

THE LYNN JOURNAL

Thursday, April 28, 2022



Shown are (left to right) Mayor Cahill of Beverly, Mayor Driscoll of Salem, Mayor Jared Nicholson of Lynn, Mayor Carlo DeMaria, former Mayor Tom McGee of Lynn, Representative Sally Kerans and Representative Jessica Giannino.

Local leaders meet with Sen. Warren over electrification of commuter rail

Special to the Journal

Lynn Mayor Jared Nicholson met on Friday, April 22 with Senator Warren and his fellow municipal and state leaders to discuss the electrification of commuter rail. The meeting was held in the McGee Building on the North Shore Community College Campus in Lynn.

Nicholson was joined at the meeting by Mayor Carlo DeMaria of Everett; Mayor Cahill of Beverly; Mayor Driscoll of Salem; former Mayor McGee of Lynn; and representatives from Mayor Brian Arrigo's office from Revere. Senator Brendan Crighton moderated the meeting. He was joined by his legislative colleagues Representative Paul Tucker, Representative Jessica

Giannino and Representative Sally Kerans. Also in attendance were staff from Senator Markey's office and Congressman Moulton's office.

The purpose of the meeting was to identify ways in which leaders at the federal, state and local level can collaborate to increase the availability of commuter rail options along Eastern Massachusetts and the Northeast corridor of the Commonwealth.

All of the elected officials were in agreement with the benefits that could be realized across the region with the expansion of commuter rail and the addition of infill stations along the corridor. Senator Warren noted the potential to create additional housing opportunities with the expansion of rail options. DeMaria reminded those in attendance that trains

pass through the City Everett, but its residents don't get the benefit of that transportation option. DeMaria also shared with the group the important environmental benefits that come from reducing reliance on motor vehicle travel by giving residents an option for cleaner, electric rail options.

The group has been meeting over the past several months to collectively advocate for MassDOT and the MBTA to develop a strategic plan for the expansion of these transit options. The group agreed to continue with these advocacy efforts to take advantage of the historical level of federal funds available to the Commonwealth. Both Senator Warren and Senator Markey's staff agreed to continue to advocate for federal funds to support these types of transit initiatives.

Lynn students' Earth Day Poster Contest begins

By Cary Shuman

Mayor Jared Nicholson joined Earth Day Poster Contest Co-Chairs, Councilors Brian Field and Dianna Chakoutis, and Councilor Richard Colucci to celebrate Earth Day and encourage students to keep the City of Lynn clean at the poster kickoff announcement ceremony Monday at the Harrington School.

Field introduced Mayor Nich-

olson, who was the first speaker at the program.

"It's exciting to be here to celebrate Earth Day with you and ask for your help in our mission," said Nicholson. "But first I want to thank Councilor Field for all the help the great work he's done on this. And a round of applause for the co-chair of the committee, Councilor Chakoutis. And our

Please see POSTER Page 8

THE REV. FR. NICHOLAS TSOUKALAS LEADS GREEK EASTER CELEBRATION



The Rev. Fr. Nicholas Tsoukalas led the Greek Easter service and celebration Sunday at St. George Greek Orthodox Church. The beloved pastor of the church, who began his distinguished career in 1966, will be stepping down from his spiritual leadership of the Lynn parish in October upon his 80th birthday. Pictured from left, are Dennis Katramados, the Rev. Fr. Nicholas Tsoukalas, David Solimine, who delivered the blessings in the Italian language, and Cantor Kostas Paragios.

It's that time of the year again!
Check out our Lovelines on Page 8.

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EDITORIAL

OUR DRIVING IS WORSE THAN EVER, SO THIS IS NO TIME TO REDUCE TRAFFIC STOPS

Pundits and some politicians recently have been calling for a reduction in the enforcement of minor traffic offenses by our police.

We respectfully, and strongly, disagree.

Thanks to a number of factors, our roadways are more dangerous than ever. In 2020, there were 38,680 deaths on U.S. roadways, the most since 2007, even though pandemic precautions had dramatically reduced driving because people were staying at home.

In 2021, overall traffic fatalities continued to rise at a record pace. Nearly 32,000 people were killed in vehicle crashes in the first nine months of 2021, a 12 percent increase from the same period in 2020, according to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

It was the highest number of fatalities during the first nine months of any year since 2006 and the highest percentage increase during the first nine months of a year in the reporting system's history.

Why are Americans driving more recklessly than ever?

We believe a number of factors are at play, including an increase in drug and alcohol use during the pandemic, the decline in the use of seat belts, a huge increase in distracted driving because of the use of electronic devices, and a general disdain for societal restrictions that have spilled-over into a disregard for speed limits, stop signs, etc. on our roadways.

The rise in motor vehicle deaths follows other pandemic-era trends: Alcohol sales have soared, drug overdoses have set new records, and homicides have seen their biggest year-over-year increase on record.

In light of these alarming trends and statistics, suggesting that our police should curtail traffic-law enforcement is nonsensical.

