

## CHELSEA RECORD

YOUR HOMETOWN NEWSPAPER SINCE 1890

VOLUME 131, NO. 17

THURSDAY, JULY 8, 2021

35 CENTS

## USS CONSTITUTION UNDERWAY



PHOTO BY MATT FRANK PHOTOGRAPHY

The annual "underway" for July 4 on the USS Constitution took place last Sunday, and the old ship was readily seen from the shores of Chelsea with the Mystic/Tobin Bridge in the background. The ship has scheduled a July 4 underway as a matter of tradition for many decades.

## Council to discuss Eminent Domain taking process for vacant parcels

By Seth Daniel

The summer might signal a civic break for the City Council, but July looks to host at least a couple of interesting meetings for the body to take part in.

On July 26, the Council will hold a Subcommittee on Conference to discuss a \$75,000 expenditure for an appraiser to start the process for Eminent Domain takings of vacant – perhaps land-banked – properties on Suffolk and Congress Avenues.

Council President Roy Avellaneda has been pushing the idea as the next frontier in the fight to create affordable housing, and he said the City has sent out invites to property owners there to let them know their property will be discussed.

"All owners are going to get an idea about this," he said. "It will be a meet-

ing where we want to learn what are their plans because we need ownership opportunities in this community. We'll see what they have to say because if we do go down the road of Eminent Domain, they will at least know. Chelsea can't afford to have all those empty parcels."

Avellaneda's chief target in the effort is Eastern Salt, who owns a lot of property in that area and purchased the former Boston Hides and Furs property not long ago. He said they bought it without a plan, and claimed they are, and have, land-banked vacant lots so as not to impede their salt storage operations.

"In particular, Eastern Salt bought many of these parcels and not knowing that they have been a developer and have bought property to keep it from being developed, we need

to know their plan. It's disheartening they paid \$28 million for Boston Hides and Furs and there's not a plan we know of. No one buys that land without a plan in place."

Avellaneda said he would like to see such vacant parcels taken, and then put in the hands of the Affordable Housing Trust Fund – which is now in the process of developing its first property on Orange Street. That is a new program brought in by City Manager Tom Ambrosino to try to get more affordable housing in place on vacant property.

## •CIVIL DISCOURSE

Council Vice President Judith Garcia will host a special Council meeting on July 19 to discuss rules and discourse at Council meeting. This year in particular, there has been a number of incidents during public speaking

and amongst the councilors of improper discourse or insults.

Some of the problems stem from verbal attacks lobbed at councillors from the public during the public speaking portion, and others issues include councillors who have frequently talked over another councillor.

Avellaneda said he thinks it's high time to revise the Council rules and would support more authority for the president to sanction members for bad behavior.

"Frankly, there is very little the president can do and we should look into having stronger sanctioning powers for the president if there's something egregious," he said. "I think it's high time we look at them and update them, particularly when it comes to communications in the modern world."

## First-ever Regional Climate office begins operations in Chelsea City Hall

By Seth Daniel

Two climate-related managers that will work on projects in Chelsea, Revere and Winthrop are now on board, both with great experience, and ready to tackle projects as part of a new regional effort.

Darya Mattes had been hired as the new Climate Resiliency Project Manager, and Ibrahim Lopez has started as the new Sustainability Project Manager. Both have already taken the ball and run with it, according to Housing and Community Development Director Alex Train.

"We're having them in the Planning Department and administratively overseeing it," said Train. "These two folks were recently hired and onboarded in the last two weeks. They have a wealth of experience and have already started their work."

The new office – one of the first Climate Resiliency and Sustainability offices for a municipality the size of Chelsea – comes from a \$600,000 Barr Foundation Grant that Chelsea, Revere and Winthrop sought and obtained earlier this year. The grant funds the project for three years, and the communities would be expected to pick up the costs afterward.

The two offices, however, are not to be confused.

The Sustainability Manager oversees efforts in the three communities for clean energy, climate

mitigation, net zero emissions, renewable energies and green jobs. The Climate Resiliency Manager will work on mitigating the effects of sea level rise, flooding, extreme heat and emergency responses.

Already, there is a state grant of \$160,000 for regionalization and the Net Zero/Greenhouse Gas Inventory.

"That's a grant to set out a course in eliminating emissions in residential, commercial, and industrial sites ahead of the state's deadline of 2050," said Train.

Another MAPC grant is the social vulnerability grant of \$50,000 that will look at racial inequalities in climate issues, which includes cooling strategies.

Train said having the sustainability and resiliency eyes on everything done at all three municipalities is an exciting change – and one he expects will enhance many projects.

"We're extremely excited to be able to bolster the capacity to advance equity and provide effective next steps on a regional scale," he said. "The impacts of climate don't acknowledge municipal borders and most municipalities don't have the resources to advance these initiatives. We see this as a model for the Commonwealth and nationally to work in tandem to deal with these pressing issues in a community like Chelsea."

## Sixth annual Let It Fly Hoops tourney to return in August

By Seth Daniel

The sixth annual Let It Fly Classic will return to Highland Park this summer in conjunction with the Chelsea Black Community (CBC) to raise money for scholarship and highlight some of the best players in the area on the hardwood.

Kyle Umemba and Caesar Castro, two Chelsea residents that excelled in basketball at BB&N and Chelsea High School, announced that they would be holding the tournament on Aug. 14 in Highland Park. Games and entertainment to be a 9 a.m. and the tourney will last until 4 p.m.

"Cesar and I have witnessed many positive changes within our city, yet there continues to be setbacks that many youth of Chelsea experience," wrote Umemba. "We are asking for community support to ensure the tournament will be a profound success. We hope that the community will join in

## Farewell celebration planned for the Reverend Dr. Sandra Whitley

By Cary Shuman

The Rev. Sandra Whitley, who has been a highly visible leader in the Chelsea community for more than a decade, is leaving the city and relocating to New Bedford.

A committee has planned a farewell celebration for the Rev. Whitley and her husband, the Rev. Kenneth Whitley,

who are pastors at the A.M.E. Church in Chelsea.

The Rev. Dr. Sandra Whitley has been a high-energy force in local organizations such as the Rotary Club of Chelsea. Her leadership of the city's Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration has been extraordinary, bringing the community together each January to honor the revered civil rights leader.

The Rev. Whitley had a key role at the Chelsea Black Community's virtual events this year in observance of Black History Month.

Sue Gallant, a past president of the Rotary Club and Chelsea Chamber of Commerce, lauded the Rev. Dr. Sandra Whitley for her exceptional lead-



ership of the Rotary Club and her overall contributions to the community. "Reverend Whitley has been an enthusiastic member of the Chelsea community and the Chelsea Rotary Club," said Gallant. "During her presidency she brought new ideas to the club which included more faith-based projects

and initiatives. She also had great style. She will be missed."

Saritin Rizzuto, past president of the Rotary Club, also commended Whitley's service to Chelsea.

"I miss working with Rev. Sandra Whitley,"

See FAREWELL Page 3

INDEPENDENT Newspaper Group

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# AARP Massachusetts monthly fraud watch update for July 2021

Did you know that someone’s identity gets stolen every two seconds? The AARP Fraud Watch Network provides you with tips and resources to help you spot and avoid identity theft and fraud so you can protect yourself and your family. Our watchdog alerts will keep you up to date on con artists’ latest tricks. It’s free of charge for everyone: AARP members, non-members, and people of all ages. Be a fraud fighter! If you can spot a scam, you can stop a scam. Report scams to local law enforcement. Contact the AARP Fraud Watch Network at [www.aarp.org/fraudwatchnetwork](http://www.aarp.org/fraudwatchnetwork) for more information on fraud prevention.

**SCAM ALERT #1: DOOR TO DOOR SCAMS**

Warm weather is here which means door-to-door sales crews are here, too. But what they’re selling isn’t always legit.

Be cautious anytime a stranger comes knocking, especially if the visitor is trying to sell you goods or services. Be wary of contractors who say they stopped by because they just happened to be in the neighborhood. The good ones are usually too busy to roam around in search of work. Also be on guard for high pressure tactics to make a quick decision for a steep discount, and requests for payment upfront. Your best bet is to proactively seek out ser-

vices if you need them, versus reacting to an unexpected sales pitch. It’s always okay to explain you don’t do business at your front door (or to not answer when strangers knock).

**SCAM ALERT #2: PROTECT YOUR DEVICE, PROTECT YOURSELF**

Many scams originate right at your fingertips through your computer or smartphone. The good news is the way to block them is also within your grasp. Here are three tips to keep your devices safe from criminals.

Make sure your devices’ operating systems are up to date; you should be

able to set an auto-update feature that downloads the latest software when available. Next, make sure to change the password on your Wi-Fi router so it’s different from the password it came with. If you have a lot of devices connected to it, they could be vulnerable if the router is compromised. Lastly, a password manager is a great way to create unique and hard-to-guess passwords for all of your online accounts and apps.

**SCAM ALERT #3: RENTAL CAR SCAMS**

America is open for business again and millions of people are traveling, or planning to. One thing you may run into is sticker shock – especially with rental cars. The lack of travel in 2020 led rental companies to sell a lot of their inventory of cars. Now that demand has spiked, supply is tight and prices are high.

Unfortunately, crimi-

nals are paying attention and posting fake rental car deals at rock bottom prices online. While everyone loves a good deal, doing business with an entity you aren’t familiar with could be risky. Whatever your travel needs, stick to reputable websites with proven track records. If you do find a deal with an unfamiliar provider, do your research: look up the company name with “scam” or “complaint” and see what appears, and check out reviews.

**SCAM ALERT #4: FREE TRIAL OFFERS, NEGATIVE OPTIONS**

Who doesn’t love something for free? But beware, that “free trial offer” might mean months of payments that you didn’t know you signed up for and will have a hard time canceling. These types of sales tactics are called negative options – a customer signs up for a free trial and unwittingly

accepts a subscription – sometimes for a questionable product – often by not seeing a prechecked box in the very tiny print.

When it comes to free trials, research before you enroll. Fully understand the terms and conditions by reading the fine print. Keep a close eye on your credit and debit card statements so you spot unexpected charges right away. Contact your bank or credit card company to address the issue; calling the company you inadvertently signed up for a subscription with will likely get you nowhere.

Be a fraud fighter! If you can spot a scam, you can stop a scam.

Report scams to local law enforcement. For help from AARP, call 1-877-908-3360 or visit the AARP Fraud Watch Network at [www.aarp.org/fraudwatchnetwork](http://www.aarp.org/fraudwatchnetwork).

## State officials legislation improves safety and awareness for swimmers

Staff Report

In an effort to increase public safety and awareness at state parks and beaches, Gov. Charles Baker filed legislation to increase fines for swimming outside designated waterfronts across the Commonwealth. The legislation, “An Act Relative to Enhanced Enforcement of Swimming Limitations,” would increase the maximum fine to \$500 for entering or swimming in any waters on Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) property that are not designated for swimming. The legislation would provide an appropriate penalty for swimming in unsafe areas and deter park visitors from considering these dangerous activities.

“Swimming at undesignated waterfronts is dangerous and too often leads to tragic consequences, and this legislation is part of a comprehensive plan to discourage risky behavior and ensure the safety of visitors to our state parks and beaches,” said Gov. Baker. “While we encourage all to visit our beautiful coastal and inland beaches, we urge the public to exercise caution and not swim at any body of water that has not been designated for swimming by state or local authorities.”

Under current law, penalties for violating DCR’s rules and regulations vary depending on whether a property was once part of the Metropolitan District

Commission, with fines ranging from \$20 to \$200. The filed legislation establishes a uniform maximum fine of \$500 for entering or swimming in waters other than those designated for swimming by DCR.

At its many designated waterfronts throughout the state, DCR offers services like clearly marked swimming areas with ropes and buoys, lifeguards on-duty, and water quality testing. Undesignated waterfronts do not receive such services, and may also have hazardous features like murky water, steep slopes, and aquatic plant species, creating a potentially dangerous situation for swimmers.

“The legislation filed today reflects the Baker-Polito Administration’s commitment to the health and safety of Massachusetts residents and visitors,” said Secretary of Energy and Environmental Affairs Kathleen Theoharides. “Increasing fines is a critical part of our comprehensive strategy to prevent potential tragedies and ensure all visitors to the Commonwealth’s state parks have a safe and enjoyable experience.”

