

# THE LYNN JOURNAL

Thursday, September 22, 2022

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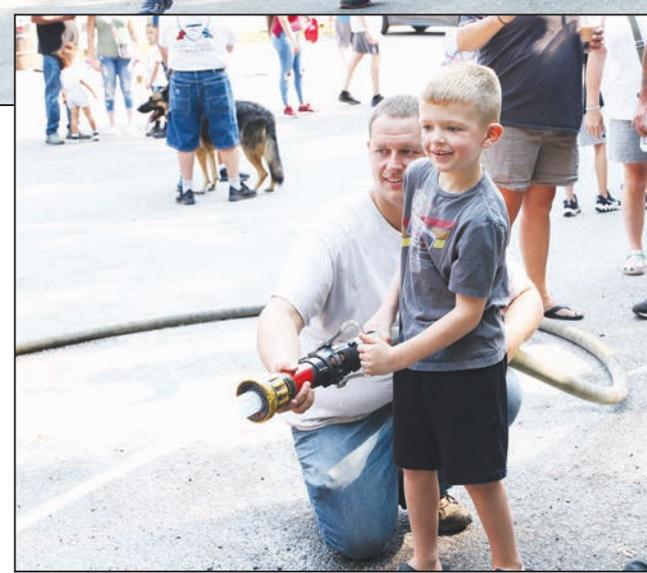
## LYNN FIRE AND POLICE FAMILY FUN DAY



After a brief absence, the Lynn Fire & Lynn Police Family Fun Day returned at the entrance of Lynn Woods on Great Wood Road. This was the 5th Annual open event with games, activities, and fun for families and friends. Above, children run in the 1K Fun Road Race in Lynn Woods.



Maeve has a Face Painting Design from Firefighter Ericson Seang. See page 8 for more photos.



Firefighter Patrick Carritte shows Anthony how to aim the fire hose at a burning object..

### Legion coach Tony Luciano is stepping down

By Cary Shuman

The Lynn sports community was rocked this week by the announcement that Tony Luciano has decided to step down as the head coach of the Lynn American Legion Post 291 baseball program.

Luciano, 50, has been a stalwart in Lynn youth baseball for several years, beginning as a coach and later as president of the Wyoma Little League for five years, continuing as a coach in Lynn Babe Ruth, and most recently as the administrator and coach of Lynn American Legion Baseball the past four years. All told, Luciano has been an integral part of the city's baseball scene for 17 years.

Luciano was honored for his outstanding leadership in Wyoma Little League at this year's Opening Day ceremonies.

Please see LUCIANO Page 2

### Brown, Coulanges lead St. Mary's past Winthrop

By Cary Shuman

The Saint Mary's and Winthrop football teams could meet again in the state playoffs, but for now the Spartans showed they have the clear edge, defeating the Vikings, 37-14, at Miller Field last Friday night at Miller Field in Winthrop.

David Brown Jr. and Derick Coulanges displayed the two-tiered firepower of the St. Mary's offense that has now produced 78 points in two victories. Brown, who took many snaps at quarterback, rushed for 146 yards and two touchdowns on 20 carries.

Brown showed he can throw

## Amal Clooney addresses crowd of over 900 at Salem State Series

Special to the Journal

International Human Rights Lawyer Amal Clooney addressed over 900 attendees at the Salem State University Speaker Series

at O'Keefe Complex Tuesday. Foundation, Inc.'s speaker series. Award-winning journalist and Salem State alumna Anne Driscoll '76 interviewed Clooney about her work as an inter-

national human rights attorney. This year marks the 40th anniversary of the Foundation's popular speaker series.

Amal Clooney is an award-winning lawyer specializing in international law and human rights and visiting professor at Columbia Law School. Described as a "brilliant legal mind," Clooney frequently represents victims of mass atrocities, including genocide and sexual violence. She has acted in many precedent-setting human rights cases in recent years, including the world's first trial against an ISIS member for genocide and the first case alleging complicity in crimes against humanity by

a company that funded the terror group. She has represented Armenia in a case involving the Armenian genocide and was recently counsel to 126 victims of the genocide in Darfur, Sudan, at the International Criminal Court. In 2021, she was appointed special adviser to the prosecutor of the International Criminal Court on Darfur. Clooney also represents political prisoners around the world and has helped to secure the freedom of journalists arbitrarily detained for their work across the globe. In 2020, Clooney was the recipient of the Gwen Ifill Award for 'extraordi-

Please see CLOONEY Page 3



Amal Clooney and Anne Driscoll.

