

THE LYNN JOURNAL

Thursday, March 11, 2021

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Finders Keepers Consignment Owner, Karyn Pallotta, holding a popular Louis Vuitton dog carrier on sale for \$2,900 at her boutique, during the grand opening on March 5

Finders Keepers Consignment opens in Lynn

Story & Photo by Marianne Salza

For those who may not be able to shop in Copley Square, Boston, for chic high-end items at full-price, Finders Keepers Consignment provides the opportunity to add luxurious accessories to their closet. Finders Keepers, which carries previously-owned designer fashions in exquisite condition, celebrated its grand

opening at 495 Eastern Avenue, Lynn, on March 5.

“We’ve been busy selling on social media and online platforms,” says Karyn Pallotta, Owner. “The store is finally finished, and we are inviting everyone. We have a huge selection of bags. Someone just bought a Burberry bag and wallet.”

Finders Keepers features a grand collection of Louis

Vuitton, Gucci, and Burberry handbags and shawls.

“Louis Vuitton is iconic,” explains Pallotta. “It goes up in value. It’s one of the best designer bags.”

A luxurious display of Yves Saint Laurent, Prada, Chanel, Dolce & Gabbana, Christian Louboutin, Gucci, and Louis Vuitton heels (some never

Please see CONSIGNMENT Page 3

Marvin’s back

Highly successful coach Avery set to lead Classical

By Cary Shuman

Game on.

The Lynn Classical boys basketball team open its season Friday at Revere High School.

Marvin Avery, who guided Lynn Tech to the 2002 state championship and had 263 victories in his 15-year career at Tech, is returning to the scene as the head coach of the Lynn Classical team.

And that’s great news for

Lynn Classical and Bill Devin’s athletic program.

Marvin Avery needs no introduction to area basketball fans. His work at Tech was extraordinary, bringing the Tigers to four Eastern Mass. finals and two state championship games. He was twice named Boston Globe Coach of the Year.

Three of Coach Avery’s superstar players at Tech, Antonio Anderson (Memphis), Corey Bingham (Toledo), and Tony

Gallo (Towson State) went on to play Division 1 college basketball, with Anderson ultimately playing for the NBA’s Oklahoma City Thunder. Anderson is now the head coach of the two-time defending Division 1 state champion Lynn English boys basketball team, so the coach and his former player will soon be facing off for the first time on opposing benches.

Please see CLASSICAL Page 12

GLSS staff helping in City’s vaccination efforts

Staff report

For many people who work at GLSS helping others—especially those in need—is simply part of their DNA. But willingly doing so in the midst of a global pandemic says something special about GLSS staff. “I have been at GLSS for almost a year now, and during that time, I have witnessed so many acts of caring and compassion among our staff,” said Kathryn C. Burns, MHA, Chief Executive Officer. “As I have said before, it continually reaffirms for me my decision to join this incredible organization.”

During the past year, GLSS staff have delivered Meals on Wheels, organized toy drives, brought food to local shelters, distributed Thanksgiving and Christmas meals, gave out Grab & Go meals and bags of groceries, and so much more. So it

came as no surprise to learn recently that many GLSS staff are assisting the City of Lynn with its vaccination efforts.

“Throughout the pandemic, consumer, clinical, and protective services staff have gone above and beyond to stay connected with our consumers, and, at this critical time, everyone is doing their part to help people get vaccinated,” said Holly Jarrell-Marcinelli, Director of Consumer Services. “Both our nursing and supportive housing staff have jumped in to support vaccine clinic operations in the city of Lynn.

On several recent Fridays, Rosemary Durant, RN, GLSS’ Nurse Manager, has assisted in preparing vaccines for administration at the Lynn Tech Fieldhouse site on Neptune Boulevard.

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Rosemary Durant, RN, GLSS Nurse Manager, and GLSS Home Care Nurse Carolyn Coan-Andrews prepare the Moderna vaccine for administration at the Lynn Tech Fieldhouse site on a recent Friday.

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EDITORIAL

WHAT ARE THEY THINKING?

Patrick Henry, the fiery American patriot and orator during the American Revolution, famously said, "Give me liberty, or give me death!"

However, Republican governors in some of our Southern and Midwestern states have, under the guise of "freedom," given that phrase during the current pandemic a 21st century twist:

"Give us liberty AND give us death!"

Ever since COVID-19 first was discovered, there have been a lot of unknowns about the disease and how it is transmitted. Scientists and medical professionals still are discovering new things about this bug and no doubt will continue to do so for years to come.

However, there is ONE thing about which there is now universal acceptance: Masking is THE most effective means we have for stopping the spread of this terrible disease.

Some Republican governors have refused to order public mask mandates for reasons that clearly are about politics and have nothing to do with the health and safety of their citizens.

They make the argument that they want to reopen their states because the economic benefits outweigh the potential negative health consequences. That, at least, is a debatable point.

However, the need to wear masks during a pandemic that features a virus that is spread by airborne particles from our noses and mouths is not debatable. More to the point, requiring citizens to wear masks is not inconsistent with "reopening" states' economies. A state can still allow all of its businesses to operate fully AND also require that everyone wear masks at all times.

President Joe Biden remarked that these governors, mostly notably Bill Abbott of Texas and Kristi Noem of South Dakota, are "neanderthal" in their thinking. Although the pundits quickly joked that Biden gave the Neanderthals (who became extinct, by the way) a bad name, it is no laughing matter that their dangerous policies will lead to entirely preventable deaths in their states, exposing front-line workers, first-responders, and healthcare providers to unnecessary risk of harm.

Ms. Noem's state of South Dakota for example, has the fifth-highest COVID death rate and second-highest infection rate among the 50 states.

Every state has speed limits, stop signs, and red lights on its highways. Every state requires every citizen to wear pants in public at all times. The suggestion that a mask mandate during a public health crisis represents an impingement on personal freedom is absurd on its face (no pun intended).

We are fortunate that in Massachusetts and surrounding states, masking at all times has been widely-accepted since the beginning of the pandemic. We have a governor and a public health infrastructure that have left no doubt about the need for everyone to wear masks while among others.

There may be a lot of unknowns about COVID-19, but the efficacy of wearing masks is not one of them.



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GUEST OP-ED

Water Day 2021: Cleaner Rivers for Massachusetts

By Julia Blatt

As Massachusetts observes World Water Day this year, our state's communities have particular reason to celebrate. The Massachusetts legislature recently enacted (and Governor Baker signed into law) a state sewage notification bill. This important new law has been a long time coming.

