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THE LYNN JOURNAL

Thursday, February 17, 2022



State Undersecretary for the Office of Community Affairs and Business Regulation Edward A. Palleschi (right) is pictured with Colleen Toner, owner of Toner Real Estate, whose business received a Certificate of Excellence in OCABR's Licensee Recognition Program.

Putting the spotlight on businesses

Palleschi's OCABR Licensee Recognition Program has been a tremendous success

By Cary Shuman

When Swampscott resident Edward A. Palleschi became the Undersecretary for the State Office of Community Affairs and Business Regulation (OCABR), he wanted to shine a positive spotlight on businesses state-

Palleschi instituted OCABR's Licensee Recognition program that aims to recognize and highlight businesses licensed or registered in Massachusetts that continue to reach high standards through their work and commitment to consumers.

Palleschi visited Lynn in November to recognize Toner Real Estate and owner Colleen Toner during an impressive award presentation ceremony at their Lynn offices.

Colin Codner, executive director of the Lynn Area Chamber of Commerce, and Amanda Schepici-Portillo, executive director of the Revere Chamber of Commerce, both praised the OCABR

program headed by Palleschi.

"Any time there is an organization that is recognizing our businesses for the hard work they're doing and the contributions that they provide to the community, we're very much in support of that," said Codner.

Schepici-Portillo, who took over the Revere Chamber in September, said RCC members are excited about the OCABR

Please see PALLESCHI Page 3

Smilestone!

LCHC Dental Clinic celebrates 20 years of excellence

By Cary Shuman

The Lynn Community Health Center's Dental Clinic holds a place of reverence among its patients. For 20 years, the Clinic has provided professional, top-caliber dental services for Lynn residents at the Center located on Union Street.

"This year, we're celebrating 20 years of the dental clinic," said Dr. Herlivi Linares, associate dental director of the clinic since 2004. "This clinic first opened in 2001 under the direction of Dr. William Eaves. We moved to this new facility in 2012."

Linares, who received her undergraduate degree at the Central University of Venezuela and graduated from Boston University Dental School in 2004, said the Clinic offers preventative, restorative, endodontic, and prost-

hodontist services.

"We also see a good number of pediatric patients," she added.

More than 500 patients visit the LCHC Dental Clinic each week. The Clinic is staffed by 14 full-time or part-time dentists. Dental school students from Boston University, Tufts, Harvard, and New York University also provide professional dental treatment at the Clinic under the supervision of Dr. Eaves and Dr. Linares.

"The majority of our patients are from Lynn, but we have patients from other areas of the North Shore and Boston," said Linares, who received the prestigious Oral Health Hero Award for her ongoing commitment to providing children and adults in the Lynn community with high

Please see LCHC Page 4



Lynn Community Health Center Dental Director Dr. William Eaves and Associate Dental Director Dr. Herlivi Linares are pictured at the Lynn Community Health Center's Dental Clinic that is celebrating its 20th year of operation.





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WE ARE NUMB TO THE NUMBERS

With mask requirements being lifted just about everywhere around the country, there is a general sense that the COVID-19 pandemic is over.

But as we begin the third year of the pandemic, that is far from being true.

The death toll in the United States from COVID breached 900,000 last week. As this is being written, almost 2500 Americans are dying each and every day from a COVID-19 infection.

Even if the death rate slows down in the weeks ahead, the one million mark almost certainly will be reached within the next two months

Although the worst-case scenarios at the start of the pandemic in February, 2020, suggested that up to 1.7 million Americans could die from the disease, none of us really thought that would be possible.

And when the vaccines miraculously came along at the end of 2020, we assumed then that life would be returning to normal soon enough.

But life does not always follow the plan.

The resistance of millions of Americans to getting vaccinated threw a monkey-wrench into the war against COVID-19, with the vast majority of COVID-19 deaths and hospitalizations attributable to the unvaccinated.

And although scientists all along have predicted that the virus would mutate, the speed with which the highly-transmissible Omicron variant swept through the world, even among the fully-vaccinated, caught everyone off-guard.

So where do we go from here?

Americans, as is the case with people across the globe, clearly have had it with restricting their lives because of COVID-19.

It seems that we're entering a new phase of the pandemic -- scientists refer to it now as an endemic disease, like the flu -- which could be summed up this way: People still are dying in great numbers, but we don't seem to care.

It's a modern day version of, "Damn the torpedoes, full speed

Or, in the words of the Cars' rock anthem, "Let the good times roll."

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LOCAL STUDENTS IN THE NEWS

VALERI NAMED TO PRESIDENT'S LIST

Bryant University is pleased to recognize the students who have demonstrated an unwavering commitment to academic excellence and achievement. Lindsey Valeri, class of 2024, from Lynn, MA, has been named to the President's List for the fall 2021 semester.

The President's List is an academic distinction reserved for Bryant's highest achievers who earn a GPA of 4.0 or better for at least 12 semester hours of work.

Congratulations to Lindsey on this outstanding achievement!

About Bryant University

For nearly 160 years, Bryant University has been at the forefront of delivering an exceptional education that anticipates the future and prepares students to be innovative leaders of character in a changing world. Bryant delivers an innovative and uniquely integrated business and liberal arts education that inspires students to excel. With approximately 3,700 graduate and undergraduate students from 38 states and 49 countries, Bryant is recognized as a leader in international education and regularly receives top rankings from U.S. News and World Report, Bloomberg Businessweek, Forbes, and Barron's. Visit www.Bryant.edu.

