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THE LYNN JOURNAL

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CHIEF COURT OFFICER JOHN NERICH HONORED AT RETIREMENT CELEBRATION



CARY SHUMAN PHOTOS

Lynn Mayor Jared Nicholson and Lynn Police Chief Chris Reddy were among the dignitaries honoring Chief Court Officer John Nerich at a retirement celebration at the Lynn District Court. Nerich served with distinction for 27 years at Lynn District Court and 33 years overall in the state court system. A capacity crowd of colleagues, friends, and family members attended the celebration and gave Nerich a standing ovation as he entered the courtroom for the celebration. Additional coverage, including John Nerich's heartfelt retirement speech, will appear in the next edition of the Lynn Journal.

St. Mary's coach Sean Driscoll earns his 100th career coaching victory

By Cary Shuman

St. Mary's High School mhead football coach Sean Driscoll candidly told reporters after last Friday night's game that he didn't think victory was a likelihood when his team was trailing Winthrop by 14 points late in the third quarter.

But freshman Maxwell Parent led the way back with two touchdowns and the game-winning extra point, and the Spartans delivered a thrilling 15-14 victory over the Winthrop Vikings at Manning Field.

And with that stirring comeback, Sean Driscoll, the former



CARY SHUMAN PHOTO

St. Mary's head football coach Sean Driscoll talks to reporters following the Spartans' 15-14 victory over Winthrop.

Winthrop head coach had his 100th career victory. Sean's son,

Dylan Driscoll, the former Winthrop High star quarterback and assistant athletic director at St. Mary's, and Chris Beranger, the former Winthrop High and UNH football star, are assistant coaches on the Spartans' staff.

Driscoll was asked to assess the significance of Win No. 100.

"This is right up there with our Super Bowl victory [in 2022], because obviously the circumstances of having a young team and playing a very good team [Winthrop] and seeing how our kids were resilient and had every excuse in the book to just cash it

Please see DRISCOLL Page 3

GLSS is 'stepping it up' to raise awareness about falls prevention

Staff Report

As it has for the past few years, the Massachusetts Executive Office of Elder Affairs (EOEA) invited senior services agencies to participate in this year's 50 Million Steps to Prevent Falls campaign. Last year, agencies statewide accomplished a total of 47,058,394 steps! For this year's challenge, EOEA is stepping up the goal to achieve a statewide total of 50 million steps!

"Last year, 27 GLSS (Greater Lynn Senior Services) staff members collectively recorded 4,022,191 steps, and we are working to exceed that number this month as the state and organizations like GLSS are focused on raising awareness about falls prevention," says Kathy Burns, Chief Executive Officer. "This

topic is something that we promote year-round through educational and exercise programs, but it really gets a national focus in September." The National Council on Aging takes the lead in helping to promote and spread the word about falls prevention during the week of September 18-22.

Falls remain a major health care concern and are the leading cause of injury death for older Americans. Falls threaten seniors' safety and independence and generate enormous economic and personal costs. According to the Centers for Disease Control, every second of every day, an older adult (age 65+) falls in the U.S., resulting in more than 3 million injuries, 32,000 deaths, and about \$50 billion in medical costs.



Greater Lynn Senior Services (GLSS) staff organized two walks from their downtown offices to Lynn's scenic King's Beach to promote falls prevention awareness this month.

For the latest news in Lynn that you need to know, go to lynnjournal.com

EAST LYNN LITTLE LEAGUE AWARDS BANQUET AT BROTHERS DELI

East Lynn Little League held its Awards Banquet on Sunday, Sept. 10 at Brothers Deli.

The graduating players were presented specially embroidered jackets as they completed their Little League baseball careers.

The ELL and Lynn City Series champion Braves were recognized for their outstanding season.

Fifth-year President Dan Johansson said that 220 players participated in the youth baseball and softball organization in the 2023 season.

At the banquet the players, coaches, and families enjoyed cheeseburgers and hot dogs prepared by Brothers Deli owner George Markos and Staff.

Johansson thanked Mr. Markos for his continuing support and generosity to East Lynn Little League and hosting the awards banquet.

“I want to thank George Markos a million times – we’re very

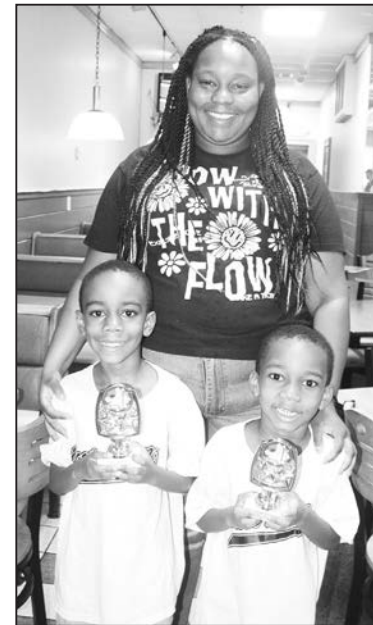
appreciative of him doing this,” said Johansson. “George is always willing to help us out and it’s a great building event for the community. We really appreciate it.”



East Lynn Little League Secretary Janine Lang and her son, graduating baseball player Dillon Lang, pictured at the awards banquet at Brothers Deli.



