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# CHELSEA RECORD

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Looking out over Chelsea from the height of the clocks on the City Hall Tower, one can see Boston and beyond. The vista from the tower is incredible, and this rare view is courtesy of the full restoration of the tower that has started and should be completed by June.

## Officials begin restoration of City Hall Tower, dome

By Seth Daniel

While a lot of Chelsea City Hall has been modernized or upgraded in the last 10 years, the tower and dome have literally remained a time capsule – though the time may not have always been right on the tower clock.

Nevertheless, this month the City's Department of Public Works began a complete restoration project for the tower – getting rid of 100-year-old rickety stairs, fixing leaks, repainting the brickwork,

righting the clock and even applying a new layer of gilding to the Hall's golden dome.

"We're doing a full restoration of the tower, and that will include gilding the entire dome," said DPW Director Fidel Maltez. "That will be done later this summer and when it's done, it will really look awesome."

The impetus for the restoration comes from many directions.

First and foremost, the leaks in the tower had

become expensive and disruptive. The tower sits right above the Council's Conference Room, and more than a few storms had brought water into the tower, where it stood in puddles and leaked down into the Conference Room. That caused extensive damage and lots of repairs.

"What happens is on the north side of the tower, we had a lot of water coming in and would destroy the Conference Room," he said. "In my four years

here, we've re-done that roof four times. That was the driving force of this project. Once we started that, we pushed the Council for a holistic project that restored the entire Tower. We believe after this we won't have to tackle the Tower for another 100 years."

That part of City Hall was built in 1909, and it does show.

Right now, Contracting Specialists Inc. (CSI) are working on the brick work

See DOME Page 7

## APPRECIATION

## Long-time School Committee member Liz McBride dies at 100

By Cary Shuman

Mrs. Elizabeth "Liz" McBride, who served on the Chelsea School Committee for many years and was a member of the Chelsea Kiwanis Club, died on March 1. She was 100 years old.

McBride was a beloved public figure and attended numerous events hosted by local organizations and was warmly welcomed by all. She had incredible energy and spread her goodwill efforts throughout the community.

Mrs. McBride was a pioneer in the local Kiwanis Club, becoming its first female member. Kiwanis President Sylvia Ramirez lauded Mrs. McBride's dedication to the club, stating that she was "a vivid and passionate member whose presence has been missed at our meetings."

"We are saddened by this huge loss to our community," said Ramirez. "I just hope to be at least a tiny percent of what she was for Kiwanis during my Kiwanis years. Not only was she active in Kiwanis, she was a member of the School Committee, engaged with our chil-



Elizabeth "Liz" McBride.

dren, and passionate about bicycle safety – she was a great woman and we will miss her terribly."

Ramirez said the members will be paying tribute to Mrs. McBride at her memorial observance. "We will all be wearing our red jackets to honor her."

Councilor-at-Large Leo Robinson described Mrs. McBride as "a wonderful lady."

"Liz devoted her life's work to the Chelsea schoolchildren and Chelsea School Committee," said Robinson. "Through the Kiwanis Club and her advocacy for our students,

See McBRIDE Page 2

## Ambrosino will select diversity officer soon

By Cary Shuman

City Manager Thomas Ambrosino said he will announce his selection for the new position of diversity, equity, and inclusion officer within the next two weeks.

"I finished final interviews with three candidates and I'm mulling my decision," said Ambrosino.

The City Council voted

See DIVERSITY Page 2

## DA Rollins visits vaccine site, having helped distribute food there last year

By Seth Daniel

DA Rachael Rollins made a return to La Colaborativa on Monday afternoon, but this time instead of helping to distribute critical food stuffs, she was the latest public official to get a look at the Colaborativa/East Boston Neighborhood Health Center (EBNHC) COVID vaccine site.

The vaccine site has been open since Feb. 4 under the cooperation of the two organizations and the City of Chelsea, and it has been a very popular site for visits with guests like Senator Liz Warren, AG Maura Healey, Congresswoman Ayanna Pressley and now DA Rollins.

La Colaborativa Director Gladys Vega said there was a unique and special

bond between the organization and Rollins – as she and her staff did double duty last spring and summer in coming from the Chelsea Court to help with food distribution regularly.

"You guys will forever have a special place in our hearts," said Vega. "I have known many DAs in my long career here, but no DA has ever made their

staff available to serve our community like you did. We had seven to 10 people here per week. Your staff risked their lives for the lives of our people. It will not be forgotten."

Following that heartfelt welcome, EBNHC CEO Manny Lopes directed Rollins through the facility. He noted that since opening they have given more than 6,000 vaccina-

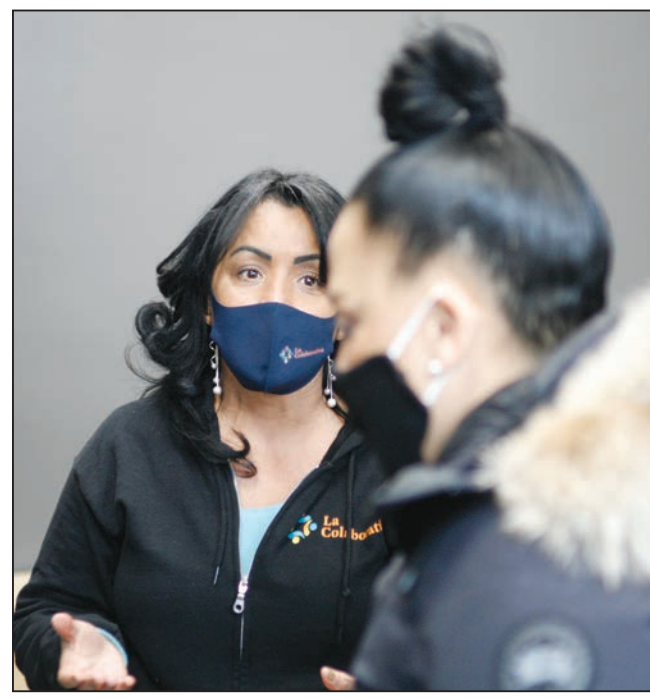
tions at all four of their sites, and more than 1,500 vaccinations just at the Chelsea site.

Part of Rollins's visit was to find out more about vaccine skepticism and what is being done to overcome that in Chelsea – as well as to learn how her office can support the housing issues creeping

See ROLLINS Page 6



DA Rachael Rollins (above right) visited the La Colaborativa/East Boston Neighborhood Health Center (EBNHC) vaccination site on Broadway Monday afternoon. There, she got a great welcome from Director Gladys Vega (right), and was given a tour by EBNHC CEO Manny Lopes (left center) and Kelly Hennesey (above left), EBNHC director of Testing and vaccination sites.



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# Chelsea nonprofits eligible for grants from the foundation trust

The Foundation Trust, a private operating foundation serving small to medium-sized nonprofit organizations in Greater Boston, is pleased to announce that Chelsea has been selected as a priority community for its 2021 grant program. Nonprofits and city-run public benefit programs from Chelsea are eligible to submit proposals through May 7, 2021.

Several types of support are offered by the Foundation Trust, including partnership grants, event-specific small gifts, training, and resource development.

Dr. Joseph Spinazzola, Executive Director of the Foundation Trust explains how this year’s grant program will prioritize active

partnerships between the Foundation Trust and its grantees. “We are positioned to offer much more than funding alone, and we are excited to explore expanded partnership opportunities with 2021 applicants. Together, we’ll be able to achieve much more in our local communities than we could on our own.”

Interested programs are invited to propose innovative programming, to be designed and implemented in partnership with the Foundation Trust, in one or more of the foundation’s funding tracks: Overcoming trauma and adversity; Empowering at-risk youth and communities; Restoring dignity and quality of care for adults living with chronic

conditions; and Advancing inclusivity in the arts.

This is the second consecutive year that the Foundation Trust has supported organizations in Chelsea. “Our partnerships were limited by the effects of the pandemic last year, and we are excited to be back to support organizations doing important and difficult work in Chelsea,” notes Foundation Trust Manager Lauren Liecau.

A virtual information session on the awards and application process will be held on Thursday, March 25. Additional details and application instructions are available on [www.FoundationTrust.org/apply](http://www.FoundationTrust.org/apply).

## SCHEDULE A VACCINE APPOINTMENT

COVID-19 Vaccination Update: Adults 75 and over can receive the COVID-19 vaccine starting on February 1 using the statewide website. Find more details on the vaccination eligibility, vaccination locations and information for booking appointments at [mass.gov/covidvaccine](http://mass.gov/covidvaccine)

## RESIDENTIAL PARKING STICKER EXTENDED

The residential parking sticker has been extended until February 2022 in or-

der to stop the spread of COVID-19. The current sticker expiring on February 28, 2021 will be valid until February 28, 2022.

All other permits/stickers will expire on February 28, 2021.

## HOMEOWNERS STABILIZATION PROGRAM

•Phase 1

The Department of Housing and Community Development, in conjunction with its contractor, Chelsea Restoration Corporation, is overseeing Phase 1 of the Homeowners Stabilization Program. Funded by

the Affordable Housing Trust Fund Board, Phase 1 of this program offers direct financial assistance to income-eligible homeowners that can be used for mortgage, insurance, utility, and property taxes. The application period for Phase I is now closed.

•Phase 2

The City will soon be accepting applications for Phase 2 of the program. Phase 2 was funded with \$750.00 from the Chelsea City Council. Phase 2 eligibility is broader than Phase 1. You may apply if you make up to 100% of AMI. Information about Phase 2 will be coming soon.

# Ambrosino says zoning changes will help keep up with Everett

City Manager Tom Ambrosino said a comprehensive zoning package now at the City Council would help the City to be able to keep up with Everett’s booming Commercial Triangle area – an industrial area abutting the Chelsea line that has seen multiple, large redevelopment projects in the last six months.

Everett re-zoned its side of the industrial area in 2019, and in the last year has seen a plethora of large projects come through – including a huge redevelopment of the Stop & Shop on the Parkway that lies in both Chelsea and Everett.

Now, changes in zoning proposed by Ambrosino and his Planning Department would mimic what Everett has already done and perhaps spread the wealth to some of the underutilized industrial buildings on the Chelsea side.

“We have proposed to re-zone all of that area that is on the north side of the railroad tracks for mixed use so we could create the ability to bring some development on underutilized lots there,” he said. “On the other side, our goal is to keep that commercial/industrial. The Produce Center is important for us and all the northeast US. We have no

desire to re-zone that. On that other side, though, is a lot of underutilized parcels and we’d like to see some of them developed.”

Right now, residential development in that area is prohibited, and that is primarily what is being proposed in Everett – large apartment buildings with retail components. The only residential project in that area for Chelsea now is the soon-to-be finished Fairfield project across from the Chelsea High School. That project has more than 700 units in the queue.

Ambrosino said a vote on the re-zone of the area could come as soon as the March 8 Council meeting.

By Seth Daniel

What a drag it is to be red.

But yellow never looked so encouraging.

Over the past week, Chelsea’s declining COVID-19 cases and metrics qualified it to officially be taken out of the ‘red’ category and moved into the more moderate risk ‘yellow’ category for the first time during the pandemic.

City Manager Tom Ambrosino said it was a very encouraging piece of news, but he said it might

not be completely accurate because fewer people are getting tested now.

“I think there’s definitely light at the end of the tunnel, especially with the Johnson & Johnson vaccine – one dose, quick and dirty and you’re done,” he said. “It’s also effective against variants. I do feel optimistic. The metrics do show we’re out of the red for one week, but it may not be as significant as it sounds. It’s down because our positivity rate went below 5 percent. It could be a reflection of people

not being tested. Testing has really dropped off as the attention goes to vaccination. We encouraging more people to be tested.”

Ambrosino said some of the other metrics still show that Chelsea could be in the ‘red’ category, but for now, he said he’ll take the victory.

“We’re clearly on a positive trend,” he said. “I am happy about that, but it’s not time to let our guard down. It wouldn’t surprise me if we fluctuate between red and yellow for awhile.”

## McBride / Continued from page 1

the Kiwanis Club has been a generous donor of scholarships to Chelsea High students and Liz made it happen,” said Robinson.

Chelsea School Committee member Rosemarie Carlisle served on the committee with Mrs. McBride. She was also a friend and neighbor on Sagamore Avenue.

“She was a wonderful lady who cared about all the students in the City of

Chelsea,” said Carlisle. “She made sure that the decisions she made in the educational system were in the best interests of the students. She cared about all the teachers and made sure the teachers were happy in the classroom.”

Carlisle recalled how Mrs. McBride would visit the Mary C. Burke Complex and read books to the elementary school students there. They would

lovingly call her, ‘Grandma’, related Carlisle.

Carlisle said she has great memories of serving on the School Committee with Mrs. McBride and being a partner in the effort to bring Boston University officials to Chelsea to manage the local school system. “Liz McBride, and Morry Seigal, Lydia Walata, Andrew Quigley, and Chubby Tiro – all of us worked together to bring Boston University to reality in Chelsea.”

As a neighbor, Carlisle often saw Mrs. McBride near her home in Prattville.

“I grew up with all her kids – she was a wonderful mother,” said Carlisle. “She loved her husband, John, and they were good parents to their kids. They were all brought up the right way in the City of Chelsea. They’re really Chelsea people.”

## Teamsters applauds Chelsea City Council vote urging Amazon improve safety record and treatment of workers

Teamsters Local 25 applauds the Chelsea City Council for unanimously passing a resolution Feb. 22 demanding Amazon improve its safety record and treatment of delivery drivers. The Resolution Urging Fair & Full Employment Opportunities at Amazon states prior to any expansion into Chelsea, Amazon must meet or exceed community standards for wages, benefits and safe working conditions and confer with the International Brotherhood of Teamsters Local 25 and all interested community members.