DCR has been coordinating with the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs (EEA), the Massachusetts State Police (MSP) and the Massachusetts Environmental Police (MEP) to implement new measures to enhance public safety and discourage swimming at undes-

ignated waterfronts. DCR has produced and posted dozens of new swimming safety signs at DCR parks and beaches. These signs will be in multiple languages at select areas such as Houghton’s Pond within the Blue Hills State Reservation in Canton. DCR has also increased outreach for the agency’s Learn to Swim program, which offers free swimming lessons at 12 locations statewide for people of all ages.

Last week, DCR announced that it has increased lifeguard pay from \$17/hour, or \$18/hour for head guards, to \$20/hour and \$21/hour. Lifeguards who remain committed for the entire season with DCR will also receive a \$500 bonus at the end of the season. DCR continues to actively recruit individuals to become a lifeguard at its inland and coastal waterfronts, and deep water swimming pools in the Boston Region (including Cambridge and the surrounding towns), the North Region (specifically Saugus, Nahant, and East Boston), the South Region (specifically Sandwich and Westport), and the Central Region (Metro West to Worcester County). Interested individuals can apply online and are strongly encouraged to call Jim Esposito at (857) 214-0400 or visit the DCR’s lifeguarding webpage, where application information and lifeguard requirements can be found.

## Program aims to significantly increase women and minority-owned electrical contractor firms

Staff Report

Aiming to tackle historical inequities in the construction industry, IBEW Local 103 and NECA Greater Boston contractors have launched a new Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) Empower DEI Program initiative to proactively increase the number of minority and women-owned union contractor businesses in Greater Boston.

The Empower DEI Program combines an advanced training program with mentoring, resources and support for experienced, licensed minority-owned and women-owned NECA contractors and IBEW Local 103 electricians seeking to open their own businesses. Participants will have access to experienced industry leaders and business support designed to ensure their success.

The Program will serve current and aspiring Minority Business Enterprise (MBE) and Women-Owned Business Enterprise (WBE) electrical contractors in the union construction industry. Eligible candidates will include those who hope to start their own companies and are committed to maintaining area

employment standards, as well as existing MBE/WBE companies looking to grow and expand their business.

As the focus on equity in the construction industry increases, the demand for more minority-owned and women-owned businesses continues to grow. The Program hopes to spark innovation and entrepreneurial success among groups of workers who historically have been locked out of opportunities.

“This is an exciting, necessary initiative to empower communities who have been underrepresented in business ownership. A labor-management partnership is the right approach to increase the number of woman and minority-owned contractors in Boston,” said City of Boston Mayor Kim Janey. “Women and people of color have made this great City what it is. The IBEW 103 and NECA Empower DEI Program creates a pathway to uplift this work and strengthen our communities.”

In December, the National Electrical Contractors Association joined a growing number of organizations in naming a DEI task force to drive a long-term cultural shift

in the electrical industry by fostering a more inclusive environment through education, awareness, and open dialogue. The Program will include DEI-focused trainings, digital resources, webinars, surveys, online classes, and other measures. The Empower DEI Program is a core component of the effort to dismantle structural racism and sexism within the construction industry and beyond.

The inaugural class of the Empower DEI Program will include KB-MAC, Inc., a newly formed company founded by current IBEW 103 Business Agent Kenell Broomstein, in partnership with industry leader and NECA member Sullivan & McLaughlin Companies, Inc.

The project is led by a diverse board of experts that will provide access, mentorship, connections, training, and business growth opportunities to qualified participants’

The Empower DEI Program offers:

IBEW 103 and NECA Greater Boston commit to furthering DEI goals in Massachusetts through this Program. To learn more about the Empower DEI Program, visit: [EmpowerDEI.org](http://EmpowerDEI.org).

## Legislation filed promoting Massachusetts gun safety, gun-licensing standards

Staff Report

Congresswoman Ayanna Pressley (MA-07) and Massachusetts lawmakers Sen. Edward J. Markey (D-Mass.) and Sen. Elizabeth Warren (D-Mass.) reintroduced the Making America Safe and Secure (MASS) Act, legislation to incentivize states to adopt gun-licensing standards similar to those proven effective in Massachusetts.

Massachusetts has comprehensive gun licensing laws and the lowest gun death rate in the nation.

Since 1994, the Commonwealth has reduced gun deaths by 40 percent. Among the most effective of Massachusetts laws are the provisions governing licensed gun dealers. Any person who sells ammunition or sells, rents, or leases a certain number of firearms in a calendar

year must obtain a state dealer license. The state is required to establish standards for “prohibited individuals,” those ineligible to obtain a firearms license or firearms dealer license. Gun dealers and private sellers must record all firearms sales, leases, and rentals, and share this information with law enforcement. These dealers and sellers must also verify the validity of a

firearms license before a transaction and notify law enforcement when presented with an invalid or expired license.

“Families and communities in the Massachusetts 7th and nationwide continue to face the intergenerational trauma of gun violence, and it’s long past time we address this public health crisis head-on,” said Congresswoman Pressley. “The MASS Act would create stricter guardrails around firearm purchasing to curb gun violence and save lives. I am proud to join my colleagues in advancing nec-

essary and long overdue common-sense solutions.”

“Massachusetts has some of the most comprehensive and effective gun violence prevention laws on the books, and not coincidentally, the lowest gun death rate in the country,” said Sen. Markey. “We can make our Commonwealth’s laws the model for the rest of the nation and take the steps necessary to end the gun violence epidemic in every state across the country. We must finally put a stop to the NRA’s vise-like grip over commonsense federal gun policy, and it is my hope that the MASS Act will help loosen this control and incentivize other states to adopt Massachusetts’s life-saving gun safety laws as their own.”

“It is long past time for Congress to stand up to the gun lobby and confront this deadly crisis head-on,” said Sen. Warren. “Massachusetts

has the lowest rate of gun deaths in the country and can serve as a model for the federal government to develop policies that will keep our students and communities safe.”

“As physicians, we understand the critical importance of identifying, addressing, and reversing a public health menace with urgency. Let’s be abundantly clear - our country’s deadly and all-too-frequent occurrences of firearm violence are public health crises. We support the MASS Act and appreciate Sen. Markey’s leadership in introducing legislation that will offer added protection for all of our patients, as it is becoming clearer by the hour that no person is completely immune to injury and death caused by firearm violence,” said Carole E. Allen, MD, MBA, FAAP, President of the Massachusetts Medical Society.

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LOCAL STUDENTS

EARN ACADEMIC HONORS

MARIJAN NAMED TO THE AMERICAN INTERNATIONAL COLLEGE DEAN’S LIST

Tatjana Marijan, of Chelsea, has been named to the American International College (AIC) Dean’s List for Spring Semester 2021. Dean’s List students are full time students who have achieved a 3.3 to 4.0 GPA. AIC commends the accomplishments the Dean’s List scholars for their efforts during an unprecedented year.

Founded in 1885, American International College (AIC) is a private, co-educational, doctoral granting institution located in Springfield, Massachusetts, comprising the School of Business, Arts and Sciences, the School of Education, and the School of Health Sciences. AIC supports and advances education, diversity, and opportunity for its students and the community.

RESIDENTS EARN DEAN’S LIST HONORS

The following local students have been named to MassBay Community College Dean’s List, achieving outstanding academic honor for the spring 2021 semester.

- \* Alan Newcomer of Chelsea studying cyber security
- \* Sheila De Los Santos of Chelsea studying inter-

national business

To be eligible for the MassBay Dean’s List, students must complete at least six credits of college-level courses, be in good standing with the College, and earn a grade point average of 3.500 or higher. The spring 2021 semester Dean’s List includes 930 full- and part-time students.

To learn more about MassBay visit [www.massbay.edu](http://www.massbay.edu).

MassBay Community College is the most affordable higher education option in MetroWest Boston, offering a robust portfolio of courses and more than 70 associate degree and certificate programs with flexible day, evening, and weekend classes in Ashland, Framingham, Wellesley Hills, and online. MassBay students receive an unmatched educational value by earning stackable credits that transfer to bachelor’s degree programs, and workforce-ready skills necessary to advance careers in high-demand fields such as health and life sciences, automotive technology, engineering, business, cybersecurity, and the humanities. MassBay’s Associate Degree in Nursing (RN) and Practical Nursing (LPN) programs were both ranked as the #1 Nursing Program in Massachusetts in 2020-2021 by national nursing advocacy organizations RegisteredNursing.org, and PracticalNursing.org. Since its founding in 1961, MassBay has been accredited by several governing

bodies and remains firmly committed to its mission of meeting the needs of the diverse local communities it serves. We value the intrinsic worth of all individuals, collectively in pursuit of inclusiveness and prioritize our work towards achieving equity within our community and beyond.

LOCAL RESIDENTS MAKE DEAN’S LIST AT WENTWORTH

The following local students have made the Dean’s List at Wentworth Institute of Technology for the Spring 2021 semester.

- \* Gage Leeman Cronin of Chelsea
  - \* Vanni Ngo of Chelsea
- Wentworth Institute of Technology
- Founded in 1904, Wentworth Institute of Technology is a nationally ranked university offering career-focused education through bachelor’s and graduate degree programs in areas including engineering, architecture, computer and data science, life sciences, management, and design. Its 31 acres are situated in the Fenway neighborhood of Boston, Mass., within walking distance of leading several cultural, educational, sports, and medical hubs. Wentworth is known for its emphasis on career preparation for students through its leading co-op programs, hands-on learning approach, and alignment with 21st-century workforce needs.

PEOPLE OF CHELSEA

Deb Cronin

*(The following is one in a series of sneak peeks at the upcoming People of Chelsea additions by Photographer Darlene DeVita. The new work will ultimately appear on the fence of the Chelsea Public Library (CPL) this fall in a collaboration between the People of Chelsea project and the CPL.)*

By Darlene DeVita

I was born and raised in Chelsea. I’m Polish and Irish, I was a cheerleader, figure skater, and a gymnast, a pageant queen (Miss Chelsea 1985), captain of the cheerleaders, played softball. When I graduated, at 17 years old, I ended up getting a job at the airport working underneath airplanes for seventeen years. I did a seven months stint as a flight attendant and hated it.

When I was a kid, I wanted to play football and hockey, but girls didn’t play back then. I was a better skater than half the boys! I was always a tom-boy, but I had high-heels and high-tops! I bartended and waitressed since I was 17, all over the place, and my claim to fame was that I was the worst bartender on the North Shore because I was a sharp talker. I got married at 25 and moved to Australia. (I met him on Revere Beach-that should



have been a red flag! But it worked for seven years, and we had two beautiful children.

I’ve lived out of the city, out of state, and out of the country, but I came back to Chelsea every time. Chelsea has always been my home. After moving to Westborough to raise my children, I came back here after they went to college. I had a temporary position as a State Police dispatcher that I was hoping to whittle into a full-time position, but it didn’t happen. I ended up at Chelsea Housing on the Painting crew. Then, a secretary at Chelsea Housing said they were looking for women to build the Casino [in Everett]. I always wanted to be either a fireman or a carpenter, so I applied to

both, and the carpenter’s union called me first, so I ended up working at the Casino. If you worked in male-dominated fields and are not afraid of hard work, you were pretty much a shoe-in. When the Casino was finished, I asked if they had anything in Chelsea. They said there was a position, it’s really hard work, but it’s on your beloved bridge! It’s been a year and a half, and I’m still here. I don’t know what my next adventure will be. I’ve had cable shows, I feel like that’s my niche. My dream, I want a character kind of based on me: a middle-aged, menopausal construction worker, fouled mouth, former beauty queen, and have all of my life experiences molded into one.

Farewell / Continued from page 1

said Rizzuto. “She’s a positive force in our community who is always willing to go the extra mile for our homeless community.”

Councillor-at-Large Leo Robinson said, “Rev.

Whitley gave the City of Chelsea 14 great years,” said Robinson. “Organizing the Dr. Martin Luther King Breakfast and working with homeless youth, providing socks and oth-

er items – she has been a goodwill ambassador for our city, and I wish her well in all her future endeavors.”

Northeast Metro Tech thanks community leaders for support of school building project funding

Superintendent David DiBarri wishes to thank community leaders who are requesting the state use federal American Rescue Plan Act funding to help pay for a new Northeast Metro Tech school building.

Revere Mayor Brian Arrigo, Malden Mayor Gary Christenson, and Chelsea City Manager Thomas Ambrosino are requesting support for the funding for a new state-of-the-art building.