The Braves were the 2023 East Lynn Little League and City Series champions. Pictured at the awards banquet are (front row, from left) players Javier Figueroa, Charlie Chau, and Isael Rodriguez. Middle row, from left, are players Sultan Akinniyi, Mark Poste, Johan Jhorwan Vasquez, Jay Chhoun, and Danny Chau. Back row are Manager John Newton, Coach Ryan Gendron, and Coach John Smith.



Khadijra Boyd, with her sons, Myles Potter and Xavier Potter, who proudly display their trophies at the East Lynn Little League awards banquet at Brothers Deli.



East Lynn Little League President Dan Johansson (center) and Vice President John Smith extend their gratitude to Brothers Deli Owner George Markos (left) for his generosity in hosting the awards banquet at his well-known restaurant.



East Lynn Little League softball players Amiyah Gibson, Director Molli Ingersoll, Jenesly Rodriguez, Bella Miller, Brenda Harris, Juliana Gerardo, Quinn Murphy, Mya Johansson, with Erin Shephard.



Doing a great preparing and serving the delicious cheeseburgers and hot dogs at the East Lynn Little League Awards Banquet at Brothers Deli are restaurant owner George Markos and staff, Maria Angelone and Mauro Chavez.



The graduates of the East Lynn Little League received specially embroidered jackets at the award banquet. From left, are Javier Figueroa, Bella Miller, Juliana Gerardo, Nico Gallo, Isael Rodriguez, Jhorwan Vasquez, Tyler Lopes, Raaiden Por, Dillon Lang, Jay Chhoun, and Sultan Akinniyi.

Driscoll / CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

in during the fourth quarter and give up – but they came back and fought hard and it's a good sign for the future," said Driscoll.

Driscoll said one of the key plays in the game was Tyler Guy's excellent 1-on-1 tackle on Nick Cappuccio at the 1-yard line after catching a pass from Matt Noonan.

"We know Nick's skill and talent, and obviously on their big plays, they'll look for their big-play guy," said Driscoll. "So, I think it was a matter of Tyler's speed to the football and recognizing what was going on, and being able to make that play. It was a huge difference in the game."

Ernie Panias recovered a fumble late in the third quarter to launch the Spartans' comeback. Nicholas Marks helped set up the game-tying touchdown when he found an open spot in the Winthrop defense and caught a 17-yard pass from quarterback Yaniel Belliard, who had scrambled before throwing an across-the-field strike to Marks.

"Yaniel made the play, and it was a big one. Nick deserves credit for staying with the play and getting open," credited Driscoll.

Parent rushed for a 1-yard touchdown to tie the game at 14-14. Driscoll then made the decision to go for the PAT instead of the two-point conversion and Parent booted the game-winning point.

"Maxwell Parent had a great game," summarized Coach Driscoll.

AD Jeff Newhall congratulates coach on milestone win

St. Mary's High School Director of Athletics Jeff Newhall, who has built an athletic powerhouse at the school, was at the game and personally congratulated Driscoll on his 100th victory.

"Our entire school community is proud of Sean and happy to honor him for this outstanding coaching achievement," said Driscoll. "He led our football team to a state championship last year, but he's also making a positive off-the-field impact on his student-athletes. We're grateful to Sean and his staff for their exceptional leadership of our football program."

Winthrop's Cadigan also lauds his former colleague

Winthrop coach Jon Cadigan also congratulated Driscoll, his former Viking coaching colleague, on the 100th victory milestone.

"I wish it didn't happen against me," jested Cadigan initially. "No, I'm very happy for Sean. Coach [Tony] Fucillo gave me my first job coaching, and then Sean gave me a promotion when I was a very young coach and I don't know necessarily if I were ready for it, but he believed in me. I'm happy for his success at St. Mary's. There's no one who works harder at it than Sean. He deserves this milestone. I do hope we see St. Mary's down the road [in the MIAA playoffs]."

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

Manicotti

By Elizabeth Umbro Cavallaro

As I look back in time, I see faces, events and places that reflect my life. Most of the faces that I remember were of my family with lots of aunts, uncles and cousins getting together making lots of noise in happiness; all relating to food. There were weddings, bridal showers, anniversaries, birthdays and any get-togethers possible. If you could not make it you were either sick, dead or in the hospital.

There were continuous buffet tables with glorious meats, antipastos, pastas and desserts. There was always a celebration of food and its preparation in our homes or in our backyards. We did not have gardens or pools; just plain old dirt backyards with no grass and a broken swing set. A few tomato plants were struggling to grow; we were fortunate to end up with a dozen.

On Sundays there was the big tomato sauce simmering on the stove while Italian music was playing on the radio. Sometimes my mother would sing; she had a good voice for singing and yelling. My parents bickered in the kitchen all the time; they must have liked each other a little; they had seven children. I was number seven. My father came to this country when he was fourteen years old, met my mother and started a family. The whole neighborhood permeated with the same intoxicating aromas. I lived in an Italian area; a poor section of town. Everyone made their Sunday sauce in the morning. I lived in a tenement house on the third floor. Everyone knew each other and helped each other. Most of them moved away and I am sure that those sweet people are gone now. We rushed home from church, changed our good clothes to our dungarees to have dinner. The family always ate together on Sunday, no ifs or buts. We were poor but did not know it. We did not have much but the rent was paid and our bellies were full. After dinner my father would give me fifty cents to walk to the drug store for an ice cream sundae or a banana split with my friends. Those were the days that I remember so well.

