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# CHELSEA RECORD

YOUR HOMETOWN NEWSPAPER SINCE 1890

VOLUME 120, NO. 15      **THURSDAY, JUNE 25, 2020**      35 CENTS

## DACA recipients in Chelsea still on edge despite favorable ruling

By Seth Daniel

There might have been a celebration last week after the Supreme Court decision that rejected President Donald Trump’s bid to end the DACA program after more than 10 years, but any such celebration in Chelsea was muted and wary of the future.

The U.S. Supreme Court ruled last week that the DACA program – which allows those brought illegally to the country as children to be held harmless in regards to immigration deportation and work rules. It has been in place for more than 10 years, brought in under great fanfare by President Barack Obama – allowing hundreds of Chelsea young people at the time to go to school, work legally and pursue their dreams.

Now that those young people are grown up, the threat to end DACA made many very nervous, and the decision blocking the effort to end it makes many even more nervous.

“The one thing about the decision is it give the administration a roadmap to maybe try again to revoke authorization,” said Daisy Gonzalez, Immigration and Citizenship Coordinator at the Chelsea Collaborative. “Even though it’s a victory, we still understand that decision gives the Trump Administration another chance and this roadmap to try again. We believe if he’s re-elected, he will try again and they will have a better understanding how to do it properly. We’re striving for those with DACA to have permanent residency and eventually citizenship. It’s a long way to go.”

The decision by the high Court did not reject the proposal outright, but as Gonzalez said, rejected it on a technical problem. The decision identified the problem, and many believe that another effort will be made to file it correctly.

Ahead of the decision, Gonzalez said many residents with DACA were apprehensive to re-file for renewal – worrying they would lose their application fees and maybe they would be identified for deportation if their status was revoked.

Most of the DACA recipients in Chelsea are now older, though when the program was issued, there were many in high school and college. Unfortunately, Gonzalez said a lot of them were not able to finish college due to finances. Being able to work legally, many were counted on to get jobs

See MASS. DACA Page 4

**INDEPENDENT**  
**Newspaper Group**

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Chelsea artist Nelson Saldana works on his “We Are 1” Mural at the TD Bank building on Broadway Saturday.

## TRADE AND TALENT

### Nelson Saldana works as a mechanic, speaks as an artist

By Cary Shuman

Nelson Saldana works as a truck mechanic at Thermo King in Saugus. This past Saturday, Saldana was in Bellingham Square putting the finishing touches on a beautifully done chalk art mural.

Saldana’s latest artwork on the TD Bank building was part of the “Chelsea Prospers” downtown initiative. Claudia Parasciv coordinates the project which is a series of chalk art murals called “Chalk Art Saturdays.”

Chelsea Prospers coordinator Mimi Graney said for six Saturdays the city

is hiring local artists, like Nelson, to do “larger-scale chalk murals that provide inspiration and show off the skills of our local artists.”

Saldana, a 32-year-old Chelsea resident and 2007 graduate of Chelsea High School where he said he was inspired by art teacher Ms. Olsen, first attracted the attention of Chelsea officials for his previous large-scale murals he composed for a site on Division Street.

That mural and other Saldana artworks in Chelsea were considered “excellent,” and he was invited to participate in this summer’s “Chelsea Prospers” project.

“Chelsea has continued to reach out to me to do more work and this was the next one on the list,” he said humbly.

The theme for Saldana’s current project in Bellingham Square (TD Bank is located at 457 Broadway) is “We Come Together As One” and Saldana portrayed the message in eye-catching fashion.

In the mural, Saldana centered “We Are 1” between the continents of North America and Africa. He drew bodies of water in blue.

“I tried to make it like a

See TALENT Page 7

## City Council, residents invited to debate merits of taking down Columbus statue

By Seth Daniel

More than 500 years later, Christopher Columbus’s checkered past is finally catching up with him – at least in Chelsea and many other communities where he has been honored with statues and celebrations of his voyages.

Several members of the Chelsea City Council put forth an order at the June 15 Council meeting to immediately take down the Christopher Columbus statue in Chelsea Square and replace it with a thought-

fully designed memorial to the indigenous peoples who inhabited Chelsea prior to white settlement.

Council President Roy Avellaneda and colleagues Melinda Vega Maldonado, Naomi Zabot, Judith Garcia, Damali Vidot, Enio Lopez and Yamir Rodriguez introduced an order calling for the immediate removal of Columbus. They asked that the Chelsea Historical Commission and the Chelsea Arts and Culture Commission place on their agendas a motion to collaborate a discuss “a memorial

for the original indigenous inhabitants of Chelsea to remember their place in Chelsea’s history.”

Council President Avellaneda moved to pass the order, but was held up by Councillor Giovanni Recupero, who said he would like a conference to discuss the matter. He said he isn’t in favor of removing the statue or replacing it. It has stood in its place since Dec. 12, 1938. It proclaims on its base that Columbus was the ‘Discoverer of America.’

Councilor Calvin Brown

See STATUE Page 4

## COMMUNITY DECLARATION



Following the successful and peaceful Black Lives Matter march in Chelsea earlier this month, a group of community and faith leaders appeared at the June 15 online City Council meeting to collectively read a statement ‘Declaration of Faith & Unity by the Chelsea Interfaith Alliance and Chelsea City Leaders for Social Justice and Equality.’ Those pictured here socially distanced in the Council Chambers after the reading, and they included Rev. Sandra Whitley, Father James Sheridan, Kourou Pich, Paul Nowicki, Pastor Eliot Penn, Father Hilario Saenez, Roseann Bongiovanni, School Committee Chair Kelly Garcia, Joe Mahoney, Molly Baldwin, Pastor Ricardo Valle, Joan Cromwell and Supt. Almi Abeyta.

## Eating Out

### Outdoor, indoor dining will begin in regal form this weekend

By Seth Daniel

Chelsea Square, Cherry Street and Division Street will be transformed into a dining paradise as Chelsea’s restaurants look to open their expansive outdoor dining plans in collaboration with the City and Chelsea Prospers.

Already, the Traffic Commission approved the plans – which shut off some streets during the evenings – and the Council voted 10-0 on June 15 to approve the plans as well.

“I think we’re trying to help these businesses just get back up and running,” said City Manager Tom Ambrosino. “The City thought that helping them have some outside space would be useful given the restrictions put in place on occupancy inside. The more space outside should

be helpful for them. We’re trying to accommodate people and balance the need for downtown. It is a balancing act.”

All over Greater Boston and in Chelsea, as restaurants were allowed to begin using a portion of their indoor space again, the need for outdoor space has remained critical for operators to make up for the “lost tables” due to occupancy limits and social distancing inside. Meanwhile, many diners are skittish of returning to an indoor restaurant, and being able to choose an outdoor option is more comfortable, less risky.

The plan for Chelsea Square includes blocking off Second Street between the parks, and Winnisimmet Street outside of Apollinaire Theatre for dining space to accommodate any

See EATING OUT Page 4



ROCA Crew members Ray Bennett and Elvin Martinez on Monday near the PORT Park were busy transforming pallets into parklets for the City’s outdoor dining effort, which begins this weekend.

## Matrinko of The Brown Jug welcomes back indoor diners

By Cary Shuman

The Brown Jug has been one of Chelsea’s most popular dining and social gathering establishments for 31 years. It’s been a place to enjoy delicious pizza, salads, appetizers, and specialty wraps, sit and watch a sports event on television, or just socialize with friends.

Due the coronavirus-forced shutdowns of local businesses, this year has been a challenging one for Mike Matrinko, owner of The Brown Jug and a proud 1971 graduate of Chelsea High School. His wife, Cheryl Visconti Matrinko, has been his loyal and supporting partner in the business that relocated 10 years

ago to 1014 Revere Beach Parkway in the former Parkway Plaza Shopping Center.

After being limited to curbside pick-up and delivery due to the state guidelines related to the pandemic, The Brown Jug opened up Monday for indoor dining, with many customers paying a visit. Outdoor seating in the patio area began two weeks ago.

Before Mike would talk about the return of indoor dining at The Jug, he humbly requested to offer a message of gratitude to first responders and his loyal customers.

“First of all I want to thank all the first respond-

See DINERS Page 4



Mike Matrinko, owner of The Brown Jug, is pictured with members of his restaurant staff, Kristina LaCortiglia and Bailey Potter, on Monday at the The Brown Jug. The restaurant is now open for indoor and outdoor seating.



# Chelsea

R E C O R D

**PRESIDENT:** Stephen Quigley

**EDITOR IN CHIEF:** Cary Shuman

## COVID-19 IS A PREDATOR -- AND WE ARE ITS PREY

The media, politicians, and others have likened our on-going battle with the corona virus as the equivalent of “going to war.”

The doctors and nurses in the overburdened ERs in New York City, when its hospitals were being overwhelmed with corona patients in March, put it this way in discussing the stresses and challenges they were facing when they lacked personal protection equipment, ventilators, and other essential medical needs: “It’s like going to war, but without being given guns and ammunition.”

But as we enter the fourth month since the start of the lock-downs in many of our states, the “going to war” metaphor does not seem entirely appropriate.

Rather, the corona virus, which is stealthy and unseen except under a microscope (it is 1/1000th the width of a hair on our heads), is more like a hunter seeking its prey -- and its main prey is the human race.

We like to think of ourselves as kings of the world, sitting atop the food chain. Even if we cannot match a shark in the water or a lion in the jungle, we have weapons readily at our disposal to cope with any threats we may face from the natural world.

But the corona virus has humbled us. We as a species have proven no match for this pandemic that Mother Nature has thrust into our midst.

As with any predator in the wild, the corona virus seeks out the easy targets, the old and the weak. Per Darwin’s theory of evolution, only the strongest survive.

But intelligence also is a key to the survival of members of a species. The pandemic has proven that point as well, also taking as its victims those whose arrogance exceeds their common-sense, and whose folly makes them an easy target for a hunter that fears nothing and that will take advantage of any lapse in judgment.

The early openings in the Southern states, where people have refused to wear masks and do not practice physical-distancing, and where infections now are predictably skyrocketing, have shown the folly of underestimating the power of the virus.

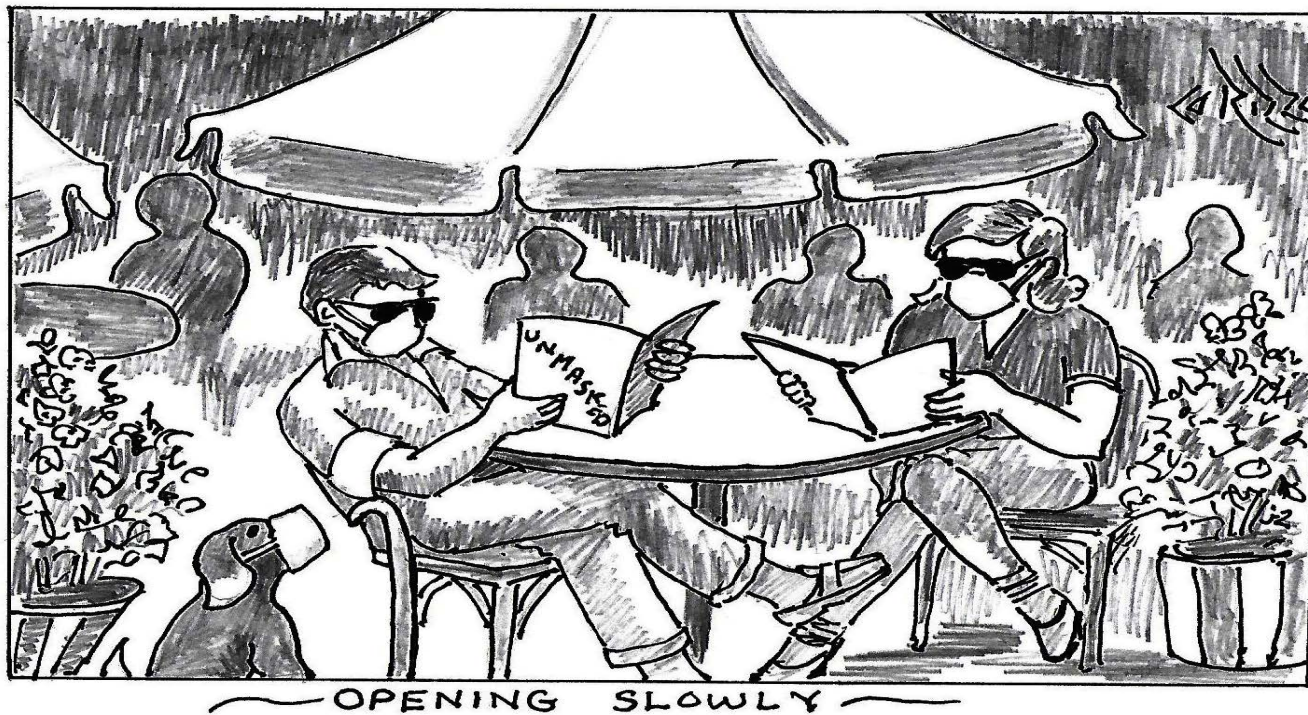
We think a more accurate way for us to view the corona virus is that it has reduced the human race to the equivalent of meerkats. (Timon in the Lion King is a meerkat.) Meerkats, small mongooses, live constantly on alert and retreat to their underground network of burrows upon sensing the slightest threat of danger. If they let their guard down for an instant when above-ground, they can become easy targets for predators.

We too, now find ourselves in a state of existence in which our movement is restricted. We must remain ever-vigilant and be aware that the corona virus is everywhere. As with any predator, the corona virus always is on the prowl and stalking, just waiting for any one of us -- its prey -- to make that one, fatal mistake.

As is becoming clear in the Southern states, we are fooling ourselves if we think that we have outwitted this virus and that three months of lockdown were sufficient to save us from its grip. The reality is that the corona virus never will cease hunting us and that we must devise a new normal if we wish to regain a semblance of our former lives.

Hopefully, our new way of life, whatever that will look like, will be something better than our present meerkat-like circumstances.