Gateway City Mayors Shaunna O’Connell of Taunton and Paul Coogan of Fall River are seeking similar spending for the new Bristol Plymouth Regional Technical School in Taunton and for Greater Fall River Vocational Technical High School in

Fall River.

These five Gateway City leaders are asking state leaders to commit \$300 million of the Commonwealth’s expected \$5.3 billion from the American Rescue Act funds.

Northeast Metro Tech is planning a new state-of-the-art facility, which will allow the District to expand from 1,270 students to about 1,600, drastically reducing the District’s student wait list.

The building project is estimated to cost \$317.5 million. The grant award from the Massachusetts School Building Authority is estimated to be only \$140 million, resulting in a cost to Northeast’s member communities of \$177 million. The MSBA

is reviewing the proposal and will vote on the final disbursement in August.

Northeast’s 12 sending communities will be responsible for the balance of the costs. Tax impact information for all 12 communities will be available this summer.

DiBarri and fellow superintendents are asking the MSBA to increase its anticipated grant awards to reflect actual costs of these worthy construction projects.

“Urban students should have the same access to receive relevant and rigorous instruction in Career Technical Education, in safe and state-of-the-art facilities, as students in suburban districts,” Superintendent DiBarri said.

Real Estate Transfers

BUYER 1	SELLER 1	ADDRESS	PRICE
Potes Properties LLC	Miller, Matthew	950 Broadway #14	\$449,000
Chavez, Arnoldo	Diaz Rosario Est	38 Carroll St	\$230,000
NBP 3 Griffin Way LLC	Griffin Way LLC	2 Griffin Way	\$87,650,000
25 Griffin Way LLC	Weco Group Ltd	25 Griffin Way	\$7,500,000
25 Griffin Way LLC	Weco Group Ltd	25 Griffin Way	\$7,500,000
Martinez, Jorge L	Huynh, Tevin	21 Hooper St	\$725,000
Osorio, Yosselin L	Englen, Joseph	109-111 Marlborough St	\$645,000
Sandoval, Oscar A	Paiz, Juan J	56 Parker St	\$499,000
Hoehing, Brittney	Woodlawn Ave LLC	4 Staffieri Rd #2	\$545,000
Zhao, Ruidie	Woodlawn Ave LLC	4 Staffieri Rd #3	\$559,000
Carpenter, Michael	Woodlawn Ave LLC	4 Staffieri Rd #4	\$545,000
Fujiwara, Daigo	Woodlawn Ave LLC	4 Staffieri Rd #5	\$575,000
Fox, Lent C	Quadrozzi, William J	441 Washington Ave #204	\$440,000
Santiago, Ramona K	Varricchio Phyllis R	549 Washington Ave	\$598,000
80-82 Washington Ave LLC	Orlandi, Carl	80-82 Washington Ave	\$1,500,000

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# Chelsea

RECORD

PRESIDENT: Stephen Quigley  
EDITOR IN CHIEF: Cary Shuman

## NO ESCAPING CLIMATE CHANGE

Heat domes. Polar vortexes. Superstorms. Mega-droughts. Wildfire tornados. Rising sea levels.

These terms were unheard of at the start of this century -- other than in academic journals -- but are now part of our everyday conversation.

Climate change and its catastrophic effects no longer exist in the realm of science fiction describing a distant and dystopian future -- they are part of the here-and-now in every corner of the globe.

Although it is true that our planet has been experiencing its hottest years in recorded history over the past decade, the term “global warming” does not really capture what is going on. Indeed, the phrase global warming almost has a warm and fuzzy connotation. After all, who likes to be cold?

But 14 years ago, the award-winning New York Times columnist and author Thomas Friedman used a different term to describe the effects of climate change. He called it “global weirding,” first coined by the environmentalist L. Hunter Lovins, which Friedman described this way:

“Avoid the term ‘global warming.’ I prefer the term ‘global weirding,’ because that is what actually happens as global temperatures rise and the climate changes. The weather gets weird. The hots are expected to get hotter, the wets wetter, the dries drier, and the most violent storms more numerous.”

Tom Friedman’s reference to the term global weirding came amidst a torrent of climate change denial by Republican politicians and fossil fuel industry executives, but has proven to be prescient in view of the climate calamities of the past few years.

Just about everything we do, individually and collectively, impacts our climate negatively.

As Congress takes up President Biden’s various infrastructure proposals, including many that address climate change, some may question the enormous expense of retrofitting our economy to lessen our impact on the planet.

However, putting the issue that way has it backwards. It’s not whether we can afford to address climate change, but rather, can we afford NOT to do so.

## SUBSCRIPTION INFORMATION

Chelsea Record is published every Thursday by the Revere -based Independent Newspaper Group. Periodical postage rates paid at Boston, MA. Subscription rates are \$30 per year in Chelsea, and \$60 per year outside the city. The Chelsea Record assumes no financial responsibility for typographical errors in advertisements, but will reprint that part of the advertisement in which the error occurs. Advertisers will please notify the management immediately of any errors that may occur. Chelsea Record, 101-680, at 385 Broadway, the Citizens Bank Building, Suite 105, Revere, MA 02151, is a weekly publication. Periodicals postage paid at Boston, MA 02110. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Independent Newspaper Group, 385 Broadway, Suite 105, Revere, MA 02151. Subscription price in-town is \$26 and out of town is \$50. **USPS NO. 101-680**

# CHELSEA

RECORD

ESTABLISHED 1890

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# Forum

## GUEST OP-ED

### Don’t give up your personal freedom

Dr. Glenn Mollette

You may create instability and insecurity for your personal life if you put others in charge of your decisions.

The idea of a child or acquaintance “shouldering” your life’s concerns and finances might feel comforting. Having someone else pay your bills and oversee your welfare might feel like a relief. For many it ends up being the end of freedom and security.

You love your children, or that special niece or grandchild. You are so bonded to them. You may feel that adding their name to your checking or other financial accounts will increase your bond and the ongoing warm fuzzy relationship. Be very aware.

An acquaintance wanted her daughter to have the family home so bad that she went ahead and did all

the legal work to assign the house to her daughter. Her daughter’s name was added to all her savings and checking accounts. For the rest of her life this poor woman never had a life. From that point forward, her daughter made every decision about what “was” her mother’s money. She would even tear up any kind of credit or retail purchasing card that her mother tried to get with commentary such as, “You don’t need these.” The mother spent her remaining years hearing almost weekly from her daughter that she was going to “put her in a nursing home.”

Another acquaintance with a healthy savings account and beautiful house signed everything over to a nephew and gave him her power of attorney. He soon made the decision to put her in a nursing home telling her she would be better off. He now drives

her car and spends out of her checking account. He has told her she will have to sell her house to cover the costs of her nursing home care.

Just recently, an elderly acquaintance said, “I have no cash. My son takes care of paying all my bills, groceries and more but I don’t have access to any money.”

There is always the possibility that any of us could become physically or mentally disabled. Make your legal arrangements for when and if that happens. Be wary about putting children or loved ones on your accounts now. Get with your attorney and draw up a document that says, “When, such disability happens or death happens then Mr. or Mrs. John Doe are to have “this” or “that.”

Of course, do what you want to do. Sometimes it works out. However, do

## GUEST OP-ED

### Welcoming phase of reentry and renewal

ers Gayle Cameron, Eileen O’Brien and Enrique Zuniga for their steady, dedicated guidance and support during these difficult months. Each Commissioner brings their individual perspectives, expertise, and compelling insights, bolstering our collective strength as we led a public body during these challenging times. We deeply appreciate Executive Director Karen Wells for directing the team’s execution and implementation of the Commission’s decisions and advice.

I also wish to express my most sincere gratitude for the entire MGC staff for the immeasurable ways in which team members addressed multiple adaptive challenges and arrived at creative solutions, despite the emotional toll of unprecedented circumstances.

A confluence of challenges required us to nimbly adjust our practices yet remain firmly guided by our principles. In close coordination with

our licensees, a strong collaborative spirit and an innovative culture propelled our team’s ability to accomplish our regulatory objectives, ensure the effective implementation of state mandates and prioritize health and well-being above all else. Indeed, the Commission has held nearly 120 virtual public meetings since Governor Baker’s March 2020 executive order allowing the use of remote collaboration technology under the Open Meeting Law. The MGC seamlessly transitioned to remote operations while safeguarding our fundamental principles of transparency and accountability – a credit to the preparedness of numerous MGC departments.

Profound lessons continue to emerge from a transformative year defined by the twin pandemics of COVID-19 and deeply rooted racial injustice. The urgency of systemic inequality catalyzed the establishment of MGC’s Equity and Inclu-

sion Working Group. The Gaming Commission has since unanimously adopted the Working Group’s five-point action plan, with anti-racism as a primary guiding principle. The Equity and Inclusion Working Group remains focused on ensuring that the MGC’s internal and external-facing systems yield equitable outcomes, protect individuals and communities of color from disproportionate negative effects and dismantle barriers obstructing racial equity.

In March 2020, we pledged to navigate the unknown and face the uncertainty together. Today, the circumstances have changed, but the sentiment remains the same: our team will rise to meet the evolving environment TOGETHER, united by a shared purpose and driven by our deeply held values of integrity, service, and inclusion.

*Glenn Mollette is the publisher of Newburgh Press, Liberty Torch and various other publishing imprints; a national columnist – American Issues and Common Sense opinions, analysis, stories and features appear each week in over 500 newspapers, websites and blogs across the United States.*

*Cathy Judd-Stein is the chair of Massachusetts Gaming Commission.*

## LETTER to the Editor

### Dear Chelsea Public Schools Community!

To the Editor,

We made it! The 2020-2021 school year has finally come to an end. I just want to take a moment to say thank you to our staff.

It is difficult to capture in words how amazingly resilient you were this year given the extraordinary and often impossible

conditions we met in dealing with the COVID-19 pandemic. You did what you had to do to keep students at the center and serve each of them and their families in order to continue their learning, growth, and development.

Unquestionably, we made it through many obstacles this past year. We leaned into remote learn-

ing and reopened all our schools despite being the hardest hit community in the Commonwealth. I am so proud to stand with you as we worked together to confront the challenges which will be recorded by historians as the most difficult ever endured in public education. You stayed focused on teaching and learning and kept relent-

less love in your hearts for our students and families.

As we end the year, I hope you will take time to reflect, renew and rest. We are stronger and ready for anything that comes our way.

I am truly blessed to work with each of you. I wish you much peace and happiness this summer!

**Supt. Almi G. Abeyta**

### SEND US YOUR NEWS

The Chelsea Record encourages residents to submit birth and engagement announcements, news releases, business briefs, honor rolls, social news, sports stories, and photographs for publication. Items should be forwarded to our offices at 385 Broadway, Citizens Bank Building, Revere, MA 02151. Items can also be faxed to 781-485-1403. The Independent also encourages readers to e-mail news releases to editor@chelsearecord.com. **The Chelsea Record assumes no financial responsibility for typographical errors in advertisements, but will reprint that part of the advertisement in which the error occurs. Advertisers will please notify the management immediately of any errors that may occur.**



SCHOOL UPDATES

DISTRICT UPDATES

•Congratulations to Assistant Superintendent, Adam Deleidi, who was awarded Salem State University’s Northeast Regional Educators Hall of Fame, Dr. Edna Mauriello ‘44 Achievement Award. This award is named for long-time Salem State and global educator, Dr. Edna Mauriello. The award is presented to an individual with 20 or more years in education, whose promotion of mission exists through their work in education, in any capacity. This individual must demonstrate leadership, and made/make significant contributions to their respective school district, college/university or organization for an educational cause.

•HR Director Christine Lee and School Principals Trelane Clark and Linda Barber represented Chelsea at the Learn Launch K-12 Summit at Fenway Park.

•Chelsea REACH Program is recruiting and accepting middle and high schoolers to attend summer REACH program! Link to register: <https://forms.gle/mSoX3RmS14EyUCrv7>. Follow @chelsea.wellness for positive and informative quotes and info on mental health! Here is the REACH Program Youth Advisory Council youth teamed up with TEENS IN ACTION for a successful board design and end of year pizza celebration.

