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CHELSEA IN THE SNOW



Broadway was cleared before the morning traffic, a clear view all the way to the Tobin Bridge at the very end.

New snow parking ban procedure in effect for major storm

By Adam Swift

The city of Chelsea got a big workout for the implementation of its new snow parking ban procedures. Nearly two feet of snow fell over the region from Sunday into Monday, and Chelsea’s snow parking ban extended from late Sunday morning into early Tuesday morning.

The new snow ban parking procedure went into effect 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 late last year. In odd-numbered years, like 2027, the ban will apply to vehicles



Broadway and Gerrish Avenue were being cleared of snow piles blocking the traffic view for motorists. See Page 3 for more snow photos.

on the odd side of the street and vehicles will be permitted to park on the even side. “This year, we made the decision to implement a parking ban on only one side of arterial streets,” Maltez said on Monday evening. “This approach was intended to balance the operational needs of Public Works to effectively clear our streets while still providing residents with parking options. We will continue to evaluate this change throughout the winter season and determine whether it is a practice we want to continue in the future. We thank residents for adhering to the parking ban.”

In the aftermath of the storm, Maltez said he wanted to extend his sincere

See SNOW Page 3

Historic Garden Cemetery reopens in Chelsea following extensive renovations, Shawmut St. returns to two-way

Special to the Record

The City of Chelsea has completed phase 4 of its renovation project aimed at preserving and modernizing the community’s Garden Cemetery and is pleased to announce it’s once again open to the public as of January 2026. The City has also returned Shawmut Street back into its two-way traffic pattern from Central Avenue to Chester Avenue, though parking continues to be prohibited from the even-side of the street.

The next round of renovations, focused mainly on beautifying the cemetery and increasing accessibility, will begin in Spring 2026.

In 2017, the City embarked on the Garden Cemetery renovation project to renovate the historic 3.5 acre cemetery located in

the Shurtleff/Bellingham neighborhood. “The cemetery was built 1841, is an important facet of the City’s rich heritage, and is a cultural resource for the City,” said Karl Allen, Senior Urban Planner for the City of Chelsea. “Restoration has been historically deferred due to complexity and lack of resources, but the cemetery’s 2018 master plan identified that a major rehabilitation project was necessary to prevent the collapse of multiple retaining walls and burial crypts, repair the memorial to Civil War soldiers, plant the next generation’s tree canopy, and ensure future public use and enjoyment.”

As of January, 2026, the City completed the project’s Phase 4. So far, the City has restored hundreds of monuments and the major walking paths; refurbished the cemetery’s Shawmut Street gates and archway; improved the perimeter walls; rehabilitated crypts in the central area; replaced the historic staircase; and restored Shawmut’s side-



The Garden Cemetery’s walking paths, like the one pictured above, have been restored.

walks. Phase 5 will begin in spring 2026 and focus on three key improvements: completing a perimeter path that is two-thirds accessible

See GARDEN Page 3

City to consider zoning overlay district for Market Basket area

By Adam Swift

There was a major focus on zoning and development set to go for this week’s city council meeting. The regular Monday night meeting was moved to Wednesday because of the winter storm that hit the region.

In addition to a proposed smart growth overlay district in Prattville, City Manager Fidel Maltez requested the council hold a subcommittee on conference meeting to review the West Chelsea Mixed Use Overlay District.

“This is a new zoning overlay district surrounding the Commuter Rail Station, including the Market Basket Plaza and the current site of Bunker Hill Community College,” said Maltez. “A presentation, including the boundaries of the proposed district, is included for your review. This over-

lay district encourages the City’s long-term growth, housing needs, economic vitality, and environmental resilience.”

The area is referenced as “West Chelsea” in the city’s master plan conversations, and Maltez said it represents one of Chelsea’s most significant opportunities for growth.

“Historically underutilized, the area can evolve into a vibrant, mixed-use district that supports new housing, jobs, and educational uses,” Maltez stated. “The West Chelsea Mixed Use Zoning Overlay District encourages mixed-use, transit-oriented development. Our Administration has been engaged with property owners within the District for several months, and we have incorporated their feedback into the zoning language.”

See ZONING Page 3

Maltez provides update on master plan, fire safety in latest monthly message

Special to the Record

Hello Residents of Chelsea! Welcome to Our Community! My name is Fidel Maltez and it is my honor to serve as your City Manager. I can’t believe it’s been a year since Chelsea residents voted on their favorite logo for !Chelsea Pa’Lante, Chelsea Onward! This is our city’s first master plan since 1970. This plan will help guide Chelsea’s growth for the next 10 to 15 years, including how Chelsea grows in areas like housing, jobs, parks, and public spaces.

Our !Chelsea !Pa’Lante, Chelsea Onward! Steering Committee, made up of residents, business owners, and elected officials, has helped

guide the plan so that every step reflects what matters most to you, our residents. Your response and excitement has been amazing. More than 1,200 residents shared their ideas. We have learned where Chelsea is right now and more importantly where we want Chelsea to be in the future. With this information, we have started shaping the plan’s mission, values, and vision.

One of the most exciting events last year was Chelsea Pa’Lante Fest, the plan’s launch party where we celebrated our city and revealed the plan logo! Join me for this year’s Chelsea Pa’Lante Fest on March 14, 2026! We

See UPDATE Page 3

Smart growth overlay district proposed for Prattville

By Adam Swift

City Manager Fidel Maltez is requesting a city council subcommittee to discuss a smart growth overlay district proposed for Prattville. The council’s scheduled regular meeting for Monday night was moved to Wednesday due to the winter storm over the weekend.

“Our Administration has been working collaboratively with the Chelsea Housing Authority on this proposal,” Maltez said. “We respect-

fully request this subcommittee for February to allow the City Council adequate notice and input, before the zoning request is formally submitted. A 40R District is commonly referred (to) as a Smart Growth Zoning Overlay.”

The city and the Chelsea Housing Authority have a partnership with a private developer to redevelop the CHA units while building new market rate units in the

See GROWTH Page 2

INDEPENDENT Newspaper Group

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For the latest news in Chelsea that you need to know, check chelsearecord.com

Appreciation for Patrick Pelosi
See Page 5

Healey-Driscoll administration honors 63 Schools of Recognition, including Hooks Elementary

Special to the Record

Last week, Massachusetts education officials honored 63 Schools of Recognition during a ceremony at the State House, including the Hooks Elementary School in Chelsea.

The schools that were recognized included 55 Schools of Recognition identified through the state accountability system for demonstrating high achievement, significant improvement, and/or high growth; 6 National Blue Ribbon School nominees that DESE nominated for the prestigious national award before the U.S. Education Department discontinued the program in August; and 2 National Elementary and Secondary Ed-

ucation Act (ESEA) Distinguished Schools that DESE nominated through the National Association of ESEA State Program Administrators for their positive educational advances and academic achievement.

“It’s important to recognize the good work happening in Massachusetts schools,” Governor Maura Healey said. “I hope the teachers, staff and school community for each School of Recognition will take pride in this honor.”

“The schools recognized today are fulfilling important roles in their communities,” Lt. Governor Kim Driscoll said. “Successful schools build a sense of belonging for students, families and staff and make it

possible for students to do their best.”

“I’m so proud and grateful for the hard work, passion, and dedication coming from these schools that are being recognized today,” said Education Secretary Dr. Patrick Tutwiler. “They reflect what’s possible when our educators, students, families, and communities work together with high expectations and a shared commitment to success.”

“It’s a pleasure to celebrate these 63 schools and recognize the work of the teachers, students and families within them,” said Elementary and Secondary Education Commissioner Pedro Martinez. “These schools are preparing students for lifelong learning.”



DESE Commissioner Pedro Martinez, Hooks School Principal Dr. Kim Crowley, CPS Superintendent Dr. Almi G. Abeyta and Secretary of Education Patrick Tutwiler.



Shown (left to right) are Hooks School Principal Dr. Kim Crowley, CPS Superintendent Dr. Almi G. Abeyta and Taylor Sprague, Legislative Aide to State Representative Judith Garcia.



Shown (left to right) are Senator Sal DiDomenico, Hooks School Principal Dr. Kim Crowley, CPS Superintendent Dr. Almi G. Abeyta.

Growth // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

area.

“This zoning unlocks a one-time payment from the State and an incentive payment of \$3,000 per unit built inside of the district,” Maltezz stated. “This will result in significant new funding for a project like Fitzgerald/Prattville. These efforts are directly in line with the City Council’s goals of creating more affordable housing in the City and growing our housing stock in a strategic and responsible way.”

At the subcommittee meeting, Maltezz said the administration will share a draft of the proposed ordinance for its review.

The process for the zoning overlay district includes the following steps:

An application, including a draft ordinance amendment and draft district map,

is prepared and submitted to the Executive Office of Housing & Livable Communities (EOHLC) for review and approval;

EOHLC reviews the application, draft ordinance amendment, and draft map for compliance with State requirements: if approved, EOHLC issues a Letter of Eligibility;

The State approved draft ordinance is submitted to the Council for approval in accordance with the standard zoning amendment;

The Council accepts the proposed amendment and forwards it to the Planning Board for review and a recommendation;

The Planning Board holds a public hearing to receive comment on the proposed amendment;

The Council receives the

Planning Board recommendation and, after a public hearing of its own public hearing votes on the amendment;

The approved zoning amendment is sent to EOHLC, which sends the City a letter of approval; and

The City receives an incentive payment for adoption of the amendment, the amount based on the number of residential units that can be built over and above that in the underlying zoning district.

“We look forward to reviewing this proposal further during a Subcommittee of the City Council,” Maltezz stated. “Thank you for your support for more affordable housing and our partnership with the Chelsea Housing Authority.”

