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CHELSEA RECORD

YOUR HOMETOWN NEWSPAPER SINCE 1890

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35 CENTS

HALLOWEEN FUN IN CHELSEA



Bea Cravatta (center), Director of Recreation and Cultural Affairs, with the Ramirez, Falcon, Iraola, and Gonzalez Families during the Trick-or-Treat for Children Halloween Celebration.. See Page 5 for more photos.

Council discusses community input on ARPA funds

By Adam Swift

A City Council subcommittee met last week to hear more about Chelsea's ARPA Community Advisory Committee, a 20-member board that will help dictate how the city can best use \$15 million in federal Covid-19 relief funds.

Most of the questions from the councillors, however, were about the balance of the federal relief funds, about \$25 million, that City Manager Thomas Ambrosino said he is earmarking for future capital improvement projects.

Ambrosino said he anticipates the \$25 million will fall under the "lost revenue" portion of the ARPA relief funding, while the advisory council will make recommendations on priorities and strategies to spend the \$15 million on areas such as home ownership and rental assistance, small business programs, and mental and behavioral health programs.

"I have carved that amount (\$25 million) out to put in the lost revenue bucket, with a commitment to the (city) council that will be recommending that we spend that on capital projects," said Ambrosino. "We have hundreds of millions of dollars of capital projects."

In the FY 23 Capital Improvement Plan, Ambrosino said there is currently \$17 million anticipated in capi-

tal improvement projects.

"It will be a real benefit to the city to use cash as opposed to borrowing; it will make our financial position much better in the future," said Ambrosino.

The money that falls under the purview of the community advisory council is reasonably broad and falls in line with many of the things the City Council has already agreed to spend Covid relief funds on, said the City Manager.

"To engage the community, we've put together this ARPA community engagement process and created this ARPA Community Advisory Committee for the purpose of having that committee oversee a process and eventually make recommendations to me for how they wish to spend that money," said Ambrosino. "Frankly, I don't expect any real surprises. I do expect they are going to make recommendations to spend those dollars in some of the same broad categories that the council previously recommended, with some minor tweaks here and there."

While the advisory committee can make recommendations on what areas it would like to see the money spent on, such as rental assistance or behavioral health programs, Ambrosino said it can not recom-

See ARPA Page 2

Nailbiter in District 8 Council race highlight of city election

By Adam Swift

A close race in District 8 and an upset of an incumbent City Councillor in District 7 highlighted Tuesday's municipal election in Chelsea.

In District 8, unofficial results showed incumbent Calvin T. Brown squeaking past challenger Maria Belen Power by a four vote margin, 221-217, however Belen Power said there were still some votes left to count that could potentially tip the contest in her favor.

In District 7, challenger Tanairi Garcia defeated incumbent Yamir Rodriguez 119-79.

In the other contested District council races, Norieliz DeJesus beat School Committee mem-



Calvin T. Brown.



Norieliz DeJesus.



Leo Robinson.

ber Marisol Santiago for the District 3 seat currently held by Naomi Zabot, and in District 2, incumbent Melinda Vega Maldonado held back a challenge from Olivia Anne Walsh.

District 1 Councillor Todd Taylor, District 4 Councillor Enio Lopez, District 5 Councillor Judith Garcia, and District 6 Councillor Giovanni Recupero all ran unopposed

in the general election and were returned to office.

In the race for the three at-large council seats, the incumbents held sway, while former councillor Joe Perlatonda failed to make the cut.

Leo Robinson topped the ballot with 890 votes, followed by current Council President Roy Avellana with 875, and Damali Vidot with 866. Perlaton-

da tallied 425 votes.

While Belen Power had some powerful outside support, with an endorsement by Rep. Ayanna Pressley, Brown said he was grateful that he had the support of the voters in his district.

"I'm grateful for the residents of Chelsea that made the decision," said

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APPRECIATION

Wayne Kerr had a positive impact on Chelsea

By Cary Shuman

Few people in Chelsea's history have affected so many young lives in such a positive manner as Wayne T. Kerr did as an adviser and mentor at Explorer Post 109 based at the Chelsea YMCA.

Revered by Post 109 members and their families, Mr. Kerr helped members become better citizens. And he never sought recognition for his so-often noble deeds. The times he would reach into his own pocket to help a family going through some challenging financial times, the words of comfort he would provide to a young man who had lost a treasured member of his family – Wayne Kerr

helped people quietly and at all times treated them with dignity.

Mr. Kerr, one of Chelsea's most illustrious residents over the past 50 years, passed away on Oct. 6, 2021. He was 79 years old.

Mr. Kerr contributed to the community at-large in so many ways. In addition to his exceptional leadership at Post 109, he served commendably on governmental boards and in other organizations such as the Knights of Columbus where he set out on a course of lifelong philanthropic endeavors.

Robert Brooks, Mr. Kerr's nephew, delivered a beautiful, heartfelt eulogy at the funeral Mass at St. Rose Church, a place not far from where Mr. Kerr lived his life.

"We want to thank you all for helping us celebrate the life of an amazing man," Robert told the large assemblage at the church.

And that memorial observance became a celebration of Wayne Kerr's life as friends and family convened at the Continental in Saugus to lift up the spirits



Wayne T. Kerr

of everyone with individual stories of his kindness, his generosity, and his gentle teachings of life's lessons.

At the church, Robert Brooks, speaking on behalf of the entire family, cleverly weaved into his remarks two of his uncle's favorite movies – "The Wizard of Oz" and "It's A Wonderful life."

"A heart is not judged by how much you love, but by how much you are loved by others," said Brooks, quoting the Wizard of Oz to the Tin Man.

And quoting from "It's A Wonderful Life," Brooks offered, "Wayne T. Kerr was the richest man in Chelsea."

'An Amazing Family Man'

Robert Brooks not only illuminated on his uncle's efforts to make Chelsea a better community, but he told of Wayne Kerr's exemplary life of giving of himself and his benevolence to those within the family.

"Many of you knew Wayne as a servant and a pillar of the community, but he was also an amazing family man as well," said Robert. "He was a surrogate father to me and my siblings. In 1977, when my grandmother, Wayne's mother, passed away, someone in the family thought it would be a great idea if the Brooks family moved in with Uncle."

"Throughout all those years, Uncle Wayne was so gracious and generous to our mother and us. Providing us tremendous guidance, support, and a kick in the pants when needed...but most importantly, unwavering love," related Robert.

Robert recalled the wonderful relationship that his

See KERR Page 2

Chelsea Commuter Rail station opening Nov. 15

Staff Report

The MBTA is pleased to announce that the new, fully accessible Chelsea Commuter Rail station next to the final SL3 stop on Everett Avenue in Chelsea will open for service on Monday, November 15. The new, multimodal station will connect the Newburyport/Rockport Commuter Rail Lines to the SL3. The new station features full high-level platforms for boarding, canopies and benches, new sidewalks, security cameras, passenger assistance telephones, lighting, and more.

The current station on Arlington Street will continue operating until it is permanently closed on Sunday, November 14, after the last train departs at 11:11 PM.

Please plan your trip ac-

cordingly. In the event that you accidentally arrive at the old station on or after November 15, you may walk or take the SL3 to the new station. Walking directions and a map are included below. Signs and MBTA Transit Ambassadors will help guide customers as they walk along this route.

Walking directions

1. Cross Arlington Street and travel north on 6th St
2. Turn left on Spruce Street and cross the train tracks
3. Continue past MGH Chelsea and turn right on Everett Ave
4. The new station will be on your left after Santander bank, before the

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TRASH NOTICE

Due to the Veterans Day Holiday next week, Thursday pick-ups will be on Friday and Friday pick-ups will be on Saturday.

