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## THE LYNN JOURNAL



Thursday, September 10, 2020 =



The Lynn Babe Ruth 13-year-old All-Star team is competing for a state title at Breed Field. Front row, from left, are Anthony Alvarado, Andy Beras, Brendan O'Regan Jr., Wilfredo Perez Jr., Elian Pena, JoJo Hernandez and Devin Wlodkowski. Back row, from left, are Manager Josh McGrath, Coach Kevin Durant, Gio Batista, Jared Paone, Christian Figueroa, Alex Lara, Guilmer Galva, Alberto Gerardo, John Pichardo, Jariel Benzan, Coach Abu Patrick, and Coach Mike Leavitt



Lynn Babe Ruth Manager Josh McGrath, with his wife, Jamie, and their son, John, at Breed Field.

By Cary Shuman

rather have been Saturday morn-

ing than coaching the undefeated

Lynn Babe Ruth 13-year-old All-

on due to the COVID-19 guide-

lines, you could feel Josh's en-

thusiasm as he went through the

pre-game rituals with the other Lynn coaches and their players

on a bright, sunny day in the

McGrath, 35, a former 6-foot-

3-inch football and baseball

standout at Lynn English High School, talked about coaching

middle of Labor Day Weekend.

Even with his face covering

Star team at Breed Field.

There was no other place Joshua David McGrath would

## **CIRCLING** THE **BASES**

Josh McGrath gives back to the city that helped make him a star

baseball during the coronavirus and what it meant for Lynn kids to have the opportunity to compete for a state title.

"First, I want to thank Jeff Earp who lives and breathes Lynn Babe Ruth and he is exactly what this organization needs - someone who is giving everything he can for these kids and giving us a great field to play on, a great complex to play at," laud-

McGrath said he can't imagine how difficult it is for the students in Lynn not be attending classes and playing high school sports at this time of year.

"I can't imagine not having football - that's my favorite



Lynn Babe Ruth Manager Josh McGrath and his son, Jared Paone, at Breed Field.

sport," said McGrath.

McGrath felt it was especially important for the Lynn 13-yearolds to have some type of baseball competition this summer.

"This is an important year for a young baseball player who is making the transition from Little League to the bigger diamond," said McGrath. "To not have played baseball this year would have hindered the development of their skills."

#### A bona fide star at Lynn English

A graduate of East Lynn Little League when the games were

Please see McGRATH Page 6

## NSCC's fall semester starts; classes primarily virtual

Special to the Journal

When North Shore Community College's 56th academic year began Tuesday, classes and learning continued, but in a very different format. To prioritize the health and safety of NSCC's entire community, the vast majority of NSCC students began the fall semester in a predominantly virtual environment.

"I think it is safe to say that this is the beginning of the most unprecedented semester NSCC has ever faced," said Dr. Nate Bryant, NSCC Interim President. "Six months following the coronavirus pandemic outbreak, we still

find ourselves in its throes. We have spent significant time and resources over the summer preparing for our utmost goal of keeping our students and staff safe and

"Only about five percent of our classes will be offered in person on campus, most of which are those that require face-to-face labs and simulations. Students and faculty will continue to adapt to an online learning environment, while those employees who can effectively perform their work from home will continue to do so. I extend my sincere thanks and

Please see NSCC Page 2



The North Shore Community College Lynn Campus looks majestic under the blue sky. NSCC began its fall semester on Tuesday.



For the latest news in Lynn that you need to know, check lynnjournal.com

## EDITORIAL

#### DO NOT LITTER YOUR MASKS

For those of us who take note of the problem of litter (and who often bring along a bag to pick up litter when we are walking along a beach), we are accustomed to the plethora of styrofoam cups and single-use plastic bottles that have been discarded carelessly by our fellow citizens, some of whom seem to treat the environment as their personal trash bin.

But in the past few months we have noticed a new kind of litter that has become prevalent along our roads and on our beaches: Discarded face masks.

The masks that comprise most of the littering problem are the lightblue, layered masks with elastic bands for the ears. These are lightweight, single-use masks that blow easily in the wind and often end up along the shoreline and eventually in our waterways.

If the stuff that comprises litter is representative of our disposable society, then it is a good thing to see that people are using face masks, an indication that we are heeding public health warnings about the best way to prevent the spread of Covid-19.

However, being a good citizen in that regard does not absolve mask-users of the obligation to dispose of their masks properly, let alone give them the right to toss them onto public property.

So please be sure to toss those masks into a trash-bin -- that's as simple as it gets.

#### COLLEGE SPORTS HAS SERIOUS RISKS FOR ATHLETES

When President Trump was in New Hampshire for a campaign rally two weeks ago, he implored the Big 10 athletic directors to reconsider their recent decision to postpone their college football season from fall until the spring.

"Big Ten, get with it! Open up your season, Big Ten. These are young strong guys – they're not gonna' be affected by the virus... These are big, strong guys. They will be just fine," Trump said.

However, as with so many comments made by Trump these past seven months concerning the coronavirus, the reality is the opposite of Trump's pronouncements.

At least 10 Big 10 football players have been diagnosed with myocarditis, a viral infection of the heart muscle caused by a Covid-19 infection. This is the same condition that has afflicted Red Sox star starting pitcher Eduardo Rodriguez, who contracted Covid-19 on August 1 and who now suffers from myocarditis, forcing him to end his season.

Rodriguez is 27 years old and was an otherwise healthy young man who won 19 games for the Sox in 2019. However, the virus invaded his heart, as it has with so many others who have contracted this dreaded disease, and forced him to rest and recuperate.

We are learning more and more every day about the damage that Covid-19 does to just about every human organ, but one thing that has become clear is that the heart muscle is a favorite site for it to attack. A recent study in Germany showed that of 100 otherwise-healthy persons under the age of 49, 76 percent suffered damage consistent with the effects of a heart attack.

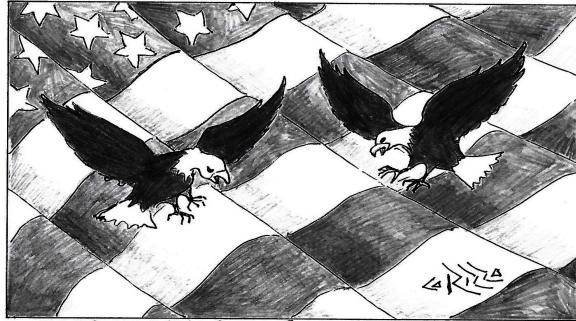
Another study recently demonstrated that there are certain, longstringed cells unique to the heart that the virus attacks, chopping them up into tiny pieces. It is not clear whether the heart can repair this damage or whether it is permanent.

Further, as to football players in particular, while it may be true, as Trump proclaimed, that as a group they are "big strong guys," many of them are, to put it bluntly, grossly obese, weighing upwards of 350 pounds if they are linemen.

One thing we definitely know about the virus is that the single-biggest risk factor for a serious outcome from Covid-19 is being overweight -- and that would seem to place many college football players at serious jeopardy if they contract the disease.

