

THE LYNN JOURNAL

Thursday, March 25, 2021

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ST. MARY'S TRACK IN ACTION



High Jump First Place went to Anthony D'Itria at 5 feet 4 inches. See Page 6 for more photos.

NSCC announces five finalists for next President

Special to the Journal

The North Shore Community College Board of Trustees announces that a Presidential Search Committee will advance five finalists to meet the college community and be considered by the Board of Trustees

The five finalists moving onto the next phase of the presidential search are: Joel Frater, Ed.D., former Executive Dean, Monroe

Community College, Downtown Campus, State University of New York; William Heineman, Ed.D., Provost, Northern Essex Community College, Massachusetts; Gloria Lopez, Ed.D., Vice President for Student Affairs, Westfield State University, Massachusetts; Matthew Reed, Ph.D., Vice President for Learning, Brookdale Community College, New

Please see NSCC Page 5

GIVE THE GIFT



Metro Credit Union recently donated 40 blankets to the Coalition for the Homeless in Lynn. Pictured in the attached photo are Robyn Frost, Executive Director of the Coalition (left) and Diana Moreno, AVP Membership Development Manager at Metro (right).

Satterwhite announces candidacy for Mayor of Lynn

Special to the Journal

Following is Michael Satterwhite's announcement of his candidacy for Mayor of Lynn:

Attorney Michael A. Satterwhite has announced his run for Mayor of Lynn. Michael is a native of Lynn and has served on the School Committee for the past four years. From East Lynn to West Lynn, from Curwin Circle to the Highlands, from Lynfield Street to Union Street, he has been there for it all the last three decades.

Michael grew up in the Lynn Public Schools system, going to seven different schools in our City. He has gone from renter to homeowner in our City. He has gone from employee to business owner in our City. From the Black Picnic's roasted pig to St. Patrick's Day corned beef and cabbage, he has celebrated



Michael Satterwhite.

you. Michael has always been your ally, he has always been your neighbor, he has always been your friend, your classmate and fellow citizen. Now he wants to represent you. Be your voice, be our voice.

Embracing multiculturalism is a step in the right direction for every citizen. However, leading a City as diverse as Lynn, requires a leader who has lived in it and experienced it. His purpose here is to connect with our Community, doing so honestly, frequently and transparently.

Michael said "I have the background, knowledge and experience with:

- Working to strengthen our safe, happy and healthy families with affordable housing, improving public safety and establishing community programs;

Please see SATTERWHITE Page 3

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EDITORIAL

VIOLENCE AGAINST THE AAPI COMMUNITY MUST END

Prejudice, discrimination, and violence against members of the Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) community has existed ever since immigrants from China began to arrive in America in the 1850s.

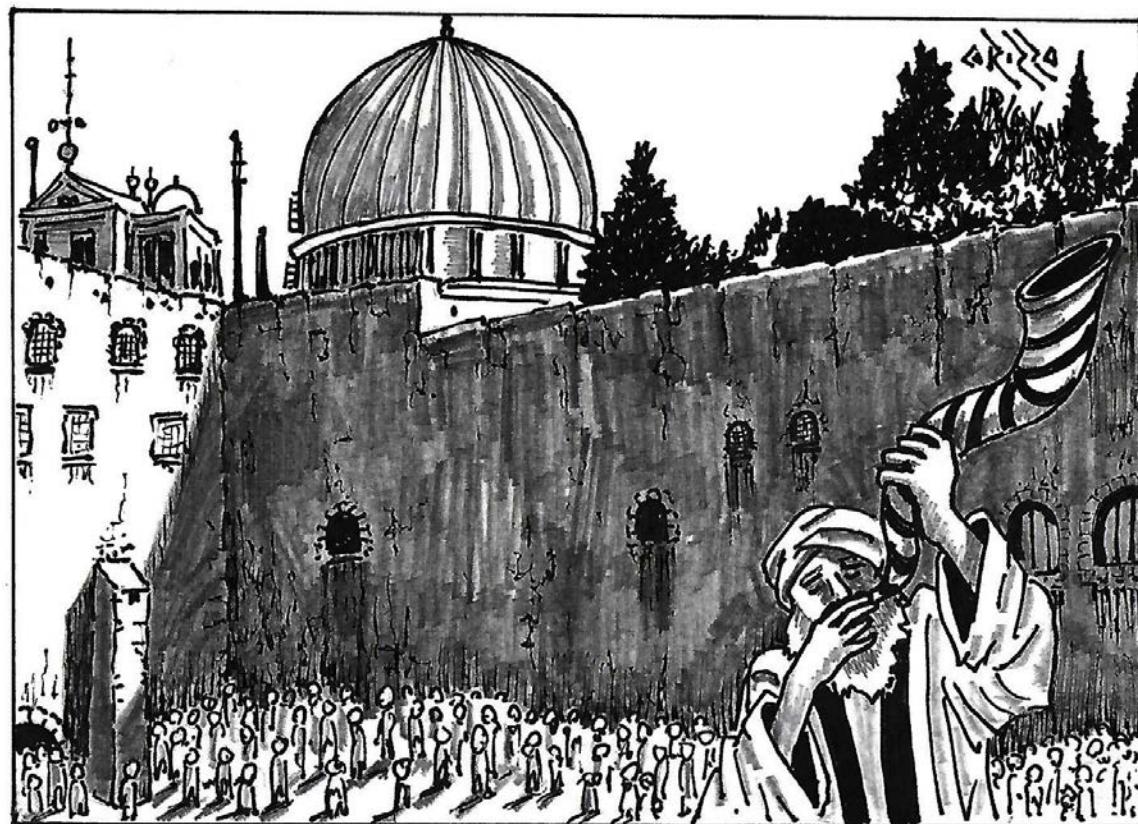
The first anti-immigration law in our nation's history, the Chinese Exclusion Act, specifically targeted Chinese immigrants in 1882 and was still the law of the land until 1943.

The wrongful detention of Japanese-Americans in camps during WWII has become well-known to every high school student of American history.

Locally, our newspapers through the years have reported on numerous incidents of hate in the Boston area, ranging from the graffiti and vandalism that plagued a popular Japanese restaurant in Winthrop Centre in the 1980s to the arson fires in Revere in the 1980s that culminated with the blaze in December, 1990, that drove more than 150 persons, mostly from the Revere Cambodian community, from their homes.

The tragic shooting late last week in Atlanta by 21 year-old Robert Aaron Long that targeted Asian-American employees in massage parlors is just the latest example of the growing trend of violence against Asian-Americans that was encouraged by the rhetoric of certain public figures who fed the flames of racial animosity with terms such as the "China virus" and "the kung-flu" to describe the COVID-19 pandemic.