UNOFFICIAL CHELSEA VOTING RESULTS

VOTES PERCENT			
PRECINCTS COUNTED (OF 16)	0		
REGISTERED VOTERS - TOTAL	0		
BALLOTS CAST - TOTAL	1,784		
BALLOTS CAST - BLANK	6	.34	
COUNCILLOR AT LARGE (VOTE FOR) 3			
DAMALI VIDOT	866	28.07	
ROY ALEX AVELLANEDA	875	28.36	
JOSEPH PERLATONDA	425	13.78	
LEO ROBINSON	890	28.85	
WRITE-IN	29	.94	
Blank Votes	2,267		
COUNCILLOR DISTRICT 1 (VOTE FOR) 1			
TODD B. TAYLOR	171	96.07	
WRITE-IN	7	3.93	
Blank Votes	50		
COUNCILLOR DISTRICT 2 (VOTE FOR) 1			
MELINDA M. VEGA MALDONADO	134	64.73	
OLIVIA ANNE WALSH	72	34.78	
WRITE-IN	1	.48	
Blank Votes	10		
COUNCILLOR DISTRICT 3 (VOTE FOR) 1			
MARISOL SANTIAGO	142	47.18	
NORTELIZ D. DEJESUS	159	52.82	
WRITE-IN	0		
Blank Votes	19		
COUNCILLOR DISTRICT 4 (VOTE FOR) 1			
ENIO A. LOPEZ PEREZ	116	98.31	
WRITE-IN	2	1.69	
Blank Votes	22		
COUNCILLOR DISTRICT 5 (VOTE FOR) 1			
JUDITH A. GARCIA	111	97.37	
WRITE-IN	3	2.63	
Blank Votes	19		
COUNCILLOR DISTRICT 6 (VOTE FOR) 1			
GIOVANNI A. RECUPERO	60	96.77	
WRITE-IN	2	3.23	
Blank Votes	18		
COUNCILLOR DISTRICT 7 (VOTE FOR) 1			
TANAIRI GARCIA	119	59.50	
YAMIR G. RODRIGUEZ	79	39.50	
WRITE-IN	2	1.00	
Blank Votes	13		
COUNCILLOR DISTRICT 8 (VOTE FOR) 1			
CALVIN T. BROWN	221	50.23	
MARIA BELEN POWER	217	49.32	
WRITE-IN	2	.45	
SCHOOL COMMITTEE AT LARGE (VOTE FOR) 1			
ALEXIS BALCARCEL	469	32.06	
ROBERTO ANDRES JIMENEZ-RIVERA	973	66.51	
WRITE-IN	21	1.44	
Blank Votes	321		
SCHOOL COMMITTEE DISTRICT 1 (VOTE FOR) 1			
SHAWN P. O'REGAN	172	95.56	
WRITE-IN	8	4.44	
Blank Votes	48		
SCHOOL COMMITTEE DISTRICT 2 (VOTE FOR) 1			
JEANETTE VELEZ	182	98.38	
WRITE-IN	3	1.62	
Blank Votes	32		
SCHOOL COMMITTEE DISTRICT 3 (VOTE FOR) 1			
WRITE-IN	108	100.00	
Blank Votes	212		
SCHOOL COMMITTEE DISTRICT 4 (VOTE FOR) 1			
WRITE-IN	15	100.00	
Blank Votes	125		
SCHOOL COMMITTEE DISTRICT 5 (VOTE FOR) 1			
HENRY D. WILSON	71	83.53	
WRITE-IN	14	16.47	
Blank Votes	48		
SCHOOL COMMITTEE DISTRICT 6 (VOTE FOR) 1			
ANA E. HERNANDEZ	60	96.77	
WRITE-IN	2	3.23	
Blank Votes	18		
SCHOOL COMMITTEE DISTRICT 7 (VOTE FOR) 1			
KELLY CHANEY GARCIA MIRZA	159	95.78	
WRITE-IN	7	4.22	
Blank Votes	47		
SCHOOL COMMITTEE DISTRICT 8 (VOTE FOR) 1			
YESSENIA L. ALFARO	321	99.38	
WRITE-IN	2	.62	
Blank Votes	130		

Election/ Continued from page 1

Brown. “It wasn’t the outsiders, it was the people who live in District 8 and know what’s going on.”

Brown said his supporters appreciate the work that has been done during the Covid-19 pandemic, and that he looks forward to getting Chelsea residents back to work and the community back up and running during his next term, if his slim margin holds.

Power thanked her supporters, and said it was still too close to call the race late Tuesday night as there were still absentee and provisional ballots left to count in the district.

Vega Maldonado, Garcia, and DeJesus campaigned as a unified slate, and the work paid off as all three were victorious in contested elections for the council.

Garcia said she didn’t initially see herself as someone who would run for public office, but said she saw a gap that she could fill in and was ready to serve this year.

“My main focus is on the children in the community, we need more programs for them to keep our youth occupied, we need more employment for them,” said Garcia.

She said there also needs to be a focus on affordable housing in Chelsea that is truly affordable for Chelsea residents.

Vega Maldonado said she is excited to serve a second term in office, especially with Garcia and DeJesus joining her on the City Council.

“I’m thrilled for what we are going to do for our city together as a united front,” said Vega Maldonado.

DeJesus said that despite the low voter turnout on Tuesday, she was grateful for the support she received and for the many constituents she met

face to face during the campaign.

“I ran a campaign of complete grassroots, face to face connection with the community, door knocking, phone banking, flyering, and engaging with our families in the common areas of our district,” said DeJesus. “Although the turnout rate for our city was low yesterday, I am extremely grateful for those I was able to talk to in person and share my goals for the district and listen to their concerns.”

Avellaneda said he ran on his long record of public service.

As the council president for the past two years, Avellaneda said he’s known for pushing through legislation, and during the coming term, he said he would like to see an emphasis on economic development and increased affordable home ownership opportunities in the city.

“I will continue to push for home ownership opportunities, whether it is through legislation, city funds, or CPA money,” said Avellaneda. Increasing home ownership in Chelsea will help economic development, keeping more money in the city rather than having it go to landlords who live outside Chelsea.

In the race for the School Committee, the incumbents came out on top, with several districts waiting for the results of write-in votes. Both districts 3 and 4 had no official candidates on the ballot.

In the at-large School Committee race, incumbent Roberto Jimenez-Rivera defeated challenger Alexis Balcarcel.

In District 1, former School Committee member Shawn O’Regan will replace longtime commit-

tee member Rosemarie Carlisle, who did not run for reelection.

Incumbents Jeanette Velez in District 2, Ana Hernandez in District 6, Kelly Garcia in District 7, and Yessenia Alfaro in District 8 all ran unopposed and were returned to office. In District 5, incumbent Henry Wilson, who is facing criminal charges, was on the ballot and received more votes than the write-ins.

Kelly Garcia said she was happy to be returning to the School Committee, and also excited for her sister, Tanairi Garcia, who is the new District 7 City Councillor.

“You can never be too comfortable,” said Garcia about running unopposed. She said she campaigned hard, drove voters to the polls, and worked the phone banks to make sure her constituents knew she was still working hard for them.

While Avellaneda said he was happy to be voted in for another term, he was disappointed in the low voter turnout.

Unofficial results had 1,784 of the city’s 15,911 registered voters casting ballots, for a total of just over 11 percent turnout.

“There are some questions that need to be talked about for what we want to do as a community to get more people involved,” he said.

Avellandeda said issues such as low home ownership rates and the lack of a big ticket race such as mayor could contribute to the low turnout.

While not pushing to have Chelsea return to a mayoral, rather than city manager, system of government, Avellaneda said he would support a future ballot question gauging community support for the initiative.

Micro-pantries launch in Chelsea

The Healthy Chelsea Coalition and the Chelsea Hunger Network are partnering with the Chelsea Department of Public Works to launch a network of micro food pantries in the city. The first of these pantries will be located at Temple Emmanuel in Cary Square. A “bread breaking” launch celebration will take place at the Temple at 60 Tudor Street on Saturday, November 6, at 10 am. Friends and neighbors are all welcome and encouraged to attend!

Modeled after the “take a book, leave a book” concept of the Little Free Library, the micro pantries will provide and receive non-perishable food and personal care items, allowing neighbors to help one another in times of need. The micro pantry invites neighbors to “Take what you need, Give what you can.”

“Part of Temple Emmanuel’s mission is to benefit the Cary Square and Addison Orange neighborhoods. Hosting Chelsea’s first micro pantry in our courtyard is one of the many ways we act on this priority,” said Herb Selesnick, Community Engagement Coordinator, Temple Emmanuel of Chelsea. The Temple’s “host” duties include maintaining the site.

Ron Fishman, Com-

munity Coordinator for Healthy Chelsea and the Chelsea Hunger Network said, “This neighbor-supported, 24/7 addition to the City’s network of food pantries fills a real need. We are grateful to the Chelsea DPW for constructing and installing the units, Healthy Chelsea’s Food Corps volunteers for their behind-the-scenes contributions and Temple Emmanuel for enthusiastically offering to be the pilot’s host.”

About Healthy Chelsea: The Healthy Chelsea Coalition is focused on improving the overall health of Chelsea residents, including addressing issues of food insecurity, mental health and wellness, and youth development. Healthy Chelsea is supported by the Massachusetts General Hospital Center for Community Health Improvement. Visit www.healthychelsea.org and www.massgeneral.org/cchi/

Healthy Chelsea oversees the Chelsea Hunger Network whose mission is to create a platform for all food pantries, community-based organizations, the City, and concerned residents to collaborate in the mitigation of food insecurity in Chelsea. Visit Facebook @ChelseaHungerNetwork.