If college football can put into place procedures that isolate football players from their campuses (where Covid-19 has been running wild in some places since schools reopened), then perhaps football can be played without risk to the young athletes.

But to encourage them to play as things stand now is simply reckless behavior that places them in jeopardy of serious, lifelong consequences affecting their health.



PATRIOT DAY 9-11 WE WILL NEVER FORGET

#### NSCC/ CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

admiration for the efforts of so many who have worked diligently to prepare for what promises to be an auspicious year," Dr. Bryant noted.

NSCC started planning the conversion to online learning in March when the college moved away from face-to-face learning due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Now, Dr. Bryant says, NSCC is poised to deliver an online learning experience that is equal in quality to the face-to-face experience. Our full-time faculty and adjunct faculty have been training all summer to prepare for the new school year and I'm delighted with the progress they made. Students this fall will receive an exceptional online learning expe-

Dr. Karen Hynick, Vice President of Academic Affairs, said, "Thanks to the hard work and ability of NSCC faculty to quickly pivot to a new educational reality, our students will continue to receive an exceptionally high-quality educational experience at NSCC, albeit in different formats. We have only 29 sections of face-to-face courses for the fall semester, mostly in health professions, aviation and other areas that require handson experiences where the equipment can't be replicated at home or through virtual means. Our faculty and Center for Teaching, Learning and Innovation (CTLI) staff have spent countless hours preparing for the fall semester, enhancing over 300 sections of online, 250 sections of hybrid and 250 sections of video conference courses."

NSCC has made a considerable investment to ensure high academic standards continued across all academic programs in the new virtual modality. Over \$700,000 was spent on training full-time and adjunct faculty to develop online, hybrid and videoconference courses and labs. The college also dedicated significant resources to ensure that students had what they needed to succeed – Chromebooks, Hot Spots, virtual resource access and emergency loans if needed.

In addition, NSCC student affairs staff have worked tirelessly since the spring to address anticipated enrollment shortfalls. Work has included lots of virtual weekend registration and orienta-

tion events, and shifting student supports to virtual delivery such as advising, tutoring, counseling, and more. Countless hours were spent to drive down what started out as a significant double-digit decline, which is now much closer to original projections.

"All of us at NSCC remain steadfast in our commitment to the health and safety of our students and staff and to student success. We will continue to adjust and adapt to the changes brought forth by the COVID pandemic," Dr. Bryant said. "We maintain social distancing, wear facemasks, and are getting used to a new way of life in the hopes of keeping our families and communities safe and limiting the spread of the coronavirus."

## THE LYNN JOURNAL

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## Tee Time At Tedesco

## St.Mary's High School golf team will play its home matches at Marblehead country club

By Cary Shuman

When head coach Jay Fiste and the St. Mary's High School golf team begin defense of their state championship, the Spartans will do so at a new home course.

The Spartans, who have three consecutive state championships, will be playing their home golf matches at the Tedesco Country Club in Marblehead.

St. Mary's usually plays its home matches at Gannon Municipal Golf Course in Lynn.

"Because Lynn is a COVID-19 high-risk (red) community, we're not able to play any games in the city," explained Director of Athletics Jeff Newhall. "We have an agreement with the Catholic Central League that we would not host any events in the City of Lynn until we became a yellow or green city."

The Spartans' primary home course will be Tedesco but there will be other CCL matches played at Beverly Golf and Tennis and Hillview in North Reading.

St. Mary's has one of the state's most successful golf programs, winning five state titles overall, including in the 2006 season when Newhall was the head golf coach. Newhall also has three state titles as the girls basketball coach, most recently

last March.

Fiste has guided the Spartans to state titles in 2017, 2018, and 2019. One of the standouts during that run was Christian Emmerich, who is now playing collegiate golf at Holy Cross in Worcester. Emmerich won a state individual title in 2018.

Returning players for the defending state champion Spartans in the 2020 season are emerging junior star Aidan Emmerich, who finished tied for seventh place in the state individual tournament, senior Luke Smith, who also tied for seventh in the state individual tournament, senior Peter Pagliuca, and Sean Mathers.

"Our golf program has had some elite golfers and very good success for the past 15-16 years," said Newhall.

Newhall credited St. Mary's alumnus Kevin Maguire for being instrumental in securing Tedesco Country Club for the Spartans' home matches. Mr. Maguire's son, Owen, was a member of the 2018 state championship golf team. His other son, Jack, was a captain of the St. Mary's football and lacrosse teams, graduating in 2019. A daughter, Riley, is currently a student at St. Mary's High School.

Newhall noted that Tedesco General Manager Mike McGillicuddy and Head Professional Jake Leech were very cooperative in scheduling the matches on the specific dates that St. Mary's had requested.

St. Mary's will host matches versus new CCL member Bishop Feehan, Austin Prep, Archbishop Williams and Bishop Fenwick at Tedesco.

"In a season where we're not able to play at our home course (Gannon) and in a situation where the students haven't participated in athletics since the winter, I think this is a great opportunity for our athletes to play one of the elite courses in New England," said Newhall.



Head Coach Jay Fiste and the St. Mary's High School golf team displays its state championship banner. The Spartans will be playing their home matches at Tedesco Country Club in Marblehead this fall.

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## State revenue collections total \$1.992 billion in August

Massachusetts Department of Revenue (DOR) Commissioner Geoffrey Snyder last week announced that August revenue collections totaled \$1.992 billion, \$6 million or 0.3% more than the actual collections in August 2019.

Of the \$1.992 billion August collections, approximately \$13 million is income tax payments and refunds that will be recorded as FY2020 revenue, pursuant to section 3 of chapter 78 of the Acts of 2020. Such amounts consist of payments and refunds originally due in FY2020 but received in FY2021, including payments made with final 2019 income tax returns, extension payments and estimated payments originally due in April and June 2020. Therefore, approximately \$1.979 billion in August revenue will be recorded in FY2021, which is \$7 million

or 0.4% less than the collections in August 2019.

For the fiscal year-to-date through August, revenue collections totaled \$6,448 billion. \$2.437 billion or 60.7% more than the same fiscal year-to-date period in 2019. Of the \$6.448 billion year-to-date collections through August, approximately \$2.313 billion, or 36%, is income tax payments and refunds that will be recorded as FY2020 revenue pursuant to legislation. Excluding these income tax amounts that will be recorded as FY2020 revenue, August yearto-date collections total approximately \$4.135 billion, which is \$124 million or 3.1% more than collections in the same period of FY2020.

"Revenues for the month of August were mainly driven by withholding, part of which is attributed to withholding on unemployment insurance benefits, as well as the regular sales tax. These increases were offset by decreases in non-withheld income tax, meals tax, corporate and business taxes, and 'All Other' tax," said Commissioner Snyder. "August year-to-date total collections were also impacted by corporate and business tax payments attributable to returns due in April, following the waiver of late filing and payment penalties until July 15 for such returns. DOR will continue to monitor revenue collections

August is one of the smaller months for revenue collection. because neither individual nor business taxpayers make significant estimated payments during the month. On average for the past several years, roughly 6.7% of annual revenue has been received during August.