The targeting of members of the AAPI community must stop. Hopefully, with a new administration that has rejected the divisive rhetoric of the past and a renewed determination by law enforcement to prosecute every incident of racially-motivated violence, our society can put an end to this virus of hate.



CELEBRATE PASSOVER MARCH 27-APRIL 4

GUEST OP-ED

Do your children make you curse?

Dr. Glenn Mollette

Kirk Dewayne Franklin is an American choir director, gospel musician, singer, songwriter, and author. He is best known for leading urban contemporary gospel choirs such as The Family, God's Property, and One Nation Crew. He is a beloved and influential figure in the gospel music world.

Instagram exploded recently with an audio of the famed gospel singer Franklin berating his 32-year-old son. The son posted the audio of the verbal exchange between he and his father. The audio was a profanity laced call that included his father the elder Franklin threatening to break his son's neck.

According to the elder Franklin there has been a 14-year rift between he and his son. Many counseling sessions and the family's attempts at trying to resolve the conflict have apparently remained unsuccessful. For many years according to reports his son has avoided family dinners, holidays and other gatherings. National television and various media outlets reported Franklin saying, "Recently, my son and I had an argument that he chose to record. I felt extremely dis-

respected in that conversation, and I lost my temper. And I said words that are not appropriate. And I'm sincerely sorry to all of you. I sincerely apologize," Franklin said.

Good Morning America, The Washington Post and various other national media sources have reported this story which is a sad personal family drama. For many years this tension has been a difficult rift for this very famous family. It's unfortunate that the adult son chose to play it out on social media which has now become national news.

Many families have struggles

and no one is perfect, including Kirk Franklin. He proves once again that most people have a breaking point and it's never pretty when it happens. Most of the time it's the people who we love the most and do the most for who have a way of flipping our switch. We often can take a lot from strangers and casual acquaintances because we really don't care that much what they think or even what they say. However, when it's a child who you have invested your entire life into stomps on your heart

(Op-Ed Pg. 3)

THE ATLANTA SHOOTINGS: A CONFLUENCE FOR A PERFECT STORM

In addition to the obvious targeting of Asian-Americans in the tragic shootings in Atlanta, there were two other factors that created a perfect storm for this sort of tragedy to take place.

The first was the easy and immediate access for the purchase of a high-capacity weapon by the 21 year-old perpetrator of the shootings, who was able to buy the gun on Tuesday morning and kill six people that afternoon.

The idea of a waiting period -- also known as a cooling-off period -- between the purchase of a gun and the delivery into the hands of the buyer has been shown to be an effective measure in saving lives. According to a recent study, states with mandatory waiting periods -- regardless of their length -- had an average of 17 percent fewer murders and 10 percent fewer suicides by guns.

The second factor was the influence of the young man's church upon his mind from an early age. This is by no means an excuse for his murderous spree, but it is to say that he clearly had been brainwashed by the extreme and confusing messages from his evangelical church about sex that led him to believe that he had an unnatural sex addiction that he could quell only by taking extreme measures.

When there are tragedies such as the shootings in Atlanta, we all want easy answers. But in reality, the truth of what drives persons to commit such heinous acts are not always easily understood, even by the perpetrators themselves.

THE LYNN JOURNAL

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Vaccine clinics for educators, essential workers announced

Mayor Thomas McGee and the City of Lynn Department of Public Health are pleased to announce additional upcoming Lynn Educator and Essential Worker Vaccination Clinics. The next clinic will be held on Friday, March 26th at the Breed Middle School Gym, 90 O'Callaghan Way. Moderna first dose vaccines will be administered at this Friday's clinic. Both educators and essential workers can register for an appointment for the March 26th clinic at <https://www.maimmunizations.org/reg/6150200972>.

Additionally, two (2) Essential Workers ONLY Vaccination Clinics will be held next Monday, March 29th and Tuesday March 30th also at the Breed Middle School Gym. The Johnson & Johnson single dose vaccine will be distributed at these Essential Workers Only clinics.

Essential Workers ONLY Clinics Registration

March 29: <https://www.maimmunizations.org/reg/9253601669>

March 30: <https://www.maimmunizations.org/reg/0668251996> Eligible educators and essential workers include the following who live or work in Lynn:

- K-12 educators, childcare workers, and staff,
- Restaurant or café workers, food, meatpacking, beverage, agriculture, consumer goods, retail, or food service workers and grocery or convenience store workers
- Food pantry workers or volunteers
- Medical supply chain workers, vaccine development work-

ers

- Transit/Transportation workers, public works, water, wastewater, utility workers, sanitation workers, public health workers
- Court system workers
- Funeral directors and work-

ers

Pre-registration for these educator and essential worker clinics is required and appointments are on a first come first serve basis. Once the allotted appointments for the clinic are filled, registration will be closed. Those who schedule an appointment are instructed to bring a photo ID, their health insurance card, and a signed copy of the State's Self-Attestation Form with them to their appointment. Lack of a driver's license, social security number, or insurance is not a barrier to receiving the vaccine.

The Lynn Department of Public Health, Lynn Community Health Center, and Mass General Brigham Hospital System are working together on a mobile vaccination effort in Lynn. Pending vaccine supply, more information will follow.

All eligible groups can register for appointments at the Lynn Tech Vaccination site and the State's mass vaccination site located north of Boston at the Danvers Doubletree Hotel. Registration for the state's mass vaccination site is at this link.

Educators are also able to register for appointments through the federal retail pharmacy program's CVS website, and the State has designated educator specific clinics at their 7 mass vaccination sites across the state on March 27th, April 3rd, April 10th, and April 11th.

Op-Ed/ CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

then emotion and passion have a way of taking over. As Franklin proves, words may be said that are later regretted.

It's unfortunate that even the best of people have feelings and words that can come out so ugly. Where do they come from? Ugly words often come from unresolved hurt and pain that have become toxic. Poison is deadly. We allow poison to be bottled up deep in our hearts. In verbal altercations like the Franklin's the bucket falls deep into the well of the heart and sadly what comes up is the pain and poison of past hurts that have been unresolved. We all have to guard our hearts

and what we allow to take root. None of us need anything that might spring up to hurt us and others.

Let's pray for the Franklins. Most families have had moments not scripted for the national spotlight.