There are so many amazing



pasta sauces which are so incredibly easy to make that take no more than twenty minutes; fish sauce, pesto, meat sauce, white sauce and my favorite marinara sauce. I have an infectious enthusiasm for cooking pasta; I want to eat it every night but at the risk of looking like the side of a barn, I refrain. There are so many different variations of pastas in the market today; spaghetti, linguini, ziti, fettucine and fusilli. Nowadays, with newly re-modeled kitchens, people are making their own pasta with machines; not as hard as you think.

My mother-in-law taught me how to make manicotti many years ago. She had such skills in the kitchen. It sounds frightening but trust me if you can make pancakes, you can make manicotti. It is filled with ricotta, rolled, placed in your baking pan and covered with your sauce; usually a marinara sauce. Served with a simple salad or an antipasto; what a delight. A smooth red wine tops off this dinner.

Manicotti

Preheat oven to 350
One cup sifted flour
Four eggs
One cup of water
Pinch of salt
Clean coffee scoop (good measure)
Mix all. Butter a six-to-eight-

inch fry pan. When hot, pour one coffee scoop of batter onto pan, swirl around to cover pan. In ten seconds flip over for another ten seconds, remove. This yields about sixteen crepes.

Marinara Sauce

Olive oil

One can whole tomatoes (I like Pastene) mash and break up
Four cloves of garlic
Chopped basil or parsley
Grated cheese
Touch of red wine (opt.)

Heat olive oil to cover bottom of small sauce pan. Sauté garlic, add tomatoes, let cook for about twenty minutes, add parsley or basil, grated cheese, salt and pepper.

Ricotta filling

One pound of ricotta (I like Dragone)

One egg

One half cup grated cheese

Chopped parsley

Sprinkle of mozzarella cheese (opt)

Mix and fill each crepe with mixture, roll, seam side down, lay in baking pan, pour sauce, then grated cheese... you may like a touch of mozzarella...opt. Bake for thirty minutes. Sprinkle with parsley or basil.

Enjoy with a smooth red wine. Single girls, make this on your first date and I guarantee a ring! Who knows?

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EDITORIAL

GET YOUR COVID-19 BOOSTER SHOTS

While we would all love to leave COVID-19 in the rearview mirror, the stark reality is that the virus is still circulating among us, with the elderly and persons with compromised immune systems the most vulnerable to becoming seriously ill and dying from the virus.

Even otherwise healthy individuals, especially if they are overweight, run the risk of becoming seriously ill from the disease in the short-term and potentially suffering the lingering and debilitating effects of long-COVID, which has been well-documented, though it remains poorly understood.

Fortunately however, the CDC has approved the updated COVID booster vaccine that has been proven to be an effective and safe preventative measure against both catching the disease in the first place and, if infected, mitigating its most harmful effects.

The reasons we need an updated booster are three-fold: First, the effectiveness of the vaccine diminishes over time. Thus, the shots we received last year are significantly less protective today than they were 12 months ago. Second, the virus has mutated in the past year and the updated vaccines will provide protection against this ever-changing virus. Third, as we enter the fall and winter months, families will be gathering, with many having traveled in airplanes and returning from school, which are breeding grounds for the virus, and therefore looming as potential threats for parents and grandparents. We would note that from January to July of this year, 88 percent of deaths from COVID-19 were among people who were 65 years or older.

We urge all of our readers, regardless of age, to get the latest COVID-19 booster as soon as possible, both for our own health and that of our friends, co-workers, and family members.

MITT COULD HAVE BEEN A GREAT PRESIDENT

The announcement this week by Utah Senator Mitt Romney that he will not seek re-election in 2024 leaves a void not only in the Republican party, but on our national political scene.

When Mitt Romney was our governor, he showed that a person of integrity and dedication to office can get things done for the benefit of all citizens. His willingness to work with the Democrats to pass the landmark health care bill that guarantees health insurance for all Massachusetts residents served as a model for the historic Obamacare legislation a few years later at the national level.

In addition, Romney did not play politics (in contrast to governors both before and after)

with his government and judicial appointments. Mitt Romney was a straight shooter who held to the simple belief that excellence in government is attainable.

Unfortunately, Romney sold his proverbial soul to the devil when he entered national politics, changing his previously-held views on a woman's right to choose and even disavowing his own creation, dubbed Romneycare, despite its success in Massachusetts, in order to cater to the archconservatives of the modern Republican party.

However, after his unsuccessful run for president in 2012 in which he was defeated by Barack Obama, Mitt Romney became the de facto leader of the opposition to the ultra-Republicans whose modus operandi can only be described as anarchy.

"A very large portion of my party," said Romney, "really doesn't believe in the Constitution."

Even though we disagree with Mitt Romney on just about every issue, we nonetheless believe that he is one of the few politicians who would have made a great President. His departure from the U.S. Senate will leave a void that few, if any, will dare to fill.



