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# THE LYNN JOURNAL

Friday, June 28, 2024

## AGGANIS ALL-STARS FROM LYNN

## Appreciation

# Patrick Gecoya

Teacher, coach, guidance counselor,  
Lynn Journal photographer, 77

By Cary Shuman

In every position he held, in every endeavor he undertook, Patrick Gecoya brought a level of excellence, enthusiasm, and energy that people admired and respected.

And he was a perfect gentleman, said Lynn English Athletic Director Dick Newton.

Newton witnessed Patrick's multitude of talents on a professional and personal basis.

"Patrick was the justice of peace at my wedding and he was also the official photographer that day – and he was wonderful at both," recalled Newton. "His words were so eloquently and kindly delivered. He was just an outstanding person."

Patrick Gecoya, a teacher and guidance counselor at Lynn Tech, a legendary softball coach at Lynn English, and the face of the Lynn Journal as its brilliant photographer, died June 22, 2024. He was 77 years old.



Patrick Gecoya

Mr. Gecoya was the husband and companion for 31 years to Linda Lange. They met at a dance in Boston and began a special relationship, a journey of love and friendship that took them on extraordinary trips around the world and to their residence in Marblehead.

Please see GECOYA Page 4

## 'An Awesome Experience'

Lauren Wilson earns her place among  
Classical's all-time greats

By Cary Shuman

Two years ago Lynn Classical High School softball coach Joe Morin foresaw that his team would need a catcher in the 2024 season.

"So, I started joking with [then-sophomore] Lauren Wilson that we would be needing a starting catcher," recalled Morin.

"Lauren said to me, 'okay.' She went in the equipment closet at Classical and found old catcher's gear and started catching. She then went out and got her own gear and worked at it. She's an athlete. She can play every position."

This spring Wilson took over

Please see WILSON Page 3



Lynn's members of the victorious South All-Star Team, from left, Gabby Marichal (St. Mary's), Arianna Laboy (Lynn English), Michaela Walker (St. Mary's), Lorynes Suriel (St. Mary's), and Angela Martinez (Lynn English). See more photos from the Agganis Foundation Awards Ceremony on Pages 10 and 11.

## City hires first Urban Forestry Fellow

Special to the Journal

In Erica Holm's ideal world, you can see the City through the trees.

Holm is Lynn's first Urban Forestry Fellow, responsible for overseeing the management, care and preservation of trees in the City and hired with grant money obtained through the Arbor Day Foundation.

"You can feel the people of Lynn are excited to be committed to urban forestry," said Holm, who started June 10. "A lot more goes into urban forestry than you might think – pruning, planting, inventory. A lot of operations goes into growing and maintaining trees in an altered landscape," such as an urban setting.

Holm comes to Lynn from Boston, where she served as Mass Audubon's first urban ecologist, charged with managing the intersection of nature and people. Prior to Mass Audubon, Holm



Erica Holm.

managed tree care and field operations for the Emerald Necklace Conservancy, starting when she moved to Boston from New Hampshire in 2019.

Holm noted that Chapter 87 of Massachusetts General Laws

protects public shade trees that are in the public right-of-way, in street tree pits and sometimes including park and cemetery trees, for example. As she settles into her new position in Lynn, she will be taking stock of all aspects of the current state of tree life in the City. She will also be collaborating with the Lynn DPW, which has a tree crew, and Park Ranger/Tree Warden Dan Small, who oversees Lynn Woods.

"Lynn Woods is a huge part of the urban forest," Holm said. "I'm looking forward to working with Dan, even though my main planting efforts will be focused more in the southeastern, under-canopied parts of the city."

A University of New Hampshire graduate with a degree in Wildlife and Conservation Biology, and an International Society of Arboriculture Certified Arborist, Holm pointed out the valu-

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# EDITORIAL

## THREE YEARS AGO THIS WEEK, RACIAL HATRED CAME TO OUR AREA

It was three years ago this week when an unspeakable act of violence, motivated by racial hatred, befell the peaceful seaside community of Winthrop.

The tranquility of a typical, early-summer Saturday afternoon was shattered when a 28 year-old white man, a native of Wareham who had been living in Winthrop for a short time with his wife, shot two Black persons, 60 year-old Ramona Cooper, a retired Air Force veteran who only recently had moved to Winthrop, and 68 year-old David Green, a Winthrop native and retired State Trooper who was beloved in the Winthrop community, in cold blood when their paths crossed on Shirley St. near Cross St.

Thanks to the quick response of Winthrop police and the heroism of Sgt. Nicholas Bettano, the suspect was shot in the street when he refused to put down his weapons (he was armed with two handguns). It is believed that the shooter, whose belongings later were found to contain white supremacist and anti-Semitic literature, was en route to the nearby local temple and synagogue with the intent of perpetrating a mass shooting incident before he was stopped by Sgt. Bettano.

To be sure, both Ramona Cooper and David Green happened to be in the wrong place at the wrong time. However, given that the shooter did not fire his weapon at white passers-by, his intent to shoot Cooper and Green solely because they were Black is undeniable.

Those of us who live in the Boston area like to think that we are immune from the sort of bigotry-inspired acts of violence that make the headlines in other states where gun laws are non-existent. However, the Anti-Defamation League recently reported that acts of anti-Semitism have spiked in Massachusetts in the past three years, more than doubling from 2020 to 2022 and then increasing a whopping 189 percent in 2023 from 2022. The sad fact is that no place in America today is immune from the virus of prejudice.

For those of us who have called this area our home for many years, we still shudder whenever we visit Winthrop and drive down Shirley St. toward Cross St. -- the events of June 26, 2021, are just too terrible to contemplate.

