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THE LYNN JOURNAL

Wednesday, November 24, 2021



NORTHERN STRAND COMMUNITY PATH A REALITY

The completion of the Northern Strand Community Path in Lynn was celebrated with the official ribbon cutting ceremony at the Spencer Street entrance. Mayor Thomas McGee said, "This is a significant achievement replacing old railroad beds into a community pathway for Lynn residents. Along this pathway we have constructed areas to play, relax, stroll or to bike ride. It has been a long time coming and this pathway bridges Lynn into Saugus and to Everett." Ward 6 Councilor Fred Hogan said, "We are getting things done in Lynn. This is a true gem. Everyone who collaborated in this project made this a reality."

Mayor-Elect Nicholson names transition team

Special To The Journal

Mayor-Elect Jared Nicholson has announced the formation of a Transition Committee to advise his incoming Administration as well as the launch of a website to support his team's outreach and recruitment: www.lynnforallofus.com.

The Transition Committee will be co-chaired by Faustina Cuevas, the City's Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Officer, and Magnolia Contreras, Vice-President of Dana-Farber Cancer Institute and a member of the board of EDIC/Lynn.

The other members are:

- Charlie Gaeta, Executive Director of Lynn Housing Authority and Neighborhood Development
- Frances Martinez, President / CEO of the North Shore Latino Business Association
- Bob Tucker, President of the Friends of Lynn & Nahant Beach and former President of the Lynn City Council
- Katie Cohen, former Executive Director of the North Shore Labor Council
- Drew Russo, City of Lynn Personnel Director
- Gordie Hall, President & CEO The Hall Company, Inc.

Please see TRANSITION Page 3

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State Senate passes Mental Health ABC Act 2.0

Special To The Journal

Senator Brendan P. Crighton voted along with the entire Massachusetts State Senate to pass the Mental Health ABC Act 2.0: Addressing Barriers to Care (ABC) to further prioritize mental health care reform in Massachusetts and ensure that people get the mental health care they need, when they need it.

With the passage of the Mental Health ABC Act 2.0, the Massachusetts State Senate reaffirms that mental health is as important as physical health and should be treated as such. The bill proposes numerous reforms to ensure equitable access to mental health care and remove barriers to care by supporting the behavioral health workforce. It also provides the state with bet-

ter tools to implement and enforce parity laws by creating a clear structure for the Division of Insurance to receive, investigate, and resolve parity complaints in a timely manner. By expanding and strengthening our mental and behavioral health workforce, ensuring parity between coverage for mental and physical health

Please see ABC ACT Page 3



Our office will be closed Thanksgiving Day, Nov. 25th and Friday, Nov. 26th

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EDITORIAL

HAPPY THANKSGIVING

Thanksgiving is a uniquely American holiday, tracing its roots back 400 years to the Pilgrims and Indigenous People, long before there was even a thought of a United States of America.

Thanksgiving is the ultimate family-centered holiday. It has no religious meaning, no national-celebration connotations, and no required gift-giving. It lacks the commercialism, religiosity, solemnity, and political overtones of all of our other national observances.

It is the only day on the calendar when we have no obligation other than to spend the day with those who mean the most to us. It asks nothing more from each of us (other than for the person who is doing all the cooking!) beyond just showing up and enjoying the company of our family and friends and then having a great meal.

Thanksgiving is a national celebration that serves to remind us how blessed we are at a time when circumstances are so cruel for so many others in a world in which there are more refugees than at any time since the end of World War II.

Even amidst this time of the ongoing pandemic in our country, we all can agree that Thanksgiving makes us aware of how much we have to be thankful for. Despite our present trials and tribulations, Americans are remarkably fortunate to be in a country such as ours.

Thanksgiving serves as a rare day for relaxation, reflection, and inevitably -- at least for some of us -- a post-dinner nap or early night of sleep. In a time when so many of us are connected 24/7 to some instrument of communication, it truly is a relief to have a day when we can just shut it all off.

We wish all of our readers a happy -- and restful -- Thanksgiving.

ENJOY THE HOLIDAY SAFELY

We would be remiss if we did not remind our readers to enjoy the holiday weekend, but to do so safely.

The pandemic still is spreading like wildfire across our nation, claiming the lives of more than 1000 Americans each and every day. Common sense requires all of us to take every precaution to ensure that we do not spread the coronavirus among our friends and family members.

The virus does not take a holiday -- and each of us must act accordingly.



GUEST OP-ED

America needs Thanksgiving

By Dr. Glenn Mollette

America has been through a tough time. A national election separated friends and family, divided churches and took over our media. We've been intoxicated with poisonous rhetoric and toxic street gatherings that led to more division, injuries and even death.

Americans horrifically viewed the murder of George Floyd by a Minneapolis police officer and said we aren't going to take that anymore.

Over 762,000 people have died from Covid-19 in America. Over 47 million of us have been sick. Families who have buried loved ones don't need convincing about the realities of Covid-19. Americans who have spent weeks in hospital intensive care units know they are fortunate to be alive. However, in the midst of America's pandemic nightmare, Americans have debated with each other over vaccinations, masks, school and business closures. We have watched our businesses suffer. Our government's finances have been further strained to supply money to hurting unemployed people.

Americans watched our departure from Afghanistan in horror. We argued among ourselves about how we should have left, the timing of our departure, and whether we should have left at all.

We continue to struggle with racism in America. People who have experienced it know the reality. At all levels of society we must rise above any and all

words or actions that denigrate others.