Weekend Commuter Rail service diversion on November 6-7

As a reminder, shuttle buses will replace normal train service between North Station and Lynn on Saturday, November 6, and Sunday, November 7. This service diversion will allow crews to finish upgrading the rail signal system for the railroad crossings at Third Street, Everett Avenue, Spruce Street, Sixth & Arlington Streets, and Eastern Avenue in Chelsea, as well as Second Street in Everett. The new traffic signals at the railroad crossings will begin operating on Monday, November 8. Currently, the traffic lights are flashing yellow and there is a four-way stop sign in that location. Starting on Monday, November 8, the traffic signals will become operational. Traffic signal lights will be green until a train comes and the railroad crossing lights, bells, and gates will operate as

usual.

While commuter rail service is not operating, outbound buses will depart North Station and Chelsea 15 minutes prior to the normal train schedule. Regularly scheduled service will operate between Lynn and Newburyport or between Lynn and Rockport. Inbound buses will operate near train schedule timing, but passengers may experience longer trip times.

There will be no bus shuttle between North Station and Chelsea. Passengers may consider:

- MBTA Bus #111 between Haymarket and Chelsea (every 14-20 minutes on weekends)
- Silver Line #3 between and Chelsea and South Station (every 8-16 minutes on weekends)

Please be aware that no bicycles may be conveyed on replacement bus ser-

vices. Bicycles may still be taken on board train services as standard.

For the latest service information, visit the Newburyport/Rockport Line Alerts page.

All pedestrian and bicycle access at SL3 stations will remain the same. There are no impacts to local traffic during the service diversion.

Please know that MassDOT, the MBTA, their consultants, and the contractor continue to work on the Chelsea Commuter Rail Project through these challenging times and have implemented appropriate safety measures related to COVID-19.

For more information about this project, please visit: www.mbta.com/ChelseaStation. For project questions or comments, please email us: ChelseaStation@mbta.com.

Wright enrolls at Lasell University

Princess Wright of Chelsea joined the Lasell University community as a student this fall.

Wright is majoring in health science.

Lasell, located in Newton, Massachusetts, began its fall semester with a fully operational campus. New and returning students began classes in early September. Among the first gatherings held was Lasell’s annual U-Belong event, a celebration of connectivity, inclusivity, and friendship.

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Chelsea

R E C O R D

PRESIDENT: Stephen Quigley
EDITOR IN CHIEF: Cary Shuman

IF TAIWAN IS ATTACKED, SHOULD WE DEFEND IT?

We are living in unprecedented times -- from the COVID-19 pandemic, to the supply chain issues that are affecting all aspects of our economy, to the dire consequences of climate change, to the messy pullout in Afghanistan, to the spike in energy prices, to the craziness that has engulfed our politics.

It seems that we are living in a period of crisis-after-crisis-after-crisis.

But there is another potential source of disruption looming on the horizon that will dwarf all others: The spectre of a Chinese invasion of Taiwan.

So the question is this: If the Chinese decide to invade Taiwan -- as they clearly are preparing to do -- what should be our response?

We have a few thoughts:

1) The possibility of a military move by the Chinese against Taiwan has been a foreign policy issue for more than 60 years. Nixon and Kennedy debated the appropriate U.S. response should the Chinese invade Quemoy and Matsu, two small islands that belong to Taiwan, but that are within a very short distance (just a few miles) from the Chinese mainland. Kennedy made it very clear that the two islands were indefensible and not worth risking a large-scale war. Quemoy, Matsu, and Taiwan have fallen off our national radar, so to speak, since then, but they are back in the spotlight thanks to the recent Chinese provocations.

2) Although the Chinese government never has been a model of Western-style democracy, there always have been competing factions within the Communist Party. However, to whatever extent the Chinese Communist Party exhibited democratic tendencies within its own ranks, they are a thing of the past thanks to President Xi Jinping, who essentially has established himself as a dictator for life.

From abolishing term limits for his office, to destroying democracy in Hong Kong, to placing a million Uighurs into detention camps, to building up the Chinese military, Xi has abandoned the former model of a China that adhered to some semblance of international norms. The China of today is not the China of even 10 years ago.

3) The recent obsession with Taiwan by Xi is one of those issues that lacks rationality to non-Chinese. Although Taiwan poses no threat to China, there is no room for compromise on Taiwan in Xi's world-view. But that is what makes it such a potential tinderbox for world peace.

4) Some suggest that a Chinese invasion and takeover of Taiwan would be a prelude to further Chinese military domination in Asia, including So. Korea and Japan. But that's a version of the Domino Theory that got us into the war in Vietnam. We didn't understand that the Vietnamese War was merely a civil war. It was our misguided intervention that destabilized the surrounding region, just as we did 40 years later in the Mideast with our invasion of Iraq. Similarly, an American capitulation on Taiwan hardly would be a modern-day equivalent of a Neville Chamberlain-style appeasement that would be a prelude to Chinese domination of the Pacific.

5) Do we have a national interest in defending Taiwan? The only plausible reason in this regard is that the Taiwan Semiconductor Manufacturing Co. is the largest supplier of computer chips in the world. We all know about the chip shortage. But while a Chinese invasion of Taiwan might make the chip shortage worse in the short term, is TSMC really worth fighting for?

6) On that note, we should keep in mind that an all-out shooting war with the Chinese would result in thousands of U.S. casualties and the sinking of just about every ship we have in the Pacific fleet.

7) Finally, why should the Taiwanese expect us to defend them when they themselves have shown little or no interest in their national defense? As a recent news article made clear, the Taiwanese are a far cry from the Israelis, for whom national defense is an imperative that is taken seriously by every Israeli citizen.

In our view, when you add it all up, Taiwan is not worth shedding one drop of American blood. We shouldn't let our emotions get in the way of reality. Whatever treaty the U.S. has with Taiwan was conceived in a different world.

But this is 2021, and the present generations should not be bound by something that they have had no part in.

MIAA'S FOOTBALL RATINGS ARE ABSURD

We want to make it clear at the outset that we have not spoken to any football coaches, athletic directors, athletes, parents, or officials from any school.

The point-of-view we are expressing here is strictly our own and it is this: The so-called football power rankings devised by the MIAA for determining playoff-qualifying teams is ridiculous.

The Revere High football team compiled a 6-2 record this season, with one of those losses coming to undefeated Everett.

But the RHS team is rated 18th in its division (Division 3), two slots below the 16 teams that will compete in the D-3 playoffs. Of those 16 teams, seven of them have worse won-loss records than Revere and one, Stoughton, actually has a losing record at 3-5.

Looking at Stoughton, of their five losses, three were blowouts by 28 points or more and another was a 20-point loss. Yet Stoughton is ranked 13th in D-3.

Another qualifying school we looked at in D-3, Minnechaug, which is ranked 10th with a 5-3 record, earned four of its wins against opponents with a combined record of 4-27.

Chelsea sports a 4-3 record, but also is on the outside looking in with a ranking of 18th in Division 7. One D-7 qualifier has a worse record and two others have the same record as the Red Devils.

Everett is ranked ninth in Division 1. The Crimson Tide are 7-0, one of only two undefeated teams in D-1, yet are ranked well-below fourth-ranked Xaverian, which has a 6-2 record. Oh, by the way, Everett defeated Xaverian when they met this season. Go figure.

The remainder of Everett's schedule consisted of its opponents in the Greater Boston League, other than Chelsea. But even if Everett had played the Red Devils and won, it would not have made its ranking any better -- in fact, from what we can gather, it might have made it worse.

The problem is that the MIAA power rankings penalizes schools that have strong programs, such as Everett and Revere, simply because they play in a weak conference (which was the case in the GBL this season).

Going back to Stoughton, that school earned "points" in the ratings in theory because of its strength of schedule -- but the ratings don't take into account that Stoughton got blown out in almost all of those losses.

The rating system seems to have the perverse incentive of rewarding losses against higher-rated schools more than victories over lower-rated schools.

The whole system is a joke. We feel badly for our athletes in Revere and Chelsea who earned winning records this season -- but who did not measure up to the MIAA's computers.

They deserved a chance to compete in the state tournament.

They are victims of the axiom in the computer world, "Garbage in, garbage out."

Forum

GUEST OP-ED

We need to invest in America

Dr. Glenn Mollette

America needs attention to our infrastructure. It's pathetic that our Congress and President are having so much trouble putting something together they can agree on. We managed to spend the equivalent of a trillion dollars in today's currency on the Vietnam war. What did we get for a trillion dollars? Over fifty-eight thousand dead American soldiers. Plus, over 1,500 missing in action and thousands of wounded. Many who have never recovered.