However, the best way that we can honor the memories of Ramona Cooper and David Green is never to forget that tragic and horrible day and resolve to do whatever we can to end the evils of racism and all other forms of prejudice that are far too prevalent throughout our society.

## NO END IN SIGHT FOR HOUSING CRISIS

Everyone on all sides of the political and economic spectrums are in agreement that there is a drastic shortage of housing in this country. But similar to the adage about the weather, though everyone is talking about it, no one is doing anything about it.

The spike in interest rates to tame inflation over the past few years has been seen as one of the chief causes of the housing shortfall. Higher interest rates lessen the demand for some goods (such as automobiles) and services, but they also serve to put a lid on the supply of both new homes (because high interest rates impact home builders) and older homes (because existing owners cannot afford to give up the low rates on their current homes).

With fewer homes on the market at a time of surging demand because of the coming of age of Millennials and the influx of immigrants, the prices for new homes and rents are continuing to increase even in the face of higher interest rates. Zillow reports that the median home price in Massachusetts is \$629,000, an increase of 8.8% in the past year -- with the median price of a home in the Boston area now almost \$1 million, an increase of 10.9% in the past year.

It is estimated that given our larger population, the U.S. has failed to meet the demand for housing of all types, both single-family homes and multi-family rentals, by more than two million units per year ever since the Great Recession, thus creating the housing crisis we have today. But with interest rates still at their highest levels in decades, new home construction will continue to fall far short of demand for the foreseeable future. Higher interest rates also will continue to have the ripple effect of keeping Baby Boomers and Gen Xers in their current homes (where they have low interest rates), thereby further decreasing the inventory of homes on the market for younger home-buyers.

In addition to high interest rates, a host of other factors -- restrictive zoning laws, supply chain issues, a shortage of construction and trade workers, and the conversion of single-family homes to short-term rentals such as Airbnb -- also are contributing to our housing shortage.

The lack of housing has two other significant impacts: The first is that it affects our economy because it reduces the mobility of the nation's workforce. Individuals no longer can just pull up stakes and leave for greener pastures (and new job opportunities) when home prices are out of reach everywhere.

The housing shortage also affects our national mood. Ever since our founding, America has been a land of opportunity. But with the American Dream now out of reach for most American families, pessimism about the future has replaced the optimism that prevailed for every previous younger generation in our society.

In short, what it comes down to is this: Our society is failing to meet the demand for shelter -- which is among the most basic of all human needs -- and no one has a solution to this ever-worsening problem.

## Forestry / CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

able role trees can play in cities.

"Having a healthy tree canopy and healthy urban forestry can lead to healthier outcomes for residents," she said. "Areas that are under-canopied can be a lot hotter." That becomes an even bigger issue in extreme heat such as this week.

Holm said trees can also help mitigate flooding during heavy rainfall, as they absorb water through their roots. "Trees also store carbon, which has climate implications," she said.

Holm referred to the 3-30-300 rule, published by Professor Cecil Konijnendijk van den Bosch, that states everyone should be able to see three trees from their home, there should be at least 30-percent tree canopy coverage in every neighborhood and everyone should be within 300 meters of urban green space. It can be more challenging to achieve those objectives in an urban setting, but Holm sounds like she is more than up for the task.

"We'll plant at least 150 trees through this grant," she said, noting that she will be doing an inventory to determine where trees have been lost, where they are most needed and where people have requested them.

As part of her role, Holm will have the chance to work with youth, with a goal of providing workforce development opportunities for those who may be interested in pursuing urban forestry and arboriculture.

In her first few days on the job, she had a discussion with someone who works with youth and they discussed the fact that the presence of trees can correlate to social and mental well-being.

The Planning Department successfully applied for the grant, which is worth \$550,000 over three years, allowing Holm to be hired on a full-time basis. The funding will also be used to: establish a community engagement plan; expose 150 youth to green infrastructure jobs through summer jobs program or school visits; devise and implement an urban forestry plan that includes a partial tree inventory and assessment of where new trees are needed given equity and environmental considerations; implement a new green infrastructure project; and develop a plan to continue urban forestry work with community members, youth, and nonprofits after the fellowship has concluded.

"We are excited to have someone with Erica's expertise and experience," Mayor Jared C. Nicholson said. "Trees play an important role in any community and we want to make sure we are maximizing the opportunity to benefit from their presence in Lynn."

Anyone wanting more information on urban forestry can reach Holm at 781-586-6729.

# THE LYNN JOURNAL

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# Honoring A Local Hero

## Restoring the memorial for

## Lance Corporal Bradley J. Campus at Clark Street Park

By Jordan Avery  
Special To The Journal

When I first learned about the theft of the large flowerpots from the memorial dedicated to Lance Corporal Bradley J. Campus at Clark Park, my heart sank. Bradley, a 21-year-old Marine from Lynn, was one of the 241 American service members killed in the 1983 Marine barracks bombing in Beirut, Lebanon. His memorial, near the Clark Street playground, was a touching tribute to a local hero who made the ultimate sacrifice for our country.

Marine veteran and retired Lynn Police Officer Charlie Griffin, who escorted Bradley's body back home 40 years ago, was instrumental in getting this memorial installed. When Charlie discovered the flowerpots were missing, he initially thought city crews had put them into storage. Sadly, he later realized they had been stolen.

I felt an immediate urge to help and make sure this beautiful memorial could be restored. I reached out to several people to get in contact with Charlie Griffin. Then, as if by a stroke of fate, Lisa Pressman, President of Concerned Citizens, reached out to see if I would be interested in donating the funds to replace the

stolen flowerpots. It was like a phone call from heaven. Lisa, thank you for coordinating this and for always going above and beyond for our city of Lynn. It was a great "teamwork moment" Charlie Griffin, your lifelong dedication to serving our country and our community is truly inspiring. Since before opening Massachusetts Green Retail, I've always said we aren't just going to be another dispensary on a corner street in Lynn. We are committed to being great community mem-

Please see RESTORATION Page 8

## Wilson /

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

the starting catching position and had an outstanding season working in tandem with Classical pitcher Rachel Dana. Wilson batted close to .400 and completed her GBL All-Star campaign as Dana's batterymate in the Aganis All-Star Game Sunday.

