

# THE LYNN JOURNAL

Thursday, April 8, 2021

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Greater Lynn Chamber of Commerce members attend the ribbon cutting ceremony for INC.UBATE CO-WORKING – Atty. Lauren Weeks, YMCA Director Julie Gerraughty, Christine Pierce of Columbia Insurance, Brendan Ward of Standard Law, Salem Five Joseph Scianatico, Glen Morris of Morris Architects, State Representative Daniel Cahill, and Michael Lucerto cuts the ribbon.

## INC. UBATE COWORKING RIBBON CUTTING

Special To The Lynn Journal

During this pandemic era a new business model has emerged. Since many people work at home, some may soon need additional space. The INC. UBATE COWORKING facility inside the Flatiron building on

Washington Street in Lynn now offers flexible workspaces with amenities, such as High-Speed WiFi, Technology Platform, 24/7 access, and much more.

CEO Michael Lucerto expanded his Workbar business recently into Lynn as he said, "There is a need for shared office

space, since people are working remotely from home much more. The city of Lynn is in a unique situation with a dynamic workforce of local entrepreneurs; the downtown development area is

Please see RIBBON CUTTING Page 5

## Basketball legend Anderson is a champion as a player, coach, and mentor

By Cary Shuman

There was only one way that the great Antonio Anderson could exit the local basketball scene.

And his players made sure it would be a perfect conclusion for the Lynn English head basketball coach.

Led by junior Kanye Wavez-wa's 22 points and senior Ademide Badmus 20 points and 16 rebounds, the Bulldogs rallied to defeat Everett, 75-71, to claim the GBL championship Saturday

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Antonio Anderson, pictured Saturday at his final game as the Lynn English head boys basketball coach.

## Rachel's Challenge at St. Mary's celebrates 15 years of success

By Stacy Director

In 2006, Nurse Lisa Morin-Plante started what is now the largest Rachel's Challenge chapter in the Northeast. Over one hundred students (many join when they are in the sixth grade and continue until they graduate) participate regularly, and this year, for the first time, remote learners partake. "Kindness, compassion, love and leadership" is at the core of the chapter's foundation. "First it starts at home, secondly it is brought to school, thirdly it goes to the community and lastly, it can change the world," said Nurse Lisa.



This heart was made on the school's new 3-D printer to send to AJ Quetta.

There are numerous ongoing activities Every month, over 100 sandwich bags are donated to My Brother's Table and during Easter,

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## MassDevelopment partners with Newburyport Bank to finance conversion of Lynn newspaper building into housing and retail

Special To The Lynn Journal

MassDevelopment has partnered with Newburyport Bank to provide ARC Realty Management LLC, owner of the vacant former Daily Item building at 38-54 Exchange Street in Lynn, with \$6,650,000 in loan financing to support conversion of the property into a mixed-use development featuring 31 market-rate rental housing units and retail space.

"Redeveloping and revitalizing prime urban spaces, like the former Daily Item building, is integral to our work spurring economic growth in Gateway Cities and other downtowns and town centers across the Commonwealth," said Housing and Economic Development



An artist's rendering of the former Daily Item building at 38-54 Exchange Street. The property will be converted into a mixed-use development with 31 market-rate rental housing units and retail space.

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# EDITORIAL

## GET THE VACCINE

For the vast majority of people, getting a COVID-19 vaccine as soon as they are eligible is a no-brainer.

COVID-19 not only has a high death rate for older persons and those with underlying health conditions, but it also has been shown to have serious after-effects for young, healthy people who experienced only mild symptoms when they contracted the disease.

The ramifications of the health consequences for the so-called COVID long-haulers promises to adversely impact the lives of millions of Americans, as well as burden our society and health care system, for years to come.

However, despite the obvious health risks posed by COVID-19, many of our fellow citizens say they will refuse to get the vaccine. No doubt many of those who tell a pollster that they will not get a vaccine are doing so just to be contrarian. In the end, they will get a vaccine.

But unquestionably there are segments of society on all sides of the political spectrum who are opposed to the idea of vaccinations.

In our view, vaccine-hesitancy in the face of a world-wide pandemic is both inexplicable and sad.

It is inexplicable because the benefits of vaccination are so clear. There is every reason to get it and absolutely no reason to oppose it.

But it also is sad because the vaccine-hesitancy movement shows that so many of our fellow Americans are susceptible these days to rumors, misinformation, and conspiracy theories to the detriment of their own health and that of their loved ones.

The COVID-19 vaccines are a modern scientific miracle. They represent the best avenue of protection for individuals, as well as the only chance for society to overcome the pandemic in order to return our economy to normal.

In addition, with early trials showing that the vaccines are 100 percent safe and effective for older children, a vaccination program for children will assure that our schools can reopen safely. In our view, a COVID-19 vaccine should be required for all children as a condition for returning to school, similar to the requirement that children be vaccinated against other diseases.

We urge all of our readers to get the vaccine as soon as they are eligible under state guidelines.

And to those who have some degree of vaccine-hesitancy for themselves or their children -- please stop listening to those wacky and ill-informed opinions on social media.

## ROYAL FAMILY, COMMON PROBLEMS

On a certain level, it is easy to dismiss the recent interview of Prince Harry and Meghan Markle as frivolous and irrelevant to the lives of the rest of us. To most Americans, the concept of a royal family is a joke to begin with, an anachronism of history.