We continue to have other crises impacting our nation. People pouring over our border illegally, an ongoing drug epidemic, homelessness, rising costs of medical treatment and insurance, unaffordable college tuition, unaffordable housing and unaffordable and sometimes unavailable groceries. Americans are now facing the fire of growing inflation. Groceries are becoming even more unaffordable for poor Americans. The cost of living adjustment coming for America's retirees in January, which is reported to be 5.9 percent, might buy a small bag of groceries, maybe.

America has gone through a tough time, maybe better said, we are going through a tough time. This is why we desperately need Thanksgiving.

In November 1621, after the Pilgrims' first corn harvest proved successful, Governor William Bradford organized a celebratory feast and invited a group of the fledgling colony's Native American allies, including the Wampanoag chief Massasoit. Now remembered as American's "first Thanksgiving"—although the Pilgrims themselves may not have used the term at the time—the festival lasted for three days.

That first brutal winter, most of the colonists remained on board the Mayflower ship, where they suffered from exposure, scurvy and outbreaks of contagious disease. Only half of the Mayflower's original passengers and crew lived to see their first

New England spring. In March, the remaining settlers moved ashore, where they received an astonishing visit from a member of the Abenaki tribe who greeted them in English.

Several days later, he returned with another Native American, Squanto. Squanto taught the Pilgrims, weakened by malnutrition and illness, how to cultivate corn, extract sap from maple trees, catch fish in the rivers and avoid poisonous plants. He also helped the settlers forge an alliance with the Wampanoag, a local tribe, which would endure for more than 50 years and tragically remains one of the sole examples of harmony between European colonists and Native Americans. (from History.com)

The early settlers who came to America suffered hardships that few Americans can comprehend. In the midst of so much death, sickness and starvation they found a way to stop and express gratitude. The friendship and humanitarian aid given to them by native Americans stand out as to what really makes America great. We all need to learn from the first Thanksgiving. This year maybe we all could take time to be grateful, and do something to help each other.

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

PRESIDENT: Stephen Quigley

EDITOR IN CHIEF: Cary Shuman cary@lynnjournal.com

PHONE 781-485-0588 // FAX 781-485-1403

EMAIL: EDITOR@LYNNJOURNAL.COM

WEB SITE: WWW.LYNNJOURNAL.COM

DIRECTORY

Advertising & Marketing

Director of Marketing

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(deb@reverejournal.com)

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ABC Act CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

care, and establishing equitable reimbursement rates, we will expand access to quality care.

“As we emerge from the pandemic, it is more important than ever that all Massachusetts residents have easy and equitable access to care for mental health,” said Senator Crighton. “The Mental Health ABC Act 2.0 will improve accessibility and make care more equitable by giving individuals more control over decisions that affect them, and by providing behavioral care workers with the tools and support needed to allow them to focus on their patients. I am proud that the Senate voted unanimously to pass this legislation, and grateful to Senate President Karen Spilka for continuing to prioritize mental health policy.”

Senator Crighton introduced two amendments that the Senate passed, both of which will help ensure access to quality mental health care. The first will help ensure a continued focus on overcoming barriers to access mental health care after these improvements are made to our healthcare system. This amendment convenes a diverse group of stakeholders—government leaders, patients, providers, and insurance companies—to study and make recommendations on how to address barriers to accessing high-quality mental health care. This group will focus on how to overcome barriers so that more mental health care providers accept public and private health insurance.

The Mental Health ABC Act 2.0 would require the development of a standard release form for exchanging confidential mental health and substance use disorder information to facilitate access to treatment by patients with multiple health care providers. Behavioral health providers struggle in the era of electronic health records and care coordination

to create systems that simultaneously protect an individual’s right to consent to share sensitive health information and allow practitioners to access the information they need to treat the individual and coordinate care. Navigating the multitude of behavioral health consent forms presents a barrier to patients attempting to obtain their own medical records and share information with providers.

Senator Crighton offered an amendment, which the Senate passed, to help ensure individuals with mental health or substance use disorder diagnoses have meaningful input in decisions that directly impact care and services they receive. This amendment added two additional members to the advisory group that will inform the creation of this form: one with lived experience of mental health or substance use treatment, and the other a family member of such an individual.

To further support behavioral health professionals, the bill creates an interim licensure level for Licensed Mental Health Counselors (LMHCs) so that they can be reimbursed by insurance for their services and be eligible for state and federal grant and loan forgiveness programs, further increasing the number of licensed providers able to serve patients. It also allows clinicians practicing under the supervision of a licensed professional and working towards independent licensure to practice in a clinical setting. This will help to ensure quality training and supervision and encourage clinicians to stay practicing in community-based settings.

“The need and demand for mental health services has soared as a result of the pandemic, and anyone who has tried to find help for mental health concerns will vouch for the many barriers

that still exist,” stated Danna E. Mauch, President and CEO of the Massachusetts Association for Mental Health (MAMH). “This bill tackles some of our most difficult challenges. These challenges include insurance company policies that make it hard to pay for care, a lack of providers across the Commonwealth but especially in communities of color, and care that too often is fragmented and siloed. The bill’s provisions provide creative, practical steps toward addressing these issues and it looks ahead to creation of a comprehensive system of effective crisis services. We thank the Senate, and especially President Spilka and Senators Cyr, Friedman, and Creem for their leadership, deploying their commitment, insights, and authority to protect and promote mental health and well being.”

