

# THE LYNN JOURNAL

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Thursday, June 13, 2019

## Councilors approve McGee's 2020 budget

By Sue Ellen Woodcock

Last week Mayor Tom McGee presented the city council with a \$367,935,216 budget for fiscal year 2020 and Tuesday night the City Council unanimously approved it after a public hearing. McGee said the number could change depending on what state aid is received.

The budget is a little over a one percent increase from the FY19 budget. This is also the earliest the budget has been brought be-

fore the council. "It's a balanced budget with a lot of work," McGee said.

A change in health insurance coverage could save taxpayer dollars by switching from city group plan to the state's group health insurance plan -- Group Insurance Commission (GIC). Tentative agreements with the city unions may facilitate a switch for city employees. All the city contracts still need to be

Please see BUDGET Page 7

## BIKE TO THE SEA



Photo by Katy Rogers

Mayor Tom McGee prepared his bike in Everett to join in on the fun during the Bike to the Sea Day on Sunday morning, June 2. The annual bike ride went from Everett to Lynn and Nahant Beach.



Dr. Patrick Tutwiler, superintendent of Lynn schools, joins Lynn English teacher Lisa Mercadante and students for a photo following the superintendent's well-received tie-making demonstration, helping prepare the students for their career-choice presentations.

## Super Lessons

### Dr. Tutwiler teaches students the art of tie-making

By Cary Shuman

From the moment Dr. Patrick Tutwiler entered Ms. Lisa Mercadante's ELD classroom at Lynn English, he owned it.

Just the mere fact that the superintendent of the state's fifth-largest school district was in the building affirmed the hands-on, be-there approach he has brought to Lynn's top administrative position in his first year.

Besides, Tutwiler had already earned honorary Bulldog status with his support of the school's state championship boys basketball team, culminating with the former Holy Cross hoop star returning to the Worcester campus for English's historic victory over Putnam.

Tutwiler had been invited to English for his fourth annual "how-to-tie-a-tie" demonstration. Mercadante said students will wear ties during their final class presentation which is about a career of each student's choice.

"Does anyone know how to tie a tie already?" Tutwiler asked the students.

Three raised their hands and Tutwiler, after watching one of the students, Chidubem Ejiofor, display his tie-making skills with a Double Windsor knot, graciously invited Ejiofor to be co-instructor for the day.

"Not only does he know how to do it," he knows how to do it



Lynn English student Chidubem Ejiofor adjusts his tie after being asked to assist Supt. of Schools Dr. Patrick Tutwiler in the tie-making lesson Friday at the high school.

fast," said Tutwiler, eliciting a huge smile from Ejiofor.

From there, Tutwiler was all in and the students were attentive to every word.

"You want to make sure that the wider side is longer than the thin side," said Tutwiler. "We're going to put a hand on the knot and grab the thin part underneath and we're going to slide it up. Now that you know how to tie the knot, the key is to get the tip of your tie to be where your belt is."

One-by-one, Tutwiler approached the students and gave his seal of approval as he had done each step of the way. "Good, you got it, good job," he repeated enthusiastically.

While there were three stu-

dents who knew the art before-hand, everyone -- boys and girls -- seemed to have the tie-making down pat by the time the school super completed his lecture.

Vice Principal Gary Molea and teacher Lisa Mercadante seemed notably impressed by the group of quick learners.

"I think they're all pretty good," said Molea, who stayed for the entire demonstration.

"We love having Dr. Tutwiler here -- the students always get really enthusiastic when he's here because of his energy and his personality," said Mercadante.

Vice Principal Jennifer Mancaniello was also instrumental in helping to coordinate this excellent exhibition.

His tie-making exhibition a success, Tutwiler, like a conquering hero, was asked by the students to pose for a photo. He obliged graciously.

After receiving a hearty 'thank you' from the appreciative students, Tutwiler left the room knowing that he had taught the students something they will carry forth with them for the rest of their lives.

Some said they will remember Tutwiler's kindness by wearing ties at their graduation ceremonies in years hence.

One thing was certain: Dr. Tutwiler -- tall, talented, and a tie-tying titan -- won this day -- with ties.



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# EDITORIAL

## ALI STROKER IS AN INSPIRATION FOR ALL OF US

At the age of two, Ali Stroker was in a car accident that resulted in a spinal cord injury that paralyzed her from the chest down, leaving her unable to walk and confining her to a wheelchair for the rest of her life. However, at the age of seven, Stroker saw her first Broadway show and it was at that moment that she says she decided to become an actress.

The rest, as the saying goes, is history. Ali's desire to perform led her to the stage and, with the support of her family, peers, and teachers, she discovered her powerful singing voice and appeared in her high school productions.

