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THE LYNN JOURNAL

Thursday, August 5, 2021

AARP awards Community Challenge grant

AARP Massachusetts announced four Bay State organizations including the City of

Lynn will receive 2021 Community Challenge grants – part of the largest group of grantees to date with \$3.2 million awarded among 244 organizations nationwide. Grantees will implement quick-action projects to promote livable communities by improving housing, transportation, public spaces, civic engagement, and connection with family, friends, and neighbors with an emphasis on the needs of the 50-plus. Many of this year’s awards support re-

Please see GRANT Page 10

LYNN LITTLE LEAGUE CHAMPIONSHIP



The East Lynn Padres with team Manager Sam Ohannessian, and Asst. Coaches: Stephen Curley, Gary Hart, Andrew Lang, and Chuck Collins. See story and more photos on page 11.



The Pine Hill Braves with coaches, Joe Driscoll, Shannon Barrett, Bill Morin, Chris Pawl and Jose Pimentel.

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EDITORIAL

NOT ALL PARENTS KNOW WHAT'S BEST FOR THEIR KIDS

The executive order signed last week by Gov. Ron DeSantis of Florida banning local school boards from requiring students to wear masks in schools in that state rates as one of the most reprehensible actions of any public official since the pandemic began.

Thanks to DeSantis's lack of leadership and nutty pronouncements throughout the course of the pandemic, Florida now rates as one of the biggest hotspots for the coronavirus in the world, accounting alone for almost 20% of the daily infections in the U.S. and recently breaking its own one-day record for infections.

Predictably, the state's healthcare system is being swamped by COVID-19 patients, who are dying at a rate that is 10 times greater than New York City's.

DeSantis's order fails to recognize two basic facts:

First, although the rate of serious illness among children who catch COVID remains low, more than 19,000 children have been hospitalized with coronavirus in 24 states and New York City as of July 22, according to a database from the American Academy of Pediatrics and the Children's Hospital Association.

That is a large number and it surely will spike when children return to school indoors.

Second, DeSantis's order fails to acknowledge that while masks afford some protection to the mask-wearer, the primary benefit accrues to everyone else who is around the mask-wearer, whose aerosols are contained within the mask, rather than being spread around a room unimpeded where they linger to be inhaled by another person.

Maskless students needlessly risk infecting their teachers, classmates, and staff members, as well as the family members and everyone else who comes into contact with anyone who is at those schools.

In short, the reopening of schools without adherence to the COVID-19 precautions that we're all familiar with will become a superspreader event in every community in Florida, even among the vaccinated, thanks to the highly-contagious Delta variant.

However, it is the basic false premise of DeSantis's executive order -- that parents know what is best for their children's health -- that is the most harmful aspect of his reasoning.

Typical parents are not the best caregivers for their children's health for the simple reason that they are not medical experts, especially when it comes to COVID-19.

While we will concede that most parents love their children, it also is undeniable that parents who are not following the guidelines set forth by the CDC and the American Society of Pediatricians (which are recommending mask-wearing in schools) are sacrificing their children's health on the altar of their political views.

ENJOY THE REVERE BEACH SAND SCULPTING FESTIVAL

This weekend marks the return of the 16th annual Revere Beach International Sand Sculpting Festival, featuring master sand sculptors who have come from all over the globe to compete in one of the largest sand sculpting festivals in the world.

The festival will be held on Friday from 10 a.m.-10 p.m., Saturday from 10 a.m.-10 p.m., and Sunday from 10 a.m.- 8 p.m. A grand fireworks display will be held Saturday evening at 9:00 p.m.

In 2019, the event drew an estimated one million attendees, drawn not only by the wonderful sculptures, but also by food trucks, food vendors, exhibitors, and much more, so it is advisable that attendees from out of town plan on taking the T to Revere Beach station.

This year's festival also will be a celebration of the 125th anniversary of Revere Beach, America's first public beach.

All in all, the 2021 Sand Sculpting Festival promises to be a memorable event for all members of the family.

Dr. Glenn Mollette

We are always learning. Life is filled with education. We learn all the time.

Every day we receive new information about health, the planet, communication, medicines, the universe and more. Life is a process of learning and developing.

Education is more than grades one through twelve, college, and beyond. There are many aspects to every job we do that we never learned in school. We learn from parents if we will listen. We learn from coworkers. We learn from our failures. We learn how not to do something because we tried it once and it failed. The good thing about failing is that it doesn't have to be final. Some things are final but not everything. Just because your first marriage failed doesn't mean your second marriage will fail. Hopefully you learned from your first marriage and you won't make the same mistakes the second time around.

You may have a business failure. This happens to a lot of people. This doesn't mean your business efforts will fail in the future. Hopefully you learned from your first efforts and can avoid the same mistakes again in your next endeavor.

Possibly you tried a lifestyle

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

GUEST OP-ED

Life Learning, Commitment and Hard Work

that did not work out for you. Maybe you abused alcohol or even drugs or pursued a negative lifestyle that greatly diminished your life to the point where your life seemed hopeless. This doesn't mean you have to stay this way. With a dedicated decision and often help from others you can turn your life around and do better.

We can learn from mistakes. They are educational and usually expensive. They set us back in life. They aren't fun and can be tormenting.

Remember, you can't live in the past. Don't totally forget what past failure did to you because you don't want to repeat your mistakes. However, the past is over. Live your life forward.

As you go forward there are easier ways to learn. Study the lives of others. Research what they did and read. People all around us are either succeeding, failing or at least stable. Study others whose lives intrigue or impress you. Study their careers, work ethic, their values and how they make them work to achieve the life they are living. You can learn a lot by observing and

studying others. You can also learn from the failures of others. What were some of their obvious mistakes?

Volunteering or taking an entry level job with someone you would like to emulate is a great way to learn their success principles.

There are cases where nothing seems to make sense. Life is not always fair. We all have different interests, physical abilities, backgrounds and lifelong developed skills. Take all these into consideration and bring them together to work for you.

Success always has new twists, turns and innovative ways. However, they are not accomplished without some form of life learning, commitment and hard work.

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.