Please see FOOTBALL Page 3

# Lynn station to close on October 1 for needed improvements

Lynn Commuter Rail station on the Newburyport/Rockport Line will close on October 1, to address potential station deterioration issues. Seeking to take proactive measures to advance rider and employee safety, the MBTA is completely rebuilding the station as part of the Lynn Commuter Rail Station Improvements Project. Following discussions with stakeholders and members of the community, alternate travel options during the station closure will include a free shuttle bus from Lynn to Swampscott station until a temporary platform is built.

“During the closure of Lynn station, I want to assure riders that alternate travel options will be available. Bus Routes 441/442 and 455 connect to

Wonderland for Blue Line subway service. Additionally, a shuttle bus will operate between Lynn and Swampscott for riders who would like to board at Swampscott until a temporary platform is built,” said MBTA General Manager Steve Poftak. “I want to thank our Lynn riders and the Lynn community for their continued patience as we make these critical upgrades, investments, and improvements at the station.”

The MBTA’s Capital Programs team will continue public outreach and public engagement efforts as the MBTA moves toward the goal of safety improvements with the rebuilding of Lynn station. The MBTA will also host a virtual public meeting to discuss the work to be accom-

plished and details of the station closure. Details regarding the public meeting will be posted at [mbta.com/events](http://mbta.com/events) soon.

During the station closure, riders may use Bus Routes 441/442 and 455 from Lynn to connect to Wonderland station for continued Blue Line subway service into Boston. Riders may also use free shuttle bus service from Lynn station to Swampscott station. Although Swampscott is a Zone 3 station, Lynn riders who board at Swampscott may purchase Zone 2 tickets and passes. A temporary platform will also be constructed at Lynn and will serve Lynn station riders until station construction is complete. While buses will continue to operate at the station during the closure, bus stop areas may be moved to

accommodate construction. Riders are encouraged to check [mbta.com/Alerts](http://mbta.com/Alerts) for full information on service alternatives.

With \$72,519,591 allocated in the MBTA’s FY23-27 Capital Investment Plan, the Lynn Commuter Rail Station Improvements Project includes modernization work as well as station upgrades. The Lynn Commuter Rail station closure is being advanced to address safety concerns about deteriorating conditions of the station and associated infrastructure, and to accelerate the station rehabilitation project. The closure will allow the MBTA to expedite existing conditions surveys, to finalize design activities, and to advance early demolition work. The new Lynn station will include a new high-level cen-

ter-island platform and canopy; accessibility upgrades, including new ADA-compliant elevators at both ends of the platform; new stairs and ramp, signage, and wayfinding improvements; track improvements; and other associated infrastructure improvements. When complete, the station’s upgraded structure will improve safety, accessibility, and the customer experience.

The specific length of time for the station closure will be determined when the station design is fully complete, and the MBTA will communicate these details to riders as they become available.

For more information, visit [mbta.com/LynnStation](http://mbta.com/LynnStation), or connect with the T on Twitter @MBTA, Facebook /TheMBTA, or Instagram@theMBTA.

## Luciano/ CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Luciano’s two sons, A.J. Luciano (Lynn Classical, Salem State) and Andrew Luciano (St. Mary’s) both played in the Post 291 baseball program, with Andrew playing this past season for the team. Andrew was also the starting centerfielder for St. Mary’s 2021 state championship team. Andrew and his St. Mary’s teammate, Terence Moynihan (St. Michal’s College), were key players for Tony Luciano’s state champion Lynn American Legion junior team.

Asked about his decision to exit as head coach, Luciano was candid, stating, “I just decided to step down because I just don’t have the time and my heart’s not in it anymore. I would be doing the kids a disservice if I stayed on to try to coach, because I just don’t have the time or the energy.”

Luciano said he would consider staying on as the program administrator, “if I could find a person to coach the team that’s going to take it over and run it correctly. The best-case scenario would be for an assistant high

school baseball coach to take over the team.”

Luciano’s announcement comes at a time when the popularity of baseball is trending downward in Lynn. Enrollment in Lynn’s Little League programs has been decreasing for the past several years.

“Little League Baseball is down, and I don’t know why,” said Luciano. “I don’t know why no one wants to play baseball. I understand it can be boring at times, but it’s my favorite sport.”