We realize that routine traffic stops often are fraught with peril, both for the officers and for members of the public, as happened once again with the recent tragic shooting of a Black man by a white officer in Grand Rapids, Michigan.

However, in an interview with 60 Minutes on Sunday, the new mayor of New York, Eric Adams, noted that we must do more to ensure that effective police enforcement is coupled with respectful, non-abusive police behavior. Those concepts are not inherently mutually-exclusive.

Moreover, said Adams, "If you don't have public safety, everything crumbles."

The ancient Romans put it this way, "Let the safety of the people be the highest law of the land."

That is as true today as it was 2100 years ago -- and that is especially true on our streets and highways.

PUTIN'S UKRAINIAN GENOCIDE

If you listen to chatter of the pundits and politicians, there seems to a debate about whether Russia is engaging in genocide in Ukraine.

Obviously, we aren't experts in international law. So we looked up the definition of genocide according to the Genocide Convention, which came together in the aftermath of WWII.

Genocide is defined as any of the following acts committed with intent to destroy, in whole or in part, a national, ethnic, racial, or religious group:

- Killing members of the group;
- Causing serious bodily or mental harm to members of the group; or
- Deliberately inflicting on the group conditions of life calculated to bring about its physical destruction in whole or in part.

Putin is perpetrating all of these acts upon the people of Ukraine. From the outset of the invasion, he said that Ukraine "is not even a country" and that Russia needed to "de-Nazify" it -- codewords for obliterating Ukraine and its people.

Russian forces are indiscriminately bombing, murdering, torturing, starving, and raping civilians. Russian forces have herded hundreds of thousands of Ukrainian citizens onto trains and forcibly transported them to central Russia, where they await an uncertain fate.

The ceaseless bombing campaign against non-military targets has the only goal of wiping Ukrainian cities and towns from the face of the earth. Russian soldiers even have been going into libraries and destroying any books written in the Ukrainian language.

In short, Vladimir Putin is the 21st century equivalent of Hitler and Stalin, both of whom were genocidal sociopaths.

We hope and pray that our government and the rest of the civilized world will do everything conceivable to stop Putin's barbarous genocide of the Ukrainian people.

GUEST OP-ED

Finding hope and life before death

Dr. Glenn Mollette

Most of us have wondered about life beyond the grave. Many today are in search of life before the grave. Given what many people traditionally believe about heaven, eternity and life beyond, it would certainly seem very valuable to think about a life beyond. However, what about life here?

The Ukrainian people wake up every day to fight, survive or hide another day. They fight for life and freedom. Why? Life and freedom are worth something.

How much are life and freedom worth? What does it mean to you to hug your spouse or loved one? How much do you enjoy laughing with family, friends or at a funny tv show? How good does it feel to do something you enjoy? Cooking a meal, music, reading, your faith assembly, grandkids or enjoying a sunny or rainy day. Life is living and enjoying our living.

God didn't make us to be miserable. We make ourselves miserable. Sickness makes us miserable. Addictions de-

stroy us and others. Death of the people we love zaps us and creates major voids in our lives. Yet, life can only be lived forward and often this is where we get stuck. Too often we put our cars in park and start watching the world go by us. We look in the rear view mirror. Life is whizzing by and we can't seem to get our foot back on the accelerator to start moving again. This becomes a very stagnate and unhappy way to live. Actually, it's not a life at all.

Living before you die must have some routine. Go to work. Go someplace. Do something. It doesn't have to be exotic or glorious. Often routine is the same thing every day. There is some peace in routine. When our routine and entire lives are shaken, like what is happening in Ukraine, then every minute is about surviving another day.

Survival mode for you may be doctor's visits. Making a plan for the next five years or year of your life. Reconnecting to some family or a friend or two. Making peace with the past and embracing today.

The key word for life is hope. Peace is another key

word but peace doesn't exist without hope. If we have hope we can look forward to life. We hope we have enough health. We hope we have enough money. The people of Ukraine have hope they can overcome Russia. This keeps many of them going. Many have fled the country in search of hope.

Find the hope you need to embrace the rest of your life. Hope in family, friends, hobbies and much more is good. Just be very aware, even they may disappoint you. Mainly, find hope in you. God didn't make junk. Too often, life, events, mistakes, and sometimes even people we are close to make it difficult for us to see our worth and it tarnishes our spirit.

Hope is an inside job that starts now.

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.

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

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FRESH AND LOCAL

First bite, perfect bite, last bite

By Penny & Ed Cherubino

Think about the last time a server placed a favorite meal in front of you. What did you take as your first bite? What did you combine to make a perfect bite? And, did you save some portion of that meal for your last bite?

For example, we love the fish and chips at Cornwall's in Kenmore Square. For years we've realized that if there are fries on a plate, one of those will be our first bite. However, we differ in what we would add to that fry to make it a perfect bite. Ed will always dip it in ketchup, and Penny will opt for vinegar or brown gravy if that's available.

We've recognized that our choice is partly because the fries are piping hot and at their best, and the fish is probably too hot to eat right away.