# Forum



GUEST OP-ED

## Social justice and equality

We, the gathered Alliance of Jewish, Christian and Muslim religious leaders, in conjunction with the Chelsea City Manager, the Superintendent of Chelsea Public Schools, the Chelsea Black Community, the Chelsea Chief of Police and other leaders, in the first week of June in 2020, are moved to unity by the current national climate in the wake of the senseless killing of George Floyd, an unarmed black man, Breonna Taylor, Ahmaud Arbery, and so many others in this nation. This horrific tragedy, in the midst of the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic, has laid bare the inequities and injustices long-endured for generations in our nation by black and brown people and their families.

All of our Holy Scriptures (the Torah, the Holy Bible, and the Quran,) call us to love one another without regard to race, color, background, and age. Therefore, we make the following statement together in solemn unity with our Creator for justice and mercy for everyone:

WE RECOGNIZE that one beauty of Chelsea is our differences and how we

co-exist together to create our Beloved Community. Let us rise to the occasion and be a model where we honor and love each other. A part of that love is to say to our black brothers and sisters and people of color, we stand with you in unity. We are one.

WE ACKNOWLEDGE the systemic nature of racism, poverty, social and economic injustices, endured primarily by those of color in our society, as well as those who fall victim to brutality or mistreatment of any kind. But, we also urge those who desperately seek change and transformation to do so by peaceful means.

WE SEE you, we love you, and we stand with you. As we have come together in the COVID-19 crisis, the great city that we are and have proven ourselves to be. The COVID-19 was a backdrop that brought us together as a City, and now we have another opportunity to use what we learned in the pandemic and apply it to this current national crisis.

WE COMMIT TO UPHOLD the rights, values, and respect of all members of the Beloved Community

to gather together, to speak up, and voice our pain and concerns in ways that may make some uncomfortable. Times of trial are often fiery, and real change only comes after great upheaval. But, we rely upon the Almighty to help us be instruments of this change in a peaceful and merciful way.

WE ARE THANKFUL for the City of Chelsea, where residents born and immigrated here have long stood as a shining example of tolerance and civility amidst much economic and racial diversity.

WE DEDICATE ourselves to continued understanding and sensitivity to racial dynamics in our nation and community, acknowledging the many biases we all are burdened with.

WE COMMIT, as a community of faith and civic leaders to find opportunities for self-reflection and a collective dialogue, to listen openly to one another even those who may not share our humanitarian views or values, but who seek reconciliation, by acting justly, loving mercy, and walking humbly with our G-d. OUR CALL TO ACTION is to gather, listen,

respond, grieve and mourn the needs of those who feel they are the voiceless in our city and create a plan of action. Only by doing this can we become a country with voices of peace, actors of mercy, and administrators of justice.

IN CONCLUSION, WE PRAY for a continued strengthening of the bonds of fellowship for the whole of the City. We pray that in this era of discord that we may be instruments of our Creator in the process of change and healing for our City and nation in these times. AMEN!

*(Declaration of Faith & Unity by the Chelsea Interfaith Alliance and Chelsea City Leaders for Social Justice and Equality. As delivered to the Chelsea City Council on June 15, 2020 at City Hall by Rev. Sandra Whitley, Father James Sheridan, Kourou Pich, Paul Nowicki, Pastor Eliot Penn, Father Hilario Saenez, Roseann Bongiovanni, School Committee Chair Kelly Garcia, Joe Mahoney, Molly Baldwin, Pastor Ricardo Valle, Joan Cromwell and Supt. Almi Abeyta.)*

## LETTER to the Editor

### GATEWAY CITY SCHOOL DISTRICTS NEED TO BE PROPERLY FUNDED

**Dear Editor:**  
*(The following letter was sent to Gov. Charlie Baker and his administration and signed by more than 100 elected officials, including those listed below from Chelsea, Everett and Revere)*

Last year, educational equity in Massachusetts received its biggest win in decades with the passage of the Student Opportunity Act (SOA). Our 26 Gateway Cities have been severely underfunded for years, to the tune of several billions of dollars, and one of the main reasons for passing the SOA was to right this wrong. This year, our Gateway Cities were due to receive a desperately-needed additional \$217.5 million, more than 70% of the new aid, but due to the \$4-7 billion revenue shortfall we expect due to the COVID-19 pandemic, that funding is now at risk. Unless we take drastic action, the promises our Legislature made to our children in the Education Reform Act of 1993 and reaffirmed in the Student Opportunity Act will remain unfulfilled once again. We therefore call on our Leg-

islature to ensure that our Gateway City school districts are properly funded for the FY21 budget cycle.

Our cities had already been experiencing public health crises prior to COVID-19. Out of the top 15 cities with the highest rates of asthma in Massachusetts, 14 are Gateway Cities. COVID-19 has exacerbated these vulnerabilities. Eight of the ten cities with the highest COVID-19 infection rates are Gateway Cities. Twenty of the twenty-six Gateway Cities have infection rates higher than the state average. Many of our adult residents, up to 80% in some of our cities, are essential workers. Our people care for the sick, clean healthcare facilities, stock shelves at grocery stores, and run our transportation system. To keep our economy running, they put themselves and their households at risk, including their school-age children, who have been trying to keep up with their learning in the midst of a pandemic.

Virtual learning made it more challenging for students to progress through their school year. Many of our students don’t have quiet places to study at home. Some families have limited internet access. Some children have Individualized Education Plans that their schools haven’t been able to follow. And for a number of reasons outside of

their control, which include grueling work schedules, language barriers, and lack of familiarity with technology, many parents and guardians have not been able to adequately support their children’s education. Experts expect opportunity gaps to only worsen, and so we worry about the disproportionate impact this will have on our students, especially as we consider not only what has already occurred, but what is yet to come in FY21 and FY22.

Even before COVID-19, our communities needed funding for additional wraparound services and mental health supports, which is part of why the SOA was passed in the first place. Our students, compared with those in more affluent communities, face much higher rates of trauma due to poverty and immigration, and due to tragic events like the Merrimack Valley gas explosions. Researchers have long known that spending a childhood in deep poverty is a type of prolonged, toxic stress that affects children’s brains the same way, or worse, than acute trauma. Furthermore, many of our students live in fear that their loved ones will be deported, live with trauma memories of their dangerous journey to the United States, or suffer from the effects of intergenerational trauma from their parents’ and grandparents’

hardships.

But now, in addition, the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education is putting all responsibility for the purchase of personal protective equipment (PPE) and other required supplies on districts, rather than using the state’s purchasing power to support them. Transportation costs will likely skyrocket in order to ensure safe distancing between students on school buses. School mental health providers will undoubtedly be even more overworked next year than ever before. While there may be additional federal funds coming, it is unlikely they will be enough to cover additional costs related to COVID-19. Our school districts cannot be expected to do extra work next year with even fewer resources than before.

Therefore, we the undersigned Gateway City officials and allies call for the prioritization of Chapter 70 funding to Gateway City school districts in the FY21 budget. The Student Opportunity Act requires that the new funding be phased in over seven years “in an equitable and consistent manner.” This pandemic will hurt all districts, but the pain must be distributed equitably, not equally. Wealthy districts, especially those with low

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GUEST OP-ED

Commitment for change

By Suffolk County  
Law Enforcement Executive

On Thursday, June 18th at the invitation of Suffolk County District Attorney Rachael Rollins, a group of law enforcement executives from Greater Boston met together at the Parkman House on Beacon Hill to begin what will be a series of ongoing, open, honest and in-depth dialogues. All of our discussions will focus on the extremely important societal issues facing the country today involving the intersection of race, ethnicity, justice, and equality with the 21st Century community policing philosophy in existence in Suffolk County and across the Commonwealth.

The assembled group of criminal justice leaders included DA Rachael Rollins, First Assistant DA Daniel Mulhern, the Colonel of the Massachusetts State Police Superintendent Chris Mason, MBTA Transit Police Chief Kenneth Green and Police Chiefs from Suffolk County including current Revere Police Chief James Guido, newly named Revere Police Chief David Callahan, Winthrop Police Chief Terry Delehanty, Winthrop Police Deputy Chief John Goodwin, Chelsea Police Captain David Batchelor and Chelsea Police Chief Brian Kyes. Boston Police Commissioner William Gross was committed at another event but has indicated that he will be involved in all future discussions moving forward.

In the midst of intense national instability and ongoing uncertainty due to a global pandemic, with a major impact in the communities of Suffolk Coun-

ty, compounded by the tragic public murder of George Floyd in Minneapolis as well as other recent tragedies across the country involving the police, the group agreed that there is much work to be done in order to prevent and ensure that these heartbreaking incidents never happen in our Commonwealth and for the greater community to be allowed to heal as well.

With this in mind, the specific purpose of the meeting was to initiate a comprehensive discussion aimed at creating innovative and constructive solutions to bridge gaps that may exist that prevent fulfilling the missions of both the police and prosecutors. We hope to move the dial in a positive direction in terms of promoting and enhancing trust and confidence and a renewed spirit of cooperation with every neighborhood within Suffolk County, and particularly those that come into contact most frequently with law enforcement. 2

The foundational topics of importance that were initially discussed included:

- \_building and improving positive community relations with the police;
  - \_practicing fair and impartial policing strategies;
  - \_ensuring applications of procedural justice in all interactions with members of the public;
  - \_ensuring racial and social justice as well as equality for all in the realms of the entire criminal justice system in Suffolk County.
- The consensus of the group was that only by engaging in difficult and uncomfortable dialogue on these topics and actively

listening to one another in order to voice collective concerns, fears, disappointments, and frustrations will the group be able to make a lasting and impactful difference in the road to reform.

The assembled leaders agreed that there is a significant and justified demand for profound, immediate and lasting change during this critical time in our history across the state and beyond. These changes must be in both policing and prosecutorial philosophies. It is this group's collective duty to rise to the occasion and work together in a committed and dedicated fashion to meet that challenge and work towards creating a model for the entire state and nation to replicate and build upon.

The time is now for leaders to lead and the Suffolk County Criminal Justice Leadership Group is prepared and committed to meet that challenge and provide a roadmap for healing and success.

**Chief Brian Kyes, Chelsea Police Department**  
**Commissioner William Gross, Boston Police Department**  
**Coronel Christopher Mason, Massachusetts State Police**  
**Chief Kenneth Green, MBTA Transit Police Department**  
**Chief James Guido, Revere Police Department (Ret.)**  
**Chief David Callahan, Revere Police Department**  
**Rachael Rollins, Suffolk County District Attorney**  
**Chief Terence Delehanty, Winthrop Police Department**

**Almudena G. Abeyta, Superintendent of Chelsea Public Schools**  
**Roy Avellaneda, Chelsea City Council**  
**Calvin Brown, Chelsea City Council**  
**Enio Lopez, Chelsea City Council**  
**Judith Garcia, Chelsea City Council**  
**Giovanni Recupero, Chelsea City Council**  
**Leo Robinson, Chelsea City Council**  
**Yamir Rodriguez, Chelsea City Council**  
**Melinda Vega Maldonado, Chelsea City Council**  
**Damali Vidot, Chelsea City Council**  
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**Jessica Giannino, Revere City Council**  
**Steven Morabito, Revere City Council**  
**Dianne K. Kelly, Superintendent of Revere Public Schools**  
**Gina Garro, President of Revere Teachers Union**  
**Matthew J. Costa, President of the Revere Administrators Association**

Mass Alliance endorses Vidot for state representative

Mass Alliance, a coalition of a wide range of political organizations dedicated to making Massachusetts more progressive, is proud to announce its endorsement of Damali Vidot, candidate for State Representative of the Massachusetts Second Suffolk District, covering all of Charlestown and most of Chelsea, Massachusetts.

“Leadership is doing what’s right for the people even when it’s not easy. To take on ExxonMobil for polluting the Mystic River, to hold the MBTA accountable to riders, or to organize against Eversource when they tried to build a dangerous high-voltage electrical substation next door took a lot of courage.” Jordan Berg Powers, Executive Director of Mass Alliance said. He continued, “That is the type of leadership we need in the State House. We are thankful she is stepping up once again because if we are going to make it through this crisis it’s with leadership that puts people first.”

Mass Alliance is a coalition of 28 political and advocacy groups that fight

for a more progressive Massachusetts. Its member organizations advocate for a wide variety of issues, including civic participation, civil rights, economic justice, education, environmental issues, healthcare, reproductive rights, immigrant rights and the rights of workers. Through their PAC, Mass Alliance, cultivates and empowers progressive leaders and assists them in ultimately winning their elections.

Damali Vidot is a mom, community advocate, and an At-Large City Councilor in Chelsea. Today she is running for the office of State Representative for the Massachusetts Second Suffolk District, which includes most of Chelsea and all of Charlestown. Damali is driven by a call to uplift and authentically represent the voices of her community, which are often excluded from life-altering political decisions.

Currently serving her third term as City Councilor, Damali made history by becoming the first woman to lead the City as Council President for two consecutive terms following her

role as Vice President in her first term. She has used her platform on the City Council to consistently center the most vulnerable residents by passing legislation to protect tenants and homeowners from being displaced out of her rapidly developing city; co-sponsoring and passing a wage theft ordinance; and, most recently, rallying nonprofit leaders, Chelsea government officials, medical professionals, to demand and obtain critical resources from Governor Baker in the peak of Chelsea’s fight against COVID-19.

Regarding the endorsement, Vidot expressed: “Thank you to Mass Alliance for this endorsement and your belief in me. I am honored and energized to receive the endorsement from Mass Alliance, which has been a consistent beacon for progressive policies in the Commonwealth. I’m ready to work together to bring transparent, community-driven change for the residents of the Second Suffolk District. Let’s get to work.”

Chelsea Public Library To Go PickUp Program beginning June 22

We look forward to helping get some books and movies into your hands soon!

We cannot offer any services nor allow the public inside the building at this time due to current state restrictions; we are not offering copier, computer or printing services, access to collections, archival research, or meeting spaces. Statewide delivery, including all inter-library loan and hold requests from other libraries, have not resumed at this point therefore, only requests from the Chelsea collection can be filled.

To Go PickUp Program

While the library continues to be closed to the public, we will be starting a To Go PickUp program beginning June 22nd, by appointment only.

Please call ahead to reserve a timeslot at (617) 466-4355, or by email at [colibrary@chelseama.gov](mailto:colibrary@chelseama.gov).

