

# THE LYNN JOURNAL

Thursday, July 21, 2022

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## Lynn Tech graduate Leah Cole Allen seeks lieutenant governor's position

By Cary Shuman

Leah Cole Allen, a 2007 graduate of Lynn Tech High School, is running a highly visible and dynamic campaign for lieutenant governor in the Republican state primary scheduled for Sept. 6.

Allen is a running mate to gubernatorial candidate Geoff Diehl, with whom she served in the Legislature as a state representative from 2013 to 2015.

"We're supporting each other in the campaign, hoping that we both will win the primary in September and then go on to be a ticket in November," said Allen.

A Registered Nurse (RN), Allen launched her campaign in March. She explained the impetus for her decision to return to elective politics.

"The pandemic opened my eyes to a lot of policies that I didn't agree with," said Allen. "I thought the government really overstepped. Granted, in the beginning of the pandemic, nobody

**Leah Cole Allen.**

knew what was happening, it was new to everybody. The two weeks to slow the spread and figure out what was going on, I could even go along with that.

"But as the data started changing and we started learning more about the pandemic, the government overreached. It just went way too far, and a lot of it – like the curfew they instituted, that didn't make sense - COVID

doesn't know what time it is. The fact that they had arbitrary re-openings of businesses – it really bothered me that nobody was questioning the narrative surrounding the pandemic."

Allen has also spoken out against the government mandate for taking COVID-19 vaccinations.

"It's a very new shot, and the data is still being recorded on it," said Allen. "People have a lot of religious objections to it. I was pregnant during the pandemic, I worked on a COVID floor in the hospital and took care of COVID patients when there was no vaccine available, and I decided I didn't want to take it.

"Because of the government mandate, even during the nursing shortage, I was let go from my job at Beverly Hospital," said Allen.

Allen, 33, has carried forth her philosophy about government that helped her win election as state representative.

**Leah Cole Allen (third from left, front row) is pictured with her Lynn Tech High School classmates on the day of the Class of 2007 Graduation Exercises at the school.**

"I want to see the government work more efficiently for the people that pay into it and the people that it represents," said Allen. "I want to make sure that we're good stewards of people's tax dollars."

She is confident that Massachusetts voters will support a Diehl-Allen ticket in the election.

"I think that Beacon Hill needs a balance," said Allen. "Our state legislature is obviously a super majority of Democrats, and they're getting much more progressive. I think to counteract that, we need strong conservative leadership in the corner office."

### Proud of her Lynn background

The daughter of Chuck Cole and Mary Cole, Allen grew up in Lynn and attended the Shoemaker Elementary School and Pickering Middle School.

"From an early age, my parents instilled in me an appreciation for the values of hard work, personal responsibility, and caring for others," said Allen, whose sister, Deena Cole, a Lynn English graduate, is married to local funeral director Joel Solimine, a member of one of Lynn's most well-known and philanthropic families.

At Lynn Tech, Allen was a highly respected student leader and became a member of the varsity cheerleading team.

She considered specializing in the Tech nursing program, "but when I tried out the TV media program, I liked that, too, so I went into that – and then ultimately after graduation, I went back to nursing and became an LPN and then an RN."

She has great memories of her

Please see ALLEN Page 3

## Looking into King's Beach water problems

Special to the Journal

With the summer in full swing, efforts to improve the water quality at King's Beach are ramping up.

The beach, which has continuously faced the issue of elevated bacteria levels, is an area of focus for state agencies, Lynn and Swampscott officials, and nonprofits such as Save the Harbor/Save the Bay and Friends of Lynn & Nahant Beach.

Testing is underway to potentially narrow down the source of the contamination. For years, two pipes—one in Lynn and one in Swampscott—have discharged groundwater and stormwater runoff into the ocean, particularly

after heavy rainfall. Wet weather conditions can unpredictably wash surface pollutants into the storm drain system and contaminate the flow from the stormwater outfalls onto the beach, but dry weather contaminants are being looked into as well.

Kleinfelder, a company of engineers, scientists and construction professionals who provide solutions to improve water, energy and other infrastructure, is working with the City of Lynn, the Lynn Water and Sewer Commission (LWSC) and the Town of Swampscott on the King's Beach Water Quality Engineering Study, which will identify and analyze alternative approaches to alleviate the wa-

ter quality issues.

The study will analyze six alternatives: source elimination through infrastructure improvements (e.g. rehabilitation of sewers and drains); pumping dry weather base flow to LWSC wastewater treatment plant; disinfection with chemical addition such as chlorine; disinfection with ultraviolet light; extending the outfall deeper into the ocean; or relocating the outfall along the shore where there is no public beach.

A steering committee, which includes representatives from the Town of Swampscott, the City of Lynn, LWSC, regulatory agencies,

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# EDITORIAL

## REVERE BEACH SAND SCULPTING FESTIVAL IS THIS WEEKEND

One of the premier events (if not THE premier event) of the summer season in the Metropolitan Boston area will take place this coming weekend with the 18th annual Revere Beach International Sand Sculpting Festival from July 22-24.

The theme for this year's festival is "Wonders of the World" and will feature an event centerpiece depicting the world's most famous landmarks.

As always, the festival will be highlighted by a competition among 15 master sand sculptors from across the country and the world -- this year's competitors will come from as far away as Poland, Belgium, the Netherlands, Japan, and Hawaii -- who will vie for the 2022 title and prizes. There are awards both from a panel of judges and the peoples' choice, who will choose from a dazzling display of artistic creations that truly will amaze and transcend what one might think of as being possible with sand and water.

All three days will feature live musical entertainment, food trucks, specialty food vendors (as well as Revere's Beach's own iconic establishments!), exhibitors, and amusement rides that will provide fun for the entire family starting at 10:00 a.m. each day.

