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# THE LYNN JOURNAL

Friday, March 8, 2024



Instructor Michael McLaughlin with Lynn English students - Alex Gomez, Jayden Pagan, Jaleel Khamis,

### Lynn English High School students participate in **Brickyard Collaborative's Community Boat Building**

Special to the Journal

Community Boat Building is an excellent program teaching students how to build life skills. The Brickyard Collaborative operated during school vacation week to construct a ten foot rowboat named Periwinkle Junior 2. The class was held daily from 9 a.m.until 3:30 p.m.

"This is an opportunity for the students to do something new and do something never done before according to Instructor Michael McLaughlin. "Working with students they learn to un-

derstand three major rules - safety, following directions, and they have the freedom to fail," said Michael. He continued to explain that it is okay to make a mistake; it is not the mistake but what a student can do about it which is an important rule in life.

Michael has a simple greeting quote which is "I see you and I am here." He noted the importance of the quote as he said, "You see the person who they are, recognize the students as themselves and help the students become better in the moment."

Lynn English High School teacher Frank Grealish had six

of his students participating in the program. "All these students came out of the Kayaking - Sail Lynn program," said Grealish.

"We are really thrilled to have the students involved. They learned woodworking skills and team building by working together. I see team building happening more during the week. It is amazing to see it all come together.'

The Brickyard Collaborative is located at 760 Western Avenue rear in Lynn. If interested, please visit the woodworking shop to learn more about the program.

There are 7,626 parking spaces downtown, with 2,446 onstreet spaces and 5,180 off-street spaces. About 4,000 of the off-

The survey was launched during the first public workshop on February 7. The City seeks the community's input to sup-

# State grant will help Lynn become more accessible

Special to the Journal

The City's Disability Commission has received a state grant geared to improving compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act.

The \$34,260 grant will be used to improve access at four public buildings: City Hall, Lynn Public Library, Senior Center and DPW headquarters, according to Christopher Gaeta, chair of the Disability Commission.

The funding will be used to improve signage for handicapped parking areas, including van-accessible parking at City Hall. There will also be braille signs installed in the buildings, insulation on pipes and special door knobs and fixtures.

"This is exciting news," Gaeta said. "These changes will help us better serve our residents with disabilities."

As part of the grant application process, the City was required to conduct a self-evaluation of its ADA compliance and develop a plan for ways in which it could improve.

"Making our buildings more accessible for all of our residents is a priority," Mayor Jared C. Nicholson said. "We appreciate the hard work of the Disability Commission in obtaining this grant that will help us accomplish that."

plement data collected about

the parking system to ensure the

downtown parking strategy can

address a wide variety of parking

needs for residents, businesses,

and visitors of Lynn's down-

town. The goal for the commu-

nity engagement process is to

develop a parking strategy that

promotes a vibrant, walkable and

welcoming downtown. After the

surveys are reviewed, two more

workshops will be held before a

To take the survey, visit lyn-

Lynn Police

final plan is published.

nincommon.com/parking.

### City looking for feedback on parking

Special to the Journal

Do you have an opinion on the parking situation in downtown Lynn? If so, the City wants to

As part of an ongoing downtown parking study, the City has developed a survey designed to collect data from the community to better understand parking needs from the user perspective. Those who live, work or visit the downtown can weigh in on topics including availability of parking, more efficient use of space, and whether the parking system is meeting the City's goals.

street spaces are private spots reserved for tenants.

Department **Promotes** 13 Officers See pages 6 and 7.

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

# EDITORIAL

#### FIRE, FIRE EVERYWHERE

The fires that have been burning out of control this past week in Texas and Oklahoma -- and which are continuing to rage as this is being written -- are yet another harbinger of what awaits us thanks to the ever-increasing rate of climate change that is affecting every corner of the earth.

The fires in Texas, which have killed two persons, destroyed 500 homes, and caused entire towns to be evacuated, come on the heels of the recent fires in Chile, which destroyed entire communities and claimed 131 lives, more than the tragic fire a few months back that

Fire in other parts of the globe in recent years have charred millions of acres of land and wiped out entire communities, from Australia, to California, to Canada, and the Siberian tundra.

The out-of-control wildfire fires not only have caused loss of life and brought economic devastation to communities and individuals, but they also have sent acrid smoke that enveloped large swathes of neighboring countries, as happened in the Midwest and East Coast last summer when the fires in eastern Canada raised our air quality to extremely unhealthy levels for days at a time.

But these fires are only part of the equation of climate change. Ocean temperatures reached record highs this year, threatening coral reefs and marine life across the globe. What had seemed as inconceivable -- that the world's oceans could turn into dead zones -- no longer is in the realm of science fiction. It's a reality that could occur within a few short years.

In addition, with the hot oceans providing the fuel for tropical storms, hurricanes promise to be ever-stronger and more devastating.

Air temperatures have set records month-after-month and year-after-year for the past five years, with each successive year exceeding the one before. The record warmth in the continental U.S. this winter has resulted in the least snow cover on record and has prevented the usual lakes from freezing. Glaciers are disappearing everywhere, from the polar regions, to Greenland, to the Alps in Europe.

In short, everything that is climate related is off-the-charts -- and not in a good way. If what climate scientists tell us is true -- that we are in a race against time to change our ways and that we must stop burning fossil fuels in order to save the environment as we know it -- then it is becoming increasingly clear that our feet are stuck in the

### PLEASE: NO PUBLIC DRINKING ON ST. PATRICK'S DAY

With the St. Patrick's Day holiday and traditional South Boston parade approaching on Sunday, March 17, we urge our public safety officials to plan for enforcing the laws which prohibit drinking in public, especially by underage drinkers.

Last year in the aftermath of the South Boston parade, we found ourselves in the unfortunate position of riding the Red Line to the South Shore. The trains were packed with highly-inebriated, rowdy, under-age drinkers who were drinking openly on the trains and then flinging their empties around the train cars, striking other passengers. The platforms resembled war zones, with large-scale fights and scores of youths who were passed out left-and-right.

We realize that everyone wants to relax and have a good time on St. Patrick's Day, but that is no excuse for our public safety officials to turn a blind eye to underage drinking and drinking in public. In addition, for those of us of Irish descent, the perception that being "Irish for a day" means drinking heavily is highly-insulting.

It is inevitable that with the high degree of public intoxication that is tacitly permitted by our public safety officials, there will be a tragedy. We urge our public officials to take steps ahead of time to stop this annual reign of dangerous mass chaos.