Greater Lynn Babe Ruth, under President Jeff Earp, has been a shining exception and stands tall as a strong and vibrant baseball organization in the city. The recent achievement of its 15-year-old team qualifying for the World Series should bode well as Little League graduates look to continue their baseball careers in a strong organization that is a perennial contender for state and regional championships.

Luciano is a graduate of Lynn Tech and has worked as a certified plumber for 34 years. He is

the company foreman.

### Newhall praises outgoing coach

Jason Newhall, a former Bridgewater State baseball star whose son, Shea Newhall, was selected to the All-Tournament at the 2022 Babe Ruth World Series, praised Luciano’s contributions to Lynn baseball.

“Tony Luciano has been great for so many organizations through the years, ultimately enhancing the players’ experience through fundraising,” said Newhall. “Tony was always great at building a team to get things done. He was instrumental through the whole process of adding lights at Wyoma’s baseball and softball field.

“Tony was at Wyoma, Babe Ruth, and most recently Legion, morning, noon, and night, of course outside of his regular work schedule,” continued Newhall. “Tony will always have a place in the hearts of many for his work ethic and his irreplaceable volunteerism.”

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The Lynn Journal encourages residents to submit engagement, wedding and birth announcements, news releases, business and education briefs, sports stories and photos for publication. Items should be forwarded to our offices at 385 Broadway, Revere, MA 02151.

We also encourage readers to e-mail news releases and photos to [Cary@lynnjournal.com](mailto:Cary@lynnjournal.com)

# Baker-Polito administration celebrates the success of the Greening the Gateway Cities Program

As part of the Baker-Polito Administration's celebration of Climate Week in Massachusetts, Department of Conservation and Recreation Commissioner Doug Rice and state and local officials visited the City of Lynn to promote the Commonwealth's Greening the Gateway Cities Program (GGCP). In April 2017, the municipality joined the program, which provides free trees to residents, businesses, and municipal properties. To date, 2,007 trees have been planted in the community in an effort to increase its tree canopy. An additional 400 trees are expected to be planted throughout the city by the end of the Fall 2023 planting season. Importantly, a healthy tree canopy can deliver significant energy and environmental benefits, such as improved air quality, lower energy consumption, critical habitat for wildlife, and the beautifying of neighborhoods.

"Since coming into office, the Baker-Polito Administration has greatly supported the Greening the Gateway Cities Program as one of many key programs to address the impacts of climate change that are currently being felt throughout the Commonwealth," said Department of Conservation and Recreation Commissioner Doug Rice. "Through this unique program, tree plantings make the City of Lynn and other communities not only more resilient to the effects of climate change, but provide other added benefits, including improved air quality and a reduction in energy costs."

The Greening the Gateway Cities Program is a partnership between the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs (EEA), the Department of Conservation and Recreation's (DCR) Urban & Community Forestry Program, the Department of Energy Resources (DOER),

and the Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD), along with Gateway Cities and local grassroots organizations. Notably, the program utilizes trees to cool neighborhoods and reduce the "urban heat island" effect where large areas of pavement create significantly hotter living conditions. The tree plantings are also focused within Environmental Justice neighborhoods – areas with over 25% of residents who are low income, minority, or non-English speaking.

DCR foresters work with neighborhood non-profit organizations to help with outreach and community support. Extensive tree planting in local neighborhoods addresses climate justice by giving residents the same access to cool greenspace and shade as other communities. The program also strives to reduce energy use by shading and sheltering neighborhoods and to reduce flooding by soaking up stormwater.

"More trees and improved greenery lead to many public health, environmental, and social benefits," said State Senator Brendan Crighton (D-Lynn). "Thank you to our state and local partners for putting environmental justice at the forefront and making the Greening the Gateway Cities Program an ongoing success."

"The Greening the Gateway Cities Program is an important piece of larger puzzle that aims to address the effects of climate change in our gateway cities," said State Representative Peter Capano (D-Lynn). "Expanding the urban tree canopy will allow residents to enjoy shaded and cooler green spaces, cleaner air to breathe, and a reduction in energy costs."

"It is as important as ever to take steps to combat climate change and protect our environ-

ment," said State Representative Dan Cahill (D-Lynn).