National Grid offers safety reminders for clearing snow at your home or business

Special to the Records

National Grid reminds its customers to exercise caution near the energy equipment outside of their homes as they clear snow left behind from Winter Storm Fern. Over a foot of snow has fallen across our Massachusetts service area with additional snow forecast throughout the afternoon. National Grid’s top priority is safety, including the safety and well-being of our crews and customers, and we offer the following reminders to assist with removing snow from your property.

Keep Your Meters Clear of Snow and Ice

Many National Grid customers have electric and/or natural gas meters on the exterior of their homes and businesses. When clearing snow, customers and snow removal contractors should be aware of the location of this equipment to avoid coming into contact with meters or outside gas risers. Additionally:

- Gently remove icicles from the meter with a gloved hand, if necessary. Never kick your meter or use a snow shovel to knock away ice.
- If energy equipment is located near your driveway or parking lot, and you have a vehicle-mounted snowplow or use a snow removal service, ensure that the equipment is well-marked so the vehicle operator knows to keep a safe distance. Striking a natural gas riser or electric wire with a plow could cause injury.
- The buildup of ice and snow around or over natural gas meters, regulators and pipes can pose a serious

safety risk. Ice and snow falling from a roof can damage gas meters or service connections to customers’ homes or businesses, resulting in potential gas leaks. Customers should take immediate action if a natural gas leak is suspected:

- Get out – All occupants should leave the house immediately. Do not use the telephone, light switches or automatic garage door openers for any reason.
- Call us – After leaving the house and reaching a safe environment, call National Grid’s 24-hour gas emergency number: 1-800-233-5325.
- Stay out – Don’t return to your home until National Grid tells you it is safe to do so.
- If energy equipment is located near your driveway or parking lot, and you have a vehicle-mounted snowplow or use a snow removal service, ensure that the equipment is well-marked so the vehicle operator knows to keep a safe distance. Striking a natural gas riser or electric wire with a plow could cause injury.

Keep Your Vents Clear

The excessive amount of snowfall from this storm may have increased the snow depth in your yard and near your home or business. When clearing snow from your driveways and walkways, never pile it near vents on the side of the building. A blocked vent – whether it’s a furnace, hot water heater, dryer or sewer – can lead to the buildup of deadly carbon monoxide. Keep the vents clear and free of snow and ice, treating them as carefully as you would an energy meter.

The symptoms of carbon

monoxide poisoning are similar to those of the flu, and can include headaches, weakness, confusion, chest tightness, skin redness, dizziness, nausea, sleepiness, heart fluttering or loss of muscle control. If you suspect carbon monoxide is present in your home, immediately go outside and breathe deeply. Then call 911.

Trees, Snow and Your Electric Service

Snowfall places excessive weight on tree limbs and branches, creating potential hazards for energy infrastructure. Downed trees near power lines should be reported to National Grid at 800-465-1212. Visit our website for more information about your electric service and trees. Customers are also reminded to exercise extreme caution near downed power lines:

- Always use extreme caution near downed power lines and wires, and always assume that they are carrying live electricity.
- Never touch a person or an object that is in contact with a downed line, as electricity can pass through to you.
- Take caution when approaching fallen trees, which could have power lines caught in them.
- Remember that water can conduct electricity. If you see a line down in a puddle or flooded area, avoid contact with the water to prevent risk of shock.
- Learn more about staying safe near downed power lines.

To learn more about electric and natural gas safety, visit our website – national-gridus.com.

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Snow // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

gratitude to the Department of Public Works, Chelsea Police Department, Chelsea Fire Department, and Chelsea 911 for their tremendous efforts in responding to Winter Storm Fern.

“This was the largest storm our region has experienced in the past five years, and it presented significant challenges for our City,” Maltez said. “The professionalism, coordination, and dedication shown by our

first responders and public works staff throughout this event exemplify their deep commitment to keeping Chelsea safe.”

The city manager also thanked residents for their patience and for prioritizing safety during the storm.

“A storm of this magnitude takes time to respond to, particularly in a dense city like Chelsea, where space to store snow is extremely limited and snow

removal often results in vehicles being plowed in,” Maltez said. “As we continue the work of reopening the city, we ask for your continued patience and support. I also encourage residents to look out for one another—especially our seniors and neighbors who may need extra assistance. Please take a moment to check in on those around you and help ensure that everyone remains safe.”



Piles of plowed snow reached 10 feet, as scaled by the MBTA bus along the Broadway route.



A full crew of shovelers were working hard at Chelsea City Hall.



Snow blowers, snowplows, and snow shovels were the tools of choice on Monday morning, after the storm left its mark across the area.

Zoning // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

The city manager said the administration is engaging community partners to ensure the zoning language is grounded in community voices.

“We are also ensuring our Planning Board has a strong input in the City’s vision for

this district,” Maltez stated. “We want to ensure the City Council is fully briefed and has an opportunity to review the zoning proposal before it is formally submitted for adoption. We look forward to reviewing this proposal further during a Subcom-

mittee of the City Council.”

Maltez said the administration will work closely with the council to best position West Chelsea, and Chelsea as a whole, for growth.

LOST PET?

FREE RESOURCES AND HELP ON FACEBOOK:

www.Facebook.com/Groups/LostPetsNetwork

LOST AND FOUND PETS NETWORK:

CHELSEA, EVERETT, MALDEN, REVERE



Early risers fight their way along the sidewalks of Broadway. The streets were being cleared and a narrow lane of traffic kept things slow moving.



All those snowplows and salters, and no coffee available. Many Dunkin' stores were closed for the day or got a late start all over the area.

Garden // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

to people with disabilities, repairing and cleaning additional monuments, and enhancing the landscape with new flowering trees. Finally, the City will install regimetal flagpoles and rehabilitate Civil War cannons for historical preservation purposes.

“We are proud to transform this historic property, including a memorial to Chelsea residents who fought in the Civil War, into an accessible, open space that is an oasis of calm in a dense urban neighborhood,” added Allen.

The project is being com-

pleted by the Housing & Community Development Department and Department of Public Works and is funded through the City’s Capital Improvement Plan and grants from the Massachusetts Historical Commission and Community Preservation Fund.

Update // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

learned what you value most about Chelsea: Strong community bonds: our neighborhoods, our people, and our culture make Chelsea feel like home. Supportive networks: our community organizations do an amazing job helping our residents. Working-class pride: Chelsea is a place where families build their futures. Parks and open spaces: even our small parks are important and loved by everyone.

We are onto our next phase of the plan called “Developing, Revising, and Documenting.” During this phase, we will show you what we have been working on and will ask for your feedback. We will show you different future scenarios for things like parks, streets, or housing, and you get to tell us which ones you like best. We will also have “priorities workshops,” where you can tell us what’s most important to you. Once we receive your feedback, we will share a draft of the master plan with everyone in our community.

And finally, we will submit the plan for official approval to our Planning Board and the Chelsea City Council. !Chelsea Pa’Lante, Chelsea Onward! is a plan for our community, by our community. Every voice

matters, and together we are shaping a city where everyone’s ideas count, every dream has value, and the future is built by all of us.

Now, I want to share a few timely announcements. In January, the Chelsea Fire Department responded to two back-to-back fires that displaced over 50 residents and destroyed their belongings. We are blessed that all residents escaped the fire and no one was hurt. That is the most important thing. Fires are devastating. And it can be very difficult for residents to get their life back on track after such a tragic event. We must plan for the worst and pray that a tragedy never hits. This is why I’m urging all our residents to get renters insurance. Renter’s insurance is affordable and costs about \$15 to \$30 a month. Renter’s insurance can protect thousands of dollars worth of your belongings and provide transition funds in case of emergencies. Property insurance only covers the building, not resident’s belongings. Please do not wait until it’s too late.

One of these fires was caused by a space heater. If you need to use a space heater, please follow these tips. One: keep space heaters 3 feet away from anything

that can burn, like drapes, furniture and bedding. Two: Never leave a space heater unattended. Turn it off when you leave the room or go to bed. And three: Never let it run while you’re sleeping. Plug directly into the wall outlet and never use an extension cord. I want to remind residents that it is currently the renewal period for the City of Chelsea Residential Parking Program. Permits are free until February 28. Beginning March 1, they cost \$10.

The easiest and most convenient way to apply for your parking permit is online at chelseama.cmrpay.com. If you prefer to do it in person, you can submit your application in the City Clerk’s office. Finally, please join me for our annual State of the City address before the honorable City Council on Monday, February 9, at 7 p.m. in the City Council Chambers. If you can’t make it in-person, You can watch it on YouTube or with Chelsea Community Cable Television on Comcast Channel 22.

See you next time on Our Community. Thank you and May god bless the City of Chelsea.

(Fidel Maltez is thr Chelsea City manager)

Chelsea

RECORD

PRESIDENT: Stephen Quigley
EDITOR IN CHIEF: Cary Shuman

THE PITT DEMONSTRATES A
HEALTHCARE SYSTEM ON
LIFE SUPPORT

The Pitt, the critically-acclaimed hit series on HBO about an emergency room in a big-city hospital in Pittsburgh that has just begun its second season, is far more than just good entertainment.

The critically-acclaimed show also accurately portrays the critical condition of our healthcare system, which is spiraling ever-downward with no bottom in sight.

This by no means is the fault of the incredibly dedicated and competent doctors, nurses, and staff who serve all of us in our healthcare system.

This is a systemic problem in the United States that has been building for decades, fueled by: shortsighted reductions in hospital capacity; underinvestment in education, research, and supply-chains; the lack of focus on urging Americans to adopt a healthy lifestyle; the charlatans and corporate interests who have spread misinformation about vaccines and healthcare information; and the tidal wave of demographic shifts thanks to the aging of the Baby Boomer generation.

In addition, there is the most-recent strain on the system resulting from the political failure to reform our immigration laws that could provide for the hundreds of thousands of needed healthcare workers -- the doctors, nurses, nursing home and hospital employees, and home healthcare aides who form the backbone of our nation's healthcare system -- to be able to come to this country in order to fill the huge gaps created by employee shortages in all aspects of our healthcare system.