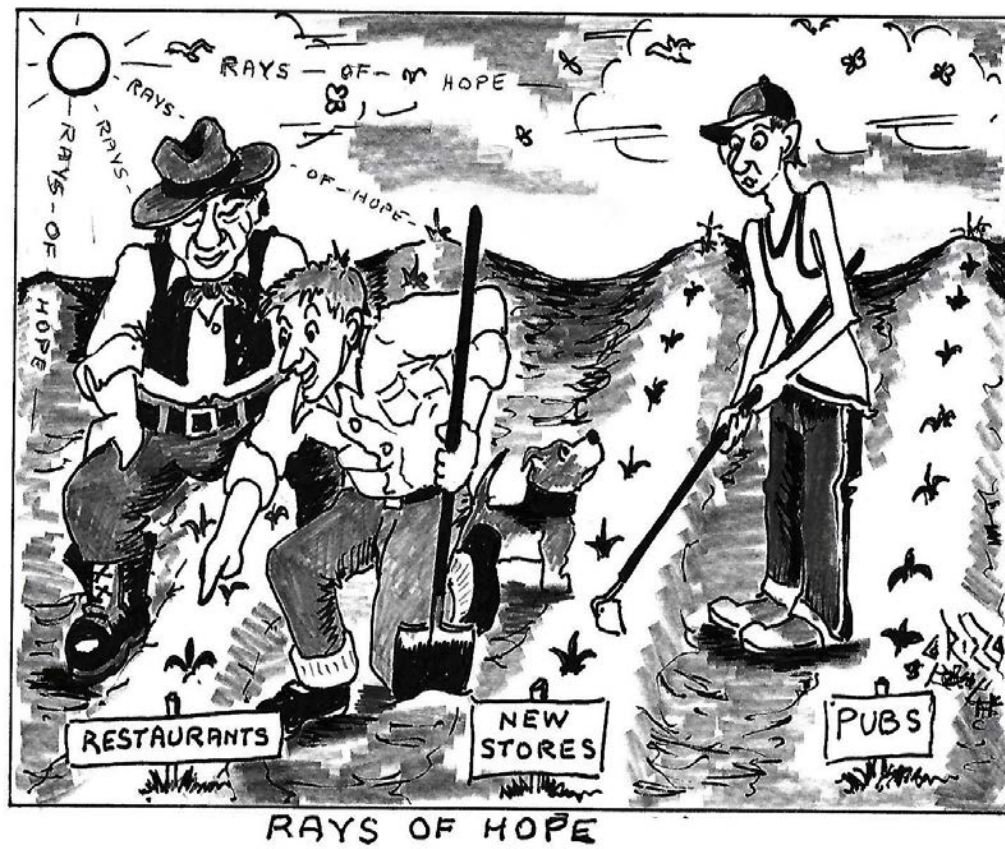
On the other hand, there were certain aspects of the interview that made the travails faced by Harry and Meghan all too real -- and extremely relevant to the 21st century.

The revelation that Meghan contemplated suicide, but received no mental health support among the royal family because it would make them "look bad," was shocking, but it is something to which ordinary families can relate.

Mental health problems still carry a stigma in society at-large. If nothing else, Meghan Markle's willingness to discuss her issues hopefully will serve as an inspiration both to those suffering from depression (among other mental health illnesses) and their families to seek help in the same way that we do for physical health issues before it is too late.

Then of course, there was the discussion of race, which demonstrated just how deeply embedded racism remains in every strata of society across the globe in 2021.

The concept of royalty may be a bunch of nonsense, but the issues of mental health and racism are not and we are grateful that Harry and Meghan were willing to share their personal and painful experiences to shed light on these matters that bear relevance to everybody, regardless of social status.



## GUEST OP-ED

### Cardinal Sean O'Malley's Easter message

By Cardinal Sean O'Malley

Easter is the center and core of Christian faith. Christian faith is Resurrection faith; the Risen Christ, having conquered sin and death, remains with us across the ages. When we celebrate "the Triduum" — the great feasts of Holy Thursday, Good Friday, the Easter Vigil and Easter Sunday — we recall and present again through words and worship the Passion, Death and Resurrection of the Lord.

The Lord's Easter gift to the Church and the world is the gift of hope. Because the Risen Christ remains with us personally and collectively, we never face the challenges of life alone. Christian hope teaches us that we are destined for eternal life, and hope also is meant to sustain us in the concrete realities we face each day. As we celebrate this Easter, no truth is more relevant than hope built on Christian faith.

The past year, lived in the shadow of the COVID-19 pandemic, has tried our sense of hope personally, socially, and as a country. The process of recovery and rebuilding our society will test us again in new ways. In some form, we have all been impacted by this silent and elusive but deadly virus. No community has been spared, and some communities have been devastated. Recovery will require a spirit of collaboration, cooperation and compassion. Easter tells us we

will not be alone in this effort; the Risen Christ calls us to be very good neighbors to each other.

Throughout the past year, there have been multiple examples of what being a good neighbor means. We have seen health care workers risk their lives to save lives; we have seen front-line workers in stores, delivery agencies and police and fire departments show up every day, even at personal risk, so basic needs could be met and life could be sustained. These examples inspire hope in human

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**Anderson/** CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

at the Paul Cavanagh Fieldhouse.

Badmus, a 6-foot-6-inch center, had scored the 1000th point of his superb career in a March 23 win over Everett.

English finished with a perfect 7-0 record in a shortened season that was moved to the spring due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

During Anderson's spectacular four-year tenure, the Bulldogs won two Division 1 state titles and lost only one home game.

Anderson is leaving the English program to become the head boys basketball coach at Springfield (Mass.) Commonwealth Academy. He will also be the director of student affairs at the prep school (grades 6-12) and have a residence on the school campus.

Anderson was an outstanding high school basketball player at Lynn Tech under the direction of Coach Marvin Avery. The Tigers won a state championship in 2002.

Anderson was recruited by Memphis basketball coach John Calipari, who personally traveled to the Anderson residence in Lynn to talk with Anotnio and his

family.

A 6-foot-6-inch guard, Anderson became a star at Memphis, helping to lead the Tigers to the NCAA Division 1 championship game. A miraculous three-point shot by Kansas guard Mario Chalmers with 2.1 seconds left sent the game into overtime where the Jayhawks prevailed.

Anderson continued his career in the National Basketball Association (NBA) where he played for the Oklahoma City Thunder franchise.

After coaching in the college ranks, Anderson was named the head basketball coach at English upon the recommendation of Director of Athletics Dick Newton.

"Mr. Newton and others took a chance on me and gave me the opportunity to come back home and coach," said Anderson. "It was just an ideal situation for me. Being here and only losing only one game in our home gym – it was definitely the best. It hadn't happened in Lynn in a long time."

Anderson said he was "blessed" to have a dedicated contingent of players the past four

years.