Additionally, the final bill establishes a suicide postvention task force dedicated to addressing the after-effects of a confirmed suicide and requires the Department of Public Health (DPH) to collect certain relevant data. It also directs the state 911 department to integrate training on identification of and response to callers experiencing behavioral health crises into the certification standards for 911 workers, and, in preparation of the establishment of a new national ‘988’ hotline in July, designates one or more ‘988’ crisis hotline centers to provide crisis intervention services and crisis care coordination to individuals accessing the suicide prevention and behavioral health crisis hotline 24/7.

The Mental Health ABC Act 2.0 also takes steps to address the emergency department (ED) boarding crisis that is ongoing across the Commonwealth. Waiting times to be admitted to an inpatient psychiatric unit after going to an ED can extend from days into

months, leaving the individual in crisis essentially boarding in an ED while they wait, with little to no psychiatric care. This legislation tackles this issue by using ARPA funds to create an online portal for health care providers to access real-time data and search for open beds for their patients, establishing a complex case resolution panel that includes representatives from state and local health and education agencies to resolve barriers to care to ensure that children’s behavioral health needs are met in a timely manner, and requiring all hospital EDs to have a qualified behavioral health clinician available to evaluate and stabilize anyone admitted to a hospital ED with behavioral health concerns during all operating hours.

This legislation also comes at a time when the Massachusetts State Senate is making transformative investments in mental and behavioral health, including:

- \$400 million in American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds to transform the behavioral health sector, with \$122 million dedicated to recruiting and re-

taining nearly 2,000 behavioral professionals.

- \$10 million annually for the newly-created Behavioral Health Outreach, Access and Support Trust Fund, which funded the highly successful More to the Story public awareness campaign.

- \$10 million for the rapid creation of new inpatient mental health acute care beds, particularly new beds for children, adolescents and underserved communities.

- \$15 million for Programs of Assertive Community Treatment (PACT) for children who exhibit symptoms of serious emotional disturbance; PACT uses a multidisciplinary team approach to provide acute and long term supports for individuals in the community.

- \$3 million for a loan repayment assistance program to recruit and retain child and adolescent psychiatrists at community mental health and health centers.

This legislation now goes to the House of Representatives for consideration.

Transition CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

- Thavra Net, Mental Health Therapist and Program Director of Rainbow ADHD of Lynn

- Oren Wright, Lynn Police Officer and Lynn Public Schools Security Officer

The Committee will be charged with advising Mayor-Elect Nicholson on the assembly of his Administration’s team, the elaboration of policy priorities, and the recruitment and facilitation of different voices and perspectives from the communi-

ty. In tandem with the launch of the Transition Committee, Mayor-Elect Nicholson has also announced his Administration’s transition website: www.lynn-forallofus.com.

Anyone interested in getting involved with the new Administration can reach out directly through this site. There is a form to submit resumes and thoughts and suggestions to the Mayor-Elect.

Nicholson said, “We are thrilled to hit the ground running in this effort and invite anyone and everyone who wants to participate to reach out. I’m also grateful for the deep thoughtfulness and foresight that Mayor McGee and his team are bringing to the transition process. We’re putting in the work to make this an inclusive and structured effort that sets us up for success in January and beyond.”



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The Procopio Companies announce LEED Platinum certification at Caldwell in Lynn

The Procopio Companies (Procopio), a fourth-generation, full-service real estate development and construction management firm based in Lynnfield, MA, announced that its luxury mixed-use residential property Caldwell has achieved LEED Platinum certification by the U.S. Green Building Council for its efforts in sustainable design. Caldwell is located at 34 Munroe Street in Lynn, MA and has 10 floors spanning 228,000 square feet; with this certification, Caldwell becomes the sole LEED Platinum certified building in Lynn and is the largest multi-family LEED Platinum project in New England.

The Procopio Companies prioritized holistic, green design at Caldwell from the start, with high-quality materials and unparalleled sustainability features that aimed to set a new standard for sustainable development in Lynn, an arts and culture hub just North of Boston and one of only six gateway cities in Massachusetts. Throughout the design process, The Procopio Companies worked with DMS Design as the design architecture and Cube3 for interior design to analyze materials through

the lens of sustainability to create an extraordinary place to live that does as much for the environment as it does for its residents. DellbrookJKS, the construction firm on the project, was involved throughout the whole process as well, assisting with site visits and testing.

“We’re extremely proud of this impressive accomplishment, as there are few residential buildings in the state of Massachusetts that are certified LEED Platinum,” said Michael Procopio, LEED AP and CEO of The Procopio Companies. “This may be our first LEED certified project, but it certainly won’t be our last. Our team has learned a tremendous amount through this building process, making Caldwell a benchmark for our future projects as it relates to sustainability and protecting our environment.”

Caldwell features 100% carefully sourced wood that is non-tropical, reclaimed, or certified by the Forest Stewardship Council. The building is built for resident wellness with an individual ventilation system that provides continuous fresh air, along with ultra-low emission paint, flooring, wood, and

insulation. With six electric car charging stations, an energy-saving automatic parking system, smart thermostats in the building interior, solar power production, optimized fresh air filtration systems, and rooftop vegetable gardens, every detail of the building was made for something bigger—even the property management team’s business cards are printed on paper made with wind power.

“As architects, our job is to create places to live that fight the effects of climate change and design buildings that are as sustainable as possible,” said Dan Skolski, Founder and Managing Principal of DMS Design. “With Caldwell, we were able to design a building that prioritizes its carbon footprint and is sustainable down to the studs, from an innovative structural system to all electric heating and cooling systems. It sets a new standard in the community for innovative, green building.”

LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) is the most widely used green building rating system in the world. LEED is available for all building types and provides a framework for healthy, highly

efficient, and cost-saving green buildings. In the United States alone, buildings account for almost 40 percent of national CO2 emissions, but LEED-certified buildings have 34 percent lower CO2 emissions, consume 25 percent less energy and 11 percent less water, and have diverted more than 80 million tons of waste from landfills. Caldwell’s certification marks The Procopio Companies’ first-ever LEED-certified building and is a testament to Procopio’s continued drive for innovation and delivering green, sustainable buildings across New England.

Caldwell has been a great success since it opened in early 2021, with over 75% of units currently leased. The property offers studio-, one-, and two-bedroom homes with incredible views of downtown Lynn and the Atlantic Ocean. Amenities at Caldwell include numerous co-working spaces, pet spa facilities, a fitness center with a rock-climbing wall, a wine bar, and an 8,000-square-foot activated roof deck with a pool, lounge, and turf areas.

Caldwell recently received ENR’s New England Best Regional Projects Award for the Mixed-Use category for its ex-

cellence in community-focused design and development. The property also won several 2021 PRISM awards for excellence in community design, use of smart home technology, and website design. Caldwell is currently offering up to two months free on select apartments. Interested parties can schedule a tour or learn more at (781) 528-0549 or visit <https://www.livecaldwell.com/>.

About The Procopio Companies:

The Procopio Companies is a fourth-generation real estate development and construction management firm based in Lynnfield, Massachusetts. Founded in 1950, Procopio has developed luxury single-family developments, multifamily apartments and condominiums, mixed-use, and commercial-industrial projects throughout New England. In 2017, The Procopio Companies was recognized for their tremendous growth and quality of product earning the honor of being named the Massachusetts Family Business of the Year by Northeastern University. For more information, please visit procopio.com.

LYNN JETS HIGH SCHOOL HOCKEY ALUMNI GAME

Friday, November 26th from 12-2pm @ Connery Rink



All former JETS, Lynn English Bulldogs, Lynn Classical Rams & Lynn Tech Tigers Alumni Players are encouraged to participate.

Pizza and refreshments will be provided post game.

Suggested \$20 Donation.

Please contact Brian Boisson for more information 781-367-9833

LOCAL STUDENTS EARN ACADEMIC HONORS

THE HONOR SOCIETY OF PHI KAPPA PHI INDUCTS NEW MEMBERS

The following people recently were initiated into The Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi, the nation’s oldest and most selective collegiate honor society for all academic disciplines.

Lauren Conway of Lynn at MCPHS University

Ana Carolina Rodrigues of Lynn at MCPHS University

They are among approximately 25,000 students, faculty, professional staff and alumni to be

initiated into Phi Kappa Phi each year. Membership is by invitation only and requires nomination and approval by a chapter. Only the top 10 percent of seniors and 7.5 percent of juniors are eligible for membership. Graduate students in the top 10 percent of the number of candidates for graduate degrees may also qualify, as do faculty, professional staff and alumni who have achieved scholarly distinction.

Phi Kappa Phi was founded in 1897 under the leadership of undergraduate student Marcus L. Urann who had a desire to create a different kind of honor society:

one that recognized excellence in all academic disciplines. Today, the Society has chapters on more than 325 campuses in the United States, its territories and the Philippines. Its mission is “To recognize and promote academic excellence in all fields of higher education and to engage the community of scholars in service to others.”

More About Phi Kappa Phi

Since its founding, more than 1.5 million members have been initiated into Phi Kappa Phi. Some of the organization’s notable members include former President Jimmy Carter, NASA astronaut Wendy Lawrence, novelist John Grisham and YouTube co-founder Chad Hurley. Each year, Phi Kappa Phi awards more than \$1 million to outstanding students and members through graduate and dissertation fellowships, undergraduate study abroad grants, funding for post-baccalaureate development, and grants for local, national and international literacy initiatives. For more information about Phi Kappa Phi, visit www.phikappa-phi.org.

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ABORN SCHOOL TEAMS UP WITH DURUM

What would be a better way to have a pizza party? Aborn Elementary School teamed up with Durum Artisan Fresh Pasta business on Eastern Avenue to pass out Pizza Kits. The Parent-Teacher Organization (PTO) approached Al Giorgo, Durum President, if his company would participate in a fundraiser. Without hesitation Al became involved as he said, "The PTO came over and asked if Durum can help out any way with a school fundraiser. Many residents have purchased our Pizza Kits and our pasta products. It was suggested to have Pizza Kits for a fundraiser which was a great idea." He continued to say, "This is a perfect opportunity to give back to the neighborhood."

This was a win-win event helping parents, children, and the PTO. One hundred percent of the proceeds go directly to the school. Assisting with the event was School Committee member Michael Satterwhite and Ward 3 Elected Councilor Coco Alinsug. Principal Katia Speiss presented an Appreciation Plaque to Durum for their generous community outreach to the school.



Aborn PTO Volunteers and parents at Durum Pizza Kit give-away: Colleen Zaccagini,, Adalyn, Sophia Seang, School Committee Michael Satterwhite, Al Giorgo of Durum, Aborn Principal Katia Speiss, Sandy & Justin Anshewitz, Ward 3 Elected Councilor Coco Alinsug, Jackie Murphy, Sarah Arcotta, Ceceilia, and Taylor Hamelers.