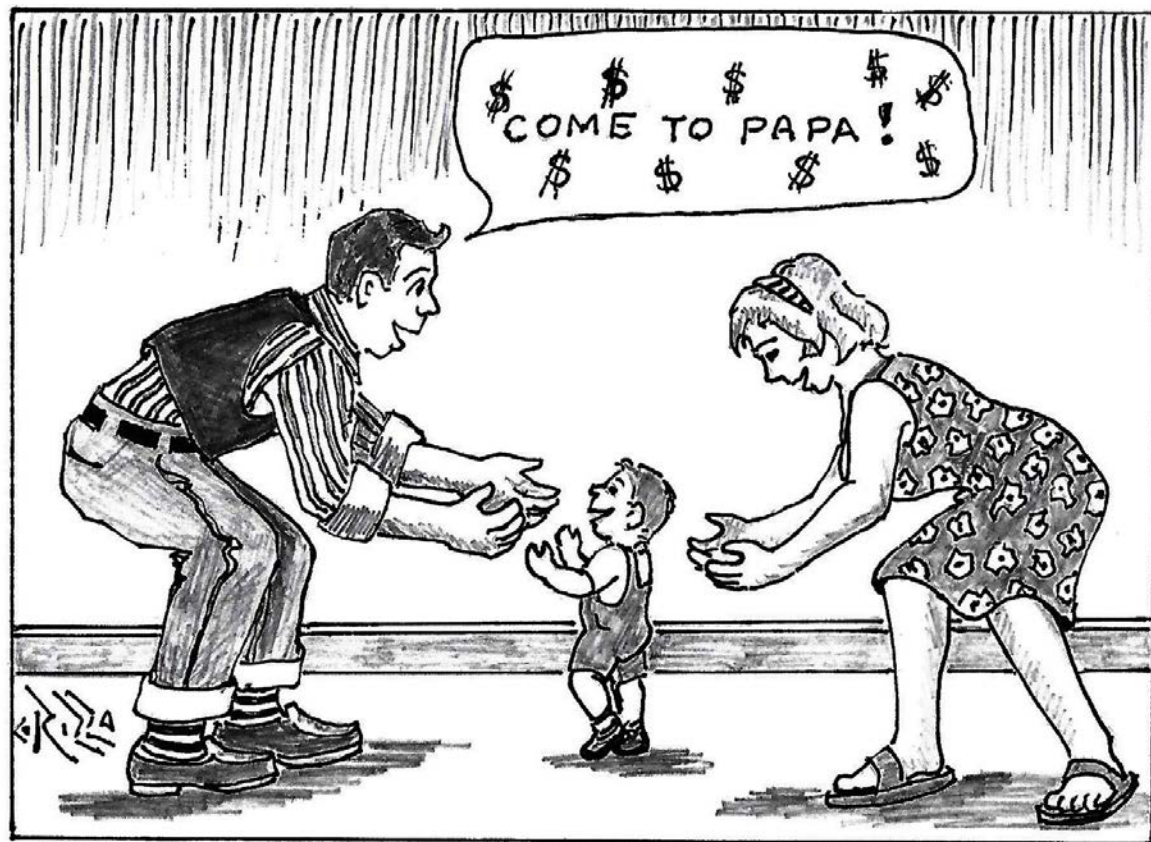
She won a role in the hit TV show *Glee* and eventually made her way to Broadway, where she earned a prominent role in the revival of *Oklahoma!*

This past Sunday night at the Tony Awards show, Stroker performed the song of her character (Ado Annie), *I Can't Say No* -- and then she received the Tony for Featured Actress in a Musical.

If a fictional movie had been made on the premise of Ali Stroker's life, no doubt it would be described as powerful and moving, but just a nice fantasy.

But Ali Stroker's life is real, and her success sends a powerful message to all of us that we can achieve our dreams, regardless of the adversity we may face. Her success also has changed the perception of what is possible in the face of physical limitations.

So whenever we're feeling sorry for ourselves, think of Ali Stroker. She has not attained her dream because of luck, but because she believed in herself -- and that's the most powerful belief any of us can have.



CELEBRATE FATHER'S DAY... JUNE 16, 2019

GUEST OP-ED

## Celebrate our rivers in June

By: Julia Blatt, Executive Director,  
Massachusetts Rivers Alliance

At long last, a recent weekend presented one of those pristine days that remind us here in Massachusetts why we endure those winters. With warm spring weather finally here, many of us hit the water for the first time this year, visiting local rivers. With more than 10,000 miles of rivers traversing the state, we had many choices. Sail boats blossomed on the Charles. Rowers huffed and puffed on the Mystic. Fishing rods sprouted along the Swift. Bikers and kayakers explored the Sudbury. For many people, the beautiful day meant a chance to spend on, in and around the rivers of Massachusetts.

Fittingly, June is National Rivers Month, a 30-day gala celebrating our waterways. Whether you kayak past important Revolutionary War sites on the Concord River, hike over the Bridge of Flowers on the Deerfield, draw water for local crops from the Connecticut, or depend on drinking water from the Merrimack, National Rivers Month is a time to celebrate the gains we have made in protecting these important public recreational, economic and historic assets.

National Rivers Month, how-

ever, is also a time to reflect on what remains to be accomplished. The Massachusetts Rivers Alliance, the voice for Massachusetts rivers, is a statewide environmental advocacy non-profit that helps those whose lives are touched by these Massachusetts waterways (and we would argue, that's all of us). Consider, for example, pending legislation regarding sewage overflows around the state. Very old stormwater and wastewater

systems serving municipalities in the state have what are called "combined sewage overflow" (CSO) systems. Through these CSOs, stormwater and wastewater systems are physically interconnected. At times of high precipitation, stormwater run-off goes into the wastewater system and overwhelms the water treatment plants. To prevent these backups, wastewater -- the sewage from your homes and

Please see RIVERS Page 3

## SPEAKER DELEO PREPARES FOR THE FUTURE

Massachusetts House Speaker Robert DeLeo this week unveiled the details of the plan he announced last February that will provide \$1.3 billion to combat the ever-increasing effects of climate change. Among the major aspects of the plan will be the awarding of grants to cities and towns across the state to encourage green energy initiatives and climate change resiliency efforts, which are particularly needed for our vulnerable coastal communities.

The grant program, called GreenWorks, would be funded by \$1 billion in bonds and paid out over a decade. The program, to be run by the state Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs, will allow local governments to seek grants for a variety of projects that will focus on climate change preparedness and clean energy production in order to reduce carbon emissions.

The bill also would set aside an additional \$295 million in state spending for energy infrastructure, including \$100 million for municipal microgrid systems to increase the resiliency of the electricity grid and \$125 million for electric vehicles in municipal fleets and regional transit authorities.