The Pitt highlights all of these issues. The show makes it abundantly clear that our healthcare system, and those who work in it, are being completely overwhelmed by the demands being placed upon them day-in and day-out.

The show also makes it clear to viewers that the last place you want to end up these days is an emergency room. We ourselves have had the misfortune to be there on several occasions over the past few years -- for ourselves, our families, and our friends -- and it is no exaggeration to say that a visit to the ER anywhere, anytime is to be dreaded, truly almost a fate worse than death.

The sad -- and tragic reality -- is that the essential services that Americans took for granted 20 years ago are in short supply today.

Given the inaction of our politicians, it is obvious that there is no ready solution to the healthcare crisis in the United States. The cavalry is not coming anytime soon.

On the other hand, as we have written many times previously, this is a man-made problem for which the only realistic solution on the horizon rests with the robots (i.e., artificial intelligence), who hopefully will come sooner rather than later to save us all.

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

With the oppressiveness of a New England winter fully upon us, for many this can be the saddest time of the year -- quite literally.

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

Scientists do not understand exactly how the lack of daylight works on our brains, but demonstrable symptoms of the syndrome include heightened anxiety, a decrease in energy, oversleeping, an increase in appetite (marked by a craving for carbs that leads to weight gain), social withdrawal, and negative thoughts in general.

There are some treatments for SAD that may work for some people (such as light therapy, antidepressants, and vitamin D) in consultation with a doctor.

But there also are the simple solutions of spending more time outside during daylight hours and exercising regularly.

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

All of us can recall the exhilaration we felt as children when we went sledding, skating on a pond, and shoveling snow. Although we're a bit too old these days to do most of those things, we've found that taking on the wintry blasts that we've endured these past few weeks by jogging and walking (even when the wind chills are in the single digits) each and every day never fails to bring us that renewed sense of vitality that we experienced in our youth when we embraced nature's harshest elements with barely even a thought about it.

Your opinions, please

The Chelsea Record welcomes letters to the editor. Our address is 385 Broadway, Revere, MA 02151. Letters may also be e-mailed to editor@chelsearecord.com. Letters must be signed. We reserve the right to edit for length and content.

Forum

Massport releases Draft 2025 Strategic Plan; public input will help shape the Authority's vision for the next decade

Special to the Record

The Massachusetts Port Authority (Massport) today announced the release of its draft Strategic Plan and is seeking public comment to help shape Massport's path forward. The Plan builds on Massport's strengths and a decade of progress, assesses current conditions and trends, and identifies future challenges and opportunities. It balances operational excellence with inclusive forward-looking growth, reaffirming the Authority's commitment to safe, efficient, sustainable operations that engage and benefit the communities we serve. The Strategic Plan sets a vision for the next decade and outlines a flexible, action-oriented path to achieve it.

The public comment period opens today and runs through March 6th. The Plan and opportunity to provide feedback can be accessed here: <https://www.massport.com/strategic-plan>.

"Massport has not undertaken a strategic planning effort in a decade. As a central engine of economic activity, we need to plan for the future and respond to growing demand while setting the highest standards for safety, sustainability and community partnership," said Rich Davey, Massport CEO. "Guided by this vision, we will be transforming aging infrastructure, leveraging emerging technologies and delivering innovative customer-focused experiences and lasting benefits to our communities and the region. We welcome the public's feedback as we work to achieve these goals."

Key elements of the 2025 Plan:

The Strategic Plan presents a vision and a roadmap by key Massport assets and across the organization.

Aviation

Massport's aviation system must adapt to meet increasing demand and emerging technology as Massachusetts and New England are home to several travel-intensive industries and companies that rely on

air travel to support their operations and drive economic impact, as well as a large traveling population that depends on safe, efficient and affordable air service.

Boston Logan International Airport:

With one of the smallest and oldest airport footprints in the country, Logan must invest strategically to maintain safe, efficient, and reliable operations. Priorities include:

A major renovation or replacement of the Air Traffic Control Tower;

Enhancing Boston Logan's portfolio of high-occupancy vehicle and transit options including implementing innovative ideas like remote terminals;

Modernizing Logan's terminal core to enhance the passenger experience.

Worcester Regional Airport:

To sustain growth, Worcester will focus on:

Maintaining and expanding commercial passenger service;

Assessing opportunities for potential to grow cargo or logistics operations;

Exploring new opportunities and partnerships with support of community stakeholders.

Hanscom Field

As New England's premier general aviation airport, Hanscom plays a critical role in supporting business aviation, medical flights, and regional innovation. Priorities include:

Powering the future of aviation innovation with research partnerships and support services;

Advancing Massport's sustainability and Net Zero efforts, including development and adoption of sustainable aviation fuel (SAF);

Continue to meet metro Boston's general aviation needs.

Maritime

For nearly 400 years, the Port of Boston has supported regional economic growth and jobs.

Conley Terminal aims to

strengthen its position as a reliable, efficient container port with a goal of reaching 200,000 containers by 2035. Achieving best-in-class operational excellence to maximize competitive advantage will require:

Developing a roadmap for crane and wharf upgrades;

Further monetizing and increasing stickiness of customer relationships.

Flynn Cruiseport Boston will focus on improving the passenger experience and enhancing ground access, targeting 600,000 annual passengers by 2035. Priorities include:

Developing core cruise business in collaboration with cruise lines

Improving customer experience and service

Enhancing ground transport access and curbside flow

Real Estate

Massport's real estate portfolio supports economic growth through waterfront development, maritime industrial uses, and commercial activity. By 2035, Massport aims to generate approximately \$100 million in recurring annual revenue. Strategic priorities include:

Attracting and enabling Blue Economy companies;

Funding sustained place-making activities;

Prioritizing land acquisitions and infrastructure investments.

Organization Wide

Four organization- wide capabilities are essential to delivering on the Plan: Talent, Community, Sustainability & Resilience, and Digital/Data & AI. These are not supporting elements -- they are foundational to achieving our mission and advancing Massport's role as a leader in climate innovation and the region's sustainability ecosystem.

Our Net Zero strategy continues to be a top priority as we move forward. This strategy addresses all emissions from Massport-controlled sources through sustainable infrastructure and operational improvements. Massport also recognizes

the importance of reducing emissions beyond its direct control by extending our influence and building strong partnerships including the adoption of SAF at our airports.

Massport is also committed to advancing the East Boston community's vision for Piers Park 3. We look forward to working with the community on that.

Massport's 2025 Strategic Plan is Built on a Decade of Progress

Massport's 2014 Strategic Plan laid the foundation for major accomplishments across aviation, maritime, and real estate. Accomplishment achieved from the 2014 Strategic Plan include:

Transformed Conley Container Terminal into a "big-ship-ready" facility capable of handling the largest vessels calling the East Coast;

Additional international gates at Boston Logan's International Terminal E;

Installed a CAT III landing system at Worcester Airport;

Completed Piers Park II in East Boston;

Delivered a dedicated freight corridor and buffer park in South Boston;

Applied the nationally recognized "Massport Model" to the Omni Boston at the Seaport Hotel procurement;

Opened a new Framingham parking garage that reached full utilization on day one;

Connected Boston Logan's terminals beyond security to enhance the passenger experience;

Expanded Boston Logan's parking capacity;

Maintained Hanscom Field's role as New England's premier general aviation airport and a critical reliever for Boston Logan.

These achievements demonstrate Massport's ability to deliver on complex projects, adapt to evolving needs, and advance economic growth while strengthening community engagement.

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‘I miss my cousin, my brother, my friend’

Christopher Baker pays tribute to the late Patrick Pelosi in beautifully composed eulogy

(Christopher Baker spoke at the Funeral Mass for Patrick J. Pelosi on January 13 at Our Lady of Grace Church. Mr. Pelosi entered eternal rest Jan. 9 at the age of 50.)

I would like to thank everybody for coming today

We all know that my cousin struggled with substance abuse for some time.

I’m not going to talk to you today about the Patrick Pelosi of the last few years. I want to speak on the person that I knew for most of my life.

We were born two weeks apart in 1975 and even though we were technically first cousins, we were really brothers. We lived in the same house, went to the same schools, played the same sports and for a while my mother and Aunt Barbara dressed us the same.

That made us brothers.

Sometimes it also made us a target!

Wearing matching pink polo shirts, white shorts and white sneakers in Chelsea didn’t always go so well. Especially when we were hanging down the park playing sports with the other kids. Once they started ragging on us, Pat would rub mud and dirt all over his clothes and say do you think I care about these clothes?

Personally, I would never do that, but he had more guts than I did. The kids would laugh and they loved him. He always won people over.

Growing up Pat was a tremendous athlete and sports came easy to him. He wasn’t just good, he was great. At everything .

He had a great sense of humor and a laugh that would make you laugh. Thinking of it now puts a smile on my face.

My cousin had an infectious personality. It was larger than life. He would

approach and have conversations with anyone and everyone.

I remember when we were in elementary school, sending Pat into the middle of the girl dance circles to break the ice, because we were all too afraid.

That actually continued to college parties as well. With a Mountain Dew in one hand and a Milky Way in the other, he would walk up to any girl, make them laugh and introduce his friends. He was a true asset.

Everyone loved Pat. From the guy picking up tickets at Suffolk Downs to Heads of Business. It even extended to professional athletes.

I remember a time when Pat told us that he was friends with NBA legend Dominique Wilkins. I remember laughing and ragging on him.

Few nights later I get a

phone call from Pat’s number and the guy on the other line is none other than Dominique Wilkins. I can hear Pat in the background laughing, he grabs the phone and yells, “ I told you kid, Nique’s my guy!!!

There were a ton of these stories. I’m sure you have just as many.