**EARLY LEARNING CENTER UPDATES**

•The ELC Celebrated Spirit Week on the last week of school with Mixed Match Monday, Disney theme Tuesday and others. In addition, to celebrate Spirit week at the ELC, they asked families to donate

boxes of cereal for giving day. The boxes of cereal were used to create a Domino run. ELC families donated a total of 460 cereal boxes. All cereal boxes were donated to the St. Luke’s Church Food pantry.

•The ELC celebrated its retirees. Congratulations Andrea C, Andrea R, Barbara, Kathy, Shelley and Tonie. Together, they have contributed more than 100 years of service to the Chelsea community.

**BERKOWITZ ELEMENTARY UPDATES**

Students at the Berkowitz in grades 1 through 4 participated in a school-wide physical education challenge called Berky’s Cup Stacking Challenge. Winning their age groups were Christian Tejada (Gr. 1), Isaac Oliva (Gr. 2), Matteo Lapop (Gr. 3) and Bryanna Grigorian (Gr. 4).

**HOOKS SCHOOL UPDATES**

•Hooks 4th Grade OLA students came in person for a moving on celebration and also participated in 4th Grade Moving on ceremonies on Zoom. 4th Grade also celebrated with a visit from the Chelsea Police Ice Cream Truck.

**KELLY SCHOOL UPDATES**

•Fourth and Sixth Grade Kelly Scholars celebrated the rite of passage leaving the Kelly School for the next stage of their educational journeys. Continue to “be kind, work hard, and get smart!”

**SOKOLOWSKI SCHOOL UPDATES**

•The foundational students in room 312 are



The District celebrated the Teacher Pathway Program by giving out awards and pizza party for the members who have completed the pipeline program to become teachers. The program was equity based and with the intention of getting more Chelsea employees qualified and teaching in the classroom.

wrapping up the year with lots of fun activities. The class started in style making tie-dye shirts. They also re-enacted the Boston Tea Party where they dressed up as the Mohawks and threw the tea overboard. Later, they celebrated with a Beach Bash online. It’s never “goodbye” for us but a “see you later”! Happy End of the year!

•On the last week, the school had its final school meeting. Zoomies and roomies got together as a whole school to cheer while teachers competed against each other. They also honored the last red triangle earners of the year. School leaders can’t wait to have everyone together in the building again - after the summer!

**BROWNE MIDDLE SCHOOL UPDATES**

•Security Guard Juan saved a baby bird and the school made sure animal control came to pick it up and keep it safe.

•The Browne Middle School Celebrated its moving on ceremony with students, admin, staff, and families.

•The Summer Reading Book Distribution/ Celebration

was SO MUCH FUN! So many dedicated so much time and energy to support this event—staying after school to help out, matching students to books, putting together the materials... A special thank you to Christine who created so many of the amazing summer reading materials that got kids excited to read. Thank you to Zuleima for communicating with families, making the most beautiful balloon towers (tied by hand!) that gave the event party vibes, helping set up all three days and just making this happen from the very beginning. Thank you to Marelyn for ordering “el swag” (haha), getting us materials, printing lists, helping set up all three days and communicating with families. Thank you to Hannah, Greg, Meghan, Christine, Marion, and Zoe for helping out with the distributions and matching kids to books. That’s what it’s all about. Thank you to Kevin for stopping by both days to show his support. Thank you to our fifth grade student volunteers, Isa and Mea. Thank you to all homeroom teachers who brought students down during fifth period, on time,

and just getting kids excited about their books.

**WRIGHT SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY UPDATES**

•Students at the Wright picked out books for some fun summer reading, backpacks, and received a sweet treat of cupcakes to celebrate the last week of school.

•The Trivia All-Stars of the 8th grade faced off vs. The 7th Grade Trivia All-Stars in a competition for the Wright Cup. In an upset, the 7th Grade All-Stars were able to upend the 8th grade 13-10 in front of a zoom crowd of about 300. The 7th grade was coached by special education teacher Damon Bailey, while the 8th grade was coached by science teacher Clair Flores. Lead science teacher John Rugiero was the moderator of the trivia match.

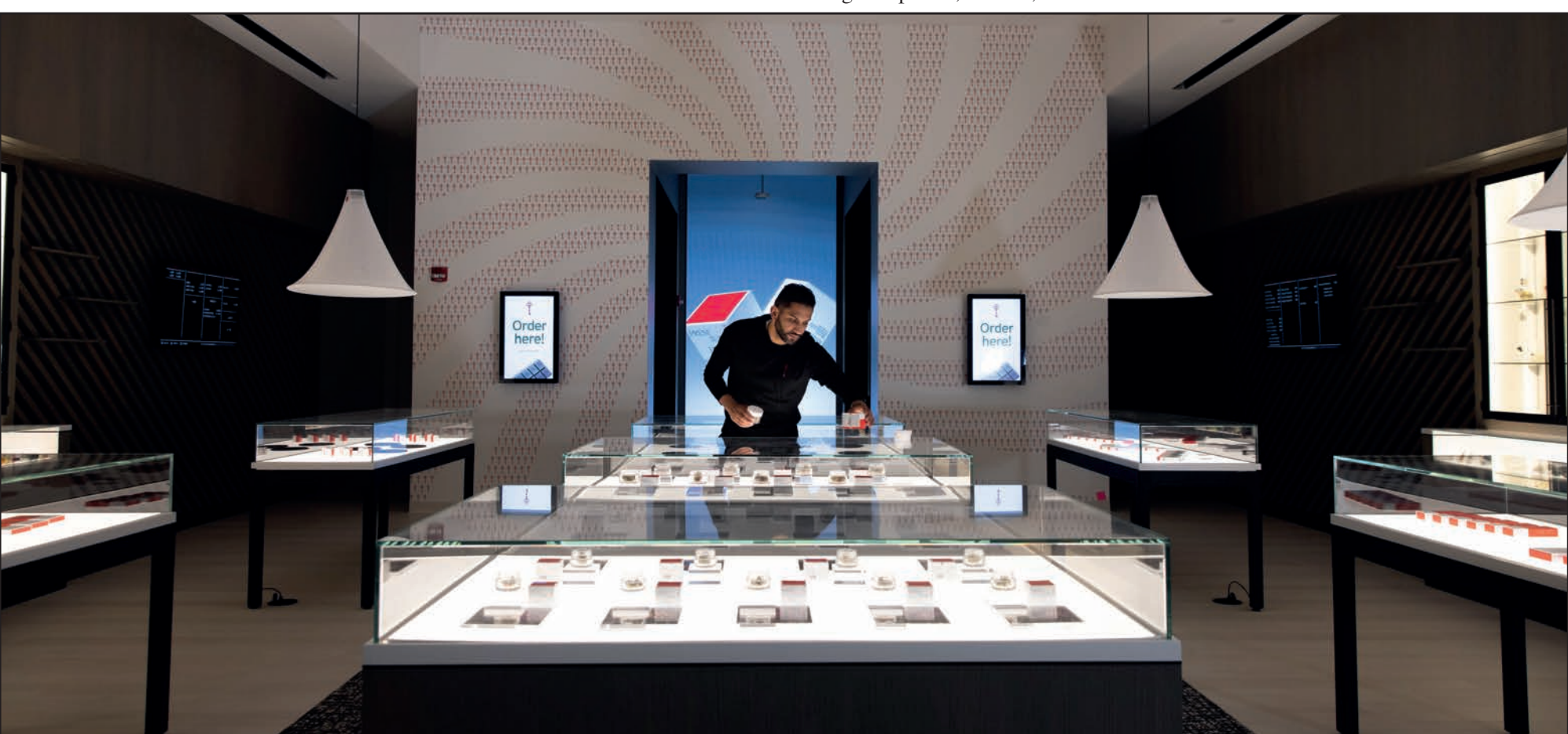
**CHELSEA HIGH SCHOOL UPDATES**

•CHS mentors of new educators received gifts from the district that were delivered by students. Mentors did the double

duty of learning to teach remotely while also guiding new teachers through their first year at CHS. Thank you to the Mentors and their lead Ilana Ascher.

•Check out Chelsea High’s new baby trees along Everett Avenue! The six nearest the Everett Ave entrance are tall, thin oak and tulip tree species. The two framing the WW1 memorial plaque will be large, spreading American Elm hybrids. The schools were able to get these trees for free through the Greening the Gateway Cities program, whose aim is to increase the tree canopy in urban areas like Chelsea.

•The CHS Drama Club debuted their original film, The Year That Never Was: Life from the Epicenter. This original work, both written and performed by CHS students, was created in response to the events of the pandemic. Please note that some of the subject matter and language is very raw, and may be offensive to some viewers -- but these are actual student reactions to real events. The film can be viewed here: [https://youtu.be/umeb9\\_mfzQQ](https://youtu.be/umeb9_mfzQQ)



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A NEW BEGINNING: BLESSED MOTHER OF THE MORNING STAR PARISH

By Stephen W. Fielding

A special liturgy to initiate and commence a new beginning of a new parish – Blessed Mother of the Morning Star parish, consisting of St. Mary of the Assumption Church of Revere and Our Lady of Grace of Chelsea/Everett was held on Thursday, July 1, at Our Lady of Grace Church. Fr. John Sheridan, pastor, was the presider of the mass that included English and Kreyol readings and hymns. A special collation took place afterward in the

lower hall with parishioners from each church enjoying comradery while

sampling an assortment of desserts and beverages. A joyous weekend of cel-

ebration is being planned for the weekend of September 25 and 26.



The Haitian Choir were absolutely harmonic.



Fr. John Sheridan talks about following the star on our parish journey.



Centerpieces at the collation on display.



A group picture at the collation.



Three Haitian vocalists sing the song Immaculate Mary in Kreyol.

Happy Valley is now Eastie’s second adult-use cannabis shop

By John Lynds

After years of red tape, permitting, city and state approvals and construction, East Boston’s second adult-use cannabis dispensary is open at 220 McClellan Highway—the former site of Enterprise Rental Car facility.

Newton-based Happy Valley Ventures LLC, which was originally approved to be a medical-use cannabis dispensary before voters approved recreational use in the state, it officially opened its doors on Thursday, June 24.

Inside Happy Valley’s Eastie location customers

will be buzzed into the foyer and then into the main showroom for what Happy Valley’s VP of Technology and Marketing Gregg Weiss said is an experience like no other for a cannabis dispensary.

The sleek showroom has several display cases featuring Happy Valley’s flower,



Happy Valley’s main showroom and display cases. The adult-use dispensary will officially open on Thursday, June 24 on McClellan Highway.

# CHELSEA DAY TALENT SHOWCASE

**Saturday  
September 25th, 2021**

Let the City see you Shine!!!  
A Community Event for all.

Showcase your **TALENT**  
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or email [velezja@chelseaschools.com](mailto:velezja@chelseaschools.com)

edible and concentrated cannabis products complete with descriptions.

Customers can peruse the display cases or use one of the interactive touchscreen displays to find the product they are in search for.

“Some of the smaller dispensaries do not have the space available for a large showroom and a lot of the product is featured and explained online,” explained Weiss. “Customers simply arrive at other dispensaries, wait in line, pick up their product and go home. We wanted this dispensary to be more of an experience. What’s different between this location and our location in Gloucester is that it’s about two or three times the size. We have the display cases, artwork, touchscreen displays where customers can answer a few questions and are then paired with a product so it is a very different experience.”

Weiss and Happy Valley General Manager Gilly Motta said they really want the Eastie dispensary to become a showcase for Happy Valley products.

“What’s different about Happy Valley, compared to some other dispensaries, is that we are a vertically integrated dispensary with our own Happy Valley cannabis products,” said Weiss. “We cultivate and manufacture in Gloucester. So all our flowers, edibles, tinctures, oil solvents are done in Gloucester and shipped to

East Boston. We also sell wholesale to other dispensaries across the state. So this store is really a showcase for our own product, our own brand. We are really building a premium brand here on the East Coast.”

Happy Valley can be compared more to an Apple Store than a run of the mill dispensary. With its cool vibe of artwork, screen displays and high tech software, Motta said Happy Valley really stands out in the dispensary industry.