There no longer is any dispute that climate change is occurring and that our coastal communities, including the City of Boston, are ill-prepared at the present time to address the twin threats of rising sea levels and more powerful storms.

Speaker DeLeo's GreenWorks initiative represents a major step forward in protecting our vulnerable coastline, while at the same time creating jobs in the green energy and clean tech industries.

Given the urgency and pressing need to address the issue of climate change, which is occurring at an ever-accelerating pace, we urge our state senators to join with Speaker DeLeo and the Mass. House in presenting a bill for Gov. Charlie Baker's signature by the end of this year.

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## Rivers/ CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

businesses – is dumped directly into Massachusetts rivers. Approximately 200 of these CSO connections exist throughout the state. In Massachusetts, an estimated three billion gallons of raw sewage gets dumped into the state's rivers each year. Swimmers, canoeists, and pets exposed to CSO contaminants are vulnerable to gastroenteritis, respiratory infections, eye or ear infections, skin rashes, hepatitis and other diseases. Children, the elderly, and people with suppressed immune systems are especially vulnerable. Wildlife are also adversely affected by CSO pollutants which lead to higher water temperatures, increased turbidity, toxins and reduced oxygen levels in the water.

Everyone recognizes the problem. But it takes money to fix it, more money than is now available. Over the past two decades, Massachusetts communities have spent more than \$1 billion to eliminate CSOs. The federal Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) estimates, however, that an additional \$4.2 billion is needed to finish the job.

In addition to supporting efforts to increase state and federal funding to eliminate CSOs, Mass Rivers is championing a simple sewage notification bill now pending before the Massachusetts legislature. Disturbingly, there is currently no state

requirement to notify the public about the presence of sewage in the water when these discharges occur.

The legislation supported by Mass Rivers would require the operator of a CSO to notify local boards of health, in addition to the state Department of Public Health, within two hours after a sewage spill begins. In addition, the public could sign up to receive these notifications, by text, e-mail, phone call or tweet. The state Department of Environmental Protection would be required to centralize all sewage spill data and make it available on the internet. Signage would be required at all public access points (for boating, fishing, beaches) near CSO outfalls as well.

*National Rivers Month is a time to shake off those indoor blues and enjoy Massachusetts' bounty of rivers. Whether you go to look for great blue herons, to fish for trout, to take your family and the dog on an afternoon paddling adventure, or simply to seek calm and quiet, our state's rivers are there for you. To preserve these friends, and to ensure the safety of those who use our rivers, National Rivers Month should also be a time for towns and cities to insist that our legislators enact a requirement that when the waters are despoiled with sewage spills, we know about it.*

## Last day to take out nomination papers June 21

By Sue Ellen Woodcock

Anyone seeking to run for various political offices in Lynn has until 4 p.m. Friday, June 21 to take out nomination papers from the Election office in city hall.

"Up for re-election are the Ward Councilors, Councilor at Large and School Committee," said Karen Richard, of the election office.

The last day to return nomination papers is Monday, June 24 by 4 p.m.

The last day to register to vote in preliminary election is August 14.

Tuesday, Sept. 3 is the preliminary Election from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.

The last day to register to vote in Final Election is Oct. 16, by 8

p.m.

The citywide election is Tuesday, Nov. 5, 2019 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Those who have taken nomination papers so far are: Councilor at Large hopefuls incumbent Buzzy Barton, Laurel Chabib, Jose Encarnacion, incumbent Brian Field, Joel Hyppolite, incumbent Brian LaPierre, incumbent Hong Net, and Lennin Pena.

For Ward I, incumbent Wayne Lozzi, William O'Shea III and Daniel Staub took out papers. As did Ward 2 incumbent Rick Starbard. In Ward 3 incumbent Darren Cyr took out papers. George Maimeteas also took out papers for Ward 3, in Ward 4 its incumbent Richard Colucci and Natasha Megie-Maddrey took out papers.

Ward 5 Councilor Dianna

Chakoutis would like to serve another term but she could be challenged by Marven Hyppolite.

So far it seems like there could be five vying for the current Ward 6 councilor, Fred Hogan's seat, Hogan took out his papers as did Don Castle, Cinda Thi Danh, David Ellis, and Jimmy Gonzalez.

In Ward 7 incumbent Jay Walsh took out papers as did Alexis Reynoso.

Running for School Committee are the six incumbents Donna Coppola, Jared Nickerson, Brian Castellanos, John Ford Jr., Lorraine Gately, and Michael Satterwhite.

Others who took out nomination papers to serve on the School Committee include Sandra Lopez and Tiffany Magnolia.

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# BIKE TO THE SEA EVENT

Photos by Katy Rogers

Residents of surrounding communities gathered at the Madeline English School in Everett on Sunday morning, June 2, for Bike to the Sea. Hundreds followed the path through Everett, Malden, Revere, Saugus, and Lynn, to Nahant Beach in an effort to bring awareness to the bike trail.



Sonia Chiarella was amongst bikers to participate in Bike to the Sea Day on Sunday morning.



Andres Correa, Dennis Bertoncchi Jr., April Bertoncchi, and Dennis Bertoncchi Sr. enjoyed participating in another Bike to the Sea Day.



Mayor Gary Christenson of Malden and Mayor Tom McGee of Lynn joined bikers at the start of the trail.



Man Nguyen was accompanied by his son, Hugo, for Bike to the Sea Day.



Thomas Freeman rode in a seat on the back of a bike.



Bike to the Sea advocate Steve Winslow greeted bikers at the beginning of the trail.

Black

# SPECIAL OLYMPICS AT LVTI A COMMUNITY-WIDE EFFORT

The Special Olympics at Lynn Vocational Technical Institute (LVTI) created a special day for the children who attended.