Years go by and life happens. Some crossroads, and some roads not taken. You never know where it’s going to lead. When you encounter addiction, the road gets confusing and a lot of people can’t find their way back. I think that’s what happened to Pat. I always said that my cousin could’ve been anything he wanted in this world. He could just never see it.

I miss my cousin, my brother, my friend.

My aunt Barbara and Patrick lived together their whole lives. Barbara passed



Christopher Baker (left) and his cousin, Patrick Pelosi, both nattily attired at a social gathering.

away this past August. Now her son gets to join her in heaven where he belongs.

I’m sure Barbara’s looking down right now saying, “ God you couldn’t give me more than five months alone?”

OBITUARIES

Edward M. Smigielski

October 25 1938 – January 22, 2025

At the age of 87, Edward M. Smigielski passed away on Thursday, January 22, 2026, at Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center in Boston, after a brief illness and a sudden decline in health. His passing leaves a notable absence in the lives of those who knew him, reflecting a life dedicated to family, community, and music.

Born on October 26, 1938, in Chelsea, Edward was the eldest son of the late Edward C. and Theodora (Sieczkarski) Smigielski. He grew up in a close-knit family with his two younger brothers, Theodore and Richard, instilling in them a shared commitment to improving their neighborhood and enhancing community life.

A lifelong resident of Chelsea, Eddie received his early education at St. Stanislaus Parochial School and graduated from Chelsea High School. He furthered his education at Bentley College, earning an associate’s degree in finance. Edward embarked on a career as an early computer programmer, where he wrote and implemented software for the airline industry, showcasing his innovative spirit and adaptability.

However, it was his passion for music that truly defined him. A talented musician, composer, and arranger, Edward favored the accordion and, in the 1960s, founded “Ed Smigielski and his Merry Musicians,” a lively polka band



that brought joy to countless weddings, showers, and celebrations throughout the Boston area. He took great pride in his Polish American heritage, being an active member of the Polish Political Club and the Polish American Veterans, Post 13 of Chelsea.

Edward is survived by his brothers, Theodore A. “Ted” Smigielski and Richard M. Smigielski, both of Chelsea, along with a close extended family and many dear friends who will cherish his memory.

In harmony with his quiet and unassuming nature, funeral services will be private. Edward will be laid to rest alongside his parents in Holy Cross Cemetery in Malden, in the family plot. As we reflect on his life, we remember a man who embraced his roots, uplifted his community, and spread joy through his music—a legacy that will resonate for years to come.

To send expressions of sympathy, visit www.welshfh.com.



Frederick Bruce

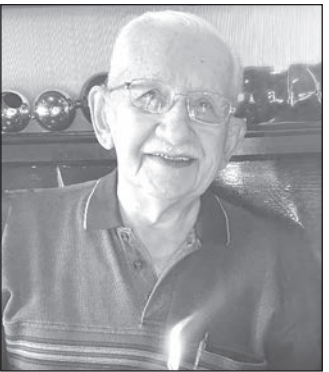
Hospitality industry retiree, he will forever be remembered as “Forever 39.”

Frederick M. Bruce, of Quincy, MA, passed away peacefully on Saturday, January 17, 2026. He was 94 years old.

Born in Chelsea, Fred was the beloved son of the late Robert H. and Ruth V. (Harris) Bruce. He spent many years in the hospitality industry as a waiter, bartender and chauffeur. He was especially proud of his time working at the Copley Plaza Hotel.

Fred’s greatest passion was singing. He could often be found at a piano bar, joyfully belting out his favorite songs, surrounded by family and friends who cherished sharing in his love of music and life.

He was the loving brother of Carolyn Gill, Malcolm R. Bruce, Martha E. Green, Robert H. Bruce, Jr., and Ruth Ethel Sullivan. He will be fondly remembered and deeply loved by his family. Affectionately known as



“Uncle Fred” to his many nieces and nephews. Fred will forever be remembered as “Forever 39.”

Funeral Arrangements are private and entrusted to the Carafa Family Funeral Home in Chelsea.

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.

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Cousins Patrick Pelosi (left) and Christopher Baker (right), pictured with their beloved grandfather, Elmer Chapman, after the duo won a tennis tournament in Everett.

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Chelsea High School students take the stage at Disney World for historic first performance

Special to the Record

The Chelsea High School (CHS) Jazz Band and Cantare are heading to the world's most magical stage, Disney World, this spring. This marks the first time in Chelsea High School history that the Performing Arts program has been invited to perform at Disney World, a milestone achievement for students, staff, and the entire Chelsea community.

In December, District Coordinator of Fine Arts Pete Pappavaselio submitted an audition video for consideration. The video featured music performed by students at the CHS Winter Concert this past December. After a competitive review process, CHS received the exciting news in January that they were officially selected to perform, an honor reserved for outstanding school-based performing arts programs from across the country.

"This experience represents a true trip of a lifetime for our Chelsea High School musicians. Performing and learning at Walt Disney World gives students the rare opportunity to engage in a professional-level music environment, work with industry teaching artists, and see their hard work come to life on a nationally recognized stage," said Pappavaselio. "For many of our students, this

will be their first time traveling by plane, visiting another state, or participating in a large-scale performance outside of their community. Beyond the performance itself, this experience celebrates students' dedication, resilience, and talent and broadens their sense of what they can achieve.

"It is not only an unforgettable experience, but a transformative one—building confidence, pride, and lifelong memories while showcasing the excellence of Chelsea High School's performing arts program."

Chelsea Public Schools Superintendent Dr. Almi G. Abeyta shared her pride in the students and staff.

"This opportunity exemplifies what happens when we believe in our students and invest in their passions," Abeyta said. "Our performing arts students have worked tirelessly, and this invitation to perform at Disney World reflects both their excellence and the strength of our arts programming. This opportunity will be a memory our students carry with them for the rest of their lives. We could not be prouder of them."

This historic trip would not have been possible without the support of State Senator Sal DiDomenico.

"Senator DiDomenico encouraged us to explore this opportunity for our students," said Abeyta. "He

helped us envision what was possible and supported us every step of the way. We are deeply grateful to him for planting the seed and for funding the entire trip so our students could participate."

"This amazing and talented group of students has dedicated countless hours perfecting their performances and I am proud to help send them to what I'm sure will be a performance of a lifetime in Disney World," said Senator DiDomenico. "I am a longtime supporter of Chelsea's music program and now they will have the opportunity to travel to an exciting and magical new venue. The students deserve this opportunity, and I look forward to the continued success and accomplishments of our student-musicians and the dedicated staff."

A total of 26 students will participate in the trip. While in Orlando, students will perform at Disney World, participate in educational workshops led by industry professionals, and enjoy time in the theme parks, creating an unforgettable experience with lifelong memories.

Kimberly, a Chelsea High School senior, is one of the students in the Jazz Band heading to Disney World. She grew up in a household filled with music, crediting her mother for inspiring her interest. That interest grew



Students who sing in the Chelsea High School Cantare who will be singing at a special performance in Disney World this spring.

more as a CPS student as she sang in chorus groups in elementary school and started playing trombone in the middle school band. In addition to the trombone she also plays the trumpet, piccolo, flute and even a little bit of drums. She will sing "Fly Me to the Moon" by Frank Sinatra in Spanish as part of the Disney performance. She shared her insights on how she felt when she learned that the trip was happening.

"For me, I personally felt very starstruck because I know opportunities like this were given before to the band and to know that our dedication and our passion for music just got us to

Disney World is just very phenomenal," she said.

Natalia, a singer of Cantare and another member of the senior class, grew up as a Chelsea Public Schools student, too. Her interest in music and singing developed in school. She has fond memories of singing at her Kindergarten Graduation at the ELC to performing in the district and school concerts at the elementary complex. She has been in Cantare for the last four years and hopes that this trip is the beginning of something special for students and the whole music department.

"I would say it's a window of opportunity because if we're able to go to Dis-

ney, I know that so many other students can get other opportunities because not everyone here is going to be able to go," she said. "But if we take that first step and go to Disney, people can see what the music department is made of and can give more opportunities to others and maybe inspire people to even join music."

For most of the students, this will be their first time in Disney World. This trip represents more than a performance - it is a celebration of student talent, community support, and the power of the arts in Chelsea Public Schools.



Students in the CHS Cantare and Jazz Band reacting to the news that they will be performing in Disney World this spring.



Students in Jazz Band rehearsing in the Band Room at Chelsea High School in preparation for the upcoming performance in Disney World.

It's Loveline Season at the Chelsea Record

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Residents now able to apply for home heating and energy assistance

Special to the Record

The Massachusetts' home energy assistance program (HEAP) is a free resource to help eligible households pay a portion of winter heating bills. Homeowners and renters, including households whose cost of heat is included in the rent, can apply in person at the agency in their area or through the online application.

Eligibility is based on household size and the gross annual income of every household member, 18 years of age or older.

Household income cannot exceed 60% of estimated State Median Income.

This program provides assistance through a fixed benefit amount for the cost of the primary source of heat with includes, but is not limited to: Oil, Electricity, Natural gas, Propane, Kerosene, Wood, and Coal.

If eligible, discounts are automatically given on:

- electric bills for investor-owned electric utilities
- gas bills for investor-owned gas utilities

Start 2026 at Prospect House Assisted Living & Memory Care in one of our affordable 1BR or studio apartment homes financed under the federal Low Income Housing Tax Credit program! Residents who qualify for this opportunity pay a reduced monthly rental rate on housing; daily meals, personal care, services, and activities are optional at additional cost.

INCOME LIMITS & GUIDELINES APPLY

- Applicants must be at least 55 years old.
- Applicants must meet selection criteria.
- Applicants must income-qualify. (Maximum gross income limits for a 1-person household is \$69,480 and for a 2-person household is \$79,440 as of 4/25, subject to change).

Call Kristi at 781.853.0005 for details!

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Payments for actual usage or fuel delivery are made directly to the heating vendor for primary energy needs from November 1st to April 30th.