However, this August is different from previous years because of the impact of COVID-19 on tax bases and because revenues collected in this month include deferred payments on personal income tax and corporate excise payments, but exclude some regular sales, meals and room occupancy taxes which are postponed to September. As noted above, deferred personal income tax payments and refunds will be booked back to FY2020 by the Comptroller.

Details:

Preliminary August Revenue Collections

•Income tax collections for August were \$1.151 billion, \$61 million or 5.6% more than August 2019. Of the \$1.151 billion August income tax collections, about \$13 million was income tax payments and refunds originally due in FY2020 but received in August 2020, including payments made with final income tax returns, extension payments and estimated payments originally due in FY2020.

•Withholding tax collections

for August totaled \$1.119 billion, \$83 million more than August 2019.

•Income tax estimated payments totaled \$33 million for August, \$4 million less than August 2019.

•Income tax returns and bills totaled \$46 million for August, \$9 million more than August

•Income tax cash refunds in August totaled \$46 million in outflows, \$26 million more than August 2019.

•Sales and use tax collections for August totaled \$608 million, \$3 million more than August 2019.

•Corporate and business tax collections for August totaled \$31 million, \$27 million less than August 2019.

•Other tax collections for August totaled \$202 million, \$32 million less than August 2019.

## Element Care PACE celebrates National PACE Month in September

All-inclusive Care for the Elderly (PACE) is celebrating Nation- raise awareness and acknowl-

Element Care's Program of al PACE Month in September. This provides an opportunity to

makes in the lives of older adults, their families and their commu-

edge the difference that PACE

nities. The PACE model of care helps nursing home-eligible individuals remain safe in their home and community for as long as possible. This mission has been successful in keeping more than 95 percent of its enrollees in the community and out of nursing homes. The theme of this year's National PACE Month is "Your Care, Your Community, You're Home." It echoes the success PACE organizations have had in keeping participants safe during the pandemic.

"Caring for older adults with multiple chronic conditions who are self-quarantining at home during the pandemic can be quite challenging," said Bob Wakefield, Jr, CEO at Element Care. "The PACE model of care with its built-in flexibility has enabled Element Care to quickly pivot from caring for participants in our PACE Wellness Centers several times a week - to creating a home-centric and telehealth-enabled model of care where nurses, home care workers, behavioral health clinicians, activity specialists and other care team professionals pro-actively support participants in their homes."

During the pandemic, Element Care has provided comprehensive medical and social services to participants' homes including:

• Over 5,000 deliveries of medicines, supplements and supplies

- Over 16,000 telehealth and outreach visits
- Over 23,000 clinical and care visits
- Over 27,000 meals on wheels delivered
- Over 100,000 total home vis-

"Over these last few months, we've learned to develop new care strategies and skills, and utilized new technologies that will help us support the vulnerable population that we serve in new and better ways during COVID-19, the flu season and for years to come. That's one of the valuable outcomes from the pandemic and something worth recognizing during National PACE Month this year," added Wakefield.

Element Care, founded in 1995, is a non-profit, healthcare organization with a simple mission: to provide the support and services necessary to allow people to remain safe and comfortable in their homes and communities. Element Care provides complete health care to eligible people through PACE (Program of All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly) throughout the Massachusetts North Shore, the Merrimack Valley and the northeast region of Middlesex County. For more information, please call 877-803-5564, or visit www.elementcare.

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#### NSCC News & Notes

#### MICHAEL LEONARD NAMED NSCC DEAN OF CTE AND BUSINESS

Michael Leonard, of Nottingham, NH, was recently named dean of career and technical education (CTE) and business at North Shore Community College (NSCC) in Danvers, MA. In his new position, he will oversee programs in NSCC's Agriculture and Food Service Pathways, Business and Administration Pathways, and Personal Service Careers Pathways.

"I am extremely passionate about career and technical education and ensuring pathways support a region's economy," said Leonard. "This is accomplished by providing students with the most relevant, innovative, and impactful industry knowledge. I'm excited to become a part of NSCC and continuing their commitment to academic and professional excellence in the preparation of all students to achieve their career goals."

Prior to joining NSCC, Leonard served as the department chair of Agricultural Studies at Northwest State Community



Michael Leonard.

College. He has also served as program manager of Hocking College's Agroecology Program; director of Veterans Services at St. Bonaventure University, and as the academic program manager at Frederick Community College.

Leonard is a member of the American Society of Agronomy, the Association of Career and Technical Education, the National Association of Agricultural Educators, the North American Colleges and Teachers of Agriculture and the Chair Academy.

A retired career military officer, Leonard holds a bachelor's degree from the University of Missouri, and master's degrees from both Mississippi State University and from North Carolina State University.

#### NSCC TRUSTEES LAUNCH SEARCH FOR COLLEGE'S NEXT PRESIDENT

Community Member Needed to Serve on Search Committee

The North Shore Community College Board of Trustees is beginning the search for the college's fifth permanent president. The Trustees have secured the services of presidential search firm R.H. Perry and are accepting expressions of interest for search committee members, one of which will be a community member from the college's service area on the North Shore.

"As we launch our presidential search, we're looking forward to incorporating voices from our community," said Dr. J.D. LaRock, Chair of the NSCC

Board of Trustees. "North Shore has always been deeply in touch with the priorities of our region's employers, residents, and taxpayers. Including a community representative on the presidential search committee will help ensure that these priorities will be reflected in the choice of our next leader."

The next president will follow Interim President Dr. Nate Bryant, who was selected to serve a one-year term upon the retirement of Dr. Patricia A. Gentile, the college's fourth president.

The search is expected to identify a final candidate by the late spring of 2021. The search committee will review and evaluate all qualified applications, select candidates for interview, conduct candidate interviews, and recommend to the Board of Trustees between 3 and 5 finalists, from which the next president will be chosen, subject to Massachusetts Board of Higher Education approval.

It is expected that the bulk of the search committee's work will take place in early 2021, between January and the first week of March. At a minimum, search

committee members will be required to attend two meetings lasting about three hours each, spend several days reviewing and evaluating candidate materials, and devote approximately 8-12 hours to interviewing candidates.

The Massachusetts Department of Higher Education has guidelines that govern presidential search processes, including rules regarding the size and composition of presidential search committees. NSCC's search committee will be comprised of 13 people, including 3 faculty members, 2 professional staff members, 1 support staff member, a student, an administrator, one community member, one representative of the Massachusetts Board of Higher Education, and three NSCC Trustees.

Community members interested in being selected to serve should email Dr. LaRock jlarock@northshore.edu, cc'ing mwallis@northshore.edu by Friday, September 18th. The Board hopes to approve the search committee at its Tuesday, September 22 meeting.

## McGee lauds Baker-Polito administration for additional intervention initiatives in Lynn for COVID-19

Special to the Lynn Journal

Mayor Thomas McGee has lauded the Baker-Polito Administration stepping up its targeted initiative to help stop the spread of COVID-19 in communities across the Commonwealth with the highest number of positive cases. Lynn is currently one of the top 5 highest-risk communities in Massachusetts.