We enjoy exploring this question with any meal. As for saving something for the last bite, neither of us does that, but we know that others do. So, if you have someone who shares food with you, you should ask before you scoff the last bite off their plate!

The Perfect Bite

Chefs put a lot of thought into their effort to create a plate of food where each element enhances the rest. You can gather forkfuls of food that recognize the potential flavor combinations in your search for a perfect bite. You might want to taste each element by itself first to know what you'll be combining. Only you can decide what will be the ideal combination for you!

You can even have perfect bites of meals like sandwiches or pizza. Most of us customize these items as we order them. However, you might prefer to bite the middle of a sandwich to have more filling and less crust. A crust-lover might not start a slice of pizza at the pointy end as most of us do.

Different Perfect Bites!

Many cultures give eaters the ability to have many great bites during meals. Korean barbecue is a great example. The banchan served around the center grill are not appetizers. The dishes of kimchis, vegetables, and pickles let diners create one-bite lettuce wraps with the meat. They also

serve as palate cleansers between bites.

An Indian meal will have chutneys, raitas, and pickles for the same purpose. A traditional Indian dinner is served from a communal table and eaten with your clean, right hand. Diners break off pieces of bread and use them to pick up food and carry it to their mouths. Another option is to put some dal or curry on your serving of rice and use your fingers to gather a bite. While few of us follow this system when dining out in this country, we can prepare each forkful in the same spirit.

In the Middle East, the mezze table allows for the personalization of your meal. Sometimes

mezze is served as a tray of appetizers to enjoy while waiting for a more substantial course. Or, it may be the entire meal if it includes heartier meat and vegetable dishes. Flatbreads served with these meals allow you to prepare different bites of food from the offerings.

Our final reason for creating different flavor combos with the food in front of us is slower and more mindful eating. We'll derive more pleasure from the food we eat, feel full sooner, and prevent overeating.

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



First Bite? We admit we'd both grab a french fry. However, Ed would dip it in ketchup for a perfect bite, and Penny would sprinkle it with vinegar!

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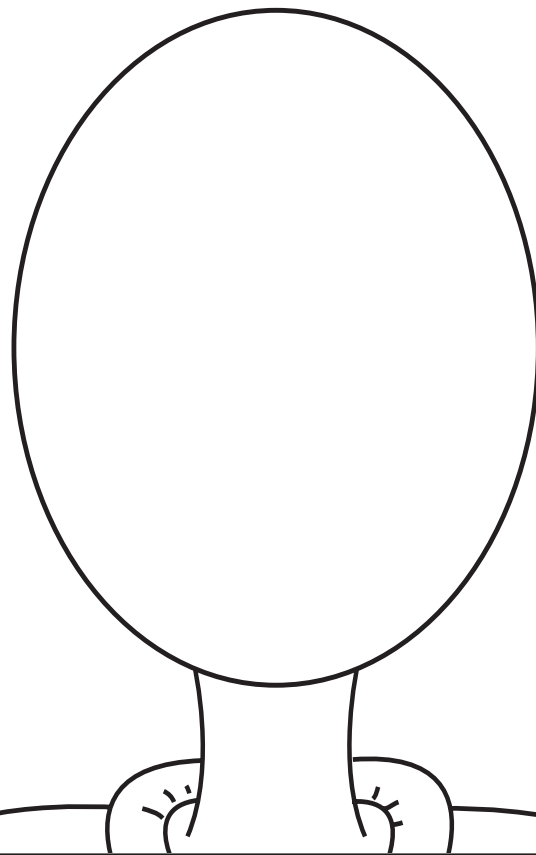
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Deadline for entries will be Friday, April 29th.

Entries will be published with winners selected in the May 5th, & 6th issues

HARRY AGGANIS TOURNAMENT HELD AT ST. GEORGE GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

The Harry Agganis Basketball Tournament, the longest running Greek basketball tournament on the East Coast, was held April 8-10 at St. George Greek Orthodox Church, Lynn.

People of all ages joined together to play basketball in honor of Lynn's legendary athlete, Har-

ry Agganis, "the Golden Greek." The host St. George team advanced to the finals where the Queens (New York) team prevailed, 65-51.

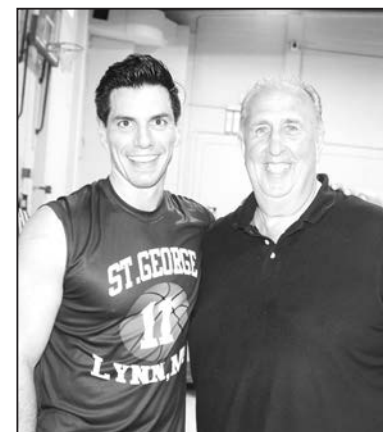
The players thanked tournament director John Meklis and his team, including the great pharmacist, Bill Booras, for their

excellent efforts in running the popular tournament.

The Rev. Nicholas Tsoukalas, who will be stepping down as pastor of the church upon his 80th birthday in October, presented the team championship and finalist trophies in a ceremony following the game.



