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CHELSEA RECORD

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VOLUME 120, NO. 21 **THURSDAY, AUGUST 6, 2020** 35 CENTS

Wynn Resorts believes Encore has more demand than allowed

By Seth Daniel

With Encore Boston Harbor closed for all of the second quarter this year, it was to be expected that the earnings report call on Tuesday afternoon would be grim, but CEO Matt Maddox did have one high-point about Encore – saying there was more demand in Boston than they were able to yet provide due to COVID-19 restrictions.

Encore closed down just before the end of the first quarter in March, and then remained closed through the second quarter – so there were literally no earnings and the resort lost \$53.8 million during the quarter. That didn’t include the expenditures through the quarter to pay employees their regular wages and benefits, which amounted to \$19.3 million over quarter. That amount was a commitment made by Maddox at the closure of the resort, and continued through mid-June.

That said, since opening on July 12 – which is in the third quarter – he said there is more demand than the state will allow them to provide due to tough COVID-19 restrictions.

“Total volumes are off and probably disproportionately in Massachusetts compared to some jurisdictions because of the very tough restrictions in place,” said Maddox. “As an example, Craps and Roulette are still not open...and the number of positions at the gaming tables are restricted. We are working with the Gaming Commission on that. I do think there is more demand and demand for future growth in the market and it is limited by our continued restrictions the market.”

Craig Billings, Wynn CFO, said he believes they can break even at Encore in the coming third quarter, especially given their reductions in costs and staffing.

“We can obviously break even in this environment,” he said. “As the volume comes back, we believe we’ll have a positive (earnings), especially with reducing costs. A good chunk of what we’ve done (with costs) is more permanent in nature and we won’t open up anything unless it’s revenue generating.”

The report indicated that since opening on July 12, slot handles are up compared to the 4th quarter in

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INDEPENDENT
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CHELSEA IN BLACK AND WHITE



PHOTO BY CINDY WEISBART

Volunteers holding posters of stories from residents in danger of eviction due to the COVID-19 epidemic in front of Chelsea City Hall as part of an action in support of MA Senate Bill S. 2785’s Right to Counsel for tenants in legal disputes with landlords. The mattresses on the ground symbolize a looming eviction crisis: “We won’t let this become the new normal!” said Executive Director Gladys Vega about potential widespread homelessness.



PHOTO BY CINDY WEISBART

Volunteers Jessica Armijo (left) and Yudalys Escobar (right) talk on their phones around the delivery truck that brings fresh food to the Chelsea Collaborative on Broadway earlier this summer. The photo is part of a collection of photos taken by photographer Cindy Weisbart, who was drawn to the city during the pandemic via community relief services in Somerville and Jamaica Plain. See more photos on Page 11.

Capturing Help: Photographer drawn to Chelsea looked for hope, helpers

By Seth Daniel

Cindy Weisbart didn’t know much at all about Chelsea prior to COVID-19, but like many with a camera, she was drawn to the city as it struggled mightily with COVID-19 and job loss and hunger.

Yet, Weisbart wasn’t just looking to document the human condition, she was looking to participate

and find a slice of humanity. There were more than a few slices she found in the end.

“When Governor Baker’s COVID closure orders were extended this spring, I began to think about what the new economy was going to look like – how and which small businesses would be able to sprout up from the disruption of the old way of doing things,”

she said. “My parents were small business owners who were not able to adapt their business model to the new world of ‘the malls’ in the 1980s. Now I began to investigate how communities were supporting each other in this time of unprecedented uncertainty and little government investment in 2020.”

Weisbart is a high school

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State leaders assure cities on budget numbers, school funding

By Seth Daniel

State leaders have moved to provide some positive certainty this week in one of the most uncertain City and School Budget years on record – hopefully staving off potential job cuts and preserving school positions that have been feared during the first two months of the fiscal year.

In a joint announcement from the State Senate, the State House of Represen-

tatives and Gov. Charlie Baker’s Office, the State Government offered up the first indication of where numbers might be for Local Aid and School Funding (known as Chapter 70). The numbers are very positive considering what was expected, with all cities and school districts assured level funding and a pot of money available to address inflationary costs so that level funding does not mean a cut in the budget.

In Chelsea, this means that Local Aid will be level funded at \$8.721 million, and there is also a pot of money to accommodate inflationary increases. In Chelsea, the Council passed a budget expecting up to a 30 percent cut in Local Aid – prompting spending from Rainy Day Funds and reductions in services over the first two months of the fiscal year (beginning on

See **BUDGET** Page 2

LOOKING AT POLITICS

Candidates in both state rep. races agree to online debate

By Seth Daniel

A virtual debate has been agreed to by all four candidates in the two Chelsea state representative races, with GreenRoots conducting the debate with a host of collaborators on Aug. 13 at 6 p.m. online.

The forum will featured State Rep. Dan Ryan and Candidate (and City Councillor) Damali Vidot for the district representing Charlestown and Chelsea. It will also feature State Rep. Candidate Joe Gravelle and State Rep. Candidate (and Revere city councillor) Jessica Giannino for the district representing Prattville, Revere and part of Saugus.

“While this election season feels very different given the COVID-19 precautions, we feel it is an important opportunity to discuss issues of concern facing Chelsea with the candidates who are running for the two State Representative seats in Chelsea,” said GreenRoots Director Roseann Bongiovanni. “All of the candidates have committed to participate and we have a number of co-sponsors. I believe the forum will be informative and engaging and will touch upon real issues impacting Chelsea residents’ lives.”

Some of the co-sponsors include the Chelsea Record, TND, Chelsea Collaborative and others.

Giannino said she is looking forward to participating in the GreenRoots forum.

“I’m very much looking forward to next week’s GreenRoots forum,” said Giannino. “Representing my community on environmental injustices is one of the reasons I became involved in politics in the first place. From introducing the motion to ban single-use plastic bags in Revere to being a founding member of the Alliance for Health and Environment to being extremely vocal about the lack of accountability from the region’s biggest polluter, Wheelabrator -- my constituents know that I am headstrong and will continue to work diligently to improve their overall quality of life.”

Candidate Gravelle said he was thankful he could bring his message directly to the voters of Chelsea.

“I’m looking forward to the opportunity to participate,” he said. “I’m thankful GreenRoots is working

See **DEBATE** Page 2

Chelsea Schools present preferred plan for opening with online-only option

By Seth Daniel

School configurations come in hundreds of different ways this year, and Chelsea Public Schools (CPS) will be no different – proposing a preferred re-opening plan to the School Committee on July 30 that includes a five-day hybrid model with the option of also going fully online.

Supt. Almi Abeyta has said there will be choices for parents to make, and ahead of Monday’s submission to the state Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE), she laid out three required plans to the School Committee and explained a preferred option.

“This document serves as a preliminary plan for a safe

return to in-person learning via a hybrid model or continued remote learning for all students in the Chelsea Public Schools,” she wrote. “As we created this plan, please know that safety is of the utmost importance for us in the Chelsea Public Schools; we are committed to ensuring our students and staff return safely to school in the fall of 2020. We are excited to welcome our students back to school and recognize that significant adjustments to our existing practices and protocols will need to be made to keep students and families safe and to ensure a positive learning experience for all.”

The preferred option will give parents a tough choice to make, whether to keep

See **SCHOOL** Page 5

Walk-in Graduation today and tomorrow

Though no one is technically invited, Chelsea High Class of 2020 members who have registered with the schools will hold their in-person walking graduation on Thursday and Friday, Aug. 6 and 7.

Members of the Class of 2020 had their regular graduation in June cancelled due to COVID-19 restrictions, but were able to have a Virtual Graduation in July. However, students fought for the right to have a walk-in graduation if the data allowed it. After some study, it was deemed safe to be able to have a walk-in graduation in August.

Students registered for appointments, and were able to bring six family members to share in the fun. They get to walk across the stage, get their diploma and then have a family photo taken.

Apollinaire to present an operetta about Chelsea's Jessica Armijo this Saturday

Staff Report

Tune in this Saturday for the finale of Apollinaire Theatre's three-part series and online summer celebration: Chelsea People!

Apollinaire Theatre gave itself the challenge of creating an original operetta a week for three weeks based on the lives of Chelsea residents who were nominated by Chelsea's leading community organizations. The original operetta being written this week is about Jessica Armijo, who was nominated by the Chelsea Collaborative.

A creative team of more than 20, who had the pleasure of interviewing Jessica on Sunday, are spending the week creating songs, scenes, and artwork to showcase moments from her life which will comprise the operetta.

Who is Jessica? A woman with strong conviction and forward momentum, she channels her energy into helping others. Even when her family was left with just the clothes on their backs following hurricane Mitch in Honduras and had to live on a bus, she gave to others. "Difficult experiences help you grow. When you encounter people with problems bigger than yours it makes you value what you have and pushes you to help others."

Through her work with the Chelsea Collaborative, Jessica educates immigrants on their rights. She spoke about the complicated situations immigrants face and the importance of getting information out into the community. Currently with the Collaborative, she plays a key role in feeding up to 2,000 Chelsea residents a day as part of the pandemic response, an effort she describes as titanic and also beautiful.

She shared many stories with the Apollinaire creative team about where her life has taken her. As a dancer in Honduras, her time with Ballet Folklórico Sector took her all over the Americas and Europe. Her fight for immigrants brought her to Washington where she marched in support of DACA. And she



PHOTO BY DARLENE DEVITA

'Chelsea People' will highlight community superstar Jess Armijo in an operetta online this Saturday, Aug. 8. Online curtain opens at 7:30 p.m., show at 8 p.m.

and her husband's dreams for a better future for their family brought her to Chelsea, where it took her seven years to reunite her family.

Don't miss the final installment of Chelsea People and the chance to get to know Jessica! This performance will be bi-lingual and Spanish and English captioning will be provided.

More on the Chelsea People project:

Moved by the heroic ways Chelsea has come together in the face of the pandemic to provide for its residents, Apollinaire Theatre has set out to create an exciting work of art that celebrates the heart of Chelsea: its people.

Apollinaire asked three Chelsea organizations, GreenRoots, The Neighborhood Developers, and the Chelsea Collaborative, to each nominate a Chelsea resident to be the subject of an original play with music, which will be created over the course of one week. Four Chelsea residents— Grace Muwina, Terry & Joe Englen, and Jessica Armijo— will each have their life stories developed into original operettas and presented live over Zoom by a large Apollinaire Theatre creative team.

Chelsea People will stream live on Saturday, August 8 for Free.

Participants are welcome

to begin gathering online at 7:30 pm for pre-show programming with the show itself beginning promptly at 8 p.m.

All performances will be presented with simultaneous Spanish/English interpretation.

Register for FREE tickets at www.apollinairetheatre.com

Apollinaire Theatre Company would like to thank all our supporters.

This program is supported in part by a grant from the Chelsea Cultural Council, a local agency which is supported by the Mass Cultural Council, a state agency.

This program is also supported by the Chelsea Cultural Council through the Chelsea Heritage Celebrations Grant. The Chelsea Heritage Celebrations Grant was awarded by the Chelsea Cultural Council to support a broad range of cultural events that promote the community's heritage, quality of life, recreation, and cultural activities.

Additional major support was provided by Eastern Salt, and the Bob Jolly Charitable Trust, which was established by the late Boston actor Bob Jolly to support local theater artists. Additional support from Exelon. Apollinaire Theatre is supported by the Mass Cultural Council, a state agency.

Budget / Continued from page 1

July 1). So, the news assuring no cut was very much welcome news.

The same is true for Chelsea on the School Department side. The School Department filed a very no-nonsense budget in June that had a tremendous amount of restructuring so as to save any jobs that involved teaching or direct contact with students. The state assurances amounted to promises of \$85.769 million for the schools this year, and that is an increase of more than \$8.2 million over last year's state funding numbers.

State Sen. Sal DiDomenico had been working on the Local Aid and Chapter 70 assurances for several weeks, he said, and indicated that leaders in both houses and in the administration wanted to give some certainty for the fall to municipalities.

"Despite these difficult times due to the economic fallout from the COVID-19 pandemic, the Senate, House and Administration have committed to level funding for Local Aid and an increase of \$107 million in Chapter 70 education funding to account for both inflation and enrollment under the law from the Fiscal Year 2020 year," he wrote in a statement. "In light of

the very serious budgetary challenges we are facing as a Commonwealth, this level of funding shows our continued commitment to our municipalities and school districts."

State Rep. Dan Ryan said he was glad they were able to work together in state government to give some certainty to Chelsea and other municipalities.

"I'm proud that under the circumstances the legislature was able to work together to bring some much needed relief to our cities and towns as we head back to school in uncertain times," he said. "I appreciate the advocacy of our local officials as well as parents and teachers."

House Speaker Bob DeLeo said, "Even amid the financial uncertainty brought on by COVID-19, we understand the importance of our local officials knowing what they are facing as soon as possible. I hope these figures reassure the people...that (municipalities) will be getting no less than they received in FY20."