The initiative will bring even greater focus to Lynn with regular neighborhood-level assessments and a comprehensive multi-lingual public messaging campaign.

"As the City of Lynn works purposefully to combat the rising cases of COVID-19, we are grateful to the state for their added assistance of The Commonwealth's Enforcement and Intervention Team," said Mayor McGee. "Together, we are expanding the available testing, increasing our reach to residents with visual reminders and information, and enforcing the Orders of the Commonwealth. I cannot underscore enough the importance of compliance from our residents and I thank those who are doing their part. We must remain vigilant in our prevention efforts to continue to limit the spread of the virus. "

The initiative focuses efforts on Lynn, Revere, Chelsea, Everett, and Lawrence. and Re-The Commonwealth's vere. COVID-19 Enforcement and Intervention Team (CEIT), in partnership with local community officials, is leading this effort. This targeted initiative includes regular meetings with local leadership to understand residential and business activities contributing to trends, an even greater level of state focus to stop the spread and a new public messaging campaign.

The goal of the public messaging campaign is to ensure residents know they live in a highrisk community and reiterate the importance of wearing a mask and other best practices to stop the spread. Built around a message of, "You have the power to save a life," the comprehensive campaign will encourage the use of masks and social distancing and will run in English, Portuguese, Spanish, Haitian Creole, Vietnamese, Arabic and other languages common to these communities. The campaign in-

• A new online resource

at Mass.gov/StopCOVID19

(Spanish: Mass.Gov/Deten-COVID19)

(Portuguese: Mass.Gov/Pare-COVID19)

(Additional multilingual online resources will be available soon)

- Advertising on billboards, digital and social media
  Downloadable materials in
- multiple languages
   Multi-lingual field teams de-
- ployed in the communities

   Phone and text communications
- Outreach to local community groups

This new website Mass.gov/StopCOVID19 provides residents and local business owners with information on how to stop the spread, state restrictions on gathering sizes, testing locations and materials that can be printed for display in apartment complexes, restaurants and community areas.

The campaign's advertising will run on hundreds of displays, message boards, signs, billboards and other channels in these top 5 communities through paid partnerships and via stateowned resources, such as at MBTA stations, on MassDOT

signs and much more. During Labor Day weekend, the field teams will be active at approximately 15 locations in these top 5 communities. All aspects of this campaign will expand throughout the fall.

In early August, the Administration established CEIT through the COVID-19 Command Center. CEIT is a cross-agency response unit, which includes representatives from the Community Tracing Collaborative, Department of Public Health, Alcoholic Beverages Control Commission, Massachusetts State Police, Department of Labor Standards and other agencies.

Since it was launched, this team has worked closely with all higher-risk communities to help stop the spread of COVID-19 in areas that are persistently above the state average. CEIT partnered

with local elected and community officials, including municipal leadership, police chiefs and local health departments, to assess trends and most effectively utilize resources. Collectively, these teams have enforced gathering size restrictions and shared with municipalities additional state support, such as testing and contact tracing information.

Over the last two weeks the statewide average daily incidence rate is 4.2 cases per 100,000 people, while Lynn is 12.1 cases per 100,000 people. Chelsea is 29.4, Revere is 20.9, Everett is 15.9 and Lawrence is 14.9. As new community data is reported, CEIT will adjust as cities and towns move into or out of higher-risk categories. Throughout September, the campaign will expand beyond the top five communities.



Give now.



#### McGrath/ CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

played at Prunier Field (next to Manning Bowl), Josh McGrath played three seasons in the Lynn Babe Ruth organization before continuing his summertime participation as a four-year player in American Legion Baseball, three with Connery and one with Gautreau where he was the Skip Morrison Tournament MVP.

He was a standout four-year starting varsity catcher at Lynn English and an All-Star tackle and captain for Coach Gary Molea's Bulldogs football team. He earned a football scholarship from UMass/Lowell but the school disbanded its football program while he was there.

His excellent blocking at tackle had helped Lynn English field a potent offense.

"Brent Tarasuik was our quarterback [at English]. Derek Hodge was the running back and Matt Curtis was tearing up the Northeastern Conference as a sophomore," recalled McGrath. "My junior year, I was the right tackle when Brandon Guy rushed for 430 yards at Swampscott. He was picking up 30-40 yards a carry."

Another Maroon and Gray football memory: It was Josh McGrath who stopped Classical running back Joe Freeman on a touchdown-saving tackle during the Bulldogs' 15-8 victory over the Rams in the Thanksgiving game on the frozen tundra at then-Manning Bowl.

"It had snowed the night before and Joe Freeman, my best friend, ran the outside sweep in Classical's Wing-T offense," said McGrath. "As Joe was getting around the edge, I managed to slap on his shoulder pad and he slipped on the wet field. I looked at the play on film and if Joe had gotten outside, he was gone."

Josh responded to a frequently asked question, stating that he is not related to Eric McGrath, Lynn Classical's outstanding quarterback in that Thanksgiving game.

"Someone took a photo of us a long time ago when Eric played for Pickering and I played for Marshall," said McGrath. "But we are not related."

Following his college years, McGrath played five years of semi-professional football for the North Shore Generals.

#### Becoming a Babe Ruth Baseball coach

With his son, Jared, moving on to Lynn Babe Ruth after graduating from East Lynn Little League, Josh McGrath, who had managed a team to an ELLL Major Division championship, heard that the Babe Ruth organization needed some coaches.

"Jeff asked me if I'd be willing to be the 13-year-old division director this year and be more involved and I said, 'sure,'" said McGrath. "I'm just glad to have the opportunity to coach the All-Star team."

McGrath said one of his baseball mentors while growing up was Leon Elwell, a Babe Ruth manager.

"Leon was my mentor at the

time I was entering high school, taking me to Extra Innings to work on my catching skills, blocking passed balls, keeping the baseball in front of me, and working on my release time throwing out runners at second base," lauded McGrath. "He drafted me in Lynn Babe Ruth as a 13-year-old catcher and I played for his teams the whole time in Babe Ruth."

## Continuing to give back through coaching

In addition to his mentorship in Lynn Babe Ruth, Josh Mc-Grath coached his son Jared's team in the North Shore Flag Football League. He will return to football coaching when his youngest son, John, is age eligible for Flag Football.

But for now, he is happy to be close to baseball, helping Lynn kids develop their appreciation for a game he loves.

"As far as I'm concerned, even though baseball is sadly fading, I feel that men like Jeff Earp are giving these kids hope to come to the field and look forward to playing some good, competitive baseball," said McGrath. "And I'm happy to be here teaching and coaching baseball for these players."

And if Lynn can continue to roll on the diamond this weekend, McGrath and the Lynn players will have a state championship during what has been a challenging summer for all.



Three of the men responsible for the Lynn Babe Ruth season and ongoing Babe Ruth Games being played at the well-manicured Breed Field, Dave Raymond, President Jeff Earp, and Rich Avery, pictured Saturday on the deck overlooking the field.



Lynn Babe Ruth President Jeff Earp goes over the ground rules with the umpires and the Lynn and Peabody managers.



