

THE LYNN JOURNAL

Thursday, September 15, 2022

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GOLDFISH POND 42ND FUN N' FLEA MARKET DAY

A bright warm day brought out the people for the 42nd Annual Goldfish Pond fundraiser. An array of rental table space was set up surrounding the pond walkway. Anything and everything were available for one's interest to view, and of course, to purchase an item or two. This traditional fundraising event never disappoints anyone. All proceeds benefit the Goldfish Pond Association to maintain the grounds, purchase flowers, and upkeep the water fountains flowing. Pictured above, Goldfish Pond Association members – Ward 3 Councilor Coco Alinsug, Trish Greene, Sunil Gulab, Ursula Driscoll, Howie Stowe, Dakotah Bontos, Steve Rogers, Nikki Simard, Jacque Fitzhugh, Jackie Berman, and Jill Oliver. See pages 6 and 7 for more photos.

STAR ATTRACTION

All-Scholastic David Brown Jr. leads St. Mary's into Miller Field

By Cary Shuman

It's such an intriguing overall matchup that the fact that two of Hall of Fame coach Tony Fucillo's former assistants – Winthrop's Jon Cadigan and St. Mary's Sean Driscoll – will be coaching against each other Friday night at Miller Field for the first time may not be the No.

1 storyline. David Brown Jr., who was a junior bench assistant when his father, Winthrop Police Officer David Brown Sr., coached the Vikings to the 2011 boys basketball state championship, will be making his return to Winthrop as the featured back on Sean

Please see BROWN Page 12



St. Mary's All-Scholastic running back David Brown runs for a touchdown in the Spartans' 2021 playoff game versus Abington High School. Brown and the Spartans play Winthrop at Miller Field Friday night.

Red Sox honor Jazzy Sportswear of Lynn

On Wednesday, September 14, the Red Sox honored Jazzy Sportswear for over 25 years of service to the Boston Red Sox at the Sox-Yankees game at Fenway Park. The Red Sox franchise has been supporting local small businesses, like Jazzy Sports, as a demonstration of their support of a diverse community supply chain.

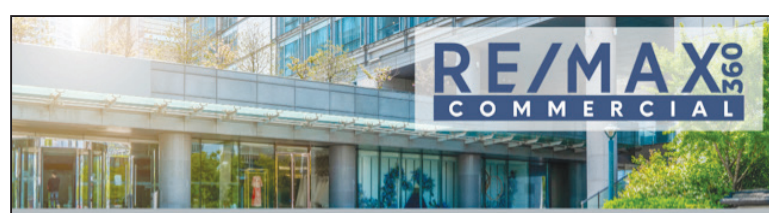
and later resulted in Williams' volunteering for Ron Burton Training Village, an enrichment camp that has served over 9,000 young men and women over the last 33 years in their spiritual, physical and educational growth. The Leadership and STEM Journey programs train villagers over a seven year period, preparing them with skills, mentorship and leadership opportunities.

"It is an honor to be awarded by the Boston Red Sox for my service for over 25 years. Twenty-six years ago, Ron Burton Jr. gave me an opportunity to provide branded products for Red Sox Community Relations," says founder of Jazzy Sportswear, Vincent Williams.

Jazzy Sportswear is located at 110 Broad Street in Lynn, and has been a member of the Lynn Chamber of Commerce since 1990. Vincent Williams modestly accepts this honor and looks forward to supporting the Boston Red Sox and their fans for years to come.



Vincent Williams, founder of Jazzy Sportswear.



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Tentative union agreement would boost pay for Mass. GE Aviation workers hit hard by inflation

The nation's largest union for General Electric workers announced that workers at the company's Lynn factory have secured a new tentative agreement to increase pay and stop management from delaying raises for 540 workers hired since 2016. As a national wave of union worker campaigns spreads to Fortune 500 companies across the country, today's GE union worker deal follows similar examples of union campaigns at Starbucks and Apple successfully pushing companies to also increase pay and benefits for non-union employees.

IUE-CWA Local 201, representing workers at the Lynn plant, announced today that it secured a new tentative agreement to reform a wage progression system implemented by the company in 2016. The system – which the Union has been chipping away at since 2019 – could have forced

workers to wait 10 or more years before being eligible for the top pay rate at the facility, regardless of skills or productivity.

The deal is a massive win for workers, making them eligible for the top pay raise after 6 years, 40-60% sooner than the 2016 system, along with immediate increases in pay for workers on the progression. In 2019, the Union reached a 7-year progression, and if today's new tentative agreement is approved, no worker at the GE Lynn plant will have ever had to work over 6 years to reach the top pay rate.

The IUE-CWA deal additionally guarantees that Lynn's GE Aviation union workers will now have a say in the process for setting the wage cap, known as the "top of market rate." Previously, GE hired an outside consultant to calculate the top pay rate for the factory, but refused to disclose the details of that process

to workers.

The organizing effort leading up to the union deal is also paying off for non-union GE workers at at least two additional factories in Hooksett, New Hampshire and Rutland, Vermont where they are also now eligible for the top pay rate in six years instead of 7-15 years.

The agreement comes at a critical time for Lynn workers, as Massachusetts families struggle with inflation that wages haven't kept up with and back-to-school shopping costs hit many working parents in Boston and across New England.

For GE workers, the uncertainty brought by rising prices has been made worse by the uncertainty they face around GE's \$2.5 billion plan to break up the company.

GE Aviation Lynn worker Chris Moody: "This agreement is big for me. I'll get a raise right

away and more down the line. Most of us are living paycheck to paycheck on strict budgets. I take a lot of pride in the work I do at the GE Aviation plant in Lynn, as we all do. With this new deal secured through our union, we are helping workers in Lynn and across the country speed up the pay raises they need and deserve."

IUE-CWA Local 201 Business Agent Justin Richards: "This is an important win for GE Aviation union workers in Lynn. As we face inflation and higher prices at the grocery store and gas pump, it's more important than ever for giant companies like General Electric to increase pay and invest in its employees. Standing together, IUE-CWA union workers secured a new tentative agreement that will help workers earn pay raises faster as they work to provide for their families. Our struggle over the

past few years also pushed GE to provide the pay raise timeline for workers at at least two additional GE factories across the country, a clear example of how IUE-CWA is working to deliver for all GE workers."