## When you change your clocks, check your alarms this weekend

With daylight saving time beginning on March 10, Massachusetts fire officials are reminding residents to check their smoke and carbon monoxide (CO) alarms when they change their clocks.

"We've seen too many tragedies in homes without working smoke and carbon monoxide alarms," said State Fire Marshal Davine. "Most fires and CO incidents take place at home, and these alarms are your first line of defense. As we spring forward this weekend, remember to check your alarms when you change your clocks. Be sure they're present on every level of your home. And unless you have newer alarms with sealed, longlife batteries, this is a great time to replace the alkaline batteries in all your alarms."

#### **Most Fatal Fires** Occur in One- and **Two-Family Homes**

Of 45 fire deaths in Massachusetts last year, 31 – nearly 70% – took place at home. Nearly 75% of these residential fire deaths took place in one- and two-family homes. Investigators found working smoke alarms at just one-third of those dwellings.

#### **Replace Expired Alarms**

"Smoke and CO alarms are like any other appliance - they don't last forever," said Hyannis Fire Chief Peter Burke, president of the Fire Chiefs Association of Massachusetts. "An alarm's manufacturing date is printed on the back of the device. Smoke alarms need to be replaced after 10 years, and carbon monoxide alarms need to be replaced after 5, 7, or 10 years, depending on the make and model. If your alarm is out of date, or if there's no date at all, it's time to replace it."

Replacing an out-of-date alarm? The Massachusetts Comprehensive Fire Safety Code requires replacement battery-operated smoke alarms in older one- and two-family homes to be photoelectric and have sealed, long-life batteries and a hush feature. These alarms are easier to maintain and less likely to be disabled while cooking or by someone using the batteries for other household appliances.

"Disabling a smoke alarm puts you and everyone in your building at risk," said Chief Burke. "Test your alarms once a month to be sure you and the people you care for are protected.'



Fire officials recommend that you choose alarms from a wellknown, national brand. Look for the mark of an independent testing laboratory such as UL or Intertek. Many Massachusetts fire departments have found alarms purchased on Amazon and other online retailers that do not meet the Fire Code – and may not perform when they're needed most.

"If the price seems too good to be true, then it probably is," said State Fire Marshal Davine.

#### **Create & Practice a Home Escape Plan**

"We have less time than ever before to escape a fire at home," said State Fire Marshal Davine. "You could have three minutes to escape safely. Creating and practicing a home escape plan that includes two routes out will help you make the most of that precious time to get outside before poisonous gases and heat make escape impossible."

"Working smoke alarms and a practiced home escape plan are among the most fundamental and important tools for surviving a fire," said Chief Burke. "Be sure everyone in the home knows what to do and where to go when the alarm sounds, including young children, older adults, and people with disabilities. Always keep doorways, stairways, and windows clear of furniture and other obstructions so you can leave quickly and safely."

#### Older Adults at **Greatest Risk**

More than half of last year's fire deaths involved adults aged 65 and older. In FY23, the Department of Fire Services' Senior SAFE grant program awarded more than \$575,000 to hundreds of fire departments across Massachusetts to support assistance with alarm installation and testing. Older adults who need help testing, maintaining, or replacing smoke alarms should contact their local fire department, council on aging, or senior center for assis-

#### Carbon Monoxide **Hazards**

Heating equipment is the leading source of carbon monoxide at home, State Fire Marshal Davine said, but winter isn't over yet and CO remains a hazard even in warmer weather. While many carbon monoxide incidents involve furnaces and other heating appliances, CO is also produced by stoves, grills, and vehicles, as well as generators put into use during a power outage.

"Firefighters detect carbon monoxide at about 5,000 calls each year in Massachusetts, and we've already seen cases of fatal carbon monoxide poisoning in 2024," said Chief Burke. "We can't see, smell, or taste carbon monoxide. Working CO alarms are the only way to detect this silent, invisible killer. If you hear you CO alarms sounding, get out to fresh air and call 9-1-1 right

# The Lynn Journal

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### On The Campaign Trail

# Reid seeks State Representative seat

School Committee Member Sean Reid has declared his candidacy for State Representative of the 11th Essex District, encompassing West Lynn and Nahant. His decision follows the announcement by the current Representative, Peter Capano, that he will not seek re-election.

Reid, who was born and raised in West Lynn, points to his direct experience working in the State House with Senator Brendan Crighton (serving in multiple roles including District Director, Communications Director, and Legislative Director) as something that really makes him stand out.

"Losing a legend, a true champion, in Representative Capano, leaves a huge gap at the State House," said Reid. "While no one can replace him, we need someone who has the experience to hit the ground running and seamlessly serve on day one."

As a complement to his School Committee work, Reid says that one of his top priorities will be continuing to fight for improving the education experience for students, teachers, and families. This includes advocating for more funding to address our school buildings and the teacher shortage.

He is also committed to im-



Sean Reid.

proving public transit infrastructure, with a particular emphasis on initiatives aimed at boosting commuter rail frequency, reliability, and affordability. Additionally, he intends to advocate for the expansion of ferry service, leveraging the successes seen last year Highlighting the persistent challenges faced by residents due to congestion and lengthy commuting times, Reid underscores the urgent need for action to alleviate these burdens that negatively impact so many.

Reid made it clear that while he is very proud of the work during his tenure in Senator Crighton's office, that he brings his own unique perspective and experiences to the table.

With a deep commitment to public service and a track record of community involvement, Reid has taken on various responsibilities, including serving on the YMCA of Metro North board, the My Brother's Table board, and co-founding a nonprofit organization, Kayak and Sail Lynn.

"But I haven't just worked on tackling many of the issues facing our residents in my professional life -I've lived them," said Reid

For instance, Reid emphasizes that another one of his priorities is addressing the housing crisis, driven not only by the widespread struggles that he sees and hears but also by his personal experience of growing up housing insecure.

Reid is a graduate of Lynn Public Schools (Classical, Breed, and Callahan), where he attended from kindergarten through 12th grade. He later pursued higher education, graduating from both North Shore Community College and Amherst College.

Reid's wife, Kelsey, is a Special Education Teacher at Hood Elementary School in Lynn.

The primary election will take place on September 3rd of this year.

### News Briefs

#### SAUGUS AUTHOR PUBLISHES HORROR BOOK

"The Twinkle in Her Eye," a new book by David A. DiPesa, has been released by Dorrance Publishing Co., Inc.

Gwendolyn is every man's dream turned nightmare. But although she is beautiful, charming, and seemingly normal by all accounts, every man who encounters Gwen meets his own deadly demise. When the police start investigating the horrible crime scenes, they discover there's more to them than meets the eye. Besides trying to solve the crimes, they are also attempting to solve the mystery of who this Gwen woman really is. Could she, in fact, have had something to do with them?