Please Recycle



Tabitha Samone with her daughter, Riley, received a Baker's Dozen Pizza Kits as volunteer Sophia Seang helps.

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THE ST. MARY'S SPARTAN IN FOOTBALL ACTION AGAINST ABINGTON

The St. Mary's Spartan saw their season come to a bruising end when they fell 26-21 to Abington Friday night in a Division 6 semi-final game that lived up to all the expectations of a match between the Division's

two and three seeded teams. Both teams carried 9-1 records into the night, but only Abington got to Win No. 10 and a trip to Gillette Stadium for the Division 6 title.



READY TO POUNCE: St. Mary's Nick Sacco (10) was in position to pounce on a fumble by Abington quarterback Eddie Reilly but the ball bounced perfectly back into the quarterback's hands.



ARMS LENGTH TRANSACTION: St. Mary's running back Derrick Coulanges fends off the tackle attempt of Abington's Dasean Leggett (5) and Drew Donovan (2).



HOMED IN: St. Mary's Tommy Falasca has his sights on Abington runner Kurtis Lucas-Summers.



SLOWED DOWN: St. Mary's Jack Marks is held up by Abington offensive lineman Shea McClellan (52) while rushing Green Wave quarterback Eddie Reilly (12).



HARSH REALITY: Coach Sean Driscoll is forlorn as a fourth down incomplete pass in the final minute of play spelled the end of the road for the Spartans, who fell 26-21 to Abington Friday night.

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

THE ST. MARY'S SPARTAN IN FOOTBALL ACTION AGAINST ABINGTON



STRETCH PLAY: David Brown's shirt is stretched to the limit as he tries to get away from a tackle.



OUTRUNNING THE WAVE: Spartan running back David Brown has a step on a pack of Green Wave tacklers including Adam Abibi (57) and Drew Donovan (2).



WRAP HIM UP: Spartan David Brown (2) is in position to take down Abington runner Dasean Leggett (5).



UP AND DOWN: Spartan Derrick Coulanges (8) keeps his feet as Abington would-be tackler Jack Robbins (44) is left behind.



HEAD HUNTER: St. Mary's defensive lineman Tommy Falasca (55) has a head-hold on Abington runner Aidan McClellan.

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SHOE CITY LIONS YARD SALE

Shoe City (SC) Lions worked a two-day marathon yard sale raising funds for charity. "We are raising these proceeds for the Mass Lions eye research program. This yard sale will benefit many people to be able to see

again and prevent them from blindness," said Donna Hartshorn. Many Shoe City volunteers supported this community service project. A steady flow of people came into Christopher's

Café on Lewis Street purchasing eye catching treasures. If anyone would like to become a Lion, drop a line to Shoe City Lions, P.O. Box 8173, Lynn, MA 01904.



Customer Cheryl Kelley selects some children books with assistance from Lioness Cindy Mitsiaris, Lion Trainer George, and Shoe City Lion Kathy Graham



Christopher's Chef David Shalvoy preparing some Shoe City Lion appetizers as customer Donna DeSimone watches.



Wyoma Lions' Treasurer Bob Hartshorn and Shoe City Lion Betty Nagy working the electronic table.



Lion Dave Wilson and his daughter, Melanie, putting packages together.



Customer Joe Lemond received assistance from Shoe City Lions Elaine LaFratta and Julie Corso.



Mon., Nov. 29, 2021 Tues., Nov. 30, 2021

Central Square

Festival of Lights! - Central Sq. 4:00 - 6:00
Tree & Menorah Lighting - 5:15 pm

The Greater Lynn Chamber of Commerce, the City of Lynn, and the Downtown Lynn Cultural District are partnering to host the **Festival of Lights** event in Central Square! Hot chocolate and coffee will be available courtesy of the Salvation Army. The St. Mary's choir will perform as well as the All-City Marching Band. Bring your friends & family and get in the holiday spirit!



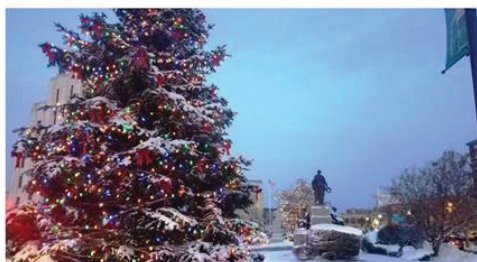
Rain or Shine for Both Events

City Hall Square

Tree Lighting - Lynn Common 5:00 pm

- ❄ **Holiday Sing-a-Long with Lynn Public Schools Chorus**
- ❄ **Santa Claus & Mayor McGee light the tree! - 5:30 pm**
- ❄ **All City Marching Band**

Hot chocolate and coffee will be available courtesy of the Salvation Army. Join us for a festive evening!



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- Covanta
- The Daily Item
- Lynn Police Department
- Lynn Fire Department
- Lynn Public Schools

- Community Development
- Lynn DPW
- St. Mary's Junior/High School
- Flowers by Lorraine



Shoe City Lion Marketing Chair Donna Hartshorn at the little treasure table.



Yard Sale Lions – Alice Gaudet, Paula Pietrella, and Karen MacPherson.

Baker-Polito administration celebrates grand opening of new public park in Lynn

Special to the Journal

Seeking to expand recreational opportunities for the public, the Baker-Polito Administration celebrated the official opening of a newly constructed park in the City of Lynn between Spencer Street and Cottage Street. As part of the celebration, Energy and Environmental Affairs Secretary Theoharides joined with state and local officials, and others for a ribbon cutting event to mark the opening of the park, which was built as part of the larger Northern Strand Trail project that is being completed through the Baker-Polito Administration's MassTrails Initiative.