IUE-CWA Local 201 President Adam Kaszynski: "As we prepare to negotiate our national union contract for GE workers across the country, this sends a powerful message to the company that we can organize effectively against stagnating wages and keep good jobs in our community. We are not stopping here, the goal is a fair National Contract that puts money where it belongs, in workers' pockets, and brings taxpayer-funded work back where it belongs in our domestic U.S. manufacturing facilities".

Baker-Polito administration announced \$10.9 million in federal grant funding to improve road safety

The Baker-Polito administration announced \$10.9 million in federal grant funding to improve road safety across the Commonwealth including \$64,972 going to Lynn Police Department for

Municipal Road Safety Program. More than 180 municipal and state agencies completed a competitive grant process by submitting plans for improved traffic safety training, equipment, and

enforcement. Together, these efforts align with Massachusetts' Annual Highway Safety Plan that describes the state's safety trends and guides improvements for the year ahead.

"From the time we took office, our administration has prioritized the safety of all residents and visitors who share the use of the Commonwealth's roads," said Governor Charlie Baker. "Through investments like the ones we are announcing today, we are continuing to work with local partners to strengthen safety for motorists, pedestrians, bicyclists and communities."

"We remain committed to delivering support to local officials who understand the positive effect of sustainable roadway safety," said Lieutenant Governor Karyn Polito. "Every tool made possible by today's grants em-

powers police to educate the public about our Commonwealth's laws, reduce speeding, renew our commitment to wear seat belts, and properly address all forms of distracted and impaired driving."

Since taking office in 2015, the Baker-Polito Administration has distributed approximately \$70 million in highway safety grants. The Office of Grants and Research (OGR) within the Executive Office of Public Safety and Security serves as the state administering agency for federal funding sources, including: the Department of Homeland Security, Department of Justice, and the source today's grant awards, the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

"Safe roadways are achieved through strong federal, state, and local partnerships. These grants support our shared goal of rein-

forcing good driving behavior, deterring impaired and distracted driving, enhancing law enforcement training, and identifying data-driven solutions," said Public Safety and Security Secretary Terrence Reidy. "I commend the Office of Grants and Research for their excellence and ongoing work to deliver vital resources that improve public safety across the Commonwealth."

"The Office of Grants and Research is committed to working closely with our partners across the state to ensure safety on our roads and in our communities. This funding will support data-driven efforts to address threats to roadway safety in communities across the Commonwealth," said Kevin Stanton, Executive Director of the Office of Grants and Research.

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LOCAL STUDENTS EARN ACADEMIC HONORS

CASTILLO EARNS AWARD FROM WGU

Stephanie Castillo of Lynn has earned an Award of Excellence at Western Governors University College of Health Professions. The award is given to students who perform at a superior level in their coursework.

Established in 1997 by 19 U.S. governors with a mission to expand access to high-quality,

affordable higher education, online, nonprofit WGU now serves more than 131,000 students nationwide and has more than 288,000 graduates in all 50 states. Driving innovation as the nation's leading competency-based university, WGU has been recognized by the White House, state leaders, employers, and students as a model that works in post-secondary education. In just 25 years, the university has become

a leading influence in changing the lives of individuals and families, and preparing the workforce needed in today's rapidly evolving economy. WGU is accredited by the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities, has been named one of Fast Company's Most Innovative Companies, and was featured on NPR, NBC Nightly News, CNN, and in The New York Times. Learn more at www.wgu.edu.

Despite recent rain, drought continues in Massachusetts

Practicing water conservation significantly benefits water supply systems

Following recommendations made by the Massachusetts Drought Management Task Force, Energy and Environmental Affairs (EEA) Secretary Beth Card today declared that except for the Southeast Region that saw improvement at the regional scale, all other regions within the Commonwealth will remain at their current drought levels. This includes the Cape Cod, Connecticut River Valley, Northeast, and Central Regions remaining at a Level 3-Critical Drought, and the Islands and Western Regions remaining at a Level 2-Significant Drought. The Southeast Region has been upgraded to Level 2 – Significant Drought from a Level 3-Critical Drought. When a Level-3 Critical Drought and a Level 2-Significant Drought have been declared, the Massachusetts Drought Management Plan calls for the convening of an inter-agency mission group, which is already meeting, to more closely coordinate on drought assessments, impacts, and responses within state government. These efforts are in addition to Level 1-Mild Drought actions, such as detailed monitoring of drought conditions, close coordination among state and federal agencies, and technical outreach and assistance to impacted municipalities.

“While recent precipitation across the state has brought some improvements to streamflow and local water supplies, we still have a ways to go. The Commonwealth continues to experience widespread drought in every region of the state,” said Energy and Environmental Affairs Secretary Beth Card. “To avoid overstressing water systems, we all must adhere to local water use requirements and practice water conservation methods in an effort to ensure essential needs, including drinking water, fire suppression, and habitats, continue to be met.”

“While a good deal of helpful rain has fallen over the past few days in many areas of the Commonwealth, it is important to remember that the drought’s impacts have taken months to develop and will take more than a few days of rain to resolve,” said MEMA Acting Director Dawn Brantley. “Hopefully, we will continue to get additional rain, but until then, we need to