Reserved time slots are:

1. Monday-Wednesday from 10am-12pm and 2pm-4pm,
2. Thursday from 2pm-6pm.

Call for available appointment time slots.

You can request items via phone or email, or online. If you aren’t sure what you might like to request, let us know! We are happy to make suggestions! Have your library card ready when you call, email, or log in.

How to Pick Up Your Items

Your items will be checked out, bagged, and ready for you to pick up during your reserved time

slot. You must wear a face mask when picking up materials and maintain social distancing standards while waiting for your items outside.

Items will be ready at the Broadway entrance of the building but can be brought to the ADA accessible Marlboro st. entrance, the handicapped spots in front of the library, or to the 15-minute library business parking spots upon request. Please inform a staff member of this requirement when making your reservation.

All items must be returned in the book drops and will be quarantined for approximately 72 hours. Returned items will stay on your record until they are removed from quarantine but you will not be assessed fines or fees.

Letter / Continued from Page 1

rates of English Learners and economically disadvantaged students, may be experiencing some fiscal stress, but they can mitigate it by leveraging their large property tax bases. In FY18, these wealthier school districts spent almost \$1.3 billion on local school funding above what the law requires. Gateway Cities have no such cushion. If we believe in closing opportunity gaps, unless the Legislature is able to fully fund all districts, state funding must be focused on the most disadvantaged students, who are mostly located in our Gateway Cities. Wealthier communities will need to use their own resources to fund their required spending, so that we can ALL come out of this budgetary crisis having met our required obligations to our students. It cannot be the students in our poorest communities who continue to bear the burden that years of neglect from the state have put on them.

In order to accomplish the proper funding of Gateway City school districts, we will need a strong fiscal commitment from our Legislature and the Executive branch. We believe this can be accomplished through a combination of the recommendations

1. Tap into the \$3.48 billion “rainy day fund” to maintain the fiscal stability of the Commonwealth. If this isn’t a rainy day, nothing ever will be.

2. Increase taxes on capital gains, dividends, and interest to 8.95% so the wealthy will pay their fair share. This would raise \$1 billion per year.

3. Return the corporate tax rate to 9.5%, which

would raise \$500 million per year.

4. Close the tax loophole on GILTI (Global Intangible Low-Taxed Income) to prevent companies from offshoring their patents and trademarks in order to avoid taxes, which would raise over \$400 million per year.

5. Halt the implementation of the charitable deduction in 2021, preventing the rich from writing off their large donations, many of which go to well-endowed universities and other wealthy nonprofits. This would save the Commonwealth \$300 million. Now is not the time to implement new tax cuts for the wealthy.

6. Gradually decrease state contributions for communities that spend above 120% of required spending and also have rates of economically disadvantaged and English Learner students well below the state average. This includes gradually reducing the minimum state contribution from 17.5% of foundation for the wealthiest cities.

**Signatories:**  
**Roberto Jiménez-Rivera, Chelsea School Committee**  
**Shannon Johnson, Attleboro School Committee**  
**Rosemarie Carlisle, Chelsea School Committee**  
**Kelly Garcia, Chelsea School Committee**  
**Lucia Henriquez, Chelsea School Committee**  
**Marisol Santiago, Chelsea School Committee**  
**Jeannette Velez, Chelsea School Committee**  
**Henry Wilson, Chelsea School Committee**

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POLICE Briefs

By SETH DANIEL AND PAUL KOOLLOIAN

CHELSEA MAN PLEADS GUILTY AND SENTENCED FOR BANK ROBBERY

A Chelsea man pleaded guilty and was sentenced on Friday, June 19, for the September 2019 robbery of a branch of TD Bank in Chelsea.

Edward Robert Rezendes, 66, pleaded guilty to one count of bank robbery. After accepting Rezendes’s guilty plea, U.S. District Court Judge Nathaniel M. Gorton sentenced Rezendes to time served (approximately 10 months in prison) and three years of supervised release. Rezendes, who was on probation for an unrelated bank robbery at the time the offense, had been

indicted by a federal grand jury in November 2019.

On Sept. 10, 2019, Rezendes entered the TD Bank branch in Chelsea and wrote a demand note on the back of a deposit slip. He then presented the note to a bank teller, who removed approximately \$3,670 in cash from her drawer, placed the money in a clear plastic bag, and handed the currency to Rezendes, who exited the bank and boarded an MBTA bus. Rezendes was located and apprehended shortly thereafter, and found in possession of the plastic bag containing the stolen currency, a GPS tracking device which had been embedded in the stolen currency, and the demand note, which had also been handed back to the defendant.

CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

JUNE 2020 TEMPORARY RAMP CLOSURE - REMINDER

On Friday, June 26, at 7 a.m. MassDOT will temporarily close the Carter Street off-ramp from Route 1 southbound. The ramp closure will allow ongoing repair and rehabilitation of the off-ramp. The mainline

of Route 1 where it passes over the Chelsea Viaduct will not be impacted and two lanes will remain available in both directions. The ramp will reopen on Sunday, June 28 at 10 p.m.

WORK HOURS

- Work will be from 7 a.m. to 10 p.m. each day of the closure.
- Once closed on Friday, the ramp will remain closed

until Sunday even when work is not progressing.

CARTER STREET RAMP TRAFFIC IMPACTS

•The Carter Street off-ramp will be temporarily closed, and traffic detoured to the Route 16 West exit towards Everett. Motorists will then take Revere Beach Parkway to Everett Avenue.



From left: Reading lumber employee Adam Duquette, School Committee Vice Chairman Judith Dymont, Superintendent David DiBarri, and maintenance employee Andy Sheppard. (Courtesy Photo Northeast Metro Tech)

Supporting local businesses Northeast Metro receives delivery from Reading Lumber

Superintendent David DiBarri is pleased to share that Northeast Metro Tech received a delivery from Reading Lumber as part of an initiative at the school to support local, small businesses amid the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.

“As we continue to purchase necessary supplies for the operation of our school --especially as we begin to prepare for the coming school year -- we realized we had a great opportunity to consciously support local, small businesses when making our orders,” Superintendent DiBarri said. “We know that small businesses in particular have been hit hard by the COVID-19 public health crisis, and its our hope by filling our orders and purchasing supplies locally we can help support

our neighbors during this challenging time.”

Reading Lumber delivered landscaping materials and equipment to Northeast Metro Tech at noon today, and were met by Superintendent DiBarri, School Committee Vice Chairman Judith Dymont and maintenance staff.

“We’re thrilled to be working directly with small businesses, especially knowing the impact COVID-19 is having on our economy,” Dymont said. “It’s important for communities to support one another, especially amid the ongoing public health crisis. It’s also a great example for students of positive community partnerships.”

In the past the school has often purchased similar supplies from larger distrib-

utors.

“It’s a great opportunity for us to work with the tech and get our name out with the students, who are just starting out in the trade, and get them to realize the value of small business,” said Chuck Strout, a manager at Reading Lumber. “Especially as they’re going to be starting their own, most likely. I think it’s great.”

Northeast Metro Tech is also working with Moynihan Lumber of North Reading to purchase supplies, and contacted local Chambers of Commerce, Rotary Clubs, Mayors and Town Managers from the school’s sending districts this May in an effort to collaborate with local communities to support small business.

Diners /Continued from Page 1

ers – the police, the firefighters, the doctors, the nurses - who did a marvelous job to keep us going through this awful pandemic,” said Matrinko. “Second, ‘thank you’ to all my patrons that kept me going through these very difficult times and I welcome them all back now – please come on down.”

Mike said his restaurant is operating at 50 percent seating capacity.

“All tables have to be at least six feet part,” explained Mike. “We have gone back to all paper and disposable products: the menu, paper plates, utensils. The only glass that we carry here is for the martini – I can’t embarrass the martini in a paper cup.”

Mike noted there is one new rule that he has implemented at his restaurant.

“Because of the limited seating, we cap things off at one hour and 15 minutes to two hours for one table so others can enjoy the Brown Jug,” he said.

Patrons, many of the regulars, came out to support Mike and Cheryl Matrinko on The Jug’s first day of indoor dining.

“We got a great response today (Monday),” related Mike. “People were anxious to come back and enjoy our pizza, which is always phenomenal.”

Mike said The Jug has introduced a new selection of summer drinks including the “Heatstroke” that consists of Ghost Tequila, muddled with cucumber, lime juice and jalapeno.

“One of our favorites is the ‘Tito’s Vodka Midsummer Mule’ and another is ‘The Mojito,’ that is made

with fresh mint from the garden outside in our patio,” said Mike.

But where was The Brown Jug’s personable goodwill ambassador, Cheryl Visconti Matrinko – an amazing supporter since the beginning of great Chelsea events such as the Chamber of Commerce Halloween-themed Pot -O-Gold Dinner (She and Mike are in the running for the Best Costume Award every year) and the Joseph Vinard-led Taste of Chelsea fundraiser to benefit HarborCOV - for the interview session?

“Cheryl was making the calzones and she just left,” reported Mike.

The Brown Jug’s hours remain 11 a.m. to 11 p.m. for the restaurant, with a 1 a.m. closing for the lounge.

Eating Out /Continued from Page 1

restaurant that would want to use it. There are also plans to block parking in Chelsea Square on Broadway for several hundred yards adjacent to the business storefronts.

Closures would also be on Division Street from 4th Street to Hawthorne, mostly to accommodate Tu Casa Restaurant. There would also be a closure of Cherry Street from Washington Avenue to 5th Street.

The dining closures would take place from 5 – 9 p.m. Monday to Thursday, and from 5-10 p.m. Friday to Saturday. They would not be open on Sunday. Police have committed to doing regular patrols and closely monitoring the areas during their operations, avoiding the need for a costly police detail. Alcohol would be served if restaurants have an existing liquor license, but City Solicitor Cheryl Fisher Watson said patrons must also have food to be able to have alcohol.

“You can’t just sit down and have a beer,” she said.

She also said operators are under strict scrutiny and the state has warned any bad behavior will result in the impounding of their liquor license.

“I want to support our restaurants,” said Council President Roy Avellaneda. “In advance of this, I went to the North End last weekend to see how they han-



Carlos Acosta of ROCA works on breaking down a pallet, while ROCA Crew Supervisor Brandon Brennan helps gather supplies.

dled it. They were ahead of Chelsea on this. They didn’t do a part of Hanover Street, they did all of Hanover Street for outdoor dining and that’s a place with no parking...We need to give our businesses as much support as possible. I have faith in our administration and our Licensing Board to carry it out and be done well and well-monitored.”

The nitty-gritty of building such a grand experiment has fallen on the City in a collaboration with ROCA and other organizations.

Mimi Graney of Chelsea Prospers said they have a plan to transform 200 regular pallets into boundaries for parklets and another 30 pallets that would become 15 planters.

All week last week and this week crews from ROCA and other volunteers

have been hard at work in the PORT Park extension building the pallets into useful barriers. Louis Gonzalez, a grad student from MassArt, has been hired by the City as a contractor this summer to assist the businesses in setting up their outdoor dining – mostly in the downtown area. However, Ambrosino said the program is open to any restaurant in any part of the city that can identify sidewalk space or a parking spot in front of their establishment.

He said the pallet program came out of a run of outdoor dining supplies.

“It’s kind of like masks at the beginning of the pandemic,” he said. “Every City and every restaurant in America is looking to buy these outdoor supplies and so there are none available. We’re trying to do our best in building our own and I think it’s going pretty well.”

Graney said she is particularly interested to see how the parklet on Division Street behind Tu Casa turns out. She said they concentrated a lot of effort on the forgotten street last summer, painting murals and trying to make it a pleasant walking place. She said with outdoor seating, colorful murals, good food and drinks, that area could be an “oasis.”

The effort starts in full this weekend.

Statue /Continued from Page 1

said he felt that the Council needed to slow down the effort, and he advocated for Recupero’s conference to discuss it.

“It’s been there 70 years so I wonder if we have any obligation to find out any history about it and who put it up,” he said. “I don’t know the history of it. I think we’re moving too fast...I see no problem in the order, but I do see you still have some obligation to the public to have a discussion. We have conferences about almost anything if it’s controversial and I think this is controversial.”

Councillor Damali Vidot said if the Council is going to fight structural racism, this is the move to make.

“We’re talking out of both sides of our mouths if we’re talking about fighting structural racism and then we don’t want to do this to fight it,” she said. “But I’m in favor of dialog all the time.”

Said Zabot, “Dialog is always important, but it is also important to stand up always for what we believe in.”

Councillor Todd Taylor said it is important to talk with the community about this, hear all points of view and then make a decision.



The Christopher Columbus statue in Chelsea Square.

He said the place to make the decision is not quickly during a remote Council meeting.

“This is a decision that needs to be made by the community in a discussion,” he said. “If the community wants it taken down, take it down. Being a trained historian and un-

derstanding how history is taught in American universities, there should be a dialog before we take this action. It’s only fair we talk about these things before we do them.”


The consensus of the Council was to move it to a Subcommittee on Conference, which has yet to be scheduled. There, the Council and members of the community can look carefully at the issue.

The statue has gone barely noticed for probably the last 20 years or more since the Knights of Columbus folded in Chelsea. There is no Columbus Day celebration in Chelsea for years, and the statue is obscured to a great degree from the street by large trees.

Some didn’t even know the statue existed until the recent debate.

According to the base of the statue, its sponsors were Armando Diaz Society, the Chelsea Council #83 Knights of Columbus, Sons of Italy Chelsea Lodges #1460, Chelsea Ladies Lodge #1772, Chelsea Girls Junior #80, Victorian Junior #81, the S. Arcangelo Trimonte Society, the S. Stefano Medio Society, Societa Regina Degli Angioli, and the Ward 5 Precinct 2 Club.

their children...They are also concerned about the new public charge laws too. They have a lot of concerns, and this decision was just a temporary relief.”




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## LOCAL STUDENT EARN ACADEMIC HONORS

### BARNES GRADUATES FROM HAMILTON COLLEGE

Katherine Barnes, of Chelsea (02150), received a bachelor of arts degree from Hamilton College on Sunday, May 24, in a virtual Commencement ceremony concluding the college’s 208th year.