Lynn Babe Ruth President and youth baseball's unsung hero, Jeff Earp, with the Lynn Babe Ruth coaches, Abu Patrick, Josh McGrath, Mike Leavitt, and Kevin Durant, pictured before Lynn's victory over Peabody in the Babe Ruth State Baseball Games.



Lynn Babe Ruth All-Star Manager Josh McGrath with starting catcher Gio Batista and starting pitcher Devin Wlodkowski before last Saturday's game at Breed Field.

## 40 years together, 31 years married

## Roderick and Sheila Valrie, A Special Lynn Couple

Special to the Journal

When it all began after talking to our dad he attended a talent show at the Washington Elementary School (Lynn) he never thought he would see a beautiful young girl that he would be so attracted to at such a young age, that girl was our mom Sheila Wilson who performed in that talent show that night dancing to which way is up by Stargard he left the show wondering if he would ever see her again, determine to find out who she was or who she was related to, he then for the second time saw her at Warren street playground working for the summer program where he was unable to talk to her. One evening after playing basketball our dad walked home with uncle Terry who at the time he had no idea he was our moms brother, that's when he saw her for the third time he asked Terry who was she he replied just my sister, dad saying to himself "she is going to be my wife", dad was all smiles after that. Shortly after they started dating September 13, 1980 our mom attending Breed Jr High school where she was a solid gold dancer and dad attending Cobbett Jr High school where he

played on the basketball team, they continued to date while attending Lynn Classical High school where mom was a cheerleader and dad was on the football and basketball teams mom class of 1985 dad class of 1983. May 1985 they welcomed there son first born Roderick Jr. the love of their life, after graduating high school our mom worked two jobs General Electric Cleaning Company and city of Lynn Convalescent Nursing Home for over 17 years, while dad attended Framingham State College where he played basketball they then became soulmates and lovers moving into their first apartment together. July 1989 while surrounded by over 300 guest they exchanged vows and became husband and wife, Jan 1997 they welcomed the second love of their life their beautiful daughter Shaleah they resided there until they purchased their first home together. Roderick Jr a graduate of Lynn Classical High and Curry College with a Bachelors degree in Communications, daughter Shaleah a graduate of Lynn Classical High and North Shore Community College with a Associates degree in Medical Administrative, mom loves the lord, singing, throwing

parties and decorating halls, counseling young ladies whenever they call also bingo, and taking family bus trips family is everything. Dad loves the lord and all sports, cooking, sneakers, cookouts, counseling men whenever needed, attending family reunions and family is everything. Mom and dad have continued their love for each other for over 40 years to demonstrate the strength and special bond in their relationship and hold it all together with the Love, Faith, Respect, Trust, Understanding, Friendship, and keeping others out of there Business, along with strong family Values has served as an Inspiration to Everyone around them. Mom and Dad always say, you have one life to live make the most of it, Team Work Makes the Dream Work, and yes There Dream has Come True.

To our incredible Parents who kept us Grounded we thank and love you so much, you are our Role Models We have Learned From the Best as you always say to us, We are so proud of you.

September 13, 1980 Love Your Children Roderick Jr & Shaleah Valrie

Happy 40 years together.



Roderick and Sheila Valrie.



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#### **NEWS FROM AROUND** THE REGION

#### KENNEDY TAKES CHELSEA

CHELSEA - Congressman Joe Kennedy III scored a rare win in Chelsea on Tuesday night, Sept. 1, in a Democratic Primary that was all about his opponent, U.S. Senator Ed Markey – who took the statewide vote decidedly.

In Chelsea, Kennedy got 2,097 votes (52 percent) to Markey's 1,903 votes (47 percent), built on a campaign that came to Chelsea numerous times and especially in August when he dropped by Golden Cannoli and came last Saturday campaigning with New York Congressman Adriano Es-

Kennedy also had the support of Councilor Judith Garcia, who had joined the campaign staff during the summer. Council President Roy Avellaneda was also very strongly in the Kennedy camp as well.

Kennedy's win in Chelsea follows a clear trend where he did very well in Latino and Spanish-speaking communities. In Everett, the race went to Markey, but was much closer than expected for a Senator who grew up the next city over and had huge institutional support.

In Revere and Lynn, where there are huge Latino communities, Kennedy also won over Markey. That was also true in Boston, where areas of that city which are heavily Spanish-speaking bucked the trend and voted for Kennedy. That was likely due to the fact that Kennedy frequently spoke fluent Spanish when he showed up to events where Spanish-speakers were present.

In Boston overall and everywhere else, however, Markey cleaned Kennedy's clock in a decisive win that was over very quickly in the evening.

Markey pulled out the statewide win with 55 percent of the vote to Kennedy's 44.6 percent of the vote. In Boston, it was even more lopsided as Markey collected 59 percent of the vote (77,518) to Kennedy's 40 percent (52,485).

Markey enjoyed strong support in western Massachusetts, and also on Cape Ann. Kennedy showed strength in southeast Massachusetts and central Massachusetts.

Kennedy jumped out to a fast start more than a year ago, and as time went on, few gave Markey a chance as Kennedy seemed to have the rising star. However, one should never count Ed Markey out of the picture. Markey's campaign came alive down the

stretch with the 'Leads and Delivers' bus tour, and grabbed a key endorsements from local leaders like State Sen. Sal DiDomenico.

Kennedy's concession speech Tuesday night, he said his coalition will continue.

"The Senator is a good man," he said of Markey. "You've never heard me say otherwise. I know it was difficult between us at times - good elections get heated -- but I am grateful for our debates, for his commitment to this Commonwealth, and for the energy and enthusiasm that he brought to this race. Obviously, these results are not the ones we were hoping for...We built a campaign for the people that our politics too often locks out and leaves behind. We built a campaign for Lawrence and Chelsea and New Bedford and Roxbury and Brockton and Springfield and Lowell and Worcester. We built a campaign for working folks -- of every color and creed -- who carry the economic injustice of this country on their backs. This campaign's coalition will endure."

### •OTHER UNCONTESTED

In other races voted on in Chelsea Tuesday that weren't contested, the following were the

Congresswoman Ayanna Pressley -3,378 votes

State Sen. Sal DiDomenico -3 323 votes

Register of Probate Felix Arroyo beat Kerby Roberson 2,932 votes to 637 votes.

Governor's Councillor Terrence Kennedy beat Helina Fontes, 2,222 votes to 1,365 votes.

#### •REPUBLICAN BALLOT

There was one contested race on the Republican ballot, but a lot of action in the write-in category it has been said.

In the U.S. Senate race on the Republican side, Kevin O'Connor beat Siva Ayyadurai, 201 to

#### ST. STANISLAUS PARISH CLOSES

CHELSEA - The long-standing St. Stanislaus Polish Catholic Church on Chestnut Street held its last public Masses after 115 years of perseverance - surviving two conflagrations - in serving the faithful in the Polish language.

Parishioners held a bittersweet remembrance of all the history and hard work put into the Parish over the decades - particularly thanking Pastor Andrew Grelak,

#### PRIMARY DAY



Winthrop volunteers deliver pizza and water to the poll workers.

a Polish priest who came to the Parish in 1996 and has served tirelessly with time, devotion and his own money.