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

Satterwhite/ CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

• Working to strengthen our day care and after school programs;

• Working to strengthen our business community;

• Working to strengthen our youth with opportunities and our public education system with equitable funding;

• Working to strengthen our

seniors with access throughout our city and to affordable housing units;

• Working to strengthen the health and wellness of our community;

• Working to enhance our arts and cultural communities;

• Working to improve our homelessness and food insecurity

problems;

• Working to improve our race relation problems through diversity and inclusion within our city government and school systems.

I will work for you. It sounds simple, but that truly is the first requirement of any elected position."

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.

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LOCAL STUDENTS EARN ACADEMIC HONORS

KRUIZENGA NAMED TO DEAN'S LIST AT DICKINSON COLLEGE

Alexandria Kruizenga, a junior quantitative economics and mathematics major at Dickinson College, has been named to the dean's list for the fall 2020 semester. A graduate of Phillips Academy, she is the daughter of Leonard Kruizenga of Lynn, Mass.

All students earning a position on the dean's list—a recognition of academic excellence—must have a grade-point average of 3.7 or above on a 4.0 GPA scale for the semester. Dickinson College, located in historic Carlisle, Pa., was chartered in 1783. The private, national liberal-arts college is home to approximately 2,200 students from across the country and around the world. The college is nationally recognized for its cross-disciplinary, active approach to learning, international education, civic engagement and its commitment to teaching its students about sustainability across the curriculum, the campus, the community and the globe. www.dickinson.edu.

MIESES NAMED TO DEAN'S LIST AT BATES COLLEGE

Abraham Mieses of Lynn, was named to the dean's list at Bates College for the fall semester ending in December 2020. This is a distinction earned by students whose grade point average is 3.88 or higher.

Mieses, the son of Jose O. Mieses and Rosario E. Fresco, is a 2019 graduate of St. John's Preparatory School. He is majoring in neuroscience and mathematics at Bates.

Located in Lewiston, Maine, Bates is internationally recog-

nized as a leading liberal arts college, attracting 2,000 students from across the U.S. and around the world. Since 1855, Bates has been dedicated to educating the whole person through creative and rigorous scholarship in a collaborative residential community. Committed to opportunity and excellence, Bates has always admitted students without regard to gender, race, religion, or national origin. Cultivating intellectual discovery and informed civic action, Bates prepares leaders sustained by a love of learning and zeal for responsible stewardship of the wider world.

URI STUDENTS NAMED TO THE FALL 2020 DEAN'S LIST

The University of Rhode Island is pleased to announce the Fall 2020 Dean's List. The students represent nearly all of Rhode Island's cities and towns, all six New England states, New York and New Jersey, and many other states and countries. The following students were named to Dean's List:

Hieu Bui of Lynn
Kiki Kostolias of Lynn
Olivia Langlois of Lynn
Gabrielle Soares of Lynn

To be included on the Dean's List, full-time students must have completed 12 or more credits for letter grades during a semester and achieved at least a 3.30 quality point average. Part-time students qualify with the accumulation of 12 or more credits for letter grades earning at least a 3.30 quality point average.

As a public Land Grant University in a highly competitive region in the United States, URI carefully monitors and manages its tuition and fee rates to remain one of the most affordable universities in the Northeast for

both in-state and out-of-state students. An estimated 90% of undergraduate students receive annual financial aid and institutional support

The University's total fall 2020 enrollment of 17,649 students comprises 15,393 full- and part-time undergraduate students, including 748 pharmacy six-year professional practice, and 2,256 full- and part-time graduate students. About 52% of the total student body is from Rhode Island and 48% are from out of state or foreign countries. The student body includes students from 48 U.S. states and territories, and 67 nations.

The University of Rhode Island's pioneering research in ocean, environmental and health sciences extends the University's influence well beyond its coastal borders, while its interdisciplinary courses provide students with unique opportunities and experiences,

Over the last ten years, the University has completed more than \$710 million in capital projects, including new construction, and renovation and rehabilitation of existing buildings across its four campuses. The University's campus locations, include the main campus, located on 1,248 acres in rural Kingston, the Graduate School of Oceanography, located on 165 acres on Narragansett Bay, the W. Alton Jones Campus in West Greenwich, a 1,200-acre nature preserve, the Alan Shawn Feinstein College of Education and Professional Studies and the Rhode Island Nursing Education Center, both in the capital city of Providence, RI.

VALERI NAMED TO DEANS' LIST AT BRYANT UNIVERSITY

Bryant University is pleased to recognize the students who have demonstrated an unwavering commitment to academic excellence and achievement. Lindsey Valeri, class of 2024, from Lynn, has been named to the Deans' List for the fall 2020 semester.

"The challenges of the last year have revealed the character and grit of our community of scholars," said Provost and Chief Academic Officer Glenn Sulmasy, JD, LL.M, reflecting on Bryant's successful fall semester. "I am impressed and proud of their resilience, dedication, and innovative spirit."

Congratulations to Lindsey on this outstanding achievement!

About Bryant University

For 158 years, Bryant University has been at the forefront of delivering an exceptional education that anticipates the future and prepares students to be innovative leaders of character in a changing world. Bryant delivers an innovative and uniquely integrated business and liberal arts education that inspires students to excel. With approximately 3,800 graduate and undergraduate students from 38 states and 49 countries, Bryant is recognized as a leader in international education and regularly receives top rankings from U.S. News and World Report, Bloomberg Businessweek, Forbes, and Barron's. Visit www.Bryant.edu.

LOCAL STUDENT NAMED TO CENTRE COLLEGE DEAN'S LIST

Jorge Trejo Fernandez has been named to the dean's list for the fall term at Centre College, an honor reserved for students who maintain at least a 3.60 grade point average.

A graduate of KIPP Academy Lynn Collegiate, Jorge Trejo Fernandez's parents are Alejandro Trejo and Yenersy Fernandez, both of Lynn.

Centre College, founded in 1819, has been named a Forbes top-15 college/university in the South seven years in a row, and is included in Colleges That Change Lives.

MARINO OF LYNN RECOGNIZED FOR ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

Worcester Academy proudly announces its Honor Roll and Headmaster's List for Semester 1 of the 2020-2021 School Year. The honors represent the achievements that each of the Worcester Academy students has earned through academic excellence, challenge, and personal growth.

Among the students is Nicholas Marino of Lynn, Class of 2023, Second Honors.

ABOUT WORCESTER ACADEMY

Worcester Academy is an acclaimed independent school overlooking the thriving city of Worcester, Massachusetts. A proud community of explorers

and collaborators, we prepare our students not just for college, but for life; through an expansive curriculum that balances problem-solving with communication skills, independence with connection, and hard work with fun and creativity. Our students benefit from an experiential education that expands their perspectives, builds their character, and deepens their understanding through community engagement and real-world application—enabling them to "Achieve the Honorable" (the Academy motto) with their classmates and peers; in the Worcester community; and throughout their lives.