The City and School Budget process relies in large part on state funding through Local Aid and Chapter 70. Due to the pandemic, the State Budget that had been unveiled in

February was scrapped, and so far there is no State Budget that has passed. That led to great uncertainty for the cities and towns who were also trying to pass their traditional budgets before July 1.

This was the first certain message on funding those cities and towns like Chelsea have gotten from the state.

The state apparently plans to pass a three-month, \$16 billion budget that will take them to Oct. 1, when they will have a traditional budget available for a road map on spending.

That final budget will have a lot to do with the federal stimulus packages that are expected to come from Washington, D.C., to help states handle the COVID-19 impacts. Right now, Massachusetts is said to have an \$8 billion budget gap to close, and there have been estimates the state could get as much as \$10 billion to fill that gap, or as low as \$5 billion. That is all being worked out in the Congress right now, and it is still uncertain.

State leaders said they could withstand a federal bailout of \$6-7 billion, but anything less would mean drastic action.

Encore / Continued from page 1

2019, but table games are down significantly due to restrictions on games and gaming positions.

An interesting conversation revolved around groups and conventions returning to the Las Vegas — and in general the gaming market, including Encore. Prior to COVID-19, Encore had a surprisingly strong convention and group bookings, and when and if such business ever returns to Everett or Las Vegas. Maddox said it was very hard to predict that, and he said many convention bookings are waiting right now until at least spring 2021. That said, he indicated Wynn Resorts is putting a great deal of effort to be ready for Point of Contact testing.

He said the technology isn't yet approved but would test people 10 at a time for COVID-19 and get results in five minutes.

"There are a couple of exciting technologies in the queue and we are in line

to get that if (approved)," he said. "That could bring things back quicker for our groups. Maybe you're not waiting until next year if you're using that and assured that everyone in the space is COVID-free. They don't have approval, but they're moving fast and the costs for grouping are going down significantly. That's the bridge we need to get to a place where we're all together again before we get to a vaccine..."

Encore Boston Harbor will report its third quarter earnings some time in October. The property still does not have a full year of operations even after having been open for more than one year.

Sports Betting is off the table for now

A great deal of excitement brewed last week when the state House of Representatives included and passed an Economic Development Bill that

included the approval of sports betting in the state — a huge gain for Encore Boston Harbor.

However, by the end of last week, the excitement had become a dull humming noise. The matter had been removed from a similar version of the bill in the Senate and did not get included into that bill — which passed late on July 29. The matter moves to a Conference Committee, which will likely not insert sports betting into the equation.

State Sen. Sal DiDomenico said sports betting never made it into the Senate version of the bill, and would not be taken up now.

"That's not something that will be added into the Economic Development bill," he said. "We're going to set that aside for now and take it up in the fall."

Gov. Charlie Baker submitted a sports betting legalization bill to the State Legislature more than one year ago.

Debate / Continued from page 1

to ensure the public has an opportunity to hear directly from the candidates before they vote on September 1."

State Rep. Dan Ryan said he looks forward to talking about his environmental record at the Forum next week.

"I look forward to dis-

cussing my record as an Environmental Champion and my accomplishments as a forward thinking legislator," he said. "I thank GreenRoots for this opportunity to discuss our shared vision for cleaner, healthier future."

Vidot said she's ready to

connect with voters and do some truth telling.

"I am excited at the opportunity to connect with voters and do some truth telling at the upcoming candidate forum on August 13th," she said. "We are at a point in the world right now where our future is uncertain. We simply don't have time to waste...I encourage all those who live within the district to attend virtually and hear my ideas for the Second Suffolk District. I'd like to thank GreenRoots, the Neighborhood Developers, The Chelsea Collaborative and all co-sponsors for working together to provide this important virtual engagement for the residents of our district."

Independent's 20th Annual Beach Baby Pages

Join us in putting your Beach Baby in our 20TH ANNUAL BEACH BABY PAGES!

Photos should be at a beach or swimming pool setting. Please include your child's name and the paper you wish to be published in.

SEND YOUR BEACH BABY TO: promo@reverejournal.com by **Thursday, August 13th**

Photos will be published in our Aug. 25 and 26 issues of The Revere Journal, Winthrop Sun Transcript, Lynn Journal, The Everett Independent, Chelsea Record & East Boston Times.

Not responsible for lost or unpublished Photos.

- LEGAL NOTICE - CITY OF CHELSEA

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Department of Public Works will conduct a Public Hearing on Tuesday, August 18, 2020 via Video Conference. Any members of the public wishing to provide a public comment must communicate via email at fmaltez@chelseama.gov Name and address must be included in order to be read during the Public Speak section of the meeting. Any comment needs to be submitted by August 18, 2020 by 12 P.M.

Proposed Work and Purpose:

To install approximately 59 total feet of conduit in Spencer Avenue. Southwesterly from pole 112/8 near intersection of Eleanor Street. WO#2386607

The public is invited to attend.

FIDEL MALTEZ
DEPUTY COMMISSIONER
August 6, 2020
August 13, 2020

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NEWS Briefs BY SETH DANIEL

Way to Play #1

Step 1 - Review

Write a review of a participating business on social media, Yelp, Facebook, Google, etc

Step 2 - share

Share on any social media and tag BOTH #ChelseaGivesBack #TND

Step 3 - submit your entry

Send a screenshot to ChelseaContest@tndinc.org

Text a screenshot to 857-323-2206

CHELSEA GIVES BACK GAME

Don't forget to submit an entry for the #ChelseaGivesBack contest. It's easy, and one can win a \$50 gift card to a Chelsea restaurant. One way to play is to write a review of a participating business (on Yelp, Facebook, Google, etc.). Don't forget to use the hashtags #ChelseaGivesBack and #TND. Make sure to take a screenshot and send it to either ChelseaContest@tndinc.org or 857-323-2206. That will allow confirmation of an entry.

CHELSEA PROSPERS CALLING ALL ARTISTS

The City of Chelsea's Chelsea Prospers program has three different opportunities for our creative residents to present their art through murals in downtown.

- Painted murals - we are seeking artists able to execute their own designs on a large scale. These will be mostly on Division Street.
- Wheatpaste murals - seeking submissions of digital art that our team will print and install. These will be installed mostly on Cherry Street.
- Birds of a Feather - everyone can take part in this effort. Send original images of a bird or a few words on what is learned from birds. It will be printed and installed as part of a community mural, only made possible by coming together.

Deadlines are coming soon. Stipends and technical assistance are available for the painted and wheatpaste murals. Complete details and links to apply on the website: <https://www.chelseaprospers.org/> opportunities

POP UP TESTING SITE

A pop-up testing site will continue to offer free COVID-19 tests to all Chelsea residents this week. Here is the schedule:

- Chelsea Square (near the Police Station) Friday, August 7, from 10 am to 4 pm.
- City Hall (500 Broadway)

Thursday, August 6, 1pm-5pm

A continuación el horario y las ubicaciones donde puede hacerse la prueba de COVID-19.

- Chelsea Square (cerca de la estación de Policía) Viernes 7 de agosto, de 10 de la mañana a 4 de la tarde.
- City Hall (500 Broadway) Jueves 6 de agosto, de 1 a 5 de la tarde.

VETERANS AFFAIRS FOOD EVENT

The next Chelsea Veterans Services monthly food event for veterans will be Sept. 2. Veterans must sign up for this service by calling 617-543-9545 or by emailing ftoro@chelseama.gov. Pick-up will be between 10 a.m. and noon at 150 Marginal Street (opposite PORT Park). Deliveries are also available as needed.

PAVING OPERATIONS AND TRAFFIC IMPACTS

- Chestnut Street & Second Street

The City of Chelsea is about the start work on the following streets from July 30 to August 7.

1. Chestnut Street from Williams Street to Everett Avenue
2. Second Street from Broadway to Arlington Street

The work scheduled is as follows:

- Work Zone Set-up 7/30/2020
- Milling Operations 7/31/2020
- Structure Adjustments 8/4/2020
- Final Paving 8/4-8/7/2020
- Tremont Street

The City of Chelsea is about the start work on the following street from July 30th to September 4th.

1. Tremont Street from Williams Street to Ferry Street.

The work scheduled is as follows:

- Work Zone Set-up 7/30/2020
- Milling Operations

7/31/2020

- Sidewalk Replacement 8/13/2020-8/25/2020
- Final Paving 8/26/2020-9/4/2020

*Please be advised that this work is weather sensitive, should rain be forecast during this period of work that work will shift in schedule to the next day. Do Not Park in These Areas. Please be aware of Parking Restrictions 7 AM-3 PM. For questions or concerns please call me directly at 617-466-4200.

LYNN STREET PAVING SIDEWALK SCHEDULE

The City of Chelsea has started work on Lynn Street from Central Avenue to Chester Avenue. The work scheduled is as follows:

- Work Zone Set-up 7/30/2020
- Milling Operations 8/3/2020
- Sidewalk Replacement 8/17/2020-8/25/2020
- Final Paving 8/26/2020-9/4/2020*

Please be advised that this work is weather sensitive, should rain be forecast during this period of work that works will shift in the schedule to the next day. On-street parking is prohibited during the times and dates posted on the traffic control devices distributed throughout the work zone. Do not park in these areas. Please be aware of Parking Restrictions 7 a.m. – 3 p.m. posted by the D&R Contracting of Melrose for Roadway, Cicconi & Sons of Boston for sidewalks. For questions or concerns please call me directly at 617-466-4200.

ANNUAL SIDEWALK WORK SCHEDULE

The following is a schedule of sidewalk work coming. There is not on-street parking in these areas during these work times.

- Winnisimett Street – Aug. 3-12
- Tremont Street – Aug. 6-19
- Lynn Street – Aug. 13-27
- Cabot/Eastern Ave. – Aug. 20-27
- Beacon Street UTB – Aug. 21-27

CHELSEA FUNERAL FUND

For the dignity of loved ones who have passed, the Chelsea Funeral Fund provides up to \$1,700 in financial assistance for cremation or burial. The fund is for Chelsea residents in need, regardless of religious affiliation, and is managed by Saint Luke's Episcopal Church. To inquire, contact Reverend Edgar Gutiérrez-Duarte at 671-884-3300 or at vicar-sanlucas@aol.com.

EVERETT MAN CHARGED AT FBI BUILDING

An Everett man has been charged in federal court in Boston in connection with scaling the perimeter fence of the Boston FBI Headquarters in Chelsea and damaging property.

Brian Ricardo Dennis, 52, was charged by criminal complaint with injuring or depreating government property. Following an initial appearance Monday, Dennis was detained pending a probable cause and detention scheduled for Wednesday, Aug. 5, 2020.

It is alleged that at approximately 1:20 am on Friday, July 31, 2020, an individual – later identified as Dennis – scaled the perimeter fence of the Boston FBI Headquarters in Chelsea. Video surveillance recorded Dennis climbing over the perimeter fence, approaching an exterior door, banging on the door with his hands and then retrieving a large rock and repeatedly throwing the rock against the door, shattering the glass on the door. Dennis then allegedly climbed back over the perimeter fence and left the area.

According to court documents, thereafter, local law enforcement encountered Dennis, who had significant injuries to his right

hand, and transported him to a local emergency room. During an interview with agents, Dennis admitted to being the individual in the surveillance recordings. Fingerprints found at the FBI Headquarters were determined to match Dennis.

The charging statute provides for a sentence of up to 10 years in prison, three years of supervised release and a fine of up to \$250,000. Sentences are imposed by a federal district court judge based upon the U.S. Sentencing Guidelines and other statutory factors.

CHELSEA MAN CHARGED WITH MURDER

At about 7:27 a.m. on Friday, July 31, officers assigned to District C-6 (South Boston) responded to a radio call for a person stabbed in the area of 112 Southampton St. in Boston's Mass/Cass Corridor. On arrival, officers located an adult male victim suffering from an apparent stab wound. The victim was transported to a local hospital where he was later pronounced deceased. The victim has since been identified as Damien R. Hughes, 27-years-old, of Boston.

Following the incident, an investigation culminated in the identification of the suspect as Cesar Valentin,

34, of Chelsea, who was placed under arrest in the area of 39 Boylston St. in Boston at about 11:51 a.m. on Friday, July 31. Valentin is expected to be arraigned in Roxbury District Court on the charge of Murder.

PUBLIC DRINKING

On July 22, at 4:50 p.m. officers assigned to the Downtown Task Force patrolling the Chelsea Square Park area observed two males drinking in public. They were both arrested for the violation.

CITY HALL DRINKING

On July 23, at 2:45 p.m. officers assigned to the Downtown Task Force, observed a male sitting in the mulch by City Hall drinking from a 32-ounce can of beer. The subject was placed under arrest

STOLEN CAR

On July 27, at 11:45 a.m. an officer equipped with Lojack vehicle tracking received a signal of a stolen vehicle in the area of the Home Depot. The signal was verified and the officers came upon the stolen vehicle. Inside they found a male party seated in the reclined position and placed him under arrest.