World Water Day falls on March 22nd of each year. Since it first became a United Nations Observance Day in 1993, World Water Day has served as a time to think about, and take action to address, the water crisis. In 2021, World Water Day focuses on the environmental, social and cultural value people place on water. The day provides Massachusetts residents an opportunity to consider the importance of clean water. Clean water is not something to take for granted.

On this year's World Water Day, Massachusetts Rivers Alliance, the Voice of Massachusetts Rivers, is celebrating a major step the state has taken toward ensuring safer

rivers. For years, Mass Rivers led advocacy efforts with many partners to pass a state law requiring sewer operators to establish a notification system. The goal was to let the public know when there is a sewage discharge into a public waterbody, so residents could avoid contaminated waters.

Fecal bacteria poses many

public health threats, including ear and eye infections, skin rashes, hepatitis, and inflammation of the intestines. Emerging research also suggests that fecal bacteria can spread COVID-19.

Many cities in the Northeast combine sewage and storm-water collection systems, a relic of long-ago urban engi-

(Op-Ed Pg. 3)

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Op-Ed/ CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

neering. These systems are designed to bypass wastewater treatment facilities if the volume of water is too much for the facilities to handle. For these aging systems, heavy rain sends a mixture of untreated sewage and stormwater into local waterways. Until now, there was no way for the public to know when these discharges occurred, leaving

people downstream at risk of contact with contaminated waters.

In 2018, an especially large volume of sewage pollution was discharged into the Merrimack River. As a downstream community, Newburyport bore the brunt of all this sewage winding up in their waters.

The problems experienced

in Newburyport, however, are not unique. Sewage discharges regularly harm water quality in our state. In Massachusetts, there are 181 combined sewer overflow (CSO) outfalls, and 24 CSO permittees. In a typical year, Massachusetts' waterways receive almost 3 billion gallons of untreated and partially treated sewage mixed with stormwater from CSOs. These outfalls are concentrated in urban areas, like Fall River, Lawrence, and Lowell, making CSO pollution an environmental justice issue, as the closest waterways to residents of urban neighborhoods may be contaminated without their knowing.

The Massachusetts sewage notification bill was filed during five consecutive legislative sessions. Finally, in the summer of 2020, the bill passed the Massachusetts House of Representatives unanimously, and was sent to the Senate, where it sat until the final hours of the legislative session in January 2021. In quick succession that night, the Senate voted to pass it, and the House agreed to Senate modifications, sending the bill to the Governor's desk. Governor Baker signed the bill on January 12, 2021.

Raw and partially treated sewage should never be discharged into our waters. Public notification of sewage dis-

charges is an important first step, and Mass Rivers hopes the new law will lead to a greater public willingness to invest in much needed water infrastructure, including separating these combined sewer systems. These are expensive projects, but these investments are critical to protecting our environment, public health and safety, and ensuring environmental justice and climate resiliency. On World Water Day 2021, Mass Rivers encourages all Massachusetts residents to pledge themselves to the goal of clean, safe water for all.

Julia Blatt is the Executive Director, Massachusetts Rivers Alliance.

CONSIGNMENT (from pg. 1)

worn) ascends like a tiered champagne tower in the center of the room. Behind the table of stilettos is a plush leopard-print high-heel chair that Pallotta found on consignment in New Hampshire.

"People want high-end designers," Pallotta says. "Consignment works great because the people who can't afford it when it's \$4,000 can come here and get it for \$1,500. It's like brand new."

Further inside, customers can find Coach, Michael Kors, and Kate Spade pocketbooks, as well as a selection of \$20-\$30 Nine West, Tory Burch, and Kate Spade shoes and boots. Pallotta also consigns some clothing, such as Eileen Fisher pieces, Burberry skirts and dresses, and Armani.

Louis Vuitton and Chanel-inspired T-shirts can be seen from the window frontage of the main street boutique that's display cases are filled with Tiffany & Company jewelry, Christian Dior sunglasses, and designer wallets and clutches.

At a time when few are buying ball gowns, Pallotta has adjusted her focus to accommodate life during a pandemic. Pallotta sells designer-inspired face masks that she

embellishes with Swarovski crystals in the shape of glistening footballs, lips, and skulls; in addition to adorned Patriots, Celtics, Bruins, and Red Sox caps and winter hats.

"Don't give up. Keep pushing forward," Pallotta advises to entrepreneurs wanting to open businesses during the pandemic. "I have another job at an airline that I do in the morning, and then I come here."

Pallotta sends accessories everywhere – New York, Chicago, Houston, and Florida – and recently received a floral arrangement from a grateful customer in Louisiana who purchased a handbag from Finders Keepers.

"I love that you can find what you're looking for in impeccable condition at unbelievable prices," explains Pallotta, formerly of Revere, and now a Peabody resident. "Someone else loved it, and now you can love it. Finders Keepers."

Visit Karyn Pallotta at Finders Keepers Consignment, located at 495 Eastern Avenue, Lynn, call for an appointment at (781) 241-3564, or view high-end accessories and clothing online soon at www.FindersKeepers77.com.

SEND US YOUR NEWS

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

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DPW employees attend training session on safe handling of needles, syringes

By Cary Shuman

Lisa Nerich, associate commissioner of the Lynn Department of Public Works, held a training session for DPW employees on the safe handling and proper disposal of needles and syringes that have been showing up at parks and traffic island planters in the city.

Nerich enlisted the aid and expertise of Scott Watson of the

Lynn Fire Department, who led the training sessions.

The Pine Grove Cemetery, park, and street divisions of the DPW participated in the training sessions.

Prior to the sessions, Nerich commended the DPW employees for their outstanding work during the pandemic while adhering to social distancing guidelines and keeping residents safe.

“Our DPW employees have

continued to work through the pandemic and I told them how much we appreciate everyone’s help during these difficult times,” said Nerich.

Watson delivered a thorough, half-hour lecture and demonstration on the critical importance of handling needles and syringes in safe fashion.

“Today we will be talking about a program that will familiarize you with some of the safety aspects around the needles

and how you can keep from getting stuck,” began Watson.

Watson demonstrated some of the equipment and attire available for the pick-up of needles including different types of gloves, trash-reachers, and gauntlet sleeves (that provide skin protection for a person’s arms). “All that stuff is really effective,” said Watson.

He said that even with the gloves and equipment, a person should demonstrate extreme

caution in the handling of needles and syringes.

Nerich thanked Watson for his professional presentation.

“I think Scott’s presentation will help our employees to apply the highest standards of safety in their day-to-day work in the department and in the risks they encounter because of the improper disposal of these needles and syringes,” said Nerich.