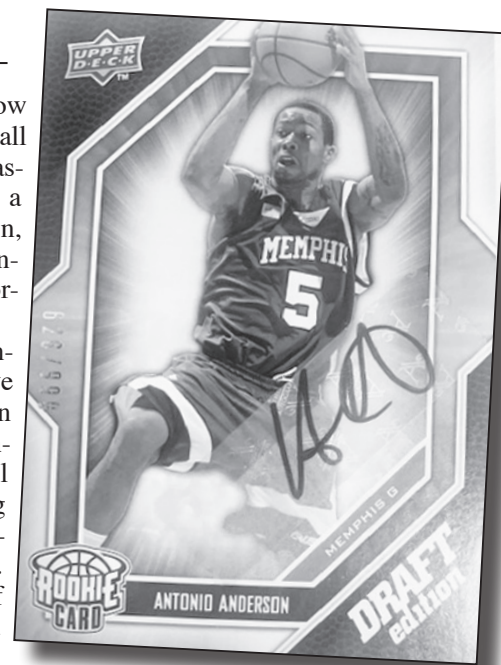
"We coached some great guys from year one to year four who showed how much talent Lynn has and what they could do when they were put in the right position," said Anderson. "I was definitely grateful for the chance to coach these dedicated student-athletes and I love the fact that I was able to be the guy to help them get to where they wanted to get to."

Newton said Anderson made a tremendous impact on the English basketball program and was a positive influence on his players.

"We thank Antonio for his excellent leadership of our boys basketball program and wish him continued success in new position," said Newton.

Avery, who is now the head basketball coach at Lynn Classical and has been a mentor to Anderson, also offered his congratulations to his former player.

"I know that Antonio, with his drive and determination and excellent coaching techniques, will build a winning program in Springfield," said Avery. "I'm very proud of Antonio for what he has been able to accomplish in his basketball-playing and coaching career. I wish him the best."



Former Memphis star Antonio Anderson, pictured on his NBA Rookie Basketball Card.

**Op-Ed /** CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

terms; we will need this kind of generosity on an even wider scale in the days and months ahead.

Nationally and locally, the pandemic illustrated again that, even when broad structural issues like a pandemic affect us all, they impact some in catastrophic fashion. African American and Hispanic communities suffered dramatically greater losses — of life and welfare — than the general population. Often, these communities have been where many front-line workers live; they kept faithfully serving others even as they suffered disproportionately themselves. National recovery should reward this service appropriately in gratitude and in public policies focused on these communities.

Any assessment of how we have responded to the pandemic will need to address two realities. There have been countless acts of charity and compassion offered quietly

and effectively each day to those in need. And, by contrast, there have been intensified expressions of racism in our public life; historic patterns aimed at Asian Americans, African Americans, and immigrants. Children and youth perceived as different are often the object of bullying that can push young people into depression, risky behaviors or suicide. There will not be lasting healing and recovery unless we are committed as a society to expand the circle of compassion and charity manifested by many and resist, by word and deed, by law and policy, the forces in our society which refuse to acknowledge the dignity of every person. Easter offers hope: it also calls us to be signs of hope, not hatred, on the road to recovery. This Easter is time to make clear choices to renew our common life."

*Cardinal Sean O'Malley is the Archbishop of Boston.*

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## LOCAL STUDENTS EARN ACADEMIC HONORS

### LOCAL STUDENT NAMED TO FAIRFIELD DEAN LIST

The following Fairfield University student received Deans List Honors for the Fall 2020 semester.

Grace Couillard

In order to be placed on the Dean's List, students must have completed a minimum of 12 credit hours in a semester, have no outstanding or incomplete grades for that semester, and have attained a semester grade point average of 3.50 or better.

### LOCAL ASSUMPTION STUDENT INDUCTED INTO SOCIOLOGY INTERNATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY

The Assumption Department of Sociology & Criminology has announced that 16 students have become members of Alpha Kappa Delta, the international honor society in sociology. Local students include:

Emma Panacopoulos of Lynn  
Meagan Molea of Lynn

"Induction into Assumption's chapter of Alpha Delta Kappa recognizes students' commit-

ment to their academic pursuits and making contributions to the field of sociology," said Angela Kaufman-Parks, Ph.D., department chair and associate professor of sociology and criminology. "We are pleased to honor these students and we look forward to witnessing how they will reflect the Society's purpose 'to investigate humanity for the purpose of service.'"

Alpha Kappa Delta was founded in 1920 at the University of Southern California, home of one of the first departments of sociology in the United States. To be inducted into Alpha Kappa Delta, students must be in their junior year, hold a minimum grade point average (GPA) of 3.0, and rank in the top 35 percent of their class. Eligible students must also complete at least four sociology courses, earning an average GPA of 3.0 or higher in those four courses.

For more information on Assumption, visit [www.assumption.edu](http://www.assumption.edu).

Assumption University, founded in 1904 by the Augustinians of the Assumption, is New England's premier university for high-quality education, integrating career preparation and education of the whole per-

son, drawing upon the best in the rich and centuries-long tradition of Catholic higher education. Assumption, located in Worcester, Massachusetts, seeks to provide students with a transformative education that forms graduates who possess critical intelligence, thoughtful citizenship, and compassionate service. The University offers 34 majors and 49 minors in the liberal arts, sciences, business, nursing and professional studies; as well as master's and continuing education degrees and professional certificate programs. For more information about Assumption University, please visit [www.assumption.edu](http://www.assumption.edu).

### LOCAL STUDENT MAKES DEAN'S LIST AT CONNECTICUT COLLEGE

The following student has been named to the Connecticut College dean's list for the 2020 fall semester:

Karen Barahona of Lynn, 2021, Dean's Honors, Sociology and History

About Connecticut College  
Founded in 1911, Connecticut College is a highly selective pri-

vate liberal arts college of 1,800 students located on a 750-acre arboretum campus in New London, overlooking Long Island Sound and the Thames River. The College's mission is to educate students to put the liberal arts into action as citizens of a global society. Through an innovative four-year program, Connections, students integrate every aspect of their experience—from classes to majors to internships to activities to jobs on campus and abroad—into a meaningful pathway that allows them to synthesize different perspectives, solve complex problems, and contribute to the public good. For more information, see [www.conncoll.edu](http://www.conncoll.edu) or find us on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and LinkedIn.

### RESIDENT NAMED TO DEAN'S LIST FOR THE FALL 2020 SEMESTER AT QUINNIPIAC

The following local student was named to the dean's list for the Fall 2020 semester at Quinnipiac University:

Pedro Cesa

To qualify for the dean's list, students must earn a grade point

average of at least 3.5 with no grade lower than C. Full-time students must complete at least 14 credits in a semester, with at least 12 credits that have been graded on a letter grade basis to be eligible. Part-time students must complete at least six credits during a semester.