In his remarks, Hamilton College President Wipman said, “For over two centuries, the College has flourished and grown, finding its way past wars and conflicts, depressions and recessions, epidemics and pandemics. In every generation there have been defining moments.

“We may not get to choose our defining moments, but we do get to choose how we respond. Adversity brings with it disappointment, anxiety, and loss. But it also brings opportunity, to learn, to grow, to find one’s own inner strength. We don’t get to choose these defining moments. They choose us.”

A women’s and gender studies major at Hamilton, Barnes graduated with departmental honors in women’s and gender studies and now joins an alumni body of more than 23,600, many of whom have made important contributions to business, the professions, government, and the arts.

Originally founded in 1793 as the Hamilton-Oneida Academy, Hamilton College offers an open curriculum that gives students the freedom to shape their own liberal arts education within a research- and writing-intensive framework. Hamilton enrolls 1,850 students from 49 states and 49 countries. Additional information about the college can be found at [www.hamilton.edu](http://www.hamilton.edu).

### ENDICOTT COLLEGE ANNOUNCES DEAN’S LIST

Endicott College, the first college in the U.S. to require internships of its students, is pleased to announce its Spring 2020 Dean’s List students that included Chelsea resident Gerson Yanes Benitez, Business. In order to qualify for the Dean’s List, a student must obtain a minimum grade point average of 3.5, receive no letter grade below “C,” have no withdrawal grades, and be enrolled in a minimum of 12 credits for the semester.

About Endicott College

Endicott College offers doctorate, master’s, bachelor’s, and associate degree programs at its campus on the scenic coast of Beverly, Mass., with additional sites in Boston, online, and at U.S. and international locations. Endicott remains true to its founding principle of integrating professional and liberal arts education with internship opportunities across disciplines. For more, visit [endicott.edu](http://endicott.edu).

### LOCAL RESIDENT EARNS DEGREE FROM CONNECTICUT COLLEGE

Jonathan Daniel Gomez-Pereira of Chelsea, was awarded Bachelor of Arts degrees in Botany and

Anthropology from Connecticut College on May 29.

The 427 members of Connecticut College’s Class of 2020 were celebrated during a special live event on Sunday, May 17, the day seniors were originally scheduled to participate in their in-person Commencement. The College’s 102nd Commencement is now scheduled for Sunday, May 30, 2021.

The live event featured remarks by President Katherine Bergeron and special guests, along with videos featuring clips and memories from class seniors and congratulatory messages from faculty and staff. During the live event, Patrick Awuah, founding president of Ashesi University, Connecticut College’s partner college in Bereku-so, Ghana, shared a poem, “Trough,” by Judy Brown. He will serve as the keynote speaker for the class at their official Commencement in 2021, alongside class speaker Viridiana Villalva Salas ‘20, a Posse scholar and English major pursuing a teaching certificate in secondary education.

Founded in 1911, Connecticut College is a highly selective private liberal college located on a 750-acre arboretum campus overlooking Long Island Sound and the Thames River. Our innovative educational approach, Connections, integrates everything our 1,800 students experience here—classes, majors, study abroad, internships, residence hall and campus life—so they learn how to look at problems from multiple angles and find value in differing points of view. Our mission is to educate students to put the liberal arts into action as citizens in a global society. For more information, see [www.conncoll.edu](http://www.conncoll.edu) or find us on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and LinkedIn.

### LOCAL STUDENTS ON DEAN’S LIST AT DENISON UNIVERSITY

The following students, Gitu Degefa, 2023 and Stefanie Rodrigues, 2022 were among 714 students named to Denison University’s 2020 spring semester dean’s list by Provost Kim Coplin. “Denison students thrive as they learn new modes of thought and are challenged to see the world in complex ways by faculty who share their own personal enthusiasm for research and scholarship,” says Coplin. Students who achieve dean’s list status have maintained a grade point average of 3.7 or better (out of 4.0) for the semester.

Built on a foundation of academic breadth, depth, and rigor and lasting relationships, Denison University unlocks the potential of our students to be architects of their own lives. We create pathways for our students to quickly make friends and find mentors. We help them figure out what kind of lives they want to lead, and we help them develop the skills, values, habits, networks, and experiences to launch into professions so they can build those lives. As Denison continues to build upon its strengths, our focus is on deepening mentorship; expanding the liberal arts curriculum; reinventing the career exploration process;

and leveraging our close proximity to Columbus, one of the nation’s best cities for the arts, internships, and entrepreneurship.

### LOCAL RESIDENTS MAKE DEAN’S LIST AT WENTWORTH INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

The following local resident has made the Dean’s List at Wentworth Institute of Technology for the spring 2020 semester.

\* Ilesha Tejeda of Chelsea

Founded in 1904, Wentworth Institute of Technology stresses project-based, hands-on learning, with an emphasis on cooperative education and careers, community enrichment, and contributing to the economic vitality of the Greater Boston region. The nationally ranked school is recognized as a leader in engineering, technology, design and science.

Wentworth has some 19 bachelor’s degree programs in areas such as architecture; construction management; mechanical, biomedical and civil engineering; and computer science. It offers master’s degrees in in applied computer science, architecture, civil engineering, construction management, facility management, and technology management.

### CAROLINA RAMIREZ NAMED TO THE CURRY COLLEGE SPRING 2020 DEAN’S LIST

Curry College is proud to announce that Carolina Ramirez of Chelsea has been named to the Dean’s List for the Spring 2020 semester. Ramirez majoring in Psychology, is among the roughly 1,000 students that have received the distinction, a marker of academic excellence and high achievement.

To earn a place on the list, full-time undergraduate students - those who carry 12 or more graded credits per semester - must earn a 3.3 grade-point-average (GPA) or higher.

Founded in 1879, Curry College is a private, four-year, liberal arts-based institution located on 131 acres in Milton, Mass. Curry extends its educational programs to a continuing education branch campus in Plymouth, Mass. Curry offers 28 undergraduate majors, as well as graduate degrees in business, accounting, education, criminal justice, and nursing, with a combined enrollment of over 3,700 students. The student body consists of approximately 2,000 traditional undergraduate students, and 1,700 continuing education and graduate students. Approximately 1,575 of its students reside on the Curry campus. The largest majors are business management, communication, nursing, criminal justice, and education, and the college is also internationally known for its Program for the Advancement of Learning (PAL). The College offers a wide array of extra-curricular activities ranging from 15 NCAA Division III athletic teams to an outstanding theatre program. Visit us on the web at [www.curry.edu](http://www.curry.edu).

## Councilor Vidot centers community voices, advocates for students in municipal budget process

At-Large Chelsea City Councilor Damali Vidot has spent the last week engaging in the City of Chelsea’s budget process, which involves providing final approval over the Chelsea Public Schools (CPS) budget. Over the past two weeks there have been 3 budget hearings with one additional hearing scheduled for Thursday, June 24.

“Budgets are moral documents that reflect what we value for our city and our society,” said Vidot. “It would be nice to foster an environment where the people are more involved in this process. What is most important to us?” As the conversation across the United States has shifted to evaluating the budgets of law enforcement departments, Councilor Vidot believes we need to better understand the needs of our community members to prioritize the services that would best serve those needs. “We need to re-imagine what public safety looks like. What would it look like if we offered more mental health supports for people in need? What if licensed social workers could be part of our first response team, especially

for nonviolent situations? They could help manage the urgent situation the person is facing, and then connect them to the resources that will help them get back on track.”

Councilor Vidot’s leadership has always been centered on standing up for what is right and building the coalitions within and beyond her community that are required to affect change. “We must build our collective power based on shared values. As an advocate for affordable housing, I worked with councilors in Boston, Somerville, Cambridge, and other cities. The issues that face Charlestown and Chelsea don’t end at our cities’ borders, so there are always opportunities to work across communities to solve our interconnected problems.”

As part of this community work, on Tuesday Councilor Vidot joined over 120 elected officials, superintendents, educator union presidents, and other advocates in asking the Legislature to fully fund state aid to school districts across Massachusetts. The signatories largely represent the cities that have been hardest hit

by the COVID-19 pandemic, whose schools have also been severely underfunded for years. “Public schools in Boston and Chelsea have been struggling for years due to deep underfunding. When we don’t fully fund our schools, students can’t grow into the leaders we know they can be.” The letter goes on to propose how the state could raise revenues to fund our schools even during this pandemic. “Multi-millionaires and corporations should pay their fair share so that every student in Boston and Chelsea can have an enriching education. We should use our “rainy day fund” to invest in our students.”

“It’s time for us to re-imagine what our future will look like. We have to invest in our schools because our kids are the future of our cities. Our city budgets allow us to make sure that we prioritize the resources that will help our constituents most. Residents want and deserve affordable housing, reliable transportation, and a healthy environment. Those should be our priorities.”

## Real Estate Transfers

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The Chelsea Record assumes no financial responsibility for typographical errors in advertisements, but will reprint that part of the advertisement in which the error occurs. Advertisers will please notify the management immediately of any errors that may occur.



EARLY LEARNING CENTER STUDENTS CELEBRATE A SOCIAL DISTANCED MOVING ON

Students from Mrs. Faiella & Miss Maria’s class at the Early Learning Center (ELC) celebrated a social distanced moving on to Kindergarten on June 20 and participated in a virtual field day. Miss Maria & Mrs. Faiella are so proud of the children in Room 318.



Ashley Lema was happy to be a graduate of the ELC.



Victoria Nunez was all smiles under her mask with her certificate.



Jade Gennis was excited for her graduation.



Isabella Mencias Urtecho showed off her certificate.



Lillyanna Godoy shows off her graduation certificate and is ready for kindergarten in the fall.

Floramo’s is back in full stride

By Cary Shuman

There wouldn’t be an Everett Avenue without Floramo’s Restaurant welcoming patrons from not only Chelsea but area communities as well.

Floramo’s was back in full mode Monday as Gov. Charlie Baker allowed restaurants to begin offering indoor seating after a lengthy hiatus due to the coronavirus.

Like many area restaurants, Floramo’s had takeout and curbside pickup and delivery during the past few months. Floramo’s also erected a large tent for outdoor dining tables that will remain available for customers.

Kerry Floramo, restaurant manager and wife of Floramo’s owner John Floramo, said she was excited to see so many customers enjoying their meals in the dining rooms.

“We have 50 percent capacity indoors and 12 tables outdoors and we still offer takeout service,”

said Kerry. “We are very excited. We’ve been waiting for a long time.”

Floramo’s had originally not offered takeout service. But when they resumed

takeout service the past few months, “it took off like a bolt of lightning.”

As soon as outdoor dining was phased in, John Floramo brought in a large tent and several tables and customers have been enjoying outdoor dining in the summer weather. Keno is available for all customers.

The steak tips and ribs, the Chicken Fifth Avenue, the Veal Fifth Avenue, and the “parm dishes” remain as popular as ever at Floramo’s.

“We did streamline our menu a little bit, added some things, took some things off – we think it’s working a lot better, kept most of the favorites and we’ve been happy with the response so far,” said Kerri. “People can see the whole menu on floramos.net.”

Floramo’s has been in business in Chelsea for almost 40 years.

“We’re very excited to be back and we hope our clientele is happy, too,” said Theresa Robinson, sister of John Floramo.

“The response has been really good and positive so we’re very pleased and happy,” said Kerri Floramo. “It’s been a lot of work, but we’re happy to do it.”



The sign outside Floramo’s thanking customers for their support and welcoming them back for indoor dining at the popular restaurant.



Welcoming back patrons for indoor dining Monday at Floramo’s on Everett Avenue are, from left, Debbi McKinnon, Kerri Floramo, Lisa DeRosa, and Debbie Jenner.

Last day of schools comes quietly as students put away ChromeBooks

By Seth Daniel

Unless one was a kid with a ChromeBook, or a parent trying to remember how to teach division, few would have known that Monday was the last day of school in the Chelsea Public Schools.

Yet, it was, and thousands of remote learners – packed away their computers and power cords to focus on summer.

Supt. Almi Abeyta sent out a message to the community and staff on Tuesday expressing the intensity of the final leg of what started as a normal school year with her as the new superintendent.

“What a year it has been - a year that will go down

in history as one that our generation will never forget,” she wrote. “We have faced many challenges this year; however, through the challenges, we have grown stronger as a community. We are resilient and our response to the global pandemic that hit us in March demonstrates just how strong and tenacious we are as we close a school year that looked like no other. Through it all, our commitment to educating our students and supporting the well-being of one another stayed constant.”

It was only in April that the district transitioned instantly into a remote learning environment, mobilizing to provide more than 3,500 ChromeBooks

to students. Then teachers, administrators and staff pushed through online learning as the City grappled with being the hottest spot for COVID-19 infections in the state – perhaps on the whole East Coast. Persevering, Abeyta said they have learned new techniques that they will take into the future for good.

“We have learned a lot during this crisis, and we will not let it go to waste,” she said. “As a result, new opportunities have emerged such as engaging more families through the use of technology.”

In addition to teaching, the Chelsea Public Schools became one of the main sources for breakfast and

lunch to many students whose families were struggling to have enough food. The CPS served 312,704 meals over the last four months.

“I am so proud of what we have accomplished this year,” she wrote. “District-wide we continue to emphasize social emotional learning and support, increase our higher education partnerships, and expand access and opportunities for students at all grade levels. Finally, we can boast that the Class of 2020 includes 317 students, and our students have earned approximately \$4.7 million in scholarships and grants and will be attending 58 different colleges and trade schools.”

But most of all, Abeyta wrote that it was the community coming together that affected her the most. A newcomer to Chelsea who started full-time in January, she pretty much learned through trial by fire, but she said in the letter and many times before, that the community of Chelsea is the most special she has seen in her career.

“Lastly, when there is a challenge, the Chelsea community comes together to overcome it,” she said. “We find solutions to our problems and work together to meet the needs of our students and families.”

There is still no definite plan for resuming school in September, but the schools are working with the state leaders to figure out how that will come together. More news is expected throughout the summer, but most are being warned not to expect “regular” school in the fall.



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# Talent / Continued from Page 1

globe, but not too much,” he said. “We are one and that means the community coming together as one.”