THE LYNN JOURNAL

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Labor and community groups demand funds go to frontline workers and impacted communities

Staff Report

Massachusetts residents, labor and community groups convened on the steps of the State House last week, demanding that billions in federal relief aid allocated to Massachusetts from the American Rescue Plan (ARP) be distributed to help those most impacted by the coronavirus pandemic — frontline workers, communities of color, and low-income communities. Advocates are calling for the estimated \$5.3 billion in ARP funds to be used for frontline workers who put their lives on the line to keep our economy and our communities afloat during the pandemic. “There must be an equitable distribution of these funds to

help those most impacted by the pandemic,” said Lee Matsueda, Executive Director, Community Labor United. “During the pandemic, working families across the state were on the frontlines protecting our communities. Now the legislature must ensure that we are paid for our hard work, and use these funds to build systems that will support Massachusetts working families.” Advocates made recommendations for the disbursement of the funds — including hazard pay for frontline workers, for housing preservation and redevelopment, for child care tax credits, and more. The action comes on the heels of the hearings being conducted by the Joint Committee on Ways and Means and the House Committee

on Federal Stimulus and Census Oversight. This action has been organized to raise collective voices for the systemic changes necessary to build a just society, eliminate structural inequalities, and call for the investments Massachusetts communities deserve. “Frontline workers, including those in the health care and public transit sectors — many of whom were already underpaid — deserve hazard pay for the risk and pressure they faced during the pandemic,” said Roxana Rivera, Vice President, 32BJ SEIU Local 615. “They came to work in the worst of the surge, without basic safety-net protections, including a lack of adequate PPE, emergency sick time, and potential denial of workers’ compensation

claims if exposed to COVID-19.” More than 8 million Americans fell into poverty in 2020 during the height of the pandemic. Many of these families faced a compounding crisis exacerbated by the lack of access to affordable child care and housing. The crowd at the State House today demanded that legislators take action to help Massachusetts residents. The ARP funds have provided the state with a unique pathway to help dismantle systemic barriers to opportunity and combat injustices faced by families and communities across Massachusetts. “The state must not allow the American Rescue Plan to become just another bailout for large corporations, as has been

proposed by some special interest business groups,” said Fernando Lemus, President, United Food and Commercial Workers Local 1445. “With the forward-looking and comprehensive framework of these budgetary recommendations, the legislature can address issues impacting millions of working people and their families. “Today’s gathering is a testament to change,” said Darlene Lombos, Executive Secretary-Treasurer, Greater Boston Labor Council (GBLC). “People across Massachusetts are ready to bring change into our communities, and that begins with funding our public services through the funds from American Rescue Plan.”

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21st Annual
Beach Baby
Pages**



Join us in putting your Beach Baby in our 21ST ANNUAL BEACH BABY PAGES!

Photos should be at a beach or swimming pool setting. Please include your child's name and the paper you wish to be published in.

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Photos will be published in our Aug. 18 and 19 issues of The Revere Journal, Winthrop Sun Transcript, Lynn Journal, The Everett Independent, Chelsea Record & East Boston Times.

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NEWS IN BRIEF

ADDITIONAL PACKAGE SORTERS ARE INSTALLED

The Postal Service is preparing for the holiday and ready to meet the growing customer demand for package delivery.

Two of 118 new package sorters distributed nationwide have been installed in the Woburn and Worcester Post Offices in Massachusetts to provide more reliable service that customers expect through the holiday and beyond.

Last year's holiday season was like no other for both USPS and its customers. Package delivery grew nearly 48 percent driven by the surge in online shopping and ecommerce due to the COVID pandemic. Last year, despite the challenges of the pandemic, the Postal Service delivered a record 1.1 billion packages.

Massachusetts Post Offices, like many facilities across the nation, relied on manual sortation of packages. The new package sorters will process thousands of packages an hour - up to 12 times faster than manual sortation.

As part of the 10-year plan to achieve financial sustainabil-

ity and service excellence, the Postal Service is investing \$40 billion on people, technology and equipment to modernize its operation and provide a world class service to customers, including the installation of new package sorters.

These new package sorters will meet our customers' evolving mailing and shipping needs and help achieve long term service improvements.

With this immediate investment, the Postal Service is prepared to deliver the holiday season.

MASSACHUSETTS TOMATO CONTEST TO BE HELD

The 36th Massachusetts Tomato Contest will be held in the KITCHEN at the Boston Public Market in downtown Boston on Tuesday, Aug. 24.

Tomatoes will be judged by a panel of experts on flavor, firmness/slicing quality, exterior color and shape. Always a lively and fun event, the day is designed to increase awareness of locally grown produce.

Farmers can bring tomatoes to the market between 8:45 and 10:45 a.m. on Aug. 24 or drop

their entries off with a registration form to one of the regional drop-off locations on Monday, Aug. 23. Drop off locations include sites in Great Barrington, South Deerfield, Worcester, Dighton and West Newbury. These tomatoes will be brought in to Boston on Tuesday.

Be sure to include a registration form with all entries.

The 36th Tomato Contest is sponsored by the Massachusetts Department of Agricultural Resources, New England Vegetable and Berry Growers Association and Mass Farmers Markets in cooperation with the Boston Public Market.

AFT MASSACHUSETTS SEEKS MASK WEARING IN K-6 SCHOOLS THIS FALL

In response to new guidance from the state Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) that contravenes CDC recommendations by suggesting that only unvaccinated students, educators, and staff members in Massachusetts schools should wear masks indoors this fall, the 23,000-member AFT Massachusetts released the following statement from AFT Massachusetts President Beth Kontos:

"The state Department of Elementary and Secondary Education needs to listen to health experts, including the CDC and the American Academy of Pediatrics, and require - not just recommend - universal mask wearing in K-6 schools this fall. If DESE continues to reject public health guidance and

fails to act, local school committees need to step up and require universal mask wearing to keep us all safe and to maximize the likelihood of schools staying open this school year.

"We all want a safe and productive return to school in September, and with the surge of the incredibly contagious Delta variant and vaccine disinformation threatening the progress we've made against COVID, we need to use all the public health tools we have to stop the spread and keep schools open for in-person learning. Until we can get all school-aged kids vaccinated, basic public health precautions like masking are the bare minimum needed to keep our students and their vulnerable family members safe."

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 winter semester ending in May 2021. 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.