Morin never doubted that Wilson would put in the work necessary to transition to a brand-new position on the field. He praised Wilson's ultra-competitiveness and superior work ethic as an athlete.

"I've been coaching sports for 11 years," said Morin. "Lauren is probably the biggest competitor I've ever met in my life. She wants to win in everything she does. Even in practice, if she makes an out, she's not pleased about it. Everything she does, she wants to be the best and she works really hard."

Asked about her new perspective of calling a game from behind the plate, Wilson said, "I had never really been a catcher before. I practiced a little bit and I had gotten a few tips from Maddie Meagher, who helped me a lot."

Wilson felt her experience as a goalkeeper was beneficial to becoming a softball catcher.

"I could move around faster, and I felt that my mobility as a goalkeeper helped me," said Wilson.

One of the team captains, Wilson helped lead her team into the MIAA Tournament following a



Lynn Classical three-sport standout Lauren Wilson is pictured with her parents, Karla and Gary, at the Holland Softball Tournament.

key late-season victory over Lynn English. She thanked Morin for instilling confidence in her leadership and ability.

"It's been a great year," said Wilson. "Coach Morin is more than a coach, he supports all of us on and off the field and he's just a great all-around person. My whole career has been an awesome experience. I'm so proud to be a Ram. Mr. [Bill] Devin runs a super program," said Wilson.

Wilson leaves Classical with 12 varsity letters from the soccer, basketball, and softball programs. Wilson's towering list of individual accomplishments, 12 state tournament berths, and multiple NEC championships puts her in a special category among elite three-sport athletes. Former star Paula McGinn, who is an inductee in the Classical Hall of Fame, is a suitable comparison on the platform of excellence. And like McGinn, Wilson played on an undefeated reg-

ular-season 20-0 Lynn Classical basketball team coached by Tom Sawyer, former assistant to Gene Constantino. Francesca "Franki" Galeazzi was another tremendous three-sport standout for the Rams.

Wilson said after the Holland Softball Tournament that she's "so grateful" for the support of her mother, her father, and her grandmother. "They were always there for me - I love them," said Lauren.

Lauren Wilson's next stop in her athletic journey will be Salem State University where she will be a strong candidate for the Vikings' goalkeeping position and study criminal justice, with a minor in special education.

And there's the shared belief among her coaches that Lauren Wilson will join the pantheon of Classical greats in the school's Hall of Fame as soon she's eligible for induction.

## OBITUARIES

### Patrick Gecoya

Lynn Journal Photographer and Lynn educator seen by many as the "Unofficial Mayor of Lynn"

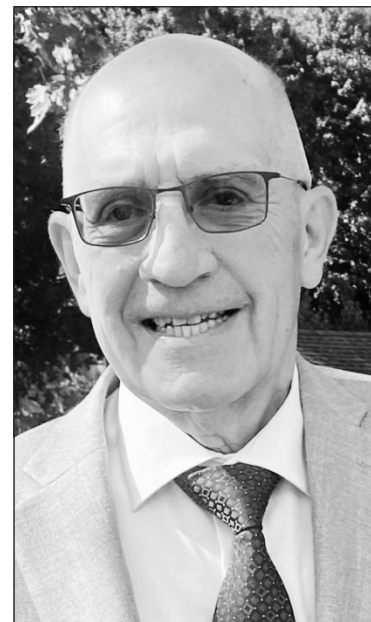
Patrick R. Gecoya, 77, of Marblehead, died June 22, 2024.

Born in Lynn to the late Guy and Elizabeth (Jablonski) Gecoya, Patrick was raised in Lynn, graduating from Lynn Classical Class of 1964. He was the beloved husband of Linda Lange. They shared 31 years together traveling the world, going to theatre and community events - making friends everywhere they explored, from Greece to Australia and beyond. They met on the dance floor and enjoyed living together in Marblehead by the sea.

His diligence and integrity were evident in every undertaking: as a life-changing teacher for Lynn Public Schools for many years, a teacher and Guidance Councilor at Lynn Technical High School, an inspiring, award-winning coach for Girls' Softball at Lynn English High School, a basketball official for the IAABO Board 130, and an enthusiastic prolific photographer for the Lynn Journal.

Patrick was a member of: AFT 1037 Lynn Teachers Union, Lynn YMCA men's fitness center, Shoe City Golf Group at Gannon Golf Course, a Past Grand Knight of Lynn Valladolid Council 70 Knights of Columbus, a 4th Degree Knight of Columbus, a 2014 Knight of the Year, and District Warden for the organization. A proud member of the Lynn Friendly Knights of St. Patrick, he was named Randazzo-Solimine Member of the Year in 2013 for community service. Patrick was a licensed auctioneer for ten years, held a real estate broker license, and was a Massachusetts Justice of the Peace performing over 200 weddings. In 2022, he was entered into the Hall of Fame at Lynn Vocational Technical Institute, and in 2004, inducted into the Lynn Classical Hall of Fame.

Seen by many as an "unofficial



mayor of Lynn," there was literally no place he could go, mundane to marvelous, that Patrick was not recognized by someone whose life he had affected in a positive manner. As one friend said, "he expected the best in us and inspired us all to be the very best we could be."