EMERSON COLLEGE ANNOUNCES DEAN'S LIST HONOREES FOR FALL 2020 SEMESTER

The following students have been named to Emerson College's Dean's List for the Fall 2020 semester. The requirement to make Dean's List is a grade point average of 3.7 or higher for that semester.

Lily Doolin of Lynn. Major - Writing, Lit and Publishing. Class of 2021.

Sara Tesh of Lynn. Major - Marketing Communication. Class of 2021.

About Emerson College

Based in Boston, Massachusetts, opposite the historic Boston Common and in the heart of the city's Theatre District, Emerson College educates individuals who will solve problems and change the world through engaged leadership in communication and the arts, a mission informed by liberal learning. The College has 3,780 undergraduates and 670 graduate students from across the United States and 50 countries. Supported by state-of-the-art facilities and a renowned faculty, students participate in more than 90 student organizations and performance groups.

Emerson is known for its experiential learning programs in Los Angeles, Washington, DC, the Netherlands, London, China, and the Czech Republic as well as its new Global Portals, with the first program launching this fall in Paris. The College has an active network of 51,000 alumni who hold leadership positions in communication and the arts. For more information, visit emerson.edu.

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

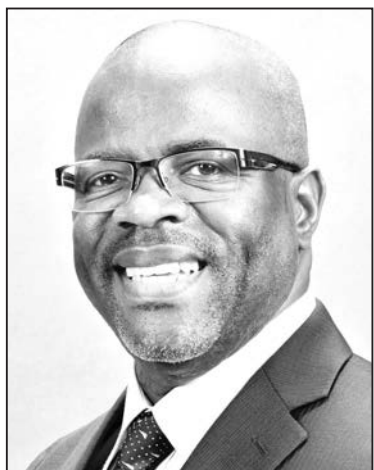
NSCC / CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Jersey; and Dione Somerville, Ed.D., Executive Vice President, Hawkeye Community College, Iowa.

The five candidates are scheduled for virtual campus visits the week of March 29th - April 2nd. Open forums for faculty, staff, classified staff, managers, students, the Board of Trustees and representatives from the Massachusetts Board of Higher Education, will be held.

Following the candidates' visits, the Board of Trustees is scheduled to vote to recommend the appointment of the next president on April 6th at 5:00 p.m. in open session via Zoom.

"Let me also take this opportunity to acknowledge and thank Dr. Nate Bryant as he continues his term as interim President of NSCC," said Dr. J.D. LaRock, Chair of the Board of Trustees. "Nate has provided dedicated, steady, and compas-



Joel Frater



William Heineman

sionate leadership during one of the most challenging years ever for higher education. That is an immense achievement, and the Board and I look forward to his continued leadership of our college until the next president takes office. I know every member of

the NSCC community joins me in expressing deep appreciation and respect for Dr. Bryant and how hard -- and successfully -- he has worked for us."

To learn more about the presidential finalists see: <https://www.northshore.edu/presidential-search>.



Gloria Lopez



Matthew Reed



Dione Somerville

Median prices for state's single-family homes, condos continue to surge past previous years, inventory reaching new record lows

The Massachusetts Association of REALTORS (MAR) reported a steady rise in closed sales for the month of February. Closed sales on single-family homes rose a total of 8.1 percent while condominiums also increased 6.0 percent compared to February of 2020. Inventory is again hitting record lows as single-family homes are down 68.4 percent over February 2020 and condo inventory is down 33.6 percent, a remarkable jump from January 2021's 64.0 percent and

26.1 percent, respectively.

Home prices have been on a steady rise in recent months, with February's data staying on trend. The median price for single-family homes was \$462,500, an increase of 17.1 percent and condominium prices rose by 5.1 percent to \$425,750, when compared to February 2020. Prices are being driven again by high demand, low supply, and interest rates continuing to hit record lows.

"While interest rates did in-

crease in February compared to January, they remain lower than previous years' and this is contributing to the strong buyer demand. This is not something I believe will majorly impact home sales, though it is important to take this shift into consideration when thinking about buying or selling a home as interest rates contribute to the overall affordability index," says Steve Medeiros, 2021 President of MAR and Realtor at Keller Williams Realty.

Galleries at Lynn Arts will reopen on April 2

GALA's (Galleries at LynnArts) will be reopening April 2, with two exhibits on display: Minimalist Art and Abstract Art.

Art is meant to invoke feelings, challenge the viewer, to start a conversation, or beautify a space. Abstract and minimalist art takes the purposes of art and condenses them to their purest forms. Non-representational art does not try to create any realistic likeness of objects or people. It can be expressive or static, simplistic in its creation or it can have complex layering. Minimalism is a further development of abstract art and tries to greatly simplify the shapes and forms that are used. The basic forms are often geometric shapes like lines, rectangles and circles. Repetition is often used in the creation of these works.

GALA asked artists to create works that speak to an abstract or a minimalist aesthetic. Artists have used the visual language of shape, form, color and line to create a composition that creates a mood without the need to represent reality.

"We are very excited to explore non-representational art with our artists and guests," says Annette Syke, GALA president and gallery director. "This past year has effected everyone in a myriad of ways. People are nervous, dealing with loss, gaining a voice and a power, trying to figure out what the world is like now, and what getting back to normal actually means. It only seemed fitting to encourage our artists to explore intangible con-

cepts in their art."

Letterpress artist Mitch Ahern will be installing a two-sided 8 foot abstract letterpress mono print on fabric, which will move with the airflow in GALA's main gallery. The images themselves are moire patterns formed from red and blue dots. It is interesting to view it from the street level, from a distance within the gallery, from a few inches away and then with the 3D glasses that are provided to experience it from yet another perspective -the effect is sublime. Further illustrating the various perspectives of this piece, Greg Kowalski, a friend of Ahern, who does live interactive abstract mapped video projection, will collaborate with Ahern for an evening's performance, date to be announced at the press preview. These two friends have collaborated many times and the creative energy in their dialogue is palpable.

GALA will be open to the public starting on April 2, please find current hours posted on social media and on the GALA website. The show will also be available online so those not in the area can still enjoy the works.

For more information, please visit www.galleriesatlynnarts.org Press may contact Annette Sykes at 617-909-9211 or galleriesatlynnarts@gmail.com. We will be hosting a media sneak peek on Monday March 29, at 3:30. Any media unable to attend at that time is asked to contact Annette Sykes for a special viewing. GALA is located at 25 Exchange St, Lynn, MA 01901.