About Quinnipiac University

Quinnipiac is a private, coeducational, nonsectarian institution located 90 minutes north of New York City and two hours from Boston. The university enrolls 7,000 full-time undergraduate and 3,000 graduate and part-time students in 110 degree programs through its Schools of Business, Communications, Education, Engineering, Health Sciences, Law, Medicine, Nursing and the College of Arts and Sciences. Quinnipiac is recognized by U.S. News & World Report and Princeton Review's "The Best 385 Colleges." The Chronicle of Higher Education has named Quinnipiac among the Great Colleges to Work For(r). For more information, please visit [qu.edu](http://qu.edu). Connect with Quinnipiac on Facebook at [facebook.com/quinnipiacunews](https://facebook.com/quinnipiacunews) and follow Quinnipiac on Twitter @QuinnipiacU.

## Building/ CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Secretary Mike Kennealy, who serves as chair of MassDevelopment's Board of Directors. "The Baker-Polito Administration is pleased that this treasured piece of Lynn's history will once again be a vital part of the downtown area."

"With this redevelopment project located in the heart of downtown Lynn and directly across from the Lynn MBTA commuter rail station, it will add housing, retail, and vibrancy to the city," said MassDevelopment President and CEO Dan Rivera. "MassDevelopment is pleased to deploy the various financing tools at our disposal, as well as partner with Newburyport Bank, to provide ARC Realty Management LLC with the resources it needs to bring the iconic former Daily Item building back to life."

In 2020, ARC identified air-quality issues following the removal of the building's first-floor printing press. MassDevelopment provided ARC with a \$130,000 Brownfields Redevelopment Fund loan to install a

sub-slab depressurization system to eliminate indoor air-quality issues in order to continue the building conversion. The agency subsequently provided ARC with a \$2.8 million construction-to-permanent loan, in coordination with a \$2.8 million loan from Newburyport Bank, as well as a \$920,000 construction bridge loan. The Lynn Economic Development and Industrial Corporation also provided a \$150,000 loan for the project, which is expected to be complete by October 2021.

"The former Lynn Item building is a historical asset within our community that will now be transformed into a cornerstone of the Exchange Street corridor and serve as a gateway into Lynn's revitalized downtown," said Lynn Mayor Thomas M. McGee. "This mixed-use, transit-oriented development will be another important piece of the puzzle located adjacent to the commuter rail station and provide easy access to our walkable downtown. I want to thank MassDevelopment and Newburyport Bank for their

support of this project to repurpose a building which has sat vacant for several years."

"Newburyport Bank is excited to partner with MassDevelopment to participate in financing the redevelopment of the historic Daily Item building," said Mitch Marcus, Senior Vice President of Commercial Lending at Newburyport Bank. "The Daily Item is a North Shore institution and to be able to be part of the repurposing of their former headquarters in the heart of downtown Lynn is very gratifying. ARC Realty Management, LLC will provide 31 unique apartments and additional retail space as part of the ongoing revitalization of the downtown area. This project aligns perfectly with our mission of financing projects which continue to improve the communities in which we do business."

The Daily Item building was formerly owned by the Daily Item newspaper, and featured a first-floor printing press and upper-floor newsroom and management offices. The building has been vacant since 2014, when

the Daily Item relocated its offices to 110 Munroe Street in Lynn.

The building is located in an area previously served by MassDevelopment's Transformative Development Initiative (TDI), a program designed to accelerate economic growth within focused districts in Gateway Cities. The program works with cross-sector partnerships to engage community members in actionable planning, implement local economic development initiatives, and spur further public and private investment. From 2015 to 2019 downtown Lynn was designated a TDI district, and during that time MassDevelopment helped position this key property for redevelopment.

ARC Realty Management LLC is a single-purpose real estate holding company based out of Lynn, Mass. BuildAR Group, Inc. is the general contractor for this project.

"It was a pleasure working with Mike Galligan of MassDevelopment, and Mitch Marcus of Newburyport Bank," said ARC Realty Principal Hashmat Rauf.

"It was a challenging project to structure, but with their expertise and guidance, we made this project a reality. We are excited to work with BuildAR Group, Lynn-based general contractors on this project to create 31 modern, well-designed rental apartments, and seven commercial units on the first floor. BuildAR Group has been very helpful from the start of the project providing a thorough pre-construction services and handling the design aspect of the project."

MassDevelopment, the state's finance and development agency, works with businesses, nonprofits, banks, and communities to stimulate economic growth across the Commonwealth. During FY2020, MassDevelopment financed or managed 341 projects generating investment of more than \$2.69 billion in the Massachusetts economy. These projects are estimated to create or support 10,871 jobs and build or preserve 1,787 housing units.

# Ribbon Cutting/ CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

attracting new business people into the city. I am hoping for this space to be a melting pot within this community.”

INCUBATE COWORKING offers memberships to freelancers, business owners, and remote workers. The Workbar concept is convenient and affordable for anyone in need of a private of-

office, a place to meet clients or a conference rooms for meetings.

Daily and monthly flexible membership plans are available. Other Workbar facilities are located in Winthrop and soon to be in Hamilton. For more information call 617-455-8674 or email – michael@incubatecoworking.com.



Greater Lynn Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Colin Codner congratulates Owner-CEO Michael Lucerto inside the Smart Room.

# Brothers Deli celebrates Greek Independence Day

Brothers Deli celebrated Greek Independence Day on March 25. George Markos was excited that Greece became free in 1821 as he said, “This was the day Greece was liberated and we remember the brave men

who fought for independence.” In addition, George said, “Today, Greece is free and freedom is a great privilege to have. Our Greek traditions and culture that we enjoy continue here in America.”

This same day that Greece removed itself from the Ottoman Empire coincides with the Feast of the Annunciation. This is a Greek holiday to celebrate independence of the home-land and to begin a new Grecian calendar.



Greek Independence Day at Brothers Deli - Owner George Markos, Estelle Revelotis, and Chef Tony Katsianis



Artist Joanna Ciampa designed the historical collage wall at the entrance of the Workbar.

# Hearts/ CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

students bring the bags directly to the homeless living on the streets. After every snowstorm, students shovel out the fire hydrant they have adopted in their hometowns. These students are so devoted that even Covid 19 hasn't stopped them. Every Christmas, between 95-175 Christmas gifts are purchased for those in need. Nurse Lisa believes that it is “not about the gift; it is about the love inside. People like to give back, but don't know how or what to do and students, faculty/staff and outside families participate in this yearly special event.” Every winter, there is a hat/mitten drive, students bake bread for the elderly, flags are put on graves and so much more. To see events, along with photos, you can look at the Rachel's Challenge, St. Mary's page on Facebook.