A spectacular fireworks display will be the climactic event of Saturday evening's festivities at 9:00 p.m.

It is estimated that with the good weather that is being predicted for the weekend (as we are writing this, sunny and hot is the forecast for all three days), up to one million visitors will journey to Revere Beach to partake of this truly unique event.

Needless to say, the best means for getting to the festival will be via the MBTA. The Blue Line will bring festival-goers to the Revere Beach and Wonderland stops, which are just a short walk (literally a few minutes) to the sands of Revere Beach itself. In addition, free parking and shuttle service to the T will be available at Suffolk Downs.

As always, the Sand Sculpting Festival, which is spearheaded by the Revere Beach Partnership in cooperation with the City of Revere and the DCR, is free-of-charge.

We urge all of our readers to make the trek to Revere Beach, our nation's first public beach, this weekend with their friends and family to partake in the fun of this unique event that will create memories that will last a lifetime.

## GUEST OP-ED

### Brittney Griner – Let's all stay out of Russia

Dr. Glenn Mollette

Brittney Griner is an American basketball star on trial in a courtroom outside of Moscow. She is a prisoner of Russia and is facing a possible prison sentence on drug charges.

Griner recently pled guilty after Russian authorities accused her of having a vape cartridge with hashish oil in her luggage at an airport near Moscow on February 17, 2022. The guilty plea could potentially accelerate her case's conclusion, clearing a path for either a deal with the United States to free her or, perhaps, a request for clemency.

The harshest outcome could be a 10-year sentence in a Russian penal colony despite the contention by Griner's lawyers that she packed the smoking cartridges by mistake.

Brittney Griner is an American professional basketball player for the Phoenix Mercury of the Women's National Basketball Association, WNBA. She played College basketball for the Baylor Lady Bears in Waco Texas. She is the only NCAA basketball player to both score 2,000 points and block 500 shots. In 2012,

the three-time All American was named the AP Player of the Year and the Most Outstanding Player of the Final Four.

In 2009, Griner was named the nation's No. 1 high school women's basketball player by Rivals.com. In 2013, Griner signed an endorsement deal with Nike. She is 6 ft 9 inches tall and wears a men's U.S. size 17 shoe.

Griner was on the United States women's Olympic team in 2016, and led them to victory at the Rio Olympics. In 2020, Griner protested the Star-Spangled Banner and stated she wouldn't be on the court while the national anthem was played during game openers. In 2021, Griner was named to the United States women's national team for the 2020 Olympics where she won her second gold medal. (Wikipedia)

Griner is one of 11 women to receive an Olympic gold medal, an NCAA championship, a FIBA World Cup gold medal and a WNBA championship.

In February 2022, Griner was detained by Russian Customs after cartridges containing hashish was found in her luggage. She had been entering Russia to play with the Russia Premier League during the WNBA offseason.

Her trial began on July 1, and she pled guilty to the charges.

Paul Whelan is another American citizen currently held as a prisoner in Russia. On June 15, 2020 he received a 16-year prison sentence with the possibility of time in a labor camp. He is described as a corporate security director.

There is conversation that a prisoner swap could be a possibility for freeing Griner and Whelan. Most Americans are not excited about releasing a dangerous criminal. However, we are prayerful that something will be worked out for Griner and Whelan's release.

I would hope all Americans might consider staying out of Russia. The prospects of any financial reward or seeing new geography are not worth the consequences.

*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.*

## GUEST OP-ED

### Tick Talk

By Marianne Dalton, RN

Today, we are going to talk about ticks: where they breed, what can be done to reduce the risk of harboring ticks on your property, tick-borne illnesses, personal protection for you and your pets against ticks, and how to properly remove a tick.

Ticks are tiny pests that live in dark, thick vegetation, wooded areas, or places where the grass is not mowed. They latch onto people, pets and even clothing, and often evade detection due to their minuscule size.

To maximize a tick-unfriendly environment in your backyard, the following are suggested:

- Keep your lawn mowed, with no more than 2 inches of growth.
- Don't place playsets/picnic tables closer than 3 feet from

wooded areas. Create a 3-foot buffer zone between picnic table and play areas, consisting of gravel, mulch, and wood chips.

- Keep leaves raked and do regular weeding around trees and shrubs.

- Trim plants, shrubs, and bushes to allow more sunlight into the depths of the plant. Ticks don't like dry, sunny areas.

- Make your yard tick-hostile: ensure that mice and rodents do not have woodpiles or stone walls where they can set up housekeeping. Ticks love to attach to rodents.

- Move any bird feeders or bird baths as far from the house as possible. Birds are lovely to look at, but immature ticks hitch rides on them. Use binoculars to watch the birds from afar.

For more information, follow

the links below:

(<https://www.mass.gov/service-details/tick-management-around-the-home>)

([https://www.cdc.gov/ticks/avoid/in\\_the\\_yard.html](https://www.cdc.gov/ticks/avoid/in_the_yard.html)).

I won't attempt an exhaustive list of all the tick-borne illnesses. However, the black-legged (deer) tick carries Lyme disease. All the tick-borne illnesses have common symptoms: fever, headache, fatigue, muscle aches. Since all those symptoms can be linked to any number of ailments, it is best to see your healthcare provider. He or she can evaluate if the symptoms are tick related.

(<https://www.mass.gov/service-details/diseases-spread-by-ticks>).

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## Allen CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

upbringing in the city.

“I loved having my friends in Lynn, especially when I got to high school and had the support network that the teachers gave to their students – I thought it was incredible,” said Allen. “I’m still in touch with my media teacher, Don Hussey. He attended my wedding and came to the Statehouse and took photos when I was first sworn in as state representative. I made lifelong connections at Tech, and the teachers at the school are amazing. Mr. Hussey is an incredible educator.”