“Teamsters Local 25 would like to express sincere thanks to the Chelsea City Council for standing up for delivery drivers,” said Teamsters Local 25 President Sean M. O’Brien. “Amazon is quickly finding out that we respect blue-collar workers in Greater Boston and will not tolerate delivery drivers being treated like dirt by a greedy corporation with no regard for workers or public safety.”

The resolution urging the shipping giant to dramatically improve its safe-

ty record and treatment of workers was introduced in response to public safety and economic concerns during the COVID-19 pandemic. Chelsea is a proud working-class city and councilors embraced the resolution, sending Amazon a strong message on a resounding 11-0 vote.

“As Amazon begins to expand its presence here in the Greater Boston area, it must act in accordance with our locally accepted values of supporting working-class residents, said Chelsea City Council President Roy Avellaneda, who sponsored the resolution. “That means a living wage, established safe working conditions and procedures and not abusing the definition of independent contractors as defacto employees. Massachusetts has long been an advocate for workers’ rights and will continue to do so. It’s a proven strategy for a higher standard of living for all.”

The Boston City Council was the first to put Amazon on notice, unanimously approving a similar measure late last year. Since that time Somer-

ville, Cambridge, Medford, Winthrop, Revere and now Chelsea have joined Boston in calling on Amazon giant to respect workers and public safety.

The resolution calls on Amazon to present sufficient evidence that all delivery drivers will be direct employees of Amazon and not independent contractors and its operations meet or exceed current Community Standards established by existing delivery networks. It makes clear that any plans by Amazon to expand delivery operations, warehouses and fulfillment centers must be done in a manner beneficial to the town and its residents while guaranteeing sustainable growth and helping to ensure that fair and equitable employment standards are maintained for all ecommerce delivery networks.

Teamsters Local 25 is the largest Teamsters union in New England with 12,000 members. For more information, please visit [www.teamsterslocal25.com](http://www.teamsterslocal25.com).

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## Diversity / Continued from page 1

unanimously in September to create a diversity, equity, and inclusion office at City Hall, approving a motion that was co-sponsored by Councilor-at-Large Leo Robinson and District 8 Councilor Calvin Brown. The position was funded for two years with a \$252,000 budget.

More than 60 candidates, which is considered an impressive turnout, applied for the position. The advisory committee consisted of Councilors-at-Large Leo Robinson and Damali Vidot,

Chelsea Schools Equity, Diversity, and Excellence Dr. Aaron Jennings, DPW Commissioner Fidel Maltéz, City Solicitor Cheryl Watson Fisher Human Resources Officer Diane Carey, and three residents, Chelsea Black Community President Joan Cromwell, BHCC Associate Dean Sharon Caulfield, and Kiwanis Club President Sylvia Ramirez.

The committee narrowed down the field to 7-8 candidates and submitted to Ambrosino the names of three finalists for the position.

“I interviewed three very highly qualified candidates over the last two weeks and now I’m going to make a decision,” said Ambrosino.

The proposal for the diversity, equity and inclusion office at City Hall garnered instant momentum as several residents came to the Council chambers to voice their support for establishing the new position. Many termed the 11-0 vote by the Council as “historic.”

“This is a very important position in our city,” said Ambrosino.



# Time to Talk About School; Supt. Abeyta ready for a conversation on in-person school

By Seth Daniel

Only a short month ago, most were resigned to the fact that Chelsea Public School (CPS) students would remain learning from home the rest of the year.

What a difference seven weeks makes.

Now, as the state and federal government have sent strong messages about getting kids back into schools this spring – and teachers have jumped to a higher priority for vaccination this month, Supt. Almi Abeyta said she’s ready to have a conversation about returning. “It’s time,” she said this week. “When you look at our data, our percent positive rates have gone down. I have always said we would watch the science and data to see when

it was right to have a conversation about bringing kids back and the data is telling us it’s time for that conversation.”

Chelsea, however, is like no other district around it.

In Everett, Boston and Revere, most surveys of parents have shown that a majority of families are ready at this moment to send their children back to school. In Everett, that district is looking to get elementary school kids back in school five days a week by April, a move that 65 percent of parents supported. Boston began an in-person hybrid model on Monday for K-3, and more than 50 percent of families there sent their children.

There isn’t that same level of support for going

back in Chelsea.

According to a Remote School Satisfaction Survey given in January, some 2,276 families responded and 81 percent said they were at least somewhat satisfied with remote learning in CPS. Another 67 percent said that remote learning was much better than they expected, and more than 50 percent said they weren’t all that concerned about their child’s academic progress slipping backward. Astoundingly, 49 percent surveyed also said they weren’t at all concerned about their child’s mental health during remote learning – something that is very different than what other parents in nearby communities are reporting.

However, Abeyta points

out that 62 percent surveyed also said they like that they have options, and she said under any return, families are able to choose an all-remote option – called the Chelsea Online Academy – until the end of the year without penalty.

“I think that survey says a lot in how we as a Chelsea community are unique and how the virus impacted us,” she said. “It reflects in the data. I’m flipping the switch and saying it’s time to go to the table and revisit this. Last fall, we were 50-50 on who wanted to come and who wanted to stay. We imagine now it’s about the same.”

Already, a letter went out to families last week informing them that the district intended to begin a

conversation with parents, staff, students and the School Committee about a return.

City Manager Tom Ambrosino said he believed kids needed to be back in school by April, and said his position is made easier by the recent announcement that teachers will be vaccinated starting next week.

“One, I think kids need to be back in school, and two I think that teachers also need to be vaccinated,” he said. “The teachers aren’t a large group; statewide it might be 80,000 people...That eliminates the union issues. They get that one shot, it’s done and they’re protected...For those parents who want to send kids to school, we need that option back. I expect that in Chelsea

we’ll have some kids in the classroom sometime in April.”

Abeyta said they have the advantage of learning from other districts about what to do and what not to do. Likewise, Chelsea has qualified for pilot testing program from the state that will allow them to vigorously and regularly test students and staff for COVID-19 in every building. They also have ample PPE and the ventilation has checked out in the buildings – which in Chelsea are mostly new.

“The discussion will start with the Chelsea Teachers Union,” said Abeyta. “The discussion will also happen at the School Committee. It’s time to start having these discussions again and go from there.”

# COVID vaccines help to quiet loud, internal concerns for health care workers

By Seth Daniel

Medical professionals have been on the front lines treating COVID-19 patients for nearly one year without the protection of a vaccine, but all that is changing this month and, according to staff members at CHA Everett, it has brought about a new level of relaxation and a calming of the mind when treating those with the virus.

Dr. Melisa Lai-Becker, chief of the Emergency Department at CHA Everett, reported that having been vaccinated, many workers on the front lines at the hospital are less skittish within their own thoughts, and now bring in a level of confidence.

“Last spring and this fall, you would treat a patient as you would anyone else, but what does not enter my mind anymore is that I am there in the room with a COVID-19 positive patient and the voice of my mind isn’t constantly screaming at me with questions like is the seal on my mask broken, how long can I hold my breath or did I put my visor down,” she said. “That was a constant thing inside of you. That voice had lessened in volume over the months, but now it’s very distant. It’s not like I’m not going to abandon my gown or mask, but

I don’t have that screaming banshee in my psyche any longer. I think the entire staff spent the entire year with their blood pressure up 20 points...That constant stress and anxiety has lifted. There’s not as much gallows humor and there was a lot of gallows humor in the spring and from Thanksgiving to February.”

Frontline medical workers have been amongst the most compromised and most brave workers during the pandemic as they have had to risk their own health to be in close contact with those infected with the virus. Before now, that was being done with extreme precautions, but without a vaccine to give some measure of immunity. This month, that is all changing, and it’s very evident amongst the workforce, Lai Becker said.

“It’s not just panic, panic, panic anymore,” she said. “I get the sense people here are feeling more relaxed...It’s good habits without the intense panic of COVID-19.”

Right now, of the 4,100 employees in the CHA system, nearly everyone has received their first dose of the COVID vaccine. There are 3,500 that have already received their second doses as well, and she said they’ll have a couple more clinics in the coming weeks to close out

their vaccine distribution efforts and everyone who wants to be vaccinated will have gotten the vaccine.

Having that kind of protected atmosphere transferred over to one of their co-workers at CHA Everett that was picked to go to the Super Bowl as part of the effort by the Kraft Family. That worker – who was fully vaccinated - got to take the Patriots plane to Tampa Bay, participate in the pre-game festivities and see the game.

Lai-Becker said the staff back in Everett were able to see the pictures and feel like they were all a part of it.

“I felt such a strange elation and joy,” said Lai-Becker. “Just being able to see her in pictures enjoy the time and think about how amazing it was she was fully vaccinated and could go there...In a way, it was like we all got to go.”

Though the usual precautions and protective gear have not been thrown to the wind and are used as they were during the surges of COVID, the vaccination mindset within the hospital is likely a preview to what can be expected in the coming months out in the community. While masks, social distancing and the like are probably here to stay, a sense of being able to live life outside

of the home with a level of reassurance could be on the way.

That will only be heightened by the introduction of the Johnson & Johnson (J&J) vaccine – which is one shot instead of two – that was approved last weekend.

Lai-Becker said it should enhance the supply and lead to more people being vaccinated, and because it is only one shot, the logistics will be far easier to tackle.

“It’s fantastic news logistically to be able to administer the one shot and also having it added to the supply,” she said. “I do understand the frustrations around getting people vaccinated. I do feel it’s great to prioritize, but if you’ve got the vaccine, you should give it to someone in front of you...It’s now going to be supply and demand. By having the one-shot J&J, it says to me from an operations perspective that each dose produced by J&J effectively doubles the number of doses available.”

Having the one-shot available also prevents inevitable mistakes where a person gets the first dose and then a different dose of another vaccine – or misses the second dose after getting the first.

CHA has opened up a vaccine site at the Somerville Hospital location, and they are vaccinating about

700 people a day. She said she gives a “shout out” to CHA and every other institution trying to get the vaccine out.

“It’s not easy,” she said. **•FEWER CASES, JUST ANOTHER AILMENT**

The approach to COVID-19 has also changed quite a bit in the last month as well, and the crises around COVID and behavioral health and a shortage of available beds has eased out significantly.

There are also far fewer cases coming in, and when they come in, they are addressed in the same way that an injury or chest pains might be – just another possibility for why a patient might have an emergency.

No day is the same when it comes to COVID, she said. Some days there might be many cases and other days there might be none. The Emergency Department, now, can also be very busy but not have a single case of COVID come through the door – which hasn’t been the case in previous months.

“Last Friday it was a high volume day in the ER where everyone did have COVID,” she said. “However, we were calm. We evaluate and a patient might not need to be admitted, or they might need to be admitted. It wasn’t chaotic...On Mon-

day, though, no one had COVID. It was injuries, chest pains and bacterial infections. If you look back over the next two days it’s not the same as the previous two days. If you go day by day, one day everyone will have COVID. The next day they won’t. But it’s all okay.”

**•MORE BEDS AND MORE GLOVES**

Dr. Lai-Becker indicated that the shortage of beds for admissions has lessened. She said they had been doing regional calls between institutions two times a day. Then they were down to one time a day, and now they’ve gone 10 days without a daily call to coordinate patient admissions.

“If we call for a bed, there will be a bed,” she said.

Meanwhile, certain shortages of equipment are now easing out. Supply chain has been an issue all throughout the pandemic, and occasionally it will pop up in the hospital – then resolve itself again.

A few weeks ago, there was a shortage of protective gloves in certain sizes at the hospital. That, however, is no longer the case, but certainly some other supply chain issue will present in the near future.

“The glove size issue seems to have righted itself,” said Lai-Becker.

# Still Not Protected: Chelsea COVID study shows second wave hit workers hardest

By Seth Daniel

A detailed study of COVID-19 cases in Chelsea for the second half of 2020 by researcher Cristina Alonso showed that – despite so many warnings – essential workers were still getting sick and taking it home to their children and families.

Alonso, a graduate student at Harvard’s T.H. Chan School of Public Health, has been helping in Chelsea through a state program for graduate students since last spring. She has filled many roles in that time from food distributor to vaccine registration clerk, but her primary focus has always been on analyzing the public health data related to Chelsea’s 2020 COVID experience.

Already, her first effort was published last summer with great interest, showing the crux of the problem in Chelsea hit nursing homes and older/retired folks the worst. Now, she has analyzed 3,979 cases between Sept. 1, 2020 and Jan. 19, 2021, and – sadly – found that

it was essential workers that paid the price in the second surge at the end of 2020.

“The big thing that should figure into vaccine access and equity is the shift we found,” she said. “The first wave affected the retired population and an older cohort of people and impacted hospitalizations and deaths. The second wave that starts in last November and run through January was essential workers...The average age came down to mid- to late-30s. The big finding is number one that despite being almost a year into this pandemic we’re still no taking care of workers on the job. They are still getting sick at work and bringing it home and giving it to their families. They’re giving to their kids too. We saw 25 percent of the cases were kids, which was a huge change. If we’re going to use this data, it will be to ask what is going on in workspaces? We need to find out why people are still not safe and still getting sick at work.”

Her findings showed

that the second wave hit a much younger population between 30 and 50, and deaths and hospitalizations went down tremendously this time. The numbers of deaths was down significantly to only nine in the time period, but the disease prevalence did shift from the retired community to workers – both essential workers and non-essential workers.