David A. DiPesa is a pianist, writer, and avid concertgoer. He currently lives in Massachusetts with his green cheek conure, Kiwi.

The Twinkle in Her Eye is a 68-page paperback with a retail price of \$13.00 (eBook \$8.00). The ISBN is 979-8-88812-008-8. It was published by Dorrance Publishing Co., Inc of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. For members of the press, to request a review copy, visit our virtual pressroom at https://dorrancepressroom.com/the-twinkle-in-her-eye/ or to buy the book visit our online bookstore at https://bookstore.

dorrancepublishing.com/the-twinkle-in-her-eye/.

#### BREAKHEART RESERVATION MARCH EVENTS

All programs are free and open to the public. Bring water, use sunscreen, dress in comfortable layers, and wear sturdy closed toe shoes. An adult must accompany children. Inclement weather cancels outdoor programs. For more information call 781-233-0834 or email jessica.narog-hutton@mass.gov Breakheart Reservation is located at 177 Forest Street in Saugus. Parking is free.

Maple Sugarin'!

Saturday, March 9th, 10:00am - 2:00pm

Join us for this FUN annual event! Experience the process of maple sugarin' from tapping a tree to sampling maple syrup. This program is co-sponsored by the Friends of Breakheart Reservation.

Enjoy some refreshments inside the Visitor Center for a \$5.00 donation to the Friends of Breakheart Reservation, and then join us for a tour of the maple sugarin' process. Tour includes the history of maple sugaring, tree identification & tapping, wood splitting, and the evaporator!

For more information, please call (781) 233-0834.

### Fresh and Local

## Switch it up!

By Penny & Ed Cherubino

Those of us who cook have a roster of dishes we make more often than others. When you dine in or have takeout from a favorite restaurant, you probably have a few dishes you usually order. If you or your eaters find the love for a long-time favorite fading, it may be time to switch it up.

#### **Salad Revision**

We often add a favorite arugula and grilled shrimp salad to our order at Piattini on Newbury Street. Penny has made it at home several times, but it has yet to measure up to the original. She just can't duplicate the restaurant's

great balsamic salad dressing. However, she made an excellent replacement salad by switching things up.

Penny replaced the shrimp with grilled sweet chili salmon, the dried cranberries with unsweetened dried cherries, and candied pecans with roasted pecans. Finally, she created a salad dressing from the remains of the sweet chili glaze from the salmon.

It was not just delicious but seasonal with winter fruits and nuts. It was healthier, with less sugar and higher omega-3 fatty acids. It was not as expensive since it used less costly fish and pantry ingredients. We're already talking about switching up this salad for



Our spicy grilled salmon, dried cherry, and pecan version of an arugula salad is a favorite busyday meal.

spring, summer, and fall using seasonal ingredients and seafood from farmers' markets.

Another way to change a salad like this is to take your inspiration from a different culture or food preference. It could become Asian and vegan with grilled tofu, shiitake mushrooms, crispy shallots, and a ginger sesame vinaigrette.

**How Restaurants Do It** Some items stay, without change, on restaurant menus forever and are sorely missed when they disappear, such as the legendary Hamersley's roast chicken. However, many chefs find ways to freshen their menus with seasonal flourishes.

For example, one of our neighborhood hangouts, Little Whale, keeps Ed's favorites, swordfish, and haddock, on the menu. However, as the seasons change, the sauces and sides offered with these standbys are adapted to use seasonal ingredients. This winter, a side of marble potatoes and roasted fennel, sauced with a country mustard beurre blanc, has Penny ordering swordfish and wishing that side was offered by itself.

Another option for home cooks and restaurant chefs is to change their regular menu to include seasonal ingredients intentionally. The local

asparagus season is so short that we will incorporate it into our meals many times a week. We might roast it along with some chicken on a sheet pan. Sometimes, we peel it into ribbons to create a fennel and asparagus salad that we only eat in spring. In winter, we surround that chicken with roasted root vegetables.

Change something as routine as "Taco Tuesday" by brainstorming for other fillings. The taco is just the carrier for the meal. You could choose an Italian sausage, pepper, and onion taco or a pizza taco. Consider ordering from a different taco shop if your tacos are take-out. There are dozens of discussions online about the best of any food category in the area.

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

#### NORTH SHORE LATINO BUSINESS ASSOCIATION AMONG US POWER BREAKFAST

The North Shore Latino Business Association hosted its first Among Us Power Breakfast March 7 at the Lynn Museum.

NSLBA President and CEO Frances Martinez welcomed a sell-out crowd of more than 130 guests to the event.

"We're amazed by the turnout," said Martinez, noting there was also a waiting list. "Today we're talking about all the success and the opportunities that women have in this world.'

A distinguished panel consisting of Supt. of Lynn Schools Dr. Evonne Alvarez, North Shore Community College Provost Dr. Jennifer Mezquita, and Vice President of Community Health Dana Farber Cancer Institute Magnolia Contreras led a discussion about leadership and business during the program.

Michelle "La Poetica" Richardson was the featured artist.



Lynn Public Health Director Lisa Tobin and NSLBA President Frances Martinez.



**NSLBA President Frances Mar**tinez welcomes guest panelist, Supt. of Lynn Schools Dr. Evonne Alvarez, to the Power Breakfast.



Elisa Castillo, representing Salem State University, and Liliana Patino of Eliot Community Human Services, Lynn.



Reading Cooperative Bank Vice President and Community Development Officer Kerry Ranieri, Reading Cooperative Bank Mortgage Originator Maureen Bernard, and Attorney Anne Gugino Carrigan of the Law Offices of James J. Carrigan.



**NSLBA President Frances Martinez welcomes** representatives from Mayor Jared Nicholson's Administration, DEI Officer Faustina Cuevas (left) and Outreach Coordinator Sarita Ago (right), to the Power Breakfast March 7 at the Lynn Museum.



Stephanie Abbott of All Care VNA Hospice, Virgen Gonzalez of GLSS Homecare, All Care VNA Hospice CEO Jo-Mary Koopman, and Lynn Community Health Center Director of Development Paula Mejia.



Rosa Feliz, Frances Martinez, Magnolia Contreras, and Mary Jane Smiley of Economic Development Industrial Corporation (EDIC) of Lynn.



Frances Martinez welcomes Councilor-at-Large Nicole McClain (left) and Ward 4 Councilor Natasha Megie-Maddrey (right) to the Power Breakfast.