After high school, Allen received her certification as a licensed practical nurse LPN.

Leah is married to Ryan Allen, a union elevator mechanic. They have two young children.

### Winning election as state representative

At the age of 24, Leah Cole Allen decided to run for state representative in a special election in Peabody.

Allen stunned the political es-

tablishment by defeating a sitting school committee member and city councilor in the election.

“I think it was that I’m really just a regular person and at that time, I was talking about the fact that the state was wasting all kinds of money,” said Allen. “There were reports that the state couldn’t account for funds in different state departments. Then-Governor Deval Patrick proposed the biggest tax increase in the history of Massachusetts, and I thought, ‘hey, wait a minute, I’m working at a nursing home, doing 16-hour shifts trying to pay off my student and car loans – I don’t want to pay any more taxes. Just talking about that resonated with a lot of people and that’s what brought me back into politics. I saw things in this state that I thought we could do better.’”

Allen was re-elected to the position in 2014 before deciding to step down from the House and return to school and finish her RN degree requirements.

## Op-Ed CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

How should one prepare to go outside during tick season? It’s not welcome news to hear “wear long sleeves and long pants” during summer weather. However, there are precautions (and compromises) one can make when venturing forth into the great outdoors:

- Wear light-colored clothing, on which ticks are more visible.
- Wear long-sleeved shirts and pants, with white socks pulled up over the pants bottoms (bad for fashionistas, good for tick avoidance).
- Treat clothing with the chemical permethrin (EPA approved for tick repellent, on clothing only).
- For any repellent, always read product labels before applying, to ensure proper use and effectiveness.

When returning from your outside excursion, check your body for ticks. Check children and pets as well. Ticks gravitate to areas of the body that are warm and dark, such as in or around hair, belly buttons, ears, underarms, groins, waists, etc. Talk to your vet about tick prevention products for your pet.

(<https://www.cdc.gov/ticks/avoid/index.html>).

If you follow all the above instructions, and you find a tick

with its jaws attached to your flesh anyway, don’t panic. There are a few things to remember when removing a tick.

Don’t coat it with petroleum jelly or touch a recently blown-out match head to its body. Ticks have delicate nervous systems, and when stressed by suffocation from Vaseline or barbecue by matchhead, the critters react by regurgitating their saliva into your bloodstream. This is in effect the tick vaccinating you with any number of tick-borne diseases. This is to be avoided.

The correct way to remove a tick, from either yourself, a child, or your pet:

- Get clean tweezers.
- Grab hold of the tick as close to the skin as possible.
- Pull straight up, slowly, and steadily. Twisting will behead the tick with his jaws still under your skin.

• After removal, wash the area with alcohol, iodine or soap and water. (<https://www.mass.gov/service-details/personal-protection-against-ticks>).

You are now equipped with all you need to know for a safe, tick-free rest of the summer!

Don’t forget the sunblock!

*Marianne Dalton, RN, is a member of the Winthrop Board of Health*

## Temporary overnight lane closures on Route 107

The Massachusetts Department of Transportation (MassDOT) is announcing there will be overnight construction operations and temporary lane closures on Route 107 (Highland Avenue/Western Avenue) from Victory Road in Lynn to Colby Street in Salem. The work will be conducted nightly, Sunday night through Thursday night, from 8:00 p.m. to 5:00 a.m., ending on Thursday, July 28. A minimum of one travel lane in each direction will be maintained at all times. The temporary lane closures are necessary to allow the contractor to safely and effectively perform roadway paving.

## King’s Beach CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

public interest groups and consultants are serving in an advisory capacity and facilitating the direction of the study. All discussions and recommendations will be considered, but the Town of Swampscott and City of Lynn are jointly responsible for selecting the final preferred approach.

“We are taking a collaborative approach to address a regional problem,” said Lynn Mayor Jared C. Nicholson. “There are no easy answers, but all the key stakeholders have come together to work on what we hope will be long-term solutions.”

“I am extremely pleased with the regional collaboration and efforts to address the challenges with King’s Beach,” said Swampscott Town Administrator Sean Fitzgerald. “While both Swampscott and Lynn have spent millions on incremental improvements to our infrastructure, we are currently evaluating options that will provide for a major capital investment to address these challenges.”

LWSC is also taking additional steps to make improvements in the near-term. In November, it approved \$92,000 to work with Environmental Partners, an environmental engineering consulting firm. Consultants from the firm are working to address major infrastructure improvements to the city’s sewage and storm drain system. They are also helping the city to develop and implement an Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination (IDDE) plan.

Based on initial testing, LWSC approved an additional \$236,000 for follow-up testing—particularly in the 11 sites (out of 36) that had elevated bacteria levels. The additional testing should also help determine how much of the bacteria is enterococci/fecal contaminants and how much is coming from

Appropriate signage, law enforcement details, and messaging will be in place to guide drivers through the work area.

Drivers who are traveling through the affected areas should expect delays, reduce speed, and use caution.

All scheduled work is weather dependent and subject to change without notice.

This work is part of a \$4.1 million resurfacing and improvement project along a section of Route 107 (Highland Avenue/Western Avenue) in the cities of Lynn and Salem.

For more information on traffic

conditions travelers are encouraged to:

- Dial 511 and select a route to hear real-time conditions.

- Visit [www.mass511.com](http://www.mass511.com), a website which provides real-time traffic and incident advisory information, and allows users to subscribe to text and email alerts for traffic conditions.

- Follow MassDOT on Twitter @MassDOT to receive regular updates on road and traffic conditions.