The field house was buzzing with excitement as the games began. Students from the elementary school level had the time of their lives.

LVTI Principal Carissa Karakaedos experienced her first Special Olympics as she explained, "This is my first Open House for these games. It is definitely more than I thought it would be; I was not expecting this event to be so amazing. Our students absolutely stepped up to give the children a lot of joy and fun. It is great to see the children running around, jumping, smiling, and playing. This is what this community is all about, seeing our Lynn Police, Lynn Fire, and the Lynn Rotary Club coming together to support the efforts of this program. This truly shows the deep roots and the investment everyone has for children in this city.

Lynn Rotary Club President Brenda Peral expressed her pleasure about this annual program, "We have been the primary sponsor for these special games for 49 years. We are proud to be part of this event each year; we are very excited coming to watch the children having joy in their hearts".



Lynn Tech Students volunteer for the Special Olympics. Shops included Health Tech, Pre-Engineering, Early Child Care, and Electrical.



The Cowbell Bouncer was the game for the Harrington School students.



Lynn Firefighter Brian LeBlanc with Carrie Bochnak and Johnnie Shelton of Sewell-Anderson assist students to explore the fire truck.



The Lynn Rotary Club 49<sup>th</sup> year sponsoring the Special Olympics - Richard Ruth, Harvey Rowe, Raymond Bastarache, President Brenda Peral, William Reilly, LPS Special Education Director Phylitia Jamerson, Steven Upton, Mackie Bastarache, Wendy Silva, Diana Moreno, and Rev. William Simpson.



Lynn Police Department started the games delivering the American Flag and Olympic Torch - (L-R): Deputy Chief Lenny Desmaris, William Stillwell, Timothy Nerich, Jeffrey Gaudet, Taylor Cash, Captaing Chris Reddy, Josh Hilton, Lt. Thomas Reddy, Lt. Michael Kmiec, and Captain Michael Vail.

Black

1

## ST. MARY'S GIRLS LACROSSE TEAM FALLS SHORT AGAINST WINTHROP

Photos and story by Bob Marra/robert-marra@lynnjournal.com

The Winthrop Lady Vikings lacrosse team raced out to a 3-0 lead early in the first half, then staved off a determined St. Mary's team the rest of the way en-route to first girls lacrosse post-season win in Winthrop High history, a 12-10 win in the opening round of the MIAA Division 2 North girls lacrosse championship tournament Monday, June 3, at Manning Field.

Maura Dorr scored four goals to pace the Vikings, who entered the game as the 12-seed in the 16-team bracket after a 12-7 season. Emma Carleton and Mia Martucci added three goals and Gabby Ford and Emma Turner added one each.

St. Mary's, the 5th seed coming off a 16-4 season, faced an uphill battle after falling into the 3-0 hole, but never let up. Mady Hentosh (five goals on the day) and Codi Butt (three goals on the day) scored to make it 3-2, but Winthrop regained the three-goal cushion, 5-2, when Dorr and Martucci tallied.

Hentosh scored twice as St.

Mary's crept within one again, 5-4, only to fall back into the three-goal hole, 7-4 when Turner and Carleton scored a pair of unanswered goals for Winthrop. Codi Butt scored to make it 7-5 Winthrop just before halftime.

The second half was more of the same. St. Mary's Hentosh and Winthrop's Dorr scored to make it 8-6. Emma Carleton scored to push Winthrop three up again, 9-6, but Megan Parthum answered to make it 9-7. Dorr reinstated the three goal cushion to put Winthrop up 10-7. But the tide turned after that.

Megan Parthum, Hentosh and Butt scored three consecutive goals to finally even the score at 10 with 10 minutes remaining. But the Spartans may have been out of gas. An Emma Carleton goal regained the lead for the Vikings, then Mia Martucci added another, allowing the Vikings to slow things down in the final minutes on the way to the 12-10 win.

Emma Soch had 11 saves in the Winthrop net. The Vikings will play Thursday against the winner of Tuesday's Manchester Essex-Lowell Catholic game.



**ME AND MY SHADOW:** St. Mary's Shelly Callahan (7) is stride for stride with Winthrop's Emma Carleton.



**FORCE FIELD:** Winthrop's Emma Turner (5) follows through on a shot in front of St. Mary's Kiara Lonigro.



**CROWDED PATH:** St. Mary's Mady Hentosh (6) and Jenna Chaplain compete with Winthrop's Carolyn Kinsella for a loose ball.



**GOAL IN MIND:** Codi Butt (16) has her sights set on the Winthrop net.



SPLIT SECOND: Winthrop's Emma Carleton (4) gets off a shot just ahead of the defensive effort of St. Mary's Nicole Callahan.



SOCCER? Jenna Chaplain (4) and Mia Martucci have the ball at their feet.



WHERE'D IT GO? Winthrop's Carolyn Kinsella and St. Mary's Codi Butt search the skies for a loose ball.

## Budget / CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

negotiated, and the unions have to decide on insurance.

Employee benefits make up 23 percent of the overall budget, with health insurance making up 49-59 percent of the benefit dollars, while pensions make up 36 percent of employee benefits.

The school department makes up 43 percent of the budget. Public Safety makes up 11 percent of the budget.

This is the second budget for McGee and the first budget for Chief Financial Officer Michael Bertino.



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## NEWS FROM AROUND THE REGION

### COUNCIL PASSES 2020 BUDGET

CHELSEA - The City Council passed a nearly \$181.5 million City Budget for Fiscal Year 2020, but not without some dire warnings about the financial future of the City by a few of the councillors.