EMMANUEL COLLEGE ANNOUNCES FALL 2021 DEAN'S LIST

In recognition of their outstanding academic achievement, Emmanuel College has named more than 800 students to the Dean's List for the Fall 2021 semester. To earn a spot on the Dean's List, Emmanuel students must achieve a grade point average of 3.5 or higher for a 16-credit semester. Local students receiving the honor include:

Kendrick Jean-Francois of Lynn

Kristen Santillan of Lynn Samantha Thai of Lynn Dennis Nguyen of Lynn Caeleyann Thomson of Lynn Hannah Trahant of Lynn Trish Dinh of Lynn Brianna Castro of Lynn Megan Cassidy of Lynn

Emmanuel College is a co-educational, residential institution with a 17-acre campus in the heart of Boston's educational, scientific, cultural and medical communities. Enrolling nearly 2,000 undergraduate and graduate students, the College provides boundless opportunities for students to expand their worldview through rigorous coursework, significant internship and career opportunities throughout the Boston area and beyond, collaborations with distinguished and dedicated faculty, and participation in a dynamic campus community. Emmanuel's more than 70 programs in the sciences, liberal arts, business, nursing, and education foster spirited discourse and substantive learning experiences that honor the College's Catholic educational mission to educate the whole person and provide an ethical and relevant 21st-century education.

DEAN'S LIST HONORS ANNOUNCED AT TUFTS UNIVERSITY

Tufts University recently announced the dean's list for the Fall 2021 semester. Dean's list honors at Tufts University require a semester grade point average of 3.4 or greater.

David Barrios of Lynn Class of 2023

Elizabeth Buitrago of Lynn Class of 2025

Tallia Dudley of Lynn Class of 2024

Amana Fernandes of Lynn Class of 2022

Adnan Jalal of Lynn Class of 2024

Jasmairy Marte of Lynn Class of 2024

Xavier Mojica of Lynn Class of 2021 Stephen Ong of Lynn Class of 2023

Destiny Porte of Lynn Class of 2022

Tufts University, located on campuses in Boston, Medford/ Somerville and Grafton, Massachusetts, and in Talloires, France, is recognized among the premier research universities in the United States. Tufts enjoys a global reputation for academic excellence and for the preparation of students as leaders in a wide range of professions. A growing number of innovative teaching and research initiatives span all Tufts campuses, and collaboration among the faculty and students in the undergraduate, graduate, and professional programs across the university's schools is widely encouraged.

KARANJA NAMED TO THE DEAN'S LIST

The University of Hartford is pleased to announce Brenda Karanja of Lynn has been named to the Dean's List for Fall 2021.

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 4,000 undergraduate and 1,900 graduate students representing 49 states and 44 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. Our unique approach to comprehensive education gives us the critical perspectives that lead to impact change, regionally and beyond. With degree programs spanning the arts, humanities, business, engineering and technology, education, and health professions, we focus on doing the work that matters. Visit hartford.edu.

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Palleschi CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

nrogram

"It's a great way to recognize business owners and we hope to see one of our businesses recognized with this prestigious award," said Schepici-Portillo. "What's also so impressive was Secretary Palleschi personally reaching out to me to speak about how his office can help promote and advance local businesses."

Bringing the Big Blue's winning tradition to government

The son of the late attorney Arthur Palleschi and Judith Palleschi, Edward Palleschi grew up in Swampscott and graduated from Swampscott High School in 1984. He played ice hockey and was the captain of the track team. He received his degree from Saint Anselm College. He later served two terms on the Swampscott School Committee.

"The house that my wife (Sheila Collins) and I bought, the house that my wife grew up in – I look out every day at the Clarke School where I went to kindergarten and I think, 'I haven't moved far, have I?' But I love the town and I had a lot of fun along the way, and I've been given a lot of opportunities that I'm grateful for. I love Massachusetts and working for Gov. Baker. He's done a tremendous job as the leader of the Commonwealth."

Palleschi recalled his days in the Swampscott Little League when the town's all-star team was a perennial contender for the state championship.

"My father coordinated the elementary school clinic, and he coached the Hadley School team," said Palleschi. "[Future Major Leaguer] Matt Murray was on my brother Jeffrey's team. Matt was a powerhouse in the 6-7-year-old clinic, and he was pitching the baseball to other kids. Because Matt was striking out the side every inning. they changed the clinic rules, so the coaches began pitching to the kids. That was the genesis of the coaches pitching to kids at that age level."

Making his mark for the Commonwealth

Palleschi previously served

as the Deputy Chief Secretary in charge of boards and commissions in Governor Baker's Office before being appointed by Gov. Baker to his current position. Palleschi's immediate boss is Secretary of Housing and Economic Development Mike Keanneally, who has been supportive of the program.

"We oversee five regulatory agencies, the Division of Banks, the Division of Insurance, the Division of Occupational Licensure, Division of Standards, and the Department of Telecommunications and Cable," said Palleschi

In the mission at OCABR, Palleschi helps protect and empower consumers through advocacy and education. "We're a consumer advocacy organization," he said.

Palleschi speaks pridefully about the Licensee Recognition Program that he implemented and the incredible success it has been become under his leadership.

"The idea behind the program was looking at some of our licensees and saying, 'What more can we do help promote some of these businesses who are just doing the right thing – these good corporate citizens and terrific businesses that are reaching for the gold standard that we aim for with all of our licensees?"

Palleschi said he enjoys his visits to local businesses for the award presentations.

"We get to meet the owner, the families, the customers, and the Chamber of Commerce leaders, and it's really just a nice thing," said Palleschi.

There were 20 businesses recognition ceremonies in 2021. Palleschi said he hopes to increase the program's reach this year

"Our goal is to get to every corner of the state and recognize all kinds of businesses and have it be something that is a legacy program for the Baker-Polito Administration," said Palleschi. "I'm confident that when all is said and done, it will be something that truly will live on beyond this administration and on to the next administration."

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MS-13 leader sentenced to 40 years in prison

A leader of MS-13 was sentenced today in federal court in Boston for RICO conspiracy and his participation in the July 2018 murder of a teenage boy in Lynn, who suffered at least 32 sharp force trauma wounds consistent with being stabbed repeatedly, along with blunt force injuries to the head.