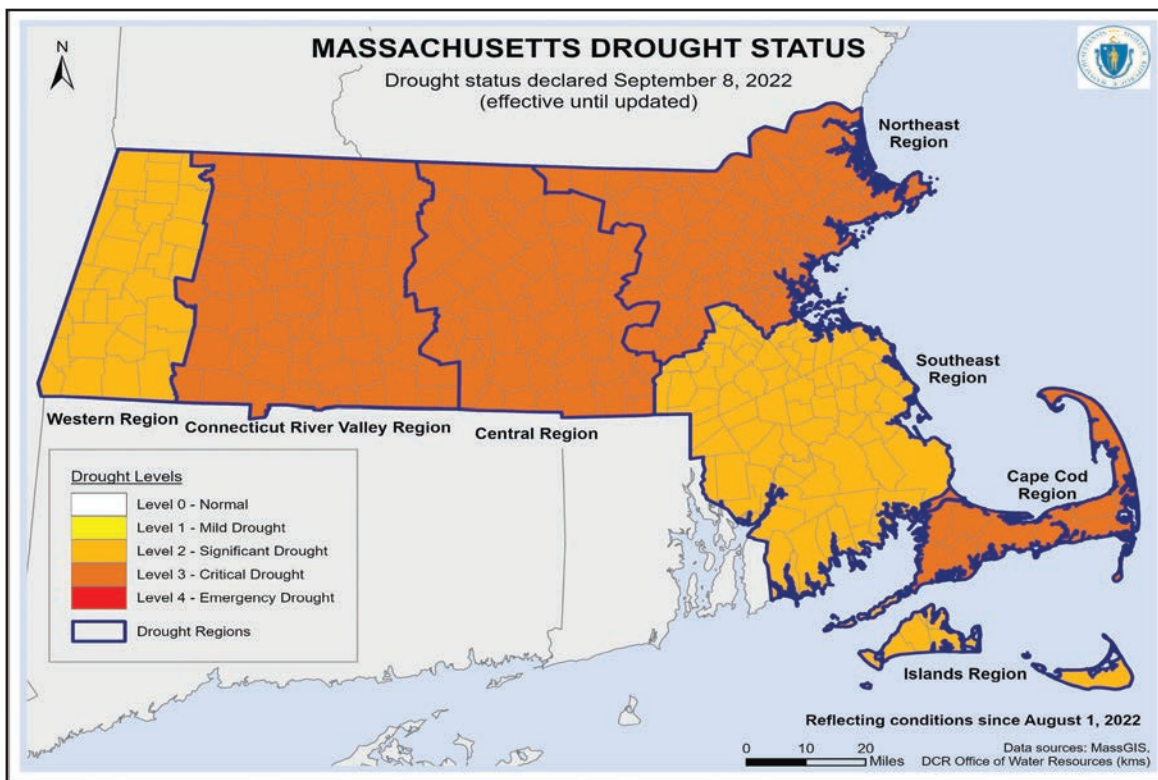
continue to be mindful about our day-to-day water use and remain vigilant in preventing brush and wildfires in our communities.”

Rainfall received during the later part of the month of August provided a much needed relief throughout the Commonwealth, particularly within the Southeast Region of the state where improvements were significantly made; however, the northern part of the region was still lagging. In addition, other northern parts of the Commonwealth, as well as Cape Cod, Martha’s Vineyard, and Nantucket saw less than 2.5 inches of rainfall during the month of August.

Significantly, the recent rains have helped in the near term to lower fire danger and decrease the potential for newly ignited wildland fires, which have seen an increase in 2022. To date, approximately 905 wildland fires have been reported, burning an estimated 1,485 acres. 137 fires were recorded this August alone during some of the highest drought indices since 2016. In comparison, there were only 24 wildland fires reported in August 2021.

As a result of fire conditions, the Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) has implemented a temporary ban on all open flame and charcoal fires within state park properties, which remains in effect until further notice. During the temporary ban small portable propane grills are still allowed at campgrounds and recreation areas where grilling is permitted. It is critical that everyone remains aware of how the drought has increased the risk of wildland fires in the state, and the public is asked to exercise extreme caution when using grills and open flames to ensure fires are properly and completely extinguished.

Ongoing drought conditions also continue to impact Massachusetts’ agricultural sector. These impacts vary across the state and include some depletion of water sources and production acreage, an increase in irrigation of crops, lower than normal yields, undersized fruits or vegetables, and higher operating costs. Nevertheless, with plenty of produce to sell, consumers are encouraged to purchase fresh fruits, vegetables, and other products at local farm stands and



Shown above, you can see the regions of Massachusetts and their drought levels. Most of the state remains in Level 3 Critical Drought, with the western and southern regions in Level 2 Significant Drought.

retail stores throughout the Commonwealth.

To assist farms, on August 15, 2022, the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) designated nine Massachusetts counties as primary natural disaster areas and three counties as contiguous disaster areas due to the 2022 drought. A USDA Secretarial disaster designation makes farm operators in the primary and contiguous counties eligible to be considered for assistance from the Farm Service Agency (FSA), such as FSA emergency loans, provided eligibility requirements are met. Farmers in eligible counties have eight months from the date of the disaster declaration to apply for emergency loans. For more information, please visit the USDA’s Disaster Assistance Programs’ webpage. Additionally, following this designation, the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) announced on August 30, 2022, that federal Economic Injury Disaster Loans are now available in the designated and contiguous counties. Small businesses, small agricultural cooperatives, small businesses engaged in aquaculture, and most private nonprofit organizations with economic losses due to drought would be eligible for the loans.

It is important to note that the Massachusetts Water Resources Authority (MWRA) water supply system is not experiencing drought conditions, as defined within its individual plan. Private

wells, local streams, wetlands, vernal pools, and other water-dependent habitats located within MWRA-serviced areas are being impacted by drought conditions while water quality in ponds can deteriorate due to lowering of levels and stagnation.

Below are recommendations for communities and individuals living and working within a Level 3 – Critical Drought, and Level 2 – Significant Drought region, including those utilizing a private well. Residents and businesses are also asked to check with their local water system in case more stringent watering restrictions are in place.

For Regions in Level 3 – Critical Drought

Residents and Businesses:

- Stop all non-essential outdoor watering.
- Minimize overall water use.

Immediate Steps for Communities:

- Adopt and implement the state’s nonessential outdoor water use restrictions for drought; Level 3 restriction calls for a ban on all nonessential outdoor water use.
- Provide timely information on the drought and on water conservation tips to local residents and businesses.
- Enforce water use restrictions with increasingly stringent penalties.