**NSLBA President and CEO Frances Martinez welcomes North** Shore Community College Provost Dr. Jennifer Mezquita and President Dr. William Heineman to the Power Breakfast.



Featured performing artist Michelle "La Poetica" Richardson, distinguished guest panelists Magnolia Contreras, Dr. Evonne Alvarez, and Dr. Jennifer Mazguita, and NSLBA President and CEO Frances Martinez.



NSLBA Board Members, from left, Metro Credit Union Assistant Vice President Diana Moreno, Rosa Feliz, NSLBA President and CEO Frances Martinez, Ircania Valera of Valera Insurance Services, Elizabeth Castro of Imagination Station Learning Center, and Alicia Chan of Brotherhood Credit Union.

### A symphony of colors and community at North Shore Juneteenth Association's Black History Paint Workshop

As you stepped into the vibrant halls of 25 Exchange Street on February 17th, 2024, you were immediately enveloped in a cacophony of warm welcomes and offers of pizza slices. Right next to the age-old wooden staircase, the 5th Annual Black History Paint Workshop unfolded—a beacon of creativity and unity. This community paint night, brimming with paint sets, light-hearted conversations, and friendly faces, beckoned people from across Lynn to celebrate Black History Month by painting the Juneteenth flag, a potent symbol of freedom and community cohesion.

#### A Mosaic of Participants

The event was a microcosm of society itself, with teenagers donning "Aaliyah: Princess of RnB" shirts painting in contemplative silence, retirees eagerly participating, and young children weaving around their parents in the erratic dance unique to toddlers. Amidst this diversity, North Shore Juneteenth Association members, Erica Seals, Janey David, and Nicole McClain oversaw the bustling room, a testament to the event's flawless organization and the support from entities like the Lynn Cultural Council.

### Nicole McClain: A Spectrum of Influence

At the heart of the evening councilwoman Nicole McClain, a living mosaic of experiences as a veteran, councilwoman, and first and foremost, a mother. She addressed the gathered crowd, sharing the profound history of Juneteenth—a celebration of emancipation that came two years after the Emancipation Proclamation. In Nicole's narrative, the past was a mirror reflecting her own battles for freedom and representation, her service in the military underscoring a commitment to community and

Becoming the first black woman elected to Lynn's council, Nicole personified black history. Her journey from the military to municipal governance illustrated the power of representation, setting a precedent for a new era in Lynn where diversity in leadership is not just seen but expected.

### Beyond Titles: The Essence of Motherhood

But beneath her public roles, Nicole's essence as a mother shone brightest. Her interactions, whether with parents, toddlers, or volunteers, radiated the inclusivity and care characteristic of maternal love. As she moved through the room, her half-eaten plate of food abandoned, her actions echoed the global narrative of women's invaluable yet often unrecognized contributions to caregiving and community nurturing.

### A United Front of Volunteers and Visionaries

Nicole's mission to unite Lynn's community was supported by a diverse coalition of volunteers, among them, special guest Ryan Robinson. An MIT alumnus with a groundbreaking background as the world's first quantum engineer and one of the youngest professors in history at age 28, shared Nicole's commitment to public service, Ryan shared insights into Jean-Michel Basquiat's life, connecting the dots between art, science, and community. This narrative arc, from Nicole's leadership to Ryan's innovations and Basquiat's artistic legacy, highlighted the multifaceted contributions of Black individuals to history and contemporary society.

### Wendy Ekole: Crafting Histories with Every Stroke

As the event wound down, paint instructor Wendy Ekole emerged as a conduit between past and present, guiding attendees in translating their reflections on history into vibrant artworks. Her presence reinforced the workshop's core message: art is a powerful medium for exploring



Ryan Robinson and Ebonique Stepney.



Shown (left to right) are Andre Sanchez, Janey David, Ebonique Stepney, Wendy Ekole, Nicole McClain, Erica Seals, and Ryan Robinson.

and expressing our shared histories

### Ebonique Stepney: A Voice for Wellness and Creativity

In a heartfelt finale, Ebonique Stepney, artist and Creative Art Director at Conduit, shared resources for mental wellness, emphasizing the role of creativity and positive affirmations in fostering community health. Her message, delivered amid the backdrop of a successful workshop, underscored the importance of mental health awareness and support within the fabric of community engagement as she outlined Conduit's latest mental health app, Chummy, which supports users' mental health by providing affirmations throughout the users' days.

#### The Last Drop of Color

As the music faded and the vibrant echoes of our gathering began to quiet, the departure of each attendee, marked by smiles and mutual respect, painted a vivid tableau of unity in diversity. The slow procession of diverse skin tones and ethnic backgrounds into the Lynn night was a testament to the universal appeal of culture and heritage. It's clear that the appreciation of black art, the acknowledgment of black scientists, politicians, and historical figures transcends racial and ethnic boundaries, enriching us all. The celebration of Black History at our workshop was a celebration of humanity itself-our art, curiosity, and expression.

The volunteers' act of gather-

### 2024 Lynn All City Track Meet

May 28

Looking for sponsors to support the kids!

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# Lynn Police Department promotes 13 officers

Thirteen Lynn Police officers took oaths of office for their promotions to new leadership positions in the Lynn Police Department during a ceremony Monday in the City Council Chambers.

City Clerk Janet Rowe administered the oath of office to the six newly promoted Lynn Police Lieutenants – Michael O'Connell, Richard Connick, Timothy Hallisey, Kenneth Runyan, Peter Alexander, and Michael Gorman – and the seven newly promoted Lynn Police Sergeants – Mark Nerich, Taylor Haberek, Rachel McInerney, Jennifer Cash, Edward Cauley, Jeffrey Accituno, and David Spelta.

Police Chief Christopher Reddy welcomed the officers, their proud families, and guests to the ceremony.

"This is a really special day," said Reddy. "It's not very often that a member of our department gets to share the experience of being promoted. It's really a big deal and an accomplishment that comes after a lot of hard work. They deserve tremendous credit for the work they put in to get themselves here today."

Mayor Jared Nicholson congratulated the officers on their promotions.

"On behalf of the citizens of Lynn, it is my honor to congratulate all those being promoted to-day," said Nicholson. "We're so excited to recognize the achievement of attaining these promotions, and more importantly thank you for your commitment to this city."

Chief Reddy concluded the ceremony, stating, "Congratulations to you all, the lieutenants, and the sergeants. Thank you for your hard work and we look forward to the tremendous leadership that you're going to provide to our department in the months and years ahead."