Erick Lopez Flores, a/k/a "Mayimbu," 33, of Lynn, was sentenced by U.S. Senior District Court Judge Mark L. Wolf to 40 years in prison and five years of supervised release. In July 2020, Lopez Flores pleaded guilty to one count of conspiracy to conduct enterprise affairs through a pattern of racketeering activity, also known as RICO conspiracy, on behalf of the MS-13 gang. As part of his plea, Lopez Flores also admitted that he participated in the 2018 murder of a teenager, who was murdered with extreme atrocity and cruelty, and with deliberate premeditation, in violation of Massachusetts law.

MS-13, or La Mara Salvatrucha, is a transnational street gang operating in Massachusetts and numerous other states, as well as countries such as El Salvador, Honduras and Guatemala. MS-13 gang members often commit acts of extreme violence against suspected rivals, those suspected of cooperating with law enforcement, and others who the gang views as a threat. In recent years, dozens of MS-13 members have been convicted of RICO conspiracy and other serious felonies in the District of Massachusetts.

MS-13 is organized into "cliques" or branches operating in local territories. Lopez Flores belonged to the "Sykos Locos Salvatrucha" clique of MS-13, which operated in the cities of Lynn, Chelsea and other parts of Massachusetts. Lopez Flores was one of the leaders of the Sykos clique and had been an MS-13 member since approximately 2006.

In November 2018, Lopez Flores and five other MS-13 members of the Sykos clique were indicted following an investigation into the murder of a teenage boy, whose body was found in a park in Lynn on Aug. 2, 2018. The six defendants in this case included five participants in the murder, as well as one longstanding member of the Sykos clique. In a related case, the government charged a juvenile co-conspirator who was the sixth person involved in the murder.

The evidence in this case, which included a recording of one of Lopez Flores' co-defendants describing the murder in graphic detail, revealed that Lopez Flores and

five other MS-13 gang members

murdered the victim based on their mistaken belief that he may have been assisting law enforcement.

On July 30, 2018, the gang members lured the victim to a playground and at least four of them were armed with knives. The group pretended to be friendly with the unsuspecting victim and took him to a wooded area of the park. At the scene, the gang members surrounded the victim and repeatedly stabbed him to death. At least four of the six assailants stabbed the victim, while Lopez Flores and a juvenile gang member assisted at the scene. Lopez Flores authorized the murder in his capacity as one of the leaders of the clique. After killing the victim, the gang members left his body in the wooded area of the public park. An autopsy revealed that the victim suffered at least 32 sharp force trauma wounds consistent with being stabbed repeatedly, along with blunt force injuries to the head.

All six defendants indicted in this case, along with the juvenile charged in the related case, have pleaded guilty. Lopez Flores is the first defendant to be sentenced. Jonathan Tercero Yanes, a/k/a "Desalmado," is scheduled to be sentenced on Feb. 15, 2022 for RICO conspiracy and his participation in the July 2018 murder; Henri Salvador Gutierrez, a/k/a "Perverso," is scheduled to be sentenced on Feb. 16, 2022 for RICO conspiracy and his participation in the July 2018 murder, as well as his partici-

pation in a December 2016 murder in East Boston; and Djavier Duggins, a/k/a "Haze," is scheduled to be sentenced for RICO conspiracy on Feb. 17, 2022. Sentencing hearings for the two remaining co-defendants, Marlos Reyes and Eliseo Vaquerano Canas, have not yet been scheduled by the Court.

First Assistant United States Attorney Joshua S. Levy; Joseph R. Bonavolonta, Special Agent in Charge of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, Boston Division; Matthew B. Millhollin, Special Agent in Charge of Homeland Security Investigations in Boston; Colonel Christopher Mason, Superintendent of the Massachusetts State Police; Essex County District Attorney Jonathan W. Blodgett; Suffolk County District Attorney Kevin Hayden; Acting Boston Police Commissioner Gregory Long; and Lynn Police Chief Christopher Reddy made the announcement. Assistant U.S. Attorneys Kunal Pasricha and Kaitlin O'Donnell of the Criminal Division prosecuted the case.

This effort is part of an Organized Crime Drug Enforcement Task Forces (OCDETF) operation. OCDETF identifies, disrupts, and dismantles the highest-level criminal organizations that threaten the United States using a prosecutor-led, intelligence-driven, multi-agency approach. Additional information about the OCDETF Program can be found at https://www.justice.gov/OCDETF.



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BOSTON"



Photo (x1 IMG 0009): Eighth Grade Recognition Students – Daniel Brown, Sindy Carbajai Santos, Aysia Olase, and Tyler Desmond with Rotarians Richard Ruth, Dr. Patrick Tutwiler, Riverworks CFO Peter Kopoulos, and Dr. John Dolan (Absent was Jazlene Ledesma)

ROTARY CLUB RECOGNITION PROGRAM

The Lynn Rotary Club established a unique eighth grade recognition program for students of challenging abilities. Rotarian Dr. Raymond Bastarache explained how the organization created this signature program to recognize students in the middle school level. He continued to say, "These students have all overcome some sort of obstacle issues such as, language, physical or being a new immigrant

entering school. Through this recognition process each student showed a determination to grow and develop into being a successful adolescent."

Five Lynn students were recognized for their achievements. They are: LVTI Jaslene Ledesma, Breed Middle School Aysia Olaes, North Shore Christian School Daniel Brown, St. Mary's Marian Division, Tyler Desmond, and Thurgood Marshall

Middle School Sindy Carbajai Santos. A Lead teacher or a Guidance Counselor recommends a student for recognition through their kindness, sincerity, and academic growth as a student.

Rotarian Richard Ruth stated, "These young scholars are true to their dreams, use their gifts wisely, and will walk into their future with the hope of achieving their goals."