Her work showed that cases were at about 100 per week at the beginning of the period, and then surged to about 250 per week in November – falling off from that number in mid-January.

One of the first conclusions Alonso said she drew was that workplaces were still not taking the virus seriously, and weren’t protecting their workers with PPE and adequate quarantines if necessary. That, she said, showed her it was a class of people that needed to jump the line for vaccinations.

“We need to prioritize essential workers in vaccine access,” she said. “It’s great to protect the elderly population, but if

we think about who to go to next, essential workers have to be next...It’s pretty appalling at this point, a year in, people are still being exposed at work.”

Secondly, she said her research shows that teachers need to be vaccinated, but not because they are getting sick. The second half of 2020 revealed that in the second surge children were getting sick much more often than before. Some 25 percent of the cases in the second surge were in children. That has also been shown in neighboring Everett, where there has also been a surge of cases from November to January in the 0-18 age population.

“Having those numbers for children means we need to vaccinate teachers as a priority class,” she said. “If we’re going to get students back in school by April, teachers have to be vaccinated or they’ll get sick and they might live in multi-generational households or have other medical situations.”

One final conclusion she drew from her data of the second surge had

to do with the numbers of holidays at the end of the year, from Halloween to Thanksgiving to Christmas to New Year’s. On all of those occasions, people would normally gather, but this time they were told by public health officials to stay home.

In short, no one did. That, she said, made the surge predictable and points to the fact that public health officials should take a harm reduction approach to COVID-19 and gatherings.

“It seems to say we need to take a harm reduction approach to COVID-19 prevention and education,” she said.

“There are so many rituals and things we celebrate then, and we told people as public health professionals not to get together and they did,” she said. “We need to be realistic that when people are in pain and lonely and slipping emotionally, we need to take an approach of telling them how they can get together safely and not just to don’t get together. There are definitely ways to get togeth-

er and expose yourself to COVID-19 and there are ways to get together and reduce exposure...People will not stop getting together. I would say we need to be more realistic.”

Part of that would be to anticipate gatherings, and have vigorous campaigns telling people five steps for being safe at a gathering. It would also tell them what to do after and before, such as getting tested and quarantining.

In the second installment of her study, though, Alonso said she just really focused on essential workers. She said if the economy is going to open, and the social services are going to be restored – then workers need to be vaccinated. She said in a place like Chelsea there are three access points to vaccine – and that’s good by many standards – but she is calling for much more.

“Everyone in Chelsea needs to get vaccinated,” she said. “We need more sites, more staff and a better appointment system,” she said.



# Chelsea

RECORD

**PRESIDENT:** Stephen Quigley  
**EDITOR IN CHIEF:** Cary Shuman

## LIZ MCBRIDE

Chelsea lost one of its all-time greats this week with the passing of Elizabeth “Liz” McBride on Monday morning at the age of 100.

Liz served on the Chelsea School Committee for decades and was instrumental in forwarding the Chelsea-Boston University Partnership in the 1990s that transformed our school system, paving the way both for new schools and new leadership that rescued the once-proud Chelsea schools after years of neglect.

Liz was a true Chelsea girl, a member of the CHS Class of 1939, who referred to themselves as the ‘39ers and who continued to gather for decades after their graduation.

Liz McBride blazed a trail in many respects, including becoming the first female member of the Chelsea Kiwanis Club. In the political realm, Liz was a fierce rival who stood up for what she believed in, but at the end of the day, she possessed that admirable quality of being able to disagree without being disagreeable.

Liz was the matriarch of a large and extended family who resided on Sagamore Ave. in Prattville for many years. She was married for 67 years to John McBride, who passed away 10 years ago at the age of 90.

We know we join with all of our fellow residents in offering our condolences to the McBride family upon the loss of this wonderful woman.

May she rest in peace.

## WE MUST BE WARY OF THE VIRUS

With the arrival of the vaccines and the spring season, it is clear that there is a light at the end of the tunnel from our year-long battle with COVID-19.

However, the good news that has been seen in the past month across the country, in terms of dramatic reductions in cases, deaths, and hospitalizations, by no means should make any of us think that we can let our guard down against this shape-shifting, deadly virus.

The variants of COVID-19 that are working their way through our population are more contagious and thought to be deadlier than the original, and may even present a challenge to the efficacy of the vaccines.

In addition, very few of us actually have been vaccinated. Although the Johnson & Johnson one-shot vaccine was approved for use this past weekend, the company will not be able to begin distributing its vaccine in large numbers until the end of March.

While it may be true that we are winning the war against COVID, every American must realize that COVID-19 is a hunter and we are its prey. Until each of us can get vaccinated over the next two months, we must remain vigilant and practice all of the things we have been doing to stay safe for the past year -- wearing a mask, avoiding large groups, washing our hands frequently, and staying six feet apart from others.

The finish line is in sight -- let’s go strong to the end.

## A FUTURE WITH MASKS?

There has been one positive piece of news during the otherwise tragic COVID-19 pandemic, and that is this: The number of deaths and severe illness caused by the ordinary flu is down dramatically from a typical flu season.

Epidemiologists credit this downturn to a number of factors: International travel is virtually non-existent, people are not gathering in large groups, people are working from home (and therefore not going into their offices while sick), more people got their flu shots than ever, and most of us are wearing masks.

Although the reduction in the number of deaths from the regular flu by no means offsets the increase in the deaths from COVID-19 -- COVID is estimated to be 5-10 times deadlier than the seasonal flu -- the substantial reduction in deaths from the ordinary flu gives us some hope that the lessons we have learned during this year of COVID-19 may enlighten us as to how to combat less-deadly viruses in the future.

In addition, there is no doubt that the incredible effort by the scientific community to develop an effective vaccine against COVID-19 in such a short time will pay fruits in terms of our understanding of other illnesses and our ability to fight them.

# Forum



OPENING SCHOOLS... FOLLOW THE RULES

## APPRECIATION

## Remembering Elizabeth McBride

By Doug Sears

The towering, redoubtable Elizabeth McBride, devoted servant of Chelsea, has left us at the astonishing age of 100.

Liz was already in her 70’s when I met her at the dawn of the Boston University-Chelsea Partnership, perhaps in 1991, when as a new member of the late John Silber’s staff, I was being drawn into our work in Chelsea. She was sometimes described, in the early days of what became a twenty-year collaboration, as an opponent of the Partnership. This was never the case. She voted against our initial agreement on procedural grounds, believing that members of the school committee hadn’t been given sufficient time to study the relevant materials and have questions answered. As I learned over nearly twenty years, Liz took her school committee responsibilities seriously and expected her questions to be answered. She embodied the lyrics of the old spiritual, “I shall not be moved” (referring to Jeremiah 17:8). John Silber, in his own way as splendid as Liz, but irascible and impulsive, implied publicly—at least elliptically—that her initial objection was rooted in self-interest. Since Liz was universally and rightly recognized as utterly incorruptible, the predictable firestorm ensued. Much effort went into persuading John to apologize,

which he did. Liz accepted his apology and moved on, ever focused on what was best for the children of Chelsea. When the school building project went from talk to reality, no one was quicker than Liz to acknowledge John Silber’s agency and express gratitude. There’s a wonderful photo from the groundbreaking celebration of Liz planting an enormous kiss on a sheepish university president. When the Partnership came up for renewal during my superintendency, Liz was a leading proponent and stalwart defender of our work and commitment—to the distress of some who had her pigeonholed in the category of BU critic.

There are many stories I could tell about Liz. Here are the two that remain the most vivid for me.

In the midst of a controversy (I really can’t remember the particulars), I wrote an explanatory letter to my colleagues on the School Committee. In my exasperation at what was going on, I wrote a valedictory sentence that could be read as high-minded or sarcastic. Only one person remarked on the double meaning. Liz, fond of me, but wise about human nature, had read my heart. She materialized the next day in my doorway, leaning on her cane, smiling . . . she observed that the sentence was a bit on the snide side and allowed, “that doesn’t seem like the Douglas I

know . . . “ using my full name just as my mother would have, and framing the well-earned rebuke with an appeal to my better nature. Even as I write this perhaps twenty-five years later, I can remember how I felt as I blushed with embarrassment. In all the time I worked on the Chelsea Project, I knew Liz wanted me to stay on high ground. Which is where she stayed.

In the later 1990’s a high carbon monoxide reading caused the evacuation of our elementary school complex. We had to temporarily re-locate and then send home some 2,000 elementary school children. There are many funny stories from that day, which, happily, concluded, with every child accounted for. Over the course of the day, order was produced from what could have been chaos. And some good lessons were learned. Many elected officials materialized on scene, leading to the potential for multiple lines of communication and ambiguity about authority. Liz showed early on and positioned herself literally behind me—as I recall it, a couple of feet behind my left shoulder. She eavesdropped on every conversation (she was easily within earshot) and never weighed in. Not once. What she did was nab any snack—whether a donut, juice box, one of those small inside-out pizzas—she could get her hands on. Whenever there was a lull, she would

thrust the latest snack into my left hand, and order me to eat or drink it. It was already pretty well-known in Chelsea that I was chronically hungry. That day, Liz made it her business to be the fueler on the pit crew. She would turn me around just enough to make eye contact so that there was no ambiguity about her instructions—or debate about when they might be followed.

I count it as a great blessing that I had the benefit of her wisdom, her affection, and, as needed, criticism. I imagine that her own children can describe the penetrating look that she gave me when she really needed me to pay attention and I feel privileged to have been included in the circle of those who were the object of that look.

Those for whom religious faith seems to come more easily remind us that we need not look high and far for proofs of the transcendent or divine. In the living of her days, Liz McBride was an immediate and tangible example of virtue, devotion, and wisdom far beyond what can be taught within the confines of a classroom. I cherish the days we walked the same paths. I am grateful for her service and her life. And on this day, I am reminded to hew more closely to what I learned from her.

*Doug Sears is a former Chelsea Public Schools Superintendent.*

## CHELSEA

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## SEND US YOUR NEWS

The Record encourages residents to submit engagement, wedding and birth announcements, news releases, business and education briefs, sports stories and photos for publication. Items should be forwarded to our offices at 385 Broadway, Revere, MA 02151. Items can also be faxed to 781-485-1403. We also encourage readers to e-mail news releases and photos to stephen.quigley@reverejournal.com



# Prestigious Cooke Undergraduate Transfer Scholarship awarded to Chelsea, Revere students

The Jack Kent Cooke Foundation announced the semifinalists for its highly competitive Cooke Undergraduate Transfer Scholarship. Through this award, the Foundation supports exceptionally talented community college students seeking to complete their bachelor’s degrees.

The local winners include: Arianny Jorge – Bunker Hill Community College – of Revere.

Victoria Perez Giannone – Bunker Hill Community College – of Chelsea.

Nearly half of post-secondary students begin their college journey at a two-year institution. Research commissioned by the Foundation found that community college students who transfer to selective institutions have equal to or higher graduation rates as students who enrolled directly from high school or transferred from four-year institutions. Yet, at the nation’s top colleges, only five percent have transferred from a community college. The Undergraduate Transfer Scholarship seeks to increase the num-

ber of community college students completing their education at top four-year institutions.

This year’s 406 semifinalists were chosen from a pool of over 1500 applicants attending 398 community colleges in 44 states and the District of Columbia.

“The research is clear: our community colleges are full of talented students with a diversity of experiences that contribute to their educational journey. We see this in our applicant pool every year, and are excited to recognize this group of semifinalists for their academic achievements,” said Sep- py Basili, executive direc- tor of the Jack Kent Cooke Foundation. “We are espe- cially impressed by the in- credible perseverance and drive these students have exhibited during such an unprecedented year.”

The Undergraduate Transfer Scholarship re- cipients will be announced in April. In addition to fi- nancial support, selected Cooke Transfer Scholars will receive compre- hensive educational advising from the Foundation to guide them through the process of transitioning

to a four-year school and preparing for their careers. Undergraduate Transfer Scholars will additionally receive opportunities for internships, study abroad, and graduate school fund- ing, as well as connection to a thriving network of over 2,800 fellow Cooke Scholars and Alumni.

Cooke Transfer Schol- ars are selected based on their exceptional academ- ic ability and achieve- ment, financial need, persistence, service, and leadership. Students must be currently enrolled in community college and residing in the United States.

The Jack Kent Cooke Foundation is dedicated to advancing the education of exceptionally promis- ing students who have fi- nancial need. Since 2000, the Foundation has award- ed over \$222 million in scholarships to over 2,800 students from 8th grade through graduate school, along with comprehensive educational advising and other support services. The Foundation has also provided \$115 million in grants to organiza- tions that serve such stu- dents. [www.jkcf.org](http://www.jkcf.org).

## Chelsea lands Community Development Block Grants

Staff Report

On Tuesday, the Bak- er-Polito Administration announced the most re- cent round of Commu- nity Development Block Grant Awards, with Ever- ett and Chelsea included in more than 40 awardees.

Forty-one communi- ties were notified earlier this year of \$34 million in federal funding to pursue important local projects, including housing rehabil- itation, small infrastruc- ture projects, and for local social services like youth programming or food banks.

The Community De- velopment Block Grant (CDBG) Program rep- resents the most direct funding that communities receive from the federal government. Funds can support a wide-range of projects to benefit low and moderate-income households in a commu- nity. Each year, the federal Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) allocates fund- ing to Massachusetts, through the Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD). DHCD manages both a competitive round for qualifying communities, such as today’s awards, and allocates funding to the Commonwealth’s eleven mini-entitlement

communities.