Lynn resident receives Salem State University MLK Leadership Award

Martine Francois of Lynn is the staff recipient of the 2021 Salem State University Martin Luther King, Jr. Leadership Award for her outstanding contributions to the cause of freedom, justice, peace, and equality. Francois is the Director of TRIO Student Support Services at Salem State and is a long-time mentor to middle school girls at Girls Inc., in Lynn, where she also serves on the Board of Directors. The award was presented at the university’s 31st annual Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Convocation held virtually on January 22, 2021.

Francois’ nomination noted that she has “dedicated her professional and personal life towards efforts leading to the betterment of underrepresented and marginalized students.” In addition, for the past decade she has “championed the needs of disadvantaged students in her collaborations with campus colleagues and advocacy work in Washington, DC.”

The Salem State University Martin Luther King Jr. Leadership Award is given annually to a



Martine Francois.

Salem State student, alumna/us, faculty member, staff member, or administrator for their outstanding and significant contributions to the cause of social justice, peace, and equality. Recipients are recognized for their actions and behaviors in working either on or off-campus for the betterment of the community in a man-

ner consistent with the legacy of Dr. King.

The 2021 Martin Luther King, Jr. Leadership Award recipients were announced at the university’s 31st Annual Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Convocation on January 22, an event that was held virtually. The award announcements were followed by

a keynote address from Civil Rights Activist Dr. Angela Davis, who also took part in a Q&A with students. The Convocation concluded the university’s annual Martin Luther King, Jr. Week, which also included an Inauguration Day watch event and a virtual Freedom March and Candlelight Vigil. These events and the Martin Luther King, Jr. Leadership Award were coordinated by the Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration and Black History Month Collaborative.

The 2021 MLK Leadership Award recipients include:

Undergraduate Student: Toiell Washington, Sociology

Graduate Student: Kiara Dade, Higher Education in Student Affairs (HESA)

Alumna/us: Marquis Victor ’09, Founder, Elevated Thought

Faculty: Leslie Duhaylongsod, Assistant Professor, Secondary and Higher Education

Staff or Administrator: Martine Francois, Director, TRIO Student Support Services Salem State University, estab-

lished in 1854, is a comprehensive, public institution of higher learning located approximately 15 miles north of Boston, Massachusetts. One of the largest state universities in the Commonwealth, Salem State enrolls about 7,000 undergraduate and graduate students. It offers 32 undergraduate programs and graduate programs that offer degrees in 24 fields. The university also has a continuing education division that offers both credit and non-credit programs. Known for the academic strength of its faculty, Salem State was named a Top Producer of U.S. Fulbright Scholars in 2011 and for the 2016-2017 academic year. The university is designated a Top College and University by Military Advanced Education and a Best for Vets College by Military Times. Salem State proudly participates in the National Study of Learning, Voting, and Engagement and has shown a student voting rate well above the national average, earning the university a gold seal from the ALL IN Campus Democracy Challenge.

Applications now being accepted for Treasurer Goldberg’s Women in Finance Fellowship

The State Treasurer’s Office of Economic Empowerment is accepting applications for the 2021 Women in Finance Fellow-

ship program. In its fifth year, the initiative places Massachusetts’ female-identifying undergraduate students into financial departments

within the State Treasury. The Fellowship did not run in 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

“This fellowship will provide young women who seek careers in finance, the opportunity to enhance their skills, build confidence and develop relationships with mentors and their peers,” said State Treasurer Deborah B. Goldberg, “By providing firsthand job experience with exposure to financial leaders in both Treasury and throughout the community, we are investing in the future success of our fellows, and also building toward a more gender balanced sector.”

The Women in Finance Fellowship seeks to identify and fos-

ter female talent for the financial services industry, build a network and pipeline for women in finance, and advocate for the placement of women in leadership roles. The Fellowship will help recruit, retain, and foster female talent, and promote awareness of the benefits of hiring women at all levels of management. Although the Fellowship will be virtual this year, the Office of Economic Empowerment is incorporating educational sessions throughout the summer with leaders in the industry.

The deadline to apply is Wednesday, March 17. The program launches on June 1, and will conclude on July 30. For more information about the Women in

Finance Fellowship or to apply, visit <https://www.mass.gov/service-details/what-the-women-in-finance-fellowship-offers>.

On her first day in office, Treasurer Goldberg created the Office of Economic Empowerment, led by a deputy treasurer, with the deliberate goal of implementing a range of economic empowerment initiatives that include closing the race and gender wage gap, addressing racial equity, increasing access to financial education, improving college affordability, and investing in STEM careers and education. For more information about OEE visit www.mass.gov/orgs/office-of-economic-empowerment.

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Online fundraiser for Lynn man that died in Downtown construction accident

By John Lynds

A friend of the Lynn man that was killed during a construction accident last week on High Street in Downtown Boston launched an online fundraising campaign to help the family he left behind.

Zen Gonzalez created the online fundraising campaign to help Jordy Romero's family pay for his funeral expenses. Romero died on Wednesday, February 24, after being fatally struck by a vehicle while working on a construction site in downtown Boston.

"I am making this account on

behalf of Jordy's wife and family," wrote Gonzalez. "Jordy was a loving husband and friend. Everywhere he went he radiated light. Laughs and smiles followed him everywhere. He was a kindhearted man who worked everyday to provide for his two children in El Salvador.

Gonzalez said he one day dreamed of reuniting with his children but life had different plans.

"Jordy arrived to work like every other day, with a huge smile on his face," she wrote. "A few hours later the incident occurred."

The website, which can be found at www.gofundme.com/f/jordy-romeros-funeral-expenses, has been created to raise money for all the family's funeral expenses.

"This was something no one could foresee therefore the family is struggling to come up with the money," said Gonzalez. "Anything donated will be greatly appreciated."

Already the campaign has raised over \$8,000 towards a \$15,000 goal.

Romero was killed instantly alongside his co-worker, Juan Carlos Figueroa, after a construc-

tion truck accidentally knocked the two into a trench that was 20 feet deep. Both Romero and Figueroa were part of the construction crew doing work on High Street in Downtown Boston. They worked for Atlantic Coast Utilities. The company was hired to make an emergency repair on a sewer line.

The Boston Police Department's Homicide Unit and Fatal Collision Investigation Team are actively reviewing the facts and circumstances surrounding this incident along with OSHA, the Suffolk County District Attorney's Office and Boston's ISD.



A friend of the Lynn man that was killed during a construction accident last week on High Street in Downtown Boston launched an online fundraising campaign. The fundraiser will help Jordy Romero's (pictured) pay for funeral expenses.