LCHC/ CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

quality oral health services. I'm very proud of our clinic. Our success is based on the care of the patients that we do."

Dentists at the LCHC Dental Clinic participate in community service projects, such as health fairs, in Lynn throughout the year. Through the years, Dr. Eaves, who is a graduate of Boston College and BU Dental School, and Dr. Linares have formed a close, professional partnership based on mutual respect and excellence in the dental profession that has made the LCHC Dental Clinic a national model, another accolade

for LCHC who will be celebrating its 50th (actually, 50-Plus-1) anniversary at a gala in April.

"Dr. Eaves is the best boss I ever had," said Dr. Linares. "He is a man with conviction. He has a great heart and strong passion to serve, so that's why we all love him and feel motivated to come in every day to work. When you have someone like that supporting you and supporting the job that we do in the community – even when we have a lot of patients, we don't feel tired. We just feel very motivated to continue doing our job here."

For Dr. Eaves, it's been a labor of love at the LCHC Dental Clinic.

"It is very rewarding to deliver dental care to people who would otherwise go without," said Dr.

City of Lynn test kit distribution

On Friday 2/11, the City of Lynn will hold a distribution of free at-home COVID-19 iHealth Labs rapid antigen test kits from 5-8PM at the Lynn Tech parking lot. Entry will be from Neptune Blvd, exiting out to Blossom St. Both walk-thru and drive-thru entry will be permitted. Proof of Lynn residency will be required, which can include for example, a driver's license, State ID, utility bill, health insurance bill, cable bill or cell phone bill. Test kits will be distributed on a one-per person basis.

These tests should be stored at home in room-temperature conditions until used. The tests can be completed by residents at home and results are available in 15 minutes. People do not need a cell phone or computer for any part of the test. The tests are for any individuals 2 years of age and up, regardless of vaccination status or whether they have symptoms.

Test results do not need to go to a laboratory or be reported to your local Public Health Department. However, people who test positive should isolate for 5 days, regardless of vaccination status, and notify their close contacts that they may have been exposed to COVID-19.

No test kits should be used for resale.

In addition to this distribution time on 2/11, the City will be distributing kits to organizations that serve vulnerable populations. If your organization or one you are familiar with is interested in volunteering to assist in these efforts, please click the link below. Authorized personnel from organizations should fill out this form, not individuals.

We recognize this is a short turn around time. We recently received the kits and want to ensure they reach the people as quickly as possible. We also intend to have further distribution days as necessary. We'd like to get these kits out into the community as soon as possible, and we ask for the public's help in spreading the word about this distribution.

Lynn Organization Rapid Antigen Test Kit Request Form

https://forms.gle/4uTJ9ejPtD-KRB5qcA

The Center for Disease Control's self-testing page: https://www.cdc.gov/coronavi-rus/2019-ncov/testing/self-testing.html/

For more information on isolation and quarantine: https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/your-health/quarantine-isolation.html

The iHealth Labs OTC Rapid Antigen Test product insert: https://www.fda.gov/media/153924/download

More information on the test: https://ihealthlabs.com/pages/ ihealth-covid-19-antigen-rapidtest-details

Route 1 landmarks featured

Photographers from a well-known Boston-based magazine were at Prince Restaurant Tuesday taking photos of owner Steve Castraberti and his wife, Patricia Castraberti, and the restaurant for an upcoming feature on Route 1 landmarks in the monthly publication.

The Castraberti family has owned and operated the popular restaurant, known for its delicious pizza, since 1961.

The Kowloon Restaurant, owned and operated by the Wong family that includes State Rep. Donald Wong, will also appear in the feature. A photo of the Wong family is being taken

for the magazine. Kowloon has been a major dining and entertainment complex in Saugus for more than seven decades.

The large orange dinosaur that was a fixture at Route 1 Miniature Golf and Batting Cages and still overlooks the highway and the Hilltop Steakhouse cactus sign will also reportedly be featured in the magazine.

Meanwhile, according to a sign outside the Continental on Route 1, scenes from the movie, "The Holdovers" will be shot at the restaurant. Well-known actor Paul Giamatti stars in one of the lead roles in the comedy-drama as a professor at a prep school.

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ST. MARY'S BASEBALL TEAM RECEIVES STATE CHAMPIONSHIP RINGS



The St. Mary's High School baseball team's players and coaches received their state championship rings for the 2021 season during a halftime ceremony Saturday at the Mount Pleasant-St. Mary's boys basketball game. Front row, from left, are John Nowicki, Isaiah Weston, Ryan Fraher, and Lucas Rincon. Back row, from left, are Principal Dave Angeramo, Vice Principal Jim Ridley, Coach Brian Mulvey, Coach Ryan Belliveau and his son, Mason, Zach Fisher, Coach Derek Dana, Dante D'Ambrosio, Jason Donohue, Aiven Cabral, Tommy Falasca, Eric Bridges, Tad Giardina, Kyle Rush, Coach Tim Fila, Nick Sacco, and Jack Marks.

FRIENDLY KNIGHTS ANNUAL ST. PATRICK'S DINNER



Friendly Knights of St. Patrick (above) held an organization meeting at Gannon Golf Course. Chairman Bill McDonald announced the annual St. Patrick's Dinner will be on March 10, 2022 at the Hibernian Hall located at 103 Federal Street in Lynn. A delicious Corned Beef & Cabbage Dinner will be served along with live entertaining Irish music for one's listening pleasure; ticket for this event is \$30.00. If any one would like to place an Ad in the 2022 Ad Book, please contact Michael Conlon at nconlon55@hotmail.com. Also, the recognition of the Irish Man of the Year and the Randazzo-Solimine Community Service Award recipients will be honored. This event is a fundraiser for the annual scholarships program. Save this date to have some enjoyment and fun with Emcee Bill McDonald.