Saldana, whose family is originally from Puerto Rico and the Dominican Republic, said he has been an artist “my whole life.”

“But I’ve been working more in public the last 2-3 years, displaying my art in galleries and things like that,” said Saldana.

Saldana’s artistic talents are known among his fellow employees at Thermo King, a world leader in transport temperature control systems for trucks, trailers, buses, and railcars. “I’ve done a few portraits for some of my co-workers,” he said.

Following his graduation from Chelsea High, Saldana attended trade school

where he learned mechanics. He continued to maintain a keen interest in art, a talent he first developed in the Chelsea schools.

Nelson and his wife, Yesenia Saldana, have three children, Aliyah Saldana, who just graduated from Northeast Regional High School, Ivan Saldana, 3, and Melody Saldana, 1. Nelson’s proud mother is Evelyn Rivera.

Asked about the wide attention he is receiving for his amazing artwork, Saldana shrugged off the hometown fame.

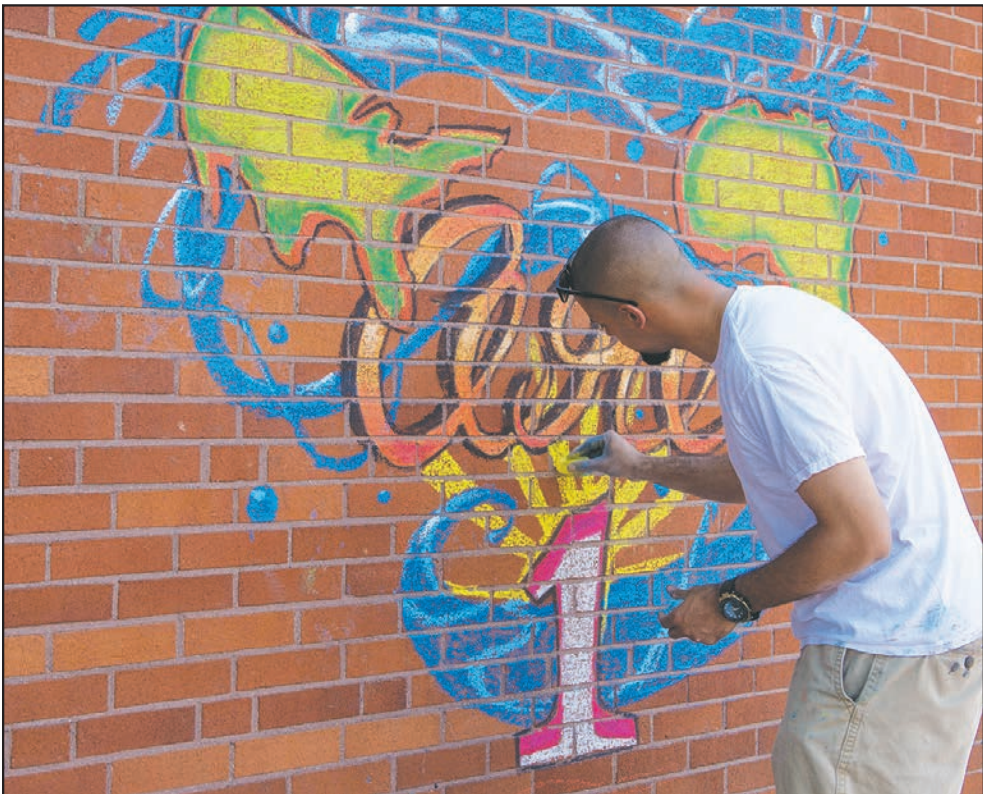
“I’m an all-around artist,” said Saldana. “I paint, I do murals, I do anything. My strength is my creativity. Hand me something to create with and I’ll make something with it.”

Mimi Graney said that

Saldana has a unique way of delivering an inspirational message through his work.

“I really love his style,” said Graney. “He’s a really sweet guy and I love that he’s bringing together a message in the art that he is doing. It’s not just a great design, but it is actually communicating something. This mural was a subtle way of communicating a racial justice message without being so explicit.”

Graney has already contacted Saldana about being a contributing artist for a major art project in Chelsea. Saldana will join eight other artists in the design and painting of tabletops and stools located adjacent to a major landmark in Chelsea Square later this summer.



Nelson Saldana completes his unifying “We Are 1” mural in Bellingham Square.



PHOTOS BY KATY ROGERS

Chelsea artist Nelson Saldana proudly applies his signature to his mural in Bellingham Square.



Proud of his outstanding work of art, Chelsea artist Nelson Saldana stands adjacently to his “We Are 1” mural at the TD Bank building in Bellingham Square.

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## NEWS FROM AROUND THE REGION

### DeMARIA CALLS RACISM A HEALTH CRISIS

EVERETT - On Tuesday, Mayor Carlo DeMaria made a declaration officially declaring racism a public health crisis in Everett - ensuring that racism and discrimination both remain intolerable.

That was bolstered by the announcement of a review of policies and practices at the Everett Police Department, and a list of action items that have been initiated immediately - including barring chokeholds, continuing more diverse hiring, and creating regional reforms to the Internal Affairs departments in area law enforcement departments.

“The City of Everett is culturally rich and abundantly diverse,” he said. “Racism or discrimination, in any form, will not be accepted nor tolerated. It is with this in mind that I find it imperative to declare racism a public health crisis in the City of Everett.”

Following President Barack Obama’s call to mayors to pursue policing reforms, Mayor DeMaria signed the Mayor’s Pledge issued by the Obama Foundation’s My Brother’s Keeper Alliance. The “Mayor’s Pledge” commits the City of Everett to the following:

- Review police use of force policies;
- Engage communities by including a diverse range of input, experiences, and stories;
- Report review findings to the community and seek feedback; and
- Reform police use of force policies.

The City of Everett Police Department’s policies and procedures strictly mirror and adhere to the guidelines set forth by the Massachusetts Police Accreditation Commission (MPAC). The MPAC is an organization responsible for the development, delivery, and enforcement of training standards of municipal police departments throughout Massachusetts.

The recommended use of force policies set forth by the “8 Can’t Wait” campaign has resulted in a cursory review of current policies to ensure that nothing was overlooked, said the mayor.

The following action items have been taken as of this week, he said.

#### •UPDATED USE OF FORCE AND DE-ESCALATION POLICIES

The City of Everett Police Department is actively updating the use of force and de-escalation policies, as well as the rules and regulations with a duty to intervene clause.

“As a result of our initial review of the current Everett Police Department policies, our Department will soon be equipped with a policy surrounding Biased Based Policing,” he said. “For years, the Everett Police Department has been trained to never initiate any police involvement with another person on the sole basis of race, gender, sexual orientation, age, or physical ability. Although it exists as a past-practice, such training has never been codified into a policy until now. This policy will be published and implemented within the next 10 days.”

#### •CHOKEHOLDS BARRED FOR SUBDUING PEOPLE

Police utilization of chokeholds, strangleholds, or other tactics in which an officer cuts off the oxygen supply of another person in order to subdue them has, rightfully, become a main focus in the national spotlight as it pertains to police departments’ use of force

policies. Chokeholds have never and will never be a method of restraint taught to the Everett Police Department, the mayor said.

In fact, chokehold training is explicitly barred in the State of Massachusetts, citing the inherent dangers which accompany that tactic.

“This is further reiterated to our Police force that, barring a situation in which an officer’s life is in imminent danger and deadly force has thus been authorized, a chokehold shall never be utilized on a person as a means to subdue them,” said the mayor.

#### •MAYOR CALLS FOR REGIONAL INTERNAL AFFAIRS REFORM

The Internal Affairs division of a Police Department refers to the enforcement arm within the department that investigates incidents and possible suspicions of law-breaking and professional misconduct attributed to officers on the force. This has been highly scrutinized based on current events.

Mayor DeMaria said on Tuesday he is seeking to form a Regional Internal Affairs Coalition to increase the transparency of police misconduct and the processes by which they are investigated. Mayor DeMaria said he will be calling upon local leaders to join him in forming this coalition to increase the impartiality of all Internal Affairs investigations. Additionally, the Everett Police Department have taken their own proactive measures in monitoring their internal affairs investigations. They are one of the few departments in Massachusetts that utilize the leading professional standards software, IA Pro and Blue Team, used by approximately 800 public safety agencies in five countries. The IA Pro and Blue Team software acts as an early warning system, helps frontline supervisory documentation, case management of internal affairs investigations, and overall organizational accountability.

“As the needs of society change, it is the responsibility of local leaders to implement changes,” said Mayor DeMaria. “My Administration will not be defunding our police department; rather, we will be re-equipping the force by adding more tools to their duty belts.”

#### •RENEWED COMMITMENT TO COMMUNITY POLICING

One of the greatest tools that a police department can use is their ability to use community policing to interact with residents and businesses alike, the mayor said. As part of their ongoing efforts in community policing, the City pointed to the fact that the Everett Police Department has engaged numerous organizations over the years in an effort to better serve their residents. These relationships, they said, have allowed the department to gain the trust of all Everett residents from the youth to the elderly population, and resulted in the creation of the Cops Corner at Everett High, the Junior Police Academy, and the 25 Days of Christmas tradition.

“The men and women of the Everett Police Department take their responsibilities seriously,” said Chief Steven Mazzie. “We have always valued our relationships with our residents and strive to provide our services in a fair and impartial way. Over the years we have found that transparency, communication, and mutual respect have helped de-escalate volatile situations and often led to positive outcomes.

We acknowledge that now is an important time to reinforce our dedication to getting the job done right while protecting those we serve and building a lasting trust,” he continued.

#### •COMMITMENT TO DIVERSE HIRING

It will remain the goal of the Everett Police Department, as it has been in over the past 10 years, the Chief said, to continue to hire police officers who are visually and culturally reflective of the community and its residents. The last class of police officers hired were predominantly of diverse backgrounds and ethnicities, speaking multiple languages. The Everett Police Department will continue to strive to recruit people of color so as to best represent our diverse community, said the Chief.

#### •MORE CITY FUNDING FOR MENTAL HEALTH

The City has committed to adding the necessary personnel to support police officers in the City of Everett. Mayor DeMaria said he will be reallocating Everett Police Department funds to hire mental health professionals, therapists, and additional personnel who will provide access to services needed by the City. This will be done in partnership and conjunction with local nonprofits and mental health providers. This collaboration will allow for a heightened ability of the Everett Police Department to achieve preventative results, rather than to respond with reactive measures.

### ZBA APPROVES PROJECT

EVERETT - The Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA) voted to approve plans for a 396-unit residential building at 65 Norman St. that came via one of the largest home builders in the nation - Lennar Development.

“Over the past few years the Village has become one of the hottest neighborhoods north of Boston,” Mayor Carlo DeMaria said. “We have created a recreational entertainment district, boating, biking, rock climbing, axe throwing, basketball, hockey soccer, along with Village Fest, Nightshift, Bone Up, Short Path Distillery, Village Bar and Grill, all having outdoor dining. Now we are transforming an old, industrial wasteland and creating a unique residential community, bringing hundreds of residents to take advantage of this unmatched area.”

Councilor Michael McLaughlin - who represents the area - had expressed concerns with the project at the Planning Board two weeks ago, calling for a neighborhood meeting. Local Attorney David O’Neil represented Lennar and helped to coordinate meeting with neighbors.

McLaughlin said on Monday all of his concerns and those from neighbors had been resolved, and questions about traffic impacts and construction mitigation were also addressed.

The new state of the art building will consist of 81 studios, 181 one-bedrooms, and 134 two-bedrooms and will also have amenities such as an outdoor pool area and Cyberdeck. There will also be 59 affordable units within the development to add to other affordable units being built in Everett including St. Theresa’s and the proposed veteran’s housing at Pope John.

The new development will replace the blighted and underutilized property, which held freight containers. In addition to the residential units, the development will also create open space where containers now exist, a pocket park

### DRIVE-IN MOVIE NIGHT



PHOTOS COURTESY MAYOR CARLO DEMARIA'S OFFICE/MICHELLE FENELON

**Two young people sit atop their family’s van on Friday night, June 12, to watch the City’s drive-in movie night showing of ‘ET: The Extra Terrestrial.’ The event was a hit with residents who were excited to be outside at RiverGreen Park and taking a break for the indoor COVID-19 restrictions.**

and a number of areas to sit.

Mayor DeMaria added, “This development will provide additional public access for Everett resident to our revitalized waterfront and Riverwalk. I am truly excited not only for this development but for all the future investment that I know will come following this pioneering project. I am so happy to see so much private investment in the area after we have opened up our waterfront.”

The goal is to transform the area into a vibrant, active neighborhood with recreational activities, outdoor restaurants, breweries and art galleries for current, new residents and the public.

### ARRIGO NAMES CALLAHAN AS NEW POLICE CHIEF

REVERE - Mayor Brian M. Arrigo named Lieutenant Dave Callahan as Revere’s new Chief of Police, effective July 1. Callahan, 51, replaces retiring interim Chief James Guido.

The move comes as law enforcement departments across the country confront the challenges to public safety posed by the coronavirus pandemic, civil unrest regarding racial injustice in America, and shifting attitudes about crime and the police officer’s role in the community.

“Dave Callahan is the type of talented and conscientious individual whose leadership qualities are imperative in a modern urban police department,” said Mayor Arrigo. “His commitment to fairness, his compassion for people, and his ingrained respect for our City especially qualify him to lead our Police Department as Revere continues to grow and diversify.”

Callahan, who joined the Revere Police in 1991 after two years as a patrol officer in Old Orchard Beach, Maine, cites his tenure on the Revere force and his deep-rooted familiarity with the city as key factors of his qualifications. “As police officers, it is imperative that we hold the highest standard and that we are known for our integrity,” he said. “My extensive experience in the field, supervisory roles, and collaborating with other law enforcement agencies has prepared me well to lead the police department. I look forward to work with the outstanding men and women who comprise the RPD.”

Callahan attained the rank of Lieutenant in the Revere Police Department in 2003. A popular figure among his department colleagues for his tireless work and motivational personality, Callahan advocates community policing as “an essential element of a successful municipality.”