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ST. MARY'S OF LYNN SPARTAN TRACK AND FIELD

On Saturday, March 20, the Spartans boys and girls of St. Mary's of Lynn Track and Field Team met the Cougars of Austin Preparatory School in Reading.



Head Coach Themo Liakopoulos, Spartan Captains Declan Dorgan, Juliana Taborda , Ava Benzan and Asst. Coach Tristan Smith.



Kelsey Kwiatek with a jump of 11 feet, 4 inches.



Spartan long jumpers, Dylan Moroney, Kyle Kwiatek and Jesse Moriello.



Capt. Declan Dorgan took Third Place for the Spartans in 10.2 seconds time.



John Nowicki took Second Place in the 55 Meter Hurdles, in 9.4 seconds.



55 Meter Hurdles First Place went to Spartan, Karlyn Jennings in 10 seconds flat.



St. Mary's of Lynn Spartan 2021 Track and Field Team and coaching staff.

State announces \$30 million grant program to support early education and care critical infrastructure

The Baker-Polito Administration announced last week that it would allocate more than \$30 million in grants to support early education and care providers in the Commonwealth. These investments announced at the March 9 Board of Early Education and Care meeting will be distributed by the Department of Early Education and Care (EEC) and will be instrumental in addressing the challenges child care programs face in sustaining services.

EEC's investment in both center-based programs and family child-care programs will be available through two grant opportunities. Child-care services are a critical part of the Commonwealth's infrastructure and a vital component in the economic recovery to help families fully return to work. The funding announced today will support the following initiatives:

- \$15 million grants for Center-Based programs: Workforce grants will support center-based providers serving state-subsidized families to maintain and expand operations by addressing the challenge of recruiting and retaining qualified staff members

during the COVID-19 crisis.

- \$15 million grants for Family Child Care providers: Capital grants for family child care programs will support these small businesses to make health, safety, and quality improvements to their program space and ensure they can remain open to the families that need them.

In addition, EEC announced proposed plans for distributing \$110 million in federal stimulus funds, which will be distributed, pending legislative appropriation, through monthly operational grants available to EEC licensed providers to help maintain current child care capacity during the COVID-19 economic recovery. When these flexible funds become available they can be used to support continued child-care operations, health and safety requirements and enable quality improvements.

In order to address the changing landscape of child care programs as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, when families have been slow to return to full-time care and the cost of running programs has increased to meet health and safety requirements, moving from a per-child

funding model to an operational support model is necessary to ensure the viability of the field despite fluctuations in enrollment. The per-child funding models has not sufficed to stabilize the industry and ensure educators remain in the workforce to care for children. Without consistent revenue from enrollment, the child care infrastructure is vulnerable to further decreases in capacity. This investment will sustain capacity and lay the groundwork for the future.

"By investing in programs to sustain capacity now and laying the groundwork for innovation needed in the future, we will build a stronger, more resilient, and responsive child care field for families," said Education Secretary James Peyser.

The COVID-19 health crisis and its widespread impacts have demonstrated the importance of early education and care to support the economic well-being of the Commonwealth and its residents. This new funding availability will invest in the state's childcare infrastructure and the healthy development of children and youth that results from quality early education programs.

Homelessness decreased prior to COVID-19 pandemic

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) has released its 2020 Annual Homeless Assessment Report Part 1 to Congress. The report found that 17,975 people experienced homelessness in Massachusetts on a single night in 2020, a decrease of 2.7 percent from 2019.

The 2020 MA PIT Count includes a number of key findings:

- Overall homelessness is down. There was a 2.7% (496 people) decrease in overall homelessness since 2019. The total number of people experiencing homelessness counted in the 2020 PIT: 17,975.

- Unsheltered homelessness is up. Unsheltered homelessness increased 56% (465 people) since 2019. The total number of people experiencing unsheltered homelessness counted in the 2020 PIT: 1,294.

- Family homelessness is down. Homelessness among families with children decreased, down 3.8% (470 families) since 2019. The total number of families experiencing homelessness counted in the 2020 PIT: 11,742.

- Veteran homelessness is down. Veteran homelessness de-

creased, down 8.8% (81 veterans) since 2019. The total number of Veterans experiencing homelessness counted in 2020 PIT: 836.

- Chronic homelessness is down. Chronic homelessness among individuals decreased 38.4% (911 individuals) since 2019. The total number of individuals experiencing chronic homelessness counted in the 2020 PIT: 1,459.

- Youth homelessness is unchanged. The number of youth experiencing homelessness is relatively unchanged up .2 percent compared with 2019. The total number homeless youth counted in the 2020 PIT: 481.

The report found that between 2019 and 2020, homelessness increased nationally among unsheltered populations and people experiencing chronic homelessness. Veteran homelessness did not decrease compared with 2019, and homelessness among family households did not decrease for the first time since 2010. The report also found that people of color are significantly over-represented among people experiencing homelessness.

HUD releases the Annual Homeless Assessment Report to

Congress (AHAR) in two parts. Part 1 provides Point-in-Time (PIT) estimates, offering a snapshot of homelessness—both sheltered and unsheltered—on a single night. The one-night counts are conducted during the last 10 days of January each year. The PIT counts also provide an estimate of the number of people experiencing homelessness within particular homeless populations such as individuals with chronic patterns of homelessness and veterans experiencing homelessness.

In 2020, the PIT estimates of people experiencing homelessness in sheltered and unsheltered locations, as well as the number of beds available to serve them, were reported by 396 Continuums of Care (CoC) nationwide. These 396 CoCs covered virtually the entire United States.

The Point-in-Time counts of homelessness and the housing inventory information are based on data from January 2020 and thus do not reflect the health or economic consequences of the COVID-19 pandemic for levels of homelessness or characteristic of people experiencing homelessness.

CLASSICAL CAPTAINS



Lynn Classical Rams girls basketball Head Coach Tom Sawyer with Rams Captains, Amelia Pedro (center) and Sailor Brinkler (right).

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NEWS FROM AROUND THE REGION

SEEKING FULL FUNDING FOR SOA

CHELSEA - With the promised funding from the landmark education bill that was signed into law before the COVID pandemic hit is still up in the air, Chelsea students, parents and school committee members called for the state to fully fund the Student Opportunity Act Funding (SOA).

During a virtual press conference hosted by the Massachusetts Education Justice Alliance on Tuesday students, parents, and school committee members from cities across Massachusetts discussed their school funding needs, their perspectives on in-person school reopening this spring, and their aspirations for education this summer and during the upcoming school year.