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Mask advisory for vaccinated, unvaccinated residents

Effective February 15, 2022: A fully vaccinated individual should wear a mask indoors 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.

Download: Updated Advisory Regarding Masks and Face Coverings PDF | Doc

Mask Requirements in Certain Locations

Effective May 29, 2021, masks continue to be required for both vaccinated and unvaccinated individuals at all times in the following locations, subject to the exemptions listed below:

On Public and Private Transportation, including on the MBTA, commuter rail, buses, ferries, and airplanes, and while in rideshares (Uber and Lyft), taxis, and livery vehicles, as required by the Centers for Disease Control January 29, 2021 Order. Face coverings are also required at all times in transportation hubs, including train stations, bus stops, and airports. The requirement applies to riders and workers.

Healthcare facilities licensed or operated by the Commonwealth and healthcare practice locations of any provider licensed by a professional board which sits within the Department of Public Health or the Division of Professional Licensure. These settings include nursing homes, rest homes, emergency medical services, hospitals, physician and other medical and dental offices, urgent care settings, community health centers, vaccination sites, behavioral health clinics, and Bureau of Substance and Addiction Services (BSAS) facilities. This requirement applies to patients, residents, staff, vendors and visitors.

Congregate care facilities or programs operated, licensed, certified, regulated, authorized, or funded by the Commonwealth. These settings include the common areas of assisted living residences, group homes, residential treatment programs, and facilities operated, licensed, certified, regulated, authorized, or funded by the Department of Children and Families (DCF), the Department of Youth Services (DYS), the Department of Mental Health (DMH), the Department of Public Health (DPH), the Department of Developmental Services (DDS), the Department of Veterans' Ser-

vices (DVS), the Massachusetts

Commission for the Blind (MCB), the Executive Office of Elder Affairs (EOEA) and the Massachusetts Rehabilitation Commission (MRC). This requirement applies to clients, residents, staff, vendors and visitors.

Emergency shelter programs, including individual and family homeless shelters, domestic violence and sexual assault shelters, veterans' shelters, and shelters funded by the Department of Housing and Community Development. This requirement applies to guests, staff, vendors and visitors

Houses of Correction, Department of Correction prisons, jails, and other correctional facilities. This requirement applies to people who are detained or incarcerated, staff, vendors and visitors.

Health Care and Day Services and Programs operated, licensed, certified, regulated, or funded by the Commonwealth including the Executive Office of Health and Human Services or one of its agencies. These settings include adult day health, day habilitation, Program of All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly (PACE), psychosocial rehabilitation club houses, brain injury centers and clubhouses, day treatment, partial hospitalization and intensive outpatient programs, recovery support centers and center-based day support programs. This requirement applies to staff, visitors, vendors and consumers

Home health care workers, including Personal Care Attendants (PCAs) and Home Health Aides in community and home-based settings where they are providing patient-facing care; provided, however, the requirement shall only apply to the worker providing care.

The following persons are exempt from the face coverings requirement:

Children under 5 years old.

Persons for whom a face mask or covering creates a health risk or is not safe because of any of the following conditions or circumstances:

The face mask or covering affects the person's ability to breathe safely;

The person has a mental health or other medical diagnosis that advises against wearing a face mask or covering;

The person has a disability that prevents them from wearing a face mask or covering; or

The person depends on supplemental oxygen to breathe.

LYNN JETS HOCKEY SENIOR DAY AT CONNERY RINK

The Lynn Jets ice hockey team, consisting of students from the Lynn high schools, honored its seniors and their families on Senior Day during a ceremony held Saturday at the Connery Rink.

Head Coach Brian Boisson thanked the seniors for their contributions to the program during their hockey careers.

Senior captain Jaylen Porter had a hat trick, including the game-winning goal, as the Jets defeated East Bridgewater, 4-3. Devin Copithorne had a goal and two assists, while Michael Gates, Sean Leonard, and Stevan Downey had assists.



mother Terese Leonard, brother Matt Leonard, a Lynn Jets alumnus, and grandmother Annmarie Leonard.



Lynn Jets player Michael Gates, with his father Mike Gates Sr., grandfather Bob Gates, grandmother Patricia Gates, and brother Tyler Gates.



Lynn Jets head coach Brian Boisson and the Jets seniors, pictured at the Senior Day ceremony held Saturday before the Lynn Jets-East Bridgewater game at Connery Rink. Front row, from left, are assistant captain Devin Copithorne, Tyler Desir Kearns, and captain Jaylen Porter. Back row, from left, are Kyle Candilieri, Michael Gates, Gavin Kennedy, head coach Brian Boisson, Patrick McHale, assistant captain Sean Leonard, and captain Stevan Downey.

LYNN JETS HOCKEY SENIOR DAY AT CONNERY RINK



Lynn Jets captain Stevan Downey, with his father Mike Downey, mother Diane Downey, sister Julia Downey, and brother Owen Downey, a Lynn Jets alumnus.



Lynn Jets player Patrick McHale, with his father Patrick McHale Sr., his mother, Katie McHale, grandfather Dan Driscoll, grandmother Ellen Driscoll, and sisters Maggie McHale and Maeve McHale.



Lynn Jets player Tyler Desir Kearns and head coach Brian Boisson, president of Lynn Youth Hockey.



Lynn Jets player Kyle Candilieri, with father Justin Candilieri, brother Mark Tobin, and mother Kim Candilieri.



Lynn Jets player Gavin Kennedy, with his father Chris Kennedy, mother Donna Kennedy, and sister Meredith Kennedy.



Lynn teacher Lisa Mageary is pictured with one of her former students, Tyler Desir Kearns, on Lynn Jets Senior Day at Connery Rink.



Lynn Jets assistant captain Devin Copithorne, with father Matthew Copithorne, mother Deseree Copithorne, and sister Alyssa Copithorne.



Lynn Jets captain Jaylen Porter, with his father Al Porter, mother Tara Porters, and sisters Chantelle Porter and Sydney Porter.