Lynn man arrested for possessing three pounds of suspected methamphetamine and two firearms

A Lynn man was arrested this week in connection with allegedly possessing over three pounds of methamphetamine and two firearms found in his residence.

David Oth, a/k/a "Baby Bouncer," a/k/a "BB," 32, was charged by criminal complaint with possession with intent to distribute controlled substances, being a felon in possession of a firearm and possession of a firearm in furtherance of a drug trafficking crime. Following an initial appearance in federal court in Boston on Wednesday, March 3, 2021, Oth was detained pending a detention hearing scheduled for March 12, 2021.

According to charging documents, Oth was previously convicted of a felony offense

in Essex Superior Court, which prohibited him from possessing firearms. On Feb. 24, 2021, law enforcement conducted a search at Oth's residence in Lynn and found approximately three pounds of suspected methamphetamine and two firearms in the basement.

The charge of possession of a controlled substance with intent to distribute provides for a sentence of up to 20 years in prison, at least three years and up to life of supervised release and a fine of up to \$1 million. Based upon the seized weight of suspected narcotics, the statute provides for a mandatory minimum sentence of 10 years and up to life in prison and a fine of up to \$10 million. The charge of possess-

ing a firearm in furtherance of a drug trafficking conspiracy provides for a sentence of up to life in prison, a minimum period of five years from and after the sentence for the drug trafficking crime, five years of supervised release and a fine of \$250,000. The charge of being a felon in possession of a firearm provides for a sentence of up to 10 years in prison, three years of supervised release and a fine of \$250,000. Sentences are imposed by a federal district judge based on the U.S. Sentencing Guidelines and other statutory factors.

Acting United States Attorney Nathaniel R. Mendell; Joseph R. Bonavolonta, Special Agent in Charge of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, Boston

Field Division; Kelly D. Brady, Special Agent in Charge of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms & Explosives, Boston Field Division; Colonel Christopher Mason, Superintendent of the Massachusetts State Police; and Lynn Police Chief Michael A. Mageary made the announcement. Assistance was provided by the Essex County District Attorney's Office, Middlesex County District Attorney's Office, Suffolk County District Attorney's Office and the Boston Police Department. Assistant U.S. Attorneys Philip A. Mallard and Sarah Hoefle of Mendell's Organized Crime and Gang Unit are prosecuting the case.

The operation was conducted by a multi-agency task force

through the Organized Crime Drug Enforcement Task Force (OCDETF), a partnership between federal, state and local law enforcement agencies. The principal mission of the OCDETF program is to identify, disrupt and dismantle the most serious drug trafficking, weapons trafficking and money laundering organizations, and those primarily responsible for the nation's illegal drug supply. More information on the OCDETF program is available here: <https://www.justice.gov/ocdetf/about-ocdetf>.

The details contained in the charging documents are allegations. The defendant is presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt in a court of law.

The YMCA of Metro North sets May 7 as opening date for facility in Lynn

YMCA of Metro North is pleased to announce its new YMCA on Neptune Boulevard in Lynn is scheduled to open on May 7, with pre-opening tours beginning next week. Opening day events will include a ribbon-cutting ceremony honoring the building's main champion, Tom Demakes, the CEO of Old Neighborhood Foods, and invited dignitaries who supported the building's development. The YMCA of Metro North announced its new facility name, Demakes Family YMCA, in January.

"It's been a long road to opening this new building. We've had delays in construction, site environmental restorations, and a host of other challenges, but believe me, the wait was worth it," says Kathleen Walsh, President and CEO of the YMCA of

Metro North. "When you see what we've done with this place, it will amaze you. It's one of the most advanced YMCAs in the Commonwealth and the facility and its features are just beautiful."

The Demakes Family YMCA amenities include an aquatic center with two pools and indoor splash pad; gymnasium, a regulation basketball court; fitness, strength, and cardio areas; three group exercise studios with a dedicated cycling studio; indoor track, adventure warrior obstacle course, outdoor playground, and more.

"This pandemic called attention to how vital exercise and healthy social activities are in maintaining our physical and mental wellness," says Andrea Baez, Senior Executive Director of the Demakes Family YMCA.

"This new facility is a community-centered place where our neighbors can safely come together, socialize, workout, learn, and play. It's exactly what we need right now."

The City of Lynn lifted its second round of restrictions on indoor gyms on February 1. Since then, the YMCA began to launch its opening plan which includes 30 days of pre-opening tours and events leading up to its May 7th grand opening.

"This new building is going to be something special and will be a feather in the cap of our city," said Tom Demakes. "People who see the construction happening have no idea how incredible this building will be. Once they see it and use it, they are going to be thrilled and so proud that this new YMCA is right on their back doorstep."

In addition to its health and fitness amenities, the Demakes Family YMCA will include a healthy kitchen and café, an adolescent behavioral health clinic, a technology center, four Y Academy preschool classrooms, and cooking and nutrition programs for youth.

"We start tours for the public on March 17. We set aside special tour days for families during school vacation week, time for our neighbors and long-time supporters in Ward 6 to get a special tours, weekend hours for city and frontline workers, special senior tour hours, and others," says Baez. "It's an inspiration to have this building opening now and a sign of hope that we may start getting back to doing the things we love."

A SHORT STORY ABOUT GROWING UP WITH AN UNFAIR ADVANTAGE.

POLIO.

As one of the last American children to contract polio, Jeffrey Galpin grew up in a world of iron lungs and body casts, alone with his imagination. His story would be dramatic enough if it was just about his battle with this dreaded disease.

But Jeffrey Galpin did more than survive polio. He went on to a list of achievements in medical research—including being the principal investigator in applying the first gene therapy for HIV/AIDS.

Dr. Galpin actually credits his own incurable condition for giving him the focus that made him so passionate in his research. His story leaves us with two of the most contagious messages we know. Don't give up, and remember to give back. If Dr. Galpin's story inspires just one more person to make a difference, then its telling here has been well worth while.



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GLSS (from pg. 1)

“There were many volunteers from both the community and the Lynn Community Health Center directing consumers and answering questions,” she stated. “The Lynn Fire Department was out in full force and was a big help.” The following week, Rosemary was joined by GLSS Home Care nurse Carolyn Coan-Andrews, RN.

Rosemary noted that the entire process from registration to vaccination seemed organized and ran smoothly. The City of Lynn anticipated administering 520 vaccines that day; however, due to the Governor’s decision to allow companions and caregivers under 75 to also be vaccinated, the total vaccines administered was probably closer to 600. The City plans to add evening hours with the goal of vaccinating 1,000 people per day.