From left, Lynn Police Chief Christopher Reddy, newly promoted Lynn Police Sergeants Mark Nerich, Taylor Haberek, Rachel McInerney, Jennifer Cash, Edward Cauley, Jeffrey Accituno, and David Spelta, and Lynn Mayor Jared Nicholson.



From left, Lynn Police Chief Christopher Reddy, newly promoted Police Lieutenants Michael O'Connell, Richard Connick, Timothy Hallisey, Kenneth Runyan, Peter Alexander, and Michael Gorman, and Lynn Mayor Jared Nicholson.

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www.cancer.org 1.800.ACS.2345



# Proud families attend Lynn Police promotions ceremony



Lynn Police Chief Christopher Reddy, Mayor Jared Nicholson, and City Clerk Janet Rowe, pictured at the Lynn Police promotions ceremony March 4 in the City Council Chambers.



Police Sgt. Jennifer Cash and her proud family.



Police Sgt. Edward Cauley and his proud family.



**Retired Police Chief Mike** Mageary, with his niece, newly promoted Police Sgt. Jennifer Cash, following the oath-taking



Police Sgt. David Spelta and his proud wife.



proud family.

Police Sgt. Taylor Heberek and his



Police Sgt. Mark Nerich, with his proud family, mother, Jean Nerich, brother, John Nerich, and sister, Associate DPW Commissioner Lisa



Police Lt. Kenneth Runyan and his proud family.



#### **DOWNTOWN LYNN PARKING STUDY**

## **PUBLIC SURVE**

The City of Lynn is conducting a study of parking in the downtown area. If you live, work, or visit Downtown Lynn, we want to hear from you!

Do we need more parking? Can we better use what we have?

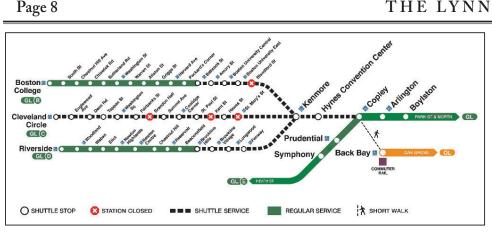
Can finding parking be easier? Is the parking system meeting city goals?

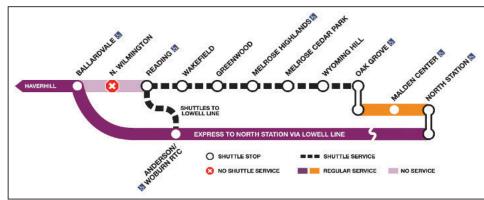
The Downtown Parking Study involves an in-depth collection of data and analysis. This is your chance to be heard about parking-related concerns!

#### TAKE THE SURVEY!

Visit lynnincommon.com/parking or scan the QR code







### March service changes: MBTA continues repair work to improve reliability across the system

The MBTA announced service maintain its infrastructure and imchanges in March on the Green, Red, Orange, Kingston, Middleborough, Greenbush, Framingham/Worcester, Haverhill, and Newburyport/Rockport lines. The

prove reliability across the system for riders.

Riders can find more information on service changes through in-station signage, in-station public

alerts. Transit Ambassadors and MBTA staff will be available onsite to offer information and assistance during these service changes. Riders are encouraged to subscribe to T-Alerts or to follow the MBTA on X (the site formerly known as Twitter) @MBTA, @MBTA\_CR, and @MBTA\_CR\_Alerts for upto-date service information.

#### On the Green Line:

As previously announced, Green Line service on the B branch between Copley and Babcock Street, on the C branch between Copley and Cleveland Circle, and on the D branch between Copley and Brookline Hills will be suspended all day from start to end of service for 18 days from February 20-March 8.

A page with dedicated information for riders is available at mbta. com/GreenLine.

B Branch: Free and accessible shuttle buses will operate between Babcock Street and Copley stations.

§ Riders should note that shuttle bus service will not be available at Blandford Street station in both directions and should instead utilize shuttle bus service at the next near-

§ Outbound B branch riders will not be charged a fare at Babcock Street (outbound/westbound only).

§ There will be free fares at Copley Station with the fare gates open.

§ Riders can also utilize free Route 57 bus service for alternate travel between Kenmore and Packard's Corner.

C Branch: Free and accessible shuttle buses will operate between Cleveland Circle and Copley sta-

§ Riders should note that shuttle bus service will not be available at Saint Mary's Street, Kent Street, or Brandon Hall in both directions and should instead utilize shuttle bus service at the next nearest stop.

§ There will be free fares at Copley Station with the fare gates open.

D Branch: Free and accessible shuttle buses will operate between

See MBTA Page 9





### MBTA / CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8

Brookline Hills and Copley stations.

§ Riders are encouraged to consider walking 5-10 minutes from Brookline Hills and Brookline Village to Riverway station on the E branch for Green Line train service.

§ Outbound D branch riders will not be charged a fare at Brookline Hills (outbound/westbound only).

§ There will be free fares at Copley Station with the fare gates open.

The Commuter Rail will be fare-free between South Station, Back Bay, and Lansdowne stations during this Green Line service change. Riders should note that regular fares should be purchased beyond Lansdowne.

As a result of this service change, riders traveling on Green Line trains between Government Center and Copley are encouraged to plan extra time and should anticipate longer waits.

§ Riders are strongly encouraged to utilize the Orange Line in the downtown area as a service alternative, especially during morning and evening peak travel periods as there will be fewer Green Line trains in the downtown core. The fare gates at Back Bay will be open to riders, allowing free fares for riders who choose to utilize the Orange Line during this service change.

Riders should also note that this service change overlaps with a planned weekend closure on the Red Line between Harvard and Broadway from February 24-25[CN1] and between Park Street and JFK/UMass on March 2-3. Additional details are available at mbta.com/RedLine.

As previously announced, this service change is in place as part of the MBTA's Track Improvement Program. To improve safety, reliability, and the customer experience, crews will perform track and tie replacement work; infrastructure upgrades; station amenity upgrades like new lighting, painting, tiling, and power washing; and more.

#### On the Red Line:

· Red Line service will be suspended between Park Street and JFK/UMass stations all day from start to end of service during the weekend of March 2-3.

Free and accessible shuttle buses will make all stops between Park Street and JFK/UMass.

There will be free fares at Park Street and JFK/UMass stations with the fare gates open.

The Commuter Rail will be fare-free between JFK/UMass and South Station during this Red Line service change. Riders should note that regular fares should be purchased beyond JFK/UMass.