Patrick is survived by his family: his wife, Linda and her sisters, Joan and Dana; sister-in-law, Carol Gecoya; nieces and nephews: Joan DiPesa and her husband, Michael, Patti Lennan and her husband, Doug, David Gecoya and his wife, Laura many grandnieces and grandnephews and a great-grandnephew. He was predeceased by his brother, Thomas Gecoya and his niece, Deborah Gecoya Cole.

Visitation will be from 3 to 7 p.m. on Friday, June 28th at SOLIMINE FUNERAL HOME, Ocean Street, Lynn. A Funeral Mass will be celebrated at 10 a.m. Saturday, June 29th at St. Mary's Church Lynn followed by burial at Pine Grove Cemetery in Lynn. Relatives and friends are respectfully invited.

In lieu of flowers, please donate, in Patrick's name, to The Boy's and Girl's Club of Lynn, 25 Common St., Lynn 01902.

Online guestbook at [www.Solimine.com](http://www.Solimine.com).

Gecoya / CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

**An inspiring softball coach**

Kelly Curtin LaPierre was a freshman softball player on the JV team at Lynn English when she learned that one confidence-lifting gesture by your coach could inspire you onward to an All-Star career.

In the Bulldogs' 1990 NEC championship varsity season, Kathy Kiley was pitching a perfect game.

"Coach Gecoya put me in at second base in the top of the seventh," recalled LaPierre, who is married to Councilor-at-Large Brian LaPierre. "It's funny because in the bottom of the sixth he held up the runner at third so I could get an at-bat, which was nice. If we had scored, it would have been the 10-run rule."

As it turned out, Kelly Curtin fielded a testing groundball in the seventh to help preserve Kiley's seven-inning masterpiece.

"It was an unforgettable moment," said Kelly. "I said to my-

self, 'Kathy's pitching a perfect game, why is he putting me in the game?'"

LaPierre said Gecoya's decision to place her in the lineup inspired her.

"I guess he got my career going," said Kelly, who became an NEC and Agganis All-Star. "From that little experience, I felt more comfortable my sophomore year and after that. He was just a great person. We reconnected when Brian was running for office, and we shared some of our memories from softball. Patrick Gecoya was one of our kind. It's a big loss."

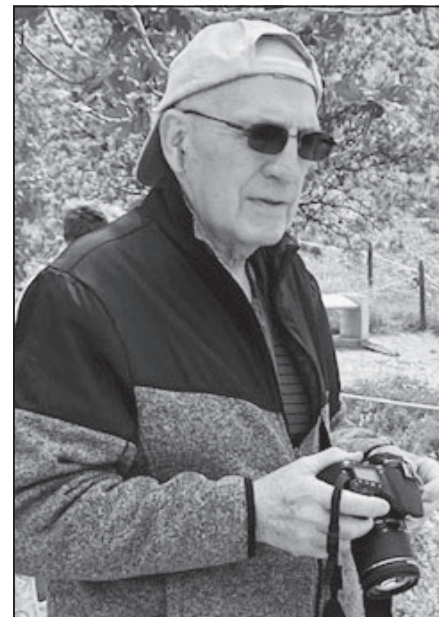
**A respected teacher and colleague**

Former Lynn Tech Principal Bart Conlon was a teaching colleague with Patrick Gecoya at the vocational school.

"I can't say enough about Pat," said Conlon. "I taught with him at Lynn Tech for many,



Patrick Gecoya, with his wife, Linda Lange (right), her sister, Joan, and their "Kitty Kat."



Patrick Gecoya was a popular photographer for the Lynn Journal.

many years. He was a great guidance counselor there and helped so many students over the years. He was very professional and did a fantastic job."

Their relationship extended to the Shoe City Golf League at Gannon.

"He was our treasurer, and I was the president," related Conlon. "He was very efficient in his position. Everybody in the group loved him. He enjoyed golfing with us from May to October. This is a big loss for our golf league. He was a great guy to be around. When I played golf with him, I would walk the course because it was fun to chat with him all the way through nine holes."

Patrick Gecoya was also the head softball coach when Mr. Conlon's daughter, Melissa Conlon, played for the Lynn English High School Bulldogs.

"My wife [Diane] and I went to all the games," said Conlon. "The players loved him. He ran nice, well-organized practices. They just enjoyed playing softball for him."

**A wonderful tribute from the Friendly Knights of St. Patrick**

William McDonald and Patrick Gecoya were friends for 40 years. They were members of the Friendly Knights of Patrick together for 20 years.

McDonald, who is the Chairman of the Friendly Knights of St. Patrick, also noted that his father, Joe McDonald (the former principal at Pickering Junior High and Patrick's father, Guy "Chick" Gecoya were friends.

"Patrick was ever-present with the Friendly Knights," said McDonald. "We have volumes of memories thanks to his expertise in photography, and we owe it all to him. He always provided the Irishman of the Year with a nice

disc of the evening."

McDonald also remembered fondly how meticulous and professionally assertive Patrick was in setting up his group photographer.

"Pat wanted to get you in line for a picture in a certain way," said McDonald. "But I started to treasure it after we started losing members. Their families used Pat's photos for the memorial observances."

Patrick Gecoya also had a treasure trove of memories of The Brickyard neighborhood. "We shared a lot of laughter in a great friendship," said McDonald. "His efforts directly made an impact on the students of Lynn, because that's what we do at the Friendly Knights. We give all the money that we raise to scholarships for the students. And Patrick particularly liked that aspect of the Friendly Knights. We're simply not going to be the same without him."

The Friendly Knights will hold a gathering Friday at the Italian Club in memory of Patrick Gecoya. There will be an honor guard at the church on Saturday.

**A beautiful relationship in every sense**

It was Linda Lange who brought out the best and shared the greatest moments with her beloved husband, Patrick Gecoya.