Lynn resident Estelle Revelotis is pictured with college basketball referee Vasilis Malios, who officiated the UMBC-Vermont America East Conference championship game that was televised on ESPN2.



Former Pope John XXIII High School basketball star Peter Giannikopoulos (left) and St. George assistant coach Steve Mallios, pictured after the Agganis Tournament championship game.



The Rev. Fr. Nicholas Tsoukalas presents the Harry Agganis Basketball Tournament championship trophy to the Queens (New York) contingent.



The Rev. Fr. Nicholas Tsoukalas, pictured with Agganis Tournament Director John Meklis and his son, James Meklis, who plays varsity basketball at Bishop Fenwick High School.



The St. George of Lynn team receives its Agganis Tournament finalist trophy from the Rev. George Tsoukalas and Tournament Director John Meklis. Pictured, from left, Nick Silva, Strati Saranteas, Alex Jacovider, tournament director and coach John Meklis, James Meklis, the Rev. George Tsoukalas, church pastor, Peter Kopoulos, Peter Giannikopoulos, Dimitri Floras, and assistant coach Steve Mallios.



Sophia Pentikis, Lena Triantos, Dina Condakes, and Georgina Condakes enjoy the Harry Agganis Basketball Tournament.



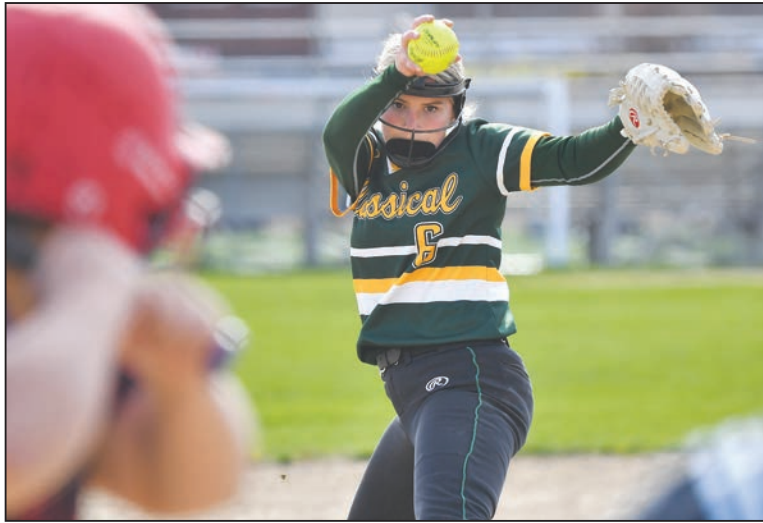
The Rev. Fr. Nicholas Tsoukalas, Pastor of St. George Greek Orthodox Church, sits courtside for the Harry Agganis Basketball Tournament championship game.

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LYNN CLASSICAL FOOTBALL AWARDS BANQUET

BOB MARRA PHOTOS

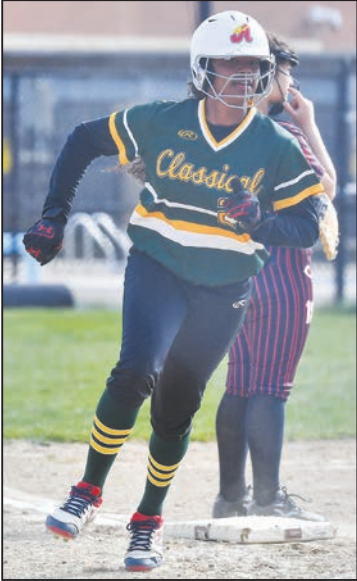
The Rams rolled to a 16-1 win over Chelsea Monday at Carter Field in Chelsea.



TOTAL CONTROL: Pitcher Rachel Dana gave up one run while controlling the Chelsea offense.



SET TO GO: Izzy Faessler breaks from first base.



ON THE WAY HOME: Reese Brinkler rounds third and heads for home with an inside-the-park home run.



GLOVE WORK: Third baseman K Mills makes the play on a sharp grounder to third.



READY FOR ANYTHING: Classical shortstop Naveah Eth readies herself in the field.



STARTING IT OFF: Mekayla Poisson (2) makes contact for a first inning base hit that led to her scoring the Rams first run of the game.



THREE BASES: Reese Brinkler (23) follows through on a swing that produced a triple, part of her big day at the plate that also included a homerun and three RBI.

GREATER LYNN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE BUSINESS EXCELLENCE AWARDS DINNER

The Greater Lynn Chamber of Commerce held its Annual Meeting and Business Excellence Awards Dinner April 14 at the DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel in Danvers.

Executive Director Colin Codner welcomed more than 200 guests to the organization's first major social event and awards dinner held since the pandemic.



Attorney Eddy Staco, recipient of the Joe Scianatico Chairman's Award.



Lynn Community Health Center, recipient of the Large Business of the Year Award.



Julio Enriquez of The Dugout, recipient of the Rookie of the Year Award.



Elaine White of Bridgewell, recipient of the Businesswoman of the Year Award.