This service change is in place to allow crews to perform necessary inspections of Red Line tunnel infrastructure. Crews will also maximize the unencumbered access to the work area by performing power and signal work along the Red Line as well as station amenity upgrades like new lighting, painting, tiling, and power washing.

· Accessible shuttle bus service will replace Red Line trains between Broadway and Ashmont Stations on the Ashmont Branch and between Broadway and North Quincy Stations on the Braintree Branch all day from start to end of service during the weekend of March 23-24.

Free and accessible shuttle buses will make all stops between Broadway and Ashmont / North Quincy.

There will be free fares at Broadway and North Quincy stations with the fare gates open. Riders boarding Mattapan Line trolleys at Ashmont also do not have to pay a fare.

The Commuter Rail will be fare-free between Braintree, Quincy Center, JFK/UMass, and South Station during this Red Line service change. Riders should note that regular fares should be purchased beyond Braintree.

This service change is in place to allow crews to perform necessary work as part of the Dorchester Avenue Bridge Replacement Project. Originally built in 1925 and last rehabilitated in 1975, the bridge will be replaced to protect its structural integrity and ensure reliable service. When complete, this project will result in safer, more reliable Red Line service. [CN2]

· Accessible shuttle bus service will replace Red Line trains between Broadway and JFK/UMass Stations on the Ashmont Branch and between Broadway and North Quincy Stations on the Braintree Branch all day from start to end of service during the weekend of March 30-31.

Free and accessible shuttle buses will make all stops between Broadway and JFK/UMass / North Quincy.

There will be free fares at Broadway, JFK/UMass, and North Quincy stations with the fare gates open.

The Commuter Rail will be fare-free between Braintree, Quincy Center, JFK/UMass, and South Station during this Red Line service change. Riders should note that regular fares should be purchased beyond Braintree.

This service change is in place to allow crews to perform necessary work as part of the Dorchester Avenue Bridge Replacement Project. Originally built in 1925 and last re-

habilitated in 1975, the bridge will be replaced to protect its structural integrity and ensure reliable service. When complete, this project will result in safer, more reliable Red Line service.

#### On the Orange Line:

· Orange Line service will be suspended between Forest Hills and Ruggles stations all day from start to end of service during the weekend of March 9-10.

Free and accessible shuttle buses will make all stops between Forest Hills and Ruggles.

The Commuter Rail will be fare-

free between Forest Hills, Ruggles, Back Bay, and South Station. Riders should note that regular fares should be purchased beyond Forest Hills.

This service change is in place

for crews to perform critical signal improvement work.

· As previously announced, Orange Line service will be suspended between Jackson Square and North Station all day from start to end of service for four days from March 18-21.

Free and accessible shuttle buses will make all stops between Jackson Square and Back Bay. From Back Bay, riders can travel less than a quarter mile (about a 5-minute walk) to Copley Station on the Green Line for continued service to the downtown area and North Station.

There will be free fares at Jackson Square and Back Bay stations with the fare gates open. There will also be free fares at Copley station inbound/eastbound on the Green Line with the fare gates.

The Commuter Rail will be farefree between Forest Hills, Ruggles, Back Bay, and South Station. Riders should note that regular fares should be purchased beyond Forest Hills

This service change is in place as part of the MBTA's Track Improvement Program. Crews will perform track and tie replacement work; infrastructure upgrades; station amenity upgrades like new lighting, painting, tiling, and power washing; and more

# On the Kingston, Middleborough, and Greenbush Commuter Rail lines:

The Kingston, Middleborough, and Greenbush Commuter Rail lines, which run adjacent to the Red Line, will also experience service changes due to work on the Dorchester Avenue Bridge Replacement Project. Accessible shuttle bus service will replace all trains between South Station and Braintree during the following times and dates:

times and dates: derson/N
Beginning at approximately to the I
8:45 PM through the end of service Line.

on Friday, March 22, and continuing all day from start to end of service during the weekend of March 23-24.

Beginning at approximately 8:45 PM through the end of service on Friday, March 29, and continuing all day from start to end of service during the weekend of March 30-31.

Accessible express shuttle bus service will operate directly between South Station and Braintree Station

Passengers should note that bicycles are not allowed on shuttle buses, and regular Commuter Rail fares will be collected between Kingston, Middleborough, Greenbush, and Braintree Stations.

Keolis Customer Service Agents, MBTA staff, and Transit Ambassadors will be on-site at impacted stations to support riders.

The diversion schedule will be available online at mbta.com/CommuterRail.

### On the Framingham/Worcester Commuter Rail Line:

· Framingham/Worcester Commuter Rail Line service will be suspended between South Station and Framingham stations from start to end of service on March 2.

A dedicated diversion schedule will be in effect and available on mbta.com soon.

Free and accessible shuttle buses will replace service between South Station and Framingham.

Passengers are expected to purchase a regular subway fare and/or Commuter Rail interzone fare.

This service change allows crews to perform Automatic Train Control (ATC) work. ATC is a federally mandated safety system that sends signals to trains about potentially unsafe conditions, automatically slowing and stopping a train if needed.

### On the Haverhill Commuter Rail Line:

· Accessible shuttle buses are replacing Haverhill Line trains between Ballardvale and North Station during the weekends of March 9-10, March 23-24, and March 30-31. This service change allows crews to perform Automatic Train Control (ATC) work. ATC is a federally mandated safety system that sends signals to trains about potentially unsafe conditions, automatically slowing and stopping a train if needed.

Shuttle buses will replace train service between Reading and Oak Grove where passengers can connect to Orange Line subway.

A shuttle bus will also provide service between Reading and Anderson/Woburn for connections to the Lowell Line and Haverhill Line. The shuttle service between Reading and Oak Grove will stop in Wakefield, Greenwood, Melrose Highlands, Melrose Cedar Park, Wyoming Hill, and Oak Grove.

North Wilmington Station will not have shuttle bus service with passengers encouraged to utilize Lowell Commuter Rail Line service at Wilmington Station instead.

Train service for passengers between Ballardvale and Haverhill will be re-routed along the Lowell Line after Ballardvale, making one additional stop at Anderson/Woburn and then running express to North Station. Riders desiring service to or from Reading and Oak Grove should disembark at Anderson/Woburn and board the shuttle bus service.

A dedicated diversion schedule will be in effect and is available on mbta.com.

#### On the Newburyport/Rockport Commuter Rail Line: • The entire Newburyport/Rock-

port Commuter Rail Line on both branches will be suspended between North Station and Newburyport and North Station and Rockport from start to end of service during the weekend of March 23-24. Service between North Station and Swampscott will also be suspended on the weekends of March 9-10 and March 30-31.