- Download MassDOT’s Go-Time mobile app and view real-time traffic conditions before setting out on the road.

soaps, urine or personal care items.

LWSC Executive Director Daniel O’Neill said the team has been investigating four of the sections over the past few weeks, with no new leads. For example, a storm drain at the intersection of Marianna Street and Fiske Avenue had a higher bacteria count, but no source could be found at nearby homes.

“We had a contractor ready to go in case an older sewer pipe hadn’t been converted, but that wasn’t the case,” said O’Neill.

Prior to 1985, when Lynn’s \$65 million wastewater treatment facility opened, sewer pipes and storm drains were connected to Stacey’s Brook, which emptied into King’s Beach. That is no longer the case, but the city is doing its due diligence to make sure no sewer-to-pipe connections were missed.

Last year, King’s Beach had one of the lowest water quality scores. Based on Save the Harbor/Save the Bay’s annual Metropolitan Beaches Water Quality Report Card for the 2021 beach season, it placed 14th of out 15 Boston metropolitan beaches, with 68 percent of water samples being compliant with the Massachusetts Department of Public Health’s single sample limit for bacteria.

Stacey’s Brook generally has the highest levels of bacteria, and beachgoers are advised not to swim or wade in the brook. On the beach itself, the Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) posts daily flags for “safe to swim” (blue) and “not safe to swim” (red).

Sen. Brendan Crighton (D-Lynn), who co-chairs the Metropolitan Beaches Commission, is optimistic that the tide could be changing, so to speak, in regards to the future of King’s Beach.

“We’ve been working on this issue and pushing for funding for

over a decade, and only recently were we able to get a good chunk of money,” said Crighton, who has been a vocal advocate, along with Rep. Dan Cahill, Rep. Peter Capano, former state Rep. Lori Ehrlich, Congressman Seth Moulton and Ward 3 Councilor Coco Alinsug.

In December, the state delegation was able to secure \$5.3 million for King’s Beach through the American Rescue Plan Act. The funding is to be shared between the City of Lynn and Town of Swampscott.

“I’m down there all the time and Long Beach fills up, but it’s a wasted resource for King’s to be un-swimmable,” said Crighton. “Our beaches could be such an attraction for all to enjoy.”

Both Crighton and Chris Mancini, executive director of Save the Harbor/Save the Bay, call it an environmental justice issue.

Mancini has been with Save the Harbor/Save the Bay since 2017 and is proud to represent the region’s leading voice for clean water and continued public investment in Boston Harbor and the region’s public beaches. The organization led the effort to virtually eliminate both combined sewer overflows and stormwater discharges into North Dorchester Bay, making the South Boston beaches some of the cleanest urban beaches in the country. Mancini moved to Swampscott with the hope of playing a role in a similar turnaround story.

“Hopefully this will be part of my legacy,” he said.

Mancini says that although some of the solutions could be costly and time-consuming—even requiring a waiver from the Environmental Protection Agency—the end results would be worth it.

“If contamination continues to be there, the least we can do is get it away from people,” he said.

## LOCAL STUDENTS EARN ACADEMIC HONORS

### BELLIVEAU GRADUATES FROM ROGER WILLIAMS UNIVERSITY

Roger Williams University is proud to announce that Julia Belliveau, of Lynn graduated Cum Laude with a B.S. in Marketing in May as part of the Class of 2022.

About RWU: At Roger Williams University, students are prepared to be thinkers and doers ready to solve challenging problems with innovative solutions. RWU offers 50 majors and robust offerings of graduate and professional programs across eight schools of study including Rhode Island's only law school, with campuses on the coast of Bristol and in the heart of Providence, R.I.

### BELLIVEAU EARNS SPRING 2022 DEAN'S LIST HONORS

Julia Belliveau, of Lynn has been named to the Spring 2022 Dean's List at Roger Williams University, in Bristol, R.I. Full-time students who complete 12

or more credits per semester and earn a grade point average of 3.4 or higher are placed on the Dean's List that semester.

About RWU: At Roger Williams University, students are prepared to be thinkers and doers ready to solve challenging problems with innovative solutions. RWU offers 50 majors and robust offerings of graduate and professional programs across eight schools of study including Rhode Island's only law school, with campuses on the coast of Bristol and in the heart of Providence, R.I. With small classrooms and a focus on undergraduate and graduate research and community engagement, a Roger Williams education blends the strength of liberal arts and professional studies, providing all students with the depth and breadth of interdisciplinary thinking and well-rounded knowledge necessary to succeed in our interconnected, global world. RWU is committed to strengthening society through engaged scholarship so that students graduate with the ability to think critically and apply the practical skills that today's employers demand.

# Lynn community leader elected to United Way's Board of Directors

United Way of Massachusetts Bay and Merrimack Valley announced the eight members recently elected to serve on the organization's Board of Directors. The region's largest United Way partners with communities to be a force of economic justice so that all residents can thrive. The Board of Directors provides strategic leadership for the organization to help ensure financially vulnerable individuals and families have access to resources and support to achieve prosperity.

"We are so excited to welcome the new members of our Board of Directors, eight community leaders with successful and influential careers in finance, education, healthcare, and science, who have each demonstrated their commitment to community service and improving the lives of households across the area," said Bob Giannino, President and CEO at United Way of Massachusetts Bay and Merrimack Valley. "I look forward to the leadership and expertise of these

new Board members as United Way continues to reposition our community impact agenda to best address the profound inequities persisting throughout our region."

Richard H. Moche currently serves as Chair of the Board and Tammi Wortham is Vice Chair. Each of the new members will serve a three-year term ending in 2025.