KRUIZENGA NAMED TO DEAN'S LIST AT DICKINSON COLLEGE

Alexandria Kruizena, a rising senior quantitative economics and mathematics major at Dickinson College, has been named to the dean's list for the

spring 2021 semester. A graduate of Phillips Academy, she is the daughter of Leonard Kruizena 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.

STUDENTS EARN UNIVERSITY OF HARTFORD HONORS

The University of Hartford is pleased to announce the students who have been named to the President's Honors List and/or the Dean's List for Spring 2021.

Brenda Karanja of Lynn: Dean's List

Julianna Perry of Lynn: Dean's List

Spread across seven dynamic schools and colleges, the University of Hartford has been guiding the purpose and passion of students for over six decades. On our 350-acre campus alongside Connecticut's capital city, approximately 4,600 undergraduate and 2,000 graduate students representing 49 states and 47 countries come together for a common purpose: to collaborate across different disciplines, diversify perspectives, and broaden worldviews. We're a four-year private university focused on advancing the public good through meaningful connections within our communities.

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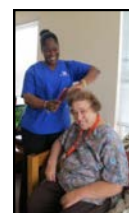


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DPH releases updated face covering advisory

Staff Report

The Department of Public Health (DPH) released updated guidance regarding the use of face coverings and cloth masks by individuals who are fully vaccinated for COVID-19.

This week, the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) released updated guidance that continues to state that individuals who are fully vaccinated may, as a general matter, resume many of the activities that they engaged in prior to the pandemic without wearing a mask or staying six feet apart, except where otherwise required by federal, state, or local laws, rules or regulations. In response to the recent spread of the Delta variant, however, the CDC's updated guidance does recommend that even fully vaccinated persons wear masks or face coverings when indoors if other risk factors are present.

In light of the information provided by the CDC, and in

order to maximize protection of vulnerable individuals from the Delta variant, the Department of Public Health released updated guidance today that recommends that a fully vaccinated person wear a mask or face covering when indoors (and not in your own home) if you have a weakened immune system, or if you are at increased risk for severe disease because of your age or an underlying medical condition, or if someone in your household has a weakened immune system, is at increased risk for severe disease, or is unvaccinated.

All people in Massachusetts (regardless of vaccination status) are required to continue wearing face coverings in certain settings, including transportation and health care facilities. Please see www.mass.gov/maskrules for a complete list of venues where face coverings remain mandatory as of May 29, 2021.

Tesler named Transportation head

Staff Report

Gov. Charlie Baker and Lt. Gov. Karyn Polito last week announced the appointment of Jamey L. Tesler as Secretary of Transportation and CEO of the Massachusetts Department of Transportation (MassDOT). Tesler has served as Acting Secretary since January, when he was appointed to replace former Secretary Stephanie Pollack after Pollack's appointment as Deputy Administrator of the Federal Highway Administration for the Biden-Harris Administration.

"Jamey Tesler is a dynamic leader and with several years of experience in senior roles in the transportation sector, he and the team at the Department are ready to advance the important work underway across Massachusetts' transportation systems," said Gov. Baker. "From safety to planning for the mobility needs of the Commonwealth's future, the job of Transportation Secretary is hugely important and Jamey is the right person to lead the Department."

"Since January, it has been the honor of my professional career to serve as Acting Secretary of Transportation and I am

grateful and humbled that Governor Baker and Lt. Governor Polito have confidence in my ability to continue to lead the organization as we deliver a transportation system that is safe, reliable, resilient and equitable," said Secretary Jamey Tesler. "With the support of MassDOT's dedicated workforce and management team, I am looking forward to continuing to advance customer service improvements, programs giving municipalities resources, and infrastructure projects which

Please see TESLER Page 11

FRESH & LOCAL

Summer flavor stars

by Penny & Ed Cherubino

August is a month of abundance at local farmers' markets and in home gardens. When we lived in the suburbs, our next-door neighbor had a big garden and took vacations in August. In exchange for watering his crops while he was away, we were encouraged to pick as much food as we wanted. As you can imagine, we were overwhelmed the first year and asked that he share with a few more friends and neighbors the following summer.

Shop Local with Self Control

We all want to support the fabulous farmers who maintain our local food supply and bring highly nutritious produce to our markets. However, we should exercise self-control so that the food they have worked so hard to produce doesn't become food waste in our kitchens.

Buy only what you know you can use before it spoils. Remember that local food suppliers don't plan days of transport, storage, and distribution when they harvest crops. Farmers' market produce is ready to eat in the next few days. Some items like greens and apples do last longer than what you would buy in a supermarket. However, others like tomatoes and stone fruit will be at their best for only a short time.

Local Sweet Corn

August is the month to add corn to as many meals as possible. We cook our corn in the husk, in the microwave. There are numerous videos online showing how to do this. Penny zaps a couple of ears for one meal and a few more to slice off the cob and add to a salad, taco, wrap, stir-fry, or soup.



An alternative to corn on the cob is this dish of sautéed corn with bacon and honey from the menu at Grand Tour

Chef Sara Moulton says in her article, *Fresh Corn: Cook It, Chill It, or Lose It*, "... buy your corn locally if you can, buy it as early in the day as possible, and if you are not going to cook it right away, get it into the fridge."

Penny also learned a different way to cut the kernels off the cob from a Sara's Weeknight Meal episode. Forget standing the ear in a bowl, bundt pan, or sheet pan. Just place the ear flat on your cutting board and slice it from end-to-end the way you would any other food. To make this as safe as possible, use a very sharp knife and flip the ear onto the flat side as soon as you've completed the first couple of slices.

Summer Tomatoes

While corn begins losing quality at the moment of harvest, tomatoes will continue to ripen at room temperature. At the market, we try to buy tomatoes for today and the next couple of days. We'll pick a couple of

ripe and ready ones to have for supper and some with a bit of firmness to put in our kitchen counter tomato bowl. The surest way to diminish the flavor of a local August tomato is to put it in the refrigerator. It's far better to stand over the sink and devour that ripe, perfect tomato with a sprinkle of salt.

Other Crops

We try to make one pass through the market to see what is available and which farms offer our favorite vegetables. Today we have more crop choices. It can cause the greedy part of our minds to buy too much. Ask yourself when you'll make a meal of the bunch of greens tempting you. Will you actually make something with that okra you'd like to try? Our advice is to visit markets more often and plan outings to local farm stands.