“Our cannabis hosts are super knowledgeable about all of the products,” said Motta. “So as Gregg said, you can use the touchscreen displays but we’ll also have our hosts in the showroom to help guide customers into making a decision on what products best suit them. That’s another benefit of being vertically integrated and not being dependent upon a wholesaler. We grow our own products and make our own edibles and things. This is our product line and that’s what you see—the brand that we’re building. Would you rather go to Best Buy and buy an iPhone or the Apple Store. Sure the sales rep at Best Buy knows a lot about the iPhone but has to know about all the other phones he’s selling whereas the “Apple Store” sales rep has way more knowledge about the iPhone because that is the only product he needs to sell. So Happy Valley is sort of that concept where

our staff is really knowledgeable on the products because they are our products. Other dispensaries have a revolving inventory of products from different wholesalers. If you’re just a retailer and you’re not vertically integrated you’re just trying to fill up your shelves and move new products and you’re kind of constricted by the wholesale market. Here, all the education is around our own product and we get way more granular with our product line versus somebody dropping off an order of product from five different wholesalers. We have a two week training course that everybody goes through on our products because it’s way more thorough. It’s impossible for a typical retailer in this industry to be super knowledgeable about all his products when he has 50 different wholesalers on his shelf.”

While most cannabis shoppers pick dispensaries for both price and convenience Weiss and Motta hope Happy Valley provides more of an experience. “We want them to leave saying, “Wow, that was an experience I’ve never had at a dispensary”, said Weiss. “And we want that experience to bring them back and hopefully they bring their friends because it was the best experience they had.”

For more information on hours, products, online ordering and other info visit [www.happyvalley.org](http://www.happyvalley.org).



# Sports

## Nowicki Delivers For The Spartans

Chelsea pitcher earns the save as St. Mary’s claims Division 2 state baseball championship

By Cary Shuman

When St. Mary’s High School sophomore John Paul Nowicki received the call in the seventh inning of the Division 2 state championship game against Hopkinton High School, the 5-foot-11-inch right-hander was poised and confident about his task ahead.

Nowicki retired the final two batters he faced to earn the save in the Spartans’ 5-2 victory over Hopkinton in the state finals last Thursday. St. Mary’s junior ace Aiven Cabral was the winning pitcher with nine strikeouts while allowing five hits.

To his credit, Nowicki maintained his composure

on the mound in front of the Hopkinton’s large hometown crowd. State championship games are usually held at neutral sites, but this year the higher-seeded team hosted tournament games and the Hopkinton fans turned out in hopes of seeing their team win a state title on their home field.

Interestingly, John Paul and his teammates were playing the game adjacent to the stadium where runners assemble before taking their spot at the starting line for the Boston Marathon which begins in Hopkinton.

Nowicki, who was also a starting infielder for the Spartans, emerged as a dependable relief pitcher this season.

“John was one of our young pitchers who really stepped up and became a key contributor to our success as a staff,” said St. Mary’s head coach Derek Dana. “Earning a save in the biggest game of the year was a great way for John to end the season.”

**The Family Tradition**

John Paul Nowicki, 16, has had an incredibly successful winning tradition to carry on in his family. His father, Paul, is arguably the greatest Chelsea Little League and Youth Baseball League hitter of all time. Many also say Paul Nowicki is the most outstanding high school athlete in Chelsea’s long history - though he took his three-sport (football,



John Paul Nowicki is pictured with his parents, Paul Nowicki and Tracy Nowicki, and his sister, Mia Nowicki (left), after the Division 2 state championship game in Hopkinton. Nowicki recorded the save in St. Mary’s 5-2 victory over Hopkinton.



Chelsea’s John Nowicki came on to record the final two outs of St. Mary’s 5-2 win at Hopkinton to capture the Spartan’s second straight MIAA Division II baseball championship. Nowicki, a sophomore, started at third base and was pressed into pitching duty when starting pitcher Aiven Cabral reached the 115-pitch limit. Nowicki surrendered a hit but then retired two batters to secure the victory and seal the Championship.

hockey, and baseball) talents to Matignon High School in Cambridge where he is an inductee in the school’s Hall of Fame.

His mother, Tracy Constantino Nowicki, director of the Chelsea Senior Center, was an All-Star outfielder in the Chelsea High School softball program.

John Paul’s sister, Mia, is St. Mary’s all-time strikeout leader in softball with a record-breaking 27-strikeout performance and game-winning homerun in extra innings at the top of her list of achievements. Mia is a graduate of Assumption College where she hurled a no-hitter and a perfect game in her pitching career.

Christina Nowicki is now playing softball at Endicott College. Unfortunately,

the pandemic canceled Christina’s final high school season at St. Mary’s for a team that was the likely favorite to the win the Division 3 state championship.

**Hard work pays off**

Paul Nowicki said his son has worked hard to improve his baseball skills through the years. “He loves the game of baseball and really works hard at it,” said Paul. “He was put in some tense situations this year by Coach Dana throughout the course of the year that allowed him to build his confidence. He pitched against St. John’s Prep and Bishop Stang and he closed a couple of games. Pitching against those talented teams gave him the confidence to pitch effectively during

the state championship run. When you love the game and work hard at it, good things happen.”

John Paul credited St. Mary’s seniors Terence Moynihan and Colby Magliozzi for being “great team leaders” and being very helpful to his development in his first varsity season.

John Paul Nowicki is playing this summer for the New England Expos AAU 16-17-year-old team and will continue to compete with the club in fall baseball.

Next spring, John Paul and the St. Mary’s Spartans will look to defend their state championship and add yet another award to the Nowicki Family trophy case.

## Free admission to MFA on July 17 and 18

Staff Report

To celebrate the opening of “Paper Stories, Layered Dreams: The Art of Ekua Holmes,” the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston (MFA), is offering free general admission on Saturday, July 17 and Sunday, July 18, thanks to Citizens, the lead exhibition sponsor and a longstanding partner. Tickets will be available to reserve at 10 am on July 13.

A lifelong resident of Boston’s Roxbury neighborhood, Ekua Holmes (born 1955) is an artist and community activist whose body of work explores themes of childhood, family bonds, memory, and resilience. ‘Paper Stories, Layered Dreams: The Art of Ekua Holmes’ focuses on her award-winning children’s book illustrations—vibrant collages revealing stories of self-determination, love, and community that reflect the artist’s distinctive vision and commitment to Black imagery and representation.

The more than 40 works on view include original illustrations from Holmes’s published book projects: “Voice of Freedom: Fannie Lou Hamer, Spirit of the Civil Rights

Movement” (2015) by Carole Boston Weatherford, “Out of Wonder: Poems Celebrating Poets” (2017) by Kwame Alexander, and “Black Is a Rainbow Color” (2020) by Angela Joy. The exhibition also features a selection of Holmes’s luminous illustrations for the recently released book “Saving American Beach” (2021) by Heidi Tyline King—on view for the first time—as well as a selection of her independent work, including portrait installation pieces. Interpretive materials include a video interview with the artist and a group of wall texts written by teen participants in the MFA’s Curatorial Study Hall program.



Precarious (2017), Ekua Holmes. On loan from Kamil and Jake Shields. © Ekua Holmes.

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## NEWS Briefs BY SETH DANIEL

### CHELSEA PUBLIC LIBRARY PROGRAMS: CRAFT KITS, SUMMER READING, AND STORYTIMES

•The animal cube craft kits are available while supplies last. Pick-up times are:

- \*Monday, Tuesday, and Friday – 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- \*Wednesday and Thursday – 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.
- \*Saturday – 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

•The library’s summer reading program is called “Tails and Tales” or “Colas y Cuentos” in Spanish. Ask for a registration kit at the library.

•Join us for the outdoor storytimes at John Ruiz Park at 141 Washington Ave. Chelsea, MA 02150. The dates include 7/14, 7/21, 7/28, 8/4, 8/11, Wednesdays at 9:30 a.m.

### POP UP VACCINE CLINIC: WASHINGTON PARK

There will be a pop up COVID-19 vaccine clinic in Washington Park on Saturday, July 10, from noon to 4 p.m. They will be offering the first doses of Pfizer for ages 12 and older. As a treat, there will be music, ice cream and snacks to celebrate the occasion.

### HOMEOWNER STABILIZATION – SECOND ROUND

Anyone seeking assistance to pay for your mortgage, real estate taxes, or even past due tenant rent

can apply for the Homeowner Stabilization Program Round II. Stop by City Hall for an application or go to the following link for an application: <https://www.chelseama.gov/homeowner-stabilization-program>

The program offers:

- Mortgage relief for owner-occupied 1-4 unit properties.
- Help for those whose household income is at or below 100 percent AMI.
- Applicants must certify mortgage information, household income, assets and public benefits.
- Applicants will be chosen by a lottery system, though priority will be given to households with children, disabled people, elderly people or veterans.

Benefits are up to \$5,000 for a single family; up to \$8,000 for a two-family, and up to \$10,000 for a three- or four-family.

For questions, call Desirae Valentin at (617) 455-4185.

### NEW VACCINE HOURS

COVID-19 Vaccination Clinic at Chelsea Senior Center: New Hours available on Mondays!

- Fridays 3:00-7:00 pm.
- Saturdays and Sundays 10:00 am - 5:00 pm.
- Mondays, 2-6 pm

Vaccines Available:

- Pfizer (for ages 12+) – 1st and 2nd shots.
- One-Dose Johnson & Johnson (for ages 18+)

Walk-up or Register by calling 3-1-1 (617-466-4209) or visiting <http://www.cic-health.com/chelsea/seniorcenter>

### FASTER INTERNET? FILL OUT THIS SURVEY

Please fill out this city-wide survey to inform how our city needs to improve services and what programs you need! The survey will take 8 minutes to complete. Your input will help the city plan for future infrastructure investment, programs to increase digital skill sets, and policy changes to improve speed, price, and reliability of services. Take the survey at [https://mapc.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_9Nsi6j7acPh-Ce1g](https://mapc.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_9Nsi6j7acPh-Ce1g)

### ARLINGTON STREET ON-RAMP REOPENING

At 5 a.m. on Friday, June 4, the Arlington Street on-ramp to Route 1 southbound in Chelsea will be reopened to drivers. The ramp has been closed since early 2020 for structural and safety improvements.

### FEDERAL RESTAURANT REVITALIZATION FUND

Owners of restaurants, food trucks, bars, bakeries and related businesses can now apply to the SBA Restaurant Revitalization Fund. Available up to \$10 million per business in COVID-19 relief for payroll costs, rental payments, debt service and more. If used correctly, these funds don’t have to be refunded. Priority will be given in the first 21

days to restaurants owned by women, veterans and socially or economically disadvantaged groups. Learn more about the restaurant revitalization fund at <https://www.sba.gov/restaurantes>. Get help with your application by calling 1-844-279-8898.

### TEMPORARY OUTDOOR DINING PERMITS AVAILABLE

To expand business opportunities during COVID-19, restaurants and eateries can now apply for a temporary permit to offer outdoor dining services on:

- Private Property (including privately owned parking lots.)
- Sidewalks.
- Other public spaces such as streets or parking spaces adjacent to your establishment (Permits to use such adjacent streets or parking spaces require approval from the Traffic Commission).

Permits are valid through November 5, 2021 or 60 days until after the Governor ends the Pandemic. With each of these options, restaurants that currently serve alcohol may also serve alcohol outdoors in accordance with the Licensing guidelines. Apply for a permit online: Application for 2021 Temporary Outdoor Dining for Restaurants and Eateries. The City will also offer free technical assistance to business owners who need help with outdoor space design. To coordinate a meeting with the team, please contact Lourdes Alvarez via email at [lavarez@chelseama.gov](mailto:lavarez@chelseama.gov) or by calling 617-487-9763. Read more at [www.chelseama.gov/](http://www.chelseama.gov/)

OutdoorDining.

### JOIN THE BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE

Interested in beautifying the City? There is a Beautification Committee that meets monthly with the City Manager, ISD and the DPW to talk about trash and problem properties and to consider beautification initiatives such as improved signage, cigarette butlers and public art. If you are interested in being part of this Committee, please contact either Laura Brockington at [GreenRoots@gmail.com](mailto:GreenRoots@gmail.com) or Monica Elias at The Neighborhood Developers email [melias@ndinc.org](mailto:melias@ndinc.org).

### MASS SAVE LOOKING FOR APPLICANTS

Do you own a 1-4 unit residential building? For a limited time, Mass Save’s sponsors are offering owners of 1-4 unit residential buildings 100% off all approved insulation for all rental units. These energy upgrades can help save energy and money.

To get started, schedule a FREE Mass Save Home Energy Assessment at (978) 237-4530 or visit <https://allinenergy.org/chelsea.html>.