"Since coming into office, our Administration has made investment in public parks a critical priority, and we have worked hard to increase the availability of open space and support greater access to outdoor recreation for Massachusetts residents, especially in our Gateway Cities and Environmental Justice communities," said Governor Charlie Baker. "We're pleased to partner with the City of Lynn to support the construction of this park, which builds on our larger investment in the long-distance Northern Strand trail and provides a wonderful new recreational asset for children and families throughout the region."

"The COVID-19 pandemic made clear just how essential the outdoors is to the health and well-being of residents across the Commonwealth, which makes the construction of new parks like this so important to our communities," said Lieutenant Governor Karyn Polito. "This newly constructed park will provide a terrific new community space for the residents of Lynn and users of the Northern Strand, and allow residents to enjoy safe, fun outdoor recreation with their friends and family."

The park's elements, which were identified by residents of the City of Lynn as part of the public design process, include:

- A slide, climbing structure, zip line, and other playground equipment;
- A plaza for events; and,
- Many raised community garden beds.

As the former railroad right of way on which the Northern Strand Trail is being constructed is very wide, the City of Lynn and the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs (EEA) took advantage of the

space to create the public park, which cost approximately \$1.8 million to design and build. Additionally, the park was designed by landscape architects Brown, Richardson, and Rowe, with engineering assistance from Stantec, and built by the R. Zoppo Construction company.

"Turning this space into a new neighborhood park is a terrific outcome local children and families in Lynn, and will offer a new community area that can be used for events, neighborhood gatherings, and for community gardening," said Energy and Environmental Affairs Secretary Kathleen Theoharides. "Residents across the Commonwealth have expressed enthusiasm and joy in their local parks and a strong desire to get outside throughout the pandemic, and the Baker-Polito Administration is committed to making greater investments in our parks, open spaces, and long-distance trails through the priorities set by Governor Baker in his American Rescue Plan spending proposal."

"The official opening of the Lynn portion of the Northern Strand Community Path has certainly been a long time coming and it is a great opportunity to be able to gather to celebrate and honor many stakeholders and advocates of this project who have played a part in making this tremendous asset for our community, a reality," said Mayor Thomas M. McGee. "A special thank you to the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs, our State Delegation, City Council, DPW, Community Development, Community Path of Lynn Coalition, Bike to the Sea, and so many others for their vision, coordination, and advocacy for this transformative project."

"Thank you to all of the community members along with state and local officials who have worked tirelessly for many years to make this transformative project a reality," said Senator Brendan Crighton (D-Lynn). "This community path and park are enjoyed by people of all ages and all walks of life. I look forward to continuing our work with the City and Baker administration to build on the success of this project and increase even more access for our residents."

"This neighborhood park is a great addition to the Northern Strand Trail project and the city of Lynn," said Representative Peter Capano (D-Lynn). "Children and families in the community will be able utilize this

park for recreation, gardening, and events for years to come. I'd like to extend a big thanks to the Baker Administration, state and local officials, Lisa Wallace and the Community Path Coalition for making this project possible."

The investment in the park and the Northern Strand shared use path was made by the EEA's Gateway City Parks Program. The funding was provided in support of the Baker-Polito Administration's MassTrails Initiative, which is working to realize a network of trails across the Commonwealth. The Northern Strand project is a direct result of the interagency MassTrails Team's "one team, one plan, one vision" approach to advancing multi-use trails. When completed in the spring of 2022, the section of the Northern Strand that is currently under construction will span ten miles and run through the communities of Everett, Lynn, Malden, Revere, and Saugus along the rail bed of the former Saugus Branch Railroad. The Gateway City Parks Program, through which EEA paid for the park and trail, is a flexible program, providing municipal officials in the 26 eligible communities with funding for all phases of park and trail development, including acquisition, design and construction of parks, greenways, and other recreational facilities.

In October 2021, the Baker-Polito Administration announced its commitment to completing the design, permitting and construction of the Mystic River Bicycle and Pedestrian Bridge. The bridge project, once constructed, will provide a connection from Draw Seven Park near the MBTA Assembly Station in the City of Somerville to the City of Everett next to the Encore Boston Harbor Resort, enhancing mobility and access for residents while linking communities within the Northern Strand and Mystic River trail network.

In September 2021, the Baker-Polito Administration awarded \$10 million in grant funding for park improvements, open space acquisitions, and land conservation projects in 37 Massachusetts communities and six conservation districts. Since 2015, the Commonwealth has awarded 243 grants to cities and towns through the Parkland Acquisitions and Renovations for Communities (PARC), Local Acquisitions for Natural Diversity (LAND), and other community investment programs, which assist communities and non-profit

organizations in creating or restoring parks and acquiring land for conservation to expand open space and recreational assets for the public to enjoy in perpetuity. Working with municipalities, land trusts, and other partners, Commonwealth has, over the last seven years, created or restored more than 165 parks and conserved and protected more than 78,000 acres or about 122 square miles - an area about the equivalent of Boston, Cambridge, Chelsea, Lynn and Lawrence combined.