Do you have a question or topic for Fresh & Local? Send an email to Penny@BostonZest.com with your suggestion.

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NICHOLSON OPENS CAMPAIGN HEADQUARTERS

Photos by Patrick Gecoya

Mayoral Candidate Jared Nicholson opened his campaign headquarters at 47 Myrtle Street in West Lynn. A great turnout of supporters was welcomed by Campaign Manager Jean-Michael Fana.

Fana began his introduction expressing his feelings about Jared as he said, "I think city government is about service to the people of the city, if that is what you believe, Jared is your candidate; if you believe the people in Lynn should benefit by what happens in

Lynn, Jared is your candidate; and if you believe it time for Lynn to take its rightful place as the leader of the North Shore, Jared is your candidate to be Mayor of Lynn."

State Senator Brendan Crighton supports and endorses Jared for Mayor as he said, "I believe the strength of Lynn always lies with the strength of its people. Our strength comes from the people and Jared Nicholson will fight for all the people of Lynn." Jared Nicholson has always been a forerunner helping people and local dignitaries before he decided

to run for School Committee. No matter what the issue was, Jared has always stepped up helping anyone in the city.

The campaign plan is to reach out to all the residents as Jared said, "There will be a lot of people making up their minds in the next couple of weeks. This is the moment to explain my position. My staff and supporters are eager to build a grassroots campaign and continue talking to people; we will bring this campaign the voters, seek their input, and work together for a better Lynn."



Mayoral Candidate Jared Nicholson address supporters for a better Lynn.



Jared Nicholson greets Austin Square Residents Charlie Sheeran and Maggie Anderson.



The Crighton Family meets Jared – State Senator Brendan and Ellie Crighton with Diane, Kevin, Irene, Nate Crighton.



Supporters for Jared – Angela Perez, Nicole Gonzalez, and Jose Cabrera.



The Capano Family with Jared – Former School Committee member Patti Capano with her son, Nick, and husband, Mario.



Supporters for Jared Nicholson for Mayor.



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 for Mayor of Lynn

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Rolf Flok and Sow Wooten with Mayoral Candidate Jared Nicholson.



Campaign Manager Jean-Michael Fana begins opening remarks why Jared should be your Mayor.

GOV. BAKER VISITS LYNN BOYS AND GIRLS CLUB

Photos by Patrick Gecoya

Governor Charles Baker was impressed by how much valuable service is offered to the Lynn youth at the Boys and Girls Club. He and the First Lady Lauren Baker received a personal tour of the facility from Executive Director Brian Theirrien.

Before going to the gymnasium to watch the Basketball program, Executive Director Brian Theirrien gave a brief overview to Governor Baker and the First Lady about the significant role the Boys and Girls Club plays in Lynn.

According to Brian all activities in the Boys and Girls Club are always improving for the youth. The children participate in sports, developing homework skills, and learning to be together, especially during summer camp at Creighton Pond.

“This is a child’s dream being involved, learning, and having fun” said Brian. As one child explained, “This place helped me to understand other people in life; this is a big part of my life.”

Brian furthered stated, “The staff enjoys their work and is very committed. There is something for everybody at the Boys and Girls Club.” He continued to say, “Our Children’s Director kept the children focused during

the pandemic period through remote learning sessions and instituted a Reading Club. Our part-time staff became full-time workers; they all stepped up for us to avoid any shut down during Covid-19. The staff morale stayed high which is a tribute to their dedication to the youth.”

Governor Baker said, “Boy and Girls Clubs do an unbelievable job filling the gaps through enrichment and development programs; it is especially important for the children when they go back to day school to have these skills.”

First stop before seeing others areas of the club was to watch the Basketball League program in progress. Governor Baker was amazed with the participation from players, coaches, and the officials. He was given an official greeting by players at the center court with a bounce-pass introduction alternated by each player.

If anyone would like to pledge \$20.00 a month or \$100.00 a year, this benefit will immensely help with resources and to maintain a bright, clean, and beautiful environment for the youth. A pledge may be sent to Boys & Girls Club of Lynn, 25 North Common Street, Lynn, MA 01902 or call (781) 593-1772. Phrase three will be developing soon for the complete renovation of the entire facility.



Boys and Girls Staff – Lynn Education District member Joel Abramson, Asst. Director of Drop-in Center Carlos Perez, Youth Worker James Stokes, Early Childhood Director Jodi Furlong, Board President Joe Scianatico, and Executive Director Brian Theirrien.



Gov. Baker, Exec. Director Brian Theirrien, State Rep. Daniel Cahill, and First Lady Lauren Baker with the Boys and Girls Club children.



In the photo above: Governor Baker with former Lynn Tech Athlete and Basketball Coach Anthony Pitterson and referees Abedon Leroy and IAABO Board 130 Official Lou Rivera.

In the photo to the right: Players introduced themselves to Governor Baker after each bounced ball pass.



PRG Photo

NEWS FROM AROUND THE REGION

ALTERCATION ON BUS OVER MASK

CHELSEA - Amidst a string of abusive behavior to MBTA bus drivers who are required to ask riders to wear masks on the bus, this week the MBTA is asking for help to identify a woman who entered the bus in Bellingham Square on Sunday and destroyed the bus and cursed out the driver when he asked her to wear a mask while onboard.

The individual depicted in the photo is wanted for questioning relative to a malicious destruction of property (an MBTA bus) after getting on the bus about 3:57 p.m. on Sunday, July 25.

The woman was apparently asked to put on a mask when entering the bus, and then refused and began breaking windows on the bus before fleeing.

If anyone knows the whereabouts or identity of this individual please contact the Criminal Investigations Unit at 617-222-1050. If you would like to assist our investigators but wish to remain anonymous you can always text us your tip to 873873 or use the anonymous feature on our SeeSay app.

The MBTA said there have been at least 13 incidents of an MBTA employee being assaulted after asking someone to wear a face covering.

On July 21, in Roslindale, a Bus Operator reported that an irate male customer spat at him before exiting the bus. Driving on the Route 30 outbound, the bus driver stated that the man became angry when the operator asked him to wear a mask. Before exiting, the man spat at the operator, with most of the spittle hitting the driver's partition door, luckily.