We lost 4,497 American soldiers in Iraq. We spent two trillion dollars in Iraq. We had over 32,000 other casualties. What does America have to show for the war in Iraq?

We spent 20 years in Afghanistan. Over 2,400 American soldiers were killed and over 20,000 were wounded. We spent at least 2.3 trillion dollars. What does America have to show for our war in that country? (United States Military casualties of war, Wikipedia.org)

Did these wars make us safer? Did they make our country greater and stronger? Is America better and freer because of these wars? America suffered great loss from these wars. Thousands of American families are still grieving.

The stimulus proposal, approximately \$1.75 trillion is about investing in America. We are long overdue for a major investment in America. We don't all agree on the infrastructure bill's spending list. However, can't these "great" politicians come up with an "essential" needs list that is starkly visible to any naked eye?"

Maybe we could get

busy in our nation and stay out of other countries' business for a while. Maybe we could take a break from fighting among ourselves. A working nation will be a much happier nation. We hear all this bull talk about we'll never get out of debt from this infrastructure bill and we won't. However, we've spent too much time trying to solve the world's issues while ignoring our own problems. We need to work on our homeland. The roof is leaking, the walls are crumbling, the electrical work needs to be repaired. The water we are drinking is dirty. The driveway is crumbling and potholes abound. The plant down in town relocated and the local coal mine closed. Things are tough.

The house needs a lot of repair but it's hard to repair a house and buy expensive groceries on the meager wages that are available to most Americans. Families can't live on \$15 an hour, or go to the doctor. Over forty million Americans still live in poverty. Millions more live right above the poverty line and struggle. "According to Pew Research, a household with an income between two-thirds of and double the median household income is considered middle class. The national median income in 2021 is \$79,900, which would mean an individual would fall squarely in the middle class with an income between \$53,266 and \$159,800." (Motley Fool Service, fool.com) Is this you? The average household income for 2021 has been \$79,900 according to huduser.gov.

A financially strapped American living in an ag-

ing house that is desperate for repairs is symbolic of much of America. Yes, we have seen a stock market boom. Americans selling houses are doing well financially. Yes, a lot of people in America are in the medium income level which is not bad.

However, too many Americans are still financially insecure. They don't make enough money. They can't afford adequate housing. They still put off going to the doctor because of costs. They aren't saving any money. More senior Americans are working than ever before because they cannot longer live on their meager pensions and Social Security is being eaten away by rapid inflation.

We need an investment at home, our home, America. Congress, please make a reasonable list. Our needs are so visible. We need clean water, Internet, available affordable healthcare including prescriptions, affordable clean energy, chips for our cars and phones, roads and bridges and real paying jobs for Americans who are willing to work. Why is this so hard?

In comparison to over 5 trillion dollars and thousands of American lives spent around this world, spending a few dollars at home should be a cakewalk for this Congress and President.

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.

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.**

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HALLOWEEN FUN IN CHELSEA

PHOTOS BY MARIANNE SALZA

By Marianne Salza

Chelsea’s Recreation and Cultural Affairs Division held a Trick-or-Treat for Children Halloween Celebration on October 31 at the Williams Building. Families dressed in costume and walked beneath a tent of flying bats to receive goodie bags of candy and toothbrushes.



Roberto Jimenez-Rivera, School Committee member, with his family, Sarah Neville, and Robi Jimenez.



Luis Morel, Ana Canales, Gabriel, and Anabela.



The Espejo Family.



Allejandro and Valentina Lopez, and Erika Rodriguez.



Andrely Lopez, Heylee Diaz, and Heydy Norja.



Joseph and Emily Goodrich with Rocky.



Christian Monroy, seven-years-old, as Spiderman.



Roberto Jimenez-Rivera, School Committee member, and his son, Robi.



Yarixa Osorio, Omayra Gonzalez, and Emily Goodrich.



Families gathering for the Trick-or-Treat for Children Halloween Celebration at the Williams School Building on October 31.



Trick-or-treaters grabbing good goodie bags.



Chelsea Recreation and Cultural Affairs staff and volunteers.



The Desrochers and Santos Families.

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ELECTION DAY IN CHELSEA



Raul Flores stands with District 3 School Committee Candidate Jacqueline Fuentes and Sarah Neville, the wife of School Committee Candidate At-Large Roberto Jiménez Rivera.



Candidate for District 8 City Council Calvin Brown with Massachusetts Governors Council member Terrence Kennedy.



Outside the Williams School was a gathering of candidates and supporters.



Olivia Anne Walsh is on the ballot for the City Council District 2 seat and Naomi Zabol write in for the School Committee District 3 seat.



Outside the Williams School was a gathering of candidates and supporters.



Raul Flores stands with District 3 School Committee Candidate Jacqueline Fuentes and Sarah Neville, the wife of School Committee Candidate At-Large Roberto Jiménez Rivera.



Candidates and their supporters greet voters outside of the polling station at St Rose.



Jody Robinson, is helping his brother Leo Robinson win re-election as Councilor At-Large.



City Council Candidates Norieliz DeJesus for the District 2 seat and Melinda Vega Maldonado for the District 3 seat.



District 4 City Councilor Enio Lopez with former City Councilor Dan Cortell.



Spaces are set aside on Arlington Street for voters.



Anthony and Marta Agostini show their support for Calvin Brown who is looking to be re-elected to the District 8 City Council seat.



Candidate for District 8 City Council Calvin Brown (center) with former City Councilor for District 3 Luis Tejada and Massachusetts Governors Council member Terrence Kennedy.

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Sports

CHELSEA HIGH SCHOOL CROSS COUNTRY TEAM AT THE GBL CHAMPIONSHIP

GBL Cross Country Championships (boys and girls) held October 28 at MacDonald Park in Medford.

BOB MARRA PHOTOS



Chelsea runner Darily Sanchez.



Chelsea runner Rosalinda Rojas.



Chelsea runner Gizelle Olivar makes her way to the finish line.



Giselle Rodriguez approaches the finish line on her way to a 3rd place finish in the Greater Boston League cross country championships.



Chelsea runners Alejandro Zepeda and Johnny Maldonado.



Giselle Rodriguez raced to a 3rd place finish in the Greater Boston League cross country championships.



Chelsea's Ian Padilla on his way to a 6th place finish in the Greater Boston League championships.

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*Every year, Medicare evaluates plans based on a 5-star rating system.



OBITUARIES

Elaine Theresa Patti

She was a giver not a taker and this was her gift to the world

Elaine Theresa (Richard) Patti entered eternal rest, November 1 at her home in Chelsea, surrounded by her loving family, after a long and courageous battle with cancer. She was 62 years old.

One of 17 children, the daughter of the late Benjamin J. and Jeannette (Labbe) Richard, she was a lifelong resident of Chelsea and attended Chelsea Public Schools. As a young woman, Elaine continued her education becoming a Certified Nursing Assistant.

A proud mother, wife, aunt, sister and friend, Elaine had been frequently hospitalized during the months of September and October due to complications from stage 4 ovarian cancer and renal disease which required her to be on dialysis while she was fighting her cancer. She was also a recipient of a kidney transplant 17 years ago from her brother, Wayne Richard, for which the family was forever grateful as the transplant extended her life.

Elaine remained hopeful, brave, and determined; although fighting these incurable diseases while in palliative care. It was her wish to pass peacefully in her own bed at home. Elaine did not publicize and complain about her situation. She never wavered in her determination despite the physical and mental toll of the disease that took her life. Those who treated her at the Beth Israel Deaconess Hospital in Boston admired her resilience and toughness and she was well cared for and adored by many of the staff. The staff at BI went above and beyond to see that she had some quality of life in the first few years since being diagnosed after Christmas in 2016.

Elaine dedicated her career as a physical therapist assistant at the Chelsea Soldier's Home. She tended to the care and needs of veterans for 25 years before retiring in 2015.

Elaine had a fond place in her heart for our Veterans, while and after, working at the Chelsea Soldiers Home Hospital for many years. In a way, she served her country by caring for Veterans of WWII, Korea, Vietnam, and the Gulf wars. She encountered and befriended many of them and their families; there were always interesting war stories from her patients.

Elaine loved animals, crafts and quilting, Boston sports, and most of all Bruce Springsteen, having gone to many concerts.