“Our administration is pleased to announce \$34 million in federal fund- ing to help 41 communi- ties deliver vital services to residents and invest in local infrastructure,” said Governor Charlie Bak- er. “These grants will help municipalities fill key budget gaps creat- ed by the pandemic, en- abling them to advance critical long-term proj- ects while continuing to support residents in the fight against COVID-19.”

The awards will help municipalities rehabilitate more than 350 housing units, fund 17 infrastruc- ture improvement proj- ects, and fund supportive programming for children, teenagers, victims of do- mestic violence, homeless individuals, and the elder- ly.

The Community De- velopment Block Grant (CDBG) Program is a competitive grant pro- gram authorized by Con- gress, funded under Title I of the Housing and Com- munity Development Act of 1974, as amended, and designed to help small cities and towns meet a broad range of community development needs. Assis- tance is provided to qual- ifying cities and towns for projects that assist low and moderate-income res- idents, or revitalize blight-

ed areas. CDBG funds are allocated annually to the Commonwealth through HUD, and administered by DHCD. Since 2015, the Baker-Polito Adminis- tration has awarded nearly \$180 million in Commu- nity Development Block Grants to projects in more than 180 communities.

DHCD oversees fund- ing and resources to help people in Massachusetts live affordably and safely. Through its community and private-sector part- ners, DHCD provides af- fordable housing options, financial assistance, and other support to Massa- chusetts communities.

•CHELSEA will re- ceive \$825,000 for Cherry Street road and sidewalk improvements, Chelsea Square Park improve- ments, housing rehabilita- tion assistance for 4 units and social service assis- tance to include youth ser- vices, ESOL and citizen- ship training.

•EVERETT will re- ceive \$825,000 to pro- vide design for Chel- sea Street playground improvements, a housing production plan, housing rehabilitation assistance for 11 units and social ser- vice assistance to include homelessness prevention, ESOL, youth services, elder services and a food pantry.

## Hud awards more than \$92.4 million to improve, preserve Massachusetts public housing

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development awarded more than \$92.4 million in funding to Massachu- setts public housing au- thorities to make capital investments in their pub- lic housing units.

This funding is part of \$2.7 billion in funding awarded nationally to 2,900 public housing au- thorities (PHAs) in all 50 states, as well as the Dis- trict of Columbia, Guam, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands.

The grants are provided through HUD’s Capital Fund Program, which of- fers annual funding to all public housing authorities to build, renovate, and/ or modernize the public housing in their commu- nities. Housing authori- ties can use the funding to complete large-scale improvements such

as replacing roofs or making energy-efficient upgrades to heating sys- tem and installing water conservation measures.

For more than 80 years,

the federal government has been investing bil- lions of dollars in devel- oping and maintaining public housing, including providing critical support through the Capital Fund grants announced.

The local recipients in- clude:

•Boston Housing Au- thority - \$30,296,108

•Chelsea Housing Au- thority - \$1,017,464

•Revere Housing Au- thority - \$430,125

### DISTRICT UPDATES

•Rasheeda led our first Parent to Para info ses- sion. We had 11 parents attend. Martha Valentine, a current para shared her experiences as a para and encouraged folks to apply. We’re off to a great start!

•The District hosted Community Budget Con- versations for Teachers and faculty earlier this week. We had over 130 members participate. Last night Dr. Abeyta and Ms. Lamboy present- ed our 2022 Budget last week. We look forward to: Reopen, Restore and Rebuild our schools!

•During the school va- cation, Parent Liaisons Yolanda Valles and Johnny Giraldo hosted a February Vacation Pajama Give- away for all the schools at the Mary C. Burke Com- plex. It was a fun and so- cially distant event where families got a chance to take home some warm pa- jamas to stay cozy during these cold days. The Paja- mas were kindly donated by the residents of Way- land through friends of Principal Meyers.

### EARLY LEARNING CENTER UPDATES

•Members of the Chel- sea Kiwanis Club read books to celebrate Black History Month to class- rooms at the ELC this week. Ms. Veronica read to Ms. Ashley’s and Ms. Portillo’s kindergarten class this week. The stu- dents loved learning about Rosa Parks.

•ELC families partic- ipated in a fort building challenge over February vacation. Some great forts were built.

### BERKOWITZ SCHOOL UPDATES

•The 4th graders at the Berkowitz hosted Javier Zamora, a published poet originally from El Salva- dor. He immigrated to the US unaccompanied at age 9 and met his parents in California where he grew up. Zamora writes poems about his experience com- ing to this country and what it’s like to live with his American and Salva- doran identities. He recit- ed poems, and was asked questions, and students were able to share 4th

## SCHOOL UPDATES



**TRAILBLAZER AWARDS--** Superintendent Almi Abeyta surprised School Committee members and school Principals with Amanda Gorman’s Inaugural Poem: The Hill We Climb framed to congratulate Chelsea Public Schools on their recognition from the Chelsea Black Community as Chelsea Trailblazers. Shown here are Principal Trelane Clark and Principal Lisa Lineweaver.

grade poems with him. This is the third year in a row the school has hosted Javier, and students were excited to welcome him back again.

•Students in Ms. Cab- igitng’s class at the Ber- kowitz School are trying different activities they can do to help themselves keep calm or feel relaxed. This week they tried out painting and coloring with markers and used You- Tube to find and listen to relaxing music.

### HOOK SCHOOL UPDATES

•The second graders at the Hooks School have demonstrated their ability to be creative, resource- ful and determined. Each week the students are asked to do some off- screen homework where they have to design, think and try a concept out. This past week students learned about bridges. They were asked to think about the length, the strength and how to build a bridge.

### KELLY SCHOOL UPDATES

•The Kelly School’s February Open Mic Night was a resounding success. Dozens of students shared their talents in music, art, and poetry in a unique live Zoom performance.

### SOKOLOWSKI SCHOOL UPDATES

•Members from the Ki- wanis Club read books to Sokolowski classrooms this week. In honor of Black History Month, they read books by black authors or about influen- tial black men and wom-

# DiDomenico re-appointed as Senate Assistant Majority Leader

Senator Sal DiDome- nico has once again been appointed to the position of Assistant Majority Leader of the Massachu- setts Senate, serving as a select member of Senate President Karen Spilka’s leadership team.

The Senator has also been tasked with chair- ing the Senate Committee on Bills in Third Reading and serving as Vice Chair of the Joint Committee on Education.

This legislative session, the Senator will also serve as a member of the Joint Committee on Labor and Workforce Development, the Joint Committee on

Export Development, Senate Committee on Steering and Policy, and the Senate Committee on Personnel and Adminis- tration. As the new Vice Chair of the Joint Com- mittee on Education and as a longtime champion of early education and Chapter 70 funding re- form, DiDomenico will play a key role in shaping new education policy and legislative oversight of the implementation of the Student Opportunity Act.

“It is an honor to once again be appointed to Senate President Spilka’s leadership team, and I would like to thank her

for placing her confi- dence in me to help lead the Senate body. As our Commonwealth continues battling and recovering from COVID-19, there are many challenges that lie ahead of the Legisla- ture. My district in particular has been hit hard by this pandemic and its economic fallout, and this leadership post will help to ensure our communi- ty’s voice plays a prom- inent role in shaping the Senate’s legislative priori- ties. I am looking forward to a productive legislative session and addressing the most pressing needs of our district.”

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Please visit [www.chelsearecord.com](http://www.chelsearecord.com)



# Rollins / Continued from page 1

up in the city.

Vega said they are focusing on direct action to get people vaccinated, which includes using volunteers to go door-to-door.

Last weekend, they utilized 27 doctors from EBNHC and 17 volunteers to scour the neighborhoods.

“We door knock in neighborhoods where COVID-19 was the worst,” said Vega. “We get the information and start follow ups with them and they do end up making an appointment. We tell them we believe in this vaccine, we think they qualify to get it and we think they should take advantage of it.”

Lopes said the three challenges for standing up these vaccine sites has been staffing, vaccine supply and space. Already, the space issue has been solved by commandeering La Colaborativa’s office for the large vaccine clinic. He also said the vaccine supply has been predictable, and will only get better this week now that the site will get direct shipments from the federal government.

The only outlier is staffing.

“Staffing is primarily the biggest challenge,” Lopes said. “Finding staffing is the hard part because everyone in the country is recruiting the same people – the medical people and even registration people too.”

In a strong statement, Vega said she felt with the vaccine site on Broadway, vaccine equity in Chelsea had been adequately addressed. That meant she felt anyone in Chelsea who qualifies for the vaccine and wants it, can get it. That hasn’t been the case in every majority minority neighborhood and city – where access has been less than adequate according to some reports.

“In terms of equity, I feel very confident to say we’ve fully addressed the issue of equity,” she said. “They EBNHC was taking care of Chelsea people already. Chelsea people may not go to the two hospitals here, but they will go walk across the bridge to East Boston. So they must be doing something that makes them comfortable.”

Rollins left thoroughly impressed, she said. That wasn’t just with the vaccine operation, but also the ability to provide help and information for food, housing issues, legal advice and youth summer jobs.

“I look at you and this is what I want government to be,” she said. “I don’t want to go to 50 different places, but to one place. I don’t want it to be a situation where at 4:59 p.m. the phone is dead. It’s not like that here.”



DA Rachael Rollins listened intently to the stories about regional housing issues in Chelsea, Revere and East Boston.



Colaborativa Housing Specialist Norieliz DeJesus explained how many people are getting scammed by fake immigration attorneys now in Chelsea.



Chelsea Court Chief Administrator Myriam Feliz listened intently to the conversation with DA Rollins.



Colaborativa COO Dinanyili Paulino spoke about the vaccine clinic with DA Rollins.



EBNHC CEO Manny Lopes explained to DA Rollins the difficulty of finding staff to operate vaccine sites, noting that pediatrics workers from the East Boston clinic were staffing the Chelsea vaccine site.

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Telemedicine allows health care professionals to evaluate, diagnose, and treat patients at a distance using telecommunications technology, such as a smart phone or computer. Telemedicine allows us to continue to provide high-quality care to our patients during the COVID-19 pandemic while minimizing exposures.

Telemedicine appointments are being scheduled in Pediatrics, Adult Medicine, Family Medicine, Women’s Health (OB/GYN), Behavioral Health, Neighborhood PACE, and other departments. We use certified medical interpreters during telemedicine appointments for languages other than English.

Do you need to schedule a telemedicine appointment with your primary care provider? Did you miss an appointment that needs to be rescheduled? If so, call 617-569-5800 to schedule a telemedicine appointment. This is especially important if you have a chronic or a behavioral health condition. You should be treated if needed, especially during this public health crisis. We’re here to keep you healthy!

[www.ebnhc.org](http://www.ebnhc.org)

La Colaborativa Director Gladys Vega said vaccine equity is not an issue in Chelsea with this site running. She is shown at a roundtable discussion Monday with EBNHC CEO Manny Lopes, DA Rachael Rollins and Colaborativa Housing Specialist Norieliz DeJesus.

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MassDOT announces \$2.8 million in shared winter streets and spaces

The Massachusetts Department of Transportation (MassDOT) is announcing the award of \$2,805,194.22 in the fourth round of funding from the Baker-Polito Administration’s Shared Winter Streets and Spaces program, including an award to Revere and Chelsea for a bus lane.

The program, which was launched on November 10, provides technical and funding assistance to help Massachusetts cities and towns conceive, design, and implement tactical changes to curbs, streets, and parking areas in support of public health, safe mobility, and renewed commerce, with a special focus on the particular challenges of winter.

The awards made today will provide funding to 17 municipalities and two public transit authorities for 19 projects. 58% of the awarded municipalities are designated Environmental Justice communities and 79% are considered high-risk for Covid infections. 53% of today’s winners have never received a Shared Streets and Spaces award before.

Since the inception of the program in June of 2020, the Commonwealth has invested \$21.1 million in municipal Shared Streets projects.

The Shared Winter Streets and Spaces program provides grants as small as \$5,000 and as large as \$500,000 for municipalities to quickly

launch changes for safer walking, biking, public transit, recreation, commerce, and civic activities. These improvements can be intentionally temporary or can be pilots of potentially permanent changes. MassDOT is particularly focused on projects that respond to the current public health crisis and provide safe mobility for children, for elders, to public transportation, and to open space and parks.

The local awards include:

- The MBTA, in partnership with Revere and Chelsea, received \$196,900.00 to install a peak-only shared bus/bike lane on the southbound side of Broadway, from Revere Street to the Revere/Chelsea line.

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# Chelsea City Councillor Leo Robinson Honored During “Black Excellence on the Hill”

On Friday, February 26, Chelsea City Councillor Leo Robinson was honored by the Massachusetts Black and Latino Legislative Caucus (MBLLC) during their annual “Black Excellence on the Hill” event, which took place virtually this year due to the COVID pandemic. Each February, as a part of celebrations to mark Black History Month, the MBLLC hosts this event to celebrate and honor Black leaders from across the Commonwealth.

State Rep. Jessica A. Giannino, who was elected in November and also serves a Revere councilor-at-large, nominated



Chelsea City Councillor Leo Robinson.

Robinson to be recognized as Sixteenth Suffolk District honoree.

“Leo has dedicated his

life to serve the community of Chelsea. He is famous for saying, ‘I’m all in,’ and for anyone who knows him, it is so much more than words,” said Representative Giannino. “Leo’s passion and love for his community inspires me every day. I am proud to call him my colleague, but I am even more proud to call him my friend. Congratulations, Leo, and thank you for all you do for Chelsea.”

Robinson is a lifelong resident of Chelsea, a family man, a veteran of the United States Army who served our nation valiantly, and is a five-term President of the Chelsea

Council. Leo is known for his kind and compassionate personality, and as a man who truly loves Chelsea and its residents. He is a dedicated member of the community who works tirelessly for its betterment and has been engaged in many organizations in the city throughout the years.