"We met 31 years ago at a dance in Boston," said Lange, who was living in Brookline at the time. "We both just happened to see an ad for this most particularly interesting event that was about theater and music."

Together they traveled the world, making extraordinary trips, the most recent to Portugal in late February and early March.

"Patrick walked The Camino Spain - which is a pilgrimage

type of walk - with our travel group," said Lange. "He was happy."

"It was in April when Patrick began to feel not like himself," said Linda. "He decided he had to go to the doctor and find out. That's when this whole spiral of sadness began."

Linda said that Patrick - who was so strong and health-oriented throughout his life - battled hard and courageously against the cancer that had invaded his body.

"He was a trooper though the whole thing," said Linda. "He really did everything that was suggested for him to do. He tried very hard - it just got him."

Linda Lange and her sister, Joan, will deliver the eulogy at Patrick's funeral on Saturday.

They will speak about how proud he was to coach Lynn English softball to a championship, how he dedicated himself to the students of Lynn as a teacher and guidance counselor, and how much he ultimately enjoyed his professional experience as a newspaper photographer.

"The passion was there. The job was made for him. He loved being around people and taking photos and writing stories that would appear in the newspaper. When he went out the door on an assignment, he was just so happy," said Linda.

"He did everything with his heart and soul as I always say. If he didn't know it, he learned it. He was always creating projects for himself, teaching himself about the camera. He was never idle. He was always learning.

"I'm just so glad I knew him and had him by side," said Linda.

And that's how appreciatively we will remember Patrick Gecoya at the Lynn Journal. We're so glad we knew him and had him on our team.



Lynn English softball coach Pat Gecoya lifts up the team's Division 1 North championship trophy as his players join the celebration.

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# CLASSICAL SOFTBALL AT OLD TYME ITALIAN RESTAURANT FOR ANNUAL BREAK-UP DINNER

Last week the Lady Rams of the Lynn Classical Softball Team joined with families and teammates for the annual break-up dinner at the Old Tyme Italia Restaurant on Boston Street.

The guests were treated to a buffet dinner, followed by Head Coach Joe Morin discussing the season, and passing out awards for individual performances.



Shown above, Head Coach Joe Morin, Asst. Coaches John Gambale, Kasey Kennedy and Alicia Burnett with the 2024 Lynn Classical Rams Softball Team at Old Tyme Italia Restaurant last Tuesday evening.



Shown left, Head Coach Joe Morin with the seniors, Simone Wilson, Captain Lauren Wilson, Captain Rachel Dana, and Marcy Gomez.

## Help with phones, food and housing

### How Commonwealth Care Alliance Massachusetts's Community Health Workers help members stay healthy and live well in their homes



For many of us, a home is more than shelter—it's a safe haven where family memories are made. Commonwealth Care Alliance Massachusetts (CCA) Community Health Worker Angelmina understood that when she first met Bonnie\*, a CCA member in her 70s. Struggling to replace her oil tank, Bonnie would soon be left without heat or hot water.

Since the home had been in Bonnie's family for many years, belongings had accumulated in the basement, blocking access to the tank, and the fire department could not approve a new tank until the old one was removed. With no family or friends nearby to help, Bonnie was losing hope. To help, Angelmina contacted local vendors to clear the basement. She also helped Bonnie apply for financial support for a new oil tank.

Housing issues such as these can have a significant impact on someone's health and wellbeing. That's why in recent years, CCA helped members receive more than 77,000 home modifications and supports, including helping members get air conditioners, homemaker services, ramp installations, and more.

CCA Community Health Worker Janette has seen the impact these issues can have on the members she supports, too. "Many people who struggle with issues at home also struggle with stress, high blood pressure, and high cholesterol," she said. "When you're anxious about paying your bills, keeping warm, or staying safe, you can't focus on your health."

Both Janette and Angelmina help members live safely at home, connecting people to food resources, transportation, or phones. It might also mean connecting them to a lawyer if they are facing eviction or helping them apply for housing.

"Community Health Workers provide the kind of support that a friend or family member would offer," Angelmina added. Recently, she helped a member apply for a phone and assisted him with getting a social security card, which was required for the phone application. "He had to have a lot of trust in me to give me his ID and get this done for him," she said.

While keeping members in their homes is an important goal for CCA, finding a new home is sometimes a better option. "I recently worked with a member who was living in a terrible environment," Janette said. "His home was infested. He thought that his living situation was the best that he could do. We collaborated as a team and with our community partners and we helped him move to a safer home."

CCA's Community Health Workers live in the communities they serve and understand the conditions that impact the health and wellness of their neighbors. With this knowledge, they help members close gaps to get access to the programs they need. Janette's number one goal is to be an advocate for her members, a role that requires trust and understanding. "I need to listen before I can talk. While housing might be their primary need, helping them fill out that application isn't always step one."

When asked what she loves most about her job, Angelmina said she was passionate about helping people. "I'm willing to go the extra mile to help support our members' needs," she said.

Janette agreed. "CCA's mission is to help people with the most significant needs stay healthy and live well. That's a mission I strongly believe in, and I'm proud to support it every day."



\*To protect the privacy of our member, this name is a pseudonym.

Commonwealth Care Alliance is a mission-driven healthcare services organization that supports older adults and individuals with the most significant needs. Visit: [ccama.org/health](http://ccama.org/health).