- Strongly discourage or prohibit installation of new sod, seeding, and/or landscaping; washing of hard surfaces (side-

walks, patios, driveways, siding); personal vehicle or boat washing; filling of swimming pools.

- Establish or enhance water-use reduction targets for all water users and identify top water users and conduct targeted outreach to help curb their use.

Short- and Medium-Term Steps for Communities:

- Establish a year-round water conservation program that includes public education and communication.
- Implement or establish drought surcharge or seasonal water rates.

- Prepare to activate emergency inter-connections for water supply.

- Develop or refine your local drought management plan using guidance outlined in the state Drought Management Plan.

For Regions in Level 2 – Significant Drought

Residents and Businesses:

- Minimize overall water use.
- Limit outdoor watering to hand-held hoses or watering cans, to be used only after 5 p.m. or before 9 a.m.
- Follow local water use restrictions, if more stringent.

Immediate Steps for Communities:

- Adopt and implement the state’s nonessential outdoor water use restrictions for drought; Level

EDITORIAL

ALCOHOL ABUSE IS STILL PROBLEM #1

Two years ago the voters of Oregon approved a measure that decriminalized the possession of small amounts of even the most dangerous drugs, while also mandating that tax revenue from the sale of marijuana (which Oregon legalized in 2014) be used for addiction recovery programs.

Oregon voters recognized that the 50 year War on Drugs has been a total failure that has done nothing to reduce drug abuse and arguably has made the problem even worse, both in their state and nationwide.

However, the shortcoming of the Oregon law is that it ignored the most-abused and harmful drug of them all -- alcohol. And even more ironically, the state legislature in 2021 legalized to-go drinks for restaurant take-out and increased the amount of wine that can be shipped directly to consumers -- and this is a state that is second only to California for its number of wineries and has as many distilleries as Kentucky.

So it should not be surprising that Oregon ranks among the states with the highest prevalence of problem drinking in the country. Last year, 2153 residents died of causes attributed to alcohol, according to the Oregon Health Authority -- more than twice the number of people who died from methamphetamines, heroin, and fentanyl combined. In addition, an Oregon business group estimates that the annual cost in lost productivity because of excessive drinking by state residents is \$5 billion per year.

However, alcohol abuse is a nationwide problem. There were more deaths attributed to alcohol (about 108,000) than to drugs (about 106,000) in 2021 in the United States. Here in Massachusetts, we have one of the highest rates of deaths from alcohol poisoning.

Indeed, alcohol abuse is a world-wide problem. Just this past week, a report published by the Canadian Centre on Substance Use and Addiction (CCSA) that followed two years of research and a review of more than 5000 peer-reviewed studies concluded that alcohol in even small quantities can be harmful to our health. The CCSA report recommends that a safe amount of alcohol consumption for adults is no more than two drinks per week. (That's not a typo -- two drinks per week.) The CCSA report is confirmation of the World Health Organization's designation of alcohol as a Class A carcinogen a few years ago.

It has been well-known for many years that those who start drinking as teenagers are five times more likely to become victims of alcohol abuse disorder (what formerly was referred to as alcoholism) than those who don't start drinking until they are 21. In addition, it goes without saying that alcohol far exceeds any drug for the damage and tragedy it wreaks upon families, regardless of socioeconomic status.

The time has come for our public officials and our citizenry to recognize alcohol abuse as an immediate public health emergency and to take action to address this growing -- and largely-ignored -- problem.

WHAT'S WITH ALL THE COVERAGE OF THE BRITISH MONARCHY?

The passing last week of Queen Elizabeth II saddened all of us. She was a great woman who epitomized what used to be called noblesse oblige, the idea that nobility extends beyond mere entitlement, requiring people who hold such status to fulfill social responsibilities.

Queen Elizabeth understood this sense of duty from the very outset of her ascension to the throne at the age of 25 when she said, "I declare before you all that my whole life whether it be long or short shall be devoted to your service and the service of our great imperial family to which we all belong."

On another occasion, she said, "Our modern world places such heavy demands on our time and attention that the need to remember our responsibilities to others is greater than ever."

But as much as the world will miss Queen Elizabeth, the reality is that the British monarchy is an anachronism that only serves as a reminder of the terrible oppression perpetrated by the British Empire through the ages.

And while a majority of Britons may be content to spend hundreds of millions of their tax dollars to support the royal family (and some say that the tourist dollars generated by Buckingham Palace actually are a net positive), it is undeniable that the majority of members of the royal family are unworthy heirs of Queen Elizabeth's legacy, especially most of her children.

But while Britain may still be enthralled with the vestiges of a long-gone era, what makes the major American media think that we are? The non-stop coverage of her death, funeral proceedings, and accession by Charles has been ridiculous. This is 2022, not 1772.

It's time to relegate (the term used in the English Premier Soccer League when the bottom three teams are dropped down to the minor league at the end of the season) the monarchy to what it really is -- an historical footnote that is irrelevant in the world today.

GUEST OP-ED

Will you own an electric car?

By Dr. Glenn Mollette

Will you own an electric car? If you live long enough and that's all that is being made, you probably will. Many of us we'll hold out for as long as possible.

I'm all for electric cars especially if someone else is buying them. If 20 percent of America's driving population goes to the electric vehicle, EV, then surely gasoline will become cheaper. Less people buying gasoline will reduce the demand and it should reduce the price. We hope.

California will not allow the sale of gasoline cars by 2035.

This same state told EV drivers not to charge their electric cars during the past Labor Day weekend when the temperatures were expected to hit triple digits for millions of residents putting a drain on the power grid.

This brings us to the same crisis every community will face. America's power grids aren't ready to accommodate millions of EVs plugging in for a recharge. The prospects of city and regional blackouts are alarming. You can forget charging your car. You won't be able to charge your cell phone or have air conditioning or heat during a blackout.

I'm not opposed to electric cars. I am opposed to them being crammed down our throats. The manufacturers are being pushed to eventually eliminate all gasoline vehicles. We will see how this goes over the next ten years.