All riders must wear a face covering that completely covers their nose and mouth while using public transit. Failure to comply may result in denial of boarding or removal, the MBTA said..

The MBTA said it is constantly stressing the importance of wearing face coverings. MBTA trains and buses make thousands of trips each day, and during these trips, riders hear and see multiple messages about the mask mandate. Throughout the MBTA system, hundreds of digital panels display messages, reminding customers that face coverings must be worn at all times while using transit. While the vast majority of riders comply with the mandate, there is always a small number of people who need to be reminded, and that's why the

MBTA continues its comprehensive public awareness campaign, they said.

While mask reminder signs are already omnipresent around the transit system, the MBTA is in the process of expanding the coverage to even more locations.

NUMBER OF CANDIDATES ON BALLOT

EVERETT - With all of the Nomination Papers now certified, City Clerk Sergio Cornelio said there will likely be five Preliminary Election contests on Sept. 21 for voters in the City – including three citywide offices and two ward seats.

The last date and time to turn in Nomination Papers for certification was on Friday, July 23, and Cornelio said that everyone that wanted to run and turned in papers was properly certified.

That meant that the Council at-large race and the School Committee at-Large races – which were still in the balance last week – were headed to the Preliminary Ballot. They join the Mayoral Preliminary and races in Council Ward 4 and School Committee Ward 6. That will hold true unless someone that has qualified withdraws from the race or there is an objection to Nomination signatures, which must be done by Aug. 10.

“It is going to be an exciting Preliminary,” said Cornelio. “Most of the City will have three races on the ballot and Ward 4 and Ward 6 will have four positions to vote for. I’ve seen Preliminaries for mayor and for City Council and School Committee in Ward 2 a few times, but the most I’ve seen in my time is three Preliminaries at one time. In the older days, you saw that a lot in the 1960s, 1970s and 1980s. Since then there has been no more than three at a time. It’s an interesting time.”

Cornelio said he also expects a great turnout in September as well, with the Preliminary featuring three mayoral candidates and several Council candidates that have already been very actively campaigning. Also, it will be one week after a large Boston mayoral Preliminary, so there will likely be a lot of election coverage in the news.

“I certainly expect 3,000 to 4,000 and maybe 5,000 to come out in the Preliminary,” he said. “I even think it could be a larger number depending on the get-out-the-vote and maybe put turnout at 5,500 voters. It looks

like the mayoral candidates and the city council candidates are campaigning vigorously and are on the ground and that will help increase interest in the election.”

Cornelio said they will once again have mail in voting for the Preliminary and for the General Election on Nov. 2. The state Legislature is expected to approve an extension of last year’s format of mail-in voting any day now, and that extension goes until Dec. 15. Though it hasn’t officially been approved, Cornelio said his office is proceeding as if the approval will be in place for Sept. 21.

“We will be doing mail-in voting and not just absentees,” he said. “There will be no excuse necessary, but just mail-in ballots like we did last year. We expect the extension to be approved any day now so we’re going forward on it and just waiting to see how it will all work out logistically... Things are evolving and we’re preparing.”

The candidates certified for the mayoral Preliminary are:

- Councilor Gerly Adrien, 15 Cumberland St.
- Councilor Fred Capone, 383 Broadway
- Mayor Carlo DeMaria, 75 Abbott Ave.

The certified candidates for at-large Council Preliminary are:

- Angelmarie DiNunzio, 78 Hancock St.
- Councilor Michael Marchese, 91 Elsie St.
- Councilor Richard Dell Isola, 13 Griswold St.
- James Mastrocola, 56 Preston St.
- Stephanie Smith, 15 Mansfield St.
- James LaVecchio, 59 Oliver St.
- School Committeeman Allen Panarese, 35 Wolcott St.
- Ken Giannelli, 44 Winslow St.
- Councilor John Hanlon, 173 Main St.
- Irene Cardillo, 25 Rosedale St.
- Guerline Alcy, 77 Walnut St.

The certified candidates for the School Committee at-Large Preliminary are:

- Margaret Cornelio, 43 Luke Rd.
- School Committeewoman Cynthia Sarnie, 30 Forest Ave.
- School Committeewoman Samantha Lambert, 20 Pierce Ave.
- Robert Santacroce, 57 Englewood Ave.
- Berardino D’Onofrio, 44 Kelvin St.
- School Committeeman Joe

LaMonica, 14 Lawrence St.

- Jenny Montresor, 24 Harley Ave.

The certified candidates for the Ward 4 Council Preliminary are:

- Councilor Jimmy Tri Le, 41 Westover St.
- Benjamin Murray, 30 Waverly Ave.
- Holly Garcia, 688 Broadway

The certified candidates for the Ward 6 School Committee seat are:

- School Committeeman Tom Abruzzese, 18 Peirce Ave.
- Catherine Tomassi Hicks, 9 Oakes St.
- Councilor Michael McLaughlin, 120 Tremont St.

There are several other races that won’t appear on the ballot until the Nov. 2 General Election, as they didn’t have enough candidate to trigger a Preliminary. Those races include:

WARD 1 COUNCIL
•Councilor Wayne Matewsky, 86 Lewis St.

WARD 2 COUNCIL
•Councilor Stephanie Martins, 59 Lexington St.

WARD 3 COUNCIL
•Councilor Anthony DiPierro, 51 Sycamore St.

WARD 5 COUNCIL
•Councilor Rosa DiFlorio, 26 Dyer Ave.

WARD 6 COUNCIL
•Vivian Nguyen, 75 Linden St.

SCHOOL COMM. WARD 1
•School Committeewoman Millie Cardello, 27 Ferry St.

SCHOOL COMM. WARD 2
•Jason Marcus, 133 Dartmouth St.

SCHOOL COMM. WARD 3
•Jeanne Cristiano, 53 Abbot Ave.

SCHOOL COMM. WARD 4
•School Committeewoman Dana Murray, 30 Waverly Ave.

SCHOOL COMM. WARD 5
•Michael Mangan, 104 Walnut St.

SCHOOL COMM. WARD 6
•Cady Steinberg, 139 Fremont St.

SCHOOL COMM. WARD 7
•Samantha Hurley, 21 Freeman Ave.

SCHOOL COMM. WARD 8
•Samantha Hurley, 21 Freeman Ave.