"It is with the same Bóg zapłać that I turn to you, the most faithful parishioners," read a letter spoken aloud during the last Mass. "You maintained the Parish spiritually with your regular participation in the Holy Mass as well as financially paying your dues and contributing your hardearned money to various renovation projects over the years. For you this was simply a holy obligation that will never be for-

"Today, the long and glorious history of St. Stanislaus Parish in Chelsea come to and end," it continued. "The doors to our church will be closed forever. Among those of us for whom this church was a place of prayer in our native language and a bastion of Polish culture, this awakens in us deep anguish. Leaving this church for the last time, we will fondly recall what a unique place this truly was. But, we must also carry with us the disappointment that we were unable to fulfill the promises of our forefathers and maintain this Parish longer."

It was as sad an ending as it was joyous in its beginning.

St. Stan's, as it is affectionately known in Chelsea, began in 1903 when Polish immigrants settled in Chelsea and wanted respite from their long hours of manual labor by being able to go to a Polish church. When asked at the time by the Archdiocese of Boston if they wanted their own church and would bore the costs of maintenance, records show they said, "We want God in this country, in the Polish language and tradition..."

Over the next two years, Polish families in Chelsea contributed 25 cents a week for the Parish Fund. They finally purchased the former Congregational Church on Chestnut Street and consecrated it as a Polish Roman Catholic Church on July 2, 1905. In 1908, the Great Chelsea Fire hit the building and burnt it down. One year later, the church had been rebuilt.

It's height came in the 1930s when the Parish had assets of what would today be \$4 million and a thriving religious community. They added a convent to the campus, and also built a school.

A big part of the last services was thanking Pastor Andrew, who in a phone call with the Record, declined to comment on the matter – clearly sad to see the community dissolve.

"Father Andrew, we are thankful for your tireless service at the altar of Christ, for our sick and for our deceased over the past 24 years," the wrote. "You prepared us for the jubilee year that was the 100th anniversary of the parish in 2005 and have been with us in good as well as in difficult times.'

About eight years ago, St. Stan's sold the school, which was developed into housing and is now operated by TND in Chelsea for housing units.

It is uncertain right now what will happen with the church building, but that will likely be discussed in the near future. Parishioners seeking Polish language Masses are being directed to a Parish in South Boston.

#### WALSH ADDRESSES **COVID-19 CRISIS IN EASTIE**

EAST BOSTON - At his daily press briefing, Mayor Martin Walsh addressed the ongoing COVID-19 crisis unfolding in East Boston, saying his administration remains committed to monitoring and sharing neighborhood data and race and ethnicity data, and responding to any anticipated or emerging disparities.

Over the past month, Eastie

Please see REGION Page 9

#### Region / CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8

has reemerged as a COVID-19 'hotspot' in the city after a relatively quiet few months where positive test rates and infection rates remained stable.

Eastie now leads the city in infection rates and positive test rates by leaps and bounds with the positive infection rate here at nearly 11 percent last week against a citywide average of 2.3 percent.

Mayor Walsh said these numbers are concerning and the City is addressing the sharp rise through a multipronged approach.

Mayor Walsh has deployed a mobile testing site, in partnership with the East Boston Neighborhood Health Center (EBNHC), to Central Square through Saturday (see Eastie COVID Update story).

The city is also working with the State to identify temporary isolation housing, so that people can quarantine away from their families if they test positive.

"We are working collaboratively on strategies and solutions with East Boston elected officials; cross-departmental City teams; medical and social service providers in the neighborhood; union leaders who represent East Boston residents and workers; and clergy who have been helping to share messages at services," said Walsh. "The Boston Public Health Commission (BPHC) has mobilized teams to provide safety materials and education to residents and businesses in multiple languages, including English, Spanish, and Arabic. They have been out at MBTA stations and key intersections, and will be expanding into neighborhood parks at times when people gather and play sports. They are distributing COVID care kits, sharing information about safety precautions, and answering questions that people may have about COVID-19. We are making clear that anyone can get tested, regardless of immigration status. No information about your status will be asked. And we are making clear that residents can file a confidential complaint with the BPHC if employers or businesses aren't following safety guidelines.'

In addition, business outreach in Eastie began last week in multiple languages, to make sure management and staff know COVID regulations; have access to PPE, signage, and prevention efforts like social distancing and hygiene; and know that they need to report to BPHC when they have an employee test positive.

The Mayor said that if case numbers don't come down, the City will look at tightening regulations around gatherings and public spaces, but he hopes that it doesn't come to that.

"The City will prioritize working collaboratively with residents to get the message out that COVID-19 is still with us and all the precautions we've been taking are still necessary," he said.

The Mayor pointed out that economic conditions impact COVID numbers, and that Eastie has high rates of multi-generational housing, overcrowded housing, and breadwinners who can only work outside the home. He said bringing resources to those families and supporting them when workers need to stay home is a big part of the solution.

The Mayor concluded with a reflection on the ongoing psychological impact of COVID-19:

"Let's remember what people are going through," said Walsh. "People are experiencing illness in themselves and loved ones; fear of COVID that many have anxiety around; financial stress around lost income, struggling small businesses, and people in fear of losing their home. And then there's the toll of systemic racism. Many residents experience it personally and they also see continual footage of violence against Black and Brown people on social media. All of it together is taking a tremendous toll. It's showing up in mental health concerns and physical health concerns. It's playing a role in domestic violence and street violence. And people are struggling with substance use. For anyone in recovery or interested in recovery, recovery meetings are online and now some meetings are happening in person, outdoors. You can reach out to AA or NA to find a meeting, or contact our Office of Recovery Services by calling 311."

Walsh reminded the public that these are not normal times and a tendency toward conflict will not serve us well in every situation right now.

"I ask everyone to work together in a spirit of unity and I urge everyone to be kind to yourself and others," he said. "Let's take it a day at a time."

## TIPPING COW ICE CREAM TOPS LIST

EVERETT - There were a few key priorities for David Lindsey and his wife, Everett Councilor

Gerly Adrien, when they took over Somerville's Tipping Cow Ice Cream in 2018.

They promised to be all-natural, nut- and allergen-free, create a welcoming place for people to visit, and – as the cherry on top of that creation – to win the Best of Boston award for ice cream.

This month, they checked off the top of the list with Boston Magazine naming the shop the best ice cream in Boston – a major feather in the cap for the business that Lindsey and Adrien have been steadily growing for the last three summers.

"In 2018, we said we wanted to get that Best of Boston designation, but knew it would take a lot of work," said Lindsey last Friday, amidst mixing up a new batch of ice cream at his shop. "I said if we do things right and stay consistent, good things will come. We've creating a welcoming environment and treat people that come in with care and respect. We feel like we sell pints of love and happiness. That's what's important - giving people a good quality product made from scratch."

Lindsey had never really been in the ice cream business before, but he said he knew he wanted to own his own business. He was familiar with making homemade ice cream with his family growing up in Missouri, and he also had a lot of first-hand experience with culinary principles from working in fine dining. However, running an ice cream shop was new territory.