# JAE'S BEAUTY BOUTIQUE HOLDS RIBBON CUTTING CEREMONY

Introducing a new addition to the city's beauty scene! "Jae's Beauty Boutique," owned by an accomplished young asian-american entrepreneur, Jalyn Nguyen. At only 19 years old, Jalyn is following in her mother's footsteps, a beauty professional with over 25 years of experience in the industry. Her mother Jessica Chin, respected within the Cambodian community as a role model and successful business owner, has previously owned four thriving salons in the cities of Lynn and Salem, Massachusetts. Jalyn's decision to delve into the beauty care industry was inspired by her mother, a remarkable entrepreneur who has built a reputation as a highly-respected role model within the Cambodian community. With over 25 years of experience in the beauty industry, Jalyn's mother owned and operated four successful salons in the cities of Lynn and Salem, Massachusetts. Now, at the young age of 19, Jalyn is blazing her own path in the beauty industry, having recently unveiled her newfound venture, "Jae's Beauty Boutique."



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Owner

*Jessica*  
Manager

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**JAE**  
BEAUTY BOUTIQUE

## ST. MARY'S SPARTANS IN BASEBALL ACTION AGAINST OAKMONT

BOB MARRA PHOTOS

The St. Mary's Spartans scored first, but the Oakmont Regional Spartans scored more often, and a pitching duel between St. Mary's Josh Doney and Oakmont's Caleb Allen tilted in favor of the defending Division III champions as Oakmont took home the championship plaque with a 3-1 win Saturday at Polar Park.

St. Mary's started off hot, their first three batters reaching base, but could only snare a single run in the inning. Oakmont tied the game in the fourth and then stitched together a pair of runs in the fifth. Meanwhile, Allen settled down after his shaky first and retired St. Mary's final fourteen batters on the way to the win.

St. Mary's, the No. 2 seed in the MIAA Baseball Division III behind No. 1 Oakmont, finished the season 20-5. St. Mary's advanced to the championship game with playoff wins over Pentucket, Norwell, North Middlesex Regional, and Tantasqua Regional.



Jaiden Driscoll Second baseman (17) looks a pop fly into his glove.



Centerfielder Devan Duval (6) crosses in front of left fielder Isaiah Weston (22) and makes the catch.



Kyle Doney (10) lays off a low pitch for a ball.



Josh Doney (4) pitched a solid complete game but the St. Mary's offense couldn't get untracked as the Spartans fell 3-1 to Oakmont.



Shortstop Michael DeMaino (27) readies to scoop up a ground ball.



Third baseman Jared Paone (13) puts a hop into his cross-diamond throw to first baseman (24).



Josh Doney (4) slides under the tag and is safe as the ball gets away from Oakmont third baseman Ben Forbes (5), with the umpire watching closely.

### LHAND'S 2024 SCHOLARSHIP AWARD NIGHT

The Lynn Housing Authority & Neighborhood Development (LHAND) awarded nearly \$25,000 to 26 Lynn high school seniors at its annual scholarship dinner on Tuesday night, June 4.

The evening was coordinated by Cathy Rowe, John Ladd, and Cassandra Lopez. The celebration was well attended by student's families as well as City Councilor Hong Net, who gave a few words expressing his pride and well wishes to the graduates. The agency's Scholarship Committee was also present at the award night and had the opportunity to personally congratulate the graduates.

The scholarship foundation has been going strong since 1998 because of generous donations from individuals, families, businesses, and non-profits within the community. Additionally, this important cause would not



Some of the Lynn students together during the LHAND scholarship dinner.



KIPP graduate Saja Suliman receives her scholarship from City Council President, John Walsh.

be possible without the aid from high school guidance counselors. LHAND is committed to serving the community through affordable and quality housing, as well as investing in the higher education of our youth.

This year's scholarship was in honor of Laurie Walsh, former Chairperson of LHAND Board of Commissioners and co-owner of John's Oil. The scholarship program also created a new application category in Laurie's name for students wishing to go into the field of business. Her son and City Council President, John Walsh, was present to give

a speech highlighting Laurie's achievements and generous nature before awarding KIPP graduate Saja Suliman with the business scholarship. LHAND hopes to continue Laurie's legacy by creating more opportunities for hardworking students for many years to come.

The efforts put forth in this year's applications were very

impressive. We feel that it is important to support students in all their educational endeavors. As a few students have chosen alternative education paths after high school, such as beautician or trade school, LHAND has decided to add a new category for next year's scholarship application. The agency is very excited to announce that the 2025 schol-

arship application will now include the category of alternative careers in trades or technology. We believe all students' academic journeys should be embraced and supported as they enter this new and exciting chapter in life. We look forward to learning of their future achievements as they are shining examples of what the city of Lynn cultivates.

### Restoration / CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

bers and giving back to the city that has given us so much. Today, I'm proud to announce that Mass Green Retail has donated a check to replace the stolen flowerpots and flowers at Bradley's memorial.

At a young age, I was the recipient of the Jared Raymond Scholarship to attend Camp Rotary in Boxford. Specialist Jared J. Raymond, another local hero, was killed in action in Balad, Iraq in 2006. From that experience, I learned the importance of honoring and appreciating our veterans. This donation is a small token of appreciation for all those who have served.

With honor and gratitude, God Bless our Troops.



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*Board of Commissioners Susan McGinnis-Lang,*

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# LYNN HOUSING AUTHORITY & NEIGHBORHOOD DEVELOPMENT



## COUNCILLOR AT LARGE NICOLE MCCLAIN AND LYNN ENGLISH MARINE CADETS JOIN IN THE CITY OF REVERE'S JUNETEENTH EXERCISE

Councillor at Large Nicole McClain joined Revere's Mayor Patrick Keefe and other elected officials and the cadets of the Lynn English JROTC at Revere City Hall to celebrate Juneteenth.

June 19th, 1865 was the last day all enslaved Afro-Americans were final released in Galveston, Texas by the US Army. Today June 19th is a National Holiday, celebrating all free Americans.