Recently Paula Gonzalez, RN, and Nurse Supervisor Michelle Syed, RN, volunteered for what was the busiest clinic yet, with over 750 people being vaccinated. “It is really our honor and privilege to be able to do this,” Michelle said.

Staff who work at Supportive Housing Sites in Lynn also worked with the City’s Board of Health and Housing Authority to offer vaccination clinics. Maloney Properties, which manages St. Theresa House and St. Mary’s Plaza, partnered with CVS to vaccinate approximately 90 residents, administering both shots over the course of four clinics with assistance from Program Manager Maureen Teal and SCO GSSC Grecia Paradis. Working with the Lynn Board of Health and Simon Properties, Resident Services Coordinator (RSC) Il-

iana Arzola organized a clinic at Silsbee Tower Apartments, where approximately 60 elders received the first vaccine. (The second dose is scheduled for March.) Eligible residents of neighboring Lynn Housing Authority properties were invited to attend, and RSC Acie Johnson and Home Care Case Manager Mariana Zorin provided support. “I am so grateful to Simon Properties for opening its doors to the residents of nearby McGee House and Olive Street,” Maureen stated. “Residents at those sites were delighted to be included.”

GLSS staff are helping in all sorts of interesting ways. Liz Bulkley, Moeun Him, and Joey Sawyer-Shaw are currently working on a series of educational videos about the safety and efficacy of the vaccines in con-



GLSS Nurse Supervisor Michelle Syed, RN, and Maryanne Sheckman, RN, at the Lynn Tech Fieldhouse site.

junction with the Lynn Community Health Center. Throughout the pandemic, the Media Team has been creating videos to assist in educating staff, consumers, and the general public about COVID-19 and developing programming like Kelly’s Corner and GLSS TV to reduce stress and isolation.

“This year has really shined a spotlight on the dedication, commitment, and caring of our staff under the most difficult circumstances,” Kathy Burns said. “All these highly visible efforts really showcase to the wider community the character and compassion of our agency.”

Have an Eggstra Special Easter Season

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Photos will be published on March 31st and April 1st

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His road to Hollywood begins

Colin Jamieson auditions for American Idol

By Cary Shuman

Colin Jamieson, whose well-known family has roots in Lynn and whose aunt is one of the city's greatest softball players of all time, will audition on American Idol this Sunday, March 14 on ABC TV.

Jamieson, who has been "a singer my whole life," will perform in front of celebrity judges Lionel Richie, Katy Perry, and Luke Bryan, with the hope of receiving a Golden Ticket to Idol's Hollywood Week later this month.

Colin's father, Paul Jamieson,

and grandfather, Danny Jamieson, grew up in Lynn and several of his relatives worked at General Electric in Lynn. His aunt is Martha Jamieson, who excelled in basketball, softball, and soccer at Lynn English before becoming a Division 1 college softball player at UMass/Amherst. Considered one of the greatest softball players in Lynn history, Martha is currently the director of athletics at Silver Lake Regional High School.

A resident of Boxford and 2016 graduate of Masconomet Regional High School, Colin, 22, attended North Shore Communi-

ty College in Danvers.

Colin will bring a multitude of talents to the Idol stage. In addition to his outstanding singing, he also plays piano and guitar. His piano teacher was Mark Rasmussen, who has become one of Colin's close friends.

He has appeared at many local venues, but has focused on Martha's Vineyard and Florida for the past few years with a company [Jerry Bennett Entertainment] that performs at weddings.

"I did perform at the Apple Festival in Boxford and at a few weddings at the Mandarin Hotel and the Institute of Contemporary Art," said Colin. "I was in a boy band (Kik-it) a few years back and performed at the Topsfield Fair."

But he's now all in on American Idol, the popular show hosted by Ryan Seacrest that has produced such superstars as Kelly Clarkson, Jennifer Hudson, Carrie Underwood, and Adam Lambert.

Colin said meeting the judges at the American Idol audition was an exciting experience.

"It's crazy - you hear about them growing up and then you see the judges on the stage and they're these huge figures and all of sudden, it all comes into reality," said Colin. "My feeling was, 'I've put in so much work by myself at this house in Boxford



Colin Jamieson, pictured on stage in San Diego for his American Idol audition.



Colin Jamieson shows his musical versatility with a performance at the piano during his American Idol audition that will be featured on the March 14 episode on ABC TV.

in my basemen studio and to be there in front of the judges, I had nothing but a big smile on my face.' The thought I had in my head was, 'I can't wait to show you guys what I can do'."

Colin, who is now 6-feet tall, played intramural basketball, soccer, and football in middle school. But he put music ahead of his athletic pursuits and is now on the brink of stepping on the biggest stage of his rising career: American Idol and its millions of

viewers.

Colin related that he was aware of his aunt Martha's legendary athletic exploits in high school and college. "My aunt and I are very close - she's very, very sweet," said Colin. "Her brother, Mark, is an incredible runner."

Colin joins St. Mary's High School senior Amanda Mena as Idol contestants with Lynn connections this season. Mena has already earned her Golden Ticket to Idol's Hollywood Week.

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NEWS FROM AROUND THE REGION

“LIZ” MCBRIDE DIES AT 100

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

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

Mrs. McBride was a pioneer in the local Kiwanis

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

“We are saddened by this huge loss to our community,” said Ramirez. “I just hope to be at least a tiny percent of what she was for Kiwanis during my Kiwanis years. Not only was she active in Kiwanis, she was a member of the School Committee, engaged with our children, and passionate about bicycle safety – she was a great woman and

we will miss her terribly.”

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

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

“Liz devoted her life’s work to the Chelsea schoolchildren and Chelsea School Committee,” said Robinson. “Through the Kiwanis Club and her advocacy for our students, the Kiwanis Club has been a generous donor of scholarships to Chelsea High students and Liz made it happen,” said Robinson.

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

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

Carlisle recalled how Mrs. McBride would visit the Mary C. Burke Complex and read books to the elementary school students there. They would lovingly call her, ‘Grandma’, related Carlisle.

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

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

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

Chelsea. They’re really Chelsea people.”

CITY HALL TOWER GETTING A FACELIFT

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

Nevertheless, this month the City’s Department of Public Works began a complete restoration project for the tower – getting rid of 100-year-old rickety stairs, fixing leaks, repointing the brickwork, righting the clock and even applying a new layer of gilding to the Hall’s golden dome.

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

The impetus for the restoration comes from many directions.

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

“What happens is on the north side of the tower, we had a lot of water coming in and would destroy the Conference Room,” he said. “In my four years here, we’ve re-done that roof four times. That was the driving force of this project. Once we started that, we pushed the Council for a holistic project that restored the entire Tower. We believe after this we won’t have to tackle the Tower for another 100 years.”