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D'ANNA FURNITURE 2 GRAND OPENING

A Grand Opening for D'AN-NA Furniture 2 store located in the heart of Lynn's cultural district on Mount Vernon Street. The store offers many various types of furniture for one's artistic interest to one's casual pleasure. As a patron enters the premises, one can feel welcome with the creative viewing arrangement.

Owner Yonilda Garcia said, "I relocated to this part of Lynn from our previous location on the Lynnway. My staff and I are very happy to be here. We have two showing rooms and a lower level area. We offer pre-owned attractive furniture that is in mint condition. If someone wants to order new furniture, we have a catalogue to order department. Other products in the store include rugs, kitchen utensils, dining, living, bedroom setups, ornaments, and lamps. We are here to assist customers to find what

they would like."

Board of Director David Zeller was on hand for this Grand Opening and noted, "This is an absolutely beautiful store. In this store is the largest collection of ornamented elephant statues, perhaps in all of Massachusetts. Elephants are one of the most important features in a home, especially from the Asian and India culture. If anyone is looking for a gift or understand the concept of Feng Shui when decorating your living quarters, this is the place to visit and browse with harmony and interest."

State Representative Peter Capano, Mayor Jared Nicholson, and Sean Reid of Senator Crighton's office each presented Citations for the Grand Opening. They each extended their very best wishes and their sincerest congratulations to D'ANNA Furniture 2.



Ribbon Cutting Ceremony – Sean Reid from State Senator Crighton's office, David Zeller, Rosa Feliz, Mayor Jared Nicholson, Yonilda Garcia owner of D'anna Furniture, NSLBA Director Frances Martinez, Estelle Revelotis, and Ozzie Marmolejos.



State Representative Peter Capano presented the House of Representatives Citation to Yonilda Sean Reid of Senator Crighton's office presented the MA Senate Citation to Yonilda Garcia as NSLBA Frances Martinez and NSLBA Board Directors, Rosa Feliz and David Zeller, stood by.



Garcia as NSLBA Board of Directors David Zeller, Executive Frances Martinez, Rosa Feliz, and Mayor Nicholson participated in the opening ceremony.



Mayor Jared Nicholson congratulated Yonilda Garcia on her Grand Opening as Board Directors - David Zeller and Frances Martinez looked on.



GLSS and Catholic Charities sign lease to operate a food pantry as part of Phoenix Food Hub

Greater Lynn Senior Services (GLSS) and Catholic Charities Boston have announced their plans to develop a food pantry in downtown Lynn as part of the emerging Phoenix Food Hub initiative. The two local nonprofits have entered into an agreement for Catholic Charities to lease approximately 3,600 square feet of space on the first floor of GLSS' office building located at 8 Silsbee Street. The food pantry will be one of the key programs in the Phoenix Food Hub initiative—a community-wide collaboration among members of the City's Food Security Task Force, offering a wide array of nutrition-related supports and resources.

"We are delighted to announce this important partnership," said Kathryn C. Burns, GLSS' CEO. "The food pantry is a critical piece of this new initiative, which addresses food insecurity through a systemic solution in collaboration with other social services agencies like Catholic Charities."

"The COVID-19 pandemic has worsened the food insecurity crisis in Massachusetts, increasing the urgency to get this pantry open to those in need as quickly as possible," said Fran Troutman, director of Catholic Charities North. "Once we complete the build-out of this state-of-theart pantry later this spring, Lynn residents will have easier access to nutritious food."

GLSS is the lead agency in developing and managing Phoenix Food Hub's on-site operations. In addition to Catholic Charities, key partners include the City of Lynn, Lynn Community Health Center (LCHC), LEO, New American Center, The Food Project, Mutual Aid Lynn, and Lynn Grows. Funding partners include Mass General Brigham, Point32Health Foundation (formerly Tufts Foundation), Element Care, the City of Lynn, and many local organizations and residents.

Catholic Charities has deep expertise in addressing the alarming rise in food insecurity in Massachusetts. It operates five other pantries throughout Eastern Massachusetts and distributed 3.5 million pounds of food last year, up 102% from pre-pandemic levels.

According to Project Bread, a nonprofit that works to end



The new food pantry will allow Lynn residents will have easier access to nutritious food.

hunger in the state, a record number of Massachusetts households are food insecure-double the amount pre-COVID-19. More than half a million residents-more than a quarter of them children—who are eligible for SNAP, don't receive food stamps or other nutrition-based resources. In Lynn, assessments conducted by LCHC found an average 74 patients faced food insecurity concerns every week over a six-month period. GLSS estimates almost a third of those who utilize its services are at high risk of insufficient nutrition. Phoenix Food Hub will serve people of all ages.

"Food insecurity almost always indicates other underlying societal challenges," Burns notes. To address this, Phoenix Food Hub will also offer housing advocacy, mental health counseling, stress management, and mobility training, as well as healthy cooking classes, nutrition screening, and benefits counseling to those eligible for SNAP, WIC, and other nutrition-based resources. Its central location in an area with limited markets and within walking distance to housing sites-many for older people—addresses accessibility issues. Outreach will be cultural-

The project is unfolding in increments but is already making a difference. In the past few months, four Winter Farmers' Markets, sponsored by The Food Project and attended by hundreds of people, were held and three more are planned in February and March. People who are assessed by LCHC as food insecure or having other nutrition insufficiencies are being referred for education, counseling, and information about other community resources. A state-of-the-art teaching kitchen is currently being designed to provide healthy cooking classes and other educational opportunities to individuals and families. This is in addition to a monthly Brown Bag distribution program offered on site in conjunction with the Greater Boston Food Bank.

that people may have.

"We hope our efforts to address social and health inequities by removing barriers to comprehensive services—including nutritious food—will become a model for other communities across the country," Burns says. Construction of the teaching kitchen should begin in the spring, with full operations planned by fall 2022.