The \$181,486,465 budget passed by an 8-3 vote, with Councillors Damali Vidot, Joe Perlatonda, and Robert Bishop voting against the 3.7 percent increase over the FY19 budget. The School Department's \$95.4 million commitment comprises the largest chunk of the budget.

The Council also approved the Water and Sewer Enterprise accounts for FY20, bringing total City appropriations to around \$205 million, but the water and sewer accounts are paid through the water and sewer rates, not taxation.

Several attempts were made to cut money from the budget Monday night, but with the exception of a \$1,300 cut in the Emergency Management department budget, none of those efforts garnered a majority.

Among those failed efforts was one by Vidot to cut salary lines in the police, fire, and planning budgets.

Vidot proposed the \$80,000 cut to the planning budget, \$50,000 to the police, and \$100,000 to the fire last year as well, citing a top heavy administrative budgeting in the Police and Fire departments, and her displeasure with the way the Downtown Coordinator position in the Planning Department has panned out.

One of the biggest issues, Vidot said, is that the Downtown Coordinator has not been properly involved with the small, local businesses in the city.

"We have to think about the future of this city, and (the position) is leaving out a huge part of Chelsea," said Vidot.

Perlatonda said he couldn't agree with an effort to cut \$80,000 from the planning budget when the Council didn't take action to cut millions of dollars from the Department of Public Works budget.

Perlatonda made his own amendments looking for the cuts in the DPW budget, which would have effectively ended a request by City Manager Thomas Ambrosino to have the DPW oversee a new City Water and Sewer Department, rather than contracting for the services.

Those amendments also failed.

Councillor-At-Large Roy Avellaneda also voted against the cuts to the planning budget, noting several recent city-wide events that have brought hundreds of people to the downtown area.

Vidot noted that her amendment was not a personal attack on anyone, but added that City events would more appropriately be funded in the Recreation Department budget.

In casting his vote against the overall \$181.5 million, Bishop said the constant increases in City spending are unsustainable.

"Last year, I voted against the budget because it was unsustainable," said Bishop. "This year, it is even more unsustainable ... this can't continue. It's no surprise to everyone that I usually oppose certain spending.

"I'm against a lot of spending because I think it is not spent wisely," he continued. "When is this going to end? I hope I am not around when the bottom falls out, because it is going to fall."

District 6 Councillor Giovanni Recupero voted for the budget, but said the City needs to seriously heed Bishop's warning, noting that other large cities in Massachusetts such as Springfield and Lawrence have seen the economic bottom fall out.

"It can happen anywhere, ... and then we will have to start laying people off," said Recupero. "We only have 1.8 square miles in the city, how much can you grow in our city?"

"I am going to vote for the budget because it is the right thing to do now, but like Mr. Bishop said, we have to beware of the future, because the future is not too far away," he continued.

Perlatonda said that the budget is rising without the City doing enough to help its poorer residents through things like tax and water and sewer rate breaks.

"When is it going to end?" he said. "This budget needs to be stopped at some point."

District 8 Councillor Calvin Brown said the councillors have gone through a long budget process with ample chance to make amendments or address their concerns to Ambrosino.

"I believe this budget is solid, well thought out, and well supported," Brown said. "I know the investment we are making today is sound."

Avellaneda voted to approve the budget, but said it is the first time he has ever given serious pause to voting in favor of a bud-

get.

"What I have seen during the last year with the budget process is that I don't think we are doing enough during budget season," he said.

### COUNCILLORS WANT MASSPORT PAYMENT USED FOR SOUNDPROOFING

CHELSEA - District 6 Councillor Giovanni Recupero doesn't like some of the noise he is hearing about a proposed Massport-funded soundproofing program.

Earlier this spring, Recupero and Councillor-At-Large Roy Avellaneda proposed that the City use \$300,000 of the \$600,000 annual Massport mitigation payment to help provide soundproof windows for residents who deal with the whoosh of jets traveling to and from Logan Airport.

But a letter from City Manager Thomas Ambrosino to the City Council states it might not be that easy to automatically earmark those funds for a soundproofing program.

"I am not opposed to creating some local grant program, operated through our Planning Department, to provide funding for soundproofing to residents adversely impacted by airport related noise," Ambrosino stated. "Deciding who should qualify for such grants, and how to prioritize areas of the City, might be a bit challenging. But, I feel with some time, we can work out those details together in collaboration with the City Council."

But Ambrosino said the funding proposed by the Council is problematic, since the annual mitigation payment cannot be directly used for a specific program. The payment is considered a payment in lieu of taxes by the state's revenue department, making it a general revenue source that is deposited into the City's general fund.

"If the Council desires to depend upon this Massport payment to help fund a soundproofing program at the level of \$300,000 annually, it must appropriate the \$300,000 separately," Ambrosino stated. "It can do that either in an annual Budget line item, or as an isolated appropriation from a source such as Stabilization or Free Cash."

Ambrosino recommended the City commit to appropriating \$300,000 for the soundproofing program from Free Cash whenever it is available, rather than

making it a permanent part of the budget.

"I can see what the City Manager is saying, but this money comes to us direct from Massport, we get it all the time, so why do we have to wait and put it in free cash?" Recupero asked. "What kind of guarantee can the City Manager give us? I want the City Manager to give us some kind of guarantee that the money will be used for that purpose, not all of it, but a piece of it."

### SHORT TERM RENTALS SUBJECT TO FEE

EVERETT - At the City Council meeting on Tuesday, May 28, Councilors unanimously approved a measure that would charge a 3 percent Community Impact Fee to the operators of short-term rentals in the City of Everett, including those using Airbnb and other rental booking sites.

It will go into effect July 1.

The fee is part of the Short-Term Rental Ordinance approved by the Council earlier this year. Councilors were given the option to impose between 1 percent and 3 percent in the Community Impact Fee, and they chose the maximum.