Paty McDonough of LB Music School, recipient of Employee of the Year Award.



The contingent from John Olson's Columbia Insurance Agency. Pictured, from left, Nancy McCarthy, Chris Alex, Emilio Velasquez, Christine Pierce, John Olson, Ana Lopez, Cheryl DiLisio, and Despina Spanou.

GREATER LYNN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE BUSINESS EXCELLENCE AWARDS DINNER



Anna Lally of Official Lynn Eats Group, recipient of the David Solimine Sr. Community Service Award. Not pictured Ryan Mulherin of Official Lynn Eats Group.



Rick Starbard, recipient of the Carol Vasapolli Volunteer of the Year Award.



Ward 2 Councillor Rick Starbard, with his daughters, Stephanie Starbard (left) and Jessica Starbard.



Chris Bibby, Kathy Burns, and Paul Solano.



Former Lynn Mayor and State Sen. Tom McGee was the recipient of Lynn City Pride Award. Mr. McGee is pictured with his wife, Maria McGee, son, Thomas McGee, daughter, Katherine McGee, and his brother Shawn McGee (left).



GLCC Membership Coordinator Corie Currier and Operations Manager Christine Neals, pictured at the reception table for the Annual Business Excellence Awards Dinner.



Lynn Mayor Jared Nicholson and Kowloon Restaurant owner Bob Wong, GLCC board member.



Nick Pappas and Kirirath Saing.



Kevin O'Toole and James O'Shea, candidate for Essex County District Attorney.

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Poster / CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

ward councilor and our friend, Councilor Colucci.”

Nicholson said to the students, “Friday (April 22) was Earth Day, and it reminds us that we have a responsibility to keep our city clean. When you walk around the city, you see that we have some work to do.”

Nicholson thanked the students “for your help in keeping our amazing city clean.”

Field explains contest process

The grand prize in the poster contest is a bit overwhelming: a display of the winning poster on a massive billboard in the city. The winning poster will also be showcased in different stores and restaurants in Lynn.

“You have two weeks to draw the poster and you pass it into your teacher, and your teachers are going to vote on one winner from the Harrington School,” said Field. “And your school and the other 19 participating schools are all going to have one winner.”



Mayor Jared Nicholson speaks to Harrington School students at the program announcing Lynn’s Earth Day Poster Contest.

Field thanked Lynn Supt. of Schools Dr. Patrick Tutwiler for his support of the Earth Day poster contest. Tutwiler visited other schools earlier in the day.

Mayor Nicholson concludes program

Nicholson concluded the speaking program by stating, “On behalf of the City of Lynn,



From left, Ward 4 Councilor Richard Colucci, Councilor-at Large and Poster Contest Co-Chair Brian Field, Ward 5 Councilor and Poster Contest Co-Chair Dianna Chakoutis, DPW Associate Commissioner Lisa Nerich, Mayor Jared Nicholson, Harrington School Principal Lissa Jussaume, and Program Specialist Amy Nerich.

I want to thank you for your help keeping Lynn clean, letting people know that it’s our job to do it, reminding folks when the time is right, to put their waste in the

trash, picking up when you see a problem, and participating in our poster contest.

“I want to wish you the best of luck in the poster contest, but

you’re all going to be winners because you’re all helping us keep our community the way it should be.”

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Encore Boston Harbor announces 2022 Forbes Travel Guide Five-Star rating

Encore Boston Harbor is proud to announce that the resort has been awarded the Forbes Travel Guide (FTG) Five-Star distinction for its hotel and spa. This new rating brings Wynn Resorts a total of 24 Five-Star Awards and secures its ongoing position as the global leader for Forbes Five-Star accolades.

“Our short time in Boston has seen unprecedented change, yet our commitment to Five-Star service and our immaculate resort have remained a priority since

we opened our doors,” said Jenny Holaday, president of Encore Boston Harbor. “This achievement is a testament to the excellence our employees embody every day. I could not be more proud of this team.”

2022 was the first year Encore Boston Harbor was reviewed and ranked by the Forbes organization. With this award, the property has the distinction of being the largest Five-Star regional resort casino in North America and the largest resort on the East Coast

to be awarded the honor. In addition to the resort’s two Five-Star rankings, Encore Boston Harbor’s Rare Steakhouse received a Forbes Four-Star award for exceptional dining.

To view the complete list of 2022 Forbes Travel Guide star award winners, click here.