“Every neighborhood,” he says, “deserves to be a place where people want to live and safely raise their families.”

Callahan served as Commander of the Drug Control Unit and also was assigned to the Criminal Investigation Unit from 2004 to 2012. “During that time, I cultivated a strong relationship with outside agencies such as the Massachusetts State Police and the Suffolk County District Attorney’s office. We worked together to build substantial cases.”

In particular, Callahan spearheaded a public corruption investigation of a fellow officer who ultimately was arrested by the FBI and charged with federal criminal violations. “This was an officer who betrayed the oath we have all taken. His criminal actions tarnished the honest and dedicated work of all law enforcement.”

Callahan also played a major role in shutting down a narcotics distribution enterprise operating out of the defunct Ocean Lodge Motel on Revere Beach Boulevard. More than 20 individuals were arrested. In addition, his investigative work led to the prosecution of four U.S. Postal workers who used their mail carrier routes to facilitate cocaine and marijuana distribution.

He was awarded the Massachusetts State Police Medal of Merit in 2012 for his action during the hazardous conditions that erupted into an eight-alarm fire after a fatal tractor-trailer rollover on Route 1 in Saugus. Callahan’s, off-duty at the time, was one of first people on the scene. He called for emergency assistance while assisting four injured motor vehicle passengers and then evacuated an elderly resident whose nearby home had become engulfed in flames.

Since 2012, Lieutenant Callahan has served as the Group Commander of the Night Patrol Division, overseeing 16 officers in addition to responding to calls.

Mayor Arrigo praised Callahan’s record of accomplishment and his appreciation for teamwork in law enforcement. “Lieutenant Callahan is active in community outreach and is well-acquainted with the most demanding issues that face our City. He has extensive contacts to the “Revere Cares” program administered by the Massachusetts General Hospital and has worked closely with the North Suffolk Mental Health Collaborative both as a police officer and as a volunteer. He understands the human side that underlies the complex issues that plague our community and modern society.”

Lieutenant Callahan holds a Bachelor of Science degree Law Enforcement and a Master of Science Degree in Criminal Justice, both from Western New England University. He has completed extensive supplementary training through the FBI-LEEDA program, including certifications from the Supervisor

Leadership Institute, the Command Institute for Law Enforcement Executives, and the Executive Leadership Institute. In 2012 he earned a certificate from the FBI National Police Academy. He also holds a certificate in Incident Response to Terrorist Bombings from New Mexico Tech.

Chief Callahan and his wife Rhonda have a daughter, Cadence. The son of Charles and Janet Callahan and his step-mother Judith Callahan, David was raised in Revere and attended the Lincoln School leading up to his graduation from Revere High School, Class of 1987. He is the grandson of the late Victor and Nellie Duca of Revere. He has two step-sisters, Lee Venezia and Lauren. Lieutenant Callahan’s brother Chuck is a sergeant in the Revere Police Department.

### PRIDE FLAG FLYING IN REVERE

REVERE - Mayor Brian Arrigo and City Councillor Steven Morabito were joined by City staff and City officials on June 12 to raise an intersectional rainbow flag in front of City Hall in honor of Pride Month. Rainbow colors will also light the Markey Memorial Pedestrian Bridge to show support for the LGBTQ+ community.

The motion to raise the flag was brought to the City Council by Councillor Steven Morabito and approved by Mayor Arrigo in March. The Unity Flag includes two additional black and brown stripes as well as colors of the Trans Flag, reflecting an intersectional approach to this year’s Pride.

“Publicly displaying the Pride Flag sends a clear and unequivocal message that Revere is a welcoming and inclusive place,” said Councillor Morabito. “A place where not just us in the LGBTQ+ community, but every person can live without fear of persecution, judgment or discrimination. Pride means the freedom to be who you are and not let anyone judge you for it. It means standing up and being heard. It means coming together and celebrating our individuality by showing how inclusive we are, especially as a community.”

“The past weeks have been a time for listening, introspection, and commitment to action as we work together as a city to address and overcome the injustices faced by marginalized communities,” Mayor Arrigo said. “I’m grateful to Councillor Morabito for his work to ensure this clear signal of the City’s opportunity for our LGBTQ+ community - especially during a time when we can’t participate in Pride Month’s traditional celebrations.”





Early in the state representative race, State Rep. Dan Ryan has announced important endorsements from elected officials. They include Attorney General Maura Healey, Boston City Councilor Lydia Edwards, and State Sen. Sal DiDomenico – all pictured here with State Rep. Dan Ryan.

## Rep. Ryan unveils early endorsements

As the school year comes to a close, and the first signs of summer are upon us, election season has also begun in earnest. State Representative Dan Ryan has announced early endorsements from elected officials he has worked closely with since assuming office. Attorney General Maura Healey, State Senator Sal DiDomenico and District 1 Boston City Councilor Lydia Edwards are among a trio of early supporters of Ryan in his re-election bid for the Second Suffolk District, which includes much of Chelsea and the Boston neighborhood of Charlestown. Ryan has held this seat since 2014, when an April special election put him into office the same year in which Maura Healey won her Attorney General seat in November.

“Maura Healey is not only the best Attorney General in the country, she is a terrific neighbor and friend,” said Ryan. “She is responsible for a statewide constituency, but I see her regularly in the local coffee shops, visiting families after a fire, or, best of all, when she is giving out candy on Halloween. As great of a record as she has as Attorney General, it is that local touch that makes Maura so special. I am honored to have her support.”

Attorney General Healey has excelled as the People’s Lawyer. She has taken significant action to get dangerous guns off the streets, took on big pharmaceuticals in the wake of the opioid crisis, and utilizes the power of her position to fight for the environment, worker and consumer rights.

“I’m proud to call Dan

Ryan my Representative and my friend,” said Attorney General Healey. “Dan is a true partner in the fight to take guns off our streets, help those struggling with addiction during the opioid epidemic, and is a champion for working families on Beacon Hill. Just as importantly, he knows the people of this community and is committed to the level of personal, constituent service that makes sure everyone in our district is represented well.”

Senator DiDomenico and Ryan met as aides to elected officials. They now use that experience to work collectively as elected colleagues.

“Sal is longtime friend and now a trusted colleague,” said Ryan. “He is a statewide leader when it comes to helping families on the margins of society. Whether it is lifting welfare caps, or early education funding and other issues that affect our most vulnerable, I always know that his path is the right one. I appreciate his friendship as much as his support. I know we will lean on each other as our state climbs out of this COVID crisis.”

Said Sen. DiDomenico, “Dan and I work well together. When it comes to issues facing Chelsea and Charlestown, I can always count on him to be on the same page. Same goes for legislation. When a bill needs a little push in our respective chambers, we work as a team. As a Representative, Dan knows how to get things done. As a colleague and a friend I’ll be in his corner. It gives me great pleasure to endorse him.”

Boston District One City Councilor Lydia Edwards

announced her endorsement of Ryan in an earlier in the process. This week makes it official.

“Lydia blazed on the scene while I was still getting my feet wet as a State Representative,” he said. “I admire her work. Lydia’s relentless pursuit of issues important to her district, and the Commonwealth, has made me a better State Representative. I truly appreciate her drive, our friendship and her support.”

Councilor Edwards in endorsing Ryan, said, “It’s Dan who I look to for the cohesive vision. It’s Dan that I listen to when navigating contentious issues. Dan is a bridge and is practical in his approach. Too many people have no clue how many hours he works in the State House, how many calls he takes personally, or who he sees on his walk to work. It’s a joy to be his city councilor. It’s an even greater honor to endorse him.”

Representative Dan Ryan is running for re-election to his fourth two-year term to the Second Suffolk District. Ryan served as Vice-Chair of Mental Health, Substance Use and Recovery, when he helped to lead sweeping changes to our health care delivery system and judicial system as they pertain to the issues of mental health and substance use with the passage of the Act for the Combating Addiction, Reducing Prescriptions, and Enhancing prevention (“The CARE Act”). Ryan has also received several Legislator of the Year awards for his work on veteran’s issues and programming for the developmentally disabled.

## Over 100 city leaders call on legislature to prioritize education spending

On Tuesday, June 23, a group of over 100 elected officials, superintendents, and community advocates sent a letter to state officials demanding the prioritization of education funding to Gateway City school districts in the FY21 budget amidst expected budget cuts due to COVID-19.

To make this possible, they recommend using the state’s \$3.48 billion “rainy day fund,” increasing taxes on the wealthy, closing tax loopholes for corporations, and reducing the amount of state funding that goes to the wealthiest, least-disadvantaged school districts, while fully funding Gateway Cities. The group includes officials from all 26 Gateway Cities.

Gateway Cities are midsize urban centers in Massachusetts with below-average income and education levels, and high rates of new immigrants. The 26 Gateway Cities are Attleboro, Barnstable, Brockton, Chelsea, Chicopee, Everett, Fall River, Fitchburg, Haverhill, Holyoke, Lawrence, Leominster, Lowell, Lynn, Malden, Methuen, New Bedford, Peabody, Pittsfield, Quincy, Revere, Salem, Springfield, Taunton, Westfield, and Worcester.

The Student Opportunity Act, signed into law last November, was expected to translate into an additional \$300M in education funding across Massachusetts this year. Passed to close funding gaps between wealthy and disadvantaged school districts, roughly 70% of the new funds would have gone to Gate-

way Cities under Governor Baker’s proposed budget. However, because of the \$4-7B revenue shortfall expected due to COVID-19, that funding is now at risk.

The signatories argue that Gateway Cities have long been underfunded and that COVID-19 has exacerbated existing vulnerabilities in these communities. Twenty of the twenty-six Gateway Cities have above-average infection rates and eight of the ten highest infection rates in Massachusetts are cities in this group, and their residents are also disproportionately essential workers. “Our people care for the sick, clean healthcare facilities, stock shelves at grocery stores, and run our transportation system,” the letter reads. “To keep our economy running, they put themselves and their households at risk, including their school-age children.” They also point out that their students have higher rates of trauma due to poverty and immigration, and the new funds were needed to expand mental health services and wraparound services, among many other initiatives.

Signatories also used the letter to express their disapproval of the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE)’s guidance that school districts purchase necessary personal protective equipment (PPE) for next year, rather than the state using its purchasing power to reduce those costs for districts. “Transportation costs will skyrocket due to safe distancing protocols for

students on school buses. Mental health providers will undoubtedly be even more overworked than ever before,” the letter also argues. “School districts cannot be expected to do extra work next year with even fewer resources than before.”

The text of the Student Opportunity Act states that new funding must be allocated “in an equitable and consistent manner,” which, the signatories argue, entails prioritizing already-disadvantaged Gateway Cities over wealthy districts. “This pandemic will hurt all districts, but the pain must be distributed equitably, not equally,” they argue. “Wealthy districts, especially those with low rates of English Learners and economically disadvantaged students, [...] can mitigate [the financial hit] by leveraging their large property tax bases. Gateway Cities have no such cushion.”

“Unless the Legislature is able to fully fund all districts, state funding must be focused on the most disadvantaged students. Wealthier communities would have to use more of their own resources to fund their required spending, but this way we can ALL meet our required obligations to our students,” it continues.

“It cannot be the students in our poorest communities who continue to bear the burden that years of neglect from the state have put on them.”

The full letter and an updated list of signatories can be found at <https://medium.com/p/2e8e6e1cfffad>.

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## Region / Continued from Page 8

### HUNDREDS TAKE PART IN MARCH

EAST BOSTON - On Saturday, hundreds of East Boston residents came together to peacefully protest the murder of George Floyd and support the national Black Lives Matter movement.

Organized by a group of Eastie residents with the support of the neighborhood’s elected officials the rally began at Bremen Street Park with speeches and a reflection of George Floyd’s death at the hands of a Minneapolis police officer.

“We wanted to hold space for our Black families in East Boston who are usually invisible and demand justice for all the innocent Black boys, girls, men and women who were killed by the police,” said organizer Abdi Mohamed Warsame Dirie. “Our aim was to urge everyone to start thinking about how to be anti-racist and confront the anti-Blackness deeply rooted into our society’s

fabric. We also wanted to highlight the intersectionality of our neighborhood and demand a systemic change in education, environmental, housing, healthcare, hiring discrimination, and immigration reform. We believe that Black Lives Matter movement is beyond holding the police and this racist system accountable. It is about demanding an economic investment in our communities so that we aren’t only surviving but also thriving.”

Before starting a march through Eastie’s streets City Councilor Lydia Edwards addressed the crowd.

“Today I’m looking at the most beautiful view..the view of all of you willing to sit and listen and heal and move,” said Edwards. “Protests are amazing. They are points of gathering, points of reflection but they are limited to what they can do. You have to do more. We all have to do more. I’m here today to talk about healing reflection and history. You need to call on us (elected officials) to push the policy to the table and

don’t stop calling us until it gets done. There will be a day that comes when you’ll be asked where you were when George Floyd was murdered. You will be asked by future generations about how you responded, I pray to God you say I was on the side of justice, I took to the street, and I pushed for new laws. I love this country and I’m blessed to represent East Boston but we have a long way to go. Indeed the arch of the moral universe is long but bent towards justice and together we can get there.”

After the rally Edwards added, “I’m proud of East Boston for stepping up and affirming that Black lives matter on Saturday. It was wonderful to see so many people come out and peacefully protest. It’s time for action and accountability beyond protests.”

Rep. Adrian Madaro who marched in the rally alongside Edwards commented after the event that it was a beautiful day to see Eastie affirm that Black Lives Matter.

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**CHELSEA, EVERETT, MALDEN, REVERE**



## OBITUARIES

### Harry Gerace, Sr.

Member of the 1st Marine Division Association and DAV.



Harry L. Gerace, Sr. of Bedford, formerly of Chelsea, passed away on June 14 at the Veterans Hospital in Bedford where he has been a resident receiving supportive care for the last 16 years.

Harry was born in Medford 87 years ago. He received his education in the Medford School System then matriculated to Middlesex Community College where he received an Associate Degree in Liberal Arts. He served three tours with the United States Marine Corps spanning the early 1950's to 1962. A member of the 1st Marine Division Association, he was also a member of the DAV. Prior to Bedford, he resided at the Chelsea Soldiers Home for over 15 years.