City pays off loan, removed from state financial oversight

Special to the Journal

The City of Lynn has repaid \$14 million in deficit bonds it was authorized by the state to issue in 2018 and is no longer under the financial oversight of the Commonwealth.

Lynn made a payment of \$8.1 million on September 1 to complete repayment of the 10-year loan five years early. The City borrowed \$9.5 million in Fiscal Year 2018 and \$4.5 million in FY 2019 to make up for shortfalls in the general operating budget.

"We are very pleased to put this behind us," Mayor Jared C. Nicholson said. "We appreciate the collaboration with the state over the last five years. We look forward to continuing to operate the City in a manner that is fiscally responsible at all times."

Nicholson and the City Council received a letter dated September 5 from Matthew J. Gorzkowicz, the state secretary of Administration and Finance, officially notifying them of the removal of state oversight. Requirements that will no longer be needed include: completion of a pro-forma tax recap upon the City Council approving a budget; submission of audited financial statements prior to approval of the tax rate; submission of a balance sheet in order to have free cash certified prior to the ap-

proval of a tax rate; and submission of quarterly reports to the state Division of Local Services.

"This is a great step forward for the entire City," said City Council President Jay Walsh. "It means more resources can be allocated towards improving our local infrastructure and serves as a promising sign for Lynn's future growth and development."

While the City was under state oversight, Sean Cronin, senior deputy commissioner of Local Services at the Department of Revenue, served as fiscal stability officer, charged with providing assistance in all matters relat-

ing to municipal financial affairs. Nicholson said eliminating this debt provides financial flexibility moving forward.

"As we have laid out in our financial plans, this step creates needed capacity for us to advance our goal of a new Pickering Middle School," the mayor said. "We wouldn't be here without the shared sacrifice and ongoing discipline on the part of the previous administration, my fellow elected officials, our current financial team, led by Chief Financial Officer Michael Bertino, and the entire team of City workers."

THE LYNN JOURNAL

PRESIDENT: Stephen Quigley EDITOR IN CHIEF: Cary Shuman
cary@lynnjournal.com

PHONE 781-485-0588

EMAIL: EDITOR@LYNNJOURNAL.COM

WEB SITE: WWW.LYNNJOURNAL.COM

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Officials raise risk for EEE to high in three more communities

The Massachusetts Department of Public Health (DPH) last week announced that Eastern equine encephalitis (EEE) has been detected in an additional mosquito sample collected on September 13 in Brimfield. This finding raises the EEE risk level to high in Brimfield, Sturbridge, and Holland and to moderate in Wales.

This is in addition to the six communities already at high risk for EEE: Douglas, Dudley, Oxford, Southbridge, Sutton, and Webster. Auburn, Charlton, Grafton, Millbury, Northbridge, and Uxbridge are at moderate risk.

“The forecast is for cooler temperatures which will start to reduce mosquito activity,” said Dr. Catherine M. Brown, State Epidemiologist. “However, the risk for spread of EEE virus from mosquitoes to people is still present. Everyone in these moderate- and high-risk areas should take the recommended steps to prevent mosquito bites; this includes avoiding outdoor activity between dusk and dawn in the high-risk communities.”

EEE is a rare but serious and potentially fatal disease that can affect people of all ages. EEE is generally spread to humans through the bite of an infected mosquito. There were 12 human cases of EEE in Massachusetts in 2019 with six deaths and 5 human cases with one death in 2020. There were no human cases of EEE in Massachusetts in 2021 or 2022. No human or animal case of EEE has been detected in Massachusetts so far this year.

People have an important role to play in protecting themselves and their loved ones from illnesses caused by mosquitoes.

Avoid Mosquito Bites

Apply Insect Repellent when Outdoors. Use a repellent with an EPA-registered ingredient (DEET (N,N-diethyl-m-toluamide), permethrin, picaridin (KBR 3023), oil of lemon eucalyptus [p-Menthane-3,8-diol (PMD)] or IR3535) according to the instructions on the product label. DEET products should not be used on infants under two months of age and should be used in concentrations of 30 percent or less on older children. Oil of lemon eucalyptus should not be used on children under

three years of age.

Be Aware of Peak Mosquito Hours. The hours from dusk to dawn are peak biting times for many mosquitoes. Consider rescheduling outdoor activities that occur during evening or early morning in areas of high risk.

Clothing Can Help Reduce Mosquito Bites. Wearing long-sleeves, long pants, and socks when outdoors will help keep mosquitoes away from your skin.

Mosquito-Proof Your Home Drain Standing Water. Mosquitoes lay their eggs in standing water. Limit the number of places around your home for mosquitoes to breed by draining or discarding items that hold water. Check rain gutters and drains. Empty unused flowerpots and wading pools and change the water in birdbaths frequently.

Install or Repair Screens. Keep mosquitoes outside by having tightly fitting screens on all windows and doors.