During her battle with illnesses, she joined the Chelsea Community Center Quilting Classes with a



wonderful group of ladies and friends who helped during her fight and lifted her spirits when she was in times of emotional need. A few of the quilting projects were donated to veterans and other charities. She enjoyed personally crafting them and giving them as gifts to her friends and family while she was physically able to do so. Elaine's family is forever grateful to the Community Center and all the wonderful people who got her through some of those tough times.

Elaine always listened and encouraged her friends and family. She was a friend to those in need by demonstrating compassion and love no matter how small or large the problem.

She was a giver and not a taker. This was her gift to the world.

Upon her initial diagnosis four years ago, the oncology team weighed the risk of treatment or the option for Hospice based on the complications of fighting Renal and Ovarian Cancer at the same time. The expectations of surviving treatment was low due to her stage 4 diagnose and her tiny 4' 11" stature. Elaine proudly said to them; "never underestimate a girl from Chelsea." Elaine will be greatly missed by all those who loved her.

The beloved husband of William H. Patti, Jr. of Chelsea, she was the devoted mother of Keith W. Patti of Chelsea; dear sister of Edward Richard, Linda Riley, Joanne Crandle, Barbara Richard and the late Benjamin J. Richard II, Robert Richard, Joseph Richard, Frank Richard, Leonard Richard, Wayne Richard, Arnold Richard, Ernie Richard, Carolyn Richard, Janet Sturgist, Susette Leblanc, Annette Purcell. She is also lovingly survived by many nieces and nephews.

Relatives and friends are kindly invited to attend Elaine's visiting hours at the Carafa Family Funeral Home, 389 Washington Ave., Chelsea on Saturday, November 6, from 9 to 11 a.m. Funeral services will follow the visitation in the Funeral Home at 11 a.m. Interment will be private.

For the protection of the public health, we kindly ask those not vaccinated to please wear a mask or facial covering. Masks are optional for all those vaccinated.

Alfred Pantano, Jr.

Financial Advisor

Family and friends are invited to attend visiting hours on Friday, November 5 from 4 to 7 p.m. in the Vertuccio & Smith, Home for Funerals, 773 Broadway (Rte. 107) Revere, for

Alfred "Al" Pantano, Jr., 78, who died on Saturday, October 30 at the North Shore

Medical Center – Salem Hospital in Salem following a long illness. His funeral will be conducted from the Funeral Home on Saturday, November 6 at 11:30 a.m., followed by a Funeral Mass in the Immaculate Conception Church (Corner of Beach St. and Winthrop Ave.) Revere at 12:30 p.m., immediately followed by entombment in Woodlawn Cemetery – Versailles Mausoleum, Everett.

Al was born in Everett and raised in Somerville until the age of six when the family moved to Chelsea. He was educated in Chelsea Public Schools and was a graduate of Chelsea High School, Class of 1960.

As a young man in high school, Al worked at Stop & Shop and it was there that he met his future wife, Donna DiGianni. Al went on to serve his country during the Vietnam Conflict by enlisting in the United States Airforce. He returned home after he was honorably discharged and began to further his education by attending Northeastern University where he earned a bachelor's degree in business.

On July 9, 1967, Al married Donna and the couple remained in Chelsea, where they began their family together. They later moved to Saugus in 1978.

Al began his working career at Bellotti Oldsmobile, then making a move to Metropolitan Life Insurance Co. and later to Provident Life Insurance Co. In 1980, he went on his own and became an independent financial adviser. a business that he built with his excellent reputation and superior knowl-



edge. He loved doing what he did and it showed. People looked upon Al to make important financial decisions that would help them forecast their future in retirement.

Al was an avid golfer and played as often as he possibly could. He enjoyed traveling with his family, especially on cruises. He was the Past President of the Saugus Rotary and belonged to the Corvette Club and Hot Rod Club.

He was a devoted husband, father and papa, through and through.

He was the devoted husband of 54 years to Donna N. (DiGianni) Pantano of Saugus, loving father of David A. Pantano of Saugus and Denise P. Colbert and her husband, Thomas of Peabody; proud Papa of Jenna K. English of Portsmouth, NH, Sydney E. Colbert and Ryan E.T. Colbert, both of Peabody; dedicated son of the late Alfred Pantano, Sr. and Emily (Varricchio) Pantano; dear brother of Arthur Pantano and his wife, Carol of Revere and Richard Pantano and his wife, Nancy of Chelsea. He is also lovingly survived by several nieces, nephews, grandnieces and grandnephews.

In lieu of flowers, remembrances may be made to the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, P.O. Box 849168, Boston, MA 02284 or by visiting www.dana-farber.org/gift.

To send online condolences, please visit www.vertuccioandsmith.com. Funeral Arrangements entrusted to the care and direction of the Vertuccio & Smith, Home for Funerals.

Michael Byron Lopez, Sr.

December 25, 1956 – October 26, 2021

After living courageously for the past two and a half years with ongoing illness, Michael Byron Lopez, Sr., was called home to his Lord and Savior on Tuesday, October 26.

Michael was born on December 25, 1956 to the late Audrey Jane Phillips and Gilbert Lopez. He was raised in Dorchester and graduated from Boston Technical High School.

In May of 1981, he married Mamie Robinson and settled and resided in Chelsea for over 40 years. His union to Mamie was blessed with three children: Autumn Joi Lopez, Amber Lee Lopez, and Michael Byron Lopez, II.

His life's devotion was to his family and for most of his life, Michael worked as a Union Insulation Installer for various companies working at power plants and other major construction projects throughout the area and country.

His other passion was basketball and his "Chelsea Kids," coaching and refereeing his Chelsea Kids in countless games with local basketball leagues. Michael coached at Chelsea High School for the Girls Varsity and Junior Varsity teams, the "CYBL," and at the Jordan Boys and Girls Club. He founded a summer league, the Chelsea Neighborhood Basketball League "CNBL," and was a cameraman and sports announcer with Chelsea Community Cable TV.

Michael was also a proud member of Insulators Local 6, Boston.

In addition to his parents, Michael was predeceased by his father-in-law, James I. Robinson, Sr., his sister-in-law, Irena A. Wilkerson and brother-in-law, Donald C. Robinson.



To mourn his passing and cherish his memory, he leaves his beloved wife of 40 years, Mamie Robinson-Lopez of Chelsea, his devoted children, Autumn Joi Lopez, Amber Lee Lopez and Michael Byron Lopez II. He was the cherished and adored grandfather of Jaelyn, Jeilani and Orlando Echeverria, Z'Andre and Omari Lopez.

He is survived by his loving siblings: John Matthew Lopez, Carol Lopez, David (Ruby) Lopez, Marggo Lopez, Martin (Ruth) Lopez and Kenneth Lopez.

He is further survived by his dear mother-in-law, Louise Robinson and her children, Gwendolyn Robinson Greene, James I. Robinson, Jr., Terry Robinson, Jacqui Robinson-Perry, Margaret Robinson-Williams, and by a host of extended family members and friends.

A family hour and visitation will be held on Friday, November 5 from 10 a.m. in the Emmanuel Baptist Church, 20 Hillside Ave, Malden followed by a home going service at 11 a.m. Relatives and friends are most kindly invited to attend. Services will conclude with a procession to Michael's final resting place at Woodlawn Cemetery in Everett.

To sign the online guestbook, for directions or to send expressions of sympathy, please visit: WWW.WelshFH.com.

Eileen Curran

N.E. Telephone Company retiree

Eileen M. Curran, 86, of Wareham, formerly of Carver and Plymouth, died Saturday, October 30 at Tobey Hospital in Wareham.

She was the wife of the late John Curran, the daughter of the late Joseph and Eileen (Riley) Gallagher and the step-daughter of the late Herbert Hannabury.

Born in East Boston on December 14, 1934, she was raised in Chelsea and graduated from St. Rose High School in Chelsea, Class of 1952. Eileen began her thirty-five year career as a switchboard operator and retired as a supervisor for the New England Telephone Company where she was a member of the Telephone Pioneers and a Union Steward.

Eileen loved being by the ocean and swimming. She went for walks every day. She loved to work out in her yard and was talented with arts and crafts. She was always making something for other people. Eileen was an amazing wife and mother. She was always supportive and encouraging to each of her children in their various pursuits. She was active, supportive and committed to her late husband, John's affiliations with the American Legion in Plymouth and Dorchester, various veteran's groups and the Ancient Order of Hibernians.

She will be forever missed by her children: James Curran of Plymouth, Brian Curran and his wife, Judy of Buckeye,



AZ, Stephen Curran and his wife, Sheila of Ponte Verda Beach, FL and Paula Hayeck and her husband, Michael of Boston; her grandchildren: Elena, Jenny, Liam, Henry, Kate, John and Michael; her sister, Jeanne Desmond of Salem, NH, and her nieces, Anne Bartlett and Susan Malyknowski. Eileen was predeceased by her daughter Ellen Curran, her sister Loretta McCarthy and her brothers, Herbert Hannabury Jr. and Paul Hannabury. She had a unique and beautiful friendship with Derik Noland and his parents, John and Denise and his sister, Andrea.