“Kids love to give back, and even though the school doesn't require any service hours, students on their own do thousands of community service hours.” Eighth grader Meaghan Bates, a participant for three years, enjoys “baking bread for the elderly and shopping for the Christmas gifts.” Sophomore Christopher Lutchman, a member for five years, said that Rachel's Challenge “fills me with joy knowing I made someone's day during one of our events.

I've been doing My Brothers Table (faithfully for the last 5 years), the Christmas project (where we do shopping for people who can't have a Christmas), making cards, baked goods, wrapping presents, and countless other events.” Caroline Nerich, a junior, has been an active member for six years. She has been involved with “ARC, A Bed for Every Child Program, buying Christmas presents for people in need, and serving at My Brother's Table.” Senior Vanessa Latorelli said that Rachel's Challenge is important to her because “most of the people we help have been through so much, so to put a smile on their faces makes me the most happy I have every been.”

“Nurse Lisa has a massive heart. Not only is she the school nurse and trying to keep us safe during these times, she really cares about everyone, no matter who they are. She goes above and beyond what she's required to do, making sure everyone (and I mean everyone) is accounted for. She is the image of Rachel's Challenge,” said sophomore class president Lutchman. “Nurse Lisa has done so much to keep Rachel's Challenge going strong. We are one of the only schools in the country that is still able to run this great program,” said Student Council Junior Vice President Caroline

Nerich. Sophomore class Treasurer, Kayleigh Bates, said that Nurse Lisa is “always finding new ways to help our school and community in any way possible.”

This year, members created “heart strings,” a beautiful Valentine's Day display that included the names of every student, administrator, faculty and staff member. On February 12, Rachel's Challenge held a green and gold day to support Bishop Feehan hockey player, AJ Quetta, who was seriously injured in a recent hockey game. Along with a heart made on the school's new 3-D printer, will be a check for almost \$1,000.

Dr. John F. Dolan, Head of School, said, “Nurse Lisa is all about young people reaching their full potential. Her approach, which is to start a chain reaction of kindness and compassion on our campus, is exactly why our St. Mary's community loves her. Her work with Rachel's Challenge is one of the shining lights for our school.”

Congratulations to Nurse Lisa and all the participants past and present on their fifteen years of kindness, compassion, love and leadership. The school and local communities look forward to the next fifteen years.

# LYNN ENGLISH HIGH SCHOOL BOYS WIN GREATER BOSTON LEAGUE CHAMPIONSHIP

The Lynn English High School boys basketball team completed an undefeated season with an exciting 75-71 victory over Everett in the Greater Boston League championship game Saturday at the Paul Cavanagh Fieldhouse.

Kanye Wavezwa (22 points) and Ademide Badmus (20 points, 16 rebounds) led the way for English.

It was final game at English for head coach Antonio Anderson, who led the program to back-to-back Division 1 state championships in 2019 and 2020. Anderson is heading to Springfield Commonwealth Academy to become the head boys basketball coach and director of student affairs at the college preparatory school.



**GREATER BOSTON LEAGUE CHAMPS:** The Lynn English Bulldogs finished the Covid-shortened basketball season undefeated and capped it with a 75-71 win over Everett to claim their first Greater Boston League championship trophy.



**TIGHT QUARTERS:** Everett's Steven Cordiero and Lynn English's Kanye Wavezwa are joined at the hip.



**DIFFERENT OBJECTIVES:** Everett's Juvens Louis (13) looks for an offensive opening while Lynn English Aaron Vizcaino has his eyes on the ball.



**BATTLE GROUND:** Lynn English center Ademide Badmus (11) and Everett's Edwin Francois (21) held a game-long Battle Royale in the paint during the Bulldogs' 75-71 victory that clinched the Greater Boston League championship Saturday at Lynn English's Cavanaugh Field House. The game capped the Bulldog's undefeated season (8-0) and was head coach Antonio Anderson's final game on the Bulldog sideline.



**NOT ON MY WATCH:** Lynn English Louis Rivera rejects a drive by Everett's Juvens Louis.



**SKY HIGH:** Ademide Badmus scales the heights as he hauls in a rebound over and Everett forward.

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**A THOUSAND POINTS OF DELIGHT:** Senior Ademide Badmus was honored before the game as he became the latest Lynn English Bulldog to tally 1,000 points over his career. Badmus accomplished the feat against Everett on March 24 and piled up the points despite his senior season being shortened to just eight games. Head coach Antonio Anderson did the pre-game honors.



**BADMUS A BAD MAN:** Ademide Badmus scatters a pair of Everett defenders as he drives for a pair of his 20 points during Lynn English 75-71 win over Everett in the GBL championship game.



**A DOUBLE STRETCH:** Lynn English center Ademide Badmus (11) and Everett's Kevin Ariste reach for a loose ball.



**NO LETUP:** It may have been his final game on the Lynn English sidelines, but head coach Antonio Anderson was as spirited as ever, letting the officials know his opinion while leading the Bulldogs to an undefeated season and the Greater Boston League championship.



**HAND TO HAND:** Lynn English guard Aaron Vizcaino holds off Everett's Nurieni Mohamed during the Bulldogs 75-71 victory that clinched the Greater Boston League championship Saturday at Lynn English's Cavanaugh Field House. The game capped the Bulldog's undefeated season (8-0) and was head coach Antonio Anderson's final game on the Bulldog sideline.



**ALL FOR ONE:** Lynn English center Ademide Badmus and an unidentified Bulldog (far right) battle Everett's Edwin Francois (21) and Kevin Ariste (4) for a rebound



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## SPORTS NOTEBOOK BY CARY SHUMAN

## ABREU IS THE FRONT RUNNER FOR ENGLISH HOOP POSITION

Alvin Abreu is the leading candidate for the position of head boys basketball coach at Lynn English.

Abreu has been an assistant coach on Antonio Anderson's staff during the Bulldogs' successful run to two Division 1 state titles. Anderson has accepted a head coaching position at Springfield Commonwealth Academy and coached his final game at English last Saturday.

Lynn English Director of Athletics Dick Newton has posted the position.

Abreu was a standout player at Lynn Classical before earn-

ing America East All-Rookie Team and All-Conference Second Team honors as a sensational 6-foot-2-inch guard in the Division 1 University of New Hampshire men's basketball program. He scored 1,564 points in his four-year career at UNH.