State Rep. Dan Ryan congratulated Robinson on receiving the prestigious award.

“Leo is a long-time friend and dedicated public servant,” said Ryan. “From his local cable show, to the Lewis Latimer Society and his history of working on Social Justice issues back to the Rev.

King’s march on Washington, Leo finds ways to make a positive impact of Chelsea and beyond. This recognition is well deserved.”

Known as the dean of Chelsea government, Robinson, through his work in numerous organizations, has been making the city a better place to live and work for more than six decades. He has been a stalwart in the sports community as both a former CHS basketball standout and youth sports coach in the CYBL where he and friend, Brucie Harrison, led the Bucks to the playoff championship. Robinson began coaching youth

basketball players in the 1960s when he teamed up with Phil Silver to lead a Chelsea travel team.

Robinson and his wife, Linda Alioto-Robinson, have a daughter, Lucia, who is the head women’s basketball coach at Vassar College, and two grandchildren, Kaia and Kellen. Lucia’s husband is Michael Griggs.

“I am very humbled and honored to receive this award,” said Leo Robinson. “I accepted the award on behalf of my family and the residents of Chelsea.”

# Zonta Clubs of Chelsea, North Shore and Malden celebrated Amelia Earhart Fellowship recipients

On Thursday, January 21, the Zonta clubs of Malden and Chelsea celebrated our Amelia Earhart Fellows. Amelia Earhart was a member of the Zonta Club of Medford and every year thousands of dollars are given in her name to deserving women around the globe. While this year was not the way we usually celebrate, we followed in the footsteps of the trailblazers who paved the way for us. We persisted with a little help from technology. So



Rachel Morgan.

proud to have our Governor Beatrice Schori bring greeting from the district as well as each fellow sharing their accomplish-



Cody Paige.

ments. We marked the occasion with each fellow receiving their wings, Zonta certificate and beautiful flowers.

A huge congrats to Ms. Rachel Morgan and Ms. Cody Paige! Thank you to all who joined us and celebrated and to all of those who have shown their support.

Here are our Amelia Earhart Fellows from Zonta District 1:

Rachel Morgan and Cody Paige.

Rachel Morgan, a doctoral student at MIT in the Ph.D. in space systems in the area of space telescope optical instrument development, plans to use the

US\$10,000 Zonta Fellowship to further her studies as she investigates novel optical and photonic instrumentation concepts for high-contrast imaging of exoplanets with space telescopes. In her spare time, Ms. Morgan enjoys a range of interests, including playing the saxophone and being an active member of the MIT Women in Aerospace Engineering.

Cody Paige, a doctoral student in the PH.D program, will use her fellowship to study radiation

shielding materials for space suits and systems at MIT. Ms. Paige’s future goal is to enhance life on earth through space exploration. She hopes for a career in Canada in the field of space medicine to contribute to long-duration space missions. She is active in STEM programs and a new MIT project to spread climate change awareness to high school students through interactive lectures.

## Dome / Continued from page 1

and the masonry to stop all the leaks. They are also repairing all four faces of the clock, and the clock will be computerized so that it looks historic, but also keeps good time and resets itself automatically. In fact, all four faces of the clock were to be removed on Tuesday of this week.

They will also be installing new stairs on the inside of the tower, and, of course, the new gilding on the dome – along with some other smaller repairs.

Maltez said the plan is to have the restoration complete in June, and he hopes that upon completion, residents could be invited up to the tower to see the inner workings of the clock.

The Hall is on the National Register of Historic Places, and so the renovations are being held to historic standards.

The project costs a total of \$1.8 million, with the City getting a \$150,000 boost from the Community Preservation Committee.



DPW Director Fidel Maltez said the department was fixing the leaks in the Tower, but pushed for funding to achieve a full restoration.



Eddie Doyle of CSI talks with the DPW's Fidel Maltez about the right color of masonry for the brickwork.



The historic tower clock at City Hall is being repaired and computerized so that it keeps accurate time.



No, this isn't a giant Lego man, but rather an extensive scaffolding network and red netting around the City Hall Tower, which is now being restored and will be done in June.

# MGC appoints Jill Griffin as Director, Diversity and Legislative Affairs

The Massachusetts Gaming Commission (MGC) announced the appointment of Jill Lacey Griffin as Director, Diversity and Legislative Affairs. Griffin has been with the MGC since 2013, serving as Director of Workforce, Supplier and Diversity Development.

In her new role as Director, Diversity and Legislative Affairs, Griffin will focus on advancing and promoting an inclusive culture and providing leadership on Commission initiatives related to diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI), both internally and within the gaming industry. In addition, Director Griffin will be the first agency-wide lead for all legislative issues, responsible for the coordination of the Commission’s legislative strategy, including tracking state and federal legislation, analyzing its

impact on the Commission and gaming industry, and serving as a resource to internal and external stakeholders. Griffin will also facilitate the MGC’s support of the legislatively mandated Gaming Policy Advisory Committee (GPAC).

“Jill’s thoughtful leadership approach makes her ideally suited to serve as liaison for the Commission with our colleagues in the Legislature and on the Gaming Policy Advisory Committee,” said Chair Cathy Judd-Stein. “In addition, her depth of experience in impactful DEI initiatives will serve both internal and external constituencies exceptionally well.”

“I am delighted that Jill has taken on this important role at the MGC,” said Executive Director Karen Wells. “I look forward to Jill’s continued contri-

butions to the Commonwealth as she takes on this important new assignment.”

As Director of Workforce, Supplier and Diversity Development, Griffin has been responsible for the promotion of diversity and programs to encourage all residents of the Commonwealth to benefit from the employment

and business opportunities created through the expansion of gaming. In addition, she has been responsible for working with a wide range of stakeholders across the state on issues related to workforce training and diversity.

Griffin has more than 15 years of experience in economic and workforce development, most re-

cently serving as Senior Director of Programs at The Boston Foundation. Griffin also served for several years as special assistant to Mayor Thomas M. Menino, directing the Mayor’s Scheduling and Advance Department. Earlier in her career, Griffin held various leadership positions with a focus in economic development,

strategic planning and partnerships at the Boston Redevelopment Authority and the City of Boston’s Department of Neighborhood Development. Griffin earned a Master of Science and a Bachelor of Arts in Communications, both from the State University of New York at Oswego.

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NEWS FROM AROUND THE REGION

JPNA SUPPORTS LIQUOR LICENSE REQUEST

EAST BOSTON - At its February meeting, the Jeffries Point Neighborhood Association (JPNA) voted to support the Navy Yard Hospitality Group’s (NYHG) efforts to seek a liquor license for an outdoor dining proposal that would include a Tall Ship and large patio near Pier I in East Boston.

JPNA members voted 33 to 6 in favor of supporting NYHG’s plan to apply to the city for a liquor license for its “Eastie Landing” proposal on the waterfront.

Last year NYHG, which owns Reel House on New Street in Eastie and other locations in Charlestown, the Seaport and Faneuil Hall, approached Massport with the idea of docking a 242 foot steel hull Tall Ship at Pier I to create a unique dining experience for Eastie residents. Over the spring and summer NYHG docked a tall ship at the pier and began an extensive rehab of the ship to accommodate three bars and a dining area.

However, NYHG’s Charlie Larner said COVID put a damper on opening Eastie Landing last year but hopes to be up and running once the warm weather returns to New England.

Larner said his group plans to finish refurbishing the Tall Ship as well as placing recycled materials, like old shipping containers, to activate the space and for decor and programming. NYHG has six shipping containers, which will be on the pier, and can be used for selling lobster rolls or tacos, or beverages. There will also be some shipping containers that house small retail operations. On the pier itself NYHG will be using string lights and materials such as the electrical cable wraps as tables. Larner has said NYHG is trying to be creative and use recycled material as much as possible.

NYHG also wants to do a weekly Movie Night that drives families down to the pier early in the week. With regards to live entertainment the only “at-night-event” would be Movie Night. When it comes to the stage for the concert series NYHG only plans on doing a summer concert series during the daytime.”

The ship itself has a

4,500 square foot main deck that will house three bars. One of the bars is at the stern and the stern bar will be doing a lot of small fund-raising events and other functions. The food that NYHG will have coming out of a galley kitchen will be raw selections, small plates focusing on Mediterranean fare, and charcuterie

Like over at the Reel House, the NYHG would provide free water shuttle services between Eastie Landing and the other three NYHG restaurants in Eastie, Charlestown and the Seaport.

NYHG wants to not only gear this proposal to adults but to children and families as well with seasonal activities like a pumpkin patch in the fall and a winter wonderland during the holiday season.

This is not the first time someone has proposed a floating restaurant in Eastie. Eight years ago Boston Harbor Cruises’ Principal Owner Rick Nolan wanted to anchor a floating restaurant off Eastie’s shores. However, after community support Nolan delayed the idea before finally abandoning it all together.

BPDA APPROVES MITIGATION FUNDING

EAST BOSTON - The Boston Planning and Development Agency (BPDA) voted to approve mitigation funding to several local non-profits as part of the development project at 99 Sumner St., also known as the Hodge Boiler Works project.

The BPDA board approved \$49,000 at its February meeting that will be split between 13 local organizations including the Salesian Boys & Girls Club, East Boston Social Centers and the Veronica Robles Cultural Center.

The funds will be disbursed from the 99 Sumner Street Project Community Benefits fund maintained by the BPDA from contributions made by the developer.

In 2017 the BPDA approved a ‘Notice of Project Change’ for the Hodge Boiler Works waterfront development project.

When the site was owned by the DeNormandie Companies a few years ago, the group pitched a scaled down version of their original plan to build an 8-sto-

ry, 119 unit residential complex. DeNormandie decided to build a 5-story, 95 units building that is 80,000 sq. ft. less than the original design.

The Davis Companies scooped up the property and reverted back to the original plan of building 119 condo units. The Davis Companies will also pay into the BPDA’s fund to create affordable housing units off site to the tune of \$2.19 million.

According to the Davis Companies the project that is under construction will result in a six story, 125,678 sq. ft.. mixed-use development.

Last year the BPDA announced the application process for \$49,000 in community benefits funding, which was secured through the Article 80 process for the Hodge Boiler Works project. According to the BPDA Funding was prioritized for applicants whose services benefit local residents, with an emphasis on residents of East Boston. To be eligible for this community benefit funding, the applicant had to be a non-profit operating in Massachusetts and/or an organization that has identified a local non-profit as its fiscal agent.

The BPDA worked with local elected officials and the Mayor’s Office to notify various community organizations about the availability of the mitigation funds.

The BPDA, along with the Mayor’s Office of Workforce Development, notified organizations and publicized the availability of the fund.

Twenty-one organizations applied for the mitigation funds in this first round of funding. At the BPDA board meeting it was stated that a variety of factors were used by the review committee when scoring applications including organizational background, experience in the neighborhood,

And expected outcomes of the program or project. BPDA staff has reviewed the applications of various community organizations and identified the following recipients of the 99 Sumner Street Project Community Benefits Fund:

- East Boston Social Centers, Inc. \$5,000
- Young Men’s Christian Association of Greater Boston, Inc.\$3,500
- Eureka Ensemble Corporation \$3,500
- Greater Boston Legal Services, Inc. \$3,500

- Massachusetts Alliance of Portuguese Speakers, Inc.\$3,500
- Partners for Youth with Disabilities, Inc. \$3,500
- Salesian Boys and Girls Club, Inc. \$5,000
- The Salvation Army \$2,500
- Steppingstone Foundation, Inc. \$3,500
- Speak for the Trees, Inc. \$3,500
- Union Capital Boston, Inc. \$3,500
- Veronica Robles Cultural Center Corp. \$3,500
- Youth Connect (Boys & Girls Clubs of Boston as fiscal agent) \$5,000

Aside from the 119 condo units there will be a 7,200 sq. ft. public facility as part of the project. The project also calls for 83 off-street parking spaces, 119 bicycle storage spaces within the building for residents and 28 exterior bicycle storage spaces to be made available for the general public, visitors, and residents.

Approximately 35,750 square feet of the project site will be used as public open space that will include one of the last links missing from the East Boston Harborwalk. This missing link will finally connect the Charlton Wharf site with Lopresti Park. With Clippership Wharf, Portside at Pier One and the Boston East Site completed, the Harborwalk will be one continuous path that extends from the Hyatt Logan Airport Hotel all the way to the Boston East Site on Border Street.

DeMARIA WANTS TEACHERS TO BE VACCINATED

EVERETT - Mayor Carlo DeMaria has not given up on his plan to try to get teachers in the Everett Public Schools (EPS) vaccinated ahead of schedule so as to enter into a smoother and safer return to hybrid education.

At the School Committee meeting Feb. 16, and reiterated this week, the mayor said he is continuing to plead with Gov. Charlie Baker to allow Everett to be a pilot program in the state when it comes to teacher vaccination.

“I’m still not giving up hope,” he said. “We did face a setback on our plan to vaccinate teachers, but I’m not giving up hope the governor would allow just the City of Everett in a pilot program to vaccinate,” he said. “We would accommo-

date those 75-plus and 65-plus, those with two co-morbidities and also vaccinate our teachers. We are running into situations where we have our vaccination clinic and we do have ample spots open. We could instead be vaccinating teachers. There’s pressure to get teachers vaccinated even though information was shared that school children aren’t a contributor to the spread.”

Supt. Tahiliani is joining the mayor in that push as well, and also said they are formulating a wait list of teachers were there any leftover vaccine available that had been unused at the end of any clinic.