### PROPERTY TAX WORK-OFF PROGRAM

Applications are available for the Senior Property Tax Work-off Program and the Veterans Tax Work-off Program. The programs have no income eligibility requirements. Any senior 60 years or older, and any veteran, with an owner-

ship interest in real estate is allowed to participate in the Tax Work-Off Program regardless of assets or income. Participants receive a \$1,500 reduction on property taxes, working 111.11 hours for the City. Interested persons should contact the HR Department at 617-466-4170 or find applications online by visiting [www.chelseama.gov/elder-services/pages/senior-tax-work-program](http://www.chelseama.gov/elder-services/pages/senior-tax-work-program).

### RESIDENTIAL PARKING STICKER EXTENDED

The residential parking sticker has been extended until February 2022 in order to stop the spread of COVID-19. The current sticker expiring on February 28, 2021 will be valid until February 28, 2022.

### ROUTE 1 HOUSING PROGRAM

In an effort to enhance and preserve the quality of the existing housing supply in the City of Chelsea, the City has premiered the Route 1 Housing Enhancements Program.

The Program provides assistance to homeowners seeking to address sound attenuation, air quality improvements, and exterior repairs. Targeting properties adjacent to Route 1, the Program strives to mitigate the adverse public health effects caused by Route 1, including, but not limited to, noise pollution, degraded air quality, and property damage that occurred during recent state construction.

Learn more about this program and find the application online at [www.ChelseaMa.gov/Route-1-Enhancement](http://www.ChelseaMa.gov/Route-1-Enhancement).

## MIRA calls for action to support immigrant workers

Staff Report

The Massachusetts Immigrant and Refugee Advocacy Coalition (MIRA) issued the following statement in response to a new report issued by the Migration Policy Institute finding that, among the 10 states with the largest immigrant populations, immigrants saw their biggest employment losses early in the pandemic in Massachusetts.

“The COVID-19 pandemic had a devastating impact on workers and families across Massachusetts, and this report illustrates how that burden fell disproportionately on immigrant communities. Unemployment rates among immigrant essential workers – those serving in the health care,

construction, and leisure and hospitality fields – and immigrant women were particularly high in Massachusetts during the height of the pandemic,” said Daniel Pereira, Communications Director for the MIRA Coalition. “While it’s encouraging to see that employment rates for immigrants have begun to recover, there’s no question that the effect of these job losses will continue to grow without adequate investments in state programs to support immigrant families.”

“MIRA urges the Massachusetts legislature to support and enact policies that drive an inclusive recovery and preparedness for our collective health and economic future. These actions include ro-

bust support in the FY21 state budget for programs that benefit immigrants and refugees, such as emergency cash assistance, and passage of legislation that recognizes, restores, and supports the engagement of immigrants in key sectors of our economic and civic life, such as the Work and Family Mobility Act and the Tuition Equity Act.

“Furthermore, given the disproportionate toll of COVID on immigrant communities, MIRA is also doubling down on its calls for action on a slate of legislation that provides broader protection and support to immigrants, such as the Safe Communities Act and the Language Access and Inclusion Act.”

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# 2021 metropolitan beaches water quality report card released

Save the Harbor/Save the Bay released its annual Water Quality Report Card for the Metropolitan Beaches from Nahant to Nantasket, using monitoring data from the 2020 beach season.

Weekly water quality testing at Boston’s regional beaches began in late May of 2020. Additional daily testing of Constitution Beach, King’s Beach, Malibu Beach, Tenean Beach, and Wollaston Beach began in early June and concluded on Labor Day weekend, September 6, 2020.

These beach safety scores are calculated as the percent of water samples that comply with the Massachusetts Department of Public Health single sample limit for bacteria, a straightforward way to evaluate seasonal beach water quality and potential impacts on public health.

Rainfall can have a significant impact on beach water quality and can vary greatly from year to year. Changes in the summer storm intensity and frequency can often explain the variations we see; 2020 was a relatively dry year, with only a few large summer storms and relatively fewer wet weather im-

pacts. It is also important to note that some beaches are tested daily, while others are tested weekly, so in some instances a single failed test can change the rating for that beach.

These seasonal variations are why Save the Harbor/Save the Bay is reluctant to draw conclusions from results for individual years, preferring to rely on multi-year averages.

In 2020, the overall water quality safety rating for Boston Harbor’s regional beaches managed by the Department of Conservation and Recreation was 93% which was an improvement over the prior year, which had a score of 89%.

Five beaches had perfect scores of 100% in 2020, including Carson Beach, City Point and Pleasure Bay in South Boston, and Revere Beach and Winthrop Beach as well. Eight other area beaches earned ratings ranging from 85% to 98%. Water quality continues to lag at Tenean Beach in Dorchester, which scored 79% and at King’s Beach in Lynn and Swampscott, which scored just 70% in 2020.

“While we are delighted with the progress that

we have made on most of the region’s public beaches, we are disappointed to report that Tenean Beach in Dorchester and King’s Beach in Lynn and Swampscott were still unsafe for swimming more than one out of every five days in 2020,” said Save the Harbor/Save the Bay’s Executive Director Chris Mancini. “We are particularly concerned about the situation at King’s Beach, where filthy, bacteria laden discharges from both Lynn and Swampscott at Stacey Brook continue to threaten public health.”

“Our kids and families deserve better. Today we are calling on the Lynn Water and Sewer Commission and the Swampscott Water and Sewer Department to work together with Save the Harbor/Save the Bay, state and federal regulators, and the community to Save King’s Beach, which is a critical recreational asset to Lynn’s kids and families. This is an environmental justice issue in a diverse, dense city where healthy green and blue spaces are at a premium,” Mancini said.

Save the Harbor/ Save the Bay is also concerned about the accuracy of the beach flagging and posting

Beach	Six-year average safety rating (2015-2020)	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015
Pleasure Bay	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	98%	100%
M Street	99%	94%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Nantasket	99%	98%	97%	100%	98%	100%	100%
City Point	99%	100%	100%	97%	94%	100%	100%
Carson	98%	100%	100%	93%	100%	100%	97%
Nahant	97%	96%	93%	100%	100%	97%	98%
Revere	96%	100%	87%	98%	98%	98%	92%
Winthrop	95%	100%	78%	100%	94%	100%	100%
Constitution	94%	98%	90%	94%	95%	96%	89%
Savin Hill	93%	89%	79%	100%	94%	100%	94%
Malibu	90%	91%	83%	91%	91%	97%	87%
Wollaston	89%	85%	87%	93%	92%	93%	86%
Short	89%	94%	88%	100%	80%	88%	84%
King's Tenean	79%	70%	79%	75%	92%	83%	76%
	78%	79%	67%	78%	81%	92%	71%
All Beaches	93%	93%	89%	95%	94%	96%	92%

This chart summarizes the results.

protocols, where bacteria testing triggers swimming advisories.

According to Save the Harbor’s Director of Strategy & Communications Bruce Berman, one problem is that postings are always a day late because beach managers must wait up to 36 hours to obtain test results. Beach water quality may have already changed significantly during this period, so the prior day’s tests often do not reflect current conditions.

Moreover, in 2019, The Department of Public Health made addition-

al changes to the beach posting and flagging protocols, which has resulted in additional days where beaches are unnecessarily posted with swimming advisories when they are in fact safe for swimming.

“While Save the Harbor recognizes the importance of protecting public health, the current system is often inaccurate and sometimes overly restrictive,” said Berman. “Over the coming months we plan to work with consultant Kelly Coughlin of Stony Brook Partners, and with the Department of Conservation and Recre-

ation, the Massachusetts Water Resources Authority, MADEP, USEPA, and MADPH to develop new rainfall thresholds and protocols to improve flagging and posting accuracy.”

In the meantime, Save the Harbor/Save the Bay urges beach goers to rely on common sense when swimming after summer storms and to use the multi-year average safety ratings to help decide when and where it is safe to swim.

## Energy Facilities Siting Board opens inquiry to enhance inclusivity, participation in energy siting proceedings

Staff Report

The Energy Facilities Siting Board (EFSB) issued a Notice of Inquiry opening a formal inquiry to assess opportunities to enhance equitable public awareness of, and meaningful participation in, EFSB proceedings. The EFSB voted formally to approve the Notice of Inquiry at a Board Meeting held yesterday. The Department of Public Utilities (DPU) issued a companion Order in the spring, aimed at investigating ways to enhance existing processes and boost public participation in its proceedings. The DPU received extensive and thoughtful comments during the comment period. Through these investigations, the EFSB and DPU will explore opportunities to boost stakeholder engagement and ensure that all people have been provided with the same opportunity to participate in EFSB and DPU proceedings, regardless of English language proficiency.

“It is critical that all residents are able to provide meaningful input whenever energy infrastructure is proposed and sited in their communities,” said Energy and Environmental Affairs and EFSB Chair Secretary Kathleen Theoharides. “We look forward to hearing from the public on how best to improve the Energy Facilities Siting Board’s public participation and notification process, which is just one step toward building a more just and equitable clean energy future here in the Commonwealth.”

In 2020, consistent with the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs’ (EEA) 2017 Environmental Justice Policy, the DPU and the EFSB began work to develop Environmental Justice strategies to enhance meaningful involvement of all people and communities with the development, implementation, and enforcement of environmental laws, regulations, and policies, including climate change

policies, and the equitable distributions of energy and environmental benefits and burdens. As part of this process, the DPU and EFSB are evaluating methods to promote further public involvement in their respective proceedings.

Over the past year, EEA has actively engaged with all its agencies, including the DPU and EFSB, on the development of Environmental Justice strategies. As part of this effort, EEA hosted informal listening sessions with environmental justice stakeholders intended to inform the development of methods to track the fair distribution of energy and environmental benefits and burdens and to engage more effectively with Massachusetts environmental justice populations. The comments provided by stakeholders at those listening sessions will inform the development of agency-specific environmental justice strategies.

As part of these efforts, the EFSB has opened this inquiry to explore how to boost community outreach and increase participation and engagement in energy siting proceedings. The EFSB expects to ultimately establish an Environmental Justice strategy which may include the promulgation of rules, issuance of guidelines, procedures and/or regulations which will support robust, comprehensive and equitable public engagement in proceedings.

Notice of this proceeding has been translated into Spanish and Portuguese, posted on the EFSB website, will be published in multiple newspapers, sent to stakeholders, and sent to all municipalities in the Commonwealth. The EFSB invites and encourages all interested individuals to submit written comments on this matter no later than September 10, 2021. Upon receipt and review of the comments received, the EFSB will determine the next steps, which may include further opportunities for public engagement

on this topic.

On March 26, 2021, Governor Charlie Baker signed comprehensive climate change legislation that includes important provisions related to Environmental Justice. Recognizing the significant impact of climate change on Environmental Justice

communities overburdened by poor air quality and disproportionately high levels of pollution, the legislation statutorily defines Environmental Justice and environmental burdens, including climate change as an environmental burden. The legislation also expands Massachusetts

Environmental Policy Act (MEPA) review to require an Environmental Impact Report for all projects that impact air quality within five miles of an Environmental Justice Neighborhood, and requires the Department of Environmental Protection to conduct a stakeholder process to de-

velop a cumulative impact analysis as a condition of permitting certain projects. This change would, for the first time, require MEPA to evaluate not just individual project impacts but also historic environmental pollution throughout the community through the permit process.

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# OBITUARIES

## Thomas Byczkoski

He never gave up on himself or on love itself

Thomas Henry Byczkoski, 77, of Revere, formerly of Chelsea, passed away in his sleep on June 29 at the Wakefield Center following an illness.

Mr. Byczkoski was a 1963 Chelsea High School graduate. Following graduation, he enlisted in the United States Army against the advice of his doctor. One of his proudest achievements was receiving his U.S. Army Completion of Training certificate. However, due to a medical condition, he was honorably discharged from the U.S. Army on September 12, 1968.

Throughout his life “Mr. Thomas” held various positions working as a bartender, security officer, working in retail, working in the furniture business in which he employed his nephew, Edmund Kopaczynski for a while and then, in his final role prior to his illness, he worked as a private investigator.

Thomas’ presence was as big and noticeable as he was. Standing well over six and a half feet tall, Thomas had a booming voice that could be heard from rooms away. That voice would lend to many karaoke stages throughout his life. A regular at the Kowloon in Saugus, Thomas would make cassette recordings for his Godson Thomas Kopaczynski, belting out the tune he told people was written for him, “My Way” by the great Frank Sinatra.