Affordable Senior Housing

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Chelsea

RECORD

PRESIDENT: Stephen Quigley
EDITOR IN CHIEF: Cary Shuman

WAITING FOR THE BIG ONE

As we are writing this, we are awaiting the arrival of Hurricane Isaias, which is the earliest-ever ninth named storm of a hurricane season.

Although Isaias was a weak Category 1 hurricane when it made landfall in the Carolinas and will be a tropical storm by the time it reaches us, it is forecast to combine with a storm front out of the west by the time it reaches New Jersey, bringing heavy rain to western New England and strong winds to eastern New England, similar to what Hurricane Irene did in late August of 2011.

Irene caused widespread power outages in Eastern Mass. (we recall losing all of the contents of our freezer in the basement) and the same is being forecast for Isaias, so we trust that all of our readers are prepared for some degree of inconvenience in the coming days.

Although Isaias will not cause major damage, the record number of named storms already this season gives us pause. Climate change undeniably is occurring in ways that are not fully understood, but one thing that is clear is that the number and severity of tropical storms are on the increase.

Climate change is bringing warmer ocean temperatures, which are the jet fuel for tropical storms. And for the record, the ocean temperature in Boston Harbor these past two weeks uncharacteristically has been above 70 degrees, which is wonderful for swimmers, but a harbinger of bad things to come.

The Hurricane of 1938 still stands as the fiercest hurricane ever to strike our part of the country, a once-in-a-hundred years weather event. In terms of the odds alone, we are overdue for another major hurricane. But with the effects of climate change factored into the mix, it is clear that Mother Nature could do some serious damage if another coastal storm makes its way here.

So as with everything else in life, it's just one day at a time as we await the inevitability of The Big One to strike.

DEATHS ARE ONLY PART OF THE COVID STORY

Whether the subject is drunk driving, gun violence, or COVID-19, the headline that grabs our attention always is the death toll, of which there tragically have been more than 150,000 of our fellow Americans from COVID-19.

However, what often goes unreported are the large numbers of injuries, whether caused by drunken drivers, guns, or the coronavirus, that have life-altering consequences for victims.

Recent studies have shown that even individuals who are totally asymptomatic when they contract COVID-19 still are likely to have long-term, if not permanent, damage to their heart, lungs, brain, kidneys, and other organs.

With respect to the heart, a study revealed that more than 3/4 of a group of 100 relatively young and healthy persons who contracted COVID-19 had some degree of visible heart damage -- 76 had evidence of a biomarker signaling cardiac injury typically found after a heart attack -- two months after the virus had cleared their bodies.

We still are learning about the coronavirus, but as time goes on and as our nation lurches ahead with no strategy to contain the pandemic, thereby endangering the lives and health of all of our citizens, it is becoming increasingly clear that COVID-19 is a far more insidious threat than initially had been thought.

And as we learn more and more about how damaging COVID-19 can be to even healthy individuals, it is hard to imagine reopening schools and businesses without a national strategy and adequate funding to ensure the health and safety of our people.

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Forum

GUEST OP-ED

Investing in small businesses, during and after the crisis

By Joe Gravellese

Small businesses are the backbone of any community. A just and equitable revitalization of areas like Revere Beach, Route 1 Saugus, and downtown Chelsea requires strong, locally-owned businesses, which not only add economic vibrancy to a community, but also provide a bulwark against displacement. The need to support small businesses is now even more urgent in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Here are some ways I'll fight for local entrepreneurs if elected State Representative on September 1:

Making permanent reforms that give more flexibility to small businesses

In the wake of COVID-19, local governments got creative about green-lighting ideas for businesses that would normally require months of red tape.

Kowloon in Saugus and Easy Pie in Revere have hosted drive-in movie nights. Restaurants like Demaino's, Dryft, and the Hammersmith have expanded their outdoor patios, including occupying street or parking lot space to create more safe opportunities for dining. "Togo" cocktails are available for pickup at your favorite restaurants.

We need to make many of these short-term changes permanent, and give businesses the flexibility to try new, creative ideas. This includes making sure that licensing and permitting requirements are focused

on public safety, and not on stifling competition. It also means continuing to monitor abuses of employment law, like noncompete clauses, which big businesses often use to depress innovation and competition.

Investing in locally-owned businesses and workers

As a region, we must invest in thoughtful workforce development programs that train local residents of all backgrounds to participate in the 21st century economy.

This means ensuring that when the new Revere High School is built, it is equipped to train students for the jobs of the future, including space for robotics, biotechnology, and life sciences. It also means ensuring the school has a vocational and technical component to give more students access to career education.

Revere, Chelsea, and Saugus need partners at the state level to unlock investment in programs that support small food vendors, artists, and other unique enterprises.

When I worked in the Mayor's office in Revere, I worked on projects to create a one-stop landing page for starting a business in Revere, and to create "e-permitting" to make the process of getting started easier and more convenient. We need to invest in additional resources like these to make the process of starting a business less daunting.

Creating Walkable, Vibrant, Accessible Spaces

The best way to help small businesses thrive is

to create safe, walkable, vibrant spaces, especially near transit. State-level grant funding has been crucial in upgrading infrastructure in key corridors like Broadway and Shirley Ave in Revere.

Continued upgrades to transit are also crucial. By strengthening bus service and reimagining the commuter rail, we will increase the number of neighborhoods with access to a workforce and a customer base.

Recognizing that internet is essential

The COVID-19 pandemic has highlighted both the necessity of the internet, and the gap in internet availability. Businesses need quality internet access to participate in today's economy, and customers need the internet to connect to commerce and to jobs. But we can't rely on monopolistic cable companies to expand internet access.

Several communities around Massachusetts, including Chicopee, have invested in community or municipal-owned broadband programs. Communities like ours should explore similar options to make sure our residents have access to the tools they need to participate in the economy.

Supporting green-collar enterprises

The working-class jobs of the future will be "green-collar" jobs in clean energy, or in retrofitting existing buildings. We need to invest in job training programs for these jobs, make sure local vocational schools and community colleges are equipped to

prepare residents to move in to them, and ensure that Massachusetts rightfully emerges as a global leader in wind and solar technology.

Short-term COVID-19 relief

In coming months, small businesses will need continued support from the government to stay afloat. This means another round of small business loans to help businesses keep employees on their payroll and remain open. It also means continued state-level investment in PPE and sanitation supplies to provide to local businesses to allow them to operate safely.

We need state-level support to ward off economic devastation, especially in hard-hit communities like Chelsea, where local leaders recently called on the Governor to provide additional support for programs like food and rental assistance. If the local workforce and customer base can't afford to pay rent or for essentials, businesses will suffer, too.

Our region needed thoughtful investments in workforce training and community development even before this crisis - but now, as we recover, these efforts are more important than ever. I am committed to championing small businesses and local entrepreneurs if elected to serve the 16th Suffolk District.

Joe Gravellese is a candidate for State Representative in the Democratic Primary election on September 1 in the 16th Suffolk District (Revere, Chelsea, Saugus).

GUEST OP-ED

Parents have enough to worry about

By Chelsea Councilor Damali Vidot

We are in this together. As COVID-19 starts to pick up steam across the Commonwealth again, living in such close quarters to each other poses a threat to us all. Dr. Birs, White House Coronavirus Response Coordinator, warns that we are in a new phase of the virus due to its deadly, widespread reach. Because our communities are so dense, this resurgence isn't just a 'Chelsea' or 'Boston' problem. All it takes is a short bus ride on the 111 on your way to work to bring the coronavirus over the Tobin Bridge.

Since the very beginning of this pandemic, our state government's reluctance to shut down in a timely manner made it harder to slow the spread of infection. A couple of months later, the phases of reopening have proven what we've always feared: we may have opened too soon. Now that we are seeing our infection rates begin to creep up

again, we need to have a serious conversation about protecting our most precious gifts, our children. In these times of uncertainty, the one thing we can be sure of is that the only way to guarantee safety for us all is by practicing physical distancing by avoiding the gathering of crowds.

The ideas proposed for school re-openings are insufficient to ensure our children's safety. Without resources to fund these ideas, or the inability to guarantee safety to all of our families, it risks our children's lives and those of their families.

We learned recently that Massachusetts has no plans to track COVID-19 outbreaks in schools, even though they are inevitable. The infection of one child, 1 teacher, 1 family is 1 too many. Despite our desire to return to a level of normalcy, I believe the one thing we need to come to terms with is that the new normal must be drastically re-imagined. It is not returning to the status quo pre-pandemic. Using our

children as guinea pigs to assess the contagion when we are still in the first wave of infections is not only irresponsible--it is cruel.

While the unknowns about reopening looms over the heads of parents, so do fears of unemployment, loss of health insurance, how to pay rent or mortgage and concerns of how to feed their families. Adding to that whether seeking an education would pose a threat to their family's health and safety should be the last thing our public schools burden our families with.

Week after week, I hear teachers, school nurses, faculty, parents and even students shout from their rooftops of their reluctance to return to school due to fear of contagion-- and rightfully so. This time could have been better served creating and mastering an all-virtual learning program for our students while utilizing the lessons learned in the Spring Semester as a pilot program. We could have been allocating funding for

the equitable distribution of remote learning technologies. Our legislature could have provided funding to ensure that the reopening plans are financed to ensure safety. But our state has fallen far short--and universities around the country are already sounding the alarm to cancel on-campus activities.

We should not be forcing our children into school with a deadly respiratory virus on the loose. I may be an elected official and candidate for office-- but I'm a mother first. Because of this, I am committed to amplifying the needs of our children, parents, educators and school staff. If you spend one moment listening to the voices of those at the center of this, it's clear that we have to invest in our students and teachers and get a grip on this virus before we even conceive of threatening our children and families.

Chelsea Councilor Damali Vidot is a candidate for state representative.

mission to get things done for the residents.

Several years ago I met such a dedicated leader as I was attending a meeting of our City Council. I watched her step up for the people of Chelsea time and time again even as she met strong opposition. She

LETTERS to the Editor

very proud to tell people we live in Chelsea. Living here, I became involved in our city and our neighborhood. I am currently on the Chelsea's Economic Development Board, my wife and I are part of GreenRoots, and I am very active in our homeowners association on Admirals Hill.

Over those 30+ years, we have seen many changes in our city. Some of the changes were okay and some of them have made our city Great.

Every important and meaningful advancement in our city has one thing in common...a dedicated leader who makes it their

Alpert awaits MIAA decision on CHS fall sports season

By Cary Shuman

Chelsea High School Director of Athletics Amanda Alpert is awaiting word from the Massachusetts Interscholastic Athletic Association (MIAA) about the fall sports season in respect to the coronavirus.

“We have not been given any word from the MIAA what we’re doing with fall sports,” said Alpert.

The 2020-21 sports year is going to be a transitional one for the entire CHS sports program. Chelsea has exited the Commonwealth Athletic Conference (CAC) and would be an “independent” this year with no league affiliation. Chelsea will join the Greater Boston League in the fall of 2021 in all sports except football where the Red

Devils will maintain their independent status.

“This year’s schedules will consist of games against CAC schools, GBL schools, and Boston City League schools,” said Alpert.

Chelsea High is slated to field varsity teams this fall in football, boys and girls soccer, girls volleyball, and boys and girls cross country.

CHS athletes on to college sports

Track star Stephanie Simon is headed to Youngstown State University in Ohio. Simon had a record-breaking, four-year career that included state and national championships. She received a Division 1 college scholarship.

Soccer standout Alejandro Ponce Lopez will be

continuing her soccer career at UMass-Dartmouth. Ponce Lopez was the Class of 2020 salutatorian and aspires to be a physician.

Women’s pro football league season is canceled

On a personal note, Amanda Alpert saw her Boston Renegades women’s professional football league (WFA) season canceled for 2020.

Alpert was set to return to the team this season and be a starting player. Alpert has enjoyed a very successful pro football career, leading her teams to several league championships.

“The 2020 season was canceled and we’re hoping that things will be good enough to play in 2021,” said Alpert. “The hope is that we start playing games next April.”

School Committeeman Roberto Jiménez Rivera endorses Joe Gravellese for State Representative

Roberto Jiménez Rivera, who topped the ticket in his first run for Chelsea School Committee in 2019, has endorsed Joe Gravellese for State Representative in the 16th Suffolk District (Revere, Chelsea, and Saugus). The Democratic primary in that race will be held on September 1.

“Joe understands the systemic education and climate injustices that plague Chelsea and Revere,” said Jiménez Rivera. “He has built the community relationships that will enable him to advocate for us and reform the broken government systems that have led to our inequitable status quo.”

“I’m honored to receive



Roberto Jiménez Rivera, Chelsea School Committee.

the endorsement of an emerging leader in Chelsea like Roberto,” said Gravellese. “Roberto has led the conversation around a safe reopening of schools, and has been a fierce and

effective advocate for better investment in low-income students in communities like Chelsea.”