Her funeral will be held from the Cartmell Life Celebration Funeral Home, 150 Court Street (near downtown) Plymouth, at 9:30 a.m. today, Thursday, November 4, followed by a Funeral Mass in St.

Peter's Church, Plymouth at 10:30 a.m. Interment will be in the National Cemetery of Massachusetts, Bourne. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to the Alzheimer's Association, 309 Waverly Oaks Rd., Waltham, MA 02452. Guestbook at www.cartmelldavis.com.

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OBITUARIES

Juan Ortiz

Retiree of Synthon Industries in Chelsea

Juan A. Ortiz, 72, passed away unexpectedly at his Malden home on Monday, Nov. 1.

Born in Jayuya, Puerto Rico, he was a beloved son of the late Maria Luisa Ortiz.

Juan received his formal education in Jayuya before settling in Chelsea as a young man over 40 years ago.

For 37 years he raised his family from his home on Watts Street in Chelsea. He worked for many years as a machine operator and textile cutter at Synthon Industries in Chelsea. A resident of Chelsea for most of his life, he and his wife recently settled in Malden, taking residence with his son and care giver.

Juan was a hardworking, quiet and humble man who in his leisure liked walking. He enjoyed the company of family and friends entertaining them by playing his guitar and singing. He was a longtime parishioner of St Rose of Lima Parish in Chelsea.

He is survived by his beloved wife of 42 years,

Sabrina Pena Ortiz, his devoted sons: Jose Rosario, Johnny Rosario of Cambridge and Marcos Kulian of Malden. He was the cherished grandfather of Krystyna M. Rosario, John D. Coyer, Shawn Paul Rosario, Samai Kulian and Davina Kulian and dear brother of Pedro Ortiz of Somerville.

Visiting hours will be held from the Welsh Funeral Home, 718 Broadway, Chelsea on Friday from 4 to 8 p.m. Relatives and friends are most kindly invited to attend. In order to protect the public health, we advise that all visitors wear face masks while in the Funeral Home. His funeral will be conducted from the Welsh Funeral Home on Saturday, November 6 at 12 noon. Services will conclude with interment at Woodlawn Cemetery, Everett. Arrangements were given to the care and direction of the Welsh Funeral Home.

For online guest book or to send expressions of sympathy, please visit: www.WelshFH.com.

CHS VOLLEYBALL TEAM QUALIFIES FOR STATE TOURNEY

The Chelsea High volleyball team was scheduled to play in the opening round of the MIAA Division 2 state volleyball tournament yesterday (Wednesday).

Coach Gabriel Morales and his squad were set to make the long trek to Amherst to take on Amherst-Pelham.

Under the new state tourney set-up, the old and familiar sectional format, which formerly was divided into the North, South, Central, and West regions of the state, has been abolished.

Rather, all of the state's schools compete in their respective divisions, which are based on school-size and other factors (for volleyball, there are five state-wide divisions), across the state.

There are 39 teams that will compete in the Division 2 tourney, of which 32 qualified automatically based upon the MIAA's power ranking system, a calculation based on strength of schedule and margin of victory, regardless of record (seven of the top 32 schools in the D-2 volleyball ratings have losing records). The other seven teams, of which Chelsea is one, qualified for the tourney because they had better-than .500 records, even though they did not make the top-32 in the power-ranking system.

The Red Devils are seeded 37th in D-2 and Amherst-Pelham Regional is seeded 28th. The winner of their battle will advance to meet Melrose, the fifth seed in D-2, this Saturday at 5:00 at Melrose.

Morales and his squad qualified for the tourney

in their last game of the season with a 3-1 victory over Northeast Regional last Thursday. The match point was scored by an ace serve from outside hitter Guidaysis Castro Santiago.

Earlier in the week, the Red Devils kept their tourney hopes alive by defeating East Boston, 3-0, but then suffered a disappointing loss to New Mission, 3-2, which necessitated a win against Northeast.

STRONG SHOWING FOR CHS CROSS-COUNTRY TEAMS AT GBL MEET

The Chelsea High boys and girls cross country teams wrapped up their 2021 seasons in fine fashion with strong performances at the Greater Boston League Meet that was held last Thursday at Torbert Macdonald Park in Medford.

BRUINS Beat

by Bob Morello

Bruins break is over

players' agenda during the break, is the depressing stories coming out about former NHL player Kyle Beach's revelations regarding sexual assault he endured, while with the Chicago Blackhawks organization in 2010. The emotional matter should cause the NHL players to press the issue, and seek more information about the investigations that have taken place, and especially the investigation that never took place, by the NHL and the NHLPA.

Bruins coach Bruce Cassidy will not hesitate to continue exploring with his lineup, making addi-

tional moves, such as his most recent Craig Smith and David Pastrnak switching places between the first and second line last Saturday, but hinted Pastrnak will be reunited with Patrice Bergeron and Brad Marchand for tonight's (Thursday) game with Detroit. Cassidy's current view of Pastrnak's situation is that he is passing up the shot too many times when the opportunity is there, choosing instead to make the pass, while still agreeing that Pastrnak is creative in his play. Pastrnak admitted that although he is a shooter, he always looks to make the pass

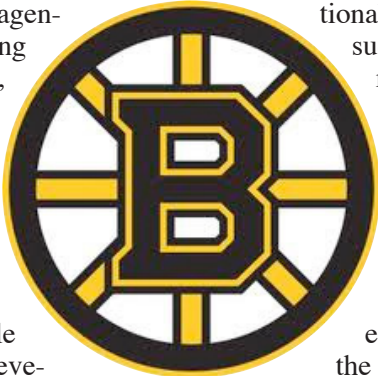
The CHS boys finished third among the GBL's eight teams, led by Ian Padilla, who finished in sixth place among the field of 73 runners with a time of 15:27 over the 2.71-mile course.

His fellow Red Devil teammates who competed at the meet and contributed to the victory were Johnny Maldonado, Alejandro Cepeda, Nate Nadow, Juan Alfaro, Carlo Alfaro, Austin Freeman, Marcos Hernandez, Ruben Padilla, Alex Estrada, Jose Olivar, and Jimmy Merino.

On the girls' side, Lady Red Devil star Gizelle Rodriguez placed third with a clocking of 18:38. She was followed by teammates Gizelle Olivar, Darily Sanchez, Holly Hatleberg, and Rosalinda Rojas, all of whom played key roles in the fourth-place finish for coach Sam Fogel's squad.

first. Add those thoughts to the current Boston scoring dilemma, and you can understand the reason for Cassidy's concern.

Boston's upcoming schedule has the team back on the road following Thursday's game, to take on the Toronto Maple Leafs on Saturday at 7:00pm, for a one-game road trip. An odd setup in the 2021-22 regular season schedule has the locals traveling on a single game Saturday road trip for the next three weeks, and another single game trip near the end of November. The Bs return to TD Garden ice to host the Ottawa Senators on Tuesday (7:00pm), and then the Connor McDavid-led Edmonton Oilers on Thursday (7:00pm), presently boasting a 7-1-0 record to lead the Pacific Division.



The Bruins will take to the ice tonight (Thursday at 7:00pm) to host the Detroit Red Wings, following a rare four-day break in their schedule since last Saturday's 3-2 comeback victory, over the then streaking (8-0) Florida Panthers. To date the lengthy break has been a blessing in disguise, especially for those Bruins who continue with the process of healing. Nick Foligno (upper body) is not expected back for at least another week, and Anton Blidh may be dropped back into the lineup in the next few days. Plus, the extra practices for Boston's goaltending tandem of Linus Ullmark and Jeremy Swayman, will allow them both more time to continue working on different facets of their game.

One much discussed item probably on the

Fire officials remind public to change their clocks, check their alarms

Staff Report

With the end of daylight savings time coming on Nov. 7, Massachusetts fire officials issued a seasonal reminder to check your smoke and carbon monoxide (CO) alarms when you change your clocks.

Text Description automatically generated with medium confidence“Working smoke and CO alarms are key to surviving a fire or carbon monoxide leak,” said State Fire Marshal Peter J. Ostroskey. “As we ‘fall back’ this weekend, remember to check your alarms when you change your clocks. Unless you have newer alarms with 10-year sealed batteries, this is a good time to replace the alkaline batteries in your smoke and carbon monoxide alarms or replace the entire device if it’s more than 10 years old.”