## CLASSICAL-ENGLISH 'THANKSGIVING' GAME

The game won't be played on Thanksgiving morning, but the Lynn Classical and Lynn English football teams will meet on Friday, May 7 at 6 p.m. at Manning Field.

The football season was moved to the spring due to the COVID-19 pandemic. It is unknown at this time how many

spectators will be allowed to attend the Classical-English game.

## MOLEA NAMED INTERIM GOLF COACH AT ENGLISH

Lynn English Director of Athletics Dick Newton has named Brett Molea as the interim head golf coach.

Brett is the son of English Vice Principal and former head football coach and director of athletics Gary Molea and Pam

Molea.

Brett played collegiate baseball at Salem State University.

## BERGDORF AND CHAPLAIN ARE GLOBE ALL-SCHOLASTICS

St. Mary's High School senior Maiya Bergdorf (girls basketball) and sophomore Jenna Chaplain (girls hockey) were named to the Boston Globe All-Scholastic Team.

Bergdorf, who helped lead St.

Mary's to a Division 3 state title and Catholic Central League Cup championship, will be attending Sacred Heart University. Bergdorf was selected the CCL Co-Most Valuable Player with St. Mary's teammate Yirsy Queliz.

Chaplain, one of the state's best all-around players, scored 24 goals and 13 assists for the Spartans this season. She was the MVP of the Catholic Central League.

## State officials awards \$5 million in grants to area communities committed to housing production

Special To The Lynn Journal

Governor Charlie Baker, Lt. Governor Karyn Polito, and Secretary of Housing and Economic Development Mike Kennealy joined Speaker of the House Ronald Mariano, Senator John Keenan, and Quincy Mayor Tom Koch to award \$5 million in capital grants to 28 communities under the Housing Choice Initiative and present 14 communities including Lynn with Housing Choice designations. The event was held at the future home of the Father Bill's & Main-Spring Housing Resource Center, which has received both a Housing Choice Community Capital Grant and a supportive housing award.

The Administration announced the re-designation of six Housing Choice Communities (Ayer, Burlington, Franklin,

Hingham, Newton, and Wrentham), and also announced that eight new communities (Great Barrington, Holliston, Lincoln, Lynn, Maynard, Millbury, Walpole, and Wellesley) have qualified to join the program. This important designation recognizes communities that have made substantial progress toward housing development goals and the implementation of housing best practices to encourage sustainable development. In addition, the designation makes Housing Choice communities eligible for certain state grants. Today's announcement brings the total number of current Housing Choice Communities to 78 across the Commonwealth, including the City of Quincy.

"We are grateful to the 78 communities that have earned Housing Choice Community designations and their ongoing commitment to build-

ing new housing and their promotion of best practices," said Governor Charlie Baker. "As we continue to take steps to address our housing crisis, these capital and small-town grants paired with the Housing Choice zoning reforms signed into law in January will support even more communities be a part of the solution."

"The need for more housing has never been more apparent and thanks to the Housing Choice Initiative, we can provide specialized tools and resources to assist with production and continue making progress toward our housing goals," said Lt. Governor Karyn Polito. "The pandemic has sharpened our focus on creating more housing, and we applaud the latest Housing Choice Communities for stepping up to create the kind of housing that meet the needs of residents."

## Ben Downing raises \$227,712 in eight weeks

Former state senator, clean energy business leader, and gubernatorial candidate Ben Downing marked the end of the first quarter today by announcing that his campaign has raised \$227,712 since he entered the race on February 8. The campaign highlighted over 1,100 individual donors, with 80% of all donations coming from Massachusetts and nearly three-quarters coming in under \$100. Ben is not accepting any donations from lobbyists or corporate PACs.

"We're really excited by the number of people signing up to support our fight for a fairer, stronger Massachusetts," said Ben. "These early contributions help

fortify our long-term campaign plan, allowing us to invest in the digital infrastructure, relational organizing strategies, and dynamic team that we need to win. We're excited to put this support to work in the coming months as we share policy plans, activate a volunteer network and continue to build a 351-community campaign."

As a state senator, Ben represented the largest district in the state, comprising 52 cities and towns. Over a decade in office he led legislative efforts to accelerate our clean energy development and respond to climate change, rebuild our urban and rural economies, reduce poverty and hunger, strengthen our state ethics laws,

and expand protections for transgender individuals.

Since 2017 he has served in a leadership role at Nexamp, a leading renewable energy company in Massachusetts. In that role, he led efforts to improve accessibility within the green economy, expand to new markets outside of the northeast, and deploy cutting-edge energy storage solutions here at home. He served on the board of the Environmental League of Massachusetts and is a leading advocate for climate action in the Commonwealth.

Ben, 39, lives in East Boston with his wife, Micaelah Morrill, and their two young sons Malcolm (3) and Eamon (11 months).

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NEWS BRIEFS

**YMCA IN LYNN RECEIVES \$25,000 GRANT TO EXPAND ACCESS TO TELEHEALTH VISITS AND TECHNOLOGY**

The YMCA of Metro North is pleased to announce that its newly named Bruce and Patricia Herring Technology Center inside the soon-to-open Demakes Family YMCA in Lynn received a \$25,000 grant from Beverly and Addison Gilbert Hospitals to purchase computer equipment and install internet access. The funding, through the hospitals' 2021 Community Benefits Grant Program, is aimed at increasing users ability to manage their health, reduce social isolation, and encourage the development of programs that support health equity in the region.

"As a hospital that serves many patients from Lynn and the surrounding areas, our number one priority is providing vital health care services to the community," said Phil Cormier, President of Beverly and Addison Gilbert Hospitals. "The Demakes Family YMCA also plays an essential role in taking care of the community by providing quality social, recreational and educational experiences for its members.

We are fortunate to have such a terrific resource that invests in the city and provides things like access to technology through the Bruce and Patricia Herring Technology Center that will help improve the quality of the lives of its residents."

The YMCA will work with other partners to provide technical support and training to users in need of computer literacy skills. The Herring Technology Center will feature dedicated senior-only hours and provide bilingual equipment and materials to users.

Users can also reserve private rooms for telehealth sessions, therapeutic visits, or job interviews.

This generous funding will help us stay responsive to emerging needs in our community, says Andrea Baez, Senior Branch Executive of the Demakes Family YMCA in Lynn. The lack of access to computers and technology is as a key challenge in our area driving more health inequities and creating barriers for people to access health, employment, benefits, and other services that have shifted online during

the pandemic.