Magnolia Contreras works at Dana-Farber Cancer Institute as Vice President of Community Health, a role in which she is charged with helping the organization execute its community benefits mission through the delivery of evidence-based cancer prevention, screening, and early detection programs. Magnolia is incredibly active in community service and social justice issues in her hometown of Lynn, Mass., and has numerous awards and recognitions for her professional and volunteer endeavors.

United Way of Massachusetts Bay and Merrimack Valley is a

leading civic engagement organization dedicated to responding to our region's most pressing issues like housing stability, economic mobility, healthy child development and educational success. We listen and work with communities to identify areas of greatest need and innovative approaches to address them, and then mobilize donors and corporate partners to provide resources to create positive lasting change. We have a vision and a mandate to empower stronger, more equitable communities, and we have the scale and reach to help. Our deep partnerships with hundreds of nonprofit organizations, state and municipal leaders, and businesses make us the region's go-to mobilizer to address urgent needs and activate comprehensive, long-term solutions. More information is available at [unitedwaymassbay.org](http://unitedwaymassbay.org). Follow us @unitedwaymabay and #LiveUnited.

# Essex County Habitat for Humanity welcomes new board members

Essex County Habitat for Humanity welcomes two new members to its board of directors.

Adrian Burgos joins the board with more than 15 years of experience in the corporate and financial regulatory industries. With degrees in Banking and Financial Law as well as Insurance Law, Mr. Burgos is an invaluable addition and will continue to serve on the Diversity and Inclusion and the Family Selection Committees.

Additionally, Diane McClintock brings 30+ years in finance and accounting with the last 10+ years in a leadership role at a \$5B company enabling her to contribute to the organization not only from the finance side, but also from a business perspective and a fundraising standpoint. Ms. McClintock explains, "I deeply believe in the mission and support the goal that everyone should have access to affordable housing," and she is looking forward to participating in Essex County Habitat's newest development in her hometown of Hamilton.

Essex County Habitat for Hu-

manity is a nonprofit builder of affordable homes. Established in 2020, following a merger between Merrimack Valley Habitat for Humanity and North Shore Habitat for Humanity, they serve families across all of Essex County. As the local affiliate of Habitat for Humanity International, the largest nonprofit homebuilder in the world with a network of over 2,100 branches, Essex County Habitat builds decent, safe, and affordable homes in partnership with the families who need them. Each partner family works alongside volunteers to build their home. The affiliate has delivered on their mission for over 150 families to date.

To help fund their work, Essex County Habitat operates a ReStore, located in Lawrence, where they sell quality new and previously owned furniture, appliances, building materials, and homegoods at greatly reduced prices. To donate, volunteer, or learn more, please visit [EssexCountyHabitat.org](http://EssexCountyHabitat.org).



Adrian Burgos.



Diane McClintock.

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# LYNN SILVERBACKS HOLD AWARDS BANQUET

PHOTOS BY CARY SHUMAN

The Lynn SilverBacks youth football program held its award banquet for its 2022 season Sunday at Hibernian Hall.

Lynn coaches presented awards to the players who compete for the team in the New England Youth Tackle Football League.

Several of the players will be moving on to the East Lynn and West Lynn Pop Warner programs for the 2022 fall season.



The players for the Lynn Silverbacks U-8 football team are pictured with coaches Chaiya Chan, Jordan Lark, and Jerome Best after receiving their awards at the banquet.



Leaders of the Lynn Silverbacks youth football organization, Petey Dow, Vice President Andrew Mumbauer, Coach Jordan Lark, and School Committee member Lennin Pena.



Coach Spiro Lamberis presents the Coach Duke Wilson Offensive Player Award to Allen Chandler at the Lynn SilverBacks awards banquet.



The Lynn SilverBacks 10-Under football players are pictured with Coaches Eddie Owens-Finch, Brian Berry, Allen Chandler, Jose Quintana, Scott Rowe, and Kenny Green Jr. after receiving their awards at the banquet.



Petey Dow Award recipient Yariel Pena, Coach Brian Berry, and Coach Petey Dow.



Coach Brian Berry presents the Leadership Award for the 10-Under team to Geo Rowe.



Coach Kenny Jr., award recipient Yariel Pena, Coach Jose Quintana, and Lennin Pena.



Lynn SilverBacks U-8 award recipients (from left), Austin Collazo (Leadership), Dominic Castaldo (Duke Wilson Offensive Player Award), Nevaeh Best (Coach Spiro Defensive Player Award), and Jasper Soto (Petey Dow Overcoming Adversity Award), pictured with Coaches Petey Dow, Jordan Lark, and Spiro Lamberis.

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# SEAN STELLATO'S ALL-AMERICAN FOOTBALL SHOWCASE MOVES TO BERTRAM FIELD

With Lynn's Manning Field undergoing renovations, NFL agent Sean Stellato moved his All-American Football Funda-

mental Showcase to Bertram Field this year.

The players participated in instructional drills under the di-

rection of Stellato, a former Salem High quarterback and Marist College two-sport athlete, and other coaches, including former

New England Patriots players Jonas Gray and Obi Melifonwu, and Jacksonville Jaguars rookie quarterback E.J. Perry.

Sean's brother, current Lynn Tech assistant coach Mike Stellato, also served as an instructor at the showcase.

PHOTOS BY CARY SHUMAN



Sean Stellato welcomes new Salem High Athletic Director Reilly Christie to the football showcase Sunday at Bertram Field.



Sean Stellato chats with E.J. Perry, the record-setting Brown University quarterback who is pursuing an NFL career with the Jacksonville Jaguars organization.



Winthrop High quarterback Robert Noonan (center) and his brother, Michael Noonan, meet Jacksonville Jaguars quarterback E.J. Perry at the All-American Football Fundamental Showcase Sunday at Bertram Field.



Michael Stellato, with former Lynn Classical football standout Rasi Chau, who is a coach with the Boston Renegades women's professional football team.