Plan to spend some money. A local salesman talked to me about an electric Mustang. Stickered at \$48,000 but they were asking \$58,000 because as he said, "We can get it." I didn't want the car to begin with

but was curious about the car.

It sounds time consuming to recharge an EV, although some EVs are promising up to 150-mile charge in a short amount of time.

EVs could mean fewer people on America's Interstates. Currently in most American communities it's much easier to go home to recharge at your own power station. Cross country driving will be out of the question or very difficult in an EV for the next two or three years. Currently an EV will go about 250 to 350 miles on a charge. This means you will always be searching for the next power station. This will be a major lifestyle change.

There are reports that Pilot and Flying J will have charging stations installed by 2025 and are spending a billion dollars to upgrade their facilities. They will also want to recoup their costs.

The car will cost you more money. You will spend anywhere from \$2,000 (low minimum) to \$6,000 to install a station at your home and this is all variable. To keep your car charged at home will cost you about what you spend on your monthly electric bill now. So, figure your electric bill doubling, if you're lucky.

You may be wanting something different in your life and an EV may be just what you want. There is a lot to consider and on some level they will impact all our lives, eventually.

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.

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LETTER TO THE EDITOR

END TO BARBARIC ANIMAL TESTING

To the Editor,

I'm writing about the development of the many bio labs - animal testing sites planned for Revere and surrounding cities.

These high risk labs are being built outside of Boston in residential areas and most people are not aware. Dangerous pathogens and chemicals are handled in these types of laboratories. They also conduct cruel and inhumane animal testing that can include cats and dogs. Massachusetts has conducted research on and killed 9000 beagles.

There was a level 3 bio lab animal testing site planned for Suffolk Downs, Revere. It could have included research on cats, dogs, rabbits and primates. Due to opposition from residents, the city agreed to reduce it (for now) to a level 2 bio lab with restrictions on animal testing to rodents (guinea pigs, ferrets, mice and rats) which is no less cruel and inhumane. There are alternative and more effective methods of conducting research that do not involve animals.

Boston University just became a level 4 bio lab. They will be handling the most dangerous

pathogens in the world. (Wuhan is level 4)

Bio labs are also planned for Natick, Chelsea, Everett and Lynn as well as other cities in Massachusetts. They go under the pretty title "life science buildings" in order to not be transparent.

You may have heard the story of the 4000 beagles that recently got rescued from a facility that sells to research labs. (100 of them ended up in the shelter in Salem)

100 million animals are tortured and killed in research labs every year in the U.S.. Massachusetts is a big offender.

Let's keep in mind, Covid-19 was originally made dangerous in a level 3 bio lab at the University of North Carolina. Obama placed a moratorium on the gain-of-function research because it was dangerous. Instead of stopping, they offshored it to Wuhan, funded by NIH with tax payer dollars.

We need to put an end to barbaric animal testing in Massachusetts and restrict bio labs to a level 1 or 2 in nonresidential areas.

Kathy Belleau



The MBTA is hiring. Your next job could be the start of a lifelong career.

It seems like there's never been a better time to be looking for a better job. And what makes this even more important is that for some it won't just be a better job. It will be a job that leads to a career that ultimately leads to a better life. That's the opportunity the T is offering as we hire new operators. A regular salary with paid vacation and sick time, plus a signing bonus, solid benefits, tuition reimbursement, and established paths for growth. Best of all, operating a bus means you'll be helping tens of thousands of people to achieve what they need to do every day.

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GOLDFISH POND 42ND FUN N' FLEA MARKET DAY

A bright warm day brought out the people for the 42nd Annual Goldfish Pond fundraiser. An array of rental table space was set up surrounding the pond walkway. Anything and everything were available for one's interest to view, and of course, to purchase an item or two. This traditional fundraising event never

disappoints anyone. All proceeds benefit the Goldfish Pond Association to maintain the grounds, purchase flowers, and upkeep the water fountains flowing.

For many years Ward 3 Councilor Coco Alinsug is one of the many active neighborhood volunteers who continuously supports the Goldfish Pond Association

as he said, "This is our 42nd year which is the longest running Fun N' Flea Day in the city. I came to Lynn 20 years ago and the reason I liked Lynn is because of neighborhood involvement. This event is for friends, families, and children to be here enjoying themselves. Lafayette Park is our jewel of Ward 3."



Take a Chance to Win - Goldfish Pond President Trish Greene



Everything and Anything Table - Solmaria Marquez, Marisol Gonzalez with Julia and Tony Cortes.



Everything goes at our table - Carmen Ayala, Robin Frazier, and Monica Jones



Homeowners: Help Is Here

Are you behind on your mortgage payments because of the COVID-19 pandemic?

The Massachusetts Homeowner Assistance Fund (Mass HAF) is a state program that provides financial assistance to homeowners who are at least 3 months behind on their mortgage.

Mass HAF has helped hundreds of homeowners - find out if it can help you!

visit massmortgagehelp.org

This project is being supported, in whole or in part, by federal award number HAF0174 awarded to the Commonwealth of Massachusetts by the U.S. Department of the Treasury.



GOLDFISH POND 42ND FUN N' FLEA MARKET DAY



Raffle Table - Founding Member Bonnie Mercier with Thomas Jacobs



The Keepsake Table – Kevin, Helen, Ally Izzy, and Evy Johnson.



Buyer Jim "Cheeseman" Rafftelis likes old Sports Cards as seller Gregg Johnson displays Dirt Bike Gear.



The Collectible Lot with Christian Peralta and Laura Ucci.



Every Parent Makes a Difference – Brian Castellanos, Kelsey Medeiros, and Jaida Santos.



Linda and Jane Carritte with Hailey have lots of goodies for sale.

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Orange Line repair work is 82-percent complete

Special to the Independent

With a planned re-opening of the Orange Line on Monday, MBTA General Manager Steve Poftak announced that 82% of the work taking place along the Orange Line is complete and track work taking place between Dana Bridge and North Station will allow for the removal of three more slow zones, which will bring the total number of slow zones removed to five.