Eligibility/Selection Criteria

- There are a variety of factors that impact the eligibility of a household.
- Eligibility is based on household size and the gross annual income of every household member, 18 years of age or older.
- Household income cannot exceed 60% of estimated State Median Income
- Please contact the local fuel assistance agency for detailed information on criteria used for eligibility.
- Housing subsidies will also determine the specific benefit level.

Fees

The program is 100% free for those who qualify. Beware of scams by people charging an "application fee" to help submit an application.

How to apply

The online application opens on October 1 for the upcoming heating season (November 1, 2024 – April 30, 2025). You can apply online, in person at the LIHEAP agency in your area, or by mail. Use the HEAP portal to

find your agency or start the application. Households must apply each year.

- First time applicants must participate in an intake appointment, to get started please submit an online application or contact your local agency.
- Applications are mailed to households after the first year and can be renewed online, in person, or by mail.
- Applicants who are denied assistance have the right to appeal the decision through their local home energy assistance agency.
- You may also take a look at the FY 2025 Cold Relief Brochure

Next steps

Necessary Documents

As part of the application process, please be prepared to share necessary information, including but not limited to:

- photo identification for the head of household or primary applicant (e.g. driver's license)
- a list of all household members
- information on your heating bills (e.g. heating company name and account number)
- information on your housing situation (e.g. an active lease or mortgage statement)
- proof of income for 30 days prior to application date (e.g. wages, pension).

THE CHELSEA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE HOSTS
THE CITY OF CHELSEA'S 2025 ENTREPRENEURSHIP COMPETITION FINALISTS

Chelsea Dist. 7 Councilor Manuel Teshe proposed a motion to select local entrepreneurs to put forth a business plan to obtain a City of Chelsea business license and start a business that would be beneficial to the owner and the city.

The Chelsea City Council approved \$50,000 to be awarded, asking the Chelsea Chamber of Commerce to act on their best interests of choosing where the money went. It was decided that it would be given to the top 10 contestants, producing a viable business plan, a 25-minute oral presentation to the judges, followed by a question-and-answer phase. There were 33 submissions, narrowed down to 15 semi-finalists, and 10 selected to receive \$5,000.



Chelsea District 7 City Councillor Manuel Teshe addressed the finalists at the Chelsea Chamber of Commerce Office on Broadway.



Chelsea Chamber of Commerce Officers, Judges and Chelsea City Councillor Manuel Teshe. From left, Judge and SCORE Mentor Tom Kristof, Chamber Staff member Carolina Bonilla, Councillor Manuel Teshe, Chelsea Chamber Executive Director Jenn Hassell, Judge and Director of the BGCBC, Alum Ysidra Quinones, Jose Abreu from the Chelsea Chamber Board, and Judge and Chamber Board member Roman Gold.



The Chelsea Chamber of Commerce was filled last week with entrepreneurs, friends and family to receive the 5000 dollar City of Chelsea business awards.



Finalists: Councillor Manuel Teshe, Glenda Reyes from TWO Path Child Care, Daisy Mateei from My Second Home Child Care, Nora Vargas from Little Explorers Day Care, Andy Ramos from AJC Mobile Notary & Services, Eduardo Izaguirre and Karina Andino-Jorge Andino and Eduardo Izaguirre from Color Season, and Judge from SCORE Tom Kristof.



Finalists: Councillor Manuel Teshe, Jose Abreu BoD Chelsea Chamber, Myles Casey, Jessica Wynns from JW Solutions, Monica Orozco from Koffee Glow, Chloe and Katherine Gasper from Chelsea Botanicals, Devra Zabot and Naomi Zabot from Clark Ave Productions, Judges Tom Kristof and Ysidra Quinones.



Kingsley Umemba from Theory of Everything with family and friends, also Chelsea Councillor Manuel Teshe, and Chelsea Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Jenn Hassell.



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See our vision. Share your feedback.

As we finalize the 2025 Massport Strategic Plan, we want to hear from the communities we serve. Your comments will help shape Massport's path forward.

Join us for a virtual presentation on **Thursday, February 5, 2026, at 6:00 PM,** and submit comments any time during the public comment period, open until March 6, 2026.

To learn more about Massport's Strategic Plan, register for the virtual presentation or access the Comment Form, please visit:

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Presentation available in English and Spanish. For additional language interpretation, contact community@massport.com by Tuesday, February 3, 2026.



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FRESH AND LOCAL

Bread Pudding

By Penny & Ed Cherubino

We all have our favorite comfort foods. Bread pudding is one of ours. It’s also a brilliant way to use up items in your refrigerator, pantry, or breadbox. It’s an obvious choice when you have stale bread on hand and don’t want to waste it. But we also make it when we have extra eggs or other leftovers.

Since Ed is a bread lover, that’s one thing we always have onhand. Those who don’t have a ready supply of bread could start a freezer bag of stale bread to make a pudding anytime you’d like. A mixture of breads will only add more flavor to the dish. You can also use fresh bread. Either leave the bread out to dry or pop ripped pieces into a warm oven to toast lightly.

Sweet Options

Most of us think of bread pudding as a dessert or a sweet dish. While you can make it from any leftover bread, we love the batches

made from specialty loaves, from cinnamon swirl to more exotic offerings. And, these sweet versions can use up any items that might be softening in your fruit bowl. Apples, pears, or bananas will add sweetness and nutrition to the mix.

We often add dried fruits like raisins, apricots, or figs to a simple bread pudding. The trick is to layer those in the middle of the pudding, or at least push them down into the mix. When they’re on top, dried fruits tend to burn before the custard cooks.

Savory Versions

You can also take this cooking technique to the savory side and make a great breakfast or brunch dish, or a supper that can be waiting in the refrigerator when you get home.

Toss together any ingredients that you might put in a frittata. You could sauté onions, peppers, and sausage or ham, then let that mixture cool. Mix your bread with grated cheddar cheese, toss

it with the sautéed mixture, pour the custard mixture over it, and sprinkle the top with more cheese. Bake, and you have a wonderful savory bread pudding.

Specialty breads, from a place like When Pigs Fly Bakery, give you an easy way to go savory. Their Sicilian Green Olive & Hot Cherry Peppers bread just needs a bit of cheese and custard to make a quick meal.

Around the holidays, they make a Savory Cranberry bread that contains cranberries, onions, fresh sage, rosemary, thyme, and oregano. We call this “stuffing bread.” A bread pudding made with that lovely loaf would be welcome on any buffet.

Stuffing recipes are a great inspiration for savory bread puddings. You can make your family’s favorite cornbread or sausage stuffing, then add a custard to turn it into a creamy bread pudding. We often bake our savory bread puddings in ramekins for individual



This savory bread pudding was adapted from a traditional sausage stuffing recipe and was baked in a ramekin.

servings and to freeze for future meals.

Recipes

We don’t follow a recipe as such for bread puddings. Rather, we use a ratio of 16 ounces of milk to 8 ounces of eggs (about 4 large) for the custard mix. You can break eggs into a measuring cup and add twice as much

milk.

Season with salt, sugar, vanilla, or spices, depending on the other ingredients in the dish. If the bread is sweet, add less sugar. If the ingredients are salty, for example, cured meat or fish, don’t add much salt.

If you prefer to follow a recipe, there are dozens on-

line. Both Epicurious and All Recipes have reliable versions. And, most general cookbooks, old or new, contain instructions for basic bread pudding.

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

BRUINS Beat by Bob Morello

BRUINS WIND DOWN PRIOR TO OLYMPICS

In Monday’s loss, the Bruins held a 3-2 lead going into the third period against the New York Rangers, but it was not enough to produce a victory, as the Empire State hosts came alive in the third period to tie the game 3-3, and eventually win it in overtime with a goal from Matthew Robertson. The rookie Robertson put a shot behind Boston goaltender Joonas Korpisalo, with less than four minutes remaining in the overtime for a 4-3 win, his first OT and game-winning goal, after the Bruins had a couple of stellar chances, denying the Bruins a much-needed extra point. The night started well, as Boston came back twice to tie the score, before Morgan Geekie potted his 29th to up the Bruins lead to 3-2. The Rangers who’ve been struggling lately, managed to hang in there as Jonathan Quick played well enough in net to give his team a chance to win. David Pastrnak posted his 900th career point by assisting on



all three Bruins scores. Pas-ta also extended his point streak to seven games with his ‘hat trick’ of assists. The loss left Boston with a 30-20-3 record as they continue their chase for a wild card spot in the playoffs. Boston’s two scratches in the New York loss included defenseman Nikita Zadorov and winger Michael Eysimmont. Zadorov was a pregame warm-up decision, obviously still suffering from an injury in the loss to Montreal on Saturday.

Tuesday night’s game (at press time) had the Bruins hosting the Nashville Predators, also one of the many

teams currently fighting to get into the playoffs. Tonight (Thursday 7:00pm) the Philadelphia Flyers, also hoping for a playoff spot, will invade TD Garden looking for a win. The final two games before the 2026 Winter Olympics will have the Bruins and the Tampa Bay Lightning facing off on Sunday, February 1st, in the 2026 Navy Federal Credit Union Stadium Series, which will take place in the Raymond James Stadium (Tampa, Florida) at 6:30pm. The last regular season game prior to the Winter Olympics start will have the Florida Panthers and Brad Marchand welcoming the Bruins on Wednesday (7:00pm). Marchand the former Bruins stalwart this season, has posted 25 goals, 24 assists for 49 points. Posing the question: How come we never get players like that? Seriously, those numbers are pretty impressive for a 2006 third round Bruins pick at 37 years old.

Winter storm safety tips

Winter storms in New England can range from freezing rain and ice, to a moderate snowfall over a few hours, to blizzard conditions with blinding wind-driven snow that can last several days.

What Are Winter Storms?

Winter storms can include large snow accumulation, extremely cold temperatures, coastal flooding, beach erosion and heavy, wet snow or ice.