SCHOOL COMM. WARD 9
•Samantha Hurley, 21 Freeman Ave.

SCHOOL COMM. WARD 10
•Samantha Hurley, 21 Freeman Ave.

SCHOOL COMM. WARD 11
•Samantha Hurley, 21 Freeman Ave.

SCHOOL COMM. WARD 12
•Samantha Hurley, 21 Freeman Ave.

under Clerk Cornelio, but will coordinate the upcoming election and all of the candidate activities. She was promoted within the Department, he said.

Last year, there was no Election Commissioner in place for the Presidential and State Representative contests, and the duties fell on Cornelio to carry out. This time around, the Council had been adamant that the City get an Election Commissioner in place prior to September so that the contests would run smoothly.

LOCAL ORGANIZATION RECEIVES GRANT

EAST BOSTON - Lt. Gov. Karyn Polito and Early Education and Care Commissioner Samantha Aigner-Treworgy recently stopped by the East Boston Social Centers (EBSC) in Central Square for a tour, and to announce \$7.5 million in Early Education and Out of School Time Capital Fund (EOST) capital improvement grants to 36 organizations to renovate childcare facilities that serve primarily low-income families like EBSC.

Polito said the Baker-Polito Administration teamed up with the Children’s Investment Fund (CIF) and its affiliate the Community Economic Development Assistance Corporation (CEDAC) for the \$227,000 in grant money towards the Social Centers. EBSC and the other thirty-five recipients all received grants between \$100,000 to \$250,000 to provide capital funding needed to address health and safety concerns related to COVID-19.

“These awards announced today – which mark the largest total amount awarded since the inception of the EOST grants – will improve child care programs across the state,” said Polito last week at the Social Centers. “Now more than ever, as families return to workplaces, investments in early education and care settings are vital to provide necessary resources to children and their families through high-quality early childhood education and out-of-school time programs.”

The capital grants will help continue to support major renovation and construction projects at EBSC and improve the quality of learning environments for the over 300 children they serve.

The Social Centers previously received an EOST grant last July and EBSC Executive Director Justin Pasquariello was excited to show Polito how

Around the Region / CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5

the previous round of funding helped improve the Social Centers' facilities. He also thanked the Lieutenant Governor for continuing to support EBSC's capital improvements with the latest round of funding.

"We at the East Boston Social Centers were honored to host Lt. Gov. Karyn Polito and EEC Commissioner Samantha Aigner-Treworgy for a tour of our early education and school age programs," said Pasquariello. "We were grateful to show them the high-quality, safe facilities the EOST grant has funded at the East Boston Social Centers. The Commonwealth's recognition of the increased cost of providing high-quality, safe care during the COVID pandemic has been essential for our ability to be fully open for early education, school age programs, and full-day in-person remote learning support from July 2020. Their investments in our facilities, commitment to paying parent fees, additional grants, and investments in our workforce are critical as our essential sector continues to meet the needs of children and families across the commonwealth."

The Early Education and Out of School Time capital improvement grants are financed through the state's capital budget and provide matching funds that leverage private investment. More than \$200 million in public and private investments have been leveraged throughout the life of the grant program. The Baker-Polito Administration's FY21 Capital Budget Plan included funding for the Early Education and Out of School Time capital improvement grant program.

"Every child deserves the opportunity to learn in high-quality, safe, healthy, and joyous education environments," said Commissioner Aigner-Treworgy at last week's event. "Well-designed classrooms and play spaces can greatly enhance early learning and support children to grow and thrive."

In a statement after the event Gov. Charlie Baker said his administration is committed to supporting childcare providers like the Social Centers who have worked tirelessly throughout the COVID-19 pandemic to care for children and support families returning to work.

"Since the start of this grant program, we've invested more than \$39.2 million in capital funding at childcare programs that impact the learning experiences of more than 9,000 chil-

dren in communities across Massachusetts," he said.

OFFICIALS MULL ATTENDANCE POLICY

REVERE - At last Tuesday night's Revere Public School (RPS) Committee meeting Superintendent Dr. Dianne Kelly said last year RPS began discussing the need to revisit school handbooks and policy books based on the advancements that RPS has made around equity and inclusion.

In the coming months the Policy Committee is going to meet along with the Equity Subcommittee in order to start discussing some of the changes that were suggested by the equity advisory board.

One of those changes has zeroed in on RPS's attendance policy.

"You might recall at the April meeting we shared some information about how changing the attendance policy at the Seacoast to be non punitive resulted in a number of students actually passing classes that they otherwise would have failed," said Kelly. "I wanted to give a presentation on our thoughts about attendance policy, and give the Committee some time to think about it and reflect on it."

RPS is mandated by the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) to assess student attendance. Students who are absent, seven times in a six month period, are considered chronically absent by the DESE.

"That number, stated by DESE, is what drives the numbers that are currently written in our student handbooks on how many absences a student is allowed to have in each quarter or trimester," said Kelly. "We are required, no matter what, to work with families to engage chronically absent students. Last year we suspended the attendance policy in light of COVID and our current policies on attendance vary by grade level. But generally speaking, they all say, if you're chronically absent you automatically fail all of your classes and that's meant to incentivize good attendance."

Kelly said other rules are in place, such as when a student is absent regardless of whether it's one time or five times or 20 times they cannot participate in extra-curricular activities on the day of their absence.

"What we really need to rethink is the piece about automatically failing students, particular-

ly when they have demonstrated mastery of the content in question," said Kelly. "It doesn't happen too often. When a student is chronically absent, they miss so much of the content of a course that they're not able to be successful academically, but there are times when students are able to master the content. Often it happens with students who are a little more self motivated or learn a little bit differently than the traditional students and do a lot better at home than they sometimes do in a classroom environment. It's kids who might have some social emotional complications that prevent them from engaging well in the classroom but don't diminish their knowledge of the content or their ability to succeed."

Kelly said it is students like those who are unfairly getting penalized by the current attendance policy.

"These students automatically fail because they were absent seven times, not eight, not six, seven," explained Kelly. "However, our effort and our dedication to be more inclusive and generate more equity for all students we need to make sure that we don't have policies that do actually harm. This is one that I think does."

Kelly said data shows that it's typically more students of color, and those who are economically disadvantaged, who run into these attendance problems.