Work taking place in this area includes track and tie replacement, rail installation, track alignment, and tamping. Crews have worked tirelessly to finish tie replacement work between the Dana Bridge and Community College station with current

tie replacement work taking place at the North Station portal, which began on September 9. Tie replacement work involves crews operating hi-rail heavy equipment to remove old ties and install new ties. This critical tie replacement will remove three of the six slow zones that the T aims to address during the shutdown. Crews have already completed work to remove slow zones at Jackson Square and between Downtown Crossing and State. Finishing this important work and removing these slow zones allows for faster, more reliable service for Orange Line riders.

Orange Line riders should note that, when Orange Line trains begin running again on Monday, September 19, slow zones will

continue to be in place temporarily for about one week where the work was performed. In the rail industry, after new track and ballast installation, and due to the amount of track area disturbed during work, it is a given that slow zones need to temporarily remain in place. This is because it takes time for the new track and ballast to "settle" as trains repeatedly run over these areas.

Additionally, 64 new Orange Line cars are now available when service resumes, supporting riders during peak commuting periods. This is up from 30 cars when the Orange Line shutdown first started. This is also over a full complement of new Orange Line cars ready to serve riders.

As of today's reporting, 82%



MBTA spokesperson holds a press conference on progress on Orange Line repairs and new train cars.

of the planned work has been completed.

Overall, teams have completed approximately 65% of rail replacement and 90% of track replacement. The full depth track replacement includes the ballast, ties, and rail.

About 99% of the special track renewal work includes replacing things like crossover areas.

About 99% of Cologne eggs and rail fastener work is finished near Tufts Medical Center station. Cologne eggs are the fasteners that allow crews to di-

rectly affix rail to the concrete pads, which are also utilized on certain parts of the Orange Line. The MBTA is in the process of installing the final five new eggs with 395 fully complete.

There has also been excellent progress on the ongoing signal testing at Oak Grove and Malden Center stations with about 84% of these signal upgrades complete.

For more information, visit mbta.com/BBT2022 or Orange Line Track and Signal Upgrades, or connect with the T on Twitter @MBTA, Facebook /TheMBTA, or Instagram@theMBTA.

First Day At School

The First Day at School can be a very happy & special day for both parents, grandparents & children.



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Don't forget your toothbrush: the essential items you must pack

They're the essential items no seasoned traveller leaves home without – now all holidaymakers are being told exactly what to take to the airport to make a long-haul flight bearable.

Holiday-makers jetting off on long flights have been offered tips on the essentials to take on board.

The holiday car rental experts at StressFreeCarRental.com have identified the most important long-haul items that will ensure you arrive at your destination feeling fresh and ready for your holiday.

To make your journey hassle-free and as comfortable as possible, a little preparation can go a long way.

Among the items to pack are beauty and hygiene essentials, including a good moisturiser and baby wipes, plus a travel pillow and sleep mask to help you relax and catch some z's.

A spokesperson for StressFreeCarRental.com said: "Spending hours in the plane can put people off from travelling to long-haul destinations.

"However, long flights should not limit you from seeing beautiful places around the world, as there are ways to make sure your journey goes without a hitch.

"Packing a few essentials into your hand luggage can make your experience much more

comfortable and relaxing."

Here are StressFreeCarRental.com's long flight essentials:

1. Travel pillow and sleep mask

If you're going to be in the air for hours, then you will need to get some sleep. If you don't have a travel pillow, you could wake up with a stiff neck and shoulders. A travel mask will help block out the harsh plane lighting when you're ready for a nap.

2. Earplugs

You are exposed to a wide variety of irritating noises while flying that may prevent you from sleeping or relaxing. This is why you should get a pair of earplugs when you're travelling for a long time. Blocking out the noises of air conditioning, engine sounds, crying children and other distractions, earplugs make air travel much more pleasurable.

3. Lip balm and moisturiser

The air in planes is very dry, so use lip balm and moisturiser to keep your lips and skin well hydrated throughout the flight. Just make sure you adhere to the airline's regulations and don't carry any containers that hold more than 100ml.

4. Toothpaste and toothbrush

If you're on an overnight flight, then don't forget to pack your toothbrush and toothpaste, so you can freshen up on the plane or at the airport. Pick up a

travel version – they hardly take up any space.

5. Scarf

The air conditioning on airplanes can be a little chilly. Pack a scarf or sarong in your hand luggage to wrap yourself up in if you get cold.

6. Outfit change

It's always worth putting an extra outfit in your hand luggage so you can get changed into a clean set of clothes once you arrive at your destination. It's especially useful if you're flying somewhere with a completely different climate.

7. Essential medicines

Hopefully you won't have to use them, but it's good to pack some essential medicines in your carry-on bag just in case you feel unwell during the flight. If you have prescription medication that's over 100ml, then make sure you familiarise yourself with the regulations of the airline – many airlines allow you to take it on board, but you'll have to provide a doctor's letter.

8. Hand Sanitiser

Good hygiene is crucial when travelling if you want to avoid germs and viruses. Although there will be hand sanitising stations at the airport, make sure to take your own small hand sanitiser on board and use it regularly throughout the flight.

OBITUARIES

James Marriott

His photographs of Lynn Veterans events and Democratic City events were often published in the Lynn Journal

James R. "Jim" Marriott, 86, of Winthrop and formerly of Lynn, died on June 14. He was the beloved husband of Harriett (Pearlman) Fromer-Mariott.

Born in Ipswich, he was the son of the late Arthur and Isobel (Bampton) Marriott.

Jim proudly served his country, first in the U. S. Air Force and then in the U. S. Army. He joined the Air Force when he was 17 years old and got his GED while in the service. He was discharged in 1960. He worked for the M.D.C. Commission from 1968 to 1978. The highlight of his day was to drive the Zamboni and resurface the ice at the Revere Rink. Later he worked for the City of Lynn, at the Police Station and then at City Hall, and retired in 2005.

He was a member of the Amvets Post 161, the William P. Connery, Jr. Post 6, American Legion, the Greater Lynn Arts & Crafts Society and the Winthrop Lodge of Elks #1078.