Operators of short-term rentals will be assessed the 3 percent fee paid directly to the Department of Revenue (DOR) in the form of an excise on the total rental revenue. The State will then give that back to the City on a quarterly basis and Councilors voted that the fee go toward affordable housing and infrastructure. This fee is on top of the 6 percent Occupancy Excise that short-term rental operators are already paying to the DOR as of March 4.

A short-term rental is defined as any stay under 31 consecutive days and would not apply to month-to-month leases or leases over one month. However, the Community Impact Fee is only applicable to rentals that are managed through a registered booking agent.

In addition to the 3 percent fee, the new ordinance requires that all short-term rental properties managed through a booking site be fully licensed just like any other business. Rental operators must apply for a license with the City, pay for said license, and have the license approved by the City Clerk in order to operate legally.

This went into effect on March 4 when it was signed by the Mayor.

"If they are in operation without a license, they will receive a cease and desist order," said City Clerk Sergio Cornelio. "Please be sure you have all the licenses needed."

He added that rental owners who continue to operate without a license will be subject to fines.

The new ordinance comes amid a surge of local rentals being listed on booking sites like Airbnb and Vrbo ahead of the opening of Encore Boston Harbor this summer.

"We have to do this. We have a ton of Airbnbs," said Councilwoman Rosa DiFlorio. "With the growth coming with the casino, [they] are going to be more popular."

Platforms like Airbnb and Vrbo allow homeowners to rent out rooms in their home or units in their building to guests for short-term stays. Residents are hoping to take advantage of the coming tidal wave of out-of-town visitors who want to use the casino but don't want to pay a premium to stay at the Encore hotel, where, according to its Chief Communications Officer Michael Weaver, rooms will start at \$645 per night.

A quick Airbnb search of rentals available in Everett yields a smattering of options on the streets surrounding Broadway and beyond. They range in price from \$29 per night for an entire three-bedroom apartment on Marie Avenue, to \$350 per night for a six-bedroom, ten-bed house on Summit Avenue. Some posters tout their proximity to the casino in their listings as a way to entice possible guests.

In order to make the public aware of the new rental requirements, the City plans to release announcements on Everett Community Television as well as take out ads in the local papers.

Clerk Cornelio admitted that it would take a lot of legwork to acquaint the community to the new laws.

"It's a slow process," he allowed. "No one's had the licensing before. We're trying to move forward as proactively as we can."

### CASINO'S TRANSPORTATION PLANS DISCUSSED

EVERETT - On Tuesday, May 28, the Council held a special meeting to hear a presentation by John Tocco, executive director Of Government Affairs



## Region // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8

and Community Relations at Encore Boston Harbor, who laid out the resort casino's transportation plan for opening weekend and beyond.

"It's a pleasure for me personally to be a part of such a wonderful opportunity for thousands of people," said Tocco. "To see it happening there today, to see 1,600 people from the surrounding towns working there already has been an amazing experience. This is what we set out to do seven years ago."

His presentation touched on three key areas: transportation, the grand opening, and public relations/marketing.

### •Transportation

Tocco detailed the number of transportation options that Encore is offering to bring people to and from its site. These include parking options for cars as well as bikes, ride services such as limousines and taxis/rideshares, a water shuttle and various bus options.

Encore has a fleet of four water taxis, which will connect the casino to Boston's Seaport and Financial District for \$7 per ride. Councilors had originally expressed concern about traffic backups caused by the frequent lifting of the Alford Street Bridge. While it has not yet released its water taxi schedule, Encore's Chief Communications Officer Michael Weaver said in an interview with Independent that its water taxis are small enough to pass under the bridge without having to lift it.

In addition to the MBTA bus routes, Encore is presenting a number of its own buses. The free Encore Shuttle will connect the casino to Malden and Wellington Stations. The free Encore Neighborhood Runner will snake through Rivergreen, City Hall and Chelsea's Mystic Mall. The Encore Premium Motor Coach will offer a \$7 ride to free parking options in MA and NH. There will also be a shuttle exclusively for Encore employees.

"Our objective is to keep as many people out of their vehicles as possible," said Tocco. "The MBTA is critical for our success."

The presentation identified a number of different lots where out-of-town visitors can park their vehicles to make use of the different transportation options to the casino: Wellington Station, Station Landing, Rivergreen, Malden Station, Jackson Garage, Malden Center, Wonderland Station and Lower

Broadway.

### •Grand Opening

Tocco dispelled any rumors of a delayed opening, stating that the resort was on schedule to open on its original projected date of June 23.

"Our operations team is working around the clock making sure everything is put together," he said. "It's a testament to our team to get this monumental task up and running."

As part of its grand opening plan, Tocco also noted the bike and pedestrian connection that goes under the MBTA tracks and over to the Gateway Mall site by Costco, adding that the idea is to "keep as many people off of Broadway and out of neighborhoods."

Opening weekend will see an increased police detail comprised of officers from the Everett, Boston and Medford Police Departments; State Police, MBTA Transit Police; the US Coast Guard; the Police Marine Units of the Everett, Boston and State Police; and the Boston Department of Public Works. Moving beyond opening weekend, law enforcement presence will be reassessed as needed.

Overall, Councilors expressed cautious optimism regarding Encore's transportation plan.

"I think it's going to be a great project. I can't wait to see it," said Councilor John McKinnon. "But as a member of this board, we need to make sure it's going to go right for the host community. We don't want to be waiting years to get [things] fixed."

"No matter how much planning you've done, we're still going to have issues the first couple of months," said Councilwoman Rosa DiFlorio. "Everett needs to expect this. After two or three months, we correct the issues, but we don't have a crystal ball."