Data from Beverly and Addison Gilbert Hospitals' community needs assessment and other studies by groups like the Essex County Community Foundation identify technology access as a priority funding area. Reports indicate that one in five households in Essex County lacks basic computer equipment. The YMCA's Herring Technology Center will target households in need of computers and other support through outreach efforts with local, community-based organizations and provide space and equipment for groups to conduct training and information sessions.

Sessions on topics like enrollment in health insurance, Medicare, WIC, SNAP programs, college application assistance, resume building, nutrition education, chronic disease management, financial education, and other classes will be part of the YMCAs initial planning.

The Lynn YMCA also recently received a grant from Attorney General Maura Healey's office to provide video-enabled devices that assist tenants in accessing virtual eviction hearings.

When the new Demakes Family YMCA opens to the public on May 10, partners like Beverly and Addison Gilbert Hospitals will help us continue to provide impactful services that create healthier and more equitable outcomes for the people in our region, says Kathleen Walsh, President and CEO of the YMCA of Metro North.

The Demakes Family YMCA in Lynn will celebrate its Grand Opening on May 7 with a ribbon-cutting ceremony and will open fully to the public on Monday, May 10. Learn more about the Demakes Family YMCA opening.

<https://www.ycmametronorth.org/lynntour>

**LYNN MAN PLEADS GUILTY TO WARHOL PAINTINGS THEFT**

A Lynn man pleads guilty in connection with taking and attempting to sell two Warhol paintings on eBay.

Brian R. Walshe, 46, pleaded guilty to one count each of wire fraud, interstate transportation for a scheme to defraud, possession of converted goods and unlawful monetary transaction. U.S. Senior District Court Judge Douglas P. Woodlock scheduled

sentencing for Aug. 2, 2021. In May 2018, Walshe was arrested and charged.

In early November 2016, a buyer found two Andy Warhol paintings for sale on eBay. The paintings were two of Warhol's "Shadows," a series of untitled, abstract canvas paintings from 1978. The original listing price for the paintings was \$100,000. In the advertisement, the eBay seller included a picture of an invoice for the two Warhol Shadow paintings with Warhol Foundation numbers and a purchase price of \$240,000.

The buyer believed the paintings were authentic and between Nov. 3 and 5, 2016, arranged with Walshe – the seller – to purchase the artwork outside of eBay for \$80,000. Walshe and the buyer signed a contract which specified that the buyer had three days to terminate the contract and get a full refund if the buyer did not accept the artwork. On Nov. 7, 2016, the buyer's assistant flew to Boston and met Walshe to retrieve the paintings, providing him with a cashier's check for \$80,000. According to bank records, the cashier's check was deposited that day into an account that Walshe controlled, and \$33,400 was subsequently withdrawn in the following 14 days. On Nov. 8, 2016, the buyer removed the paintings' frames and found no Warhol Foundation authentication stamps and noticed that the canvasses and staples looked new. When he compared the paintings to the photographs from the eBay listing, they did not look identical. The buyer concluded that the paintings he purchased from Walshe were not authentic. The buyer then repeatedly attempted to contact Walshe, who initially did not respond, and then made excuses for the delay in refunding the buyer's money.

Walshe initially gained access to the paintings through a friend (the victim). Walshe was present when the victim first purchased a Warhol painting. Sometime after this purchase, the victim purchased the two Shadow paintings. Thereafter, while visiting the victim in South Korea, Walshe told the victim that he could sell some of the art for a good price. The victim agreed and let Walshe take the two Shadow paintings and other fine art pieces.

After Walshe took the items, the victim did not hear from Walshe and was unable to con-

tact him. Eventually, the victim contacted a mutual friend, who met with Walshe and retrieved some of the art. On May 3, 2011, Walshe attempted to consign the Warhol paintings to a gallery in New York City, at which time he also had other art belonging to the victim. The gallery declined to accept the paintings because Walshe did not have a bill of sale.

The charge of wire fraud provides for a sentence of up to 20 years in prison, three years of supervised release and a fine of \$250,000. The charge of interstate transportation for a scheme to defraud provides for a sentence of up to 10 years in prison, three years of supervised release and a fine of \$250,000. The charge of possession of converted goods provides for a sentence of up to 10 years in prison, three years of supervised release and a

fine of \$250,000. The charge of unlawful monetary transaction 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 court judge based upon the U.S. Sentencing Guidelines and other statutory factors.

Acting United States Attorney Nathaniel R. Mendell and Joseph R. Bonavolonta, Special Agent in Charge of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, Boston Field Office made the announcement today. The Lynn Police Department provided assistance with the investigation. Assistant U.S. Attorney Timothy E. Moran and Kunal Pasricha of Mendell's Criminal Division and Assistant U.S. Attorney David Lazarus, Chief of Mendell's Asset Recovery Unit, are prosecuting the case.

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# NEWS FROM AROUND THE REGION

## BAKER SENDS MILLIONS FOR CHELSEA AID

CHELSEA - After weeks of negotiating with local leaders in Chelsea and Everett after being shorted by the federal American Rescue Plan (ARP) and the federal delegation, Gov. Charlie Baker announced his Administration would dedicate a total of \$100 million of additional federal funding to those two communities – and two others that were shorted.

The additional funding announcement brought Everett and Chelsea further up from the low levels of funding they did have under the Plan, but still far behind more affluent communities like Newton and Brookline and others.

“When this issue was first brought to our attention and when you look at the numbers generally, when you have what I would describe as relatively better-off financially communities getting \$70, \$80, and \$90 million, and you have places like Chelsea and Everett..., which have been hit pretty hard by the pandemic and don’t have the kinds of resources many of these other communities have, getting \$6,

\$7 and \$8 million – it was pretty clear there was a problem there,” said Gov. Baker. “We began serious conversations with the local leaders in those communities to figure out how we might frame this to figure out how to solve it. Once we reached what I would describe as a general agreement to the problems they were trying to deal with as part of their own initiative, we then talked to the folks in the legislative leadership here to incorporate that into the planning we do here on how we do allocate federal resources that are part of the ARP.”

The details were still very fuzzy when announced on Thursday, March 25, at a regular COVID-19 update press conference, but those close to the situation seemed to indicate that Chelsea and Everett might be in line for about \$28 million each in additional funding, while Methuen and Randolph would receive slightly less amounts.