During his working years, he spent a total of 20 years working for the City of Medford, first with the Department of Public Works and then as a custodian for the Medford schools. After his employment in Medford, he worked for the New England Aquarium until his health forced him to leave.

He was the devoted husband of Ruth M. (McCarthy), beloved father of Fran-

cis X. Gerace and his wife, Martina of Winchendon, Harry L. Gerace, Jr. and his wife, Mercy of Revere, Brian K. Gerace and his wife, Donna of Attleboro, Helen A. Gerace of Amesbury, Joseph A. Gerace and his wife, Ute of Jacksonville, NC, Marion R. Jones and her husband, Anthony of Wakefield and the late John J. Gerace, brother of Jane H. Benduzek of Weymouth and is also lovingly survived by 13 grandchildren and six great grandchildren. Family and friends are kindly invited to attend a Funeral Mass to be celebrated in St. Michael the Archangel Chapel on the campus of the Chelsea Soldiers Home, 91 Crest Avenue, Chelsea on Monday, June 29 at 10:30 a.m. As a reminder, masks are required and social distancing maintained. Services will conclude with interment at the Massachusetts National Cemetery, Bourne. The family suggests that in lieu of flowers, memorial contributions in his name be made to the Edith Nourse Rogers Memorial Veterans Hospital, Patient Activity Fund, 200 Springs Road, Bedford, MA 01730.

To send a message of condolence to Harry's family, please visit [www.smith-funeralhomes.com](http://www.smith-funeralhomes.com)

### Mary DiNallo

Lifelong parishioner of St Stanislaus Church and late member of Chelsea Zonta Club

Mary M. (Galewski) DiNallo passed away suddenly on Monday, June 22 after a brief period of declining health.

Born, raised and a lifelong resident of Chelsea, she was one of nine children of the late Ignacy and Veronika (Kipa) Galewski. Mary attended local schools and graduated from Chelsea High School. She began working as a teller with the Morris Plan Bank in Chelsea and she also performed clerical work at various offices. She married Antonio P. "Tony" DiNallo in 1968 and was widowed in 1996 after sharing 38 years of marriage.

She has been residing at the Cohen-Florence-Levine Estates Assisted Living in Chelsea for the past three years. Mary was a lifelong parishioner of St. Stanislaus Church and a late member of Chelsea Zonta Club.

In addition to her husband and parents, Mary was also predeceased by seven siblings; Chester Galewski, Lottie Rowen, Jennie Carbone, Wanda Winn, Helen Sikora, Alfons Galewski and Francis Galewski. Mary is survived by her beloved sister, Alice B. Galewski of Lynn and is also survived by many loving nieces, nephews, grandnieces, grandnephews, great grandnieces, great grandnephews and



extended family members.

Friends and family visitation will be held from the Welsh Funeral Home, 718 Broadway, Chelsea on Monday, June 29 from 8 to 9:30 a.m. All attendees are required to wear face coverings, practice social distancing when greeting the family, pay their respects and exit the funeral home to allow other guests to enter. A private Funeral Mass for the immediate family only will follow at St. Stanislaus Church, 163 Chestnut St., Chelsea at 10 a.m. A full celebration of her life will be held and announced at a later date when family and friends can gather together. We continue to encourage family and friends who wish, to offer condolences at this time by means of the online guest book or to send a personalized sympathy card visit; [www.WelshFuneralHome.com](http://www.WelshFuneralHome.com) Should friends desire, contributions in Mary's memory should be directed to charity of their choice.

### Arlene Fothergill, Esq.

Attorney, CPA and College Professor

Arlene J. Fothergill, Esq. passed away on Saturday, June 20 at the Kaplan Family Hospice House in Danvers after a sudden cancer illness.

Born and raised in Chelsea, the beloved daughter of the late Herbert C. Sr. and Leona W. (Holland) Fothergill, Arlene attended St. Rose Parochial School K through 12 and graduated from St. Rose High School in 1966. She attended Bentley College, receiving her Bachelor of Science in 1976 and her Juris Doctor degree from Mass School of Law in 1994.

A resident of Woburn for the past 20 years and a former resident of Reading and Chelsea, she was a lawyer and a CPA. Arlene worked as a forensic accountant and practiced law from her Stoneham office for 20 years. She was also an accounting professor at Northeastern University in Boston and a board member and Past-President of the Stoneham Rotary Club.

Arlene is survived by her beloved husband of 33 years, Hubert M. "Bert" Garrity of Woburn, the forever devoted mother of John F. Ahern, Jr. and his wife, Kathryn of Malden, Shawn C. Garrity of Ossining, NY and Kelly A. Cahill and her husband, Thomas of Salem; cherished grandmother of Declan and Teagan Ahern, Bradford Garrity and The-



odore, Virginia and Reginald Cahill; dear sister of Herbert C. "Chuck" Fothergill Jr. and his wife, Tricia of Tewksbury, Robert Fothergill of Everett and his late wife, Patty. She is also survived by several nieces, nephews, grandnieces, grandnephews and extended family members.

Her Funeral Mass will be celebrated today, Thursday, June 25 in Our Lady of Grace Church, 59 Nichols St. Chelsea at 10 a.m. Family and friends are invited to gather at the church.

Arrangements were given to the care and direction of the Welsh Funeral Home, Chelsea. We encourage family and friends who wish to offer condolences at this time by means of the online guest book or to send a personalized sympathy card visit; [www.WelshFuneralHome.com](http://www.WelshFuneralHome.com) In lieu of flowers, should friends desire, contributions in Arlene's memory should be directed to the Dana Farber Cancer Institute, 450 Brookline Ave, Boston, MA 02215

### DPH offers summer safety tips

With the arrival of summer weather, and as COVID-19 related restrictions on daily activities begin to lift, the Massachusetts Department of Public Health (DPH) reminds residents of the recommended precautions to keep families, including young children, safe this summer.

#### Prevent Tick Bites

Ticks can make you sick when they bite you. They are most commonly found in grassy, brushy, or wooded areas. They only attach when you come into direct contact with them — they cannot jump or fly. Follow these steps if you live, work, or spend time in areas where ticks are present:

- Check yourself for ticks once a day — it's the single most important thing you can do.
- Use repellents that contain DEET on your exposed skin and those that contain permethrin on your clothes.
- When walking or hiking, stick to main pathways and the center of trails if you can. Brushing against tall grass and bushes will increase your exposure to ticks.
- Weather permitting, wear long-sleeved, light-colored shirts and long pants tucked into socks. This will help keep ticks away from your skin and make it easier to spot ticks on your clothing.

Because dogs and horses are particularly susceptible, talk to your veterinarian about the best ways to protect your animals from tick-borne disease.

#### Prevent Mosquito Bites

The 2019 mosquito season was an active season for Eastern Equine Encephalitis (EEE) in Massachusetts. This mosquito-borne illness appears generally in 2-3 year cycles, traditionally peaking during August.

While the risk for human infection of EEE or West Nile Virus won't happen until later this summer, people have an important role to play in protecting themselves from these illnesses which can be very serious. To prepare for mosquito season:

- Drain standing water in and around your house or yard to prevent mosquito breeding.
- Repair window and door screens to keep mosquitoes out of your home.
- Use a mosquito repellent with an EPA-registered ingredient according to the directions on the label.
- Wear clothing to reduce exposed skin when weather permits.

To learn more, watch this 3-minute video narrated by State Epidemiologist Dr. Catherine Brown about the mosquito-borne virus and how to protect yourself and your family. For more information about preventing mosquito and tickborne illness, visit [www.mass.gov/mosquitoesandticks](http://www.mass.gov/mosquitoesandticks).

Water and Pool Safety Drowning is a lead-

ing cause of death among young children, both nationally and in Massachusetts, with backyard pools posing the highest risk for children under the age of 5. To help prevent water-related injury and drowning:

- Children should be supervised in and around water at all times.
- Whenever infants and toddlers are in or around water, including the bathtub, an adult should be within an arm's length at all times providing "touch supervision."
- Completely separate the house and play area of the yard from the pool area with a fence. Consider automatic door locks or alarms to prevent access.
- Remove floats, balls, and other toys from the pool after use so that children are not tempted to reach for them. After the children are done swimming, secure the pool so they cannot get back in.
- Keep rescue equipment (such as a shepherd's hook or life preserver) and a phone by the pool.
- For children who cannot swim, use a U.S. Coast Guard-approved life jacket. Do not use toys such as "water wings" or "noodles" in place of life jackets. These are not designed to keep swimmers safe.

In public swimming areas:

- Be sure to practice social distancing from others before and after you swim and wear a cloth face covering or mask when you cannot maintain 6 feet of distance from others.

Select swimming sites that have lifeguards whenever possible, and swim only in designated swimming areas.

- Always swim with a buddy.

#### Window Safety

Falls are the leading cause of injury to children, and falls from windows involving young children are especially serious. Window falls are preventable. Screens are not strong enough to protect children from falling out of windows. In order to prevent window falls, parents and caregivers should:

- Keep furniture — and anything a child can climb on — away from windows.
- Open windows from the top, not the bottom, when possible and lock all unopened doors and windows.
- Be sure children are always supervised.
- Install quick-release window guards which can be found in most hardware stores.

Additional tips on preventing falls among children can be found on the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention fall prevention website.

To learn more about childhood injury prevention, visit the DPH injury prevention and control program website.

### Thomas Michael Burke

Of Revere



Thomas Michael Burke of Revere died on June 20 at the age of 69.

Thomas was a Corporal in the United States Marine Corps during the Vietnam War and received the National Defense Service Medal, Good Conduct Medal, and a Rifle Sharpshooter Badge.

Born in Boston on January 27, 1951 to the late James Burke and Virginia Mary (Barry) Mantica, he was the beloved husband of the late Evelyn (O'Neil), dear brother of Loretta Adreani and her husband, Raymond of Winthrop and the late Steven J. Burke and the adored uncle of Melissa and Raychel Adreani.

A visitation will be held at the Paul Buonfiglio & Sons-Bruno Funeral Home,



128 Revere St, Revere today, Thursday, June 25 from 9 to 10:30 a.m. followed by a Prayer Service at 10:30 a.m. Relatives and friends are kindly invited. A private interment will be held at the Massachusetts National Cemetery in Bourne. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the New England Center and Home for Veterans, 17 Court St #2601, Boston, MA 02108. For guest book please visit [www.buonfiglio.com](http://www.buonfiglio.com)

### Delia J. Connors

June 26, 2017 - June 26, 2020



*Those we love don't go away. They walk beside us every day. Unseen, unheard, but always near, still loved, still missed*

Lovingly remembered and sadly missed by family, John, Paulette, Juliann, Robert, Debbie, Roberto, Timothy, Kaitlyn, Robert Michael, Daniel, Christina, Rebecca & Rileigh

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

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APPRECIATION

# Farewell to the Commissioner

## Chelsea Youth Hockey leader John Quatieri at 76

By Cary Shuman

When Chelsea Youth Hockey was at its height in the 1980s, John Quatieri was king.

He was Chelsea sports royalty, admired by all, revered by the young hockey players he led, and entrusted by parents who knew their children were being taught to love hockey by a true gentleman who cared for each and every kid.

If John Quatieri were king, his four sons – John, Kevin, Brian, and Patrick, were princes then, so proud of their father who was volunteering countless hours of his time, rushing home from his job as a foreman at General Motors for family dinner and then making his way to the Cronin Rink in Revere for nightly practices.

Mr. Quatieri would also meticulously prepare a weekly “Chelsea Youth Hockey Report” for publication in then-daily Chelsea Record. He “did it all” for Chelsea Youth Hockey and he did it without fanfare or individual glory.

Mr. John Quatieri, former Chelsea Youth Hockey Commissioner and the beloved husband of Patricia (Donovan) Quatieri, died on June 7, 2020 after a brief illness. He was 76 years old.

### Raising A Family in Chelsea

John and Patricia Quatieri raised their four chil-

dren, John Quatieri, current deputy chief of the Chelsea Fire Department, Kevin Quatieri, Brian Quatieri, and Patrick Quatieri, at the family home on Garland Street. Mr. and Mrs. Quatieri also have nine grandchildren, including Deputy Chief Quatieri’s son, Nicholas Quatieri, who is a Chelsea firefighter.

The Quatieri boys all played in the Chelsea Youth Hockey program. His father took on the position of Commissioner, carrying on the esteemed tradition of another Chelsea youth sports legend, the late Robert F. Moschella Sr., who like Mr. Quatieri, also had four sons, Robert, Brian, Mark, and Scott, excel in hockey.

Mr. Quatieri had the company of men and women in Chelsea Youth Hockey who were devoted to the game, giants in the hockey community like John Zimini (who is still coaching at St. John’s Prep today), Vinnie Cosco, Dennis Kopaczynski, Bob Gregoire, Rick Bellitti, John Hoadley, Keith Houghton, Paul Dovich, Betty Fay, and others.

John Quatieri remembered vividly how his father would leave the family home early in the morning to make the long drive to Framingham for work.

“He’d come home in the afternoon, he’d eat dinner, and then we’d all be right down at the rink every night – that’s how my brothers and I remember growing

up,” recalled John. “Good memories.”

The Quatieri kids all continued their hockey careers at Chelsea High School.

“My father loved hockey – he was a huge Bruins fan,” said John. “He followed my kids playing hockey and watched my youngest son Anthony’s Connecticut College games on television and my parents would be at some of the games close to home.”

What John Quatieri will remember most about his father – beyond his incredible work ethic, being a positive role model, and his devotion to his mother and the entire family – is how much joy and happiness he brought to the lives of so many children in Chelsea through hockey.

“And he loved it – he really enjoyed it,” said John. “That’s who my dad was, he gave 100 percent at whatever he did. He was very organized and loved being involved with Chelsea Youth Hockey.”

As Commissioner, Mr. Quatieri made sure the International Hockey Exchange Series with Candiatic would be a much-anticipated event for CYH players.

“He loved going to Canada every year – that was huge,” said John. “We’d stay with a Canadian family up there. There were four of us playing and we’d end up with four Canadian players and then any extras would be staying with us as well.”