The Everett Teacher’s Association (ETA) is working with the Everett Public Schools and the mayor on that wait list, in addition to pushing for vaccination as well.

ST. MARY’S GIRLS HOOP TEAM TAKES LEAGUE CUP

LYNN - It wasn’t easy, but when all was said and done in an historic season that was complicated by an ongoing pandemic, the St. Mary’s High School basketball girls team was No. 1 – again.

Though they won’t be officially crowned as state champions for the second year in a row, Jeff Newhall’s 2020-21 Lady Spartans were unquestionably one of the best teams in the state.

Twenty wins – the most in the state. Another title in the highly competitive Catholic Central League. A 1,000-point scorer in Division 1-bound Sacred Heart commit Maiya Bergdorf. One of the most successful players in school history is Endicott-College bound Nicolette D’Itria, who led a senior class that produced 80 wins in four years.

A rising star guard in sophomore Yirsy Queliz who will be a future All-Scholastic if she is not one already. The superb sixth-person junior who became a huge contributor as a starter as a senior, Alyssa Grossi. And the breakout season of St. Mary’s next great all-around player, sophomore Kellyn Preira.

On Saturday at the Tony Conigliaro Gymnasium that would have been packed for the championship showdown against rival Fenwick under normal circumstances, St. Mary’s showed its mettle.

After pulling away to

a substantial lead in the third quarter, St. Mary’s held off the fast-closing Crusaders to take a 46-40 victory and the CCL Cup championship trophy.

D’Itria was the unofficial MVP of the game, with 15 points, seven rebounds and four assists. D’Itria took over the proceedings with three successive 3-pointers in third quarter that helped expand the lead to 39-16.

“It feels great to be CCL champions and especially to get the chance to beat Fenwick in our home gym – it’s a great way to end our senior season,” said D’Itria. “Eventually my shots started falling at the right time. I had a great five years (grades 8-12) with Coach Newhall and all the coaches. It was a great team to be with each year.”

Newhall said that D’Itria was a difference maker in the title game.

“Nicolette played well all game, but the three 3-pointers in third quarter – that’s when we made our run,” said Newhall. “That’s probably the sequence that won the game for us.”

Queliz had nine points and will return next year to pilot a potential run to the Garden. Preira (7 points) and Grossi (6) played well for the Spartans. Grossi was also the game’s leading rebounder with 11 caroms. Bergdorf, a talented 6-foot center, emerged from early foul trouble to score six points and end her special career with a second consecutive championship.

“When you look back at the season, you can’t help but be more than happy,” said Newhall, whose career record is now a lofty 323-137. “We were the best team in the regular season and the best team in the post season.”

Newhall thanked his five seniors – Nicolette D’Itria, Alyssa Grossi, Maiya Bergdorf, Van Nguyen, and Pej’ae Parent – for their contributions to the program.

“We have five great seniors that have been through a lot,” said Newhall. “They go out as winners and they’ve had an unbelievable run. It’s going to be tough to see them move on, but the future is bright.”

Newhall was assisted on the St. Mary’s staff by coaches Jim Foley, Mike Jalbert, Tim Spinney, Alison McCarthy, and Victoria Ault.

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# V10 Development proposes residential tower on Second Street in Everett

By Seth Daniel

V10 Developers, led by former Encore liaison John Tocco, are teaming up with the Varano family to propose a 21-story residential tower with 366 units and the highest rooftop restaurant in Greater Boston – to be known as SKY Everett – just over the City Line on Second Street.

It would be the second largest building in Everett, and taller than the FBI building, but behind Encore Boston Harbor by more than 100 feet.

V10, operated by Ricky Beliveau and John Tocco, filed the project last week in Everett and will begin the review process with that city soon. In doing so, they will be focusing on one of the hottest development areas bisecting the City Line in the region – with their development at the apex of Spring and Second Streets being one of many large residential projects proposed or being built out.

The residential building would be the tallest build-

ing in that area, which has historically been habituated by industrial uses and scrap yards. However, it is by no means the largest in terms of units and square footage. The project would bring 366 units to the market (103 Studios, 159 one-bedrooms, and 104 two-bedrooms) and 12,000 sq. ft. of amenity space. There would be ample open space at 28 percent, and 340 parking spaces on site. Additionally, they would include 9,000 sq. ft. of commercial space, and that would include a new rooftop restaurant operated by the Varano Family, who now operate the acclaimed Strega Restaurants.

“At a time when restaurants are closing and the industry is contracting, we couldn’t be happier to team with the Varano family and legendary team to bring this amazing concept to life,” said John Tocco, partner at V10 Development, the developer of Sky Everett. “The rooftop bar and restaurant reinforces our belief that you don’t have to be

downtown to experience all the best that Boston offers. The sensational view, easy access and first-class amenities offered at Sky Everett is urban living at its best, without the city hassles. The breathtaking views combined with unmatched hospitality will create an atmosphere unlike any other in Boston. You can even get the best dining and hospitality experience of the North End here, without worrying about parking in the North End.”

Tocco said they are well-aware of the height concerns, but that they like the idea of mixing up the building stock. He also said because of the height, their building will be much more accessible to the public with the restaurant and more open space. While other lower buildings create a “wall” when they design circular buildings around private open space, he said their project would not create such a wall and be more free-flowing for the public to utilize at ground level – and even at the roof with

the restaurant proposal.

Tocco and Beliveau said a highlight of the project is, in fact, the restaurant, which would be the highest-operating restaurant in Greater Boston now that the Top of the Hub has closed atop the Prudential Center.

Nick and Nico Varano, as well as the rest of the Varano Group, will operate the SKY Bar and Restaurant atop SKY Everett. They are excited to join the operation and said this concept will be unlike any other bar or restaurant in Greater Boston. The destination establishment will offer guests a 6,000 square-foot restaurant and lounge that is 240-feet in the air featuring a spectacular 1,500 square-foot sky deck and retractable roof for four-season indoor and outdoor dining. The Sky bar and restaurant will be the highest available dining option in New England, Tocco reiterated.

The project would be on the west side of the street, across from the current scrap yard and abutting a vacant lot on one side,



RENDERINGS BY CONTEXT WORKSHOP  
A street-level rendering of the SKY Everett building in the Commercial Triangle on Spring and Second Streets.

and the Market Forge proposed residential community on the other side.

Because there is an Activity Use Limitation (AUL) on the site, V10 will have to undergo a significant environmental remediation effort before construction.

V10 Development was established in 2020 as a

partnership between John Tocco, former head of Government and Community Relations for Encore Boston Harbor, and Ricky Beliveau, Principal of Volnay Capital. V10 currently has one transit-oriented project under development in Everett, known as The 600.

# Baker-Polito administration announces K-12 educators, child care workers and K-12 school staff eligible for vaccine appointments starting March 11

Staff Report  
On March 3, the Baker-Polito Administration announced that K-12 educators, child care workers and K-12 school staff will be eligible to schedule COVID-19 vaccine appointments starting March 11th.

This group of workers will join the current eligible groups (including 65+ and individuals with 2+ certain medical conditions).

The Administration also released details on available appointments for the upcoming week.

“Very few states are administering as many doses every day as we’re administering here in Massachusetts,” Baker said, “and it’s paying off, and case rates are dropping.”

Baker added, “we are putting every dose we get to work, and doing it

quickly.”

He said that “right now, even with the approval of the Johnson & Johnson vaccine, the numbers of doses coming into Massachusetts will remain relatively consistent over the course of the next three or four weeks, which are obviously not enough to vaccinate everybody who would like to be vaccinated today.”

Though the rollout of the Johnson & Johnson vaccine will be slow at first, Baker said that “there’s a lot of excitement about the J&J vaccine...and having a third manufacturer in the process over time will make a really big difference.”

Teacher Vaccines  
Beginning March 11th, all K-12 educators, child care workers and K-12 school staff will be eligible to schedule appoint-

ments for the COVID-19 vaccine. Educators may book appointments at all 170 sites currently open to eligible residents in Massachusetts by visiting [www.mass.gov/covidvaccinemap](http://www.mass.gov/covidvaccinemap).

Additionally, the Command Center will work to designate specific days at the seven mass vaccination sites for educators to get their shots. More details will be released soon.

There are approximately 400,000 K-12 educators, child care workers and K-12 school staff in Massachusetts. Due to a severely constrained federal supply and the existing population that is currently eligible for vaccines, it is estimated that it will take a month for all eligible individuals to secure a first appointment. This timeframe is only subject to change if fed-

eral supply increases dramatically, including the recently authorized Johnson & Johnson vaccine.

Vaccine Appointments  
This week, we anticipate over 250,000 doses will be administered between first and second doses across all providers throughout the Commonwealth.

On Thursday, March 4, 12,000 new first appointments for mass vaccination sites will be made available to eligible groups. Over 45,000 new second dose appointments have also been scheduled at mass vaccination sites.

The number of new appointments (first dose appointments) is less than previous weeks due to the volume of second dose appointments. 7,500 appointments have also been booked by the call center (211) for older adults who

were unable to use a computer to book an appointment and required assistance.

As more individuals have received a first vaccine dose across the Commonwealth, there is a greater need to book second appointments, so the mass vaccination sites have fewer first dose appointments available on a weekly basis.

Later next week, a new Regional Collaboration will go live: the Lower Merrimack Valley regional collaboration, to include the City of Amesbury, Georgetown, Groveland, Merrimack, Newbury, Newburyport, Rowley, Salisbury and West Newbury. Details on this collaborative will be on the website at [mass.gov/covidvaccinemap](http://mass.gov/covidvaccinemap) next week.

Johnson & Johnson

Vaccine

The COVID-19 Command Center was notified that Massachusetts is receiving only one shipment of 58,000 doses for the month of March. These doses have been allocated – primarily to hospitals and health systems.

Based on information the Commonwealth has received from the federal government, the Administration does not expect to be able to order more J&J doses until the end of March or early April.

While the Commonwealth is receiving limited doses of the J&J vaccine in March, the Administration is continuing to plan for eventual widespread distribution of the J&J vaccine.

## LEGAL NOTICES

### LEGAL NOTICE



**NOTICE OF HEARING**  
Case No. 2021-02  
In accordance with the Massachusetts Zoning Act, Chapter 40A, a meeting of the Chelsea Planning Board will be held by way of video conference on Tuesday, March 23, 2021 6:00 p.m.  
With reference to the application of: Enterprise Rent-A-Car of Boston, LLC  
For Major Site Plan Review to establish vehicle parking for the storage of vehicles for hire or return from hire at the premises known as: 250 Marginal Street.  
All interested parties wishing to provide a public comment or to join the video conference meeting must communicate with [jdepriest@chelseama.gov](mailto:jdepriest@chelseama.gov). Name and address must be included in order to be read during the Public Speaking section of the meeting and email address in order to join the meeting. Plans and copies of the application and petition may be viewed at by appointment by contacting John DePriest ([jdepriest@chelseama.gov](mailto:jdepriest@chelseama.gov)).  
3/4/21, 3/11/21 C

### LEGAL NOTICE



**(LEGAL NOTICE)**  
**CITY OF CHELSEA**  
**REQUEST FOR INFORMATION**  
Battery Energy Storage Systems for the City of Chelsea, City Hall and Central Police Station  
The City of Chelsea, Massachusetts, through its Chief Procurement Officer, is seeking for Request for Information for “Battery Energy Storage Systems for the City of Chelsea, City Hall and Central Police Station”.  
Request for Information will be available on or after March 4, 2021 by contacting Dragica Ivanis, Chief Procurement Officer at [divanis@chelseama.gov](mailto:divanis@chelseama.gov) or by visiting the City’s website at <http://www.chelseama.gov/purchasing/pages/current-bids-solicitations>. Request for Information must be sealed and clearly marked “Battery Energy Storage Systems for the City of Chelsea, City Hall and Central Police Station” and submitted to the Office of the Chief Procurement Officer no later than 11:00AM on Thursday, March 18, 2021.  
The City of Chelsea reserves the right to accept any proposal, to reject

any or all proposals and to waive minor irregularities and/or formalities as it deems to be in the best interest of the City.  
In accordance with our Minority Business Enterprise Plan, we are inviting all qualified women and minority business firms to respond.  
The City of Chelsea is an Equal Opportunity Employer.  
This Invitation for Bids is in accordance with M.G.L. Chapter 30B  
Dragica Ivanis  
Chief Procurement Officer  
3/4/21 C

### LEGAL NOTICE



Re: Fine Mart, LLC  
260 Broadway, Chelsea, MA  
Chelsea Licensing Commission, March 11, 2021  
Notice is hereby given that a public hearing will be held by the Chelsea Licensing Commission on Thursday, March 11, 2021 at 6:00 p.m., at the City Council Chambers, Chelsea City Hall, 500 Broadway, Chelsea, MA, to consider a Change of Manager application of an All Kinds of Alcohol License (off Premise) for Fine Mart, LLC at 260-266 Broadway, Chelsea, MA. 02150.