For Everett, that would bring up their total funding (including county resources) to approximately \$41.59 million. For Chelsea, that would bring their approximate Rescue Plan funding up to \$39.61 million. That still trails more affluent commu-

nities who weren’t hard hit with COVID-19 by a long shot. Under the original Plan – assuming no more federal dollars were awarded to them – Newton is funded at \$65.29 million and Somerville at \$79.06 million. However it would bring them on par with communities like Revere, which got \$30.54 million.

“As a result of the way the bill was designed, Chelsea, Everett, Methuen and Randolph are due to receive significantly smaller levels of funding compared to other significantly hard-hit communities,” continued the governor. “We believe it’s critically important these communities get the resources they need to continue to recover from the devastating effects of the pandemic. We’ve been talking regularly with local leadership in these communities to develop a plan for the short-fall. As a result of those conversations and with the legislative leadership here, we’re pleased to announce we’ll direct \$100 million in additional aid to these four communities.”

Gov. Baker said they continue to speak with the U.S. Treasury Department for guidance on how these monies could be used, which are outside the Plan’s direct allocation to cities and towns. The new plan for \$100 million came after long and difficult talks with local leaders, particularly State Sen. Sal DiDomenico, Mayor Carlo DeMaria and Chelsea City Manager Tom Ambrosino. All worked behind the scenes with the federal del-

egation since around March 4 to try to remedy the problematic formula used in the Rescue Plan before it was voted on, but for whatever reason, the federal delegation wasn’t successful in helping to remedy the problem at that time.

“After we had many meetings and conversations with our partners at all levels of government, I am grateful that Governor Baker has committed to helping Everett and Chelsea and will be sending much needed funding to our communities,” said Sen. DiDomenico, who was instrumental in identifying the problem to state leaders and creating a new solution. “The original federal funding formula only exacerbated the inequities that our cities have already faced and I am relieved that there is a resolution to correct this problem. I was happy to work with Governor Baker, Mayor DeMaria, City Manager Ambrosino, my colleagues in the Federal delegation and at the State House to get the resources Chelsea and Everett deserve.”

City Manager Tom Ambrosino said he was thrilled after weeks of wrangling to improve the situation.

“I’m thrilled with the decision and very grateful to the Baker Administration,” he said.

Everett Mayor Carlo DeMaria said the allocation by the governor was very positive news, and he said he thanked the state for acting quickly and listening.

“The City of Everett was slated to receive \$4.5 million,

whereas the City of Newton was slated for \$65 million,” he said. “Disproportionate is an understatement. “I would like to personally thank Governor Baker and his team for acknowledging and quickly responding to the inequitable funding of the Federal formula. I would also like to recognize the relentless advocacy of State Senator Sal DiDomenico who has stood by our side through this entire process. Everett deserves this funding and I’m proud to say that our persistence has paid off.”

Baker estimated the state would be getting \$7.9 billion in direct aid from the American Rescue Plan, and of that \$3.4 billion would come to counties, cities and towns – part of the money that was allocated using a formula that left Everett and Chelsea short of equitable funding.

Baker said the additional \$100 million still needed to be vetted through the Treasury Department at the federal level for the legality of the move and the potential uses. However, he said it is expected the additional monies could be used for anything related to COVID-19 responses, including economic assistance, replacing lost revenue, and water/sewer/broadband upgrades.

## STALLED PROJECT HEADS TO AUCTION BLOCK

East Boston - The aging in-

Please see REGION Page 11

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**Region /** CONTINUED FROM PAGE 10

dustrial building on the corner of Porter and Orleans Streets was supposed to be one of Paul Roiff's signature boutique hotels, complete with extended stay rooms for business travelers and a restaurant.

However, Roiff, known for high end hotels and restaurants throughout Boston, later sold the Boston Planning and Development Agency-approved project to the Patel family for \$14.75 million.

The Patels, known for operating and managing several area hotels, planned to continue Roiff's original vision, but for four years the project has stalled and become a dilapidated, boarded-up eyesore in the community.

Now, after years of promising the community that they'd get working to bring the neighborhood's first "Loftel" to fruition the plans seem to be coming to an abrupt end.

It was revealed that Paul E. Saperstein Co., Inc Auctioneers and Appraisers have been brought in to auction off the property.

The auction of the property will take place on April 14 at 1 p.m.

According to the auction posting the terms of sale require a "\$150,000 deposit by certified or bank cashier's check" that will be increased to "10 percent" of the highest bid within five business days of sale". The entire balance of the winning bid will be due within 30 days of the sale date.

The project's original construction loan has been allegedly called back by

the lender.

Since 2016 residents living in the Gove Street area have compared the dilapidated building on the corner of Porter and Orleans Streets to something you would see in war torn regions rather than Eastie.

In 2019, the Patels told members of the Gove Street Citizens Association that progress had been made and were eager to begin construction.

The delays in construction were largely due to the telecommunication antennas on top of the building.

The Patels were forced to enter into lengthy negotiations with the telecommunication companies to move these antennas to another part of the roof. When dealing with the relocation of telecommunication antennas there is very complicated and legal choreography that has to occur before one can move forward. Because moving these antennas causes a disruption in service there were a whole host of issues that came with that. These antennas are part of an old telecommunication easement and could not be evicted from the building because the companies own the space that occupies the building's roof.

Another delay for the project was in relation to the Patels's Historic Renovation Tax Credit application. Applying and receiving tax credit funding that ensures that the redevelopment of the building is done in a way that respects the property's history and is incorporated into the hotel's design can sometimes be a long process.

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# SCENES FROM LYNN ENGLISH GIRLS BASKETBALL GBL FINALS

The Lynn English High school girls basketball team had its quest for an undefeated season derailed by Everett High School, 47-41, in the Greater Boston League championship game Saturday at the Paul Cavanagh Field House.

Coach Mackenzie Charles' contingent entered the game

with a 7-0 record and had defeated Everett during the regular season.

Junior guard Nia Sams was English's leading scorer with 14 points. Junior Kelsey McNeil also played very well for the Lady Bulldogs.

The season was another step forward for Mackenzie Charles'

program whose stellar work has drawn comparisons to former head coach Fred Hogan, who piloted an earlier resurgence of the program and led the Lady Bulldogs to the state semifinals at the TD Garden in the 2013-14 season.



Nia Sams fights for the ball under the net.



Mackenzie Acevedo fights for position under the basket.



Rosie Chheang takes the ball into play.



Alana Espinosa looks to make an outlet pass.



Kelsey McNeil played a tough defense for the Bulldogs.



Head Coach Mackenzie Charles talks things over during a time out.

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