Fire Marshal Ostroskey also highlighted the importance of CO alarms as we head into the colder months.

“Carbon monoxide is the leading cause of poisoning deaths in the United States,” he said. “The

primary sources of carbon monoxide in the home are furnaces and other fuel-burning appliances. We can’t see, smell, or taste carbon monoxide, so it’s important to have working CO alarms to alert you to this invisible killer.”

Replace Aging Smoke Alarms

“Smoke alarms are like any other household appliances: they don’t last forever,” said Chief Michael Winn, president of the Fire Chiefs Association of Massachusetts. “Alarm manufacturing dates are printed on the back of the device. Smoke alarms usually need to be replaced after 10 years, and carbon monoxide alarms after five to seven years. If the date on your alarm is more than 10 years ago, or if there’s no date at all, it’s time to replace it.”

Replacement Alarms Should be Photoelectric With 10-Year Sealed Batteries

The State Fire Code requires replacement battery-operated smoke alarms in older one- and two-family homes to be photoelectric and have 10-year, sealed, non-re-

placeable, non-rechargeable batteries and a hush feature.

“We see too many disabled smoke alarms at fire scenes where people really needed them to work,” said State Fire Marshal Ostroskey. “Fire officials hope that if smoke alarms are easier to maintain, like those with long-life batteries, people will keep them in use rather than disabling them or forgetting to change out the batteries.”

Modern Fires Burn Faster

“Changes in construction and manufacturing make today’s residential fires burn faster,” said State Fire Marshal Ostroskey. “In the average house fire, there are only one to three minutes to escape after the smoke alarm sounds. Working smoke alarms give you precious time to use your home escape plan before poisonous gases and heat make escape impossible.”

Chief Winn said, “No one expects to be a victim of a fire, but the best way to survive one is to have working smoke alarms. Take a few minutes to

protect those you love by changing the batteries in your smoke alarms this weekend. And if you have parents, grandparents, or older neighbors who might need a hand, volunteer to check their alarms and change their batteries, too.”

Home Fire Sprinklers

Home fire sprinklers can provide residents additional time to escape and contain or even extinguish a fire, but working smoke alarms are still needed to alert people to danger.

Senior SAFE

Nearly 40% of last year’s fire deaths involved adults over the age of 65. More than 200 fire departments across Massachusetts have grant-funded Senior SAFE programs. Seniors who need help testing, maintaining, or replacing smoke alarms should contact their local fire department or senior center for assistance.

For more information on smoke alarms or the Senior SAFE program, visit www.mass.gov/dfs or contact your local fire department.

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NEWS FROM AROUND THE REGION

NEW PEDESTRIAN FOOTBRIDGE

EVERETT - Everett Mayor Carlo DeMaria joined Gov. Charlie Baker and Somerville Mayor Joseph Curtatone at a press conference to announce construction plans for a new pedestrian footbridge that will connect the Assembly Square MBTA Station with the Encore Boston Harbor casino and resort property.

Mother Nature delivered a beautiful October day for the event that was held with the spectacular, \$3 billion Encore Resort glistening in the sunshine behind the speakers at the press conference.

Gov. Baker said the footbridge project “has always fallen in the category of, yes, we should really find a way to make this happen.”

“The hard part has just been figuring out to how to put the pieces together to get it done,” continued Baker. “The Gaming Commission recently awarded a \$650,000 grant to finish the final design work on this, and at that point in time, we as an administration basically said, okay, final design is paid for, we’re going to fund this project and make it happen.”

Baker’s comment noting his strong commitment to the project drew hearty applause from the audience.

“We can’t wait to put the shovels in the ground and get this bridge built,” concluded Baker.

Secretary of Environmental Affairs Kathleen Theoharides said the new footbridge “will be an important new asset to thousands of people and will connect the cities of Everett and Somerville and open up new access for residents and visitors to restaurants, businesses, and services, and transportation options.”

Theoharides also thanked Mayors DeMaria and Curtatone for their leadership in the project.

Secretary of Transportation also praised the two mayors for “their leadership at the municipal level to encourage and lead and guide us”, noting that “it takes a partnership to build, these great things.”

DRC Commissioner Jim Montgomery, who served as the leader of the

speaking program, introduced Mayor DeMaria, “a lifelong resident of Everett who signed the historic, host-community agreement between Everett and Wynn Development to bring the resort-casino to the banks of the Mystic River.”

DeMaria personally thanked Gov. Baker at the outset of his speech, stating, “We really appreciate you being here and doing this for the residents of Everett. I’m totally overwhelmed to be here and to finally get some access to a ‘T’ station that we so rightfully deserve.”

DeMaria told the gathering that he was pleased to be at Encore “for a monumental announcement about a project that will positively impact the entire metro Boston area.”

“Most importantly, to me, we will be getting an amazing opportunity for my hometown of Everett,” said DeMaria, who thanked several officials for their support of the project.

DeMaria specifically noted the cooperation and support from Gov. Baker and Lt. Gov. Karyn Polito, “for your unwavering commitment to viable transit, which is remarkable. This bridge will be so beneficial to so many people across Massachusetts. It is an undeniable symbol of the commitment you both have to build a better future for Everett.”

DeMaria also noted the presence of “my colleague and friend, Mayor Joe Curtatone,” at the press conference.

“Thank you for your continued support and coordination in advancing the bridge as well as the Assembly Row Headhouse Expansion Project,” said DeMaria. “You have been remarkable neighbors and partners throughout this project.”

Curtatone praised DeMaria in his remarks. “It’s great to be here with all of you, and it’s testimony to anything great we do as a society is a product of many hands,” said Curtatone. “It’s advocacy, it’s activism, it’s investment. It’s policy leaders, it’s people giving a damn about where they live and the future of their city. I hope you get that sincere passion and flavor from the mayor of Everett, be-

cause I admire him greatly.”

COVID RATE DECREASES IN EAST BOSTON

EAST BOSTON - East Boston’s weekly COVID positive test rate decreased once again last week following a nearly 7 percent decrease two weeks ago according to the Boston Public Health Commission (BPHC).

Last week, 1,541 Eastie residents were tested for the virus last week and 2.4 percent were positive--this was a 17 percent decrease from the 2.9 percent that tested positive as reported by the Boston Public Health Commission (BPHC) on October 18.

The citywide weekly positive test rate also decreased last week. According to the BPHC 23,877 residents were tested and 2.3 percent were COVID positive--this was a 11.5 percent decrease from the 2.6 percent reported by the BPHC on October 18.

Thirty-seven additional residents contracted the virus between October 18 and October 25 and there are now 8,492 confirmed cases in the neighborhood since the start of the pandemic.

The statistics released by the BPHC as part of its weekly COVID19 report breaks down the number of cases and infection rates in each neighborhood. It also breaks down the number of cases by age, gender and race.

Citywide positive cases of coronavirus increased 0.73 percent since October 18 and went from 82,255 cases to 82,855 confirmed cases in a week. There were three additional deaths in Boston from the virus in the past week and the total COVID deaths is now at 1,447.

LYNN WOODS PAROTECTED

LYNN - A momentous vote occurred at Tuesday’s City Council Meeting when the City Council, on behalf of the City and the Lynn Water & Sewer Commission, voted to petition the Legislature to authorize the City to grant a Conservation Restriction to protect Lynn’s most treasured natural resource, Lynn Woods.

The grant to the state

FKO CHILDREN GIVE BACK TO COMMUNITY



Recently student participants in For Kids Only Afterschool program got down and dirty outside the Winthrop Public Library clearing the space of some weeds and other unwanted plants to make way for new trees to be planted.

Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) and the Essex County Greenbelt Association is intended to protect and preserve the City’s reservoirs, watershed, and the hundreds of acres of Lynn Woods for conservation and recreation purposes.

City agencies and officials have worked for over twenty years with state officials, conservation groups, neighboring towns, and many others to achieve a lasting legacy, the protection of Lynn Woods, its open space and trails, and surrounding properties that contribute to the City water supply.

Speaking in support of the protection of Lynn’s natural resources, City Council President Darren Cyr said, “I am proud and pleased that my Council colleagues are the ones who not only recognized the need to preserve and protect Lynn Woods, but acted to do it now. We received the input of the Friends of Lynn Woods, Gannon Golf Course, the Special Needs Camp, the Park Ranger, and importantly the Lynn Water and Sewer Commission.

The real vote here is one of thanks to all who persevered, working so long, to finally achieve the result desired by the community.”