Protect Your Animals

Animal owners should reduce potential mosquito breeding sites on their property by eliminating standing water from containers such as buckets, tires, and wading pools – especially after heavy rains. Water troughs provide excellent mosquito breeding habitats and should be flushed out at least once a week during the summer months to reduce mosquitoes near paddock areas. Horse owners should keep horses in indoor stalls at night to reduce their risk of exposure to mosquitoes. Owners should also speak with their veterinarian about mosquito repellents approved for use in animals and vaccinations to prevent WNV and EEE. If an animal is suspected of having WNV or EEE, owners are required to report to the Department of Agricultural Resources, Division of Animal Health by calling 617-626-1795, and to the Department of Public Health by calling 617-983-6800.

More information, including all WNV and EEE positive results, can be found on the Arbovirus Surveillance Information web page at Mosquito-borne Diseases | Mass.gov, which is updated daily, or by calling the DPH Division of Epidemiology at 617-983-6800.



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NORTH SHORE LATINO BUSINESS ASSOCIATION HOLDS 12TH ANNUAL GALA NIGHT

The North Shore Latino Business Association held its 12th Annual Gala Night Sept. 17 at the Danversport Yacht Club.

The hundreds of guests enjoyed an elegant evening of food, music, and a post-awards program dance party.

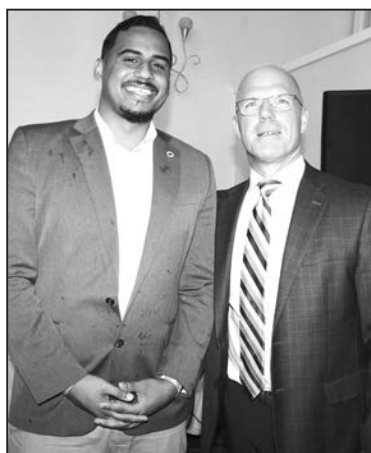
Frances Martinez, President and CEO of NSLBA, and Rosa Feliz, NSLBA Board Chair, welcomed the guests to the event.

State Rep. Dan Cahill and El Mundo Boston President and CEO Alberto Vasallo were the co-masters of ceremonies.

Lauren E. Jones, State Secretary of the Executive Office of

Labor and Workforce Development, was the keynote speaker.

The NSLBA special award recipients for 2023 were: Leyla Toribio (Glamour Nails and Beauty), Member of the Year; Jose G. Perez (ROADS Consulting Group), Businessman of the Year; Anibelka Ramos (Anny's Hair Design), Businesswoman of the Year; Joel Machado and Board of Directors (New England Youth Tackle Football Inc.), Non-Profit Organization of the Year; and Andrea Baez (YMCA Metro North), Civic Engagement Person of the Year.



State Rep. Manny Cruz and Salem State University President John D. Keenan.



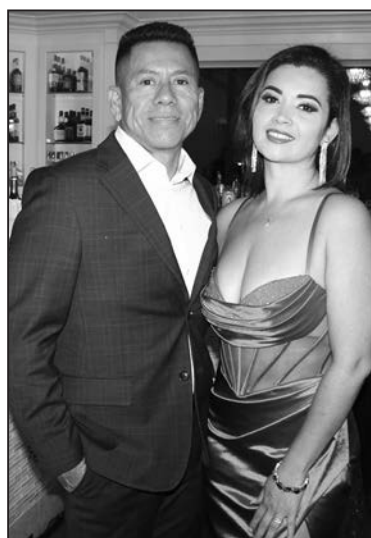
NSLBA Board Member Toyuwa Newton and NSLBA Vice Chair Diana Moreno.



Greater Lynn Chamber of Commerce Chairperson Christine Pierce and Vice Chair Joe Scianatico.



Andrea Baez, Senior Executive Director of YMCA Metro North, Lynn Branch, receives the NSLBA Civic Engagement Person of the Year Award. Making the presentation are State Representative and Master of Ceremonies Dan Cahill, NSLBA President and CEO Frances Martinez, and Mayor Jared Nicholson.



Wilmer Sosa and Iris Sosa, pictured at the 12th Annual NSLBA Gala Night at Danversport Yacht Club.



Anthony Nash, Jeff Smith, NSLBA President and CEO Frances Martinez, and Master of Ceremonies Dan Cahill, State Representative.



Yessenia Encarnacion, NSLBA Board Member Jose M. Encarnacion, NSLBA Vice Chair Diana Moreno, Literacy Day Committee Chair Saritin Rizzuto, and La Vida Scholars Executive Director Peter Barros.



A delegation from Eastern Bank came out to support the North Shore Latino Business Association at its 12th Annual Gala. From left, are Jose Gonzalez, Cesar Velez Liriano, Alba Caro, Baisha Gautam, Johanna Tejada, Adrianna Moschella, and Jose Abreu.

NORTH SHORE LATINO BUSINESS ASSOCIATION HOLDS 12TH ANNUAL GALA NIGHT



Al Matos, David Solimine Jr., Carolina Trujillo, and Magnolia Contreras.



Attorney Michael Satterwhite and Andrea Satterwhite.



Mayor Jared Nicholson and First Lady of Lynn, Katherine Rushfirth, with Attorney Richard Vitali and his wife, Kathy Vitali.



NSLBA President and CEO Frances Martinez presents a special award to State Secretary of the Executive Office of Labor and Development Lauren Jones, who was the keynote speaker.



NSLBA Board Chair Sergio Espinoza and Thalia Batista.