“Throughout this campaign, I’ve worked to ensure that the whole district knows they will have a champion in the Legislature if I am elected on September 1,” he continued. “I’m proud of the relationships I’ve built in Chelsea, from the unanimous endorsement of the Chelsea Ward 4 Democratic Committee, to the support of local leaders like Roberto. I look forward to continuing this work in the Legislature, because Chelsea needs strong partners at the state level as it recovers from COVID-19.”

Letters / Continued from Page 4

persevered and provided the leadership needed to put the people of Chelsea first.

That leader was Damali Vidot.

Now, she wants to take her energy, experience, sound judgement, and leadership to a new platform.

As a voting citizen of Chelsea, I am very pleased to support Damali Vidot for our State Representative in Charlestown and Chelsea. I encourage all my fellow citizens to support Damali and vote for her on Tuesday, September 1.

Joseph H. Fuchs Jr.

DAN RYAN HAS MY VOTE

To the Editor,

On September 1, 2020, independent-minded voters

like myself will be making important decisions that will impact the direction of where our community and neighborhood will be going.

As a former Director of Development of Centro Latino de Chelsea, I know what Chelsea was like a few years ago. It was a receiver city, with few opportunities and not exactly family friendly. I remember the thick fog of industrial pollution hovering over the smoky air and an unpleasant odor of uncollected garbage. I remember the sparse business establishments, shops, eating places.

But look at Chelsea now – vibrant, bustling with retail business, shops, restaurants, families feeling safe and neighborly.

All because Dan Ryan fought hard to bring quality public education, affordable housing, mass transportation, championed the environment, and pushed for good wages. Dan delivers. He is not just talk and promises. He brings results. He has a proven track record of accomplishments for the communities her serves.

That’s why he has my vote. He had my vote then; he has my vote now.

Voting for Dan Ryan is voting for my best interests. It is voting for OUR best interests. Dan Ryan knows how to work with public officials, community leaders and grassroots to make good things come true.

Sincerely,

Betty King

School / Continued from page 1

kids at home learning remotely when school starts in September, or to engage in the hybrid in-person model that alternates on a five-day schedule between home and school.

Abeyta said the results of a parent and student survey showed a majority preferring some type of in-person learning, while nearly 30 percent favored fully remote learning. Likewise, nearly 80 percent of the district’s teachers were surveyed and they had a different preference, with 50 percent preferring to be fully remote in September.

That has led to a compromise suggested by the administration, one that has been shopped around the City to parent groups over the past week. It will be required to be voted on Aug. 11 at the School Committee meeting.

The hybrid plan is different for elementary and middle/high school.

Students in elementary will have classes of 15 with one teacher and will be assigned to Group A or B. Group A will go to school in person Monday through Friday on the first week from morning to early afternoon. At the same time Group B will do remote learning from the morning to early afternoon for Live Zoom classes and asynchronous lessons mon-

itored by a teacher.

The following week, the two would switch and Group A would go remote, while Group B would go into school. Students in school would spend 75 percent or more of their time in separate class settings.

It would be a similar structure for middle and high school, but students would receive live instruction every day in a class with no more than 15 students. Students would be assigned to pods so they stay with the same students as much as possible.

The Group A and Group B situation would work the same, as they alternate weeks in school and remotely.

The fully remote option would also be available and is being termed the Online Learning Academy (OLA) – which would be a much-improved version of the online learning that took place during emergency remote learning last spring.

“The Chelsea Online Learning Academy is designed specifically to respond to the needs of those students and families who do not feel comfortable returning to school and would rather engage in 100 percent remote teaching and learning experiences,” read the description. “The OLA Program will

follow the same schedule, core curriculum and accountability measures as the remote portions of the Hybrid Learning Model. It will have a structured schedule for time on learning, and will be composed of synchronous and asynchronous learning opportunities along with independent work time.”

That will be one of the keys is getting the remote option, and the remote hybrid weeks in sync with the in-person instruction going on.

Abeyta posed the question at the meeting as to why the schools in the hardest hit spot in Massachusetts thought it could successfully bring students back in person. She gave six points as to why it is possible.

•All of our buildings are relatively new with good ventilation





•Incredibly proactive facilities and operations team





•Tailored instruction plans for each campus

•Strong internal coherence amongst the leadership

•Our plan is differentiated so that it meets the needs of preschool and high school students because of the input we have had from multiple stakeholders during the process

•We are Chelsea Strong!

ELEMENTARY	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Students assigned to a class of 15 with one teacherEach class is assigned to a Cohort (A or B)Cohorts alternate weeks, so while Cohort A comes to school Monday-Friday, Cohort B is remote. The next week they switch.	
Week 1	
 Cohort A Monday-Friday in person in school morning through early afternoon	 Cohort B M-F morning to early afternoon remotely Live Zoom & asynchronous lesson monitored by teacher
Week 2	
 Cohort A M-F morning to early afternoon remotely Live Zoom & asynchronous lessons monitored by teacher	 Cohort B Monday - Friday in person in school morning through early afternoon

MIDDLE & CHELSEA HIGH SCHOOL	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Students receive live instruction from teachers every dayEach class has a max of 15 studentsStudents are assigned to pods in order to stay with same students as much as possiblePods are assigned a cohort (A or B)Cohorts alternate weeks, so while Cohort A comes to school Monday-Friday, Cohort B is remote. The next week they switch.At CHS some specialized courses and electives will be fully remote.	
Week 1	
 Cohort A <ul style="list-style-type: none">- In-person Mon-Fri mornings- 45 - 50 minute periods- Independent work in afternoon	 Cohort B <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Live zoom (cameras on) with teacher- Mon-Fri afternoons- 30-minute periods- Independent work in morning
Week 2	
 Cohort A <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Live zoom (cameras on) with teacher- Mon-Fri afternoons- 30-minute periods- Independent work in morning	 Cohort B <ul style="list-style-type: none">- In-person Mon-Fri mornings- 45- 50 minute periods- Independent work in afternoon

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First Come - First Served

Shah Foundation teams up with Chelsea chef to provide free summer food for kids

By John Lynds

It's no secret Chelsea was one of the worst hit cities in Massachusetts by the COVID-19 pandemic and many people not only suffered with the terrible virus but many also lost a steady stream of income as the state closed during the height of the outbreak.

Celebrated local chef and owner of the Farm Girl food truck, Lorena Lorenzet, was one of the businesses impacted by COVID.

"Ninety-six percent of my catering was cancelled," said Lorenzet, whose food truck is a popular catering option for graduations, weddings, corporate parties and other catered affairs. "I was fully booked for summer but then COVID hit and they cancelled everything."

Lorenzet searched for ways to keep busy and came

across a program organized by the Shah Foundation that is helping feed Chelsea children through the federal summer food program.

With help from federal funding and other donors the Shah Foundation paired chefs like Lorenzet with local food distribution sites in Chelsea to cook and distribute fresh, home cooked meals for kids throughout the summer.

The program not only allowed Lorenzet to maintain her food truck business but hire support staff from Chelsea and upgrade equipment to be able to meet the demand of summer food for local kids.

Through the program Lorenzet has become the anchor chef for Chelsea's Summer Eats Program at the Salvation Army on Chestnut Street and Temple Emmanuel on Tudor Street in Cary Square.

"I love to do it," she said.



Far from the usual summer lunches, Chef Lorena Lorenzet has been preparing fresh, home cooked meals like chicken, string beans and mashed potatoes.



Celebrated local chef and owner of the Farm Girl food truck, Lorena Lorenzet.

"I love to be able to help these kids and provide them with a decent meal. With the budget I have I knew we could do it and it was something that was not impossible."

So far this summer Lorenzet has created 2,000 amazingly delicious food boxes per week for Chelsea kids at the two sites.

"I love seeing the smiles on the kids' faces when we are distributing the meals each day," said Lorenzet. "It makes me happy to know we are helping and the kids go home with a good meal."

The Summer Eats program provides free meals to anyone 18 and under at locations across the state when school is out. All kids and teens are eligible, and no registration or ID is required to participate.

Temple Emmanuel, established in the 1930s as



Lorena Lorenzet popular Farm Girl food truck.

an alternative to the local orthodox synagogues, got involved in the program to honor the Jewish tradition of "Tikkun Olam". Tikkun Olam seeks to benefit the local community while helping to improve the broader world so helping distribute free summer food meals to children in Chelsea was a no-brainer.

"It's so important for every child to receive healthy food every day. We are thrilled to partner with local restaurants to provide nutritious food in partnership with the YMCA, the Salvation Army, and Temple Emmanuel of Chelsea," said President of the Shah Family Foundation Jill Shah.



Some of the box lunches Lorena Lorenzet has been preparing for Chelsea's Summer Eats program.

Rep. Ryan and House pass environmental justice and more in Roadmap 2050 Bill

Staff Report

In an impassioned floor speech during the waning moments of the legislative session last Friday evening, State Rep. Dan Ryan delivered on a promise made earlier in the session to push for passage of an Environmental Justice (EJ) bill.

There were several iterations of EJ legislation this session and in sessions past. The omnibus bill that passed on Friday evening was a forward-thinking climate change and emissions reducing bill entitled An Act Creating a 2050 Roadmap to a Clean and Thriving Commonwealth. The legislation set reduced emissions goals for the next thirty years. Ryan, in his floor remarks, stated that the COVID-19 pandemic has exasperated the realities of gateway cities and



State Rep. Dan Ryan made an impassioned speech on the floor of the House last Friday to advocate for the long-delayed Environmental Justice Bill, which passed that evening following Ryan's speech.

urban communities that bear the brunt of environmental degradation. The EJ amendment ensures that communities like Chelsea and Charlestown, that have

overwhelmingly shouldered an inordinate amount of our region's infrastructure, will have a greater stake in future planning.

"As we have read in the news, the COVID-19 crisis has not only exasperated the conditions of our densely populated urban communities, but have also highlighted the inequities in our gateway cities, our communities of color and our immigrant populations. None of these issues were news to the people of Chelsea and Charlestown," said Ryan. "We have been dealing with environmental injustice for over a century. In that light, 2050...will be here before you know it." Ryan later added, "the time to fix the environmental sins of the past is now."

The amendment in question, Amendment #52, was overwhelmingly adopted

and added to the Roadmap 2050 final bill. There was a series of stand-alone EJ bills introduced at the beginning of the legislative session eighteen months ago. Of particular note, the amendment language that was adopted emulated an early EJ bill sponsored by Representative Adrian Madaro (D- East Boston), co-sponsored by Ryan, and worked on and advocated for by Chelsea GreenRoots and other environmental groups. These bills were originally assigned to the Joint Committee on The Environment and had passed favorably out of committee. The Roadmap bill, because of its regulatory nature, was carried to the floor by the Joint Committee on Telecom, Utilities and Energy. Ryan also secured adoption of key necessary reforms of the

gas industry in the final bill. These amendments will ensure worker and community safety while also helping the environment.

"This bill, and these amendments, presented an opportunity for me to weave together two of my legislative priorities," said Ryan, who has emerged as a legislative leader on workplace safety issues and has earned the ranking of 'Environmental Champion' by the Environmental League of Massachusetts (ELM). "We added important pieces to this bill that will reform the way we install and monitor our natural gas infrastructure. These amendments protect workers, our communities and our natural environment." The amendments referred to include Amendment #28, authored by Ryan, which would require gas gates

in future natural gas infrastructure maintenance, as well as Amendment #40, Field Safety in Gas Infrastructure, offered by Rep Frank Moran (D-Lawrence) and co-sponsored by Ryan, as a direct response to the Merrimack Valley gas explosions. "These reforms protect our environment by more closely monitoring maintenance work being done to our gas systems, particularly in our older more urban areas, but more importantly they ensure public safety by protecting workers and consumers alike. This bill sets a goal for zero emissions in 2050, but there are also immediate fixes that can occur now. These amendments do just that."

The Roadmap 2050 bill will now go to conference with the Senate and onto the Governor.

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Artistic tables at Chelsea Square fountain focus on public mourning following COVID-19 bout

By Seth Daniel

Built on the Dominican Republic theme of nine days of public mourning, nine artists and coordinator Claudia Paraschiv have created artistic tables around the fountain in Chelsea Square focused on freeing the community from the dire days of COVID-19.

And while they are artistic and creative – people can sit on them.

The tables came out of a previous idea where Paraschiv was going to be working with Chelsea Prospers to create a public art piece interactively this summer. However, with COVID-19 restrictions, that became impossible. However, Chelsea Prospers Director Mimi Graney wondered if she might be interested in creating tables to go around the fountain.

“As we had conversations about what Chelsea had been through and the enormous amount of need, loss and effort experienced by everyone, we started talking about public mourning and how it is part of the culture in Latin America,” said Paraschiv. “It isn’t much of a thing in the U.S., but it is in Latin America. There, they have the ‘Nine Days of Mourning.’ The tradition in the Dominican Republic had a very specific way of mourning. It had a meaning for all nine days, and the nine tables around the fountain are designed around that tradition and theme.”

The project is called ‘Nuestra Mesa.’

The nine sets were placed around the fountain in Chelsea Square and will be both functional as places to sit with a friend and inspirational as an art installation for the contemplation of this challenging time of loss for the community.