Sean Stellato, with three of his clients, Joan Gray, E.J. Perry, and Obi Melifonwu, at the All-American Football Fundamental Showcase Sunday at Bertram Field in Salem.



NFL player agent Sean Stellato and his brother, Lynn Tech assistant football coach Mike Stellato.



Former St. Mary's head football coach Mike Stellato is pictured with James Buckley, who played on Stellato's undefeated 2005 Super Bowl champion Spartans' team.


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# Welcoming disabled veteran back into his home after it gets full rehab

After almost of year of construction, Vincent Gunning is moving back home. Mr. Gunning is a disabled Vietnam Veteran and retired postal carrier, who lost his leg in 2002. Relying on a prosthetic leg had made it difficult for him to manage the upkeep of his house which had been in his family for generations. With only one bathroom upstairs and peeling linoleum on the floors, living in his house had become unsafe.

But Essex County Habitat for Humanity stepped in to help last summer. Through their Aging in Place program, along with crews of volunteers and generous donors, they have thoroughly rehabbed the house. Now with a bedroom and accessible bathroom on the first floor, as well as a ramp to the side door, a new roof, updated electrical and heating, and much more, the house is ready for Vincent to return home with all his memories

and family history. His return was celebrated in a Home Dedication at the home on Southside Ave in Lynn on July 12. Over 30 people who helped with the project, including the volunteers who worked over 3700 hours on the build site, donors who gave financially as well as building materials, and professionals who provided services pro-bono, were in attendance to view the final results of their labor, to wish Vincent well, and to have a piece of cake!

Essex County Habitat for Humanity is a nonprofit builder of affordable homes. Established in 2020, following a merger between Merrimack Valley Habitat for Humanity and North Shore Habitat for Humanity, they serve families across all of Essex County. As the local affiliate of Habitat for Humanity International, the largest nonprofit homebuilder in the world with a network of over 2,100 branches, Essex County Habitat builds decent, safe, and affordable homes in partnership with the families who need them. Each partner family works alongside volunteers to build their home. The affiliate has delivered on their mission for over 150 families to date.

To help fund their work, Essex County Habitat operates a Re-Store, located in Lawrence, where they sell quality new and previously owned furniture, appliances, building materials, and home-goods at greatly reduced prices. To donate, volunteer, or learn more, please visit [EssexCountyHabitat.org](http://EssexCountyHabitat.org).



Homeowner Vincent Gunning with Essex County Habitat Board President Richard Sumberg.



Fully rehabbed home during the Home Dedication.

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Concert Updates:



### 2022 RED ROCK PARK SUMMER ENTERTAINMENT SCHEDULE

- July 21: Shuffle Mode
- July 28: All That 90's
- Aug 4: Richie "Rich" & 24 Karat Funk
- Aug 11: White Lightnin'
- Aug 18: 12:01 Blues Band
- Aug 19: \*\*Movie Night: Encanto\*\*



All concerts are from 6:00 pm to 8:00pm

\*\* Aug 19th movie starts at 8:00pm \*\*

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Friends of Lynn & Nahant Beach :: [www.lynn-nahantbeach.org](http://www.lynn-nahantbeach.org)

### LYNN HONORS RASHIDA ELLIS

### Free Nurse Assistant/Home Health Aide training available at NSCC



City of Lynn Officials with State Senator Brendan Crighton and State Rep. Daniel Cahill recognized Rashida Ellis, who is pictured with her family.



Rashida showing off her City of Lynn plaque and citations

The City of Lynn honored Olympian and World Lightweight Gold Class Boxer Champion Rashida Ellis.

Ward 6 Councilor Fred Hogan introduced Lynn resident Rashida Ellis by saying, "We recognize State champions, West Lynn Pop Warner National Championship, and tonight we are recognizing a World Champion. How does that sound to have a World Champion from Lynn, Massachusetts?"

Mayor Jared Nicholson announced a permanent recognition for Rashida Ellis for what she has done for the City of Lynn as he said. "We are going to display a sign saying the "City of Lynn Home of Rashida Ellis World Champion Boxer" on the corner of Western Avenue and Victory Road,"

As everyone cheered for Rashida, she said, "I want to thank you for this honor; this is only the beginning for me. I am preparing for the 2024 Olympics and proud to be from the City of Lynn.

Free Nurse Assistant/Home Health Aide training will be available to eligible students this summer and fall through North Shore Community College's (NSCC) Division of Corporate and Professional Education.

Funding for this initiative was made possible by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts after a study showed "changes in the economic landscape will mean that expansive workforce training will be needed to connect workers with the skills they need for the future economy, with potentially 300,000-400,000 people needing to transition to different occupations or occupational categories over the next decade." In response to the findings of the report, the Commonwealth established a reserve of funds to support high-demand workforce training programs to be distributed to community colleges around the state.

Dr. Dianne Palter Gill, Dean of the NSCC's Division of Corporate and Professional Education noted that

"NSCC is grateful for this funding as it will allow folks to increase their skills and marketability and will provide local employers with the trained workforce they desperately need. We will launch our first program this summer, a Nurse Assistant/Home Health Aide course which prepares students for the Commonwealth's Nurse Assistant certification exam.

"All Nurse Assistants in Massachusetts must be certified by

the state. The health care industry is in dire need of certified Nurse Assistants and this program gives people an opportunity to increase their skill level and grow professionally. The ability to offer this course, at no cost to the student, is a rare opportunity." Palter Gill noted.

Funds will cover the course fee, the state certification exam fee along with textbooks, uniform, tutoring, coaching, a stipend upon successful completion of the course and another stipend once the individual has secured a position as a Certified Nurse Assistant, and more.