Why Prepare?

Extreme winter weather can shut down an entire region. It can lead to roof collapses, communications disruptions and power outages. Winter storms are associated with storm-related deaths caused by:

- Automobile accidents
- Heart attacks due to overexertion
- Freezing to death; and
- Carbon monoxide incidents

To minimize the dangers associated with winter storms, take the proper safety precautions to protect yourself and your family.

Winter Storm Watches and Warnings

The National Weather Service issues watches and warnings for winter storms and blizzards to alert the public of potential winter storms. It is important to understand the difference between these warnings so you know what to do to stay safe:

Winter Storm Watches

It is likely that winter storm warning, blizzard warning, or ice storm warning criteria will be met due to the conditions of an upcoming storm.

Winter Storm Warning 6” of snow or more in a 12-hour period (or 8” of snow or more in a 24-hour period) expected within next 12 to 36 hours.

Blizzard Warning — Sustained wind gusts greater than or equal to 35 mph AND considerable falling and/or blowing snow, resulting in reduced visibility of less than 1/4 mile for at least three hours.

Ice Storm Warning — ½ inch or more of freezing rain.

Before a Winter Storm

Be informed by receiving alerts, warnings, and public safety information before, during, and after

emergencies.

Create and review your family emergency plan.

If you receive dialysis, medical treatments or home health care services, work with your medical provider to determine how to maintain care and service if you are unable to leave your home for a period of time.

Assemble an emergency kit. Add seasonal supplies to your emergency kit, such as extra winter clothing and blankets.

Follow instructions from public safety officials.

Prepare for possible power outages.

Fully charge your cell phone, laptop, and other electronic devices before a storm if power outages are expected.

If your medical equipment uses electricity, talk to health care providers, utility company & your personal support network for options during a power outage. If you’ll need assistance during an outage, talk to family, friends & your support network.

Consider purchasing a generator to provide power during an outage. Follow the manufacturer’s instructions and learn how to use it safely before an outage.

Prepare your home for possible emergencies.

Remove dead or rotting trees and branches around your home that could fall and cause injury or damage.

Clear clogged rain gutters to allow water to flow away from your home. Melting snow and ice can build up if gutters are clogged with debris.

Ensure your smoke and carbon monoxide alarms are working and have fresh batteries.

Maintain heating equipment and chimneys by having them cleaned and inspected every year.

Make sure your home is properly insulated. Caulk and weather-strip doors and windows to keep cold air out. Install storm windows or cover windows with plastic from the inside to provide insulation.

Ensure you have sufficient heating fuel and consider safe backup heating options such as fireplaces or woodstoves.

Ensure your vehicle is ready for safe winter driving. Keep the gas tank at least half-full and have a

Winter Emergency Car Kit in the trunk.

During a Winter Storm

Minimize outdoor activities. Drive only if it is absolutely necessary. If you must drive, utilize MEMA’s winter driving safety tips.

Keep your pets safe with Winter Pet Safety Tips.

Dress for the season to protect against the elements. Dress in several layers of loose-fitting, lightweight clothing instead of a single heavy layer. Outer garments should be tightly woven and water repellent. Wear a hat, mittens (not gloves) and sturdy waterproof boots to protect your extremities. Cover your mouth with a scarf to protect your lungs.

During extreme cold weather, follow our extreme cold safety tips.

Watch for signs of frostbite and hypothermia.

After a Winter Storm

Continue to monitor media for emergency information.

Follow instructions from public safety officials.

Call 9-1-1 to report emergencies, including downed power lines and gas leaks.

Check with your local authorities or call 2-1-1 to find locations of warming centers or shelters near you or for other storm-related questions.

In the event of power outages during cold weather, you may need to go to a warming center or emergency shelter to stay warm. Report power outages to your utility company.

Stay away from downed utility wires. Always assume a downed power line is live.

Stay off streets and roads until they are clear of snow.

Use caution and take frequent breaks when shoveling snow to prevent overexertion. Overexertion can bring on a heart attack—a major cause of death in the winter.

Clear exhaust vents from direct vent gas furnace systems to avoid carbon monoxide poisoning. Make sure your carbon monoxide detectors are working as it is a silent, odorless, killer.

Clear snow from around vehicle exhaust pipes before starting the vehicle to avoid carbon monoxide poisoning.

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CHELSEA BOYS BASKETBALL WINS 69-45 OVER EVERETT

Geo Brito (23 points) and Moe Osman (21 points) led a fired-up offense as Chelsea snapped a two-game losing streak with a dominant 69-45 win at Everett Thursday night. Chelsea led 26-18 at halftime then exploded for 21 points in the third quarter to open up a 47-31 lead on the way to the rout—a far cry from Chelsea’s one-point win, 44-43, over Everett in December. The win gave the Red Devils an edge over Everett in the teams’ tense battle with Lynn Classical a



Hus Mohamed (1, right) controls a rebound as he holds off teammate Brouk Ephrem (24) and Everett’s Samir King-DaCosta (2, left).



Geo Brito (2), who led Chelsea with 23 points, works his way between Everett’s Cristian Vazquez (left) and Emmanuel Nelson.



Roify Otanez Del Rosario (3) tightly guards Everett’s Jayden Sanchez.



Moe Osman (22) leads a Chelsea offensive rush.



Coach Cesar Castro sports a smile as Moe Osman comes off the court near the end of Chelsea’s 69-45 win at Everett January 22.



Hus Mohamed (1) reaches for a rebound between Everett’s Emmanuel Nelson (left) and Nathaniel Nelson (24).



JJ Williams (5) has a clear path to the basket for two of his 13 points on the night.



Geo Brito (2) lifts above Everett’s Jayden Alsaindor for a two of his 23 points that led Chelsea to a 69-45 win at Everett on January 22.

CHS Roundup

CHS BOYS ROLL PAST EVERETT, 69-45, BEHIND OSMAN, BRITO; HOST REVERE TONIGHT

The Chelsea High boys basketball team put together its best performance of the season to earn a commanding 69-45 victory at Greater Boston League (GBL) rival Everett last Thursday. The triumph snapped a two-game losing streak for the Red Devils, while also bringing a halt to Everett’s six-game winning streak. Chelsea now stands at 9-3 overall and 7-2 in the GBL, leaving coach Cesar Castro’s squad in sole possession of second-place in the GBL, one game behind first-place Lynn Classical and one game ahead of Everett and Somerville, which are tied for third place. Everett took a 9-7 advantage at the end of the first period, but a three-pointer by Red Devil Geo Brito (one of four treys on the night by Geo) to start the second pe-

riod moved Chelsea out to a 10-9 advantage and the Red Devils never looked back. Moe Osman, who poured in a game-high 23 points on a combination of powerful and athletic drives to the basket, as well as 9-for-9 shooting from the free throw line, keyed the Chelsea surge in the second period that left the Red Devils with a 26-18 lead at the half after Brito (who pumped in 21 points on the night) drained another trey one minute before the intermission. Although Everett pulled as close as five points (27-22) to start the second half, Red Devil J.J. Williams caught fire, hitting a hoop and a trey that boosted the Chelsea lead into double digits, 32-22. A breakaway layup and a trey by Brito made it a 37-22 Chelsea lead with 5:00 to go in the third period. Osman made two strong drives to the bucket, drawing the foul on the second one for a three-point play, boosting the Chelsea lead to 18 points with 1:28 to go

in the third, leaving the Red Devils firmly in the driver’s seat as the final eight minutes loomed. Despite a frantic effort by the Tide to get back into the game to start the fourth period, the Chelsea defense clamped down on the Everett shooters. Osman continued to shoot perfectly from the free throw line, hitting four straight from the charity stripe, that ballooned the Chelsea advantage to 20, 59-39, with about four minutes remaining, from where the Red Devils closed out the big win. “It was a great game from start to finish,” said Castro. “We played a complete 32 minutes. Moe Osman led the way with 23 points, going a perfect 9-for-9 from the free-throw line. Geo Brito added 21 points, and Roify Otanez brought tremendous energy, flying around on defense, being a constant pest, and knocking down some big shots that really killed their momentum. “It was a true collective effort,” Castro added. “If

we can continue to play like this, we’ll be a scary team. I was really proud of my guys.” Castro and his crew, who were ranked 22nd in the MIAA’s Division 3 power ratings as of last Friday, were scheduled to meet non-league opponent Cambridge this past Monday and GBL foe Malden this past Tuesday. They will host Revere in Round 2 of the Battle of Broadway tonight (Thursday) at 6:00. They will travel to Medford next Tuesday and to Lynn English next Thursday. CHS GIRLS BASKETBALL BATTLES WELL AGAINST TOP TEAMS IN THE GBL Although the Chelsea High girls basketball team came up short in its contests this past week, the Lady Red Devils battled fiercely against Greater Boston League (GBL) opponents.



Moe Osman (22) fights off Everett’s Benji Joseph as he moves toward the lane.

In a 62-40 loss to Lynn Classical (the second-place team in the GBL), Jaliyah Santiago Lozada scored 21 points, grabbed five rebounds, dished out five assists, and made four steals. Teammate Monica Cespedes Cruz hit for 15 points and made five assists. In a 71-47 loss to first-place Somerville, Jaliyah once again turned in a superb all-around effort with 20 points, six assists, five rebounds, and four steals. Monica also had a huge two-way effort with 19 points, four rebounds, and five assists. The Lady Red Devils continued their momentum with a tough loss to Everett, 57-51, last Thursday. Chelsea trailed 54-51 with

Roundup // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9

25 seconds to play and had a chance to make it a one-point game, but missed on a breakaway layup.

The Lady Crimson Tide converted on their ensuing possession and added a free throw for the 57-51 finale.

Cespedes Cruz pumped in 20 points to go with five assists. Santiago Lozada also struck for 20 points and had five assists, seven rebounds, and four steals.