In his retirement, he pursued his love of oil painting and photography. He photographed most veterans events in Lynn and many Democratic City Committee events. His photos were often published in the Lynn Journal.

Oil painting of seascapes and



cartooning self-portraits were among his favorite subjects.

In addition to his wife, he leaves a sister, Eleanor Morehouse of Lynn, many nieces and nephews of Lynn and New Hampshire, and his close friend Gary Morse of Winthrop.

A Graveside Service with Military Honors will be held on Thursday, September 22 at 11 a.m. in the Veteran's Lot in Pine Grove Cemetery, Lynn. Relatives and friends kindly gather inside the Main Gate, Boston Street, Lynn at 10:45 a.m.

Donations in Jim's memory may be made to Care Dimensions, 75 Sylvan Street, Suite B-102, Danvers, MA 01923.

Fond memories and expressions of sympathy may be shared at www.cuffemcginn.com for the Marriott family.

Drought / CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

2 restriction calls for limiting outdoor watering to hand-held hoses or watering cans, to be used only after 5 p.m. or before 9 a.m. If local restrictions are more stringent, continue to keep them in place during the course of the drought.

- Limit or prohibit installation of new sod, seeding, and/or landscaping; watering during or within 48 hours after measurable rainfall; washing of hard surfaces (sidewalks, patios, driveways, siding); personal vehicle or boat washing; filling of swimming pools.

- Establish water-use reduction targets for all water users and identify top water users and conduct targeted outreach to help curb their use.

Short- and Medium-Term Steps for Communities:

- Establish a year-round water conservation program that includes public education and communication.

- Provide timely information to local residents and businesses.

- Implement or establish drought surcharge or seasonal water rates.

- Check emergency inter-connections for water supply.

- Develop or refine your local drought management plan using guidance outlined in the state Drought Management Plan.

Significantly, the practicing of water conservation methods greatly assists water supply systems by reducing water use, which will help ensure essential needs are being met. These needs include available resources for drinking water and fire protection, supporting the natural functions of habitats, and to better sustain the Commonwealth's water supplies in the long-term. Importantly, state agencies will continue to monitor and assess current conditions and any associated environmental and agricultural impacts, coordinate any needed dissemination of information to the public, and help state, federal and local agencies prepare additional responses that may be needed in the future. Furthermore, the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP) will continue to provide technical assistance

to communities on managing systems, including emergency connections and water supplies assistance.

"It takes time to recover from a drought. Understanding that fact and the variations in rainfall by location across the Commonwealth, water users should continue to follow the advice of their public water system and conserve as much water as possible," said MassDEP Commissioner Martin Suuberg.

The Drought Management Task Force will meet again on Thursday, September 22, 2022, at 10:00AM. For further information on water conservation and what residents can do, please visit EEA's drought page and water conservation page. To get the most up-to-date information on the drought indices, go to the state's drought dashboard page. Additionally, the Commonwealth is surveying the public for any drought impacts that are currently being experienced. To participate, please visit the Massachusetts Water Impact Reporter webpage.

OBITUARIES

All obituaries and death notices will be at a cost of \$150.00 per paper.

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FRESH AND LOCAL

Salad dressings

By Penny & Ed Cherubino

This column began with the idea that making salad dressing would be a great option to eat healthier, add a new resource to your cooking, improve the quality of ingredients, and save money.

Since we've never bought commercial salad dressings, we were surprised when we calculated the cost difference between homemade and bottled. We discovered that commercial salad dressings, especially the big, well-known brands, are less expensive in cost-per-ounce than homemade. However, the rest of our research reinforced our decision to avoid the highly-processed products and continue making vinaigrettes and other salad dressings from scratch.

Ingredients

For the big names to produce a low-cost product, they must begin with less expensive ingredients. Then, they add sugar, sodium, and other flavor enhancers to improve the taste. Ours is more costly because we start with flavorful, high-quality ingredients and don't have to hide their taste.

Our most basic homemade red wine vinaigrette contains extra-virgin olive oil, a flavorful red wine vinegar, a tiny bit of salt, and freshly ground pepper. We can add fresh herbs, favorite spice blends, a bit of local honey, or zesty mustard. We can change the vinegar to one with a different flavor profile, choose a more neutral oil, or substitute yogurt or avocado for the oil.

The ingredient list on one of the most popular brands reads: "water, red wine vinegar, soybean oil, sugar, corn syrup, salted cabernet sauvignon wine, contains 2% or less of: maltodextrin (corn), salt, extra virgin olive oil, garlic*, onion*, xanthan gum, color added, reb a (natural stevia leaf sweetener), natural flavors, annatto extract (color), sorbic acid and calcium disodium edta (to protect quality)." A serving delivers 2 grams of sugar and 15% of your daily sodium allowance.

We buy pantry ingredients that we use for other purposes and produce an endless variety of salad dressing flavors. We choose the oil to vinegar ratio and the seasoning level to suit our taste. The commercial option gives you one flavor. If you want

more choices, you have to buy more bottles that take up space in your refrigerator. One brand lists thirty-four flavors on its website.

More than Salads

You can be creative with vinaigrettes and use them for more than salads. Many marinades are a form of vinaigrette. If you already have a jar of your homemade version on hand, you can use it to marinate meat before cooking. Try tossing a left-over vegetable or legume in your dressing for a freshened side dish.

You can sauce a cooked piece of chicken or fish with a zesty salad dressing. You can change any salsa with a different vinaigrette. If you've had an excellent Italian sandwich, you know how much flavor comes from a drizzle of dressing.

We tend to make a fresh batch of dressing as we need it. We don't care if the ingredients separate. When we plan to store some of the dressing, we'll make an emulsified version with an immersion blender. The little time it takes to clean the tool is offset by having a flavorful supply on hand.



Why use a highly-processed, bottled dressing (with added sugars, sodium, and chemicals) on your beautiful, fresh salad ingredients?

Better Commercial Options

If you would still prefer to buy rather than make your dressings, take time to read the labels and choose one with less sugar, additives, thickeners, and sodium. The site www.eatthis.com offers a recent list of better, healthier options that you should be able

to buy at your local supermarket. They also list the unhealthiest options you may want to replace or avoid.