NSLBA President and CEO Frances Martinez and Board Chair Sergio Espinoza welcome the 2023-25 board members and officers to their leadership positions in the Lynn-based business organization.



Mayor Jared Nicholson, NSLBA Board Member Jose Encarnacion, NSLBA Board Chair Rosa Feliz, NSLBA President and CEO Frances Martinez and Appreciation Award recipients Esther Summerset and Michael Satterwhite.

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BRICKYARD 50 CLUB CELEBRATED 60 YEARS

Whenever the Brickyard or the long established 50 Club Bar and Grill is mentioned, the history of Blossom Street is recalled. The original Club 50 was on upper Blossom Street near the new YMCA and where St. Francis Italian Church was located before urban renewal took effect in the area. Club 50 was a three family home with a bar and dining area on the first floor. The other two floors were family residences.

Wednesdays were Club 50 spaghetti and meatballs dinner or a famous meatball sandwich. Other days had specialized Italian cuisine selections or fresh

cuts of meat from local Brickyard butchery shops. Owner Rocky DeFilippo said, "My father loved to cook, and he did an excellent job. The place was always filled. This was a neighborhood bar and dining facility. I am so thankful for all the people who came this evening to celebrate our longtime relationship in the Brickyard."

During the 1960s urban renewal transformed the Brickyard. Close knit neighborhoods gradually disappeared. Club 50 became the 50 Club and was relocated in 1978 to the Clam Alley neighborhood which was an extension of Blossom Street.

Also, Varley's Diner was a popular eatery along the edge of Clam Alley. Homes were removed for a new expansion in that area. Former Clam Alley resident, Charlie Wallis, remembered the good times when neighbors were friendly and caring. The Brickyard community was culturally rich. Sections of Alley Street and Harbor Street still exist with remnants of that era.

50 Club is still thriving with a loyal customer base according to Rocky DiFillippo after 60 years in business as he said, "Since the pandemic and with economic woes happening, we are managing to continue our services. Kelly Muise and her sister, Kathy Alukonis, have been with me

for nearly 30 years. Both sisters really do an excellent job with customers." He continued to say, "As the 50 Club was relocated, I supported sport teams, invested in televisions screens, and made the place comfortable and friendly."

City Councilor Fred Hogan and his colleagues presented a Council Citation to Rocky as he said, "This is a great moment about West Lynn, Blossom Street, and Brickyard history. The 50 Club has been with Rocky's family in the Brickyard for over 60 years in business. This is the heart of Ward 6, and we sincerely congratulate the Brickyard Bar and Grill from the Lynn City Council."

State Representative and Brickyard resident, Peter Capano, presented a Citation from the State Legislature to the DeFilippo family. He said, "This is a special time for me remembering the 50 Club block parties as a child. Every fundraiser that I ever had was here. Rocky has done a lot of work for the community, and we all appreciate his support." Peter continued to say, "The State recognizes Rocky and the Brickyard Bar and Grill for serving the City of Lynn for over 60 years. The entire state delegation, State Senator Crighton, State Representative Cahill and I, extend our very best wishes with future good fortune for continuous success and in all endeavors."



Rocky DiFillippo with Eileen Fleury, Bob and Marylou Sawyer and Ada Wallis-Dowd congratulates a long-time Clam Alley Brickyard resident Charlie Wallis.



Joining Brickyard Bar and Grill Celebration – Marjie and Jeff Crosby, Daria Casilli, Fuzzy Herrick, Diane Mohney, John Vago, Rachel Tose.



50 Club Brickyard Bar & Grill Family and Staff - Allan Muise, Kelly Kidney-Muise, Richard DiFillippo, Ann Amberman, Rocky DiFillippo, Eileen Fleury, and Kathy Kidney-Alukonis.



PAT GECOYA PHOTOS

City Councilors with State Rep. Peter Capano presented Citations to Rocky DiFillippo for 60 years in business – Ward 3 Coco Alinsug, VP/Ward 5 Dianna Chakoutis, Ward 5 Fred Hogan, Rocky, State Rep. and Brickyard resident Peter Capano, At-Large Hong Net, At-Large Brian Field, Council President/Ward 7 Jay Walsh



The Brickyard Bucket Crew celebrate Rocky's 60 years of business on Blossom Street known before urban renewal as Clam Alley

GREATER LYNN CHAMBER GOLF TOURNAMENT

PAT GECOYA PHOTOS



2023 GLCC Top Event Sponsor McGrath Enterprises of Lynn with 2 Golf Teams – (F): Dave Laorenza, McGrath CEO Jimmy Connors, Jason Christian; (B): Dominic Laorenza, Evan Shea, Andrew Roland, John Clarke, and Eric Jacobson.

Greater Lynn Chamber of Commerce (GLCC) had a successful Tournament at Gannon Golf Course. One hundred eight golfers participated in the annual event. GLCC Operations Manager Christine Neals said, “The Chamber is very thankful for all the sponsors, especially to McGrath Enterprises being our event sponsor, and our volunteers. This year we had the most sponsorships, and all proceeds will benefit the Chamber to continue upcoming programs for its membership.”



Reading Coop Bank of Lynn Golf Team – Jessica Glezellis, VP/Community Development Kerry Ranieri, VP Mortgage Maureen Bernard, and VP Commercial Loan Hong Xie.