The nine artists were tasked with expressing the nine days of mourning - grieving (crying and remi-

niscing), silence (thinking and reverence) and release (accepting and separating) - through nature imagery. Most of the artists are from Chelsea and are from a wide range of ages and backgrounds.

Artist Anna Dugan reflected on her piece ‘Like a bear in the ocean.’

“I love swimming in the ocean,” she said. “I love the feeling of diving under and taking a moment to be suspended underwater in the gentle, but powerful hush. It’s like being on another planet, a different world. My portion of the project was the silent reverence and reflecting portion of grief in connection to the ocean. When I’m grieving I feel so disoriented and disconnected to myself and my surrounding. I feel like a bear in the ocean. I’m taking in the silence and the pressure of my solitude, but I don’t belong here. I am only a visitor. And I will eventually move on, but for the mo-

ment I am allowing myself to reflect in the quiet pain of my grief before I come up again for air.”

The tables were created by a local metal fabricator, Paraschiv said, and were placed around the fountain on Aug. 1.

“The idea is to take these somewhat private events and make them a little more public as the community grapples with what it has experienced,” she said.

She said the creations run from very professional to a skilled amateur.

“The works the artists did are very thoughtful,” she said. “It runs the gamut from more polished and refined to a little more amateur in technique, but that’s ok and intentional. We wanted a spectrum of talent and capabilities to be inclusive and to go back to the theme of mourning. You’re part of the collective.”

The individual painters are as follows, with the title of their pieces. (An asterisk

designates a Chelsea resident):

- RAIN: Yenny Hernandez
- FALLING LEAVES: Max Pro*
- WAVES: Keshia De Leon;
- CLOUDS: Trippy Landia (Giselle Builes)
- SOIL: Aliyah Saldana-Oswald*
- OCEAN: Anna Dugan
- SUNSHINE: Nirvana Lildharrie*
- NEW TREE: Nelson Saldana*
- WIND: Marianne Ramos*



CLOUDS: Trippy Landia (Giselle Builes).



Several of the tables that now line the fountain of Chelsea Square are meant to take a look at public mourning in an exhibit called ‘Nuestra Mesa,’ based on the Nine Days of Mourning in Latin American culture.



‘New Tree’ by Chelsea’s Nelson Saldana.

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DiDomenico secures \$10M for afterschool and out-of-school programs

Last week, Senator Sal DiDomenico successfully secured \$10 Million for COVID-19 Preparedness and Stabilization Grants to provide much needed support to Massachusetts afterschool and out-of-school time programs. These grants will provide funding to form community partnerships, workforce training and health and safety expenses necessary to adequately prepare for the 2020-2021 school year amidst COVID-19.

DiDomenico's amendment was included in An Act Enabling Partnerships for Growth, which was passed by the Massachusetts Senate. This legislation will provide for programs related to economic development and job creation throughout the Commonwealth, with a special consideration for the diverse needs related to the 2019 novel coronavirus. Senator DiDomenico focused in on several specific community priorities in addition to educational equity related to after and out-of-school programming.

"In a workforce where one-third of individuals rely on childcare to successfully work, it's a no-brainer that organizations like the Boys and Girls Clubs, the Alliance of Massachusetts YMCAs and many of our local afterschool programs are integral to the smooth functioning of our society. These organizations' capacity to allow parents more flexibility in fulltime work schedules, all the while ensuring their children are safely cared for outside supervised school hours, is extremely important to maintain. I am proud to secure this funding that will allow our community afterschool partners to effectively prepare their facilities and staff for the fall, and I am so grateful for all that they do for our Commonwealth's children and families."

In consideration of upcoming budget constraints, school districts throughout the Commonwealth have been forced to reallocate funding for afterschool programming, making the system particularly vulnerable in light of increased costs related to COVID preparedness. Already, afterschool and out-of-school community partners face cumulative challenges from expenses related to additional cleaning requirements, PPE, protocols (like reduced group sizes), and consequent need for increased staffing that are necessary for the safe maintenance of these programs during coronavirus.

"I want to thank Senator DiDomenico for his leadership and support during a critical time for afterschool

programs across the Commonwealth," said Ardit Wieworka, CEO Massachusetts Afterschool Partnership. "Afterschool Programs, big and small, have helped support communities through the COVID-19 crisis. School reopening is imminent, and with these new resources, afterschool programs can meet the challenge and continue to provide much needed support to districts, students, and families over the coming months."

"We are truly grateful to Senator DiDomenico and the Massachusetts State Senate for championing afterschool and out-of-school time programs like the Boys & Girls Clubs. Now more than ever, state support like this is critical to ensure that we can continue supporting the kids and families in the communities we serve," said Jennifer Aldworth, Executive Director of the Massachusetts Alliance of Boys & Girls Clubs.

"The YMCAs are thankful to have a champion and partner in Senator Sal DiDomenico who understands the importance of directing critical state funding towards out of school time programs," said Peter Doliber, CEO of the Alliance of Massachusetts YMCAs. As we enter into an unprecedented fall, YMCAs are striving to serve all children equitably and this funding will help us towards that goal. This funding will provide much needed support for staffing and cleaning which will allow us to serve more children and families."

Specifically, these resources will serve to ensure the over 700,000 youth enrolled in public schools throughout the Commonwealth will have an equitable opportunity for safe afterschool and out-of-school care, in the midst of an otherwise unpredictable school year. In efforts to alleviate challenges faced by organizations who provide these programs, the grants offered through this funding seek to assist in supporting increased costs related to:

- PPE and cleaning
- Additional supplies due to the need for single/solitary usage
- Programming to address academic achievement loss caused by long distance/remote/uncertain learning environment
- Services for low wage-earning communities
- Services including, but not limited to, the provision of meals and transportation

The differences between the Senate and House versions of the bill will now be reconciled before heading to the Governor's desk for his signature.

Paul R. and Joyce A. (DeAngelis) Sartorelli Memorial Mass



A Memorial Mass and celebration of Paul and Joyce's lives will be held in Rowley on Thursday, August 13 at 8 a.m. at St. Mary's Parish of Georgetown and Rowley, 202 Main St. Rowley, MA 01969.

Joyce passed away on June 23 and reunited with her beloved husband, Paul, who passed on June 7 after sharing 60 years of love and devotion. Together they were the parents of Paul R. Sartorelli, Jr. and his wife, Christine and the grandparents of Paul R. Sartorelli, III, Joseph Sartorelli and Andrew Sartorelli. They were brother, brother-in-law, sister and sister-in-law to: Vincent J. Sartorelli and his wife, Sandra of Amesbury, Mary E. Mahoney and her late husband, Dennis, the late Dominic DeAngelis and his wife,



Margaret of Tewksbury, the late Claire and Thomas Harney and the late Carol A. and Robert Cataldo. Both are lovingly survived by their uncle and Friend, Al Campedelli of Winthrop and many nieces, nephews, grandnieces, grandnephews and extended family members.

Should friends desire, contributions in their memory should be directed to a favorite charity of one's choice. Arrangements were given to the care and direction of the Welsh Funeral Home, Chelsea. We continue to encourage family and friends who wish, to offer condolences at this time to do so by means of the online guest book or to send a personalized sympathy card by visiting: www.WelshFuneralHome.com.

Dorothy Rennie Former longtime Chelsea resident



Graveside services will be held on Saturday, August 15 at Holy Cross Cemetery, Malden for Dorothy "Dossie" M. Rennie, a former long time resident of Chelsea, who passed away peacefully surrounded by her family on March 13, 2020. She was 78 years old. For those attending, a funeral procession will assemble at the Welsh Funeral Home, 718 Broadway, Chelsea at 10 a.m. A celebration of her life will immediately follow the cemetery services. Relatives and friends are most kindly invited to attend. All attendees are required to wear face coverings and practice social distancing.

Born and raised in Chelsea, she was the beloved daughter of the late Joseph and Doris (Lewin) Flavin. She attended Chelsea schools and soon after married her high school sweetheart, Russell A. Rennie. Dossie and Russ raised their own family, making their home on Spencer Avenue in Chelsea for over 30 years. Dossie also worked as a telephone response operator with 3M Alarm Company.

After retirement, Russ and Dossie enjoyed many years in Sumner, Maine. She was a member of the Summer Women's Sewing and Quilting Club and enjoyed many hours helping neighbors and friends in the Summer community.

In her later years, she and Russ moved to Andover with Nan, Marc and Mike, where they enjoyed making new friends at the Center at Punchard Senior Center.

In her lifetime "Dossie"

enjoyed quilting, baking and a good game of Cribbage.

She was widowed in 2017 after 58 years of marriage when Russ passed away peacefully at home with his family.

She was the forever beloved mother of Timothy P. Rennie and his wife, Carrie of Merrimac, Nanette (Rennie) Fournier and her husband, R. Marc of Andover, Lorell A. (Rennie) Lawrence of Berwick, Maine, and Russell A. Rennie Jr. and his wife, Karen of North Conway, New Hampshire. Dossie was the cherished grandmother of Sarah, Megan and Jacob Lawrence, Michael Conte, and Abigail Fournier. She was the dear sister of Geraldine and her husband, Alan Gopen in Texas and also sister to Barbara and Jack in California and is also survived by many loving nieces and nephews.

In lieu of flowers, should friends desire, donations in Dossie Rennie's memory may be made to Compassus Hospice, 790 Turnpike Street, Suite 202, North Andover, MA 01845. Family and friends who wish to offer condolences may do so by means of the online guest book or to send a personalized sympathy card by visiting: www.WelshFuneralHome.com.

Leonides Bones

Residential construction contractor, musician and singer



Leonides Bones, 62, passed away tragically on Saturday, July 25 at Tufts Medical Center in Boston.

Born and raised in Arroyo, Puerto Rico, the son of Juana Maria Gomez-Bones of Chelsea and the late Jose Bones, he attended school in Puerto Rico, came to Chelsea as a young man and has resided in Chelsea for the past 43 years.

He worked as a residential construction contractor for 40 years and also performed as a musician and singer for many years.

In his lifetime, Leonides liked to sing, play a variety of instruments, dance, draw and paint, build and is fondly remembered for his sense of humor telling "tons" of jokes.

He is survived by his children; Leonides Jr. Bones-Sanabria, Luis Javier Bones, Jesus Omar Bones, Leonela Bones

and Brandon Alexandros Bones. He was the beloved son of Juana Maria Gomez-Bones, dear brother of Tony Bones, Sonia Bones, Daisy Bones, Luis Bones, Osvaldo Bones, Jose Bones, Omayra Bones and Carlos Bones.

Visiting hours were held from the Welsh Funeral Home, Chelsea on Tuesday August 4.

Family and friends who wish to offer condolences may do so by means of the online guest book or may send a personalized sympathy card by visiting: www.WelshFuneralHome.com.

Patricia O'Regan

Retired Chelsea School Bus Monitor, late member of Chelsea PTO and Women of Chelsea Moose



Patricia "Patty" A. (Ells) O'Regan, a lifelong resident of Chelsea, passed away Thursday evening, July 30 at the Massachusetts General Hospital in Boston. She was 69 years old.

Born and raised in Chelsea, Patty attended elementary school at Our Lady of Assumption in Chelsea and graduated from Chelsea High School, Class of 1968.

Patty was a homemaker who lovingly tended to her home, her husband and her four sons. Later, Patty worked for the Chelsea School System as a school bus monitor. She dedicated 14 years to the school system before retiring in 2010.

Patty was a late member of the Chelsea PTO and a late member of the Women of the Chelsea Moose Club. She will be greatly missed by her four boys and all those who loved her.

Patty was the wife of the late James "Jimmy" P. O'Regan, Sr., with whom she shared 45 years of marriage before his passing 11 months ago. She was the devoted mother of James P. O'Regan, Jr., Shawn P. O'Regan, Michael S. O'Regan and Kevin M. O'Regan, all of Chelsea; dear sister of William "Bill" Ells and his wife, June of Rutland and the late Marie

"Mimi" Porter, dear sister-in-law of Norman Porter of Maine and is also lovingly survived by many nieces and nephews.

Relatives and friends are kindly invited to attend visiting hours at the Carafa Family Funeral Home, 389 Washington Ave., Chelsea on Saturday, Aug. 8 from 10 a.m. to 12 noon. 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 Memorial Service will follow the visitation in the Funeral Home at 12: noon. Funeral Services will conclude in the funeral home following the Memorial Service. Family and friends are encouraged to visit www.carafafuneralhome.com to offer condolences at this time by means of the online guest book or to send a personalized sympathy card.