"I used to make ice cream with my grandparents used the old-style churns," he said. "You earned that ice cream. In college I worked with pastry chefs and they showed me things. Coupled with that was the experience in my own family and my own creativity and experimentation."

They kept the name of the show, Tipping Cow on Medford Street in Somerville, when they purchased it, but Lindsey said they were quite clear from day one they were taking it to a higher level. Starting with 12 core flavors, they experimented, researched and brainstormed until they have a huge variety of different tastes and gourmet offerings.

"We've created over 100 different flavors that we rotate in and out," he said. "We even have things like roasted honey fig, and I'm working now on a fig and goat cheese flavor. We make all our ice cream without the ego... Part of making ice cream is instinctive, but part of it is other

aspects of understanding culinary arts and how foods work together...We say we're trying to bring a piece of gourmet down to Earth in a fun and friendly environment."

One of the more interesting flavors he came up with is Vanilla Plum Cardinal.

"We've only made it four times ever," said Lindsey. "That's because we have to find the right plums."

Though he has nine different chocolate ice creams, Lindsey said he really never liked any kind of chocolate ice cream until he experimented with a Triple Chocolate. Now, out of all the choices on hand, he said that has become his favorite flavor.

For the shop, which has now been open in phases over the last two months after the COVID-19 lockdowns, the most popular summer flavors have been Sweet Corn, Teddie Berry Cherry and Key Lime Pie.

And they do it all in a way that's safe for people who have allergies, or who require dairy-free offerings (they have 30 dairy-free flavors).

Right now, they are also expanding their pint sales in gourmet shopping markets, and they have recently won the ability to feature their ice cream at Earl of Sandwich on the Boston Common – getting rave reviews so far

Yet, at the same time, all of the fun listed above cannot be a success unless there is consistency, said Lindsey. It's something Tipping Cow has achieved with many hours of work – sometimes as many as 80 to 90 hours put into the business in a week.

"The biggest thing with any business, especially food and food service, is consistency – providing a product that consistently tastes the same," he said. "That requires a lot of care and attention to detail...We've been consistent since we first opened. We've continued to build on it."

For Lindsey, despite the long hours and constant brainstorming about creative ideas, it is rewarding and worth it – something that was shown in the Best of Boston designation.

"It's fun and it's rewarding," he said. "You get an opportunity to do something that people love and really like. Being able to make people happy is cool. I don't miss putting on a shirt and tie and running to the Orange Line from Everett to fight to get downtown. It was chaotic, but that's not to say I didn't enjoy it. However, it's a whole different thing being able to come in and create something people love."

Tipping Cow is located at 415 Medford St. in Somerville, and Lindsey said they frequently find folks from Everett making their way over to the shop.



## Five North Shore Navigators earn All-FCBL team honors

Five North Shore Navigators players were honored on Tuesday as Futures Collegiate Baseball League (FCBL) Commissioner Joe Paolucci announced the 2020 All-FCBL First and Second Teams.

Outfielders Sal Frelick (Boston College) and Ben Malgeri (Northeastern), third baseman Cody Morissette (Boston College), and utility player Logan Bravo (Harvard) were all named to the All-FCBL First Team. Cam Climo (UMass Lowell) was named to the All-FCBL Second Team as an outfielder.

North Shore's four First Team selections match the champion Nashua Silver Knights for the most in the league this summer. The Navs have now had five All-FCBL honorees in back-toback years, but the First Team representation is the team's greatest since 2015.

Named the FCBL's Top Pro Prospect for the second time in his career last month, Frelick saw time in both the infield and outfield over his 24 games this summer, posting a league-leading .398 average with 26 runs scored, 39 hits, a .473 on-base percentage and .592 slugging percentage. The Lexington, Mass., native reached base in all but two games after starting the summer on a 17-game hitting streak and stole nine bases to set

North Shore's all-time franchise record in that category with 31 over his two summers.

Malgeri stood out in several offensive categories over the course of his second summer as a Navigator while becoming the first player in team history to win the FCBL's Defensive Player of the Year honor. The rising junior from Stratham, N.H., played in all 38 games, hitting .333 with 27 RBI and a league-leading 49 hits, 46 runs scored, franchise record-tying seven triples, and 18 stolen bases. Malgeri had 74 total chances on the defensive end, recording 67 putouts and contributing five assists.

Malgeri was also an All-FCBL Second Team performer in 2019. He is just the second player in Navs history to earn two All-FC-BL honors in his career, joining former Division 3 All-American pitcher Speros Varinos (Tufts) in 2015 and 2016. (However, All-FCBL teams were not selected in either 2014 or 2018.)

After becoming the first twotime All-American in BC's baseball history during the shortened spring of 2020, Morissette continued his success on the North Shore infield while seeing time at shortstop and third base this summer. The Exeter, N.H., native ranked fourth in the FCBL with a .340 average while his 31 RBI and .480 on-base percentage were second. Morissette reached base in his first 17 games of the summer after earning consecutive All-Star Game nods for the FCBL's Nashua Silver Knights in 2018 and Cape Cod League's Bourne Braves last summer.

Bravo was one of the league's top hitters across his second straight summer playing for North Shore, posting the sixthbest average at .328 with 10 extra-base hits, 20 RBI and 20 runs scored in all 38 games. The Andover, Mass., native's 45 hits ranked second in the league to Malgeri, and his 61 total bases ranked fourth. He reached base at a .427 clip thanks in large part to a 21-game streak (July 14 to Aug. 10), the league's longest all summer.

Climo slugged his way onto the All-FCBL Second Team after leading the Navs with five home runs and slugging .410 over his 29-game stint. The redshirt senior and Billerica, Mass., product recorded two RBI in two of his first three games as a Navigator before concluding his first week on the team with home runs in back-to-back contests. Climo's summer was highlighted by a grand slam and six RBI in the Navs' Aug. 14 win at Worcester.

The Navigators recently completed their 13th summer of collegiate baseball and ninth in the Futures League. Throughout the

#### ALL-FCBL FIRST TEAM

- P: Nick Sinacola, Brockton Rox, University of Maine
- \*\*Pitcher of the Year\*\*
- P: Angelo Baez, Worcester Bravehearts, St. Thomas Aquinas College
- P: Chase Jeter, Westfield Starfires, Sacred Heart University
- P: Nick Guarino, Nashua Silver Knights, Clark University
- C: Ben Rice, Worcester Bravehearts, Dartmouth College
- \*\*Most Valuable Player\*\*
- 1B: Dominic Keegan, Nashua Silver Knights, Vanderbilt University
- 2B: Matt Shaw, Worcester Bravehearts, University of Maryland
- SS: Jake Gelof, Brockton Rox, University of Virginia
- 3B: Cody Morissette, North Shore Navigators, Boston College
- OF: Ben Malgeri, North Shore Navigators, Northeastern University
- \*\*Defensive Player of the Year\*\*
- OF: Sal Frelick, North Shore Navigators, Boston College
- \*\*Top Pro Prospect\*\*
- OF: Jared Dupere, Nashua Silver Knights, Northeastern University
- DH: John Mead, Nashua Silver Knights, Franklin Pierce University
- Utility: Noah Martinez, New Britain Bees, Central Connecticut State University Utility: Logan Bravo, North Shore Navigators, Harvard University