"Another example that I'll give is a student who might be working overnight in order to help support his or her family and struggles to get up for school in the morning and misses morning classes," said Kelly. "Even though they are at home and grinding and can get the work done and can demonstrate this, we automatically have to fail those kids because of the way the policies are written. However, if we eliminate that policy piece of automatic failure fewer students will drop out at the high school level because they won't be unaccredited; more students will graduate on time and it will increase our four year graduation rate; and students won't be excluded from advanced coursework for having failed the previous course."

Kelly admitted some of the cons is that student absences may increase.

"It's data that we'll have to track and monitor if we were to make this change in policy," she said. "I would argue that if school is enticing enough and interesting

enough and connected enough to students' lives they will not want to miss school. That's the area that we should be focusing on. Instead of saying you missed seven days you failed, we should be focusing on why you missed seven days and how we fix whatever that issue is."

Kelly said if RPS is to embrace the idea that students' grades should reflect what they know and not how well they perform to school structures the School Committee should consider keeping basic attendance policy but nix the seven day absence is an automatic fail policy.

"The consideration would be to keep the basic attendance policy with the reference to the Massachusetts federal law. Keep a definition of what unexcused absences are. Keep the requirements for medical documentation where they're needed. Keep the rules about dismissals and tardiness and how they impact attendance. But just remove the rule of failure for attendance and threats of academic implications," said Kelly.

The School Committee voted to send the proposal to the Committee of the Whole subcommittee for consideration before it comes back before the entire committee for a vote.

FIRE CHIEF FLANAGAN WILL BE RETIRING

WINTHROP - At the Winthrop Town Council meeting on July 20, Interim Town Manager Terence Delehanty announced the retirement of Fire Chief Paul Flanagan, who has been with the department for over four decades.

According to the department website, Chief Flanagan began his tenure with the Winthrop Fire Department in 1978, after completing studies in electrical science and fire science. In 1987, he was promoted to Captain and Operations Officer. He served in that capacity for 21 years before finally becoming Winthrop's Fire Chief and Director of Emergency

Management in 2008.

As fire chief, he also served as Winthrop's liaison to Boston's Urban Areas Security Initiative and was active in greater Boston's emergency preparation community. Additionally, he sat on the board of directors of the Massachusetts Water Resource Authority (MWRA), helping to coordinate water and sewer services to over three million residents.

Town Manager Delehanty only had positive things to say about his longtime co-chief, with whom he responded to town emergencies since 2009.

"It's been an honor and pleasure to work with him as my copartner in public safety," he said. "We've got along extremely well, so I'll certainly miss him. He stands committed to the community and to assist us in future endeavors, so we'll tap his abilities adequately."

Councilor James Letterie reflected on the contributions of not only the chief, but also his family going back generations. His grandfather, father and brother all served in the department.

"It's remarkable," he said. "I can't thank Paul and the family enough for all they have done."


Councilor Letterie also said he will work hard to fulfill Chief Flanagan's dream of building a new firehouse.

Precinct 1 Councilor Richard Ferrino thanked the chief for his "unyielding service" and wished him luck in retirement.

"I look forward to seeing you around our community," he said. "I know you will continue to be active in making Winthrop the best it can be."

"Serving as Winthrop's fire chief has been the honor of my lifetime," said Chief Flanagan in a letter to Town Manager Delehanty. "I leave this office confident that I approached every day as chief with the same values that define my family's service."

The Town Manager's office will be working on the transition of leadership within the Winthrop Fire Department.



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Officials urge public to inspect boxwood shrubs for tree moths

The Massachusetts Department of Agricultural Resources (MDAR) is alerting Massachusetts residents that it has received notification from the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) that a number of nurseries within the Commonwealth received Canadian boxwood plants potentially infested with box tree moths.

Box tree moths are an invasive pest that feed on the leaves of boxwood shrubs and can cause complete defoliation, eventually killing the plant. While state and

federal inspectors have not found any signs of box tree moths at the nurseries, state officials warn that some of the plants may have been sold before inspections began, or were purchased out of state and planted in Massachusetts. MDAR and APHIS urge anyone in Massachusetts who may have purchased boxwood shrubs this spring to check the plants for signs of the moth.

"MDAR is working with its federal partners at the USDA to prevent the box tree moth from spreading and establishing itself in Massachusetts," said

MDAR Commissioner John Lebeaux. "We ask Massachusetts residents that purchased boxwood shrubs this spring to take a close look at the plants to aid in our efforts to prevent this invasive species from expanding into the state and causing severe damage to Massachusetts' popular boxwood shrubs."

If a boxwood plant was purchased this past spring, state officials request that residents inspect it for signs of the moth, and report any findings to <https://massnr.org/pests/report.aspx> or by calling 617-626-1779. When

inspecting your boxwood shrubs, look for all of the life stages of this pest: eggs, caterpillars, pupae, and adults. Eggs are typically laid in gelatinous masses on the underside of boxwood leaves, but may also be laid singly. Caterpillars can grow up to 1.5 inches long, and are yellowish green with a black head, and long black stripes and spots that reach from the head to the end of the body. The caterpillars create pockets of webbing within the boxwood shrubs to wall themselves off from predators. When they are ready to morph into adult

moths, they form small green pupae. Adults typically have white wings with a dark brown border, but can sometimes be all brown with just a small white streak on each wing.

Box tree moths (*Cydalima perspectalis*) are native to Asia and are now a pest in both Europe and Canada. They can produce several generations between June and October, which makes urgent action essential to prevent this pest from establishing itself in Massachusetts.

Grant / CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

vitalizing communities adversely impacted by the pandemic and include a focus on diversity, inclusion, and disparities.

"We are incredibly proud to collaborate with these organizations as they work to make immediate improvements in their communities, encourage promising ideas and jumpstart long-term change, especially for those age 50 and over," shared AARP Massachusetts State Director Mike Festa. "Our goal at AARP Massachusetts is to support the efforts of our communities to be great places for people of all backgrounds, ages and abilities."

All projects are expected to be completed by November 10, 2021. Here in Massachusetts, projects funded include:

Boston: City of Boston The Boston Public Library will add locations to its free, 24-hour Outdoor Wi-Fi Program so people can access high-speed internet services through workstations located outside of library buildings.