**CHELSEA LICENSING COMMISSION**  
Naomi Libran  
Licensing Administrator  
2/25/21, 3/4/21 C

### LEGAL NOTICE



**(LEGAL NOTICE)**  
**CITY OF CHELSEA**  
**REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS**  
**PROFESSIONAL LANDSCAPE DESIGN AND SITE PLAN REVIEW SERVICES**  
The City of Chelsea, Massachusetts, through its Chief Procurement Officer, is seeking qualifications from experienced landscape architectural consultants for professional landscape design, park design, and site plan review services on an as-needed basis. The City will qualify two (2) firms to provide these services.  
Request for Qualifications will be available on or after March 4, 2021 by contacting Dragica Ivanis, Chief Procurement Officer at [divanis@chelseama.gov](mailto: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 “PROFESSIONAL LANDSCAPE DESIGN AND SITE PLAN REVIEW SERVICES”

and submitted to the Office of the Chief Procurement Officer no later than 11:00AM on Thursday, March 25, 2021  
The City of Chelsea reserves the right to accept any proposal, to reject any or all proposals and to waive minor irregularities and/or formalities as it deems to be in the best interest of the City.  
In accordance with our Minority Business Enterprise Plan, we are inviting all qualified women and minority business firms to respond.  
The City of Chelsea is an Equal Opportunity Employer.  
Dragica Ivanis  
Chief Procurement Officer  
3/4/21 C

### LEGAL NOTICE



Re: Nancy Serna d/b/a Rancho Las Pupusas  
36 Second Street, Chelsea, MA  
Chelsea Licensing Commission, March 11, 2021  
Notice is hereby given that a public hearing will be held by the Chelsea Licensing Commission on Thursday, March 11, 2021 at 6:00 p.m., at the City Council Chambers, Chelsea City Hall, 500 Broadway, Chelsea, MA, to consider a Change of

Manager application of a Wine and Malt Beverages License (on Premise) for Nancy Serna d/b/a Rancho Las Pupusas at 36 Second Street, Chelsea, MA. 02150.  
CHELSEA LICENSING COMMISSION  
Naomi Libran  
Licensing Administrator  
2/25/21, 3/4/21 C

### LEGAL NOTICE

**PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE**  
In accordance with Chapter 71, Section 38N, the Chelsea School Committee will hold a virtual public hearing on Thursday, March 11, 2021 at 6:30 p.m. for the purpose of receiving comments on:  
1. School Choice for the 2021-2022 school year.  
2. The proposed 2021-2022 school budget.  
Copies of the budget proposal will be available for inspection no later than 2 days prior to the hearing on the Chelsea Public Schools website at <https://www.chelseaschools.com/Page/2433>. Please call 617-466-4456 to request a hard copy or to have a copy emailed to you.  
The meeting is closed to observe social distancing guidelines. The meeting will be live streamed for the public at: Chelsea Cable TV and <https://www.facebook.com/ChelseaPublicSchools/>  
The agenda will be available online at the Chelsea Public Schools website: <https://www.chelseaschools.com/Page/2485> no later than 2 days prior to the hearing.  
Public Comments may be submitted in several ways:  
Anyone wishing to speak during the public comment period must sign up. To indicate that you would like to speak at the meeting and receive call in information, contact [publichearing@chelseaschools.com](mailto:publichearing@chelseaschools.com) or 617-466-4456  
**REUNION PUBLICA**  
De acuerdo con el Capítulo 71, Sección 38N, el Comité Escolar de Chelsea llevará a cabo una audiencia pública virtual el jueves, 11 de marzo del 2021 a las 6:30 p.m. con el propósito de recibir comentarios sobre:  
1. La Elección de las Escuelas para el año escolar 2021-2022  
2. El presupuesto escolar propuesto para el año 202-2022. Las copias de la propuesta del presupuesto estarán disponibles para su inspección dos días antes de la audiencia en el sitio web de las Escuelas

com/ChelseaPublicSchools/  
The agenda will be available online at the Chelsea Public Schools website: <https://www.chelseaschools.com/Page/2485> no later than 2 days prior to the hearing.  
Public Comments may be submitted in several ways:  
Public comments can be emailed or telephoned in to the following: [budget@chelseaschools.com](mailto:budget@chelseaschools.com) or 617-466-4456  
Anyone wishing to speak during the public comment period must sign up. To indicate that you would like to speak at the meeting and receive call in information, contact [publichearing@chelseaschools.com](mailto:publichearing@chelseaschools.com) or 617-466-4456  
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Públicas de Chelsea en <https://www.chelseaschools.com/Page/2433>. Llame al 617-466-4456 para solicitar una copia impresa o para que le enviemos una copia por correo electrónico.  
La reunión está cerrada para observar las pautas de distanciamiento social. La reunión se transmitirá en vivo para el público en: Chelsea Cable TV <https://www.facebook.com/ChelseaPublicSchools/>  
La agenda está disponible 2 días antes de la reunión, en línea en el sitio web de las Escuelas Públicas de Chelsea <https://www.chelseaschools.com/>  
Los comentarios públicos pueden enviarse por correo electrónico o por teléfono a los siguientes: [publichearing@chelseaschools.com](mailto:publichearing@chelseaschools.com) o 617-466-4456  
Chelsea Public Schools School Committee  
City Hall  
500 Broadway  
Chelsea, MA 02150  
(617) 466-4477  
(617) 889-8361 (Fax)  
2/25/21, 3/4/21 C

### LEGAL NOTICE



**NOTICE OF HEARING**  
Case No. 2018-02

In accordance with the Massachusetts Zoning Act, Chapter 40A, a meeting of the Chelsea Planning Board will be held by way of video conference on Tuesday, March 23, 2021 6:00 p.m.  
With reference to the application of: The Neighborhood Developers  
For the determination of minor or major change and review of a previously approved Major Site Plan to reduce the size of the building and number of off-street parking spaces, and to increase the amount of useable open space at the premises known as: 170 Cottage Street.  
All interested parties wishing to provide a public comment or to join the video conference meeting must communicate with [jdepriest@chelseama.gov](mailto:jdepriest@chelseama.gov). Name and address must be included in order to be read during the Public Speaking section of the meeting and email address in order to join the meeting. Plans and copies of the application and petition may be viewed at by appointment by contacting John DePriest ([jdepriest@chelseama.gov](mailto:jdepriest@chelseama.gov)).  
3/4/21, 3/11/21 C



## OBITUARIES

### Barbara Melvin-Broman

October 10, 1941 – February 28, 2021

Barbara N. (Doncaster) Melvin-Broman, 79, passed away on Sunday, Feb. 28 after a brief illness.

Born in Boston, a beloved daughter of the late Thomas and Nellie (Nemerowski) Doncaster, she was raised in Chelsea and was a lifelong resident here. Barbara attended St. Stanislaus Parochial School and graduated from Chelsea High School, Class of ntinued her education at Northeastern University graduating Magna Cum Laude with a Bachelor of Science Degree in accounting and business administration. She worked for 35 years as the lead accountant for US Gypsum in Charlestown, retiring in 2003.

She was a lifelong parishioner of the former St. Stanislaus Parish in Chelsea and was an active member at the Chelsea Senior Center. Barbara enjoyed her three “B’s” - bowling, bingo and bocce. She attended many socials at the Senior Center and the PAV in Chelsea and also enjoyed sewing, quilting and family camping.

Three years ago, Barbara was widowed with the passing of her beloved husband of 46 years, the late Charles R. Melvin. She was the devoted mother of Theresa N. Rosati and her husband, Anthony of Wells, ME, CPD Officer Timothy T. Broman, Sr. and his wife, Angela of Wilmington; cherished grandmother of CPD Dispatcher, Zachary T. Broman and his wife, Jasmine of Wilmington, Timothy T. Broman, Jr. of No. Reading, and CPD Officer Thomas M. Broman of Chelsea and the adored great-grandmother of Logan and Lillian Broman;



the dear sister of Richard Doncaster and his wife, Elizabeth of Cape Cod, Nellie Grzynbinski and her late husband, Leonard of Tewksbury and Dianne Varone and her husband, Patrick of Revere. She is also survived by her lifelong friend Ann Manning, many cousins, nieces, nephews and extended family and friends.

Her funeral will begin at the Welsh Funeral Home, 718 Broadway, Chelsea on Friday, March 5 at 9 a.m. followed by a Funeral Mass at Our Lady of Grace Church, 59 Nichols St. Chelsea at 10 a.m.

All attendees are required to provide contact information, wear face coverings and practice physical distancing while in church attending Mass.

Services will conclude with interment at Puritan Lawn Memorial Park, Peabody.

Should friends desire, contributions in her memory should be directed to St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital, 501 St. Jude Place, Memphis, TN 38105 or Mass. General Hospital Cancer Research, 125 Nashua St., Ste 540, Boston, MA 02114.

We encourage family and friends who wish, to offer condolences at this time by means of the online guest book or to send a personalized sympathy card visit: [www.WelshFH.com](http://www.WelshFH.com).

### Phyllis Marie Perlatonda

Mother of former Chelsea City Councilor

Phyllis Marie (Sorrentino) Perlatonda, 90, of Watertown passed away peacefully on February 25 surrounded by her loving family.

The devoted mother of Joseph Perlatonda, a former Chelsea City Councilor and his husband, Jay, she was the loving wife of the late Joseph J. “Pepi” Perlatonda, Sr., dear sister of Catherine M. Sorrentino, loving daughter of the late Dominic and Mabel Sorrentino and sister of the late Peter Sorrentino. She is also survived by her son, Paul and daughters Marie and Lisa.

Phyllis was a retired employee of Harvard University. She was dedicated to others and involved in many organizations that would help people other than herself. She was a member of the Sons of Italy Lady’s Lodge (Cornelia dei Gracci) Watertown, the Santa Lucia Society Cambridge, and also the Ladies Sodality Sacred Heart Church Watertown. Phyllis was an admirable



mother first and foremost, she treasured her children and embraced every chance and moment she could with them.

She was one of those hard-working mothers who loved to spend time with family and friends. Phyllis loved to go out to eat and travel with her husband whenever they had the chance. She and Pepi were inseparable, especially when it came to dancing at social events. Everyone who knew and loved her will miss her smile and vivacious personality.

“Please leave any condolences message down below.”

### Lynda McConaghy

Chelsea Soldiers Home retiree

Lynda M. McConaghy, 71 of Saugus died on February 27.

Lynda was employed by the State of Massachusetts and worked at the Soldiers Home in Chelsea for most of her adult life, taking time in between years to raise her daughter.

She was the mother of Erin Selvitella and her husband, Michael of Lynnfield, sister of Russell Chafe of Chelsea and the late Fredrick Chafe, Paul Chafe of Saugus and Bettyanne Mecheski and her husband, Tim of Henniker, NH and the daughter of the late George “Russ” and Elizabeth “Betty” Chafe. She is also survived by many extended family and friends.

Arrangements are by Mann & Rodgers Funeral Home, Jamaica Plain.



Due to Covid restrictions the family has decided to keep services private.

Donations may be made in loving memory of Lynda to support the needs of students at Northeast Metropolitan Regional Vocational School facing financial hardship. Checks may be sent to: Northeast Metro Tech Student Benefit Fund, 100 Hemlock Road, Wakefield, MA 01880

Guestbook@mannandrodgers.com

### John Alesio Perrella Jr.

MBTA retiree

John Alesio Perrella, Jr., lifelong resident of Revere, died on February 24 surrounded by his loving family at the age of 71.

John relished the time he spent with his family and would do anything for them. He was a driver and collector for the M.B.T.A. before his retirement. John enjoyed the countless trips he took with his friends on his Harley Davidson. He will be truly missed by all who knew him.

Born in Revere on April 30, 1949 to Marie (Frongillo) of Revere and the late John Perrella, he was the beloved husband of 36 years to the late Janis (Wood). John has spent the last 12 years with his partner, Diane Selvitella. He was the devoted father of Lori Farrington of Connecticut, Leanne Perrella and her fiancé, Robert Pagliarulo of New Hampshire, Anthony Perrella and his fiancé, Michelle



Onessimo of Revere and the late John Perrella III; dear brother of Janice Modica of East Boston and Kenneth Perrella and his wife, Nancy of Revere and the cherished grandfather of 10. He is also survived by many loving aunts, uncles, nieces, and nephews.

Funeral arrangements were entrusted to the Paul Buonfiglio & Sons-Bruno Modica of East Boston and Kenneth Perrella and his wife, Nancy of Revere and the cherished grandfather of 10. He is also survived by many loving aunts, uncles, nieces, and nephews.

### Edward DeMauro

Of Revere

Edward DeMauro of Revere died on February 26 at the age of 81.

Edward proudly served his country in the United States Army.

Born in Boston on June 7, 1939 to the late Vincent and Jenny (Chioti), he was the beloved husband for 59 years to Monica (Buettner), devoted father of Edward DeMauro and his wife, Michelle of Revere and Lauren Wilson and her husband, William of Saugus and formerly of Revere; cherished grandfather of Olivia DeMauro and brother of Robert DeMauro, Jean Allen and the late Jimmy DeMauro. He is also survived by many dear friends.

A visitation will be held at the Paul Buonfiglio & Sons-Bruno Funeral Home, 128 Revere St, Revere on Thursday March 4 from 9 to 11 a.m. followed by a Prayer Service at 11 a.m. Relatives and friends are kindly invited and masks and social distancing are required while in the funeral home. We ask that you keep your visit brief to allow others to pay their respects to the family. Interment will be held at the Massachusetts National Cemetery in Bourne at 1:30 p.m.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Northeast Animal Shelter, 347 Highland Ave, Salem, MA 01970 or at [www.neas.org](http://www.neas.org). For guest book please visit [www.buonfiglio.com](http://www.buonfiglio.com)



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### Elizabeth Anne McBride

February 6, 1921 - March 1, 2021

Elizabeth “Liz” Anne (Sullivan) McBride, 100, beloved longtime Chelsea resident, recently of Revere, passed away peacefully on March 1 at the Lighthouse Nursing Center in Revere.

Born to the late John and Ellen Sullivan on February 6, 1921 in Cambridge, the family soon moved to Revere then Chelsea. Liz was a cheerleader and track star at Chelsea High, graduating in 1939. Four years later, she married her high-school sweetheart, the late John Edward McBride. They celebrated 68 years of marriage until he passed in 2011.