With a deep and commanding voice while towering over most people he encountered, he was quite intimidating and downright scary to interact with if you did not know him well.

Thomas took it upon himself to ensure that his late parents, Ed and Lucy, were well taken care of when they moved into an assisted living facility. Often Thomas was brash and loud as he made inquiries on the level of care his parents were receiving, earning him a few nicknames from staff at the facility.

Upon the death of his mother, Thomas was gracious and thankful and expressed that to the staff that oversaw her care. Following her funeral, Thomas told one of his nephews, “Make sure you hug your mother extra each time you see her, I wish I had.”

Whenever one of Thomas’ siblings needed a helping hand, he was



the first to stop what he was doing and dash over with bags full of food, extra money, one of the tightest bearhugs you ever received and, of course, he would have queued up some jokes.

That rough and tough man of steel exterior broke in 2005 when he was asked to be a pallbearer for his beloved “second brother,” his brother-in-law, Paul. He declined by stating “I just can’t do it, not even for Paul,” and he was moved to tears.

Thomas struggled through his life to be a good man. He was not perfect, then again who is? He loved his family and close circle of friends, he never gave up on himself or on love itself.

Thomas was born September 8, 1943, the loving son of the late Edmund S. and Lucy A. (Byczkoski) Wisniewski. He was the lovable and funny brother of Lucille A. Kopaczynski and her late husband, Paul of Stoneham and Edmund S. Byczkoski Jr. of Wakefield and the father of Robin Levin of Chelmsford. Thomas also leaves behind his nieces and nephews: Ann Catalano of Newport, RI, Mary Burns of Billerica, Lynn Casa of Epping, NH, Elaine Navarro of Stoneham, Beth Agneta of Plaistow, NH, Edmund Kopaczynski of Litchfield, NH, Joseph Kopaczynski of Springfield, Pa., Edmund S. Byczkoski III of Fort Bragg, NC and Thomas Kopaczynski of Boston; great-nephews and nieces: Adam, Nicholas, Amanda, Daniel, Caitlyn A, Kyle, Caitlyn B, Evangelyn, Jonathan, Edmund IV, Robert Jr., Katrina, E’Angelyliz, Paul J., Ella F. and Evand.

Funeral arrangements were entrusted to the Smith Funeral Home, Chelsea.

All are invited to a Memorial Mass to celebrate Tommy’s Life on Saturday, September 11 at 11 a.m. at Our Lady of Częstochowa, 655 Dorchester Ave., South Boston, MA 02127. To send a message of condolence, visit [www.smithfuneralhomes.com](http://www.smithfuneralhomes.com).

## Ramon Antonio

## Mercado Cruz

June 23, 1977 – July 2, 2021

Ramon Antonio Mercado Cruz passed away unexpectedly in his Chelsea home on Friday, July 2. He was 44 years old.

Born in Ponce, Puerto Rico, a beloved son of Ana D. Cruz-Ortiz and the late Jose Antonio Mercado-Monte, Ramon grew up in Chelsea, attended local schools and was a lifelong resident of Chelsea. As a youth he worked for a local tow truck company. A serious motorcycle left him permanently disabled at an early age.

In his lifetime, he was an enthusiastic fan of the New England Patriots and loved all things related to

the team. He also enjoyed accessorizing cars. He is survived by his mother, Ana D. Cruz-Ortiz of Tia Baja, Puerto Rico. He is also survived by his brother, two sisters, many aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews, cousins and extended family members and friends.

Relatives and friends are most kindly invited to attend visiting hours at the Welsh Funeral Home, 718 Broadway, Chelsea today, Thursday, July 8 from 4 to 8 p.m.

Family and friends may offer condolences by means of the online guest book by visiting: [www.welshfh.com](http://www.welshfh.com)

## Helen Mullett

October 18, 1927 – July 4, 2021

Helen E. (Amelio) Mullett passed away unexpectedly on Sunday, July 4 while convalescing at The Elmhurst Health Care in Melrose. She was 93 years old.

Born and raised in Malden, a beloved daughter of the late Joseph G. and Mary Bernice (Sarni) Amelio, in 1956 she wed US Army Sgt. Donald Mullett. They lived as a military family raising two sons and a daughter stationed at various Army Bases in Germany, Georgia and Alabama. A resident of Chelsea for most of her life, she settled in Everett in 1998 for 16 years.

Helen was widowed in 2014 after sharing 58 years of love and devotion with her beloved husband. For the past seven years, she lived with her daughter and caregiver in their Wakefield home.

Her life was lived as that of a quiet homemaker and mother. She was a richly devoted Catholic and was deeply committed to her faith. She received great comfort watching her daily Mass on TV, reciting her rosary and many other Catholic devotions. She enjoyed the company of friends and family in her home.

In addition to her parents and her husband, she was also preceded in death by the passing of her son, David J. Mullett in 1994



and later by her siblings, Anthony Amelio and Genevieve “Jackie” Gruning. She is survived by her son, Donald A. Mullett of Lake Jackson, TX, her daughter and caregiver, Donna Shepherd of Wakefield and her daughter-in-law, Teresa Mullett of Nashua, NH. She was the cherished grandmother of Diana, David Jr., Jesse, Joshua, Danielle, Ethan, Shann, and Luke; adored great-grandmother of Xander, Kailyn, Ally, Zoey, David, Grace and Ava and is also survived by her daytime care giver, Cathy Feloni of Somerville.

Relatives and friends are most kindly invited to attend her funeral from the Welsh Funeral Home, 718 Broadway, Chelsea today, Thursday, July 8 at 9 a.m. followed by a Funeral Mass in St. Rose Church, 600 Broadway, Chelsea at 10 a.m. Services will conclude with interment at Woodlawn Cemetery, Everett.

Family and friends may offer condolences by means of the online guest book by visiting: [www.welshfh.com](http://www.welshfh.com)

## Officials confirm West Nile virus-positive mosquito sample

Staff Report

The Massachusetts Department of Public Health (DPH) announced that West Nile virus (WNV) has been detected in mosquitoes in Massachusetts for the first time this year. The presence of WNV was confirmed today by the Massachusetts State Public Health Laboratory in a mosquito sample collected on June 29 in the town of Medford in Middlesex County. No human or animal cases of WNV or Eastern Equine Encephalitis (EEE) have been detected so far this year. There is no elevated risk level or risk-level change associated with this finding.

“The first WNV infected mosquito of the season is always a signal that it is time to start taking steps to avoid mosquito bites,” said DPH Acting Commissioner Margaret Cooke. “WNV is part of summer in Massachusetts and as we head into this long holiday weekend, it is important to remember that while WNV can cause serious illness, there are simple things that you can do to protect yourself and your loved ones.”

WNV is usually transmitted to humans through the bite of an infected mosquito. There were eight human cases of WNV in 2020. In 2018, there were 49 human cases of WNV infection acquired in Massachusetts - the greatest number of cases the Commonwealth has ever had in a single year. While WNV can infect people of all ages, people over the age of 50 are at higher risk for severe disease. Most people infected with WNV will have no symptoms. When present, WNV symptoms tend to include fever and flu-like illness. In rare cases, more severe illness can occur.

More information, including all WNV and EEE positive results, can be found on the Arbovirus Surveillance Information web page at Mosquito-borne Diseases | Mass.gov, which is updated daily, or by calling the DPH Division of Epidemiology at 617-983-6800.

•To Avoid Mosquito Bites

Apply Insect Repellent When Outdoors. Use a repellent with an EPA-registered ingredient (DEET (N, N-diethyl-m-toluamide), permethrin, picaridin (KBR 3023), oil of lemon eucalyptus [p-methane 3,

8-diol (PMD)] or IR3535) according to the product label instructions. DEET products should not be used on infants under two months of age and should be used in concentrations of 30 percent or less on older children. Oil of lemon eucalyptus should not be used on children under three years of age.

Be Aware of Peak Mosquito Hours. The hours from dusk to dawn are peak biting times for many mosquitoes. Consider rescheduling outdoor activities that occur during evening or early morning in areas of high risk.

Wear Appropriate Clothing to Help Reduce Mosquito Bites. Wearing long sleeves, long pants and socks when outdoors will help keep mosquitoes away from your skin.

•Mosquito-Proof Your Home

Drain Standing Water. Mosquitoes lay eggs in standing water. Limit the number of places around your home for mosquitoes to breed by either draining or discarding items that hold water. Check rain gutters and drains. Empty unused flowerpots and wading pools and change the water in birdbaths frequently.

Install or Repair Screens. Keep mosquitoes outside by having tightly fitting screens on all windows and doors.

•Protect Your Animals

Animal owners should reduce potential mosquito breeding sites on their property by eliminating standing water from containers such as buckets, tires, and wading pools – especially after heavy rains. Water troughs provide excellent mosquito breeding habitats and should be flushed out at least once a week during the summer months to reduce mosquitoes near paddock areas. Horse owners should keep horses in indoor stalls at night to reduce their risk of exposure to mosquitoes. Owners should also speak with their veterinarian about mosquito repellents approved for use in animals and vaccinations to prevent WNV and Eastern Equine Encephalitis (EEE). If an animal is suspected of having WNV or EEE, owners are required to report this to the Department of Agricultural Resources, Division of Animal Health by calling 617-626-1795, and to the Department of Public Health by calling 617-983-6800.

# OBITUARIES

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July 8, 2020 – July 8, 2021



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LEGAL NOTICES

LEGAL NOTICE

**MORTGAGEE'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE**  
By virtue of and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in a certain mortgage given by Sotiris Sotiropoulos to The Anyloan Company, dated October 8, 2003 and recorded in Suffolk County Registry of Deeds in Book 33007, Page 313 (the "Mortgage") of which mortgage Deutsche Bank National Trust Company, as Indenture Trustee for New Century Home Equity Loan Trust 2003-6 is the present holder by Assignment from The Anyloan Company to New Century Mortgage Corporation dated October 15, 2003 and recorded at said Registry of Deeds in Book 37587, Page 346, and Assignment from New Century Mortgage Corporation to Deutsche Bank National Trust Company, as Indenture Trustee for New Century Home Equity Loan Trust 2003-6 dated December 21, 2010 and recorded at said Registry of Deeds in Book 47397, Page 145, for breach of conditions of said mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing the same, the mortgaged premises located at 68 Pearl Street, Chelsea, MA 02150 will be sold at a Public Auction at 12:00 PM on July 26, 2021, at the mortgaged premises, more particularly described below, all and singular the premises described in said mortgage, to wit: Certain real estate situated in Chelsea, in the County of Suffolk, bounded and described as follows: Being the NORTHEASTERLY half of lot no. 13 on a plan of A. Wadsworth, Surveyor, dated July 18, 1831, recorded with Suffolk Deeds, Book 354,

Page 248, bounded: SOUTHEASTERLY by Pearl St, twenty five (25) feet; SOUTHWESTERLY by the SOUTHWESTERLY half of said lot 13, as shown on said plan, one hundred twenty (120) feet; NORTHWESTERLY by a passageway as shown on said plan, twenty-five (25) feet; and NORTHEASTERLY by lot no. 15 on said plan, one hundred twenty (120) feet. Containing 3000 square feet more or less according to said plan. For our title see deed recorded at Book 25175, Page 245. For mortgagor's title see deed recorded with the Suffolk County Registry of Deeds in Book 25175, Page 245. The premises will be sold subject to any and all unpaid taxes and other municipal assessments and liens, and subject to prior liens or other enforceable encumbrances of record entitled to precedence over this mortgage, and subject to and with the benefit of all easements, restrictions, reservations and conditions of record and subject to all tenancies and/or rights of parties in possession. Terms of the Sale: Cashier's or certified check in the sum of \$5,000.00 as a deposit must be shown at the time and place of the sale in order to qualify as a bidder (the mortgage holder and its designee(s) are exempt from this requirement); high bidder to sign written Memorandum of Sale upon acceptance of bid; balance of purchase price payable by certified check in thirty (30) days from the date of the sale at the offices of mortgagee's attorney, Korde & Associates, P.C., 900 Chelmsford Street, Suite 3102, Lowell, MA