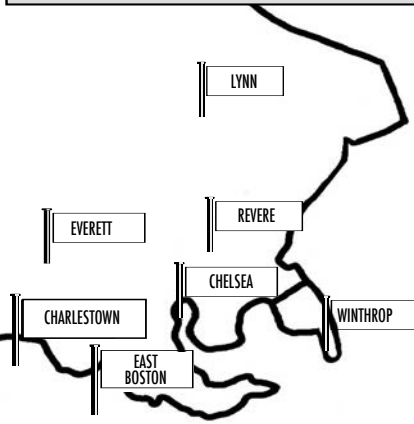
Encore Boston Harbor, a Forbes Travel Guide Five-Star hotel, features more than 210,000 square-feet of gaming space, over 2,700 slot machines and nearly 200 table games. Situated on the

Mystic River in Everett, Massachusetts, and connected to Boston Harbor, Encore Boston Harbor boasts 671 spacious hotel rooms, a Forbes Five-Star spa, salon and fitness center, specialty retail shops, a variety of dining and lounge venues, including Forbes Four-Star rated Rare Steakhouse and more than 50,000 square feet of ballroom and meeting spaces. The grounds feature a six-acre Harborwalk with pedestrian and bicycle paths that provide access to the waterfront, an event lawn,

public art and ornate floral displays. It is the largest private, single-phase development in the history of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. The casino offers free self-parking for all guests seven days a week.

Encore Boston Harbor is a proud partner of the New England Patriots, Boston Bruins, Boston Celtics and New England Revolution. For more information, visit encorebostonharbor.com or follow Encore Boston Harbor on Instagram, Twitter and Facebook.

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NEWS FROM AROUND THE REGION

LOOKING AT PROGRESS BEING MADE

CHELSEA - Chelsea Black Community/Chelsea Young Adult Alliance held the first of its virtual community conversations recently to discuss the progress made within major city departments since the Black Lives Matter movement of 2020.

The meetings will allow each department to publicly discuss its efforts to address disparities, highlight progress made in the last two years, and share plans of action and goals to reduce community and systemic inequalities over the next three months.

The Tuesday, April 12 meeting focused on education, with a presentation from Superintendent of Schools Dr. Almi Abeyta and district Director of Equity, Diversity, and Excellence Dr. Aaron Jennings.

Abeyta and Jennings highlighted the equity and diversity efforts the schools have undertaken under the past two years, including increasing staff diversity, creating affinity groups for students and staff, hiring a coordinator for culturally responsible teaching, and creating a pipeline program to help both students and parents become teachers in the district.

Jennings spoke about the district equity audit he undertook soon after coming to the Chelsea schools in October of 2020, as well as the establishment of the Black Students Unite and the Latinx Students Unite groups within the schools.

"It's been a real delight to see their leadership and hear their voices in that space," Jennings said of the student groups.

Jennings also stressed the importance of working together with HR director Christine Lee to make sure the district increases the diversity of its teachers and leadership. He also played videos from several Chelsea High School students who spoke about the importance of having teachers of color within the schools.

"They teach us how to empower ourselves and how to look out for ourselves, and they know the kinds of situations that we are in, especially as students of color," said Javin Diaz, a sophomore at the high school.

Many of the CBC/CYAA and community members who took part in the forum praised the educational leaders for the progress the district has made in racial equity and diversity over the past

several years.

"I'm seeing things like the addition of the coordinator for culturally responsible learning and that's amazing, that's something that I've not even heard of before," said Jayde Umemba, who also praised the school's efforts to increase diversity across all levels and create affinity groups for students and staff.

Long-time Chelsea resident and educator Sharon Caulfield likewise praised the school district for the dynamic changes it has undertaken in the past several years.

While Jennings and Abeyta took the praise in stride, they both said there is still much work to do in the schools and in the city.

"I feel like this work is just beginning," said Abeyta. "Aaron is an office of one, and while we are proud to have the best equity officer, he can't do it all himself. We all own this work; this is the tip of the iceberg and there is still so much work to do."

Additional CBC/CYAA community conversations in April include virtual meetings on city management, public safety, public health, and housing.

DAY SQUARE PROJECT APPROVED

EAST BOSTON - At its April board meeting the Boston Planning and Development Agency (BPDA) approved the large mixed-use development pitched for the Day Square area.

Developer Redgate submitted a Project Notification Form with the BPDA last year and wants to transform a 50,000 square foot lot at 355 Bennington St. into a six-story building containing the 170 dwelling units, ground floor retail, accessory parking, and amenities and services for building residents. The rental housing project includes 82 parking spaces and the 7,000 square foot retail space.

The site, which currently houses a single-story commercial business and paved lot, is bounded by Bremen Street, Bennington Street, the Martin A. Coughlin Bypass Road, and Excel Academy Charter School.

Redgate plans to demolish the existing building and construct the new six-story building.

After a few initial community meetings the developer has already dropped the number of units from 180 to 170 and concluded an online survey to get feedback from residents on what they would like to see happen at

the site. The survey asked residents what amenities, benefits, changes, additions, retail space uses and improvements that can be made in Day Square to make it more user friendly.

In its approval statement the BPDA wrote the site is, "an underutilized lot on the eastern edge of East Boston's Day Square will be redeveloped to provide 170 new residential units, including 24 income-restricted units, while unlocking key pedestrian and transit connections in East Boston".

"The project site at 355 Bennington is critical to the community vision laid out in PLAN: East Boston, an active planning initiative led by the BPDA, to connect the Mary Ellen Welch Greenway and the Silver Line to Day Square," wrote the BPDA. "Also in line with PLAN: East Boston, the developer has agreed to construct streetscape improvements along Bennington and Bremen Streets to support the revitalization of Day Square and to establish the new pedestrian and bicycle amenities in the neighborhood.