Wood Insurance Agency of Lynn Golf Team – President Rick Wood & GLCC Past Chair, Bill McNeill, Dan Cardille, and Former Lynn School Committee Frank Carrabba.



GLCC Golf Event Committee – GLCC Operations Manager Christine Neal, NS Bank Shayla Gutierrez, 2023 GLCC Chair Christine Pierce, NS Bank Vanessa Bettencourt, GE Aerospace & GLCC Board Alexis Kievning, and GLCC Membership Corie Currier.



Participating Golfers – Lynn Education District Joe Abramson. GLCC Vice Chair & MA Bay Credit Union Joe Scianatico, Matt Kinschren of Edward Jones, GLCC Secretary Ryan Newall of Newhall RE, Lynn Salem Five Sean McCarthy.

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LYNN ATHLETIC CLUB TRIATHLON

PAT GECOYA PHOTOS

For fifteen consecutive Thursdays twenty or more enthusiastic Triathlon athletes take part in the Lynn/Nahant weekly Triathlon event. This Triathlon is open to anyone who would like to evaluate their endurance and stamina.

The Lynn Athletic Club founder Bob Levine has been organizing this event since 1981. It originally developed on a whim from two race runners, Rich O'Day and Paul Hennessey, in 1980 but not as a traditional event. However, Bob who was a long time road runner took this concept to a new level. Many of the participants over the years who have

competed in this mini-Triathlon have entered major Triathlon events in Hawaii, Australia, and Germany. Bob accumulates statistics each week for the athletes to review their times.

The athletes do not compete against each other, but they use this Triathlon to train and to improve their time according to Bob Levine. "We run this program each week with no entrance fee," said Bob. He continued to say, "We have some great participants that are Triathletes. This is strictly a training program to get healthy and to know what it is like to transition from swimming,

biking, running, changing from a wet suit into dry clothing, and how you feel at different points on the course. These athletes are competing against themselves to get faster and hopefully to enter an advanced Triathlon level."

This program continues to develop and grow. Participants swim a quarter mile, bike for five miles, and run a 2.7 course. This is an excellent group of athletes. Everyone is helpful, friendly, and welcomes new participants. It starts at Nahant beach entrance where everyone meets, starts, and finishes the Triathlon.



Winning the Triathlon - 2nd Men Warren MacPhail, 1st Woman Stephanie Horton, and 1st Men Shane Sherwood.



Stephanie Horton finished the 2.7 mile run.



Former Race Runner, Rick O'Day and Marathon and Triathlon athlete ,Gerry Powers, helping Triathlon coordinator Bob Levine



Mary DiMaria completed the quarter mile swim.



Susie Frasca geared up for her five mile bike ride.



Triathlon participants ready for another Triathlon season.



Ageless Judi Johnson continues her Triathlon activity.



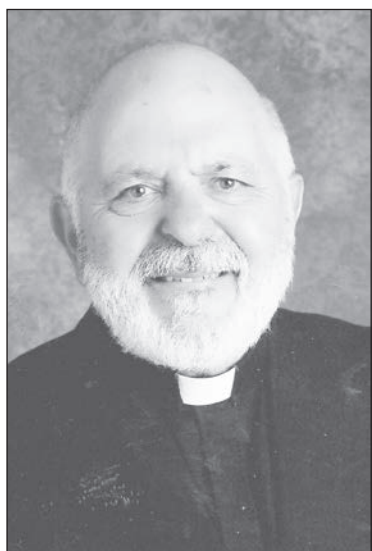
20 years Triathlon athlete Sal Genovese with is two Triathlon Daughters - Mae and Summer.

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OBITUARIES

Rev. Fr. Gregory Mercurio

He will be remembered for acts of kindness and compassion



Rev. Fr. Gregory Mercurio succumbed to a courageous battle with Corticobasal Degeneration on September 6, 2023.

He was born on March 26, 1949 in Montauro, Provincial di Catanzaro, Calabria Italy to the late Giuseppe and Angelina Mercurio.

At the age of 6 he arrived in the United States with his family and settled in the North End of Boston and later became a citizen of the United States. He attended Christopher Columbus High school and graduated from St. Francis Seraphic Seminary in Andover to begin formal studies for the priesthood. He took time off to work at the federal reserve bank of Boston to subsidize his education.

He received his BA in philosophy and Master of divinity degrees studying at Immaculate Conception Seminary in Troy, New York and St. John's Seminary in Brighton. In 1979 he became a member of the Franciscan Friars and on November 8, 1980, he was ordained to the

priesthood.

His first assignment was at St. Leonard's Church in the North End. He was transferred to St. Ann's parish, where at the age of 34, he became pastor. He incardinated into the Archdiocese of Boston as a diocesan priest and served the parishioners of St. John the Evangelist Parish in Winthrop. He became pastor of Holy Family parish in Lynn and while serving as pastor, he

became administrator of St. Pius the V in Lynn. He was granted senior priest status in 2017 and served the parishioners of Immaculate Conception in Marlboro until his medical leave.