Lidya Castillo Rodriguez turned in a solid performance (eight rebounds and two points), as did Fatuma Iman (two points and five rebounds). “Both Lidya and Fatuma played great defense,” said Harrison.

The Lady Red Devils were scheduled to play at Malden this past Tuesday. They will make the short trip to Revere today (Thursday) and to Boston Latin Academy on Monday.

They will return home to host Medford next Tuesday and Lynn English next Thursday, with both contests tipping off at 5:30.

CHS GIRLS TRACK ROLLS PAST EVERETT, 53-35, AND CLASSICAL, 60-21

The Chelsea High girls indoor track and field team defeated Greater Boston League (GBL) rivals Everett, 53-35, and Lynn Classical, 60-21, this past Friday evening at the Reggie Lewis Center in Roxbury. The twin wins raised the Lady Red Devils’ record to 3-3 on the season.

Junior Lilly Serrano led the way for the Lady Red Devils. Lilly took first place vs. both rivals in two events, the 300 dash with a time of 43.21 and the high jump with a leap of 4’-10”. Both of those efforts also were the top performances of the night among all of the GBL competitors at the Reggie. (Every GBL team competes on Friday nights in dual and tri-meets.)

Fellow junior teammate Thania Simon also was a victor vs. both foes. Thania captured the 55 dash with a sprint of 7.71 (which was

third best at the Reggie for the evening).

Hazel Hatleberg was a double-winner vs. both Classical and Everett in the 1-mile with her time of 6:39.80.

Kimberly Fuentes Chavez took first place vs. Everett and second vs. Classical in the 600 dash with a clocking of 2:00.27.

The quartet of Simon, Serrano, Hatleberg, and Fuentes Chavez also ran legs of the 4 x 400 relay. The quartet took first place vs. both Classical and Everett with a clocking of 4:40.60, which also was the best time of the evening among all of the GBL schools by 10 seconds over their closest rival.

Aly Perez triumphed vs. both the Lady Crimson Tide and the Lady Rams in the 2-mile with her run of 1:35.98.

Kimberly Ardonia Romero won first-place honors vs. both opponents in the 55 hurdles with a clocking of 12.09. Kimberly also took second place vs. both in the long jump.

Dieunie Cademus took first place vs. Classical and

second vs. Everett in the shot-put with a throw of 25’-4”.

Katherine Benitez took first place vs. both opponents in the 1000 with a time of 4:15.68

Also scoring points for the Chelsea column on the scoresheet were:

-- Keristyna Williams with a third place vs. Classical in the 55 dash;

-- Cesia Flores with a second vs. Classical and a third vs. Everett in the 1000;

-- Alison Osoiro with a third vs. Classical in the 1000;

-- Harmony Rogers with a second vs. Classical and a third vs. Everett in the shot-put; and

-- Aria Green with a third vs. Classical in the shot;

The Chelsea squad will take on GBL foe Malden tomorrow (Friday) in their final dual meet of the 2026 indoor season.

CHS BOYS TRACK EDGES CLASSICAL, 41-40, NIPPED BY EVERETT, 43-41

The Chelsea High boys

indoor track and field team split its tri-meet with Greater Boston League (GBL) rivals Everett and Lynn Classical this past Friday evening at the Reggie Lewis Center in Roxbury. The Red Devils nipped Classical, 41-40, but were edged by Everett, 43-41.

The top performers for Chelsea included Xavier Guzman, who defeated both rivals in the 600 dash with a time of 1:29.66, which was the best clocking among all of the GBL competitors that night by almost seven seconds. (All of the GBL schools compete in dual and tri-meets at the Reggie on Friday nights).

Bryan Amaya-Yanes also scored first-places vs. both opponents in the 1000 with a time of 3:04.00.

Sebastian Molina Regil likewise was a double-winner, defeating all of his Crimson Tide and Ram rivals in the 2-mile run with a time of 11:33.52.

Carlos Perez-Acosta took first place vs. Classical and second vs. Everett in the 1-mile with a clocking of 5:24.65.

Gregory Ulloa took first place vs. Everett and second vs. Classical in the long jump with a leap of 17’-3.5”.

Additional point-scorers for Chelsea were:

-- David Ponce with second places vs. both Everett and Classical in both the 55 and 300 dashes;

-- Gregory Ulloa with a third vs. Classical in the 300 dash;

-- Zakaria Moubtassim with a second vs. Everett and a third vs. Classical in the 600;

-- Steven Artica with a third vs. Everett in the 600;

-- Kevin Romero Molina took second-place vs. both rivals in the shot-put;

-- Nathan Pleitez took third vs. Everett in the shot;


-- Aiden Rivas Ortega with a second vs. Everett and a third vs. Classical in the long jump; and

-- Connor Merry with a third vs. Everett in the long jump.

The Chelsea boys will take on GBL foe Malden tomorrow (Friday) at the Reggie in their final dual meet of the 2026 indoor season.

LEGAL NOTICES - legals@chelsearecord.com

LEGAL NOTICE



CITY OF CHELSEA
REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS
HOUSE DOCTOR ENGINEERING
& DESIGN SERVICES FOR
CHELSEA
PUBLIC SCHOOLS
The City of Chelsea, Massachusetts, through its Chief Procurement Officer, is seeking Request for Qualifications for “House Doctor Engineering & Design Services for Chelsea Public Schools”. Request for Qualifications will be available on or after January 29, 2026 by visiting the City’s website at : https://www.chelseama.gov/departments/purchasing/current_bids_solicitations.php. Proposals must be sealed and clearly marked “House Doctor Engineering & Design Services for Chelsea Public Schools” and submitted to the Office of the Chief Procurement Officer no later than 10:30AM on Thursday, February 12, 2026. The City of Chelsea reserves the right to accept any proposal, to reject any or all proposals and to waive minor irregularities and/or formalities as it deems to be in the best interest of the City. In accordance with our Minority Business Enterprise Plan, we are inviting all qualified women and minority business firms to respond. The City of Chelsea is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

This Request for Proposals is in accordance with M.G.L. Chapter 7C, §§ 44-58.
Ledia Koca
Chief Procurement Officer
1/29/26 C

LEGAL NOTICE
NOTICE OF HEARING
MOD. Case No. 2024-09
Notice is hereby given in accordance with the Massachusetts Zoning Act, Chapter 40A that a Regular Meeting of the Chelsea Planning Board will be held on:
Tuesday, February 24, 2026
Council Chambers. 3rd Floor, 500 Broadway
6:00 p.m.
With reference to the application of:
Energizer Storage LLC
Requesting a Design Modification of the originally proposed building-based design. The Modification proposes an elimination of the proposed building and instead places the battery energy storage system (“BESS”) units within separate external enclosures at the premises known as:
284 Eastern Avenue
A copy of the application and petition is available for review at:
City Clerk’s Office during normal business hours: Monday, Wednesday and Thursday 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. – Tuesday, 8 a.m. – 7 p.m. – Friday, 8 a.m. to noon
1/22/26
1/29/26 C

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Notice is hereby given in accordance with the Massachusetts Zoning Act, Chapter 40A that a

a las 5:30 p.m. en el Centro para Personas Mayores de Chelsea, ubicado en 10 Riley Way, Chelsea, MA 02150, para discutir las NUEVA ley de Consumo Social de Cannabis en la Ciudad de Chelsea.
Beatrice Hernandez
Licensing Administrator
1/29/26
2/5/26 C

LEGAL NOTICE
NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS
MASSACHUSETTS EXECUTIVE OFFICE FOR ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE
DIVISION OF CAPITAL ASSET MANAGEMENT AND MAINTENANCE
Electronic Bids submitted in the format furnished by the Division of Capital Asset Management & Maintenance (DCAMM) and clearly identified as a bid will be received through DCAMM’s E-Bid Room at www.bidexpress.com/businesses/10279/home no later than the date and time specified and will forthwith be publicly opened remotely by DCAMM Bid Room personnel and read aloud over a conference call line. Persons interested in accessing the remote bid opening can do so by using the following phone number: Audio Conferencing Dial-In Number (617)-315-0704, Meeting Number 2333 916 4237#. If prompted for attendee ID, please press #. Mass. State Project No. DCP2603
DCP – MITC Building –

Occupancy Upgrades DOR 1D Enabling, 200 Arlington Street, Chelsea, MA
General Bids: 03/10/26 @ 2:00 PM
Sub Bid: 02/24/26 @12:00 PM
Every Filed Sub-Bidder must be certified by DCAMM in the category for which they bid. Every General Bidder must be certified by DCAMM in the category of work listed below and for no less than the bid price plus all add alternates of this project, if applicable. The Category of Work is General Building Construction
The following Filed Sub-Bids: Acoustical Tile; Fire Protection; HVAC; Electrical.
E.C.C: \$881,960
This project is scheduled for 90 calendar days to substantial completion. Scope: The project consists of an interior remodeling of an existing office building. The project is a renovation to convert an unused office space into a Training Room, Open Office, and HR Storage room for the Department of Revenue (DOR). Additionally, an enclosed storage space is to be carved out of DOR’s existing RMU Warehouse.
A Pre-Bid/Site Visit will be held on February 3, 2026, at 10:00 AM at 200 Arlington St., Chelsea, MA. Check in with main security before the meeting. Meet in the front lobby. Minimum rates of wages to be paid on the project have been determined by the Commissioner of the Department of Labor Standards. These rates

are incorporated into the bid documents.
Bid documents for this project may be accessed or downloaded at no cost to potential bidders exclusively through DCAMM’s E-Bid Room <https://www.bidexpress.com/businesses/10279/home>. A hard copy set can be made available for viewing in DCAMM’s Bid Room located at One Ashburton Place, 15th Floor, Boston, MA during normal business hours by appointment only by contacting DCAMM’s Bid Room. In order to access bid documents and submit bids through DCAMM’s E-Bid Room potential bidders must first be verified by DCAMM’s Bid Room and then register with the E-Bid Room vendor. Instructions on the processes can be found on DCAMM’s website www.mass.gov/dcammbids or contact DCAMM’s Bid Room at bidroom.dcammbids@mass.gov or (617) 727-4003.
Adam Baacke
COMMISSIONER
1/29/26 C