The FREE Nurse Assistant/Home Health Aide course, beginning July 26, will take place on NSCC's Danvers campus followed by another FREE Nurse Assistant/Home Health Aide course beginning on September 12, that will take place on NSCC's Lynn campus. Attend a free information session for more details. Schedule and registration link found here. <https://tinyurl.com/5khzvuaa> Free Community Health Worker and Help Desk Support Professional programs will also be launching in the near future.

Eligibility for the free programs must be determined before registration may be completed. For additional information please contact Denise Deschamps, Corporate and Professional Education

Training Program Grant Manager, at 978-236-1203 or [ddescham@northshore.edu](mailto:ddescham@northshore.edu).

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## STATE CHAMPION LYNN BABE RUTH TEAM HELPING OUT IN THE COMMUNITY



Pictured at the LHAND Cookout are Chris Marks, City Councilor Dianna Chakoutis, Executive Director Charles Gaeta, Rick Avery, Christian Figueroa, Josh Domey, Jaiden Driscoll, and Shea Newhall. The Lynn Babe Ruth All-Star team is heading to the New England Regionals in Keene, N.H.



Members of the state champion Lynn Babe Ruth team volunteered their services at the LHAND Cookout. Pictured above with Mayor Jared Nicholson and Lynn Coach Rich Avery are (from left) Shea Newhall, Christian Figueroa, Chris Marks, Jaiden Driscoll, Richie Avery, Josh Domey, and Nick Marks.

## Silver Lining Solutions Nursing Home hold appreciation ice cream social

In appreciation for all of the outstanding work our Life Care Center, North Shore care givers, on 111 Birch Street, Lynn, have provided over the past several years and also to provide the Life Care Center residents with a refreshing break from the summer routine, Silver Lining Solutions held an ice cream social on Thursday July 14.



Ice cream was provided for the residents and staff.

Silver Lining Solutions President Darcia Tremblay and her dedicated staff of Medicaid Case Managers made a brief presentation providing information and appreciation to over 100 hundred residents and members of the staff. They all saved room for ice cream as Darcia and her staff scooped up a variety of tasty ice cream flavors and topped them off with hot fudge, strawberries, sprinkles and whipped cream.

Silver Lining Solutions is a professional services firm that provides Medicaid application assistance throughout New England. Located in Topsfield, MA Silver Lining Solutions with over 12 years of service has processed thousands of Medicaid applications and has maintained a 98%

approval rating. We monitor the spend down, provide full disclosure of the Patient Paid Amount (PPA) at the initial meeting, manage all notices, process all documents, confirm all verifications are submitted in a timely manner and send weekly status updates to the nursing facilities.

Our philosophy and approach is based upon a caring, compassionate, and personalized relationship with the residents and families while maintaining open communication with the nursing facilities.

For additional information please visit [www.silverliningsolutionsma.com](http://www.silverliningsolutionsma.com).

## MCU welcomes Elaine Monge

Metro Credit Union, Massachusetts' largest state-chartered credit union, today announced Elaine Monge has re-joined the credit union as Assistant Vice President, Loan Servicing. Metro's Loan Servicing department encompasses all elements of Commercial, Residential, and Consumer loan products.



Elaine Monge.

In her role, Monge will oversee management of the loan servicing process, ensuring compliance and maximizing efficiency. Prior to re-joining Metro Credit Union, Monge was most recently the Chief of Staff for the Office of Consumer Affairs and Business Regulation at the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

"We are very pleased to have Elaine back on the Metro team" said Robert Cashman, Metro Credit Union's President and CEO. "Her skillset and career background from her time at Metro and beyond is very welcomed as she re-joins the Metro team."

Monge received her Associates Degree in Business Management from the New England College of Business and has completed the CORE Management Program with the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. She is skilled in client relations, compliance, strategic planning, and vendor relations.

For more information about Metro Credit Union, please visit [MetroCU.org](http://MetroCU.org) or connect with Metro on LinkedIn.

Metro Credit Union is the largest state-chartered credit union in Massachusetts, with \$2.6 billion in assets. Metro provides a full range of financial products to close to 200,000 members in Barnstable, Bristol, Essex, Franklin, Hampden, Hampshire, Middlesex, Norfolk, Plymouth, Suffolk, and Worcester counties in Massachusetts, and Cheshire, Hillsborough, and Rockingham counties in New Hampshire. Metro is the credit union of choice for employees at over 1,200 companies through its Metro@work program. Founded in 1926.

## Baker-Polito Administration awards \$31 million to 11 affordable housing projects for vulnerable communities

The Baker-Polito Administration awarded more than \$31 million in direct subsidies, tax credits, and housing vouchers, including two projects in Lynn, to support the development and preservation of 11 housing facilities in Massachusetts, including 237 permanent housing units and 200 shelter beds for families and individuals. Since 2015, the Permanent Supportive Housing Program has produced or preserved more than 3,500 permanent supportive housing units for families, individuals, veterans, seniors, and individuals with disabilities.

“Building and preserving supportive housing is a critical part of ensuring a healthy housing market that meets the diverse needs of our Commonwealth,” said Governor Charlie Baker. “We are pleased to direct state and federal funds to bolster the pipeline of housing projects and provide stable housing options for all households.”

Lt. Governor Karyn Polito, Housing and Economic Development Secretary Mike Kennealy, and Housing and Community Development Undersecretary Jennifer Maddox joined Worcester Mayor Joseph M. Petty, Acting Worcester City Manager Eric Batista, representatives from The Community Builders and Central Massachusetts Housing Alliance, and local officials at the Aurora Apartments in Worcester to celebrate this year’s Permanent Supportive Housing Program awards round.