John said his parents enjoyed spending summers in Raymond, New Hampshire with their friends, notably Stanley “Moose Janiluinas and Barbara Janiluinas, and Jimmy Fay and Betty Fay.

### John Zimini had a special connection to Mr. Quatieri

John Zimini was part of the Commissioner Quatieri inner hockey circle back in the 1970s and 1980s, serving as a CYH Commissioner himself and later as the Chelsea High School head hockey coach. He is still active as a coach in the powerful St. John’s Prep

program.

John Zimini is now a member of the family. He married former Chelsea High School basketball great Kristin Rosa. Kristin’s sister, Wendy Rosa, is married to Deputy Fire Chief John Quatieri.

“The loss of John Quatieri was very, very sad and way too quick,” said Zimini.

Zimini remembered first meeting Mr. Quatieri in the late 1970s.

“All four of the boys – John, Kevin, Brian, and Patrick – played in the pro-



Chelsea Youth Hockey Commissioner John Quatieri, with his son, Brian Quatieri, and a Candiatic (Canada) player during the two program’s annual International Exchange Hockey Series.



Former Chelsea Youth Hockey Commissioner John Quatieri, pictured with Ed Pigulski of the Winnisimmet Chiefs hockey program and other CYH and Chiefs officials and coaches.



Pictured at a Chelsea Youth Hockey Awards Banquet are, seated, from left, John Cunningham, Betty Fay, and John Hoadley. Standing, from left, are Keith Houghton, John Quatieri, John Zimini, Paul Dovich, and Rick Bellitti.

gram. Their father was on the board, he coached, and became Commissioner,” said Zimini.

“He was such a great guy – a quiet, unassuming guy, level-headed, that was always trying to do what’s

best for the kids,” praised Zimini. “He was unbelievable with his own kids, but he was equally as good to the kids that he coached and the kids he mentored. I can’t say enough good things about the guy. He was always willing to help put in any way he could. He was always at the rink. He had great moral character and was always doing the right thing for the kids.”

John Zimini said he has enjoyed his relationship with the family. “I coached John at Chelsea High School and then I married Krissy and John T. is now my brother-in-law. So for the last 30 years, we were at either Tom Rosa’s house or Wendy and John’s house for Christmas eve – John Quatieri, Pat Quatieri, and a lot of the kids. The two fami-

lies would meld together. We used to reminisce all the time about Chelsea Youth Hockey and all those days. And those were the days.”

John Zimini had the opportunity to coach Anthony Quatieri as a freshman at St. John’s Prep. Anthony went on to star for the 2015 Super Eight state championship team that won the title at the Boston Garden.

Through Anthony, the Quatieri family name remains symbolic of ice hockey excellence. Mr. John Quatieri started in all in Chelsea as Commissioner of a program that annually drew hundreds of kids to Cronin Rink.

On behalf all the lives you impacted in such a positive way, we say, “Thank You, Commissioner Quatieri.”

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## LEGAL NOTICES

### LEGAL NOTICE



#### NOTICE

In accordance with Section 2-7(d) of the Chelsea City Charter notice is hereby given that at a regular meeting of the Chelsea City Council held on June 15, 2020 the City Council voted after a second reading to approve the following orders:  
NOW, therefore be it Ordained, that the Revised Code of Ordinances of the City of Chelsea as amended, be further amended as follows:  
**AN ORDINANCE REVISING PART II CHAPTER 14, SECTION 14-91 AND CHAPTER 16, SECTION**

**16-98 OF THE CHELSEA CODE OF ORDINANCES TO ALLOW FOR ALCOHOL AT OUTDOOR CAFÉS.**

Amendment 1 That Chapter 14, Section 14-91 of the Code of Ordinances, City of Chelsea, Massachusetts is hereby amended by striking Subsection (f)(2).  
Amendment 2 That Chapter 16, Section 16-98 of the Code of Ordinances, City of Chelsea, Massachusetts is hereby amended by adding a new Subsection (b)(4) as follows: 4) Exception: Nothing in this section, nor any other section of this Code of Ordinances, shall prohibit the distribution, use, possession or consumption of alcoholic beverages on public property provided such

distribution, use, possession or consumption is occurring within an outdoor seating area for a restaurant licensed by the Licensing Commission to serve alcohol pursuant to M.G.L. c. 138 and to operate an outdoor cafe and dining area pursuant to a non-profit holding an outdoor activity or enterprise issued a One-Day permit pursuant to M.G.L. c. 138 Section 14. These changes shall take effect immediately. A copy of order is available at the Office of the City Clerk, City Hall, 500 Broadway, Room 209, Chelsea, MA 02150. Jeannette Cintron White City Clerk

6/25/20







## NEWS Briefs BY SETH DANIEL

### IRON WORKERS LOCAL 7 ENDORSES JOE GRAVELLESE FOR STATE REPRESENTATIVE

Iron Workers Local 7 has endorsed Joe Gravellese in the race for State Representative in the 16th Suffolk District (Revere, Chelsea, Saugus).

Local 7 represents over 3,500 workers in New England.

“I’ve had great conversations with the people at Local 7 and truly appreciate their advocacy on the issues we care about - like strengthening the pipeline to good union jobs by eliminating barriers to vocational and technical education, cracking down on wage theft, and fixing our transportation infrastructure,” said Gravellese.

“It’s been a pleasure getting to know more about the priorities of Local 7 and I look forward to fighting for them and all working people on Beacon Hill.”

Robert MacNeil, President of Iron Workers Local 7, said that Local 7 “wholeheartedly endorsed [Gravellese’s] candidacy,” referencing the importance of doing “the hard work required, such as bringing people together to have challenging conversations.”

Local 7 is the fourth announced building trades endorsement for Gravellese’s Democratic primary campaign so far, in addition to Operating Engineers Local 4, Tunnel Workers Local 88, and Bricklayers Local 3.

### CHELSEA RECREATION ANNOUNCES FREE SUMMER LIVESTREAM CLASSES

Chelsea Recreation which includes Community Schools programming is offering free online summer classes to all residents who register.

Join an engaging class such: yoga or dance, make music at a Thursday Night Open Music Gathering, learn about the process of buying a home, take one of our popular Spanish or English language classes or participate in an art & music studio. All can happen in the comfort of your own home and receive the same quality instruction from our talented instructors.

Those interested have three easy ways to register: by email: recreation@chelseama.gov, phone 617 466-5233, 12:30-4:30pm; or online at register.communitypass.net/Chelsea. Classes begin Monday, June 29.

Visit recreation.chelseama.gov for more information.

### RAFT PROGRAM RENTAL ASSISTANCE

If anyone needs help paying rent, they may be eligible for financial assistance through the Massachusetts Residential Assistance for Families in Transition (RAFT) program. RAFT has expanded its eligibility requirements to help people with COVID-19 related job losses or financial hardship. Some things to consider:

- Your immigration status does not matter.
- You may be eligible for RAFT if you have not been, or will not be, able to pay rent, mortgage payments, or utilities due to COVID-19.

- You must be in contact with your landlord or property manager (RAFT funds are paid to them).

- If you are not on the lease, you can provide your landlord’s contact information to confirm that you are a tenant.

- If you need help to cover your security deposit (for first or last month’s rent), you can specify the unit you plan to move into, even if you have not yet signed the lease.

- You are not eligible if you are in an Emergency Assistance Shelter.

Households can receive up to \$4,000 for a 12-month period. To check eligibility and for help with applications, call the CONNECT Hotline at 617-712-3487.

### GETTING FOOD TO EVERYONE IN NEED: UPDATES

Pop-Up Food Pantries are continuing to serve the people of Chelsea, providing boxes of food every weekday beginning at 11 a.m. The City is increasing our food supply daily so that everyone who needs food can get it. With this in mind, please be patient and mindful of your neighbors in need. Some families have more immediate need than others and we want to make sure that everyone

gets to eat.

Pop-up Pantry Locations:

- Mondays: Quigley Park, 25 Essex Street

- Ruiz Park, 141 Washington Avenue

- Tuesdays: Luther Place, Cherry Street, between 5th Street and 4th Street

- Bellingham Hill Park, 115 Bellingham Street

- Wednesdays: Washington Park, at Washington Ave and Hancock Street

- Bosson Park, 43-56 Bellingham Street

- Thursdays: Chelsea Square, near 2 Second Street

- Highland Park, in front of 30 Willow Street

- Fridays: City Hall Parking lot, 500 Broadway

- Mary C. Burke Complex, 300 Crescent Avenue

### IF YOU ARE NOT SICK AND NEED FOOD

- Monday-Friday: Hot lunches and kids lunches at 11:30 a.m. at Salvation Army (258 Chestnut Street)

- Tuesdays and Thursdays: Grocery pick-up 10 a.m.-noon at the Salvation Army (258 Chestnut Street).

- Tuesdays and Thursdays: Grocery pick-up at 5 p.m. at the Chelsea Collaborative (318 Broadway).

- Thursdays and Fridays: Mass General Hospital Food For Families Pantry (151 Everett Ave.). Available two times per month to MGH patients by referral. Please call (617) 887-3575.

- Saturdays: Grocery pick-up 8:30 a.m.-1 p.m. at Saint Luke’s Episcopal Church (201 Washington Avenue, Chelsea); no appointment necessary.

- IF YOU ARE IN ISOLATION AND NEED FOOD

Do not wait in line for food. Call 311 (617-466-4100).

- IF YOU ARE 65 YEARS OR OLDER

Contact the Chelsea Senior Center for grocery deliveries. Call 617-466-4377 or 617-466-4370.

### DIAPER DRIVE FOR FAMILIES IN NEED

Chelsea Community Connections and the City of Chelsea are working together to distribute diapers to families in need. Because of the tremendous demand, distribution is dependent on donations of both packages of diapers and funds to purchase supply.

Anyone who would like to donate to the Diaper Drive can do so at the Chelsea Community Connections website. This will ensure the youngest Chelsea residents have their basic needs met.

## Chelsea City Councilor Garcia joins Kennedy campaign

Chelsea City Councilor Garcia is officially joining the Kennedy campaign to help with LatinX outreach and ethnic media strategy. She is the latest hire by the Kennedy for MA campaign as it works to fortify its advantage in communities of color.

Transitioning from her corporate job at Rapid7, Councilor García will join Joe Kennedy III on the campaign trail while balancing her duties as Vice President and Chelsea City Council. The first Honduran American woman to serve on the Chelsea City Council as well as the youngest current member, Garcia is a fierce

advocate for immigrant families in Chelsea and protecting her community from the effects of climate change. Since endorsing Kennedy in the early stages of his campaign, she has hosted him in Chelsea for a “listen and learn tour” as well as introduced him at a Spanish language town hall.

“There’s no question this year’s election will be an important one,” said Garcia. “Often excluded from the conversation, I want to ensure that the voices of LatinX communities are heard. Committed to showing up, listening, and standing in solidarity -- Joe has proven he’s the leader to get

the job done.”

“Now more than ever we need a leader who is willing to show up, listen, and advocate for us as he has done on multiple occasions for communities of color. Throughout this pandemic he was a leading force on spotlighting what was going on in Chelsea, helping raise over 30 thousand dollars for vulnerable families. This is exactly the type of compassionate leader we need in the Senate.”

Garcia is enthusiastic about working to increase voter turnout on this primary election September 1st.

## MGC approves health and safety requirements for casino reopening

On Tuesday afternoon, the Massachusetts Gaming Commission (MGC) voted unanimously 5-0 to approve detailed guidelines, outlining the minimum requirements for the reopening of the state’s two resort-casinos and single slots facility.

During a remote public meeting, the five gaming commissioners adopted health and safety rules that Encore Boston Harbor, among others, must meet in anticipation of the resumption of casino operations, scheduled for Phase 3 of the Commonwealth’s phased-in reopening plan.

That part of the reopening was touted as potentially being on June 29, but there is some doubt about being able to carry that out in such a short period of time – it being only a few days away. Most observers believe Encore could open its doors sometime in July after trainings and safety measures are fully completed.

The minimum requirements adopted by the Commission address key areas, including Cleaning and Sanitization, Social Distancing, Guest Screening, Occupancy Limits, and Reporting Measures, among others. Each licensee will be required to submit a detailed plan at least 7 days in advance of reopening. The licensee plans must identify the steps and measures taken to achieve compliance with the guidance and protocols issued by the CDC,

the Department of Public Health, the Board of Health in the host community, the Baker-Polito Administration, and the guidelines adopted by the Commission.

MGC Chair Cathy Judd-Stein said, “The MGC is working to ensure a safe and sustainable reopening, issuing guidelines today that will no doubt shift to reflect the changing public health data over time. We are confident that our three licensees will work in good faith to implement and enforce these measures. We also know that the success of a reopening will require the casino patrons’ cooperative efforts, thoughtful awareness, and empathy for one another and the greater community.”

The guidelines require the casino properties to sanitize routinely and in compliance with CDC guidelines. Guests will be screened upon entry and required to wear face masks, which will be provided if needed. Employees will also be subject to screening procedures including temperature checks and will be required to wear face masks.

The Commission agreed that all three casinos will promote social distancing of slots play by either maintaining a minimum of 6’ distance between operating slot positions or by installing plexiglass dividers not less than 6’ high between operating slot positions.

For table games at En-

core, licensees will install plexiglass dividers at Blackjack-style tables no less than 5’10” tall separating dealer from player positions and between player positions. There will be no more than three player positions at each Blackjack-style table, with chairs for unavailable positions removed. The Commission also ruled that there will be no poker, craps or roulette until further notice.

Each licensee will be required to limit occupancy based on its number of gaming positions available multiplied by three plus gaming area employees of the licensee and the MGC and capacity of open amenities (utilizing the occupancy limits set by the Governor’s guidelines for each amenity).

Lastly, the required minimum health and safety standards put forth in this guide are subject to adjustment or modification based on evolving information and/or mandates from the state.

The Commission held three open meetings (on Thursday, June 11, 2020; Wednesday, June 17, 2020; and Tuesday, June 23, 2020) to discuss minimum requirements for the initial reopening of casinos. Each of these open meetings included extensive input from the MGC executive staff, the Investigations and Enforcement Bureau, and the Commission’s three licensees.



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