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

Right now, Contracting Specialists Inc. (CSI) are working on the brick work and the masonry to stop all the

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

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

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

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

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

DEMARIA SEEKS RE-ELECTION

EVERETT - Mayor Carlo DeMaria officially announced that he would be seeking re-election as mayor of Everett in 2021.

The mayor’s Campaign Committee had indicated previously in the Independent that he was going to run and he has informally said over the last several months that he would, indeed, seek another four-year term.

In his official announcement, he said he still has big goals and big plans, and hopes to continue them in 2022.

“I have big goals, aggressive goals, but I’m confident they can be accomplished if given the opportunity to continue to serve as your Mayor,” he wrote in an op-ed to the paper. “I am excited to get back on the campaign trail this year and hope to have the opportunity to discuss our past accomplishments as well as bold plans for the future with you directly. Your early support and encouragement will fuel this campaign.”

The mayor relayed many of

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Region / CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8

the actions and accomplishments from 2020, in the midst of the pandemic, and said he's ready to move past last year and re-claim the City's momentum.

"I am committed to continuing to move our City forward - together," he said.

"As Mayor, I promise to continue to make strides towards bettering our community in all aspects, including, but not limited to, transportation, capital improvements, and infrastructure. The pandemic required the City to shift gears and adapt to a global crisis; however, we are ready to pick up where we left off and continue to move Everett forward."

He said a lot of what will be done the remaining part of his current term, through 2021, will be helping residents and businesses get on their feet and ready for the plans he has in 2022.

"Since then, our City has truly come together to support one another," he said of the actions after schools and City Hall were closed on March 14, 2020. "We have distributed 1.4 Million pounds of food, delivered 130,000 meals to the elderly, and provided financial assistance to residents and local businesses alike. In 2021 my Administration will be focused on getting our children back into the classroom, providing all residents an opportunity to get vaccinated, and distributing additional financial assistance to residents and businesses."

He also mentioned that in 2020, Everett was named one of the top places to live North of Boston by the Boston Globe, noting that Everett was a "winning bet" with the recent increases in property values. He added that even with those increases, Everett has the one of the lowest single-family tax bills in Greater Boston.

DeMaria said serving as mayor has been an honor, and he hopes to be able to do so for another four-year term.

"Serving as Mayor has truly been an honor and a privilege," he said. "It is something that I have never and will never take for granted. The trust

and encouragement provided by the residents over the years continues to inspire my family and me. I look forward to continuing this journey with you, the great people of Everett."

DARREN PIERRE PAINTS HIS WAY

EVERETT - In front of a two shades of blue and on top of a red floor sits a lonely and isolated young man - empty and seemingly without hope.

It is the stark picture of how the pandemic started for Everett High star artist Darren Pierre, who won a Silver Key art award late last month for the painting - which he titled 'Isolated' and for which so many students and staff have come to relate to as how they also felt.

Pierre, 18, said he has won Silver Keys in the past - one of the district's most consistent winning artists - but this one was a little more personal because the painting (dubbed 'Isolated') bore more raw emotion than he usually lets into his work.

"At the beginning of the Quarantine I was in a really bad spot and wasn't really trying to come out of it," he said. "I stayed in my room 24/7 and never went out even if my mom let me go out. I would only go out if she sent me to the market. I didn't want to associate with anyone for a while. I was depressed. This painting described how I felt. I did that painting when I felt exactly like that - isolated."

Like many young people, Pierre struggled though many months, but has emerged and figured out how to remain creative and not fall into the depths of where he was when he painted isolated - though he said he values the painting because it's an honest representation of how he felt.

Art Teacher Evan DeMarzo said so many students and staff have had strong feelings about relating to the painting, but a remarkable think for Pierre - DeMarzo said - is that after that painting his work began to show his growth within the situation.

"He had a drawing later on that showed him in the same

corner, except this time he's laying down on the floor and there's a guitar by him, plants growing around him and he's smiling," said DeMarzo. "You see through his art that he's kind of figured this thing out. It's such a great contrast."

Pierre is the rare artist that has as much interest in what he calls his "weird art" as he has in a more commercialized form of art - which he practices in his own home-based business that has been humming with orders and projects over the last several months. Meanwhile, he has also kept his artistic flair alive painting from home while taking remote classes and beginning the transition to go to Monserat College next fall.

Pierre said his business is what has kept him going with art, kept him interested and able to perform at the level that would earn him another Silver Key award.

"Me being able to do this business has kept things going," he said. "If it wasn't for the business, I would have stopped doing art by now. It's keeping me extremely busy and getting orders left and right. I'm just really excited to see it come to life now. That's exciting and it keeps me going."

The business is based in

fashion, where he customizes clothing or objects for customers. That's something he hopes to continue doing when he moves on to Monserrat, as the teachers there have told him they like his fashion portfolio and it's something he could investigate in his artistic journey there.

That said, Pierre's art career didn't begin on a pair of designer jeans or on a canvas even.

When he was very young, he said his dad was studying to become an architect and would always be doing architectural drawings at his work desk.

"He would always be drawing buildings for his school and I was intrigued," said Pierre. "Then, every time I got a book I would draw the characters in the book on the back pages of the book. I also drew on the walls, but my mom did not like that."

Pierre started his schooling at the Keverian School and then moved up to Everett High, where he is a senior. At Everett High he has taken a number of classes including Studio Art, Advanced Art and Illustration - among so many others.

Yet, it was a contest sponsored by the MWRA that truly pushed him to begin thinking

about art.

"My very first time really trying to do serious art was in the fifth grade for the MWRA Poster Contest," he said. "That was crazy. I had always wanted to win that and hear my name called over the speaker at school. As it happened the day I actually won was one of the few days I was late to school. When I got there my friends were telling me I won the award. The one day I was late to school, and I missed my moment."

But other moments would come and are yet to come.

Art Director Amanda Gil said the teachers at EHS expect big things out of Pierre, but not just on the canvas. He is also a talented singer, and certainly has a mind for business too. Plus, she said, he is a kind and caring young man.

"It's not because Darren is super successful in his talent and his art, but his character is one of a kind," she said. "He's humble and kind and it speaks a lot about who he is as a person and an artist."

In addition to Gil and DeMarzo, Pierre said he had been greatly influenced by teachers Annette LeRay and Brianna Pierce.

He is the son of Jean and Darlene Pierre.