Lynn City Councillor Nicole McClain joined with the Marine Cadets of the Lynn English JROTC at Revere City Hall to help with the flag raising, celebrating Juneteenth. Cadets are, Jesselly Ampudia, Jimmy Macavio, and Delilah Rivera Ronnan.



Lynn City Councillor Nicole McClain was a guest speaker at Revere's Juneteenth Exercise. She is shown with Revere Mayor Patrick Keefe and Revere's elected officials and special guests at Revere City Hall. School Committee member John Kingston, DEI Director Steve Morabito, School Committee members, Aisha Milbury-Ellis, Anthony Caggiano, Councillors Bob Haas III, Paul Argenzio, Revere Asst. Superintendent of School Dr. Lourenco Garcia

## Matt Serino steps down as Winthrop High AD

By Cary Shuman

Winthrop High School athletic director Matt Serino has stepped down as the athletic director at Winthrop High School and will become the new athletic director July 1 at Saugus High School, his alma mater.

Serino began his tenure in the school district as a health teacher before being appointed to the athletic director's position in 2014. His record as the leader of the Vikings' athletic program was exemplary as Winthrop teams won multiple championships and were highly competitive in the Northeastern Conference, with athletes setting individual records and earning All-NEC and All-Scholastic honors. The hockey team, for example, was a state Final Four team in the 2023-2024 season, led by head coach Dale Dunbar and featuring one of the program's all-time greatest players in Petey Silverman.



Serino leaves the entire athletic program on an excellent foundation with participation at an all-time high.

"I loved every second I spent in Winthrop," said Serino, a two-time state hockey champion and All-Scholastic himself while a student at Saugus High. "Winthrop is a beautiful town and a beautiful community. The people opened their arms and welcomed me, and I will forever be grateful for that. They have been supportive of me from Day 1. It was a dream come true working there. I have

been able to grow not only professionally but as a person there. I'm forever thankful for all the relationships that I built. I'm super thankful to Gail Conlon and John Macero who gave me a job as a health teacher to start off, and then I was fortunate that John gave me the job as an athletic director. And then working under Matt Crombie and Lisa Howard, I couldn't have asked for two better people to work under - they're everything that Winthrop stands for. This community is in great hands with their leadership. They are exceptional people who are in their jobs for the right reasons. They are there for the children."

School Committeeman Gus Martucci, a Super Bowl championship center for the WHS football Vikings in the 1981 season, said the job has been posted and several people have expressed interest in applying for the position.

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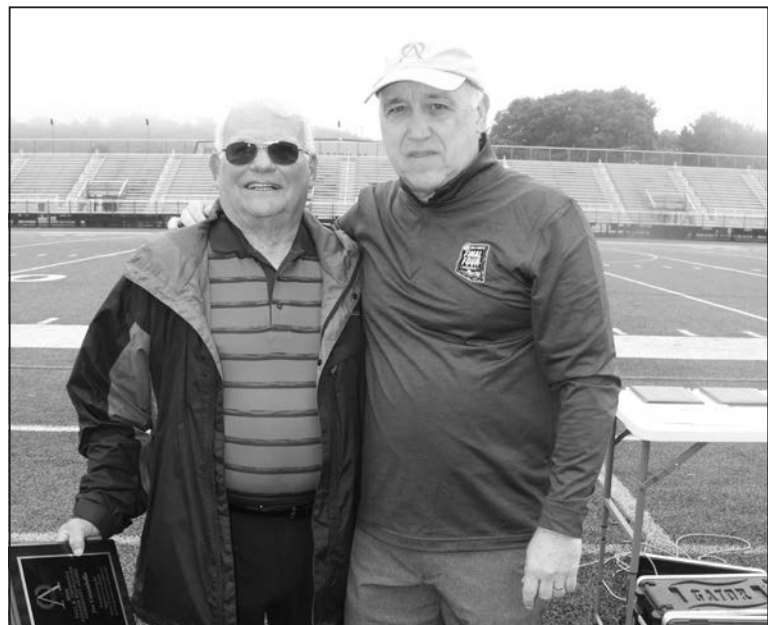
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# THE AGGANIS FOUNDATION AWARDS CEREMONY

Cary Shuman Photos

The Agganis Foundation kicked off Agganis All-Star Games Week with an awards ceremony Sunday morning at Manning Field.

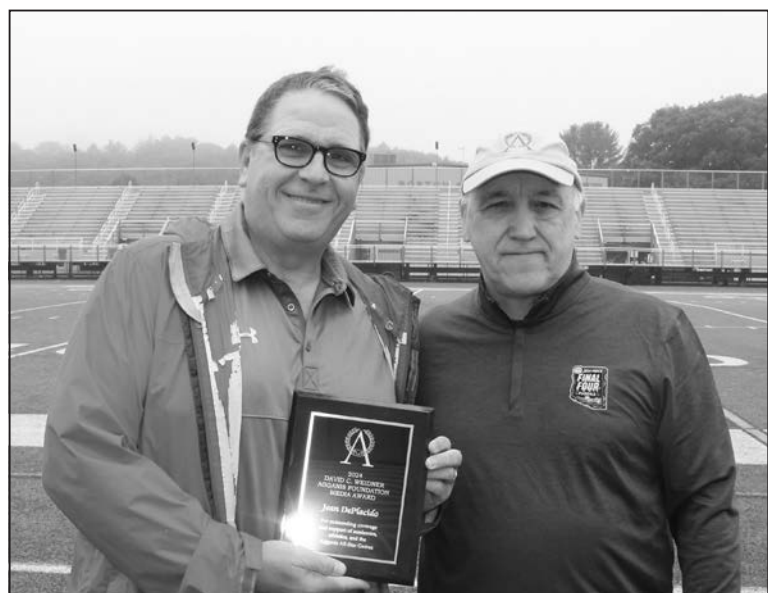
Paul Halloran, executive director of the Agganis Games Committee, was the master of ceremonies for the program.