In June 2021, the Baker-Polito Administration re-filed its plan to immediately put to use part of Commonwealth's direct federal aid from the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) to support key priorities including housing and homeownership, economic development and local downtowns, job training and workforce development, health

care, and infrastructure. As part of the Administration's proposal to jump-start the Commonwealth's economic recovery and support residents hardest-hit by COVID-19, such as lower-wage workers and communities of color, Governor Baker would direct \$900 million to key energy and environmental initiatives, including \$100 million for parks, recreation, and open spaces. These funds would support investments in public lands, as well as lands specifically conserved for public access including parks, lakes, rivers, trails, beaches, fishing piers, boat ramps, and other waterways. Funding would be dedicated to projects that expand, enhance, and modernize the Commonwealth's park facilities to steward and conserve natural resources, and to improve the resilience of natural and working lands, plants, and wildlife in the Commonwealth.



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As Thanksgiving nears, State Fire Marshal offers several safety tips

As we prepare for the Thanksgiving holiday, State Fire Marshal Peter J. Ostroskey offered a safety message in advance of the #1 day for residential fires in Massachusetts.

“Over the past five years, there have been more than twice as many fires on Thanksgiving as on the next-closest day,” State Fire Marshal Ostroskey said. “Thanksgiving is a time for coming together with family, but it’s also a time for fire safety. You can start now by making sure you have working smoke and carbon monoxide alarms that can alert you to danger.”

Cooking Safety Tips

There were 711 Thanksgiving Day fires from 2016 to 2020, and 86% of them started with cooking activities. These fires caused

seven civilian injuries, eight fire service injuries, and more than \$3 million in estimated losses. State Fire Marshal Ostroskey offered cooking safety tips that everyone can follow to keep their kitchens fire-safe this year:

- Check to make sure your oven is empty before turning it on.
- Wear short or tight-fitting sleeves when cooking.
- Turn pot handles inward over the stove.
- Remember to “stand by your pan” and stay in the kitchen when boiling, frying or broiling.
- Use a timer when baking or roasting and never leave the house with the oven running.
- The best way to respond to a stovetop fire is to “put a lid on it” and turn off the heat.

• The best way to respond to an oven or broiler fire is to keep the oven doors closed and turn off the heat.

• If the fire is not quickly snuffed out, leave the house and call 9-1-1 from outside.

Thanksgiving 2020

Firefighters responded to 145 fires across the Commonwealth last Thanksgiving, including one in a New Bedford apartment building that spread to nearby structures. The fire started with an attempt to cook a turkey in a gas-powered deep fryer. One occupant was severely injured and nearly 30 people were displaced. The combined estimated damages incurred totaled \$1 million.

The National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) strongly discourages the use of outdoor

gas-fueled turkey fryers that immerse the turkey in hot oil. There are no outdoor turkey fryers that have a listing from an independent testing laboratory such as UL or ETL. The NFPA states that home use of “turkey fryers that use cooking oil, as currently designed, are not suitable for safe use by even a well-informed and careful consumer.” This risk of an oil spill or the ignition of spilled oil is quite high. They recommend using new “oil-less” turkey fryers.

Gas Ovens: A Source of Carbon Monoxide

Generally, the confined space of a closed gas oven used for cooking does not produce enough carbon monoxide (CO) to present any dangers, unless it is used for several hours consecutively

like when roasting a turkey. If you have a kitchen exhaust fan, use it; if not, crack a window for fresh air when using the gas oven for a prolonged period.

Home Heating: #2 Cause of Fires on Thanksgiving

Heating is the second leading cause of fires on Thanksgiving. Give your furnace an annual check-up, have chimneys cleaned and inspected by a professional at the beginning of heating season, and place space heaters on flat, level surfaces where in locations where they won’t be bumped or tripped over. Keep a three-foot “circle of safety” around all heat sources.

For more information, contact your local fire department or the Department of Fire Services’ Thanksgiving web page.

Seven tips for readying your outdoor power equipment for cold winter storage

Prep Equipment for Season Changes, Save Time and Future Headaches.

After your lawn gets its last cut before winter, it will be time to put away spring and summer outdoor power equipment, like lawn mowers, leaf blowers, and trimmers. What’s next? Snow throwers, generators and other small engine equipment need to be readied for winter use. How and when you prepare your equipment for seasonal changes can save you time and money later, says the Outdoor Power Equipment Institute (OPEI).

With record-breaking sales of outdoor power equipment, homeowners are spending more

time during the COVID-19 pandemic working or renovating their family yards. This means more people are using outdoor power equipment, and OPEI reminds everyone the importance of proper outdoor power equipment storage, maintenance and safe handling.

“During this very challenging pandemic, we’ve learned our outdoor spaces are more important than ever,” says Kris Kiser, President and CEO of OPEI and the TurfMutt Foundation, which encourages outdoor learning experiences, stewardship of our green spaces, and care for all living landscapes. “Our yards, parks and schoolyards are our

safe space for connecting with friends and family, acting as outdoor classrooms and offices. Green space also contributes to the health and wellbeing of people, pets and wildlife, and having the right outdoor power equipment to take care of it is key. But preparation is everything -- understanding how to store equipment and get it serviced, how to operate it safely, and how to ready your space to use that equipment.”

He adds, “Always follow your manufacturer’s guidelines, and remember to keep kids and dogs away from operating equipment at all times.”

Here are a few tips from OPEI

to ensure your lawn mower and other spring equipment will be available for use when warmer temperatures return, and snow throwers and other winter equipment will be ready for use when the snow falls.