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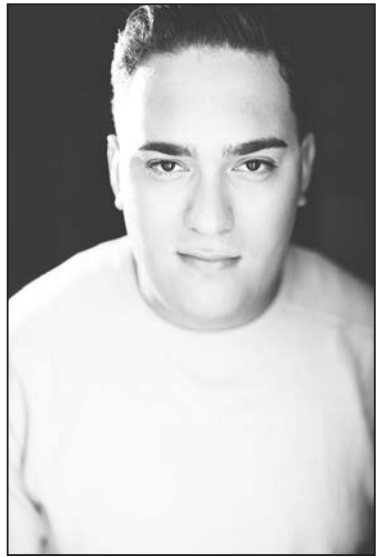


Barbosa wins Best Comedic Actor Award at regional college theater festival

Salem State University theatre student Fernando Barbosa of Everett received the New England Theater Conference (NETC) Best Comedic Actor Award at the 2021 Region 1 Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival (KCACTF), which took place virtually, January 24-31, 2021.

Three additional Salem State students won regional awards, two of whom will advance to the Kennedy Center national festival in the categories of acting and lighting design. In addition, Salem State University won the Tech Trivia Championship overall, and will have the honor of running the Tech Olympics at the 2022 KCACTF Region 1 Festival.

Barbosa, class of 2022, is pursuing a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Performance. His credits include: Much Ado About Nothing (Irene Ryan Nomination) and The House of Blue Leaves (Salem State University); Native Gardens (Glouces-



Fernando Barbosa.

ter Stage); All's Well that Ends Well and Cymbeline (u/s), (Commonwealth Shakespeare Company); Assassins (Arts After Hours); Jesus Christ Superstar (Marblehead Little Theatre); Macbeth, (UMass Lowell); Cloud Tectonics (Fort Point Theatre Channel); and A Midsummer Night's Dream,

(Apollinaire Theatre Company, Elliot Norton Nomination). This spring Barbosa can be seen in a recorded performance of Sophie Treadwell's "Machinal" at Salem State, online March 11-18.

"I am so proud of our very talented students and our wonderful professors who mentor them," said Jerry L. Johnson, chair of the theatre and speech communication department at Salem State University. "Go Salem State Theatre!"

Established in 1969, the KCACTF is a national theater program that recognizes and celebrates the "finest and most diverse work produced in university and college theater programs" and involves 18,000 students annually. Salem State University competes in KCACTF Region 1 which includes colleges and universities based in Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Northeast New York, Rhode Island, and Vermont.

Salem State's 2021 Region 1

KCACTF award recipients include:

Fernando Barbosa, '22: New England Theater Conference Best Comedic Actor Award

Laura Chipman, '21: Stagecraft Institute of Las Vegas Award

Isaac Goldbaum, '22: Region 1 Achievement in Scenic Design Award, the Vectorworks Award, Stagecraft Institute of Las Vegas Award, and Tech Trivia Champion

Rémani Lizana, '22: Region 1 Finalist for the National Irene Ryan Acting Scholarship

Hunter A. Mountz, '21: Region 1 Excellence in Lighting Design Award, Stagecraft Institute of Las Vegas Award, and an invitation to attend the USITT virtual conference

Salem State University, established in 1854, is a comprehensive, public institution of higher learning located approximately 15 miles north of Boston, Massachusetts. One of the largest state universities in the Com-

monwealth, Salem State enrolls about 7,000 undergraduate and graduate students. It offers 32 undergraduate programs and graduate programs that offer degrees in 24 fields. The university also has a continuing education division that offers both credit and non-credit programs. Known for the academic strength of its faculty, Salem State was named a Top Producer of U.S. Fulbright Scholars in 2011 and for the 2016-2017 academic year. The university is designated a Top College and University by Military Advanced Education and a Best for Vets College by Military Times. Salem State proudly participates in the National Study of Learning, Voting, and Engagement and has shown a student voting rate well above the national average, earning the university a gold seal from the ALL IN Campus Democracy Challenge.

March is National Pet Poison Prevention Month

Staff Report

Watching your dog or cat get sick from toxic items or poison is a nightmare for any pet owner. Symptoms of poisoning can be especially traumatic, ranging from seizures and vomiting to nosebleeds and diarrhea.

"Nobody wants to see their pets suffer in such a painful way or, worst-case scenario, have a fatal incident. That's why it's important to make sure your home environment keeps dogs and cats as safe as possible," said Dr. Erin Katribe, veterinarian and medical director for Best Friends Animal Society.

As March is Pet Poison Prevention Month, Best Friends encourages pet owners to protect their pets from potential ingestion of any of the following:

- Antifreeze
- Bait for rodents
- Batteries (which can contain corrosive fluid)
- Car care products, such as cleaners or oils
- Fertilizer
- Gorilla Glue (or similar products)
- Household cleaners
- Ice-melting products
- Medications – prescribed and over-the-counter

- Nicotine products
- Pesticides for insects
- Pool or pond products

"Pets can be very inquisitive, so it's always best to keep these items in a sealed cabinet area that your pets cannot have access to, whether that's in the home, in a shed, or in a garage," Katribe said. "If you use any of these products, always make sure to clean up any spillage immediately and thoroughly so ingestion can't happen that way, either."

Food can be toxic to pets, so it's always important to remember to never give or allow your pets to have access to any of the following:

- Alcoholic beverages
- Substances containing caffeine, such as coffee
- Chocolate
- Fatty foods, especially drippings and grease from cooking
- Chicken and turkey bones
- Grapes and raisins
- Onions and garlic
- Macadamia nuts
- Salt and sugar
- Yeast or bread dough

"Plants can also be toxic and poisonous to pets," Katribe said. "These plants include English ivy or holly, lilies, Chinaberry, iris, poinsettia, pokeweed and daphne. For cats, even contact with the pollen of some lilies can be severely toxic."

Should your pet show any signs of poisoning, which include vomiting, diarrhea, seizures, blood in stool, paralysis, loss of appetite, bruising, nosebleeds, irregular heartbeat or inability to urinate, a veterinary consult is in immediate order.

"Call your veterinary office or an emergency clinic as soon as possible to let them know of your pet's symptoms and what they could have possibly ingested. The veterinary staff may be able to provide instructions on how to help decrease the severity of the situation prior to coming in or they may advise that you come in immediately," Katribe said. "Time is of the essence when it comes to minimizing the dangerous effects of any poison, so every second counts."

