supervision by the Court.
Inventory and accounts are not required to be filed with the Court, but interested parties are entitled to notice regarding the administration from the Personal Representative and can petition the Court in any

matter relating to the estate, including distribution of assets and expenses of administration.
Interested parties are entitled to petition the Court to institute formal proceedings and to obtain orders terminating or restricting the powers of Personal Representatives appointed under informal procedure.
A copy of the Petition and Will, if any, can be obtained from the Petitioner.
112/18/25 C

LEGAL NOTICE
La Esquina Mariachi Restaurant, Inc. d/b/a La Esquina Mariachi Restaurant
170 Washington Ave, Chelsea, Chelsea Licensing Commission, January 15, 2026
Notice is hereby given that a Disciplinary Public Hearing will be held by the Chelsea Licensing Commission on Thursday, January 15, 2026 at 6:00 p.m. in the City Council Chambers, Chelsea City Hall, 500 Broadway, Chelsea, MA, , as to the non-compliance with the All Alcoholic Beverages License and the Amusement & Entertainment license as to the Rules and Regulations, #2.12, #2.09(b), #2.13, of the City of Chelsea Licensing Commission, in regards to Police Report #25-04503 to La Esquina Mariachi Restaurant, Inc. d/b/a La Esquina Mariachi Restaurant at 170 Washington Ave, Chelsea, MA.
CHELSEA LICENSING COMMISSION
Beatrice Hernandez
Licensing Administrator
12/18/25 C

LEGAL NOTICE

CITY OF CHELSEA
Invitation for Bids
WINDOW REPLACEMENTS AT CITY HALL AND LIBRARY
The City of Chelsea, Massachusetts, through its Chief Procurement Officer, is seeking Bids for marked "WINDOW REPLACEMENTS AT CITY HALL AND LIBRARY".
Invitation for Bids will be available on or after December 18, 2025 by visiting the City's website at https://www.chelseama.gov/departments/purchasing/current_bids_solicitations.php.
Invitation for Bids must be sealed and clearly marked "WINDOW REPLACEMENTS AT CITY HALL AND LIBRARY" and submitted to the Office of the Chief Procurement Officer no later than 11:30AM on Thursday, January 8, 2026.
• An Optional Site Visit is scheduled on 12/30/2025 @ 11:00 am;

Located at City Hall, 500 Broadway Front Desk, Chelsea MA 02150
Each bid must be accompanied by a certified check, issued by a responsible bank or trust company. Or a bid bond duly executed by the bidder as principal and having as surety thereon a surety company approved by the City, all in the amount of 5% of the bid payable to the "City of Chelsea."
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 Invitation for Bids is in accordance with M.G.L. Chapters 149.
Ledia Koco
Chief Procurement Officer

LEGAL NOTICE
COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS THE TRIAL COURT PROBATE AND FAMILY COURT
Suffolk Probate and Family Court
24 New Chardon Street
Boston, MA 02114
(617)788-8300
CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL APPOINTMENT OF SUCCESSOR PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE
Docket No. SU96P2424
Estate of:
Lewis, C., Jr. Barrett
Also Known As: Lewis Chadwick Barrett, Jr.
Date of Death: 05/23/1994
To all interested persons: A Petition has been filed by: Tina L Carey of Rindge NH requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order that Tina L Carey of Rindge NH be appointed as Successor Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve Without Surety on the bond and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.
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 01/15/2026.
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.
The estate is being administered under formal procedure by the Personal Representative under the Massachusetts Uniform Probate Code without supervision by the Court.
Inventory and accounts are not required to be filed with the Court, but recipients are entitled to notice regarding the administration from the Personal Representative and can petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including distribution of assets and expenses of administration.
WITNESS, Hon. Janine D Rivers, First Justice of this Court.
Date: December 05, 2025
Stephanie L Everett, Esq., Register of Probate
12/18/25 C

LEGAL NOTICE
COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS THE TRIAL COURT PROBATE AND FAMILY COURT
Suffolk Probate and Family Court
24 New Chardon Street
Boston, MA 02114
DIVORCE
SUMMONS BY PUBLICATION
Docket No. SU24D1208DR
Amparo Margotell Mora De Magana
Plaintiff
vs.
Jose David Magana Posadas
Defendant
To the Defendant: The Plaintiff has filed a Complaint for Divorce requesting that the Court grant a divorce for Irretrievable Breakdown. The Complaint is on file at the Court.
An Automatic Restraining Order has been entered in this matter preventing you from taking any action which would negatively impact the current financial status of either party. SEE Supplemental Probate Court Rule 411.
You are hereby summoned and required to serve upon: Amparo Margotell Mora De Magana
313 Broadway
Apt 3
Chelsea, MA 02150
your answer, if any, on or before 01/29/2026.
If you fail to do so, the court will proceed to the hearing and adjudication of this action. You are also required to file a copy of your answer, if any, in the office of the Register of this Court.
WITNESS, Hon. Janine D Rivers, First Judge of this Court.
Date: December 8, 2025
Stephanie L Everett, Esq., Register of Probate
12/18/25 C