1. Review owner’s manuals. Re-familiarize yourself with how to handle equipment safely. Lost manuals can be found online. Save a copy on your computer if possible, so it can be consulted when needed. Be familiar with your equipment, and all its features, including how to turn it off quickly and safely.

2. Service all equipment. Before storing spring and summer equipment, clean and service it or take it to a small engine repair shop. Drain and change engine oil and safely dispose the old oil. Service the air filter, and do other maintenance as directed by the owner’s manual. Check winter equipment and see if any maintenance and repairs are required.

3. Handle fuel properly. Unused fuel left in gas tanks over the winter can go stale and even damage equipment. Before storing equipment, add fuel stabilizer to the gas tank, then run the engine off, allow the machine to cool, then restart and run until the gas tank is empty. For winter equipment, buy the recommended type of fuel no more than 30 days before use. Use fuel with no more than 10% ethanol in outdoor power equipment. Use a fuel stabilizer if recommend-

ed by the manufacturer. Get more information on safe fueling for outdoor power equipment at LookBeforeYouPump.com.

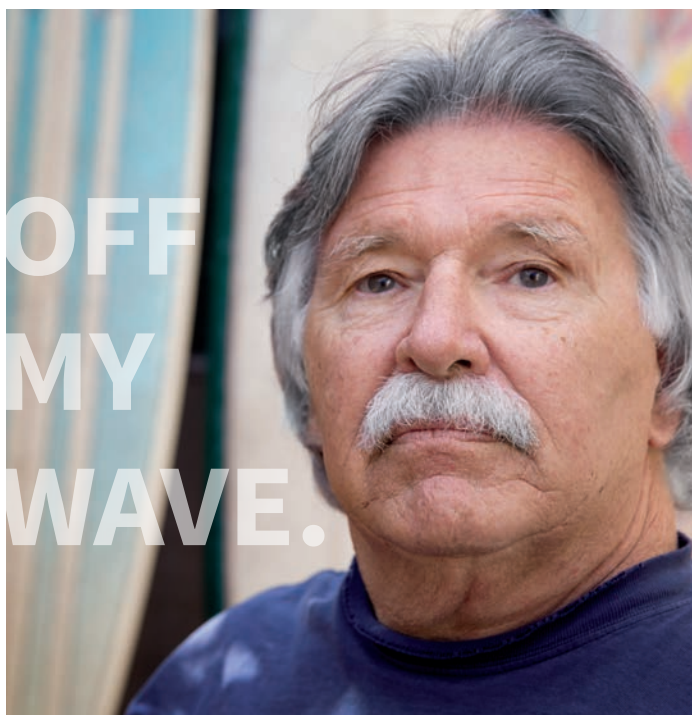
4. Charge the battery. Remove and fully charge batteries before storing. Don’t store batteries on metal shelves or allow them to touch metal objects. Store them on a plastic or wood shelf in a climate-controlled structure.

5. Shelter equipment from winter weather. Store spring and summer equipment in a clean and dry place such as a garage, barn or shed. Winter equipment should be kept away from the elements, but be easily available for use.

6. Prepare, prepare, prepare. Make space in the garage or basement before the weather changes, so there is room to store larger yard items. Clean up the yard of sticks, debris, dog and kid’s toys and other items that can damage or destroy equipment. Clear the paths used regularly in your yard, especially during the winter when snow can “hide” things.

7. Have the right weather appropriate extension cord for your generator. Keep heavy duty weather proof extension cords on hand to use with it. Ensure the length of the cord is necessary to operate the generator a safe distance from the house or building. Never operate a generator indoors, in a garage, breezeway or under an open window.

The following article was submitted by Outdoor Power Equipment Institute (OPEI).

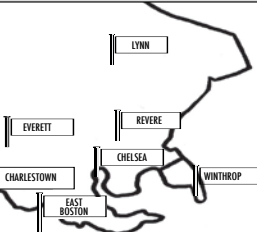


Ocean Beach native and local surf legend Steve Bettis was diagnosed with MS in 2006. Although surfing is still central to his life, he hasn’t been able to get out on the water in 10 years. For a man whose daily routine always included a few waves, more than a decade out of the surf is just too long. This is why the National MS Society teamed up with his buddy Robert “Wingnut” Weaver and used virtual reality to get Steve back on his wave. See their experience and find out how you can share yours at WeAreStrongerThanMS.org.

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LYNN BOYS & GIRLS CLUB THANKSGIVING DINNER

The Boys & Girls Club held their traditional Thanksgiving Dinner event for members and families. Welcome arms were extended to everyone as the staff and Board of Directors served a delicious turkey meal. Executive Director Brian Theirrien was thrilled to see a large turnout as he said, "Everyone enjoyed themselves; we had two serving

stations, one for food and another for dessert, while a DJ played music throughout the evening. I want to thank our supporters and volunteers for making a great evening for everyone."



Milton Alfaro with his son, Iam ready to enjoy a turkey dinner.



Darby Connolly helps Abdeel to get his meal.



Staff Member Socha Torres with her daughter, Yaritza Andujar.



Board of Directors – Rich Nihan, Kolby Robinson, and Lynn Fire Chief Stephen Archer.



Family and friends enjoyed their Thanksgiving meal.



Boys & Girls Club Board of Directors and volunteers serving turkey dinners.



Lynn Boys & Girls Club Basketball Team.



Broad of Directors President Joe Scianatico and Executive Director Brian Theirrien meets Alex Sepulveda of Private Jewels Boxing Club.



Alex Sepulveda of Private Jewels Boxing Club with his boxing team and family members.