Chelsea School Committee member Roberto Jimenez-Rivera testified at the virtual press conference and shared their thoughts.

At the press conference, which will be held over Zoom, Jimenez-Rivera joined students, parents, and school committee members from Boston, Revere, Lawrence, Lowell and Randolph to discuss safety measures, social/

emotional and educational supports, and other resources they're looking for from their public schools as well as the need for substantial state funding to support those needs.

"We're here today because our elected officials are once again breaking the promises that they've made to our students," said Jimenez-Rivera. "Our governor in particular is continuing to neglect the kids in our poorest communities like the City of Chelsea. Two years ago everybody celebrated the passage of the Student Opportunity Act but ever since he signed it into law Governor Baker has only undermined its seven year funding plan."

Jimenez-Rivera argued that last year before COVID the Governor decided that the low income portion of the SOA didn't need to be fully funded.

"So even before we lost the rest of the money because of COVID his budget was already inadequate," said Jimenez-Rivera. "And then this year instead of catching up to 'Year Two' of the plan he's only proposing what the state should have given us last year. This isn't right and that's why today we are calling for a budget that gets us back

on track. It is year two of the SOA implementation and we need a budget for year two, not for year one."

Jimenez-Rivera said Chelsea has disproportionately suffered from this pandemic in almost every way possible but with the proposed SOA budget children are being told that their education is less important than the interest of rich people.

"Our parents have a right to communicate with their kids, teachers, but right now we don't have enough interpreters," said Jimenez-Rivera. "How can we expect parents to engage when they can't speak the language and we don't have money to pay for interpreters? Our parents deserve language justice. Our students needed more mental health support before COVID And now they need it even more seeing as they have disproportionately lived through the trauma and death that COVID has brought us. Our students also had crowded classrooms in schools before COVID and now we need smaller class sizes, even more because of COVID. How is it that we expect small class sizes in wealthy districts, but

we're okay with having 25, 30 or even 34 students in a class in Chelsea. Our kids deserve the same access to small class sizes as kids in Brookline or Wellesley."

Jimenez-Rivera said 94 percent of Chelsea schools are made up of students of color and they deserve access to educators of color.

"Our current funding doesn't allow us to pay educators what they're worth," said Jimenez-Rivera. "So new educators of color and more experienced educators, generally go to districts that have the money to pay them what they're worth. That lack of diversity and lack of stability hurts our students even more."

Jimenez-Rivera said all these issues are fixable but only with the millions of dollars that the state owes Chelsea through the SOA.

"I want to be clear here, our students are owed this money, this money isn't charity," said Jimenez-Rivera. "Our children are legally and constitutionally entitled to those millions of dollars. They have been waiting for decades as the state underfunded their futures and they can't wait any longer. We cannot let the burden of COVID-19 continue falling on the most marginalized and so we have to ensure that the legislature fixes Governor Baker's broken budget. The Supreme Court declared in Brown vs. Board of Education that education is the most important function of government. I think it's about time that our legislators remember that. Fund our schools and fund them now."

The SOA overhauled the state's education funding formula to ensure equity for all students, especially those in low-income areas.

Because the state has not updated its education funding formula since 1993 to reflect districts' real health insurance and special education costs, the amount of aid being provided to cover those costs had been too small for decades.

In January 2020 Governor Charlie Baker signed S. 2412, An Act Relative to Educational Opportunity for Students, or the SOA, which would

have boosted investment in public schools by \$1.5 billion annually when fully phased in over the next seven years.

However, when COVID hit in March 2019 budget shortfalls pushed SOA spending to the wayside. Chelsea Public Schools were expected to receive millions in SOA funding.

The state legislature's Ways and Means Committee met Tuesday to begin reviewing the Governor's proposed FY22 budget.

At the press conference students and parents plan to keep pushing for a true commitment to fully fund public school and call for putting the state's commitment to public education funding back on track.

One demand by the group Tuesday is that the state delivers at least two of the seven years of promised funding increases under the SOA in the next state budget.

JUAN GALLEGO TRAVELS TO TEXAS TO HELP

CHELSEA - For the residents of Chelsea and his fellow members of the Rotary Club, it will come as no surprise that Juan Gallego traveled to Texas to help South Houston-area residents with an incredible display of voluntary assistance.

Gallego, 58, has been an ambassador of goodwill for Chelsea Rotary and living symbol of the Rotary motto, "Service Above Self." In the past while representing Chelsea Rotary in his native Colombia, Gallego helped develop health care centers in remote areas of the country. He also organized and executed a Rotary project to assist children in need of cleft palate surgery.

Earlier this month Gallego and a team of volunteers headed to Texas to repair homes that had been devastated by a severe winter storm which caused power outages and broken water pipes in homes.

"We fixed up 18 homes that had no water because all the pipes were burst," said Gallego.

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Region / CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8

go. “We were there working for ten days. We had plumbers and we had helpers. I was a helper. We did a total re-piping of the homes.”

All of Gallego’s repairs to South Houston-area homes were done free of charge. Interestingly, one of the days that Gallego was in Texas was March 10, which was the Chelsea community leader’s 58th birthday.

“It was the best birthday gift I ever had, being down there working and helping people,” said Gallego.

Kate Robinson, volunteer coordinator at Fuller Center Disaster Rebuilders, expressed her gratitude to Gallego and his team in a heartfelt email.

“We are so grateful to Juan Gallego and his crew of Sam, Manny and John coming to Texas to help so many homeowners affected by the Texas winter storm,” wrote Robinson. “They did an awesome job. Now these homeowners have water and do not have to depend on bottled water or water carried into the house from buckets from their neighbors or relatives.”

Gallego was proud to represent Chelsea Rotary in his humanitarian endeavor. “Our club has totally supported me,” he said.

A few years ago, Gallego was honored as an “Unsung Hero” at a tremendous regional event that drew hundreds of Rotary members. While the pandemic has curtailed those large events for now, there’s a very good chance that Juan Gallego will be receiving some much-deserved recognition again in front of his peers.

But that’s not why Juan Gallego does what he does for others as the “Unsung” in Unsung Hero aptly suggests.

Gallego came to the United States from Colombia 41 years ago. He has two children, Matthew, who is a student at Suffolk University, and Melissa, who is a high school student.

ZBA APPROVES BREMEN ST. PROJECT

EAST BOSTON - Back in July, the Boston Zoning Board of Appeal (ZBA) sent the de-

velopers of a proposed large-scale mixed-use development project on Bremen Street back to the drawing board.