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Photos / Continued from page 1

teacher in Cambridge who happened upon the profession late in life after working with youth in other capacities for many years. Last fall, she won a sabbatical from her job in Cambridge and studied photojournalism in New York City with the idea of bringing back a dynamic class to her students. When COVID-19 hit, she wanted to combine her love of photography with a journey about helping others in need and finding those that always step up to help – including during COVID-19. “I talked with local groups in a burgeoning network of ‘mutual aid societies’ - the MAMAS of Medford and Somerville, Jamaica Plain/Roxbury Mutual Aid,” she said. “I interviewed founding members and participants, and soon was led to the 32-year-old Chelsea Collaborative. Here was an established association of community volunteers, grocery wholesalers, union members, local politicians and staff involved in effective strategies to ease the stresses of the COVID-19 crisis on Chelsea residents and families.”

Executive Director Gladys Vega knew on March 13 that the shut-down would have fast, profound and far-reaching effects on the community. In keeping with its mission, “to empower Chelsea residents to enhance the social and economic health of the community and its people; and to hold institutional

decision-makers accountable to the community,” Vega organized a network of food donation and distribution, political support for a tenants involved in rental disputes due to COVID effects, training for census workers to ensure Chelsea gets the support it deserves for all its residents, a site for summer youth work and training, and collaboration with other Boston-area groups lobbying for increased government investment in communities.

Dozens of volunteers pass through the offices of the Chelsea Collaborative each week to pack boxes and distribute food to families in need and to represent Chelsea in political actions. “This is my family,” is a refrain from volunteers, almost all of whom have families at home. The work of the Collaborative is a model of comprehensive community organizing, and invites everyone to be a part of effective change, something greater than themselves.

“I have felt it, too, and return to document the solidarity and the sense of mission and pride evident in the dedicated volunteers,” said Weisbart. “It could be Gladys Vega who said it, but it was Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.: ‘Everybody can be great, because everybody can serve.’”

Weisbart’s photos from her time at the Collaborative and focusing on other actions regarding housing and Civil Rights can be found elsewhere in this edition.



Chelsea Collaborative volunteer and community organizer Maira reads the story of a Chelsea resident in danger of eviction due to the COVID-19 epidemic in preparation for an event at Chelsea City Hall in support of MA Senate Right to Counsel for tenants in legal disputes with landlords.



Volunteer registering Chelsea resident at pop-up “Census Party” in front of Chelsea Collaborative during free food distribution hours.



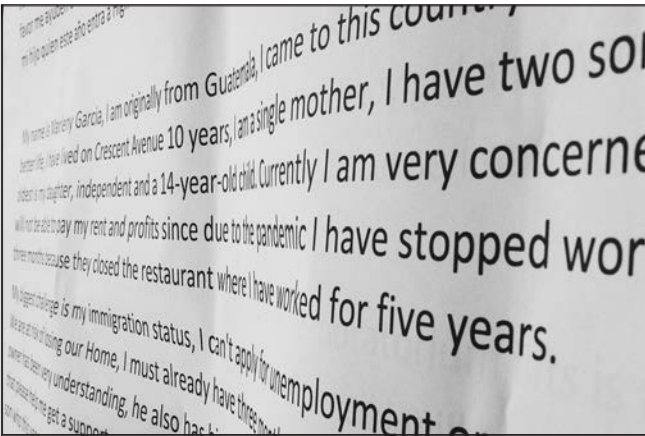
Inside the Chelsea Collaborative offices on Broadway where census volunteers are trained. The slogan on their shirts, “Census 2020: Aquí estamos y contamos” - “we are here and we count” - is displayed on banners throughout the city.



Chelsea Collaborative volunteers and activists Viakie Gonzalez and Estephany Escobar hold signs and listen to a speaker at the Raise up Massachusetts “Invest in Our Recovery” rally at Revere Beach.



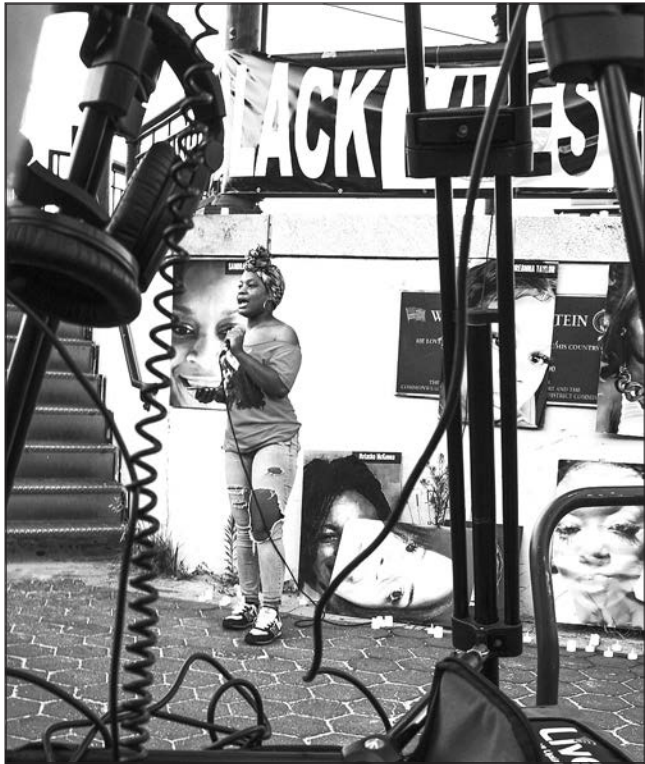
Chelsea Collaborative volunteers and activists Estephany, Viakie and Jeffrey hold signs and listen to a speaker at the Raise up Massachusetts “Invest in Our Recovery” rally at Revere Beach.



Chelsea Collaborative Executive Director Gladys Vega and CLIC (Chelsea Latinx Immigrant Committee) organizer Norieliz DeJesus collected and printed stories from residents in danger of eviction due to the COVID-19 epidemic as part of an event at Chelsea City Hall in support of MA Senate Bill S. 2785’s Right to Counsel for tenants in legal disputes with landlords.



Chelsea Collaborative volunteers Estephany Escobar (left) and Viakie Gonzalez (right) hold signs at the Raise up Massachusetts “Invest in Our Recovery” rally at Revere Beach.



A volunteer talks to other volunteers.



Members of the Chelsea Collaborative join Beth Huang of Raise Up Massachusetts at an “Invest in Our Recovery” rally at Revere Beach. Speakers represented the Boston Teachers Union (BTU), SEIU Local 615, Neighbors United for a Better East Boston (NUBE Boston), parents, and community leaders from Revere and Chelsea.

A LOOK BEHIND THE SCENES AT THE CHELSEA COLLABORATIVE

PHOTOS BY CINDY WEISBART



Volunteer Ulises on Broadway in front of the Chelsea Collaborative ready to offer a full box of free food. Pallets of onions and potatoes delivered to the sidewalk on Broadway are additional donations.



Volunteers Estephany Escobar and Roberto Garcia Vega moving hundreds of boxes of donated food to families in need from the hallway to the tables at the front door of the Chelsea Collaborative on Broadway.



Volunteer bringing additional donations of bread to the front of the Chelsea Collaborative to add to boxes of donated food being distributed on Broadway.



Jessica Armijo, volunteer at the Chelsea Collaborative, pushing a cart of boxes filled with donated food from the preparation room at the Collaborative building on Broadway to the tables at the front door where they are offered to families in need.



Masked and gloved volunteer carrying a box of free food out the front door of the Chelsea Collaborative on Broadway.



A volunteer from the North Atlantic States Carpenters' Union checking a box of donated food before it is given away at the Chelsea Collaborative on Broadway.



Adrianna Vega, rising senior at Excel Academy Chelsea, site coordinator for the Chelsea Summer Youth Employment Initiative at the Chelsea Collaborative and volunteer, pushing a cart filled with boxes of donated food past murals in the hallway of the Collaborative offices. The floors are lined with plywood to protect them from the weight of the food carts.



Volunteer Patricia Ebanks (left) inside the Chelsea Collaborative on Broadway work up to five hours adding snacks, canned goods, pasta, masa and meat to pre-packed boxes of donated fruits and vegetables.

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NEWS FROM AROUND THE REGION

ZBA TURNS DOWN PROJECT

EAST BOSTON - The Boston Zoning Board of Appeals recently sent developers of a Boston Planning and Development Agency (BPDA) approved project on Bremen Street back to the drawing board.

Citing a lack of greenspace coupled with the size and scope of the project, the ZBA unanimously rejected the proposed project at 282-302 Bremen St. that would have brought 145 additional units to Eastie.

A representative of Mayor Martin Walsh's office spoke in opposition to the project --something that made abutters to the project very happy.

The project received BPDA approval in February and was under Article 80 Large Project review and still needed zoning variances from the ZBA to move forward.

In February the BPDA approved 145 residential units, 21 of which are income-restricted to the neighborhood at the site.

Bremen Acquisitions filed the project with the BPDA last year that kicked off an Article 80 review by the BPDA and the appointment of an IAG made up of community members for the proposal.

The developer wanted to take a non-conforming and outdated industrial use currently housing Gino's Auto Body on Bremen Street and turn the site into a development that includes a mix of residential housing and ground-floor retail space.

The project consists of the construction of a mixed-use development with 145 residential units, up to 3,200 square feet of retail space, and up to 61 off-street vehicle parking spaces. The project also includes related upgrades in public realm improvements, including pedestrian and vehicular access, landscaping and streetscape design. With a combined land area of approximately 34,160 square feet, the site consists of nine contiguous parcels of land with a series of non-descript automobile repair structures, one small wood-frame residential buildings, surface parking and multiple curb-cuts off Bremen Street.

The 110,000 square foot building included more than 3,000 square feet of retail space, over 2,155 square feet of artist workspace with gallery programming, up to 61 parking spaces and 145 bicycle storage spaces.

According to the BPDA The ground-floor retail space would be designed for an urban grocery store/market operator, daycare operator or local retailer.

Prior to the ZBA vote, Bremen Acquisition re-

leased its community mitigation package to members of the project's IAG.

The package is comparable to other projects of its size with \$200,000 in direct money benefits Eastie. The developer agreed to doing 15 percent affordable on-site housing--two percent more than what is required under the BPDA inclusionary policy.

The developer also agreed to install 19 trees, expand the sidewalks--up to 18 feet in some areas, install a safety bump out to make crossing Bremen Street easier for pedestrians as well as creating a more active Bremen Street in what has been an industrial area.

Bremen Acquisitions has also agreed to expand the retail space to make room for a fresh grocer which is desperately needed in the area.

However, in the end the ZBA ruled that the community and abutter's concerns over density, design and lack of greenspace needed to be addressed before moving forward.

TEAMING UP FOR YOUTH PROGRAMS

EAST BOSTON - The COVID-19 pandemic has kept many children in Eastie isolated for months. Now with the summer here and some restrictions being eased during the state's phased reopening plan local youths are starting to have more time outdoors thanks to summer youth programs.

Earlier this month, the City of Boston announced a unique in-person day programming opportunity for youth in Eastie.

The program, a partnership between BCYF and Crossroads, a youth development organization, has been underway since July 13 and will run through August 14.

According to BCYF Commissioner William Morales, the program is committed to offering an alternative to virtual summer activities. Crossroads and BCYF have teamed up at community centers in Eastie and elsewhere in Boston to offer weeklong daytime programming.

"Thanks to our partnership with Crossroads, we are able to offer more fun and engaging summer programs while following important new regulations and procedures," said Morales. "This program is a great addition to our other summer offerings and the children are loving it."

Morales said the Crossroads/BCYF programs follow all COVID-19 regulations to ensure a safe and innovative solution to the reduction in summer programming as a result of the

pandemic. These programs provide young people ages 7-12 with access to vital social networks and opportunities to grow and learn, families with an option for their children to be engaged out of the home, and youth with summer jobs.

Each session is five days long, taking place Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. -11:30 a.m. and is limited to 50 youth, with group sizes no larger than 10.

"As it became increasingly clear that running our overnight camps simply would not be feasible this summer, we began to reimagine how Crossroads might be part of the solution to meaningfully engage children from Boston who have spent the past four months in isolation, struggling with the loss of their social and educational systems," said President of Crossroads Simon Hess. "If we couldn't bring kids to our camps, why not bring Crossroads programs to children in their own communities? After being connected to BCYF, it became clear that we shared a common objective - providing high quality programs to children and families who were looking for options beyond computer screens this summer."

Crossroads is a youth development organization founded in 1936 with the mission of empowering young people to unlock their potential and positively impact the world. Crossroads offers year-round programming to 1,100 children and teens from greater Boston and Brockton, including day programs and overnight summer camps at Crossroads sites in Duxbury (Camp Wing), Brewster (Camp Mitton), and Ashby (Camp Lapham).

A MIX OF LEARNING IN EVERETT SCHOOLS

EVERETT - The Everett Public Schools said if all remains the same with guidance from the state and the data on COVID-19, they would probably open up school with a completely virtual teaching model – albeit much different in look and content from what was rolled out on an emergency basis last spring.

Supt. Priya Tahiliani said they have learned that many parents won't be comfortable sending their children back to school in September – but may grow more comfortable with the idea as time goes on if the virus continues to be controlled. While changes can happen at any time to set the process back, she said they are meeting parents in that place of uncertainty and taking a phased approach – even as other districts wade into the waters of hybrid

in-person plans starting in September.