Once Lynn Mayor Thomas McGee signs the agreement and approval is obtained from the towns

of Saugus and Lynnfield, the Secretary of Environmental Affairs will then proceed with the final formal steps to complete the conservation protection.

LOOKING AT NEW DPW BUILDING

REVERE - The Revere City Council reviewed the city’s plans for the construction of a new 37,500 square-foot public works building on the current Revere DPW site at 321A Charger St.

During a public hearing on the matter Monday night, Simon Tempest, project manager for the DPW Yard, and David Kelley, of Meridian Associates, Beverly, made a presentation about the new project.

“We are here to propose to demolish the existing DPW building and propose a larger, more modern, more functional building for use of the DPW,” said Kelley.

He said the larger building will allow more room for the storage of equipment and to keep the site cleaner. There will be new pavement on the site.

“The new building will allow for better office space, training rooms, and other rooms to maintain the equipment and meet DPW needs,” added Kelly. “There will be 51 parking spaces that will be available to the public. There will two security gates on either side, so the public cannot access around the building. But they will still be able to park, go in, pay water bills, do whatever they need to do.”

Ward 6 Councillor Richard Serino recalled that he worked as at the Revere DPW, “as a teenager over ten years ago, and the DPW facility that’s there’s now needed to be rebuilt back then, so God only knows how bad it’s gotten over ten years.”

Serino asked whether there would be an area at the new facility where mechanics could fix DPW equipment. “We have included repair bays in the new facility,” Tempest said.

Councillor-at-Large George Rotondo, who has a great sense for getting to the heart of the matter and what his constituents want to know, asked, “When will the first shovel go into the ground? More importantly, what will be the estimated total cost, and will this facility to be technologically upgraded?”

“We can’t say exactly, but we’re hoping to go out to bid at the end of year, December or January,” replied Tempest. “For the cost estimate, we’re work-

ing on that right now.”

“Twenty million dollars or less? asked Rotondo.

“More than \$20 million,” said Tempest.

Ward 2 Councillor Ira Novoselsky said the new DPW building is long overdue, and he put in the first motion for a new building seven years ago.

“So, I feel proud that we’ve gotten to this point,” said Novoselsky. “And I look forward to hearing more about it at the subcommittee meeting.”

Councillor-at-Large Steven Morabito asked Tempest what the expected time frame for the project would be.

“We’re allowing 18 months. We think it probably be done in 12, but with the supply chain issues, we want to give a comfortable window for the contractor to be able to complete it,” said Tempest.

Morabito then asked, “Now if the economy sinks, if it’s going to come to a stop, are we planning for that as well?”

“I think that’s very difficult to predict, but I think if we sign a contract, the contractor is committed to complete the building for that price,” said Tempest.

Council President Anthony Zambuto said residents have been looking forward to having a new DPW building for a long time, “so this is a step along the way, and we’ll see you in zoning (subcommittee).”

PUBLIC SAFETY TOPS LIST AT FALL FORUM

WINTHROP - Around 30 people attended the annual Fall Forum on Oct. 19 in the Robert A. DeLeo Senior Center, where Town Manager Terence Delehanty provided updates on public safety and public works.

Public Safety

The presentation kicked off with a tribute to Winthrop’s public safety team during the past year, which saw unprecedented challenges. A video montage stitched together footage of the June murder-suicide, the August gas explosion, and the rescue of a boater in September. It also highlighted the town’s response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Town Manager Delehanty emphasized that robust public safety depends on the collaboration of all city departments, not just fire and police. He wants this taken into account when it comes to designing the new public safety facility.

“We really work as one

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North Shore Philharmonic Orchestra returns live November 14

After a twenty-month pandemic-induced hiatus, the North Shore Philharmonic Orchestra returns to the stage and opens its 73rd season Sunday, November 14, 3:00 p.m. at Swampscott High School when Music Director Robert Lehmann conducts a program that features Beethoven’s heralded

Symphony No. 5. “Little did we know, when we played our last concert on March 1, 2020, that we would be unable to play live music together for almost two years,” said Lehmann, who has led the NSPO since 1998. Lehmann chose the Beethoven 5th Symphony and Sergie Prokofiev’s “Fire-

bird” Orchestral Suite to symbolize the return to live performance. “These works exemplify rebirth, regeneration, and the celebration of all that we have missed,” said Lehmann. “The Firebird paints colorful musical imagery of the mythical Firebird rising from the ashes to vanquish the

forces of evil. Meanwhile, Beethoven’s 5th might be the world’s most recognized piece of classical music. From its famous opening, the Beethoven 5th is a triumphal celebration of light, optimism, and joy.”

The concert will open with Eduard Lalo’s Prelude to the ballet “Namouna” in tribute to longtime NSPO violinist Marcia Jones, who died earlier this year. “Marcia was a passionate and dedicated member of the NSPO for more than 50 years, a charismatic and dear person greatly missed by her NSPO family. ‘Namouna’ was one of her favorite works.”

Tickets will be available at the door for \$30, \$25 for Seniors and students, and children 12 and under are admitted free. Advance purchase is available through the Orchestra’s website www.nspo.org.

In compliance with local regulations and the



Music Director Robert Lehmann will conduct the North Shore Philharmonic Orchestra in its first live performance in 20 months as the Orchestra begins its 73rd season on Sunday, November 14, 3:00 p.m. at Swampscott High School.



The North Shore Philharmonic Orchestra resumes live concert performance on Sunday, November 14 with a 3 p.m. concert at Swampscott High School.

CITY PAWS

Don’t let “Heartworm Positive” happen!

By Penny & Ed Cherubino

As the winter approaches, you may think it’s okay to stop your animals’ heartworm prevention medication until spring. **YOU ARE WRONG!** Heartworm protection is a year-round duty for any animal guardian. While we write about a particular dog here, cats and ferrets are both susceptible to heartworms.

If you ask your veterinarian, you’ll learn that they have patients who have tested positive for heartworms. This is partly because the mosquitoes who carry the disease can survive some of our winters in warm hiding spots. What’s more, most heartworm prevention medications also protect from other parasites like hookworms and roundworms.

While heartworm prevention medications are highly effective, they are not 100% effective. Even when you give the dose as prescribed, a dog might vomit up an oral medication. A topical dose might be washed off by a wet walk or rubbed off by a determined pup.

What If the Worst Happens?

A recent article on The Bark Magazine website “My Dog Is Heartworm Positive: Signs, Diagno-

sis, and Treatments,” by Chicago resident Julia Lane detailed the author’s experience treating her heartworm-positive dog. An annual test before her vet provided a prescription for the medication found this case. Catching the parasites early is critical.

Lane quoted Dr. Ashley Saunders, a veterinary cardiologist and professor at the Texas A&M College of Veterinary Medicine & Biomedical Sciences. “The recovery rate with treatment depends on how bad the disease is at the time it is treated and which treatment protocol is used.” She continues, “Dogs can recover following treatment, but those with severe damage may have long-term clinical signs or develop them at a later date.”

Treatment for active heartworm disease has to be personalized for each animal. Most vets will repeat an initial positive test to check for a false positive. From there, they may have to do additional testing to determine the stage of the disease and the dog’s chances of surviving a specific treatment option.

One given of a positive test is that you will have to restrict your dog’s activity. The American Heartworm Society warns that

the more active the dog is, the more damage the parasites can do to the animal’s heart and lungs. And, the more severe the case, the more the animal’s activity must be restricted.

Symptoms of Heartworm

There may be no symptoms displayed before a dog or cat tests positive for heartworms. This makes regular testing critical to prevention. If your dog has missed a dose, we suggest you schedule an additional test.

Most heartworm symptoms are subtle. The American Heartworm Society says to look for “... a mild persistent cough, reluctance to exercise, fatigue after moderate activity, decreased appetite, and weight loss. As heartworm disease progresses, pets may develop heart failure and the appearance of a swollen belly due to excess fluid in the abdomen.” For cats, they add to these asthma-like attacks, periodic vomiting, difficulty walking, fainting or seizures.

Prevention Is Kinder and Less Expensive

We suggest that you work with your veterinary team to find a heartworm prevention medication that your animal will tolerate. Today your options include preventives that

are chewable, topical, and injectable. Then give the medication as prescribed year-round.

We’ll repeat what Lane wrote at the end of her article. “To think that for less than \$50, we could’ve given her a few more doses of Heartgard (low-dose ivermectin) and kept her free of heartworms and the risky, expensive treatment required to kill them. It all makes me sick to my stomach.”

Do you have a question or topic for City Paws? Send an email to Penny@BostonZest.com with your request.

DOES MY DOG NEED A HEARTWORM TEST?

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This is good advice from the American Heartworm Society!

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