A dedicated diversion schedule will be in effect and available on mbta.com soon.

This service change allows for station improvement work at Beverly Depot station and for crews to perform Positive Train Control (PTC) / Automatic Train Control (ATC) work. PTC/ATC is a federally mandated safety system that sends signals to trains about potentially unsafe conditions, automatically slowing and stopping a train if needed.

The MBTA previously announced service changes in February. More information is available here.

The MBTA understands how these service changes affect riders' daily travels during this period, but we are committed to improving your travels long term with more reliable, timely, and safe service. We thank riders for their patience as we deliver this important work and for continuing to ride our system.

For more information, visit mbta.com or connect with the T on X (the site formerly known as Twitter) @MBTA and @MBTA\_CR, Facebook /TheMBTA, Instagram @theMBTA, Threads @thembta, or TikTok @thembta.

### March is Massachusetts Maple Month

To celebrate a new agricultural season in Massachusetts, Governor Maura Healey is declaring March as Massachusetts Maple Month. Massachusetts Department of Agricultural Resources (MDAR) Commissioner Ashley Randle joined state and local officials and representatives from the Massachusetts Maple Producers Association today at Severance Maple Products in Northfield to raise awareness of the state's maple sugar industry and to encourage residents to visit their local sugar house and purchase locally made maple products.

In a recent visit to Severance Maple Products included a tour of their operations and retail store, along with a reading of a Governor's Proclamation and ceremonial tapping of a maple tree to commemorate the official start of the sugaring season. Owners Milt and Robin Severance have been sugaring since 1976. Their first year yielded a couple of gallons of maple syrup, but today, they produce a couple thousand gallons annually. All of their products are produced locally in Northfield at their sugarhouse kitchen, with availability online, in local stores, and at craft and agricultural fairs in the

Massachusetts is one of the top maple-producing states in the country, home to over 300

maple producers that produce more than 70,000 gallons per year. The sector employs over a thousand people, contributing over \$15 million to the local economy. Maple sugaring profits allow many Massachusetts farms to stay in business year-round by diversifying their offerings, serving as a supplemental source of income to their other crops.

"We are tapping into this maple month with more support and appreciation for our sugarmakers than ever. The maple industry is not only economically, culturally, and historically important for the region but also plays a vital role in our environmental and climate resilience efforts," said Energy and Environmental Affairs Secretary Rebecca Tepper. "The industry maintains and preserves more than 15,000 acres of land and is working to modernize equipment and install renewable energy sources. We are proud to see this the sector transition to one of the state's most energy efficient and sustainable in agriculture."

Since 2018, MDAR has awarded over half a million dollars in Climate Smart Agriculture Program Grants to maple producers throughout the state. These grants have been used to offset the costs of installing updated, environmentally friendly equipment, including high-efficiency evaporators, heat recovery and



MDAR Commissioner Ashley Randle with state and local officials alongside Milt and Robin Severance (far right), owners of Severance Maple Products in Northfield.

reverse osmosis equipment, and photovoltaic solar arrays, lowering carbon footprints and environmental impacts.

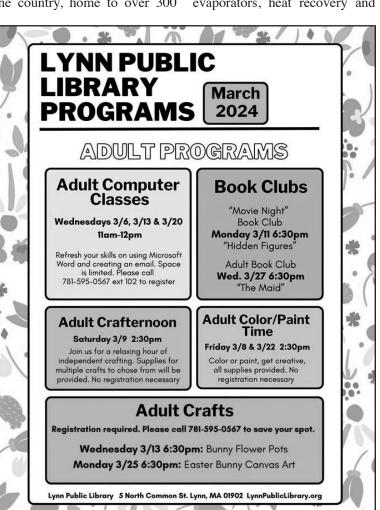
"Our farming community had an enormously challenging year in 2023, so it's with great optimism that we usher in a new growing season and celebrate our maple producers with the first agricultural crop of the year," said MDAR Commissioner Ashley Randle. "While the maple sugaring season may be brief in Massachusetts, our maple producers work hard year-round to bring us this naturally sweet and nutritionally dense crop that is versatile and universally enjoyed by all. We're proud to support them, and I can't wait to enjoy a pancake breakfast topped

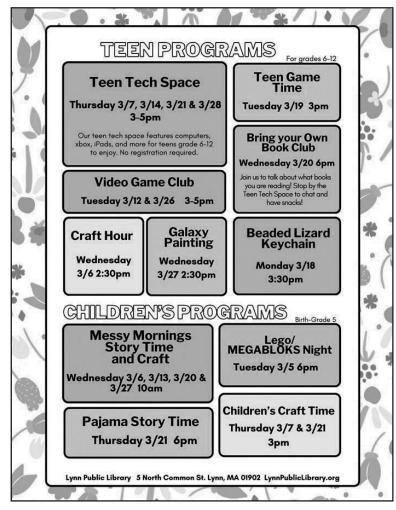
with fresh maple syrup at a local sugarhouse this month."

All month long, maple sugarhouses around the state will open their doors to host visitors with fun, family-friendly interactive activities, as well as serving stacks of pancakes, waffles, and French toast covered in local maple syrup. Maple sugaring is one of the few agritourism activities available during the early months of the year. Over 60,000 visitors spend more than \$2 million during the sugaring season. Farms, restaurants, bed and breakfasts, country inns, and other tourist businesses share in this income, which primarily flows into small towns and farm communities.

"Sugarhouses and local farms across Massachusetts provide memorable and immersive experiences for visitors of all ages,' said Massachusetts Office of Travel and Tourism Executive Director Kate Fox. "We encourage visitors and residents alike to check out Massachusetts sugarhouses during Maple Month where they can experience a behind-the-scenes tour, sample delicious treats, and purchase local maple syrup and maple products from these unique small businesses.'

"I'm so thankful to kick off maple season here in the Second Franklin District," said Representative Susannah Whipps (I – Athol). "This brief sweet pe-





See MAPLE MONTH Page 11

# Treasurer Goldberg announces latest release of unclaimed property listings

Massachusetts State Treasurer Deborah B. Goldberg has announced the latest grouping of names added to the state's list of unclaimed property owners. Over 50,000 new properties worth millions of dollars are owed to individuals and businesses throughout the Commonwealth.

"Did you know there is \$3.4 billion in unclaimed property here in Massachusetts? 1 in 10 people in this state are owed money and one of them could be you," said Treasurer Deborah B. Goldberg. "So check the list, go online, or call our office to search for your name and begin the process today."