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

Health officials announce fourth human case of West Nile Virus in Mass.

Staff Report

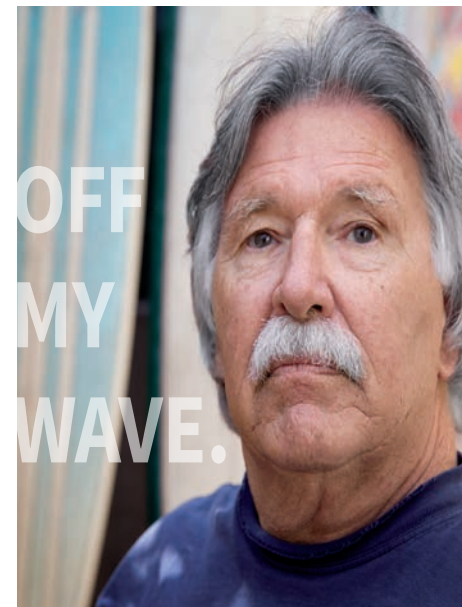
The Massachusetts Department of Public Health (DPH) announced the fourth human case of West Nile virus (WNV) in the state this year. The individual is a male in his 80s who was exposed to the virus in Middlesex County in an area already known to be at increased risk. The risk of human infection with WNV is moderate to high in the Greater Boston area.

In 2021, there were 11 human cases of WNV infection identi-

fied in Massachusetts. WNV is usually transmitted to humans through the bite of an infected mosquito. While WNV can infect people of all ages, people over the age of 50 are at higher risk for severe disease. Most people infected with WNV will have no symptoms. When present, WNV symptoms tend to include fever and flu-like illness. In rare cases, more severe illness can occur. No human or animal cases of Eastern equine encephalitis (EEE) have been detected so far this year in Massachusetts.

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

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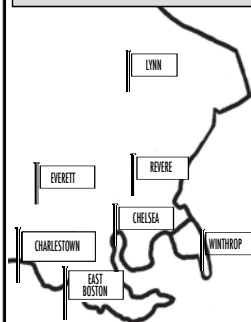
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Brown / CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Driscoll's No.-1 ranked St. Mary's High School football team.

David Jr. is the real deal, and his high school athletic career has been nothing short of sensational. He is the reigning Boston Globe Division 6 Player of the Year and a Boston Herald All-Scholastic in football and a Globe and Herald All-Scholastic in basketball.

And oh yeah, David Jr. just happened to lead his father's St. Mary's basketball team to the Division 3 state championship in March. The 5-foot-9-inch Brown punctuated the Spartans' title-clinching rout of Watertown with an electrifying dunk that had the St. Mary's fans rising out of their seats in awe.

But football is David's focus right now and Winthrop coach Jon Cadigan knows his team must contain the Spartans' running back Friday night before what is expected to be one of the largest crowds at Miller Field in recent years. "It's David Brown, but it's also [running back] Derek

Koulanges and [wide receiver] Nick Sacco, too – they have some really good skill guys," said Cadigan. "I think Brown and Koulanges are really the best 1-2 punch we're going to see all year. David has the combination of being fast and athletic, but he's also very strong. I think he's a total, complete football player. He'll play offense and defense. He's the reigning Division 6 Player of the Year for a reason, and it certainly shows up on film."

Fond memories of Winthrop

David Brown Jr., sat on the TD Garden bench when Winthrop won the state basketball title in 2011.

"I was six years old," recalled David Brown, who is now 17. "When my father was coaching, I was always on the bench. It was a great season to be a part of."

Making those times even more memorable was that David's grandfather, Lynn high school and Texas college football legend Pete Pedro Sr., was also a big supporter of the

Vikings during that era.

This will be David Brown Jr.'s first trip back to Winthrop as a high school athlete. He is excited about the game and knows that the Winthrop football tradition is special.

"I hear there's going to be a big crowd," said David. "I like those games when the crowd's intense. I know Winthrop is a really good team. Their coach coaches them well. Their defense gets to the football. They also have an excellent quarterback and some really good running backs."

Brown is also one of the premier defensive backs in the state. He has 14 interceptions in his career with one return for a touchdown (versus Medway in the 2021 playoffs). As a kickoff and punt returner, Brown is in a class by himself and many opponents purposefully choose to keep the ball out of his hands.

Brown understands the significance the game has to his coach, Sean Driscoll.

"We want to get a win because we know he's the parks and recreation director

and next summer they'll be talking about this game a lot," said David.

Cadigan versus Driscoll

Jon Cadigan realizes the coaching matchup against Driscoll is also very interesting for the two former Viking players and Tony Fucillo-staffmates.

"Sean was always somebody who was pretty special in my life and in my coaching career," said Cadigan. "I remember when I was 24 years-old and Coach Fucillo just retired, and Sean got the job. I asked Sean if he were going to call the defenses again, and he said, 'no, you're the defensive coordinator. At 24, I was appreciative of the opportunity at the time. Looking back, I can't thank him enough for what he's done for me coaching-wise over the years, giving me the opportunity to be the defensive coordinator on his staff for a long time."

Sean Driscoll played Winthrop High football, coached Winthrop High football, and now he returns as the head coach of St. Mary's High

School football team.

"I was the head coach for 12 years and I was on the staff for over 20 years," said Driscoll. "We're excited about the game. Every week is a new challenge, and I think this challenge is going to be big for the simple fact that they do some stuff offensively. They have some big running backs, and you can see how they competed with Stoneham. They probably could have won that game if a couple of breaks went their way. We're going to have our hands full."

Driscoll said he remembers David Brown Jr. as a junior assistant on his father's basketball coaching staff.

"I remember being in the Winthrop gymnasium and he would always be shooting hoops," said Driscoll. "I think his family is excited about this game. His father has a history in Winthrop, between working as an officer in the Police Department and being a former basketball coach here. Seeing his son coming over to play Winthrop is going to be a special day for the family."

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