About Greater Lynn Senior Services

GLSS is a nonprofit organization serving people of all ages and their families and caregivers in Lynn, Lynnfield, Nahant, Saugus, Swampscott, and beyond. GLSS provides a wide range of programs and innovations to help people remain independent, safely and with dignity, and to improve the health, well-being, and quality of life of those it serves.

About Catholic Charities Bos-

As one of Massachusetts' largest social service organizations, Catholic Charities of Boston serves our most vulnerable neighbors each year, regardless of religion, race, gender, age, disability, or ethnicity. Catholic Charities has five hub locations in Dorchester, Lynn, Brockton, Lowell, and South Boston, with 23 program locations supporting families across Eastern Massachusetts. The agency's four core services assist clients with Basic Needs, Family & Youth Services, Adult Education & Workforce Development, and Refugee & Immigrant Services. We help our clients move from crisis to stability to self-sufficiency.

ly and linguistically appropriate to meet the needs of the area's diverse populations. Support services will also be available onsite to address other important needs



OBITUARIES

Richard A. Baillie

Mass. Highway Department Supervisor

Richard A. Baillie of Derry, NH, formerly of Revere, died on February 7 at the age of 53.

Richard was a supervisor for the Massachusetts State Highway Department.

Born in Malden on November 24, 1968 to David Baillie and Arijana (Holjvo) of Revere, he was the cherished father of Rachel Baillie of Medford and Rebecca Baillie of Lynn, dear brother of David Earl Baillie of Lowell and is also survived by his former wife, Shannon Baillie and countless friends and coworkers.

A Memorial Visitation will be held at the Paul Buonfiglio & Sons-Bruno Funeral Home, 128 Revere Street, Revere on Sunday, February 20 from 3 to 7 p.m. followed by a Prayer Service at 7 p.m. Relatives and friends are kindly invited. Private Inter-



ment. In lieu of flowers, donations, can be made in Richard's name to the Dana Farber Cancer Research at danafarber.jimmyfund.org. For guestbook, please visit www.buonfiglio.com.

Holocaust Memorial Museum encourages residents to donate Holocaust-era artifacts

The United States Holocaust Memorial Museum will present a live virtual program for New England residents on Wednesday, March 9, from noon to 1 p.m., as part of its ongoing efforts to rescue the evidence of the Holocaust.

As event chair, former Museum Council Member Michael P. Ross will provide introductory remarks. A former Boston City Councilor, Ross is the son of the late Stephan Ross, who survived 10 concentration camps and was liberated by American soldiers at Dachau.

"Despite the challenges presented by the COVID-19 pandemic, the Museum is in a race against time to collect Holocaust artifacts and oral testimonies," Ross said. "The Museum is now focusing its efforts within the New England region and is offer-

ing specialized one-on-one appointments for people interested in donating artifacts or researching their family history."

During the March 9 program entitled "Preserving Holocaust History: Collecting Artifacts and Researching Fates," the following presentations will be made:

- Fred Wasserman, acquisitions curator of the Museum's National Institute for Holocaust Documentation, will explain the Museum's rigorous process for reviewing, acquiring, and conserving Holocaust artifacts, such as photos, letters, diaries, films, testimonies, and other objects that document the Holocaust, enabling the Museum to teach this history with authenticity and relevance to every new generation.
- Diane Afoumado, chief of the Museum's Holocaust Survivors and Victims Resource

Center, will explain the process of conducting personalized research on family history during the Holocaust.

Immediately following the March 9 program, the Museum will offer participants the opportunity to schedule personal appointments to discuss donating artifacts to the Museum, contributing oral testimony, or requesting assistance researching family fates

To RSVP for this free program, advance registration is required:

ushmm.org/events/new-england-collections

For more information on the program, interested participants may contact the Museum's Northeast Regional Office at northeastoutreach@ushmm.org.

To place a memoriam please call 781-485-0588

OBITUARIES

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MBTA hosting multiple public forums for feedback

MBTA staff proposed to the Audit and Finance Subcommittee of the MBTA Board several fare policy changes as part of the MBTA's Fare Transformation, which aims to make paying for transit easier and more convenient for our customers.

"These fare media updates will provide MBTA riders with greater flexibility through the introduction of 'tappable' forms of payment that are compatible with future fare readers on buses and trolleys, allowing for alldoor boarding and, ultimately, for faster service," said MBTA General Manager Steve Poftak. "We know some changes will take time to get used to, like the \$3 card fee that allows for 'one more trip protection' and making sure every rider has a Charlie Card or other form of fare payment. But, if approved by the MBTA's Board in April, we're excited to make these important improvements to our fare system and to provide even more easyto-use fare options to our riders."

Upon completion of the public input process in March and subject to the MBTA Board approval in April, these policy changes would go into effect with the introduction of the MBTA's next phases of Fare Transformation.

The MBTA is actively seeking public comment through multiple forums and channels on the following fare policy changes related to the upcoming fare media:

· Ending "Passback": Currently allowed through the legacy fare system, the same Charlie-Card or Charlie-Ticket loaded with fare value can be used to allow multiple riders through a fare gate. The MBTA refers to this practice as a "passback." In order to have "proof of payment," introduce mobile and contactless payments, and integrate the Commuter Rail without creating pricing errors, "passbacks" will be discontinued.

- Fare Media per Rider: Customers aged 12 and older will need to have their own fare media to ensure riders do not experience unexpected duplicate charges at fare gates and on fare readers as well as for riders to be able to provide proof of payment.
- \$3 Fare Media Fee and Free Card Distribution: There will be a \$3 card cost for most new fare media issued by the MBTA. The MBTA recognizes that the cost for fare media may be a burden for some riders and is currently developing a plan to distribute free Charlie Cards to minority

and low-income communities through partner organizations. Cards will continue to be free to Reduced Fare Riders and for all riders purchasing a 1-Day Link Pass on a new Charlie Card.