Citing a lack of greenspace coupled with the size and scope of the project, the ZBA unanimously rejected the proposed project at 282-302 Bremen St. that would have brought 145 additional units to Eastie.

While the project received BPDA approval, it lacked support from the community and the Mayor’s Office.

However, last week the ZBA approved a scaled-down version of the original proposal.

Ahead of the ZBA hearing the developer reduced the number of units from 145 to 126, or a 13 percent decrease, and increased the percentage of affordable units from 15 to 20 percent.

Overall the approved project includes 13 live/work studios for artists and 5 three-bedroom apartments aimed at families making no more than 60 percent of the Boston area median income. In total, 20 percent of the units will be rented to people making no more than 60 percent of the Boston area median income.

The changes were supported at last week’s ZBA hearing by City Councilor Lydia Edwards.

The project received BPDA approval last February and was under Article 80 Large Project review and still needed zoning variances from the ZBA to move forward.

Bremen Acquisitions filed the project with the BPDA last year that kicked off an Article 80 review by the BPDA and the appointment of an IAG made up of community members for the proposal.

The developer wanted to take a non-conforming and outdated industrial use currently housing Gino’s Auto Body on Bremen Street and turn the site into a development that includes a mix of residential housing and ground-floor retail space.

Other highlights of the project include related upgrades in public realm improvements, including pedestrian and ve-

hicular access, landscaping and streetscape design. With a combined land area of approximately 34,160 square feet, the site consists of nine contiguous parcels of land with a series of non-descript automobile repair structures, one small wood-frame residential buildings, surface parking and multiple curbs off Bremen Street.

The 110,000 square foot building included more than 3,000 square feet of retail space, over 2,155 square feet of artist workspace with gallery programming, up to 61 parking spaces and 145 bicycle storage spaces.

According to the BPDA The ground-floor retail space would be designed for an urban grocery store/market operator, daycare operator or local retailer.

Prior to the ZBA vote, Bremen Acquisition inked a community mitigation package with members of the project’s IAG.

The package is comparable to other projects of its size with \$200,000 in direct money benefits Eastie. The developer agreed to doing 20 percent affordable onsite housing—seven percent more than what is required under the BPDA inclusionary policy.

The developer also agreed to install 19 trees, expand the sidewalks—up to 18 feet in some areas, install a safety bump out to make crossing Bremen Street easier for pedestrians as well as creating a more active Bremen Street in what has been an industrial area.

HILTON AND YMCA PARTNER FOR PANTRY BAG PROGRAM

EAST BOSTON - Executive Director of the East Boston YMCA Joe Gaeta announced that the Y has begun partnering with Hilton Boston Logan Airport to expand the YMCA of Greater Boston’s Pantry Bag Program.

Gaeta said each year for the past 15 years the YMCA of Greater Boston has grown its programming at local sites to fight food insecurity and reach more and more people.

“Since the start of the pandemic, our commitment has grown dramatically, and the impact of our work has grown as well,” said Gaeta. “In 2019 the YMCA of Greater Boston served more than 800,000 meals and snacks, in 2020 we served 3.1 million grab and go and prepared meals and 170,043 bags of pantry food delivered across 70 locations. We have developed close working relationships with key players with the Mayor’s Office of Food Access, Boston Public Schools, the Greater Boston Food Bank, the Boston Housing Authority, and dozens of other community-based organizations.”

Earlier this year the East Boston Y hatched a plan with the Hilton Boston Logan Airport to receive, pack and distribute grocery bags to community groups in East Boston.

The Eastie Y now provides on average 4,000 grocery bags weekly of pantry food to residents here and throughout Boston at 33 sites.

“The Hilton in East Boston was an ideal location for a temporary distribution center as prior to the pandemic, East Boston was one of the city’s most food insecure neighbor-

hoods, with over 35 percent of residents living below the poverty line,” said Gaeta. “East Boston has long been a focal point of the Y’s hunger prevention programming.”

Gaeta said 10 of the YMCA of Greater Boston’s 33 pantry food sites are located in Eastie and in the past year the Y in Eastie has served more than 350,000 grab and go Meals to youth 18 and under.

Gaeta said the partner organizations in Eastie that help distribute the food include: the East Boston Community Soup Kitchen; the James Otis Elementary School; Eastie Farm; East Boston Social Centers; Church Biblica Faro de Luz; the Paris Street BCYF Community Center; Maverick Landing; Centro Presente; the Mario Umana Academy; and East Boston High School.

“The Hilton has stepped in so many ways to help East Boston during this pandemic,” added Gaeta. “We are thrilled to have them as a partner in service to ensure that we are filling gaps where we see them. East Boston is much stronger because of the strong partnerships in our community. It is a testament to the resiliency of East Boston.”

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NEWS BRIEFS

MAYOR MCGEE ANNOUNCES STREET SWEEPING SCHEDULE

The Lynn Department of Public Works citywide street sweeping program has commenced. The street-sweeping schedule for March 29, 2021 through April 2, 2021 (chart to the right):

This schedule is subject to change due to inclement weather. Should inclement weather prevent sweepers from working in your area as scheduled, they will return seven (7) days from the date originally scheduled.

For public awareness, Lynn Community Television Channel 3/22 and Verizon Channel 37/38 also broadcast this schedule. Sweeping operations will be conducted from 7:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. Please remove all cars from the street and encourage your neighbors to do the same for a cleaner LYNN. Where necessary, vehicles impeding sweeping operations will be ticketed or towed in accordance with City

Day	Date	Ward	Precinct
Monday	March 29 th	1	1 & 2
Tuesday	March 30 th	1	1, 2 & 3
Wednesday	March 31 st	1	2, 3 & 4
Thursday	April 1 st	1	3 & 4
Friday	April 2 nd	1 2	3 & 4 1

Ordinances. Leaves pushed into the streets from lawns will not be swept up.

MCU SPONSORS CELEBRATE LITERACY DAY

Metro Credit Union (MCU), Massachusetts' largest state-char-

tered credit union, is pleased to present Celebrate Literacy Day taking place on Thursday, March 18 from 6:00-8:00 p.m. (EST). In its 10th year, Celebrate Literacy Day was founded to create awareness about literacy and education while also highlighting the important work of grassroots nonprofit organizations and com-

munity leaders in Lynn, MA.

“At Metro, we believe strongly in providing educational access to the communities we serve,” said Robert Cashman, CEO and president. “We are proud to support Celebrate Literacy Day for the 10th consecutive year and stand firmly behind its mission.”