"At this point, our current plan...we're talking about is our instruction would be completely virtual," she said. "What I mean by that is we know we have many families not comfortable sending students back in the fall. This would mean all students are doing the same thing whether they are in the building or not."

At the same time, teachers aren't necessarily comfortable returning in the fall as well.

"What I hear from teachers is they would prefer coming back virtual too," she said. "It's not going to be the emergency instruction we had, but rigorous and high-quality instruction being created by teachers and we have expectations on grading and bell-to-bell school days and schedules."

This first Quarter situation would work with a combination of students that are working from home and of students that are set up in school buildings at Virtual Learning Centers (VLCs).

Teachers would not be in front of a classroom, and the VLCs would likely be a cohort of students that would be prioritized by need and preference. Teachers would prepare and present lessons online to students at home and at the VLCs using computers and tablets. Students would have a set schedule for their classes just as if they were in a traditional school day. The one difference is the VLCs would have a monitor for every cohort that would not be a teacher, but would be someone qualified to answer questions or help with technology.

Students would also report to the schools on certain days for clubs, or sports or other school activities – whether at-home learners or in the VLCs. All of it would be clearly laid out and there would be no "figuring it out," she said.

The schools came to this plan because, so far, the parent surveys sent out last week were overwhelmingly uncertain. Some 45 percent of the parents surveyed – and there were a lot of surveys returned – said they were unsure right now about how school should resume. Then there was an even split as to how many were comfortable with sending kids back, and how many were not comfortable sending them back.

At best, it was inconclusive right now, and a main reason for the phased approach.

"It might change with time," she said. "We like to think it will be black and white, but I think it will be across the spectrum of how families navigate this. I actually think there are all

shades of grey we will be working with."

The plan, though, is not to stay virtual for very long. If things continue to improve, the plan would be to transition in the second Quarter and then in the third Quarter.

"Many districts are doing a week in and a week off in the fall," she said. "We do plan to do that in Quarter 2, but we are taking a phased approach. Quarter 1 is the VLCs and Quarter 2 is a hybrid balance and Quarter 3 is when hopefully we can pretty much have everyone back in school. With smart spacing, we should be able to fit all students in for five days of instruction."

One of the key drivers in not starting with a hybrid model of schooling came down to adult work schedules, said Tahiliani. She said many parents weren't sure how they would be able to go to work, and also have kids at home trying to learn online without supervision.

"This plan also gives us the ability to learn from... other districts," she said. "There are so many different ways school is being done and it will be important in that first Quarter to look at them and build off that."

The VLCs for the fall are just now being sorted out, and the logistics are still being worked out right now with teachers, parents, students and staff. Tahiliani said they would probably choose those for in-school VLCs through a lens of equity – meaning those that do not have internet or do not have reliable technology would be first in line. Others who prefer to be in person would then be allowed. She said she believes it will probably sort itself out without have to make difficult selections of who come into the building and who stays at home.

Fall sports, clubs and band will be on despite virtual classrooms

Supt. Priya Tahiliani said this week that, while they are waiting for more specific guidelines from the state, they do expect sports and extra-curricular activities to take place this fall.

That coming despite a modified virtual classroom for Everett right now in the first Quarter of the school year.

"We want to do sports and we want to bring clubs together," she said. "Band practice has already started. The traditional hybrid won't preclude us from doing anything else."

She said right now the district is moving forward with the idea that sports will be allowed, but they are waiting for specific plans from the state.

"Whatever the state allows us, we'll do," she said.

CITY OFFICIALS LOOK TOWARD WATERFRONT

EVERETT - One benefit of the renewed waterfront is boating – and Everett has the potential to squeeze in about 50 moorings on the Malden River and bring new boating to the community to the community for the first time in generations.

The City commissioned a study on waterfront access and a potential mooring field from GEI Consultants this year, and the study just came in at the end of June – with good results.

The study concluded – among many other things – that the City could get at least 40 moorings onto the Malden River off of Gateway Park for boats up to 25 feet long. Such a plan would bring boating access to Everett, and also bring in a source of revenue through mooring fees and excise taxes that would go directly back into improving and maintaining the waterfront.

Moorings are small ball-like equipment that are anchored to the river floor and hold a boat in place during boating season. They are removed in the winter. The moorings allow boat access via a shuttle service or using a dinghy boat and a dock. Such facilities are extremely popular in Boston Harbor, and it's very rare that new facilities with close access open up to the public.

The study predicted the City could begin turning a profit on the bargain in about three to five years.

"Based on the assumptions noted...in this report, potentially 40 moorings for 25-foot-long vessels are feasible," read the report "This location and layout provide easy access to the locks, while maintaining the existing

channel along the western side of the river. The moorings are laid out such they wouldn't impede on the channel and maintaining sufficient space between them to accommodate the variations in the swing radius and water level changes."

Fire Chief Tony Carli – by charter – is the harbor-master for Everett. It's not just a title though. Chief Carli was a member of the Coast Guard, is an avid boater and has his Captain's License for up to 100 ton vessels. He said he was extremely excited to see the results of the mooring study.

He said there are marinas and yacht clubs further up the Mystic River in Somerville and Medford that are exclusive and popular and not in nearly as good a position as the Everett location.

See REGION Page 13

LEGAL NOTICE



INSTRUCTIONS TO BIDDERS

The Governor Bellingham-Cary House Association, Chelsea, Massachusetts, Owner, requests bids for repair of historic siding and trim and replacement of an asphalt shingle roof. The Governor Bellingham-Cary House is listed in the State and National Registers of Historic Places. All bidders must provide references for similar work on historic properties in the past five years. The project is being partially funded with a grant from the Massachusetts Preservation Projects Fund through the Massachusetts Historical Commission. All work must be performed in accordance with the documents prepared by

Design Associates Inc., and meet the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties. State law prohibits discrimination. Awarding of this contract is subject to Affirmative Action and Equal Opportunity guidelines. A copy of the bidding documents may be obtained by emailing the architect at patrick@design-associates.com. A pre-bid meeting will be held at the Governor Bellingham-Cary House at 34 Parker Street, Chelsea, MA, on WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 5, 2020 at 11 AM. Bids shall be evaluated on the basis of price, previous experience with similar types of construction projects, ability to perform the work in a timely manner, and references. All bids must be delivered to via email to the architect: patrick@design-associates.com prior to 3 PM, FRIDAY,

AUGUST 21, 2020 to be eligible for consideration. All grant funded work must be completed by FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 2020. 7/30/20, 8/6/20 C

LEGAL NOTICE



Community Action Programs Intercity, Inc. (CAPIC) Request for Proposals for HEARTWAP PROGRAM CAPIC seeks proposals from heating contractors who can provide heating system efficiency modifications. Such modifications may include clean, tune and evaluations, repairs and retrofits, as well as heating system replacements. Asbestos abatement contractors are also needed to remove asbestos from

residential heating systems. To request a proposal package contact Giancarlo DeSario at (617) 884-6130 x1125. To be considered for selection all proposal packages must be received by CAPIC, 100 Everett Avenue, Unit 14, Chelsea, MA 02150 by 4 PM on Friday, September 28, 2020. This notice is subject in all respects to the Terms and Conditions of the Request for Proposal package. Minority contractors are encouraged to apply. 8/5/20, 8/6/20, 8/12/20, 8/13/20, 8/19/20, 8/20/20 R,C,W

LEGAL NOTICE



CITY OF CHELSEA REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS ROUTE 1 CORRIDOR

HOUSING ENCHANCEMENT PROGRAM IMPLEMENTATION The City of Chelsea, Massachusetts, through its Chief Procurement Officer, is seeking Request for Proposals for "Route 1 Corridor Housing Enhancement Program Implementation". Request for Proposals will be available on or after August 5, 2020 by contacting Dragica Ivanis, Chief Procurement Officer at divanis@chelseama.gov or by visiting the City's website at http://www.chelseama.gov/purchasing/pages/current-bids-solicitations. Proposals must be sealed and clearly marked "Route 1 Corridor Housing Enhancement Program Implementation" and submitted to the Office of the Chief Procurement Officer no later than 11:00AM on Thursday, August 20, 2020. The City of Chelsea re-

serves the right to accept any proposal, to reject any or all proposals and to waive minor irregularities and/or formalities as it deems to be in the best interest of the City. In accordance with our Minority Business Enterprise Plan, we are inviting all qualified women and minority business firms to respond. The City of Chelsea is an Equal Opportunity Employer. This Request for Proposals is in accordance with M.G.L. Chapter 30B. Dragica Ivanis Chief Procurement Officer 8/6/20 C

LEGAL NOTICE



The 2019 Federal tax return for the Chelsea Education Foundation, Inc., a Massachusetts

nonprofit corporation and public charity established to support Chelsea Public Schools (the "Corporation"), is available for public inspection during regular business hours at Chelsea Public Schools, Room 216, 500 Broadway, Chelsea, MA 02150. Copies of the documents may also be obtained by written request to the Corporation. Such requests should be addressed to Chelsea Education Foundation, Inc., c/o Chelsea Public Schools, 500 Broadway, Room 216, Chelsea, Massachusetts 02150. 8/6/20 C

LEGAL NOTICE



CITY OF CHELSEA INVITATIONS FOR BIDS PURCHASE AND INSTALLATION OF FOUR (4) SOLAR

RADAR SPEED SIGNS The City of Chelsea Massachusetts through its Chief Procurement Officer is seeking bids for "Purchase and Installation of Four (4) Solar Radar Speed Signs". Invitation for Bids will be available on or after August 5, 2020 by contacting Dragica Ivanis, Chief Procurement Officer at divanis@chelseama.gov or by visiting the City's website at http://www.chelseama.gov/purchasing/pages/current-bids-solicitations. Bids must be sealed and clearly marked "Purchase and Installation of Four (4) Solar Radar Speed Signs" and submitted to the Office of the Chief Procurement Officer, City Hall, Room 204, Chelsea, Massachusetts no later than 10:00AM, Thursday, August 20, 2020. Each bid must be accompanied by a certified check, issued by a responsible bank or trust

company. Or a bid bond duly executed by the bidder as principal and having as surety thereon a surety company approved by the City, all in the amount of 5% of the bid payable to the "City of Chelsea." The City of Chelsea reserves the right to accept any bid, to reject and/or all bids and to waive minor irregularities and/or formalities as it deems to be in the best interest of the City. In accordance with our Minority Business Enterprise Plan, we are inviting all qualified women and minority business firms to respond. The City of Chelsea is an Equal Opportunity Employer. This invitation for bid is in accordance with M.G.L. Chapter 30, 39M. Dragica Ivanis Chief Procurement Officer 8/6/20 C

Mass LatinX leaders gather to condemn Senator Markey’s “bed quota” vote

Staff Report

“We absolutely cannot afford to have a Senator who is this out of touch with the very real issues immigrant families and communities face every single day.”

— Chelsea City Council President Roy Avellaneda

The day after members of the Congressional Hispanic Caucus in Washington, D.C. held a press conference to highlight Senator Ed Markey’s vote for the notorious immigration “bed quota,” LatinX leaders in Massachusetts gathered outside the JFK Federal Building to slam Markey’s

vote on the mandate and to reiterate their support for Joe Kennedy for U.S. Senate.

Speakers included Chelsea City Council President Roy Avellaneda, Manuel Teshe, youth activist and paralegal working to represent immigrants in their legal matters in Massachusetts, and Berkis Días, Founder/Executive Director Centro Latino de Integración de MA (CLIMA).

“The fact that Senator Ed Markey stood opposite his fellow Democrats on this issue and voted to place a quota on the number of beds ICE Detention centers were forced to keep full should automatically dis-

qualify him from representing this Commonwealth,” said Chelsea City Council President Roy Avellaneda. “We absolutely cannot afford to have a Senator who is this out of touch with the very real issues immigrant families and communities face every single day. These types of administration policy decisions are not adherent to the values we want our Senators to have when representing us. Joe Kennedy has been an ally to the immigrant community since his first day in office, and works to bring the voices of our community to the table to fix the issues we face every day. I am thankful for that, and it is what I

want to see in my next U.S. Senator.”

“We need leaders who are going to come down to our cities and talk with us,” said Manuel Teshe, youth activist and paralegal working to represent immigrants in their legal matters in Massachusetts. “This past Sunday we held a meeting at LUMA in Everett, Joe Kennedy showed up, and the whole meeting was held in Spanish. I could tell he was engaged, I could tell that he was interested and genuinely concerned about the issues we were talking about. I trust that he will work hard every day to build a better future for me and my community.”

On Thursday morning, Congressman Juan Vargas (D-CA), Congresswoman Linda Sánchez (D-CA), Congressman Filemon Vela (D-TX), and Congressman Pete Aguilar (D-CA) held a virtual press conference highlighting Senator Ed Markey’s vote for the notorious immigration “bed quota” — a mandate that required 34,000 beds be filled on any given day in ICE detention centers and private prisons. Ed Markey was one of just 25 Democrats and the only member of the MA delegation to vote for the passage of the GOP-authored Homeland Security budget bill.