## NEW GAS STATION OPENS AT LOGAN; WILL SOON HOUSE MERIDIAN MARKET, STARBUCKS

**EAST BOSTON** - Soon Jeffries Point residents will no longer have to walk or drive to Central Square or McClellan Highway to get their Meridian Market or Starbucks fixes.

Massport announced that a new convenience and filling station opened on the Logan Airport campus on Tomahawk Drive on Saturday, June 1. Massport also announced that Eastie's famed Meridian Market has been selected as the deli business within

the new gas station and Starbucks will be the station's coffee vendor.

The new gas station, which is being relocated due to the Terminal E modernization project, could be a boon for the gas station operator, Meridian Market and Starbucks. Total gross sales of the former gas station last year were \$10,840,340. This amount included fuel pump sales at the gas station, Dunkin' Donuts, and retail sales from the filling station deli and convenience store.

The new station features a Shell gas station with open space and a park-like layout, which will be completed this summer.

Massport's Acting CEO John Prankevicius said Meridian Market and Starbucks should open this summer. He said having a community partner like a Meridian Market to run its sandwich shop and deli is part of Massport's plan to increase more local business opportunities at the airport.

"It was important to the community to develop an attractive, functional convenience store and gas station facility that includes local food options and open community space, said Prankevicius. "We wish to thank the new station owners for designing a great facility that the Airport and community will both enjoy."

As part of this project and due to its close proximity to the Jeffries Point neighborhood, Massport is improving the physical space around the new filling station. The space will feature a number of amenities including public open green space with a patio, electric vehicle charging stations, and walk able access to the community. The design of the space was inspired by the outdoor veranda at the Bremen Street Library that overlooks Massport's Bremen Street Park.

"The convenience and filling station will be an attractive and functional store and gas station with modern features that will not only serve Logan Airport but the Jeffries Point neighborhood as well," added Prankevicius.

## POINT OF PINES MAY GET NEW FIRE STATION

**REVERE** - The process that will result in a brand-new Point of Pines Fire Station on the site of the old station located at 140 Lynnway is well underway.

During his remarks to the City Council about "the long-awaited feasibility study" for the station, Mayor Brian Arrigo said that

Winter Street Architects (the firm that did the feasibility study) has recommended that the old fire station be demolished and a new fire station be constructed - rather than a rehabilitation project for the current structure.

"I cannot stress enough how important that this is for not only for the Point of Pines, but for the eastern part of our city in providing great service and public safety to our community," said Arrigo. "I want to thank Chief [Chris] Bright and Deputy Chief [Paul] Cheever for the great work they've done in pushing this forward and making this a reality."

Bright endorsed the construction of a new station.

"I'm very pleased to be before you with the results of the study," said Bright. "I've been very anxious to see this. As fire chief the past three years, I've really seen first-hand the need for this facility. We've had some storm surges down along Revere Beach, the Atlantic Ocean just coming in - Mills Avenue, Pearl Avenue, Beachmont. These storms are happening all the time now."

Bright added, "we feel the need is there [for a new fire station] and the time is right now, the city is in a much better financial position."

Ward 5 Councillor John Powers has long advocated for the restoration of services at the old station or the construction of a new one. Powers expressed his support for the project.

"With all the new wood-frame construction going on in the city right now, this station is so sorely needed," said Powers. "I want to thank the mayor, Chief Bright, and the deputies for putting the effort into it that they did."

City Council President Arthur Guinasso said the matter will be sent to Council sub-committees for further discussion and an extensive look at the plans for the new facility.

Arrigo said after the meeting that the city will move forward with a presentation of a bond authorization for the project. He said the estimated cost of building a new 12,000 square-foot Point of Pines Fire Station is \$9 million, which would be paid over a 30-year period.

The bond-authorization would require a two-thirds vote of the City Council.

## RIZZO SEEKS POLICE DETAIL ON NORTH SHORE RD.

**REVERE** - The City Council approved a motion by Coun-

cillor-at-Large Dan Rizzo that Mayor Brian Arrigo instruct the chief of police to assign officers at the intersection of North Shore Road and Revere Street during peak hours of traffic.

Rizzo said he has personally experienced the traffic backups on Revere Street and Route 1A.

"Over the weekend coming down 1A, the traffic was backed up to the Wharf Restaurant," he said. "We should be utilizing traffic enforcement pulling traffic at peak hours. Get some police officers out there whether it's in conjunction with the State Police or the Revere Police Department."

"We need to have more than just the lighting doing a regular cycle," said Rizzo. "We need to utilize manpower to pull that traffic because people are getting extremely frustrated waiting."

Rizzo said there are problems with heavy, vehicular traffic across the city.

"The city right now is in gridlock," said the councillor. "This city is in gridlock almost all day long with the exception of a few hours in the middle of the day."

Ward 5 Councillor John Powers said he has been in touch with MassDOT officials about the traffic situation.

"The explanation that I received is that they are going to put in some wooden poles that they can put the lights on - they would expect to have the lights on early next week," said Powers.

Eric Lampedecchio of Taft Avenue thanked Councillor Rizzo for presenting his motion.

"It's an absolutely safety hazard on North Shore Road," said Lampedecchio. "A lot of people are disregarding the cones and taking that left in to the oncoming two lanes of traffic. It's only a matter of time until somebody gets hurt. MassDOT has been extremely slow to respond to this. It's been over five weeks since residents could take a left on to Mills Avenue."

"I'm tired of hearing that traffic is a regional issue and there's nothing we can do about it," said Lampedecchio. "I think manually adjusting the traffic lights during peak hours is a great idea. We see on Route 1A northbound in East Boston a police officer controlling the lights in Orient Heights. I'd like to see something like that on Revere Street."