Each year, the Celebrate Literacy Day committee selects a local nonprofit organization and two community leaders to honor and celebrate at the event. These honorees demonstrate an excellence in literacy by going above and beyond to elevate, improve, promote, and increase access to literacy and higher education opportunities for members of the community. Each honoree receives the Excellence in Literacy Leadership Award (ELLA) along with a monetary gift.

This year's virtual event will serve as a kickoff for the 10th annual gala, which will take place in September at the Lynn Museum. For more information about Celebrate Literacy Day, please visit: <http://www.celebrateliteracyday.org/>. To purchase tickets, please visit: <https://www.celebrateliteracyday.org/tickets>.

For more information about Metro Credit Union, please visit metrocu.org, or connect with us on LinkedIn.

Upcoming virtual public meetings concerning fare transformation

Staff Report

Three virtual public meetings are being held this month regarding the MBTA's Fare Transformation program and upgrades to its sales network.

In the future, riders will be able to purchase MBTA fares and passes online, via their smartphones, and with contactless credit/debit cards. Though customers will no longer be able to use cash to pay onboard vehicles once the new fare collection system is implemented by 2023, the MBTA is currently introducing more places to load cash onto CharlieCards than were previously available. Aimed at serving cash-dependent riders, this expansion will result in a larger, more robust, and more diverse sales network of retailers, in-station fare vending machines, and new streetscape fare vending machines at bus stops, Commuter Rail, Green Line, and Mattapan Line stations across the network. The public is encouraged to view this interactive map of the proposed sales network or use the T's sales location finder.

The Fare Transformation team

now requests the help and input of the public on the recently completed Point of Sale Distribution and Equity Analysis, which identifies where new sales locations should be added. Members of the public are encouraged to participate in the following virtual public meetings to hear more about the methodology for determining proposed locations and to share feedback that helps the T make sure the network being created works for everyone:

• Thursday, March 25, 2021, at 6 PM

• Tuesday, March 30, at 6 PM
For help registering for these virtual public meetings, please call the MBTA Community Engagement team at 617-448-4374.

Any questions can be emailed to publicengagement@mbta.com. Members of the public are also encouraged to provide feedback to the Fare Transformation team online by visiting the Sales Network Public Input Survey. Local community-based organizations are also encouraged to email the MBTA's Community Engagement team at publicengagement@mbta.com to schedule supplemental community meetings with the MBTA to

learn more about Fare Transformation and the Point of Sale Distribution and Equity Analysis. The public can learn more about getting involved by visiting Fare Transformation information online.

Accommodations

These meetings are accessible to people with disabilities and those with limited English proficiency. Accessibility accommodations and language services will be provided free of charge, upon request, as available. Such services include documents in alternate formats, translated materials, assistive listening devices, and interpreters (including American Sign Language).

For accommodation or language assistance, please contact MassDOT's Chief Diversity and Civil Rights Officer by phone at 857-368-8580, fax at 857-368-0602, TTD/TTY at 857-368-0603, or by email at MASSDOT.CivilRights@dot.state.ma.us.

For more information, visit mbta.com/fares/fare-transformation or connect with the T on Twitter@MBTA, Facebook / TheMBTA, or Instagram @theMBTA.

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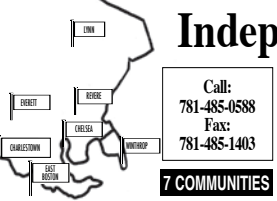
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OBITUARIES

Elaine DiSerio

Lifelong advocate for children

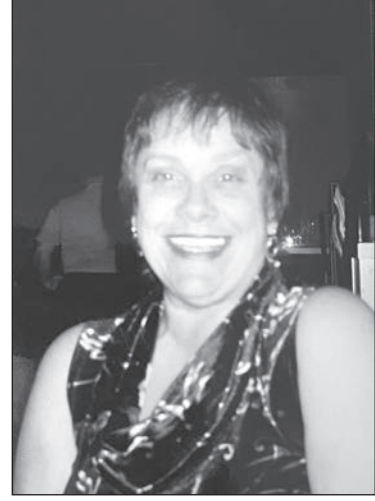
Elaine V. DiSerio of Revere passed away on March 20.

Elaine had a career in Child Protection with DCF and was a lifelong advocate for children. She was a graduate of Revere High School, Class of 1970 and Tufts University. She loved spending time with family and friends and in her spare time she enjoyed traveling, dancing, and Karaoke.

The devoted mother of Adriana DiSerio of Revere, she was the beloved sister of Joanne McLean and her late husband, John of Revere, Jacqueline "Jackie" Hanson of New Jersey, Catherine "Kiki" Catizone of Lynn, Mary Martin of Chelsea and the late

Barbara Weatherly and her husband, Robert of North Carolina; dear lifelong friend of Linda Ciampa of East Boston. She is also survived by many loving nieces and nephews.

Visitation from the Paul Buonfiglio & Sons-Bruno Funeral Home, 128 Revere St, Revere will be on Wednesday, March 24 from 10 to 11:30 a.m. followed by a Funeral Mass in the Immaculate Conception Church, Revere at 12 Noon. Relatives and friends are kindly invited. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in Elaine's memory to Care Dimensions 75 Sylvan St, unit B-102 Danvers MA, 01923 or Pancreatic Cancer Action Net-



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CLASSICAL RAMS EDGED OUT BY EVERETT'S CRIMSON TIDE ON HOME COURT

Last Friday evening the Lynn Classical Varsity Basketball Team hosted the Crimson Tide of Everett High School. It was a closely fought game from the start, Classical keeping pace with the Tide's fast offensive play and maintained a lead. In the final minute of the game, the Tide went up by one point and with seconds left, the Rams couldn't control the ball for a shot, and lost 52-51.



Senior Angel Garcia Figueroa was forced to reckon with under the basket for the Classical Rams.



Jayden Thornton hits a three for the Rams late in the game.



Jadden Gonzalez heads to the basket for two Ram points.



Rams Head Coach Marvin Avery discusses strategy with his team.

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HOP TO IT....

DOWNTOWN STREET SWEEPING City of Lynn

Downtown Street Sweeping will begin on **Monday, April 5, 2021**. Hours will be from 4:00 am - 8:00 am Monday through Friday.

Avoid a \$20 parking ticket!
Don't park in street sweeping zones during posted times.

How can downtown business owners and residents help?

- Pick up trash in front of your business or residence.
- Call DPW if trash barrels are overflowing.
- Sweep your sidewalk and gutter lines.

Please Help Keep Lynn Clean!

Lynn DPW, 250 Commercial Street, Lynn, MA 01905 781-268-8000