LEGAL NOTICE
NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING
TRAFFIC AND PARKING COMMISSION
PUBLIC HEARING
Notice is hereby given in accordance with Chapter 90 of the General Laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and pursuant to Section 6-3 of the Charter of the City of Chelsea that a Public Hearing of the Chelsea Traffic and Parking Commission will be held on:
Tuesday, February 3, 2026 at 6:00 P.M.
City Council Chambers
500 Broadway
Pursuant to Section 6-3 of the Charter of the City of Chelsea, the purpose of the public hearing is to receive comments regarding the review of existing parking conditions along Crescent Avenue, from Louis to Carroll Street, and a proposal to remove on-street parking along the southeast side. Copies and filings may be viewed at the City Clerk’s Office.
Per Order
Chief Keith E. Houghton
Chairperson
1/15/26, 1/29/26 C

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Snow thrower safety tips: Keep best practices in mind

Clearing snow and ice from driveways, sidewalks and parking lots is no small job. You rely on your outdoor power equipment to do the heavy lifting, and it's important to keep safety in mind. The Outdoor Power Equipment Institute (OPEI) reminds home and business owners to use snow throwers, often referred to as snow blowers, safely and offers tips to help.

"Weather today is unpredictable. You need to have your snow thrower serviced and ready to power up," says OPEI President and CEO Kris Kiser. "Review your owner's manual so you can use your equipment safely." Kiser says preparation is key and that home and business owners should consider the following:

Review the owner's manual. Check the owner's manual for safe handling procedures. If the manual cannot be found, look it up online, and store a copy on your computer so it's available to reference in the future. Review how to operate controls. Be able to shut off equipment quickly.

Check equipment. The snow thrower should be powered off when being checked over. Adjust any cables and check the auger.

Charge batteries. Locate the batteries for your snow thrower and charge them fully before it snows.

Purchase fuel. Be sure to use the correct fuel recommended by the equipment's manufacturer. For most gasoline-powered snow throwers, that is E10 or less. Often fuel stations are closed after a storm so buy gasoline in advance of storms. Fuel that is more than 30 days old can phase separate and cause operating problems. For more information on fueling properly see www.opei.org/programs/ethanolwarning

Store and use fuel properly. Place gasoline in a proper fuel container and label it with the date purchased and the ethanol content. Store fuel safely and out of the reach of children. Fill the fuel tank outside before starting the engine and while the engine is cold. Never add fuel to a running or hot engine.

Clear the area. Snow can sometimes hide objects. Doormats, hoses, balls, toys, boards, wires, and other debris should be removed from areas you intend to clear. When run over by a snow thrower, these objects may harm the machine or people.

Dress for winter weather.

Locate safety gear now, and place it in an accessible closet or location. Wear safety glasses, gloves and footwear that can handle cold and slippery surfaces when operating the snow thrower.

Key Safety Tip: Never put your hands inside the auger or chute. Use a clean out tool to unclog snow or debris from the snow thrower. Your hands should never go inside the auger or chute.

Turn OFF the snow thrower if you need to clear a clog. If you need to remove debris or unclog snow, always turn off the snow thrower. Wait for all moving parts to come to a complete stop before clearing any clogs or debris.

Operate in visible conditions. Never operate the snow thrower without good visibility or light.

Aim with care. Never throw snow toward people or cars. Keep children or pets inside and away from your snow thrower when it is operating.

Use extreme caution on slopes and hills. Use caution when changing directions on slopes. Do not attempt to clear steep slopes.

Know where the cord is. If using an electric powered snow thrower, be aware of where the power cord is at all times. Avoid tripping.

OPEI is an international trade association representing manufacturers and suppliers of power equipment, small engines, battery power systems, portable generators, utility and personal transport vehicles, and golf cars. OPEI is the advocacy voice of the industry, and a recognized Standards Development Organization for the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) and active internationally through the International Organization for Standardization (ISO), and the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) in the development of safety and performance standards. OPEI owns Equip Exposition, the international landscape, outdoor living and equipment exposition, and administers the TurfMutt Foundation, which directs the environmental education program, TurfMutt. OPEI-Canada represents members on a host of issues, including recycling, emissions and other regulatory developments across the Canadian provinces.

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DiDomenico applauds affordability focus in Governor’s State of the State Address

Senator Sal DiDomenico joined colleagues and leaders from throughout Massachusetts for Governor Healey’s State of the Commonwealth Address at the State House last Thursday. DiDomenico welcomed the Governor’s emphasis on lowering costs for residents on everything from housing to utilities to even making it easier to cancel subscription services.

“I am proud to work alongside our great Governor and colleagues to serve my constituents and



Senator Sal DiDomenico with Senate colleagues in the State House Chamber.



Senator Sal DiDomenico with Lieutenant Governor Kim Driscoll (second from right) and Senate colleagues in the State House Chamber.

VALENTINE’S DAY IS JUST A FEW WEEKS AWAY!

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Governor Healey is standing at a podium in the State House Chamber, delivering her address. She is wearing a red jacket and smiling. Other people are visible in the background.

Governor Healey delivering her address in the State House Chamber.

Boston Food Access Council awarded Community Power Grant from Project Bread to advance food justice and systems change

Special to the Record

Boston Food Access Council, of Boston, has been named a recipient of Project Bread’s inaugural Community Power Grants program. The funding will help to drive grassroots advocacy and systems change to address the root causes of food insecurity, building capacity for smaller organizations where it would not be otherwise possible. Boston Food Access Council was selected from over 40 proposals for its proven impact, advocacy wins, and strong potential to build power across communities.

“Food insecurity is not just about food - it is about deep structural disparities,” says Adriana Mendes-Sheldon, Director of Community Partnerships at Project Bread. “True transformation happens when power is redistributed and communities most impacted by food insecurity are part of shaping the solutions. By investing in grassroots leadership and advocacy, we build long-term capacity for organizing and a sustainable impact that goes beyond charity and toward systemic change.”

The Boston Food Access Council is a community-led coalition working to ensure that Boston residents most affected by food insecurity have the knowledge, resources, and power to shape food access solutions. Comprised of community members and organizational leaders, Boston Food Access Council brings together residents, advocates, and policymakers to break down silos and advance equitable food access through collaboration, advocacy, and awareness-building. With support from Project Bread’s Community Power Fund, Boston Food Access Council will strengthen its capacity and deepen community leadership, while also funding a small cohort of paid community advocates. They have already hired a new fractional executive director, Sutton Kiplinger, to provide dedicated coordination and strategic guidance. In partnership with the Neighborhood Food Action Collaborative (NFAC), 3 community advocates have been hired who will do community engagement to help neighbors understand their own opportunities for action and become part of an engaged base of community members advocating for the changes they want to see in food access in their communities. These advocates—people with lived experience of food insecurity—will be trained to conduct SNAP and food access outreach, share accurate information, and elevate community stories at farmers’ markets, neighborhood events, and in conversations with decision-makers across Boston.

“We need to be able to connect policymakers directly to people who are experiencing food insecurity and supporting their communities every day,” says Seana Weaver, former steering committee member and continued supporter of the Boston Food Access Council. “By investing in both leadership capacity and paid community advocates, we’re strengthening the bridge between lived experience and power, while reducing misinformation and ensuring that community voices are driving food justice solutions in Boston.”

Project Bread awarded a total of \$97,000 to five Massachusetts organizations through the Community Power Grants program. Grantees received individualized technical assistance from Project Bread’s Research and Evaluation team to develop customized logic models that track each project’s progress and impact. They will also participate in Project Bread’s statewide Community of Practice. Mendes-Sheldon explains

that “the program was intentionally designed to provide value beyond funding, offering key supports that build long-term organizational capacity, sustainability, and impact.” The grants strategically support the Make Hunger History Coalition, Project Bread’s bold statewide initiative mobilizing more than 500 partners around a shared roadmap to permanently end hunger in Massachusetts. This work seeks to intentionally shift the power dynamics in anti-hunger work by providing tools and support for grassroots organizations and individuals to voice their perspectives and become leaders in this statewide movement. The coalition operates through five strategic pillars: ensuring all residents can access and buy food, integrating food security with health care, supporting residents to eat nutritious and local food, enhancing food support programs for priority populations, and addressing root causes that contribute to hunger. The other 2025-2026 grantees include Revere Arabic Community, Roslindale Food Collective + New Beginnings Reentry Services, MetroWest Food Collaborative, and Hampshire County Food Policy Council. They have all joined the coalition as active members, with their community leadership and organizing efforts directly feeding into working groups and collaborative efforts across the state.

To get involved with the Make Hunger History Coalition, visit: www.makehungerhistoryma.org. People experiencing food insecurity should call into Project Bread’s toll-free FoodSource Hotline (1-800-645-8333), which provides confidential assistance to connect with food resources, including SNAP benefits, in 180 languages and for the hearing impaired. For more information, visit: www.projectbread.org/get-help.

Project Bread, the leading statewide food security organization in Massachusetts, connects people and communities in Massachusetts to reliable sources of food while advocating for policies that make food more accessible—so that no one goes hungry. For more information, visit: www.projectbread.org.

Boston Food Access Council (BFAC) is a community-led coalition working to empower Bostonians with the knowledge to access food resources and to bring together and amplify community voices and needs through collaboration, partnership, advocacy, and awareness building. Through community outreach, policy advocacy, and organizing strategies, BFAC ensures that those closest to the problem are the ones leading the solutions. For more information visit: <https://bostonfoodaccesscouncil.org/>

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