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# THOMAS P. COSTIN JR. POST OFFICE DEDICATION LEAVING A STAMP ON LYNN

Every seat was taken as well as every spot for standing room only on Willow Street. Everyone watched with excitement when the Main Post Office was renamed to the Thomas P. Costin Jr. Post Office.

Many family members, friends, and local, state, and federal officials attended the dedication to a wonderful individual who served the public for over several decades in numerous capacities – Councilor, Mayor, Postmaster, and a concerned citizen to the Lynn community.

Thomas Costin became Postmaster in 1961 and retired in 1992. During his tenure he helped to reorganize and change the postal service to a more productive level which is still in place today. He was elected twice as president of the National Postmasters Association.

Tom was a friend of President John F. Kennedy and supported him on his campaign runs for public office. After years of public service, Thomas P. Costin Jr. will have the two story granite building named in his honor. He is the North Star of Public Service.



State and Local Officials – (Front): School Committee Member John Ford, Mayor Thomas McGee, Honoree Postmaster Thomas P. Costin Jr, State Representative 8<sup>th</sup> Essex District Lori Ehrlich, Councilor-at-Large Brian Field; (Row 2): Ward 6 Councilor Fred Hogan, Ward 2 Councilor Richard Starbard, Councilor-at-Large Buzzy Barton, Councilor-at-Large Brian LaPierre, State Representative 10<sup>th</sup> Essex District Daniel Cahill, and State Senator Third Essex District Brendan Crighton.



Former Postmaster Thomas P. Costin Jr with the 35<sup>th</sup> President of the USA, John F. Kennedy, in front of the Forever USA stamp.



Enjoying the Dedication Program – LPS Superintendent Patrick A. Tutwiler, PhD, LACC Executive Director Colin Codner, and School Committee Member Jared Nicholson.



LEFT: The unveiling and the renaming of the Main Post Office to the Thomas P. Costin Jr Post Office as family members watch through an Act of Congress Public Law 115-363 on December 21, 2018.



David Solimine Sr and North Shore Community College President Patricia Gentile PhD congratulate Postmaster Thomas P. Costin Jr.

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## LOCAL STUDENTS RECEIVE **ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENTS**

### LOCAL STUDENT GRADUATES FROM AUSTIN PREP

Presuming the best in others while applying shared values towards life experiences were common themes presented to the 130 graduates of Austin Preparatory School during commencement exercises on May 25. The following local student was among the graduates:

- Rachel Galatis will attend Stonehill College in the fall.

### RESIDENTS NAMED TO DEAN'S LIST

The following local residents were named to Dean's List at Becker College for the spring 2019 semester. The Dean's List recognizes all full-time students (24 or more credit hours earned

for the academic year; 12 minimum each semester - September through May) whose term grade point average is 3.50 or higher with no grade below a B- and no incomplete (I) or withdrawal/failing (WF) grades.

Seth Bird, of Lynn, is pursuing a Bachelor of Arts degree in Interactive Media Design, Game Production and Management Concentration.

Kimberly Delorto, of Lynn, is pursuing a Bachelor of Science degree in Veterinary Science, Veterinary Technology Concentration.

Rachel Omotosho, of Lynn, is pursuing a Bachelor of Science degree in Nursing.

Becker College is an undergraduate and graduate, career-focused private college, providing a supportive and inclusive learning community that prepares graduates for their first to last careers. Nearly 1,800 students from the United States and around the world live and learn on the College's Worcester and Leicester campuses. With nationally recognized programs in nursing, game design and animal studies, Becker has been consistently ranked as a "Best College" for undergraduate education by The Princeton Review.

### STUDENTS NAMED TO ASSUMPTION'S SPRING DEAN'S LIST

Assumption College has announced that 558 undergraduate students, or recent graduates, have been named to the College's prestigious Dean's List for the spring 2019 semester.

Emma Panacopoulos of Lynn  
Meagan Molea of Lynn

To receive recognition, students must earn a grade point average of 3.5 for a five-class, 15-credit semester. The Dean's List is announced following the spring and fall semesters.

### LOCAL STUDENTS NAMED TO DEAN'S LIST FOR SPRING

More than 2,000 Coastal Carolina University students were named to the Dean's List for the Spring 2019 semester. That's nearly 20 percent of the student body with a grade point average between 3.5-3.99 for the spring semester.

Of the dean's list recipients, 616 are freshmen, 444 are sophomores, 477 are juniors and 522 are seniors. An additional 774 students were named to the President's List for achieving a 4.0 GPA during the spring semester.

Among the students earning recognition on the Dean's List:

### GRADUATES HIGH SCHOOL



Lynn resident Miles Arden Collis Puro graduated from Waring School in Beverly. Miles was one of 23 seniors to graduate during Waring's Commencement ceremony on Friday, May 24, 2019. Photo is attached. Miles plans to attend Ithaca College in the fall.

Alexis I. Rivera, a Accounting Pre-Major major from Lynn.

Susan E. Walker, a Public Health major from Lynn.

Coastal Carolina University is a dynamic, public comprehensive liberal arts institution located in Conway, just minutes from the resort area of Myrtle Beach, S.C.

### LOCAL STUDENTS GRADUATE FROM BUCKNELL

Bucknell University presented degrees to nearly 900 graduates at Commencement on May 19, 2019.

Guelmi Espinal of Lynn earned a Bachelor of Arts in Classics & Ancient Med Studies.

Raphy Valera of Lynn earned a Bachelor of Arts in Biology.

### SOPHIA OLIVEIRA RECEIVES DEGREE

More than 600 graduate and undergraduate students representing 22 states and nine countries received degrees from American International College at the 134th Commencement on May 11, 2019. Sophia Oliveira, of Lynn, received a bachelor's degree in Theater Arts.

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

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