She was predeceased by five older siblings: Ellen, John, Ruth (Cross), James, and Margaret (Cassier) and her grandson, Jeremiah Backstrom, and is survived by eight children: Ellen McBride of Chelsea, Elizabeth Backstrom of Somerville, John J. McBride of Chelsea, Kevin M. McBride and his wife, Susan of Saugus, Alice Leeming and her husband, Simon of Canterbury, NH, Timothy McBride of Chelsea, Kathleen McBride and her partner, David Herlihy of Boston and Anne Tolley and her husband, Joseph of Hardwick. She is also survived by 15 grandchildren, seven great-grandchildren, two great-great grandchildren and many nieces, nephews and their extended families.

Liz was a devoted and loving daughter, wife, mother and public servant. She worked tirelessly and joyfully to make the world better for her children and all children. While she and John raised their family, Liz led Scout Troops, Blue Birds, the PTA, and was repeatedly elected to Chelsea’s School Committee, serving for decades as a member or Chairperson. Her only flight was to Washington, D.C. where the National Teachers Association presented her with a lifetime service award. As Chairperson of the Chelsea School Committee in 1988, Liz partnered with John Silber and Doug Sears of Boston University to revamp Chelsea’s ailing school system. Their efforts led to a new educational culture as well as a new Chelsea High and grade school buildings. She was the first woman inducted into the Chelsea Kiwanis Club and served for 25 years championing the distribution of helmets to young cyclists. Liz won numerous awards and citations for her extensive volunteer work with Special Olympics, the Chelsea-Revere-Winthrop Mental Health Collaborative, Chelsea’s elderly center and others. In 2004, Liz received Chelsea’s Life Time Achievement Award, and in 2007, the Massachusetts Association of School Committees presented her with a Lifetime Achievement Award for her outstanding public service. She has received numerous other awards and citations from Chelsea, Revere and the Massachusetts Statehouse.

For decades during her retirement, Liz would once-a-week visit the 2nd grade classroom of Janice Avery at the Burke Elementary School, and read a book to the children who affectionately called Liz their ‘Grandma.’ She would often sit privately with the children to hear their stories and help them on their way. Many of these children would later eagerly introduce their own children to their “great grandmother.” Liz was known to give out \$2 bills to deserving children. As adults, they would often tell her that they still had their bill, or had passed it on to their own children. At home, she frequently entertained family and guests with her musical talent, playing the piano and singing old songs. She always flashed a beautiful contagious smile, had a song in her heart, and a ready word of encouragement.

Relatives and friends are kindly invited to attend visiting hours at the Carafa Family Funeral Home, 389 Washington Ave., Chelsea today, Thursday, March 4, from 4 to 8 p.m. A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated on Friday, March 5 at Our Lady of Grace Church, 59 Nichols St., Chelsea at 12 Noon. Services will conclude with interment at Holy Cross Cemetery in Malden.

In lieu of flowers, please send donations in memory of Elizabeth McBride to Kiwanis Children’s Fund, P.O. Box 6457 - Dept #286, Indianapolis, IN 46206. Donations may be made out to “Kiwanis Children’s Fund.” Please indicate the name of the honoree in the memo line of the check. Gifts may also be made online at [www.kiwanis.org/give](http://www.kiwanis.org/give).



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In lieu of flowers, please send donations in memory of Elizabeth McBride to Kiwanis Children’s Fund, P.O. Box 6457 - Dept #286, Indianapolis, IN 46206. Donations may be made out to “Kiwanis Children’s Fund.” Please indicate the name of the honoree in the memo line of the check. Gifts may also be made online at [www.kiwanis.org/give](http://www.kiwanis.org/give).

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

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617-884-4188

Amy C-Almas  
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Funeral Directors  
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## OBITUARIES

Effective Jan. 1, 2021

All obituaries and death notices will be at a cost of \$150.00 per paper.

Includes photo.No word Limit.

Please send to

[obits@reverejournal.com](mailto:obits@reverejournal.com)

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718 Broadway, Chelsea – 617-889-2723 – 617-884-3259  
[www.ChelseaFuneralService.com](http://www.ChelseaFuneralService.com)



OBITUARIES

Martha Shaw

Award-winning author

On Tuesday, February 16, Martha L Shaw, author of "What the Song Birds Taught Me," passed away peacefully at the young age of 60. Martha was born in Tewksbury on January 21, 1961. She graduated from Chelsea High School, Class of 1979 and spent most of her successful career working for Broadway National Bank in Chelsea.

She purchased her first home in Saugus and after the death of her father she decided to move to South Carolina with her mother to be near her dear friends, the Ettlings.

Martha had a passion for writing and received many awards for her work. She enjoyed drawing, painting, and quilting. She loved traveling, spending time with friends and was devoted to her church.

Martha was preceded in death by her parents, Ronald and Barbara



Shaw and her brother-in-law, Joseph Medico. She is survived by her sisters: Karen Medico of Carver and Kathleen Spencer and her husband, Brian of Boxford as well as several nieces, nephews, her beloved Goddaughter, Alice Ettling of Boston and by many close friends who helped lovingly care for her the past few years while she struggled with several health conditions.

Memorial services will be private. Donations can be made in Martha's name to the Parkinson's Foundation or the Lewy Body Dementia Association.

Catherine Beck

Shaws Supermarket retiree

Catherine A. Beck, 67, of Seabrook, NH, formerly of Melrose, entered into eternal rest on Saturday, February 27 at home surrounded by her loving family.

Born in Malden, Catherine grew up in Chelsea. She worked for Shaws Supermarket as a cashier prior to her retirement.

The devoted daughter of the late Carl Barone and Bertha (Hewitt) Cowels, she was the beloved wife of the late Leslie M. Beck, Jr., dear and devoted mother of Tracy Gagliardi and her husband, Marc of Seabrook, NH, Samantha Beck of Everett and Michael Cowels of Bradford. She was the sister of Roberta Marcin of Everett, Mary Morabito of North Berwick, ME, James Barone of Chelsea, Sheila Bruno of Everett, Robert Cowels of Ohio, Patricia Cowels of Chelsea, Philip Cowels of NH, Barbara Iannuzzi of Peabody and Michael Cowels of Chelsea and



the loving grandmother of Brianna Vetrano, Michael Vetrano, Nicholas Provost and Juliana Demings.

Relatives and friends are respectfully invited to attend Catherine's visiting hours in the Cafasso & Sons Funeral Home, 65 Clark St. (Corner of Main St.) Everett, Saturday, March 6 from 1 to 4 p.m. In lieu of flowers, contributions in Catherine's memory to the Susan G. Komen Foundation, 89 South St. #406, Boston, MA 02111 would be sincerely appreciated. Parking with attendants on duty.

MVES Healthy Aging Program empowers seniors by offering information, peer support

Diabetes. Healthy eating. Stress reduction. Fall prevention. These issues all affect older adults yet many do not know where to turn for resources to help them address these challenges effectively. Enter the Healthy Aging Program at Mystic Valley Elder Services (MVES), a comprehensive program of classes designed specifically for seniors wanting to remain healthy and independent in their own homes.

"Open to any older adult from the 11 communities served by MVES, our classes provide the perfect platform for learning and sharing," says Donna Covelle, Healthy Aging Program coordinator for MVES. "In addition, our classes are made available at no cost, making them accessible to any older adult wanting to participate."

MVES Healthy Aging Program offerings include a chronic disease self-management class, diabetes self-management class, healthy eating for successful living class, fall prevention class, and tai chi classes. Classes are held in series ranging from 6-8 weeks. Each class typically has between eight and 12 participants.

Prior to the onset of the pandemic last March, classes were made available in person at a number of area venues. Covelle points out that MVES was able to quickly pivot and shift some of the classes to Zoom starting last spring. More virtual classes will be announced this spring, all offering technical support for operating Zoom.

"Apart from providing a wealth of helpful information for local seniors, our Healthy Aging Program classes offer a way for seniors to socialize with others facing similar challenges," says Covelle. "We have seen many friendships blossom from our programs."

To make the Healthy Aging Program classes come to fruition in the past, Covelle partnered with local senior centers, housing authorities and libraries. Susan Tilton, outreach coordinator for

the Edith O'Leary Senior Center in North Reading, says, "It's been great that MVES has been offering the Healthy Aging Program for North Reading seniors. They have learned to take more control of their health, live safely and more independently. Because of the programs you have offered over Zoom, you have reached more homebound seniors and opened them up socially."

"I enjoyed every minute," says Marie Cantone of Malden, who recently took the Healthy Eating series over Zoom. "The instructors did a great job introducing all of us to healthy options and helped us to set and reach goals. If I were to sum up what I am leaving these classes with, it would be the confidence to say 'I can do it!' – an amazing result that I am sure is shared by all participants."

Medford resident Anna Jones explains, "My mother and grandmother passed away at early ages, so I did not have elderly role models to know what to expect now that I am 70 years old. The virtual Healthy Aging Program classes were a huge help to me because they taught me about aging, illness and prevention and how to care for myself."

Jones continues, "The instructors who taught the classes were compassionate, understanding and knowledgeable. The virtual option was great because I didn't have to worry about traveling. Please keep them coming!"

Covelle concludes that while MVES looks forward to reintroducing in-person classes in the future when it is safe to do so, the virtual offerings have proven to be a tremendous success. "Participant feedback is so important to us and we are delighted to hear from so many elders that these classes have served them well," she says.

To learn more about the MVES Healthy Aging Program, please visit mv.es.org or contact Donna Covelle at dcovelle@mv.es.org or 781-388-4867.

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### Notice of Vacancy CHELSEA PUBLIC SCHOOLS SY 20.21

#### TITLE: Crossing Guard

**LOCATION:** District Wide  
**SALARY:** \$16.75/hour  
**HOURS:** Position is 2 shifts per day, 11.25 hours per week for the school year. The hours are based on assignment location and vary approximately between 7:00 a.m. -8:45a.m and 2:15 p.m. to 3:15 p.m.

**QUALIFICATIONS:**

- Must be physically able to stand for long periods of time in extremes of heat and cold
- Must have good vision, hearing and mobility
- Mental alertness, neat appearance and dependability
- Sense of responsibility for the safety of students
- Able to move to other locations when needed throughout the district
- Communicate well with others
- Successful results of Criminal Offender Record Information check.

**GENERAL DUTIES:** Direct or Escort students across street, stopping traffic as necessary, guide or control vehicular or students traffic at such places as street and railroad crossings and construction sites; monitor traffic flow to locate safe gaps through which students can cross street.

**DEADLINE:** March 25, 2021  
**APPLICATION TO:**  
Human Resources  
Chelsea School Department  
500 Broadway Room 221  
Chelsea, MA 02150  
personnel@chelseaschools.com applications sent to any other email address will not be accepted.

*The Chelsea Public Schools District is an equal opportunity employer committed to recruiting, appointing, assigning, training, evaluation and promoting personnel on the basis of merit and qualifications, without regard for race, color, national origin, sex, religious affiliation, age, ancestry, marital status, handicapping conditions, gender identity, sexual orientation or any other applicable unlawful discriminatory standards. (Title VI & Title VII of Civil Rights Act of 1964. Title VII & Title VIII of the Public Health Services Act, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, as well as other relevant federal and state laws).*

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# CONGRESSWOMAN AYANNA PRESSLEY VISITS CHELSEA’S LA COLABORATIVA AND ITS PARTNER, THE EAST BOSTON NEIGHBORHOOD HEALTH CENTER

On Saturday, Feb. 27, Congresswoman Ayanna Pressley visited a COVID-19 Vaccination Site in Chelsea and met with La Colaborativa Executive Director Gladys Vega to highlight the importance of an equitable, accessible COVID-19 vaccine rollout.

Pressley also thanked Vega for her outstanding leadership during the pandemic in Chelsea. Pressley joined a list of other officials, including Sen. Elizabeth Warren, state Attorney General Maura Healey, and Suffolk County District Attorney Rachael Rollins, who have visited the Vaccination Site and lauded Gladys Vega for her work on behalf of Chelsea residents.



Sonia Lipson, a family nurse practitioner talks about her current experiences with Congresswoman Pressley.



Congresswoman Ayanna Pressley discusses her views on getting vaccines to the residents of Chelsea and all of Massachusetts as a concerned elected official. She also discussed her policy on the current bills and covid relief checks on a re-occurring basis.



A photo-op with CEO/President of EBNHC Manny Lopes, Congresswoman Ayanna Pressley, Executive Director of La Colaborativa Gladys Vega and COO Dinanyili Paulino.



Congresswoman Ayanna Pressley of the Massachusetts 7th District, which includes all of Chelsea, is greeted by CEO and President of the East Boston Neighborhood Health Center Emmanuel "Manny" Lopes, at La Colaborativa on Broadway Chelsea.



Shown above, CEO of the EBNHC Manny Lopes gives Congresswoman Ayanna Pressley a tour of a now quiet vaccination room with seven stations for the 300 patients a day it services Monday - Friday. Shown right, Executive Director Gladys Vega explains the routine that allows the most effective use of the stations for vaccination. Also shown in photo is Chelsea Councilman, Leo Robinson.

Shown below, Executive Director of La Colaborativa, Gladys Vega (left) explains the effective use of the main room for Covid-19 vaccinations. The partnership of Chelsea's La Colaborativa and the EBNHC give Chelsea residents vaccines Monday thru Friday by appointment, averaging 300 a day.



Kelly Hennessey from EBNHC, explains the nurses station importance to Congresswoman Pressley.



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