LEGAL NOTICE
COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS THE TRIAL COURT PROBATE AND FAMILY COURT
Suffolk Probate and Family Court
24 New Chardon Street
Boston, MA 02114
(617)788-8300
CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL APPOINTMENT OF SUCCESSOR PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE
Docket No. SU24P1381EA
Estate of:
George William McInnis, Jr.
Also Known As: George McInnis, Jr. George W McInnis, Jr.
Date of Death: 06/17/2024
To all interested persons: A Petition has been filed by: Kathleen M. Lawler of Milton MA requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order that Kathleen M. Lawler of Milton MA be appointed as Successor Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve Without Surety on the bond and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.
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 01/21/2026.
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.
The estate is being administered under formal procedure by the Personal Representative under the Massachusetts Uniform Probate Code without supervision by the Court.
Inventory and accounts are not required to be filed with the Court, but recipients are entitled to notice regarding the administration from the Personal Representative and can petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including distribution of assets and expenses of administration.
WITNESS, Hon. Janine D Rivers, First Justice of this Court.
Date: December 11, 2025
Stephanie L Everett, Esq. Register of Probate
12/18/2025 C

DON'T FORGET TO CHECK WITH THE COURTS
TO SEE IF YOU QUALIFY FOR A FEE WAIVER

Healey-Driscoll Administration awards over \$750,000 in grants to support greater food access

Special to the Record

The Healey-Driscoll Administration announced \$779,458 in funding to improve food access in underserved communities throughout Massachusetts by increasing local food production. The funding will directly support the growth of urban farms, community gardens, and food business operations, targeting areas that struggle with food insecurity.

Among the recipients are: \$3,000 to Green Roots for Food production equipment and tools.

The Massachusetts Department of Agricultural Resources (MDAR) is awarding grants through the state’s Urban Agriculture Program and the Massachusetts Food Ventures Program to 17 organizations. The funds will help strengthen the local food system, increase local food production, and expand retail and distribution channels to distribute more healthy, fresh food across the state.

“With President Trump repeatedly attacking the programs that help Massachusetts families afford food, programs like these will increase the supply of locally grown healthy, affordable food,” said Governor Maura Healey. “These awards are supporting local jobs, farmers and small food businesses that keep money circulating in our local economy and provide essential food for the people of Massachusetts.”

“Investing in community gardens and urban farms gives neighborhoods more control over their own food

supply” said Lieutenant Governor Kim Driscoll. “These projects increase consistent access to fresh and local produce, create real opportunities for skill-building, and help communities build reliable distribution systems.”

The Urban Agriculture Program will provide resources to urban farms and community gardens to increase their production capacity. This means more local food for low-to-moderate income residents who often face challenges accessing fresh, affordable, nutritious food.

The Massachusetts Food Ventures Program helps increase food access by funding infrastructure to support processing, distribution channels, and retail outlets that are located primarily in or near communities of low or moderate income, including Gateway Cities and rural communities. Completed projects will enhance access to Massachusetts-grown, harvested, or caught food products through the development of collaborations with local agricultural enterprises and public/private entities.

“Fresh, affordable food is a basic need for our communities across Massachusetts,” said Energy and Environmental Affairs Secretary Rebecca Tepper. “Programs like Urban Agriculture and Food Ventures strengthen our local food system by increasing production and distribution capacity as demand for local food continues to grow.”

“Our food access programs have been transfor-

mative in helping to create a stronger local food system,” said MDAR Commissioner Ashley Randle. “The Food Ventures Program provides opportunities for mid-range businesses, creating greater access to Massachusetts grown food, and increasing post-harvest opportunities for farmers. Through the Urban Agriculture Program, more food will be grown in urban neighborhoods, helping to ensure that residents in these communities have greater access to local fresh produce, improving their health outcomes and enhancing their quality of life.”

“I am glad to see the release of this grant funding, particularly to two organizations in Springfield, Well-spring Harvest and Nordica St. Community Farm, who do such great work uniting our communities and providing healthy food and nutritional education to their members,” said Senator Adam Gómez (D – Hampden). “We must continue to invest in community centered food resources throughout the commonwealth, shortening the distance that our food travels and mitigating gaps in supply chains that only drive up prices, and I am proud of this administration for prioritizing these efforts.”

“I’m thrilled to see much needed help during these troubling economic times,” said Representative Steven Ouellette (D – Westport). “This funding will provide opportunities that are critical components to communities in my district and beyond.”

MOON OVER BROADWAY



Ron Pownall captured this photo of the full moon rising over Broadway in Chelsea on December 5.

Chelsea Police Captain Thomas H. McLain Jr. graduates from the FBI National Academy

Special to the Record

The Chelsea Police Department is pleased to announce that Captain Thomas H. McLain Jr. has successfully completed the 296th Session of the FBI National Academy in Quantico, Virginia, graduating on Dec. 11. This distinguished program admits fewer than one percent of top law enforcement executive officers nationwide.

Each session of the FBI National Academy brings together more than 250 law enforcement executives from local, state, federal, military, and international agencies. Participants are nominated by their agency leadership and selected

through a highly competitive process based on exemplary leadership, professional integrity, and a demonstrated commitment to advancing modern policing standards.

Widely regarded as one of the premier leadership development programs in law enforcement, the Academy delivers a rigorous 10-week curriculum covering executive leadership, intelligence theory, strategic communication, behavioral science, national security, and contemporary policing strategies. The program also includes intensive physical fitness training and collaborative exercises designed to strengthen professional networks and promote interagency cooperation.

Capt. McLain joins Chelsea Police Chief Keith Houghton, a graduate of the 200th Session of the FBI National Academy, in continuing the department’s commitment to leadership excellence and professional development.

“Graduating from the FBI National Academy is a significant professional



COURTESY PHOTO
Chelsea Police Capt. Thomas H. McLain Jr.

accomplishment that reflects Captain McLain’s leadership, dedication, and commitment to serving our community at the highest level,” said Houghton. “This training strengthens our department and enhances our ability to provide progressive, professional, and community-focused policing.”

The Chelsea Police Department congratulates Captain McLain on this achievement and remains committed to investing in leadership training that directly benefits the residents of Chelsea.