#### **ALL-FCBL SECOND TEAM**

- P: Drew Mead, New Britain Bees, Marymount University
- P: Tim Noone, Brockton Rox, Babson College
- P: Christopher Mott, Worcester Bravehearts, New York Institute of Technology
- P: Jeff Taylor, Westfield Starfires, Millersville University
- P: Griffin Young, Nashua Silver Knights, Wheaton College
- C: Mike Caruso. New Britain Bees. Fairfield University
- 1B: Joe Bramanti, Brockton Rox, University of Maine
- 2B: Drew DeMartino, Westfield Starfires, University of Hartford
- SS: EJ Exposito, Worcester Bravehearts, New York Institute of Technology
- 3B: Buddy Dewaine, Brockton Rox, Central Connecticut State University
- OF: Cam Climo, North Shore Navigators, UMass Lowell
- OF: Joel Lara, Brockton Rox, Franklin Pierce University
- OF: Jacob Studley, Brockton Rox, Wheaton College
- DH: Dylan Jones, Nashua Silver Knights, Franklin Pierce University
- Utility: Danniel Rivera, New Britain Bees, Southern New Hampshire University Utility: Nick Shumski, Nashua Silver Knights, Merrimack College

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## Crowley completes research project at Worcester Polytechnic

Ryan Crowley of Lynn a member of the class of 2021 majoring in electrical and computer engineering at Worcester Polytechnic Institute (WPI), was a member of a student team that recently completed an intense research project titled Creating Marketing and Promotional Materials for Advocates of Dark Sky Preservation.

At WPI, all undergraduates are required to complete a research-driven, professional-level project that applies science and technology to addresses an important societal need or issue. Nearly 90% of students typically complete a project in collaboration with partners in communities across the country and around

the world, through the university's 50-plus project centers. Students usually travel to the project center for seven-week terms; this spring, however, due to the global coronavirus pandemic, they worked remotely, using video conferencing and other technology to complete their projects. A signature element of the innovative undergraduate experience at WPI, the project-based curriculum offers students the opportunity to apply their scientific and technical knowledge to develop thoughtful solutions to real problems that affect the quality of people's lives-and make a difference before they graduate.

"The WPI project-based cur-

riculum's focus on global studies brings students out of their comfort zones to apply their knowledge to solve real problems for people in communities around the globe," said Professor Kent Rissmiller, interim dean of the WPI Interdisciplinary and Global Studies Division. "Students have the opportunity to learn about a different culture, from the way people live and work to the values they hold to the foods they eat - all valuable perspectives for surviving and thriving in today's global marketplace. They also learn the meaning and magic of teamwork; make a real and meaningful difference; and gain a competitive edge for any

resume, or graduate or professional school application.

About Worcester Polytechnic

WPI, a global leader in project-based learning, is a distinctive, top-tier technological university founded in 1865 on the principle that students learn most effectively by applying the theory learned in the classroom to the practice of solving real-world problems. Recognized by the National Academy of Engineering with the 2016 Bernard M. Gordon Prize for Innovation in Engineering and Technology Education, WPI's pioneering project-based curriculum engages undergraduates in solving im-

portant scientific, technological and societal problems throughout their education and at more than 50 project centers around the world. WPI offers more than 50 bachelor's, master's, and doctoral degree programs across 14 academic departments in science, engineering, technology, business, the social sciences, and the humanities and arts. Its faculty and students pursue groundbreaking research to meet ongoing challenges in health and biotechnology; robotics and the internet of things; advanced materials and manufacturing; cyber, data, and security systems; learning science; and more. www. wpi.edu.



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#### Pressley, Warren, introduce legislation to confront the public health impacts of structural racism

Staff Report

Congresswoman Ayanna Pressley (MA-07), Sen. Elizabeth Warren (D-MA) and others last week announced their bicameral bill to confront the public health impacts of structural racism through two bold new programs within the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

"For far too long, our federal government has failed to recognize and address the structural racism that has devastated Black and brown communities and denied access to quality health care," said Congresswoman Pressley. "With the COVID-19 pandemic unveiling and exacerbating racial disparities in health outcomes, it is time we recognize and treat structural racism and police brutality as the public health crises that they are. This first-of-its-kind bill would expand federal research and investment into the public health impacts of structural racism, require the federal government to proactively develop anti-racist health policy, and take a public health approach to combatting police violence. We must have a coordinated public health response to structural racism, and this bill would do just that."

"It is time we start treating structural racism like we would treat any other public health problem or disease: investing in research into its symptoms and causes and finding ways to mitigate its effects," said Sen. Warren. "My bill with Representatives Lee and Pressley is a first step to create anti-racist federal health policy that studies and addresses disparities in health outcomes at their roots."

The COVID-19 pandemic has made it impossible to ignore how centuries of structural racism have created deep disparities in health outcomes for Black and Brown communities: Black and

Brown people are nearly three times more likely than white people to contract COVID-19 and one to two times more likely to die from the disease. People of color are also disproportionately affected by chronic health conditions such as diabetes, asthma, hepatitis, and hypertension; infant mortality; maternal mortality and morbidity; and police brutality -- and also less likely to be insured and have access to health care providers.

The federal government's failure to adequately collect race and ethnicity data on COVID-19 testing, hospitalization, and deaths has also demonstrated why comprehensive research is needed to study the health impacts of structural racism and to develop race-conscious public health approaches and reverse disparities that have plagued our nation for too long.

To help expand research and investment into the public health impacts of structural racism,

as well as to require the federal government to begin actively developing anti-racist health policy, Congresswoman Pressley, Senator Warren, and Congresswoman Lee have introduced the Anti-Racism in Public Health Act, which would:

•Create a "National Center for Anti-Racism" at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to declare racism as the public health crisis that it is and further develop the research base and knowledge in the science and practice of anti-racism. The Center would undertake such activities as:

\*Conducting research, collecting data, awarding grants, and providing leadership and coordination on the science and practice of anti-racism in the provision of health care, the public health impacts of systemic racism, and the effectiveness of interventions to address these impacts.

\*Creating at least three re-

gional centers of excellence in anti-racism.

\*Educating the public on the public health impacts of structural racism and anti-racist public health interventions.

\*Consulting with other Centers at the CDC to ensure that scientific and programmatic activities initiated by the agency consider structural racism in their designs, conceptualizations, and executions.

•Create a Law Enforcement Violence Prevention Program within the National Center for Injury Prevention and Control at the CDC. Physical and psychological violence perpetuated by law enforcement results in deaths, injuries, trauma, and stress, and disproportionately affects marginalized populations. This bill would take a public health approach to combating police brutality and violence by creating a dedicated law enforcement violence prevention program at the CDC.

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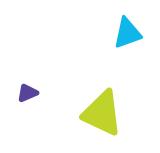
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