“These awards will provide vital housing resources in cities and towns across our state, and we are proud to support the creation of new shelter and permanent housing units this year,” said Lt. Governor Karyn Polito. “Here in Worcester, the redevelopment of the Aurora Apartments will ensure this building remains a vibrant part of our downtown and offers a unique resource to individuals struggling with housing stability. We are grateful to our partners across the Commonwealth for dedicating their expertise to our most vulnerable populations.”

Each year, the Department of Housing and Community Development works with the Community Economic Development Assistance Corporation (CEDAC) to distribute capital funds as well as project-based housing vouchers to pay for supportive services through a competitive process administered by the agency’s

Supportive Housing for Vulnerable Populations program. These supportive services support veterans, older adults, persons with disabilities, individuals and families who have experienced homelessness, as well as unaccompanied youth. Specialized services may include child care, mental health services, job training, case management, and other services for vulnerable populations.

“In the midst of Massachusetts’ ongoing housing crisis, it is critical that we build and preserve permanent supportive housing that meets the needs of our most vulnerable residents,” said Housing and Economic Development Secretary Mike Kennealy. “Housing has been a key area of focus for the Baker-Polito Administration since day one, and we are continuing that commitment now by directing \$31 million to support 11 housing projects from Springfield to Boston.”

“We have a housing shortage affecting every corner of our Commonwealth, but we also have an incredible opportunity to leverage growing momentum for housing production and immense new state and federal resources,” said Housing and Community Development Undersecretary Jennifer Maddox. “The Department of Housing and Community Development is committed to helping cities and towns plan for housing by providing technical assistance and funding to help projects move from an idea to new homes.”

“CEDAC is proud to collaborate with the Baker-Polito Administration and our non-profit housing partners on these new supportive housing developments, which come at a time of

intense need as the Commonwealth faces an ongoing housing shortage that affects the most vulnerable members of our population,” said Roger Herzog, Executive Director of CEDAC. “We look forward to continuing our work with Undersecretary Jennifer Maddox and her team at the Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) as we pursue our mission to increase housing accessibility for those in need.”

### Award Recipients:

**Catalyst Housing (Lynn):** This is a historic re-use project that will serve homeless and/or extremely low-income individuals, sponsored by the nonprofit Harborlight Community Partners, Inc., working with The Haven Project, Inc. When construction is complete, the project will offer 24 studio units, with 23 units reserved for homeless individuals, including youth and young adults. The sponsor also will offer extensive support services to the new residents of Catalyst Housing. DHCD will support this project with low-income housing tax credits and subsidy funds. The City of Lynn also will support Catalyst Housing with funds of its own.

**Lynn Emergency Shelter (Lynn):** Nonprofit sponsor Lynn Shelter Association will rehab the Lynn Emergency Shelter that will offer 40 beds for homeless adults with extensive support services for residents. DHCD will support the project with subsidy funds. The City of Lynn will support the project with funds of its own, and the sponsor is engaged in an ongoing fundraising campaign in support of this important project.

## OBITUARIES

### Edward Cummiskey

Delta Airlines Retiree

Edward A. Cummiskey, 88, of Lawrenceville, GA, formerly of Lynn, passed away Wednesday, June 29.



Mr. Cummiskey was born in Lynn and was a graduate of Lynn English High School, class of 1953 and East Coast Tech, class of 1959. He was an Army veteran of the Korean War from 1954 to 1957 and served as a helicopter crew chief. He was an aircraft mechanic for most of his 44-year career in the airline industry and retired as a maintenance supervisor at Delta Airlines. He was a Fourth Degree Knight of Columbus since 1960 and an active member of Prince of Peace Catholic Church where he served as a member of the bereavement choir.

He had a passion for aircrafts, ancestry, football, golfing, war history, and classical and military marching music. Mr. Cummiskey was devoted to his family and friends.

He was preceded in death by his wife of 59 years, Elaine (Mariano) Cummiskey, his daughter, Lisa M. Strobel and his parents, Timothy and Mabel (Doyle) Cummiskey of Lynn. Mr. Cummiskey leaves behind a daughter and son-in-law, Kath-



leen and David Horne of Dacula GA; a granddaughter, Samantha Strobel and her fiancé, Beau Martin of Atlanta, GA and nieces, Kim (Kevin) Barry, N. Andover, MA and Karen (Tom) Higgins, Groveland, MA.

The family will receive friends on Wednesday, July 27 from 6 to 8 p.m. at the Flanigan Funeral Home, 4400 S. Lee St., Buford, GA. A Funeral Mass will be celebrated at 12 Noon on Thursday, July 28 at Prince of Peace Church, 6439 Spout Springs Rd., Flowery Branch, GA. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the Wounded Warrior Project. To express condolences, please sign online guest book at [www.flaniganfuneralhome.com](http://www.flaniganfuneralhome.com).

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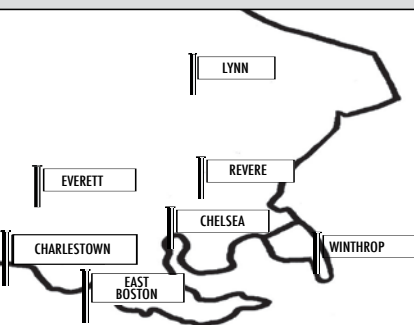
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#### ENTERTAINMENT SCHEDULE

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1PM - 3PM: CHELSEY CARTER MUSIC

4PM - 5:45PM: TRIF3CTA

6:30PM - 9PM: MASSIVE GROOVE BAND

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### SUNDAY, JULY 24

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#### ENTERTAINMENT SCHEDULE

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1PM - 3PM: RICHIE RICH & 24 KARATFUNK

4PM - 7PM: WORLD PREMIER BAND



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