Best Friends Animal Society is a leading animal welfare organization working to end the killing of dogs and cats in America's shelters by 2025. Founded



COURTESY BEST FRIENDS ANIMAL SOCIETY

Keep your pets safe with tips from Best Friends Animal Society.

in 1984, Best Friends is a pioneer in the no-kill movement and has helped reduce the number of animals killed in shelters from an estimated 17 million per year to around 625,000. Best Friends runs lifesaving programs all across the country, as well as the nation's largest no-kill animal

sanctuary. Working collaboratively with a network of more than 3,200 animal welfare and shelter partners, and community members nationwide, Best Friends is working to Save Them All. For more information, visit bestfriends.org.

Free COVID-19 testing at 800-810 Lynnway

Residents can receive a free COVID-19 test at the building located at 800-810 Lynnway, the former home of Building 19 and the flea market.

No appointments are necessary. The testing site is open seven days a week from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Livestreaming for all high school sports and events to be available this month

Imagine sitting home and watching football live from the comfort of your home. In March? Get ready!

Livestreaming options for all high school events will be available later this month with the emergence of a new live high school broadcasting channel.

bBIG Communications, which has been livestreaming high school hockey games under the flagship MyHockeyLive.com for the past seven years, is now launching bBIGLive.com, giving schools the option to easily offer professional-quality livestream broadcasts of everything from upcoming football and baseball games to concerts and plays.

"We have all of our MyHockeyLive.com production tools available from the work we've been doing inside the rinks for the past seven years, and we have a great relationship with high school and prep school athletic directors across the state," said Mark Igo, Chief Operating Officer at bBIG Communications. "Extending into other school-run activities, from spring sports to school events, is a natural extension of our services."

bBIGLive.com will debut

in late February when the early spring sports season starts, which includes high school football, after it was postponed from last fall's sports calendar. bBIGLive.com will then transition into traditional spring sports like baseball and lacrosse.

At the same time, Igo notes that if schools are offering any plays or concerts and wish to have larger events like graduation ceremonies broadcast live, bBIGLive.com is equipped to cover those events as well.

Igo notes that during this pandemic-limited hockey season, many games have seen over 3,000 views per game as they can not only be viewed live but also shared with family and friends for viewing later, as well as used by coaching staffs to help with their film review.

"We want to be a full resource to all high schools and prep schools for their on-demand needs," said Igo.

Schools, teams, programs or booster organizations that are interested in scheduling games or events are urged to contact Mark Igo at migo@bbigcommunications.com as soon as possible.

bBIGLive.com charges a

small production fee to teams, often paid by the boosters, schools or local advertisers. Oftentimes, teams will split the cost to make the game coverage even more affordable. As an added perk, coaches have access to the game film following the game that they can use as part of their video sessions with their student athletes.

bBIGLive.com, owned by bBIG Communications, Inc., also owns My Hockey Live, which reaches the largest school hockey community in the Northeast via livestreamed broadcasts and a growing digital and social media presence. Our dedicated team delivers the latest in hockey news from all around New England. MHL is the ONLY digital, social, mobile media network designed exclusively for local community hockey families, players, fans and coaches, providing instant access to LIVE and ON-DEMAND hockey games, which can be viewed from your smartphone, laptop, tablet or big-screen TV. To learn more, visit <https://www.myhockeylive.com>. To schedule a game for your high school team, contact Mark Igo at migo@bbigcommunications.com.

NSCC seeks candidates for Alumni Trustee

The North Shore Community College (NSCC) Alumni Association is seeking nominations for the Elected Alumni representative to the college's Board of Trustees. The elected alumni trustee must be an NSCC graduate.

The responsibilities of Massachusetts community college trustees are described in state law under Chapter 15A and include selecting and annually evaluating the college president, setting fee schedules, ensuring an annual independent audit, and providing appropriate governance of the college, among other accountabilities.

The term of the Elected Alum-

ni Trustee is five years and those elected are limited to no more than two consecutive five-year terms. The NSCC Board of Trustees meets 6 times per year with committee meetings on an as-needed basis. The Elected Alumni Trustee must also attend two yearly meetings of the Alumni Association Board. The current vacancy will begin with a two-year appointment to fill a resignation.

Those interested should submit the application found at the following link no later than March 29, 2021. <https://tinyurl.com/aj2w5nu>

Questions? Email NSCC_Alumni@northshore.edu.

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Classical / CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

“I’m very excited to be back as a head coach and I’m looking forward to the challenge and I hope to build up the program,” said Avery. “We have some very talented players.”

One of those talented players is freshman phenom Marquese L’Italien Avery, who is Marvín’s son. Marquese, who is 6-feet tall, will start in the backcourt for the Rams and reportedly has a Pancho Bingham-caliber all-around game.

Jayden Thornton, a 5-foot-9-inch guard, will be a very explosive offensive player for the Rams. Angel Garcia, who is 6 feet, 3 inches tall, returns as a starting center. Thornton and Garcia will be the team’s co-captains. Juniors Jadden Gonzalez, Tyler Wilson, and Nathan Reyes will also have prominent roles for the Rams. Other members of the varsity are Antonio Flores Chinchilla, Yelson Gutierrez, Daren Omeregíe, Derek Omeregíe, Gursharan Sandhu, and Josiah Severe.

Avery will be assisted on the Classical staff by head assistant

coach Rob Upton, who is a Syracuse graduate and former head coach of the Classical boys soccer team, JV coach Richard Warren Sr., who coached with Avery at Tech, and Rod Valrie Jr., who coached at Pickering Middle School.

Avery is looking forward to the 2021 season, especially the crosstown showdowns against Anderson and the Bulldogs.

“I coached Antonio, but I’ve never coached against him,” said Avery. “Antonio knows me and I know him, so there will be competitive games and it will great for the city and the kids.”

Avery said he is grateful to Classical Principal Amy Dunn and Athletic Director Bill Devin for the coaching opportunity.

“I can’t thank Amy Dunn and Bill Devin enough for the opportunity to get back into coaching in the city of Lynn,” said Avery.

Avery said he will continue coaching the Mass Thundercats AAU girls basketball team with former Tech Principal James Ridley. He is in his 24th season in the Thundercats’ organization.



Head Coach Marvin Avery gathers the 2021 Lynn Classical Rams Varsity Basketball Team at center court for a talk of what is expected of the team this season. The season begins at RHS on then 12th, home opener for the Rams is Tuesday, March 16th vs. the Mustangs of Medford at Classical gymnasium.



Head Coach Marvin Avery, Marquese L’Italien Avery and Asst. Coach Rob Upton.



Senior Ram Captains, Angel Garcia Figueroa, Jayden Thornton with Head Coach Marvin Avery and Asst. Coach Rob Upton.



Getting in shape and timing the lay-ups at the beginning of practice.



The Rams of Classical High go through the warm-ups.

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