Unclaimed property includes forgotten savings and checking accounts, un-cashed checks, insurance policy proceeds, stocks, dividends, and the contents of unattended safe deposit boxes. Most accounts are considered abandoned and are turned over to the state after three years of inactivity. Last year, Treasury processed over 145,000 claims and returned \$185 million in property to its rightful owners.

This newly released list includes only individuals and businesses with unclaimed property over \$100. Treasurer Goldberg urges all citizens to check the comprehensive list for all amounts at www.findmassmoney.gov or call our live call center at 1-888-344-MASS (6277).

The full list of the new individuals and businesses added to the unclaimed property list will be published in the Boston Globe on March 3rd and in the Boston Herald on March 10th. In addition, the list of names will be published in over 30 regional and local papers in following weeks.

The Treasury releases an updated list of unclaimed property assets every six months as the new accounts are turned over to the Commonwealth. There is no time limit for a person to claim this property and, in many cases, claimants will receive interest.

### Paint / CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8

ing the remnants of the day—the brown pizza boxes, the white cupcake liners, and the colorful candy wrappers-into black trash bags, mirrored the profound lesson of our workshop. Like the myriad colors blending into black, we saw how 'black' brought together the diverse spectrum of humanity. It wasn't just about creating a rainbow of colors but about recognizing that, in unity, we discover a depth and richness akin to black—the sum of all. As the last person left and the volunteers waved goodbye, the Lynn Art building stood as a silent witness to the fact that celebrating Black History Month transcends celebrating a singular heritage; it is a celebration of all our heritages combined. Beneath the superficial layers of race lies a shared joy and laughter over warm pizza-a simple yet profound testament to universal love, the joy of creation, and the communal spirit of sharing a meal. Indeed, as the evening concluded, it was evident that our collective endeavor had made the world a more connected and understanding place.

In blending the vivid hues of diverse backgrounds, the Black History paint workshop in Lynn transcends mere artistic endeavor; it becomes a vibrant tapestry of community, education, and celebration. This event-now a cherished annual traditionstands as a testament to Lynn's commitment to fostering an inclusive community where every color, every story, and every brushstroke contributes to a richer, more unified whole.

### Maple Month / CONTINUED FROM PAGE 10

riod of time is a sign that spring is coming and a reminder of the importance of this industry to our economy, tourism and food sys-

"I am delighted to join Governor Healey, EEA Secretary Tepper, MDAR Commissioner Randle, the MA Maple Producers Association, and many others in celebrating March as Massachusetts Maple Month," said Senator Jo Comerford (D-Northampton). "I am tremendously proud to represent many outstanding maple producers who are living and working in the Hampshire, Franklin, Worcester district."

"We expect a great maple syrup harvest this spring as many sugarmakers across the state are off to an early start," said Massa-

day by 4 p.m.

chusetts Maple Producers Association Coordinator Missy Leab. "As the sweet steam rises from our local sugarhouses this spring, we encourage everyone to take the opportunity and visit one or more of the 300+ Massachusetts maple producers where you can talk with a sugarmaker, ask all your maple questions, and see, smell, and taste spring! Watch the fascinating process of turning fresh maple sap into pure maple syrup. Don't forget to bring home a jug of Massachusetts sweetest crop: pure maple syrup!"

Maple syrup has been produced and consumed for centuries in North America. Its initial availability during the tail end of the winter season signals the start of the agricultural awakening in

Massachusetts and is a sure sign that spring is around the corner. Tree tapping in Massachusetts can start as early as late January and continue through April, though March is officially Maple Month. Most importantly, the temperatures must be below freezing at night and above freezing during the days for the tree sap to flow. Furthermore, weather, soil, and genetics of the tree can affect maple syrup flavor.

Please visit the Massachusetts Maple Producers Association (MMPA) to learn more about the maple sugaring process. For a complete listing of maple sugar houses in the Commonwealth, visit the MassGrown website.



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#### E-TEAM MACHINIST TRAINING CLASS 27 GRADUATION

The E-Team Machinist Training Program graduated twenty-seven new students. These students learned Machine Shop, Theory, Blueprint, and Product Inspections as well as increased Math skills along with career opportunities. The program ran inside Lynn Vocational Technical Institute Machine Shop. This is a five month intense evening and Saturday program for adults. It requires dedication and attendance to learn new educational-career skills.

Program Director Anthony Dunn said, "This is the twenty-seventh year of career training." He then added, "Each student grew and developed as they rose to the challenge.'

E-Team Class 27 graduates who received Awards and Certificates were: Ronnie Arias, Juan Arias, John Bartolomeu, Nicholas Chiep, Steven Del Bosque, Elain Dominquez, Traia Ford, Omar Fortuna Zorrilla, Nicholas Grillo. Joshua Hernadez, Sarar Jaycox, Marquis Jordan, Daniel Lowry, Francis Martinez, Aniya Mott, Megan Murray, Dominique Ouk, Bernard Robinson, Sebastian Rodriquez, Gary Rosario, Jose Manual Rosario, Erick Rosas, Jeffrey Rotcavich, Jr., Luis Santiago, Chris Shabarakh, Jeffrey Watson, Charles Williams III, and Brandon Wilson

Keynote speakers were State Rep. Peter Capano and Machine Shop Instructor Rob Peterson. The E-Staff members included Marjie Crosby, Pam Frazier, Sochitta Men, Tiffany McFarlane, Jamie Pickering, Mike Leone, Mike Pickering, Ty Nhek, Jack Frazier, Jodie Adams, and Jerry Powers. Also, City Officials who attended the gradu-



**Machine Shop Program Training Director Anthony Dunn with** Mayor Jared Nicholson.

ation were Mayor Jared Nicholson, School Committee Sean Reid, Ward 1 Peter Meaney, Ward 2 Obed Matul, and Ward 3 Coco Alinsug.

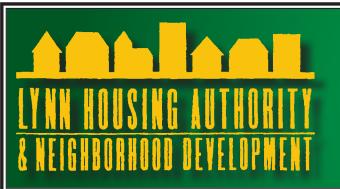


City Official at E-Training Graduation – Ward 1 Peter Meaney, Mayor Jared Nicholson, Ward 3 Coco Alinsug, Ward 2 Obed Matul, and School Committee Sean Reid.



Graduates received Machine Shop Certificates.

PAT GECOYA PHOTOS



# Happy St. Patrick's Day

Charles Gaeta, Executive Director Board of Commissioners Susan McGinnis-Lang, Steve Martin, Robert Muise, & Justin Anshewitz

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