Joe Cansabella, recipient of the Paul F. Cavanagh Community Award, with Executive Director Paul Halloran.



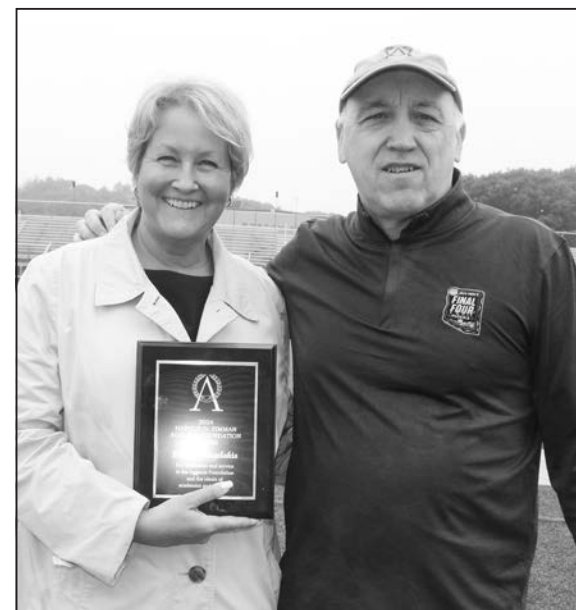
St. Mary's Director of Athletics Jeff Newhall, Executive Director Paul Halloran, and St. Mary's Associate Head of School David Angeramo, congratulate St. Mary's head baseball and alumnus Derek Dana on receiving the Dr. Elmo F. Benedetto Athletics Award.



Salem News Sports Editor Phil Stacey, accepting the David C. Weidner Media Award on behalf of longtime Salem News correspondent, the late Jean DePlacido, with Executive Paul Halloran.



It was a memorable day for one of Lynn's most outstanding athletic families as St. Mary's three-time state championship coach and two-time state championship player Derek Dana (Dr. Elmo F. Benedetto Athletics Award) and his daughter, Rachel Dana (Agganis Scholarship recipient, Agganis All-Star softball pitcher) of Lynn Classical were honored by the Agganis Foundation.



Supt. of Swampscott Schools Pamela Angelakis, recipient of the Harold O. Zimman Foundation Award, with Executive Director Paul Halloran.



St. Mary's head baseball coach and former catcher in the San Francisco Giants organization, Derek Dana, recipient of the Dr. Elmo F. Benedetto Athletics Award, with Executive Paul Halloran.



Making their final appearance representing Lynn Classical High School were Agganis Softball All-Stars Lauren Wilson and Rachel Dana.



Leaders of the victorious South All-Star Team, Colleen Clancy, assistant coach, and Colleen Newbury, head coach, of St. Mary's High School.

## THE AGGANIS FOUNDATION AWARDS CEREMONY



The 2024 Agganis Scholarship recipients (in alphabetical order) were Lucas Bereaud (Swampscott), Abigail Bettencourt (Peabody), Jessica Bremberg (Saugus), Rachel Dana (Lynn Classical), Nick Griffin (St. John's Prep), Nina Ly (Lynn English), Luke McQueen (Lynnfield), Victoria Quagrello (Swampscott), Javier Patricia Santo (Lynn English), Axel Velasquez (Lynn English), and Rachel Villanueva (Lynn English).



Representing Lynn in the Agganis All-Star Baseball Game were, shown above, Lynn Classical head coach Leon Elwell, Alijah Wallace (Lynn English), Kenry Manzanillo (Lynn English), Almani Gerardo (Lynn Classical), Yoniel Cabral (Lynn Classical), Aldred Ventura (Lynn Classical) and Lynn Classical assistant coach Chris Tgettis.



Shown to the left, Agganis Games Committee Assistant Director Jeff Newhall presents the Softball Game MVP Awards to Madison Connelly (Arlington Catholic) of the South Team and Jayden Caplis (Malden) of the North Team.

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# MAYOR JARED NICHOLSON AND FAMILY VISIT THE FIESTA SHOW'S ANNUAL LYNN CARNIVAL

Last week the annual Lynn Carnival was in town on Federal Street in the lot across from Market Basket, sponsored by Fiesta Shows.

This annual event, while bringing smiles to lots of kids of all ages, also puts funds into the

City of Lynn's 4th of July Fireworks Display at historic Red Rock, on July 3rd.

Mayor Nicholson and family enjoyed the hospitality of John Flynn and EJ Dean of Fiesta Shows. They were given the red-carpet treatment, on special

rides before the general opening later that day. Fiesta Shows Carnival has been a part of Lynn's early summer traditions, helping the City of Lynn financially and at the same time making lots of residents happy and ready to enjoy the summer months.



The Flying Horses are always a favorite of kids of all ages. Mayor Nicholson with his wife Katherine, and sons Henry and Benjamin enjoying themselves at the Lynn Carnival.



Mayor Jared Nicholson and Henry enjoying the newest ride at the Lynn Carnival, Disney's Dumbo made its appearance last week on Federal Street in Lynn.



Katherine and Benjamin Nicholson picked out a purple-colored Dumbo for their ride.




Mayor Jared Nicholson, Katherine, Henry and Benjamin Nicholson are joined by, Lisa Nerich, EJ Dean, John Flynn, Wendy Pena with Xavier, Lucian, Sabion and Macio Paula in front of the newest Disney "Dumbo" ride at Fiesta Shows.



Lynn's Mayor Jared Nicholson and his son Benjamin are greeted at the gate by Fiesta Show's CEO John Flynn.

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