HEARING ABOUT CIP

EVERETT - With the Everett School Committee ready to discuss and possibly vote on the upcoming budget that will total more than \$108 million at its meeting on April 25, the Capital Improvement Program (CIP) will certainly be a major topic of discussion.

At the meeting on April 11, School Committee members heard from Assistant Superintendent Charles Obremski about the many projects that are being planned for the budgets covering Fiscal Year (FY) 2023 through FY2027.

With overcrowding occurring in almost every school in the city, Obremski was seeking to earmark more than \$2M for modular classrooms at the Kevearian School. Currently, the Kevearian, which was built to hold 650 students, already is more than 300 students over its capacity.

Committeeman Michael McLaughlin seemed to echo his colleagues regarding the CIP presentation by Obremski.

"This is a great plan," he said. "However, there is an immediate need for handicapped accessibility at the Parlin Junior High School."

Obremski had earmarked between \$2M-\$3.5M to make Parlin handicapped-accessible in the FY25 budget. However, the unofficial consensus among

WINTHROP POLICE AND FIRE HOCKEY GAME FOR AUTISM AWARENESS



Adrianna Castronova drops the ceremonial puck between Mike Connolly and her dad, Steven Castronova. Also shown are Winthrop Fire Chief Scott Wiley, Deputy Police Chief John Goodman and State Representative Jeff Turco.

the committee was to move this Parlin project up on the time list and to be accomplished this year.

The FY23 CIP of more than \$6.7M includes many regularly-scheduled maintenance projects through the district, such as repairing the leaking roof over the gymnasium at Everett High School, updating the phone system, repairing the Webster School roof, replacing the gym floor at the Whittier School, and repairing the kitchen area appliances at the Lafayette School.

Obremski noted that all of these maintenance projects are sorely needed and that many of the items on the list, such as the gym floor at the Whittier School (which is 44 years old), already have exceeded their projected useful life.

Although the FY23 CIP will see the largest expenditures of CIP monies, in FY24 the request will be for more than \$2.6M; in FY25, the figure will be more than \$5M; in FY26, more than \$2.2M; and in FY27, more than \$700,000.

Another area in which School Committee members expressed concern was whether there is a plan to maintain student learning after the Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) funds come to an end in the near future.

Like many communities, some Everett students find themselves behind academically because of the pandemic. Presently, school officials have availed themselves of the ESSER funds that pay for more teachers to help students who are academically behind.

In this school year, the Ever-

ett Public Schools will receive more than \$10M to fund the extra teachers that focus on having students catch up on the learning loss.

"ESSER will end and these services will have to be subtracted, or we will have to subtract another service," said Superintendent of Schools Priya Tahlilani.

"Tough budget cuts are ahead," Tahlilani added. "We need to advocate for the students. We need to lobby the City Council."

"We should not look to cut, but advocate for more money," said committee member Marcony Barros, referring to when the School Department appears before the City Council at budget time.

Committee member Samatha Lambert reminded her colleagues, "Students are not impacted equally. There are many disparities."

"We need to create better opportunities," committee member Michael Mangan added. "There is so much new tax revenue from developments that will increase our school population."

In other matters, the committee voted against giving Malden Transportation (MT) a five percent fuel surcharge that the company had requested. It was pointed out the present contract does not provide for a fuel surcharge, and so the committee would have to reword the present contract in order to accommodate this extra expense.

McLaughlin noted that Malden Transportation are "good partners," but Barrios pointed

Region / CONTINUED FROM PAGE 10

out that the city paid the company when COVID hit, even though there was no service being provided.

“MT does a great job,” said Barrios, but suggested that inasmuch as “the higher prices are affecting their profit, we should not agree.”

Lambert wanted more figures and urged her colleagues to wait until the information is provided. The motion then failed by a vote of 6-3.

ZONING CHANGE DISCUSSIONS CONTINUE

REVERE - A tie goes to the runner in baseball, but a tie vote by a Council subcommittee was not all that advantageous for the Enterprise Rent-A-Car Company of Boston who is hoping to open a rental-car business on Squire Road at the former site of the Verizon store.

However, the 3-3 vote by the Council’s Zoning Subcommittee – which despite the deadlock, is considered “not a favorable recommendation” – doesn’t preclude the matter from advancing to the full Council for a vote.

In fact, Council President Gerry Visconti expects the matter, which was tabled at the last

meeting, to make its way to the full Council, possibly at this Monday night’s meeting.

Attorney Nick Zazula and Enterprise Group Operations Manager Doug Valeri appeared at the April 11 subcommittee meeting chaired by Councillor Patrick Keefe.

Zazula told the subcommittee that the Planning Board voted unanimously March 1 to favorably recommend Enterprise’s bid for a zoning amendment.

Zazula also stated that Enterprise would commit to register 350 of its rental fleet vehicles in the City of Revere, “along with the accompanying excise taxes to the city in relation to a new location at Squire Road if the zoning amendment was approved.”