01851 or such other time as may be designated by mortgagee. The description for the premises contained in said mortgage shall control in the event of a typographical error in this publication. Other terms to be announced at the sale. Deutsche Bank National Trust Company, as Indenture Trustee for New Century Home Equity Loan Trust 2003-6 Korde & Associates, P.C. 900 Chelmsford Street Suite 3102 Lowell, MA 01851 (978) 256-1500 Sotiropoulos, Sotiris, 20-037571 6/24/21, 7/1/21, 7/8/21 C

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that a COMMUNITY OUTREACH MEETING for a proposed Cannabis Establishment is scheduled for July 21st, 2021 at 6PM at 500 BROADWAY, CHELSEA, MA THIRD FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM, The location for the proposed Cannabis Delivery Operator License is 128 Eastern Ave, Chelsea, MA There will be an opportunity for the public to ask questions. Please contact Edward Matthew, with any inquiries at (617) 908-3790 Aviso: Por la presente se notifica que una REUNION DE ALCANCE COMUNITARIO para un Establecimiento de Cannabis propuesto está programada para el 21 de julio de 2021 a las 6 p.m. en 500 BROADWAY, CHELSEA, MA SALA DE CONFERENCIAS DEL TERCER PISO, La ubicación para la Licencia de Operador de Entrega de Cannabis propuesta es 128 Eastern

Ave, Chelsea, MA Habrá una oportunidad para que el público haga preguntas. Comuníquese con Edward Matthew, si tiene alguna pregunta, al (617) 908-3790 7/1/21, 7/8/21 C

LEGAL NOTICE

**MORTGAGEE'S NOTICE OF SALE OF REAL ESTATE**  
By virtue of and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in a certain mortgage given by Robert Platner to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc. ("MERS") as nominee for Countryside Home Loans, Inc. dated February 23, 2007, recorded with the Suffolk County Registry of Deeds in Book 41359, Page 22, which mortgage was assigned to BAC Home Loans Servicing, LP f/k/a Countrywide Home Loans Servicing LP by Assignment dated May 19, 2011, recorded in Book 47970, Page 262; further assigned to Specialized Loan Servicing, LLC by Assignment dated April 21, 2017, recorded in Book 57843, Page 275; further assigned to U.S. Bank Trust National Association, as Trustee of the Chalet Series III Trust by Assignment dated February 15, 2019, recorded in Book 60817, Page 195; and further assigned to Wilmington Savings Fund Society, FSB, as Owner Trustee of the Residential Credit Opportunities Trust V-C by Assignment dated April 25, 2019, recorded in Book 61151, Page 230, of which mortgage the undersigned is the present holder, for breach of the conditions of said mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing the same will be sold at Public Auction at 11:00 a.m. on the 11th day of August, 2021, at the

mortgaged premises described below, being known as 57 Breakwater Drive, Unit 6, Chelsea, MA, all and singular the premises described in said mortgage, to wit: Unit No. 6 located in the Condominium known as The Clipper Condominium, said Unit conveyed is laid out as shown on a plan filed, which plan is a copy of a portion of the plans filed with said Master Deed dated 7/22/1986 and recorded with the Suffolk County Registry of Deeds in Book 12698, Page 241, to which is affixed a verified statement in the form provided in M.G.L. Ch. 183A, Sec. 9. It is subject to and with the benefit of the obligations, restrictions, rights and liabilities contained in General Laws Chapter 183A, the Master Deed and the By-Laws filed therewith. The Condominium and each of the units is intended for residential purposes and other uses permitted by the applicable Zoning Ordinance and as set forth in the Master Deed. The Mortgagee reserves the right to postpone the sale to a later date by public proclamation at the time and date appointed for the sale and to further postpone at any adjourned sale date by public proclamation at the time and date appointed for the adjourned sale date. The Mortgagee further reserves the right to open the bidding at the time, date and place appointed for sale, and if no bids are received, or the bids received are deemed unacceptable to Mortgagee, to postpone the sale to a later date by public proclamation. Said premises will be sold subject to and with the benefit of all restrictions, ease-

ments, improvements, outstanding tax titles, mortgages, liens, rights of tenants and parties in possession, unpaid taxes, municipal liens and other public taxes, assessments or liens, having priority over the mortgage described herein, if any. In the event that the successful bidder at the foreclosure sale shall default in purchasing the within described property according to the terms of this Notice of Sale and/or the terms of the Memorandum of Sale executed at the time of the foreclosure, the Mortgagee reserves the right to sell the property by Foreclosure Deed to the second highest bidder provided that the second highest bidder shall deposit with Mortgagee's attorneys the amount of the required deposit as set forth herein within three (3) business days after written notice of default of the previous highest bidder and title shall be conveyed to said second highest bidder within twenty (20) days of said written notice. TERMS OF SALE: Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000.00) will be required to bid and be paid in cash or by certified check at the time and place of sale as earnest money. The balance is to be paid in cash or by certified check within thirty (30) days of the date of the sale at the offices of Murphy & Lupan, P.A., 5 Commonwealth Road, Natick, Massachusetts 01760. The description of the premises contained in said mortgage shall control in the event of any typographical error in this publication. Other terms, if any, to be announced at the time and place of sale. WILMINGTON SAVINGS FUND SOCIETY, FSB, AS OWNER TRUSTEE

OF THE RESIDENTIAL CREDIT OPPORTUNITIES TRUST V-C Present holder of said mortgage, By its attorney, Michael J. Murphy Murphy & Lupan, P.A. 5 Commonwealth Road Natick, MA 01760 Tel: (508) 650-9252 6/24/21, 7/1/21, 7/8/21 C

LEGAL NOTICE

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS THE TRIAL COURT PROBATE AND FAMILY COURT Suffolk Probate And Family Court 24 New Chardon St. Boston, MA 02114 (617)788-8300 CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION Docket No. SU19P2585EA Estate of: Frederick J. Parker, Sr. Date of Death: 09/14/2019 To all interested persons: A Petition for S/A - Formal Probate of Will with Appointment of Personal Representative has been filed by Barbara A Parker, of Chelsea, MA, requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition. The Petitioner requests that:Barbara A Parker, of Chelsea, MA, be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said Estate to serve Without Surety on the bond in unsupervised administration. IMPORTANT NOTICE You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance

and objection at this Court before: 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 08/11/2021. This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you. UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC) A Personal Representative appointed under the MUPC in an unsupervised administration is not required to file an inventory or annual accounts with the Court. Persons interested in the estate are entitled to notice regarding the administration directly from the Personal Representative and may petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including the distribution of assets and expenses of administration. WITNESS, Hon. Brian J. Dunn, First Justice of this Court. Date: June 30, 2021 Felix D. Arryo Register of Probate 7/8 CH


LEGAL NOTICE

PUBLIC NOTICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW PROJECT: Chelsea, Æi Broadway Roadway/Utility Improvements LOCATION: Broadway, Chelsea MA PROPONENT: City of Chelsea Planning and Development The undersigned is submitting an Environmental Notification Form ("ENF") to the Secretary


of Energy & Environmental Affairs on or before June 30, 2021 (date) This will initiate review of the above project pursuant to the Massachusetts Environmental Policy Act ("MEPA", M.G.L. c. 30, s.s. 61-621). Copies of the ENF may be obtained from: Alexandra Gaspar 55 Walkers Brook Dr. Suite 100, Reading MA, 978-532-1900 gaspara@wseinc.com (Name, email address, phone number of proponent or proponent's agent)

During the interim Covid-19 response period, electronic copies of the ENF are also being sent to the Conservation Commission and Planning Board of Chelsea (Municipality).

The Secretary of Energy & Environmental Affairs will publish notice of the ENF in the Environmental Monitor, will receive public comments on the project for 20 days, and will then decide, within ten days, if an Environmental Impact Report is needed. A site visit and consultation session on the project may also be scheduled. All persons wishing to comment on the project, or to be notified of a site visit or consultation session, should email MEPA@mass.gov. Mail correspondence will continue to be accepted, though responses may be delayed. Mail correspondence should be direct to the Secretary of Energy & Environmental Affairs, 100 Cambridge St., Suite 900, Boston, Massachusetts 02114, Attention: MEPA Office, referencing the above project. By City of Chelsea Planning and Development 7/8 CH



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# Boston singing events making stops at Clark Middle School

By Dan Murphy

The Friends of the Public Garden is partnering with Boston Children’s Chorus for “We Sing: Boston” – a series of free, outdoor singing events taking place over five weekends from Saturday, July 17, through Sunday, Aug. 15, at outdoor public spaces in neighborhoods in and around Boston, including two stops in Chelsea, and culminating in a city-wide singing event in September on the Boston Common.

In addition to “We Sing: Chelsea” on Saturdays, July 17 and Aug. 7, from 2 to 3:30 p.m., at Clark Avenue Middle School, 8 Clark Ave., Chelsea, the series also includes “We Sing: Roxbury” on Sundays, July 18 and Sunday, Aug. 1, from 2 to 3:30 p.m., at Clifford Playground, 160 Norfolk Ave., Boston; “We Sing: Chinatown” on Saturdays, July 24 and Aug. 15, from 2 to 3:30 p.m., at Chin Park on The Greenway Surface Road and Beach

Street, Boston; “We Sing: Dorchester” on Sundays, July 25 and Aug. 8, from 2 to 3:30 p.m., at Town Field 1565 Dorchester Ave., Dorchester; and “We Sing: Mattapan” on Saturday, July 31, from 2 to 3:30 p.m., at Hunt-Almont Park, 40 Almont St., Boston, on Saturday, Aug. 14, from 2 to 3:30 p.m., at Harambee Park, 930 Blue Hill Ave., Mattapan.

The details of the September event on the Common are still being finalized, but will be announced shortly, said Andrés Holder, executive director of the nonprofit Boston Children’s Chorus. “Essentially, we want to invite everyone who has participated in all the singing events and say, ‘let’s gather one more time before the fall to sing on the Common,’” he said.

The events, which will comply with local COVID safety guidelines, will also include games and prizes, including a raffle for gift cards from Black- and brown-owned businesses in the neighborhoods

where they will be taking place.

Holder is quick to point out, however, these will be interactive “singing events” where the event facilitators and the audience will learn and sing the music compositions together, as opposed to traditional concert experiences.

As for the impetus for these events, Holder, who joined BCC last summer, said, “It was a happy accident, really. Boston Children’s Chorus, throughout the pandemic, had to change how we deliver our programming. Since we couldn’t sing indoors, we perfected the art of the outdoor rehearsal, and in doing that, at least for me, it was a really transformative experience, hearing children singing with masks outdoors. We thought, ‘why is this just for BCC, and why can’t we share it with the whole city?’”

Soon afterwards, Holder was talking with Liz Vizza, president of the Friends of the Public Gar-



den, and mentioned to her the BCC’s plans to bring their singing events to the city. Vizza immediately embraced the idea, said Holder, and offered for the Friends to partner with BCC to stage these events.

The Friends has since helped BCC connect not only at the city-level through its extensive experience in working in Boston’s public parks, said Holder, but they also helped BCC “deeply with community connections.”

And for the Friends, they are pleased to partner on these events that offer

a new and creative way to enliven parks in and around Boston.

“We are so thrilled to be partnering with the BCC for this summer series ‘We Sing: Boston,’” said Vizza. “We love that these free outdoor singing events are using music to bring joy to diverse communities throughout Boston. And since these wonderful events will be held in local parks throughout the City, they will help lift up the parks as well.”

“We Sing: Boston” is receiving additional support from the Mayor’s

Office of Arts and Culture and the Boston Parks and Recreation Department.

“We’re really blessed to be able to be in so many neighborhoods in the city,” said Holder. “It’s really a blessing and a privilege to be able to offer this, and we hope that the community as a whole embraces the joy of collective music-making through children.”

To volunteer or register for the singing events, or for more information, visit <https://www.bostonchildrenschorus.org/our-programs/we-sing/>.

## GOODBYE TO SOME OF THE COMMUNITY’S FAVORITE CROSSING GUARDS

The District said goodbye to some of the community’s favorite Crossing Guards this summer, who help students and commu-

nity keep safe, and who jumped in to help out with food distribution during the height of the pandemic. Chelsea Public Schools

will miss them greatly: Robbie, Bill, and Richard. Enjoy your retirement and next adventures.



Chelsea Public Schools staff said an official good-bye to Crossing Guard Robert Kwiatkowski on his last day stationed outside City Hall.



Richard Kwiatkowski with Crossing Guard Supervisor Kim Geraci.



William Pettengill at his post on Broadway during his last day.

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