Fr. Gregory served as Chaplin for the Knights of Columbus in Marlboro and Lynn. He was involved in the order of Sons of Italy, where he founded a lodge at Holy Family, served as Chaplin for the Marlboro lodge and was State Chaplin in Massachusetts. Fr. Gregory was an avid gardener, cook and photographer. He will be remembered for acts of kindness and compassion.

He is survived by his sisters, Liberata Scimemi and her late husband, Mario of Revere and Rose Oliveri and her husband, Carl of Saugus and many loving nieces and nephews.

The Short & Rowe Funeral Home, 95 W. Main St., Marlborough, MA was in care of the arrangements. For more information and to view an online memorial please visit, www.shortandrowefuneralhome.com.

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CITY PAWS

Settling in with pets

By Penny & Ed Cherubino

When you move with pets, you have the added task of finding new VIPs for your furry friends - those who walk dogs, care for your pets when you travel, groom your critters, and provide routine and emergency veterinary care. In addition, you need to obtain the local licenses your municipality requires and update your contact on the microchips and tags identifying your animals.

Recommendations

To find excellent dog services, try a two-pronged approach. First, gather recommendations from your new neighbors and those you meet while walking around your new neighborhood. If they're a pet guardian, ask what they like and dislike about the professionals they use. It's good to ask which dog walkers, groomers, petsitters, and veterinarians they've used in the past and why they may have stopped using them.

In some cases, a person with dogs might be a dog walker. Don't hesitate to ask for their company's contact information, even if you're not impressed with their dog-walking style. This will help you avoid services that are not up to your standards.

Dog Walker and Sitter Considerations

We recommend asking some

specific questions to find a reliable dog walker. Inquire about their availability throughout the year and if they have coverage when ill or on vacation. Do they have specific training in animal care and pet first aid? Do they carry professional insurance?

Is the dog walker willing to meet you and your dog before scheduling appointments? This allows you to determine if the person is a good fit for your furry friend. Inquire about the number of dogs they usually handle. You might even request to accompany them on a walk to observe their handling of your dog within a pack.

If you have specific needs or requirements, make those clear from the beginning. A close friend hired a dog walker for her dog with the condition that the dog should never be tied up outside. She told us that if we ever saw her dog tied up, we were to take him home and notify her immediately. One day, Penny found him in a group of dogs outside a building and did as requested. That was the last time that person walked that dog.

Veterinarians and Groomers

While dog walkers come to your home, you must take your dog to the Vet and groomer. Location and transportation can be deciding factors. We recently changed veterinarians to one we could get to without a car.

In addition to a great location, we had already had a good experience with this Veterinary group in an emergency during the pandemic and were impressed. They offered certified fear-free care, which was important for our anxious little dog. They fit our specific needs. Your decision should be based on how well a practice fits your wants and needs.

Don't Wait for Holiday Pet Care!

Now is the time to reserve the holiday season transportation, lodging, and pet care you'll need for your pets and guests who might be coming for a holiday visit. Fortunately, the Greater Boston Area has many pet-friendly hotels. Finding a place for your sister and her dog to stay (if your building does not allow pets) should be easy.

Finding someone to groom, pet sit, or dog walk during the holidays is more complex. If you have a regular service, ask about boarding, sitting, or if you will have a visiting dog to walk over the holidays. As much as they'd like to accommodate regular customers, there's a limit to how many animals a pet sitter can accept.

Do you have a question or topic for City Paws? Send an email to Penny@BostonZest.com with your request.



When you move with pets, you have the added task of finding new service providers for your furry friend. (Photo by Erda Estremera)

City of Lynn partners with MassHire to provide residents an opportunity to obtain no-cost Class B commercial driver's license

Special to the Journal

The City is making it easier for residents to obtain their Class B commercial driver's license, opening the door to a range of employment opportunities.

As part of a collaboration between the Department of Public Works and the Salem-based MassHire North Shore Career Center, Lynn residents, have the chance to obtain a Class B license for little or no cost, which is based on income criteria.

Jobs for someone with a CDL Class B license include: DPW mechanics, maintenance workers, snow fighters and more. To review positions with the City that are currently available, visit lynnma.gov and click on job postings. Those obtaining the Class B license would potentially have access to not only positions in the City, but also the Lynn Water and Sewer Commission and other openings that require this license.

"We have had trouble attracting candidates with a CDL," said DPW Commissioner Andy Hall. "That is a requirement to work here, so anything we can do to address that is a positive."

MassHire North Shore Executive Director Paul Ventresca said his organization can help the

City recruit potential employees by providing the training necessary for certain jobs. "We will streamline the process and be a support structure for the City, providing training for eligible candidates that have been laid off or are unemployed and seeking a new career as well as existing employees who need the certification and meet the income criteria," Ventresca said.

Mayor Jared C. Nicholson said the partnership with MassHire is beneficial to the City and residents.

"There is significant expense typically associated with this type of training, so to be able to provide this opportunity for our residents is of great value," Nicholson said. "Additionally, possessing a commercial driver's license increases the earning potential of an individual so we really want to give people the ability to improve the financial situation of themselves and their families."

The MassHire North Shore Career Center connects job seekers with businesses through a regional network of employment professionals.

Those interested in obtaining their CDL class B should contact the North Shore WIB at 978-741-3805 or visit masshire-northshorewb.com

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