Zazula added that Enterprise would also continue to pay the Massachusetts surcharge for rental transactions and “also continue to pay the City of Revere surcharge of \$10 per rental transaction.”

Ward 6 Councillor Richard Serino voiced his support of the request by Enterprise, which has a sterling reputation in the car rental industry.

“With regard to Enterprise coming to Squire Road, first of all, it’s already in the city and second of all, we as new councillors have these grandiose visions

of Squire Road, and we think a lot of stuff is going to be developed and is coming down the road.

“Unfortunately, you look at Squire Road and the old Mobil Gas station has been vacant since 2012 or 2013, so nine years – you have the Honey Dew [store] which soon could become a Pop-eye’s, but that’s been vacant for two years. The hotel way down Squire Road might or might not materialize. My point being is that we have had a lot of vacant lots on Squire Road for at least the past decade.”

Addressing Zazula and Valeri, Councillor Serino said, “You guys have really worked to make this a better proposal than when it first came before us. And for those reasons and because I’d rather see something go there that’s going to produce money for the city than have that Verizon site sit vacant for another God knows how long. I will be supporting this.”

Councillors Richard Serino, Al Fiore, and Ira Novoselsky voted for the zoning amendment while Councillor Joanne McKenna, Gerry Visconti, and Patrick Keefe voted against the zoning amendment.

“This will still go in front of the full City Council,” Keefe told the applicants.

“Understood. Thank you,” responded Attorney Zazula.

TOWN MANGER GETS CONTRACT

WINTHROP - The Winthrop Town Council has given a three-year contract to the new town manager, Anthony Marino.

Council President James Letterie said the Council and Marino agreed to the contract during an executive session. The Council then voted unanimously to approve the contract in open session before Letterie and Marino officially signed it.

Marino, 51, will begin as Winthrop town manager on May 23. He has been the Ipswich town manager for the past four years.

Letterie said Marino will receive a salary of \$205,000 per year for the length of the contract.

“I’m looking forward to being the town manager of Winthrop,” said Marino. “I was excited to apply for the position, and I had a great interview process with the Council, and I’m excited to get started on May 23.”

Marino has begun collaborating with Interim Town Manager Terence Delehanty on job descriptions for the vacant Winthrop positions of chief financial

officer, treasurer, and assessor.

Marino has met with several Winthrop department heads, including Supt. of Schools Lisa Howard.

Marino grew up on the South Shore in the town of Pembroke. “My father [Leo Marino] was a Boston firefighter and moved us down there from Dorchester when I was 3 years old,” said Marino.

Marino served in the United States Navy for four years and received his college degree from Bridgewater University. He resides in Lynnfield and is married with two children ages 28 and 11.

Letterie said he is pleased to bring Marino aboard and happy with the contract.

“A great deal is when both sides get what they want and this agreement is absolutely that,” said Letterie. “Tony gets to come work for a town that he already has a passion for and has been on his radar for a while, and Winthrop gets a town manager that has all the attributes we have been looking for.

“Tony has a great skill set, personality, and that blue-collar work ethic that will be able to lead us out of stagnation,” Letterie added. “I am in-credibly excited to get started working with Tony.”

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The NSLBA office will be closed to the public from May 1, 2022 re-opening its doors to in-person services on Monday, May 23, 2022 at 9:00AM.

We will be closed for the urgent repairs in the entire association. The NSLBA service will be available remotely (by phone or virtual) by calling our number 781-596-8300. Our office assistant will assist you.

Calendario NSLBA de talleres, reuniones, y reuniones redes, y sociales

NSLBA Calendar of workshops, meetings, Network, social meetings.

MAY-MAYO 2022

5/24/2022 - Fundamentos para la Creación de Empresas. Taller Empresarial I.

Fundamentals for the Creation of Companies. Business Workshop I
/ Presento por / "Eastern Bank"

5/31/2022 - Comprendiendo los Estados Financieros Taller Empresarial II / Understanding Financial Statements Business Workshop II

Presento por / "Eastern Bank"
Junio/June 2022

Cambios importantes sobre las redes sociales y como le va a beneficiar (Fecha para ser determinada) /

Important changes about social networks and how it will benefit you (TBD)

Presento por / Zanibel Melo "Higher Dreams"

Wed/Thurs 06/28/2022 @ 3:00PM

Sesion Informativa de Inmigración / Immigration Info Sesion

Presentado por: (Abogados & Organizaciones de Inmigración miembros de la Asociación / Presented by:

Immigration Attornies & Organization members of the NSLBA)

Taller "Conozca Sus Derechos en el campo laboral /

Workshop: "Know you Rights" in the labor field

Presento por / Presented by: Abogada/Attorney

P. Andrea Coral - CORAL LAW PC
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Pasadia Anual @ Salem Willows / NSLBA Annual Outing

Friday/Viernes 08/12/2022
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Sept.2022

GALA de la Asociación / NSLBA 11th GALA
(Date TBD/ Fecha Sera Anunciada)