Boston: Urban Farming Institute of Boston The institute will build and install raised "Grow Boxes" for residents hit hard by the COVID-19 pandemic so they can grow fresh, healthy food.

Lynn: City of Lynn The funded project will improve public access and amenities and provide arts and cultural programming at two downtown public spaces, enabling safe outdoor gatherings for the community's diverse population of older adults.

Middlesex County: Clear Path for Veterans New England Challenge funds will help in the creation of Clear Path's Memorial Courtyard, which will serve as an outdoor space "where Veterans, families, and the general public can reflect, remember and enjoy the enduring spirit of the United States Military."

The Community Challenge grant program is part of AARP's nationwide Livable Communities initiative, which supports the efforts of cities, towns, neighborhoods and rural areas to become great places to live for people of all ages. Since 2017, AARP Massachusetts has awarded 12 grants and nearly \$130,000 through the program to nonprofit organizations and government entities across the state.

About AARP

AARP is the nation's largest nonprofit, nonpartisan organization dedicated to empowering people 50 and older to choose

how they live as they age. With a nationwide presence and nearly 38 million members, AARP strengthens communities and advocates for what matters most to families: health security, financial stability and personal fulfillment. AARP also produces the nation's largest circulation publications: AARP The Magazine and AARP Bulletin. To learn more, visit www.aarp.org, www.aarp.org/espanol or follow @AARP, @AARPenEspanol and @AARPadvocates, @AliadosAdelante on social media.

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East Lynn Padres take LL City Series title

By Cary Shuman

The East Lynn Little League Major League Padres are the champions of the 2021 Lynn City Series.

The undefeated Padres bested the Pine Hill Braves, 11-1, in the final round of the double-elimination tournament at Volunteer Field.

ELLL All-Star Braeden Ohanessian led the way for the Padres with a superb performance, yielding three hits while striking out six batters.

The Padres were able to halt the momentum of the Braves, who made a great run in the loser's bracket after falling to West Lynn early in the tournament. Pine Hill's



On the mound for the Pine Hill Braves, Mason Pallidino.

talented 12-year-old pitcher Elijah Morin excelled throughout the City Series, highlighted by a 15-strikeout performance that helped his team earn a spot in the finals.

"It certainly was an exciting tournament," said Pine Hill Little League President John Cronin. "The championship didn't go our way, but there's no reason for our team to hang their heads, because the Padres were a fantastic team this year and were clearly the best team in the city."

The Lynn City Series resumed this year after a one-year absence due to the pandemic which canceled the 2020 tournament.



Starting pitcher for the East Lynn Padres, Braeden Ohanessian.

GENEROSITY AT TECH

Alumni Mark King, John Raye donate new basketball uniforms

By Cary Shuman

The Lynn Tech boys basketball team will have a sparkling, new look this season thanks to the generosity of two of the school's proud alumni.

Mark King (Class of 1978) and John Raye (Class of 2004) have donated brand new uniforms to first-year head coach Corey Bingham's program. King is the owner of Marion Street Auto Body in Lynn. Raye works at JetBlue airlines.

"Mark and I joined forces to get the basketball team new uniforms," said Raye, who is an officer in the East Lynn Pop Warner and Silverbacks youth football organizations.

Tech's new uniform jerseys are reddish-orange and navy blue and match the Tigers' new logo. The basketball shorts feature the claws of the Tech tiger.

"When Corey played basketball at Tech (before becoming a Division 1 college player at Toledo), the uniforms were white, and he told us he was looking for red uniforms," said Raye. "With a new coach, Mark and I figured, 'let's start Corey off with something nice and new.' Corey was really happy when we presented him the new uniforms."

Raye said Mark King has always stepped up for their alma mater and local organizations, without fanfare.



Lynn Tech alumni Mark King and John Raye display the new Tech basketball uniforms that they have donated to the program.

"Mark King is one of the most generous people I've ever met in my life," credited Raye. "Through his business, Marion Street Auto Body, he's helped the Silverbacks, East Lynn Pop Warner, and now's he helping Lynn Tech once again."

We're both proud Tigers. We both graduated from Tech and the school gave us a lot."

Raye, 35, specialized in television production and media while he was a student at Tech. After graduation, he was an owner of music studios. Raye has fond memories of his years at the vocational school and the outstanding education that he received.

"I had some great teachers, but mainly Donald Hussey - he was the television media teacher at the time, and he's a department head now - he put a lot of work into all of us students in that shop," recalled Raye. "Mr. Hussey got us jobs after high school and kept us busy. To this day, I keep in touch with him. He's had a positive influence on so many students' lives at Tech. I can honestly say if it weren't for Mr. Hussey, I would have been lost, because this dedicated teacher took me under his wing and kept us all in line. He expected a lot out of us, and he made sure that we lived up to it."

Coach Corey Bingham, who starred for some powerful Tech teams coached by Marvin Avery (Avery is now the head coach at Lynn Classical), will lead the Tigers on to the court in December for their first game.

Thanks to two generous alumni, the Tech players will have the look of champions all season.

Tesler / CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5

connect people with where they want to go, whether they are walking, bicycling, traveling by public transportation, or riding in a vehicle."

Prior to his appointment as Acting Secretary in January, Tesler served as Registrar of Motor Vehicles. He has years of experience across the Department of Transportation and has worked for more than 16 years in the public sector, including as General Counsel to the Massachusetts State Treasurer, Deputy

Legal Counsel in the Office of the Governor, Deputy General Counsel for the Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority (MBTA), MassDOT Assistant Secretary for Procurement and Contract Management, Acting Chief of Staff for the Secretary of Transportation, and then as Chief Operating Officer at MassDOT. Tesler received his bachelor's degree in Economics and International Relations from the University of Pennsylvania and his Juris Doctor from the University of Michigan.

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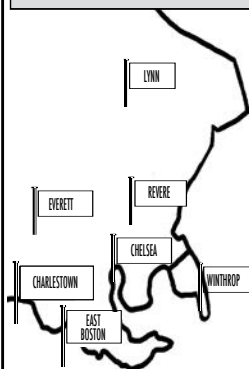
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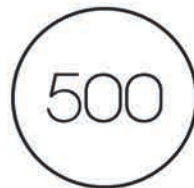
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