“I’m very supportive of

Joe Kennedy. He’s always supported the immigrant community. He’s always been there for us on the easy votes, on the tough votes, it doesn’t matter: He’s always been there for us. But we can’t say the same thing about Markey.” said Congressman Juan Vargas (CA-51). “Every progressive person, everyone in his delegation in Massachusetts, voted against this bill. He was the only progressive member of Congress to vote for it because he had a tough election. We were betrayed. The community was betrayed.”

Region / Continued from Page 12

He expects any offering to be gobbled up very quickly.

“It’s an excellent location because you get through the locks and you’re in Boston Harbor and the Little Mystic,” he said. “I think we open up a lottery for the first 30 to 35 moorings. When that lottery opens up, we have all 35 taken and an endless waiting list. There are some cities and towns that have waiting lists 20 years long. I think the potential is incredible. We will never lack customers. We want to make sure it’s fair.”

Carli said he believes they can get 50 moorings in the field, and if they limit the size to smaller boats, probably even more. If things go successfully, there is also a way to double-up on the moorings.

start-up costs of about \$45,000 and annual revenues of up to \$11,000. That would mean in year four or so, the City would be able to begin using the fees to pay for improvements to the waterfront.

“The overall revenue may not outweigh the costs of design, permitting and management of the moorings themselves,” read the report. “Applications for permits, design and overall management may not enable the City to break even or make revenue for approximately 5 years, however, after that the City could net money and use the revenue to perform maintenance to the other potential access points along the river.”

Carli said they would be setting aside some of the moorings for public use, with an eye on people coming from out of the area by boat with Everett as the destination – a totally new concept.

“They could tie up here, take a dinghy to the dock and then they’re at the bike path and that’s a short walk to the casino, the Gateway Mall and beyond,” he said.

Overall, Carli said it is a very rare opportunity and a new access point for Everett residents and the Boston Harbor boating community. He said it was the vision of Mayor Carlo DeMaria almost 12 years ago when the mayor was first elected. Carli said he remembers being called in with the late Chief Butler to talk about boat access and moorings off the Gateway Mall. Carli said he was skeptical, but it was a dream of the mayor’s and they considered it.

Now, so many years later, it’s an exciting and real possibility.

“This is something the mayor has talked about for a long time and I was skeptical, but it is exciting to begin to think about it in real terms,” he said. “It’s not too often in Boston or Massachusetts that they start to create new areas of access. It’s kind of like what it’s been for 100 years and that’s it. This could be really exciting for the City.”

The study indicated

LOPEZ COMPLETES FIRST YEAR AT LASELL UNIVERSITY

Daniel Lopez of Chelsea completed their first year at Lasell University in Newton, Massachusetts.

Lopez joined the Lasell community for the 2019-2020 academic year. The University looks forward to their continued success!

For more information contact: Samantha Mocle, assistant director of communications at smocle@lasell.edu or at 617-243-2386.

MARTINEZ CELAYA EARNS SPRING 2020 DEAN’S LIST HONORS AT ROGER WILLIAMS

Daysi Martinez Celaya, of Chelsea, has been named to the Spring 2020 Dean’s List at Roger Williams University, in Bristol, R.I. Full-time students who complete 12 or more credits per semester and earn a grade point average of 3.4 or higher are placed on the Dean’s List that semester.

LOCAL STUDENTS EARN ACADEMIC HONORS

About RWU: With campuses on the coast of Bristol and in the heart of Providence, R.I., Roger Williams University is a forward-thinking private university committed to strengthening society through engaged teaching and learning. At RWU, small classes, direct access to faculty and guaranteed opportunity for real-world projects ensure that its nearly 4,000 undergraduates - along with hundreds of law students, graduate students and adult learners - graduate with the ability to think critically along with the practical skills that today’s employers demand. Roger Williams is leading the way in American higher education, confronting the most pressing issues facing students and families - increasing costs, rising debt and job readiness.

UMASS LOWELL NAMES LOCAL STUDENTS TO DEAN’S LIST

Local residents have been named to the dean’s list at the University of

Massachusetts Lowell.

Among those recognized for achieving academic distinction for the spring 2020 semester at UMass Lowell are:

- * Brian Dinh of Chelsea majoring in biology
- * Omar Gomez of Chelsea majoring in civil engineering
- * Gabriella McLellan of Chelsea majoring in computer science
- * Danelia Ramirez Aguilar of Chelsea majoring in criminal justice
- * Kaylee Raymond of Chelsea majoring in liberal arts
- * Coral Gonzalez Diana of Chelsea majoring in nursing
- * Fatima Jameel of Chelsea majoring in pharmaceutical sciences
- * Jessica Ponce of Chelsea majoring in political science
- * Daniel Degefa of Chelsea majoring in public health
- * Elena Nguyen of Revere (02151), majoring in applied biomedical science

UMass Lowell is a national research university located on a high-energy campus in the heart of a global community. The uni-

versity offers its more than 18,000 students bachelor’s, master’s and doctoral degrees in business, education, engineering, fine arts, health, humanities, sciences and social sciences. UMass Lowell delivers high-quality educational programs, vigorous hands-on learning and personal attention from leading faculty and staff, all of which prepare graduates to be leaders in their communities and around the globe. www.uml.edu

LOCAL STUDENTS RECEIVE BACHELOR’S DEGREES FROM UMASS AMHERST

Approximately 6,600 students received bachelor’s degrees in over 100 majors at the University of Massachusetts Amherst as the university held a virtual commencement celebration for the Class of 2020 on May 8.

Below is a list of students from your area who earned a degree.

CHELSEA
Amanda Marie Carlisle
Natalia Muniz

Chelsea's Professional Service Directory

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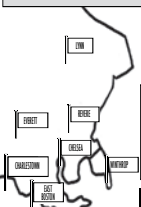
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DiDomenico’s Breakfast After the Bell legislation signed into law

Staff Report

Last week, the Massachusetts Legislature overwhelmingly passed Senator Sal DiDomenico’s bill to fight childhood hunger and boost participation rates in school breakfast programs in schools with high percentages of students from low-income families in the Commonwealth, which was signed into law this week by Gov. Charlie Baker.

The bill, An Act regarding breakfast after the bell, would require all public K12 schools with 60 percent or more students eligible for free or reduced-price meals under the federal National School Lunch Program to offer breakfast after the instructional day begins.

Senator DiDomenico has been a longtime champion of anti-hunger policies in the Massachusetts Senate and has sponsored this Breakfast After the Bell bill for the past two legislative sessions. Earlier in the year, he was the recipient of the 2020 Breakfast Hero Award from the national anti-hunger campaign No Kid Hungry for his advocacy on Breakfast After the Bell and



Sen. Sal DiDomenico spoke from the floor in a rare appearance during the COVID-19 pandemic regarding Breakfast After the Bell.

his work to end childhood hunger in the Commonwealth. This legislation is the culmination of many years work and advocacy by Senator DiDomenico, his staff, and food security advocates from across the state.

“As childhood hunger rates continue to spike due to the economic fallout from the COVID-19 pandemic, it has never been more important to increase our school breakfast participation rates and provide our students with the nutrition they need to start their day ready to learn,” said Senator Sal Di-

Domenico, the Senate sponsor of the bill. “I have seen the success of Breakfast After the Bell in my own community, and I am confident that this policy will help to ensure every child in the Commonwealth has access to a stigma-free and nutritious breakfast. Thank you to Senate President Spilka and Speaker DeLeo for making Breakfast After the Bell a legislative priority, as well as my partners Representative Vega, Representative Vargas, and the Rise and Shine Coalition for their tireless advocacy on this legislation.”

“Research shows that students who eat a healthy breakfast get better grades, go to the nurse less frequently, and miss fewer days of school,” said Senate President Karen Spilka. “Yet, too often, missed meals equal missed opportunities for our children. As a state, we simply cannot accept hungry students as part of our reality. Students who don’t eat breakfast start every single day at a very real disadvantage to their peers; passing this bill into law ensures that students across the Commonwealth have equitable access to nutrition to ensure that they start

every day right, ready to learn. I’d like to extend my deepest thanks to Senator DiDomenico for his tireless advocacy on this issue, and to Senate Education Chair Jason Lewis, Speaker DeLeo and our partners in the House for their work on this bill as well.”

“When we first began advocating for this bill, 1 in 9 children in Massachusetts faced food insecurity and nearly 150,000 low income students were not accessing school breakfast. Today, 1 in 5 children is at risk of food insecurity, so now more than ever many more families will likely benefit from school meals,” said Catherine D’Amato, president and CEO of The Greater Boston Food Bank, which led the statewide Rise and Shine Massachusetts coalition. “Passing this bill was a team effort by more than fifty organizations and school stakeholders across the state in coordination with our legislative champions. The Breakfast After the Bell legislation will help us move to a more equitable public education system, one in which all students get the nutrition they need to succeed for years to come.”

“The COVID-19 crisis and resulting increase in food insecurity highlight the importance of child nutrition programs, such as school breakfast,” said Erin McAleer, President of Project Bread. “Project Bread stands ready to support schools and districts in implementation of this legislation, working hand-in-hand to provide the most successful school breakfast program possible. We are grateful to the legislature for their overwhelming support of Breakfast After the Bell, and especially to Senator DiDomenico and House sponsors, Representatives Vargas and Vega, for their commitment to ensuring that more Massachusetts students can start the school day with the nutrition they need to learn and thrive.”

Massachusetts currently requires all schools with high percentages of students from low-income families to provide breakfast to every eligible student. However, because breakfast is typically offered before the bell and in the cafeteria, participation levels are low—less than 40 percent—compared to 8090 percent partici-

tion for free and reduced lunch. Moving breakfast from before the bell to after the bell is a proven strategy to boost breakfast participation and ensure that all students have the nutrition they need to start their day ready to learn.

This legislation would require schools across Massachusetts serving low-income students to offer breakfast after the start of the instructional day through a variety of delivery models, including breakfast in the classroom grab-and-go, and second-chance breakfast. This flexibility allows school districts to select the model that best fits their students’ needs.

As a federally reimbursed program, Breakfast After the Bell has the potential to provide up to \$25 million statewide to Massachusetts school districts that increase participation rates to 80 percent and above. These payments are made directly to school nutrition departments, helping to support jobs, update kitchen equipment, and provide healthier menu options.

Gov. Baker signed the bill into law this week.

350 MASS ACTION endorses Gravellese for State Representative

350 Mass Action’s State Political Team, representing 350 Mass Action chapters from across the state, has unanimously endorsed Joseph Gravellese for State Representative for the Suffolk 16th district, including parts of Revere, Saugus, and Chelsea.

350 Mass Action is a statewide network of volunteers dedicated to addressing climate and environmental challenges, by moving toward a just, healthy, and sustainable energy future.

“While some state-level progress has been made around climate protection and environmental justice issues, there is much more to do,” said 350 Mass Action Political Manager,

Cabell Eames. “The health and prosperity of our cities and towns requires that Massachusetts prioritize these issues. We are happy to endorse Joe Gravellese because we expect him to be a climate champion in future Legislatures.”

In their decision, 350 Mass Action stated that the endorsement was based on Mr. Gravellese’s background fighting for a safer environment, more aggressive action against dangerous climate change, and effective government action at both the local and state-wide level.

“I’m honored to have the backing of all three environmental groups who have endorsed in this race,” said Gravellese, who was

previously endorsed by the Sierra Club and by Sunrise Boston, two other prominent environmental advocacy organizations.

“These endorsements represent not only my background and experience working on these issues, but also the way I’ve run my campaign - with a commitment to fighting for more transparency at the State House, a pledge to refuse donations from fossil fuel executives, and detailed and honest conversations with voters about my priorities when it comes to environmental legislation.”

The Democratic primary election for State Representative will be held on September 1.

MBTA to host forum on fall bus schedule

Staff report

The MBTA will host virtual meetings on Sunday, August 12, and Monday, August 13, from 6 to 8 p.m. to present details on fall bus schedule details and changes. The virtual meeting on August 12 will be in Spanish and the virtual meeting on August 13 will be in English. These virtual meetings will be held on GoToWebinar, a video conferencing platform.

MBTA Service Planning staff will outline temporary

schedule changes that go into effect August 30, 2020. The temporary changes being made are in the best interest of riders in order to maximize both safety and service levels during the COVID-19 pandemic.

As part of the presentation the Service Planning team will cover the following:

- Why route changes are necessary;
- The service planning process;
- Specifics of the service changes and impacted

routes; and

- Other key elements on MBTA’s response to the pandemic.

During the meetings, attendees will have the opportunity to ask questions and provide input on future service changes.

Virtual Meeting Information:

The meetings will be held via GoToWebinar. The MBTA encourages the public to participate and provide their feedback. To register, visitmbta.com/servicechanges.

Real Estate Transfers

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Priamo-Peterson, M	Dennard, Brendan	175 Cottage St #505	\$319,000

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