· "One more trip" Protection on Charlie Cards: The upcoming fare media will allow riders to board with low/zero balance to improve convenience and avoid leaving riders stranded.

The MBTA welcomes and invites the public to provide feedback on these proposed updates and changes at a virtual public meeting to be held on Tuesday, March 15, at 6 PM and at the official public hearing to be held virtually on Tuesday, March 22, at 6 PM. For specific details to access these virtual meetings and/or to submit direct comments regarding these proposed updates and changes, please email publicengagement@mbta. com. The public may submit comments through Thursday. March 31, 2022.

For more information about Fare Transformation, please visit mbta.com/FareTransformation or connect with the T on Twitter @MBTA, Facebook / TheMBTA, or Instagram @theMBTA.

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Metropolitan Beach Commission Hearing focuses on language barriers on area beaches

By John Lynds

At last Wednesday's Metropolitan Beach Commission meeting, Commission Co-Chair Rep. Adrian Madaro, who represents East Boston, made a shocking revelation about beaches in the area.

"In my district I'm blessed to represent an incredibly vibrant community and immigrant community and our diversity is our point of pride," said Madaro. 'I am fortunate to represent so many people of different ethnic backgrounds and perspectives. About 50% of our community is foreign born and many residents are non-native English speakers. Yet at Constitution Beach, East Boston's only public beach and the only point of access to the water, the signage is only in English. This is true for other beaches in the area. These language barriers are quite concerning."

Madaro's testimony came at a Beach Commission hearing focused on language barriers on area beaches like the one in Eastie and here in Lynn.

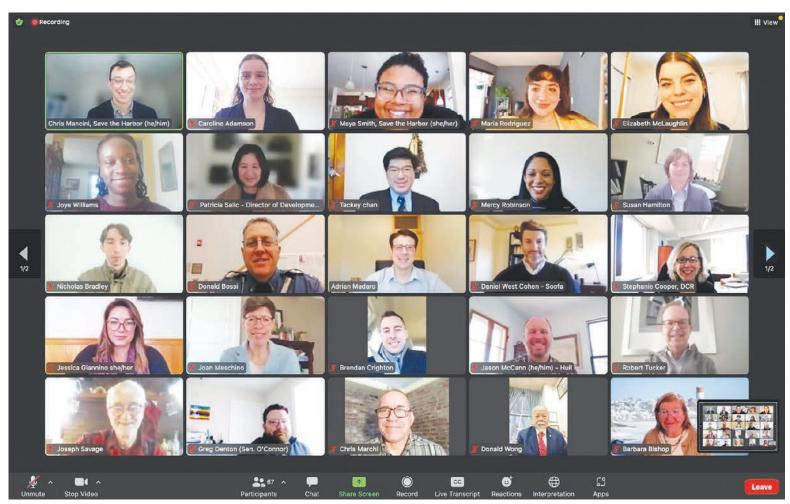
"Language Access on our beaches entail providing critical safety information about water quality, weather conditions, upcoming activities and general beach safety knowledge," continued Madaro. "Empowering residents with the ability to make informed decisions while at our beaches helps ensure overall public safety and enjoyment. This starts with ensuring that signage on our beaches is multilingual giving all the ability to read and understand the important information being shared. There's a lot of work to make sure our public spaces, including our public beaches within the Commonwealth, reflect that all belong and all deserve access. Eliminating language barriers and ensuring language access at our beaches would be one major step in the right direction."

Madaro's Co-Chair Sen. Brendan Crighton of Lynn agreed, and was "inspired by the powerful testimony".

"We look forward to using this community input to make our beaches more equitable and inclusive for all people regardless of the language they speak," said Crighton.

The Department of Conservation and Recreation will begin deploying multilingual signs "across our system, including of course, on all the Metropolitan beaches" beginning in 2022.

"Overcoming language barri-



The group of attendees at last week's Metropolitan Beach Commission hearing.

ers is a key issue," said Executive Director of Save the Harbor/Save the Bay Chris Mancini. "If we don't have diversity in programs and signage on our beaches, folks will be forced to be spectators when they should be involved, active participants."

At the hearing participants heard presentations on current and best practices for multilingual signage and websites. Save the Harbor/Save the Bay Policy Intern Caroline Adamson made a presentation about using QR codes on beach signage as one easy way to connect people to the multilingual resources they need. QR codes are already in use on signs at Revere Beach and elsewhere.

"Of the 250 signs we looked at across our Massachusetts coast, just four of them were in languages other than English," said Director of Strategy and Communications of Save the Harbor/Save the BayBruce Berman. "That's simply not good enough."

Late last spring, the Commission decided to focus attention on ways to increase diversity, equity and inclusion on the Metropolitan Region's public beaches, to improve access for people of color, people with disabilities, and people who may not speak English as their primary language.



Typical signage in English only on a local beach.

Last May, the Beach Commission heard from a diverse group of civic leaders and community members about ways in which we could increase diversity on the beaches and in our beach programming.

In November, the Beach Commission focused on ways to increase and improve access for people with disabilities on the Metropolitan Region's public reference.

beaches. The most recent hear-

ing focused on ways to overcome language barriers that prevent people from safely enjoying their beaches.

Acting DCR Commissioner Stephanie Cooper said in the end the DCR is focused on having its areas accessible and safe.

"We also need to have signage and information that provides people with the rules and regulations," she said. "What are the amenities? What do I need

to know to enjoy the beach and be safe?" Cooper underscored the importance of the use of QR codes, observing that, "Save the Harbor/Save the Bay's presentation highlighted some of where we are headed and some of the progress we still need to make. The great thing about a QR code is that you can provide a lot of information in all the languages that you want. Our plan is to use QR codes this year."