"The Greening the Gateway Cities Program furthers this mission and provides many benefits to the Commonwealth"

Since 2015, the state has invested \$23 million into the Greening the Gateway Cities Program. Over the next year, the state will invest \$5 million more in state capital

and energy efficiency funds to plant about 8,000 trees averaging six feet in height within fourteen gateway cities. The program will not only produce energy savings,

but will also benefit the local economy and create jobs by purchasing trees from local nurseries and hiring foresters and tree planting crews from the cities where planting takes place. The program trains crews in proper tree planting and care and many employees find permanent work in the landscaping industry. The GGCP is expected to yield more than twice the investment made by the Administration in energy cost savings for residents and businesses as the trees mature.

With a defined goal to increase the urban tree canopy to five to ten percent in select neighborhoods in each Gateway City, the program is expected

to reduce heating and cooling costs by approximately \$230 a year for an average household once the trees reach maturity. To date, the program has planted a total of 34,830 trees within participating Gateway Cities – that is the equivalent of adding 550 acres, or nearly one square mile, of new forest to these cities. Residents who sign-up for the GGCP will be provided planted trees at no cost as long as they commit to watering the trees for two years. For more information about the Greening the Gateway Cities Program, please visit the program's webpage.

## Football CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

the ball very effectively as well. His 41-yard completion to 6-foot-4-inch receiver Nick Sacco on a key fourth-down play kept a Spartans' scoring drive alive.

Sacco was covered very well on the play, but Brown put the football where Sacco could use his size and athleticism to make the catch. Jack Marks had one catch for 45 yards and a touchdown.

Koulanges is the new breakout star for St. Mary's as the 6-foot senior running back had 24 carries for 155 yards and touchdowns, including a 69-yard run for a score.

"Derek Koulanges had a phenomenal game," lauded St. Mary's head coach Sean Driscoll.

Meanwhile, linebacker Joel Maggs led the Spartans' defensive effort with 13 tackles. Tommy Falasca was credited with 10 tackles and a safety.

Winthrop scored first on a Welvis Acosta 1-yard run, followed by a two-point conversion for an 8-0 advantage.

But the Spartans would score 30 unanswered points over the next three quarters, as Coulanges and Brown took turns establishing the running game.

Brown's 7-yard TD run in the final minute sealed the im-

pressive victory. Placekicker Michael Anderson had a perfect 5-of-5 performance on points-after-touchdown.

For St. Mary's coach Sean Driscoll, it was a happy homecoming. Driscoll is a former Viking player and head coach and the town's beloved parks and recreation director. In addition to leading his team to a decisive victory over a strong divisional foe Friday night, Driscoll also learned that he will be honored with induction into the Winthrop High Athletic Hall of Fame at the Nov. 5 ceremony.

Driscoll talked with reporters after the game about his triumphant return to his hometown.

"This place [the Town of Winthrop] is a special place," said Driscoll. "I still work in the town, and I know a lot of these kids from my parks and recreational program over the years. It felt different coming back to this field. Winthrop has a good program and a great coach. You saw how they came out in the first quarter with us. They gave us all we could handle. I was a little disappointed with how we started, but I think once we settled into the game, we played pretty well, especially in the second half. I thought we overpowered them in the second half."

## Clooney/ CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

nary and sustained achievement in the cause of press freedom' from the Committee to Protect Journalists. Clooney is also a visiting professor at Columbia Law School, where she co-teaches the Human Rights course. Read Clooney's full biography at salemstate.edu/series.

Moderator Anne Driscoll, a Salem State alumna, is an award-winning journalist (Boston Globe, New York Times, People Magazine)

and two-time Fulbright Scholar to Ireland who investigated wrongful convictions and lectured at the National University of Ireland, Galway, the Irish Innocence Project at Griffith College in Dublin and at the Justice Brandeis Law Project of the Schuster Institute for Investigative Journalism at Brandeis

University in Massachusetts. Her investigative work helped exonerate Angel Echavarría, sentenced to life without parole, but released in 2015 after serving 21 years in prison for a murder he didn't commit, and has also been cited by the legal team of Stephen Pina, who has been freed. Her work also contributed to Irish President Michael D. Higgins giving the first posthumous presidential pardon in Irish history for Harry Gleeson, who was wrongfully hanged to death in 1941 for the murder of his neighbor Moll McCarthy. She is also a licensed certified social worker in Massachusetts who has written a self-help guidebook series for girls called Girl to Girl. Read Driscoll's biography at salemstate.edu/series.



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# EDITORIAL

## GET THE NEW COVID SHOT NOW!

We realize that after two and one-half years of dealing with COVID-19, all of us just want to be done with COVID.

But the unfortunate reality is that COVID-19 is not done with us, despite what President Biden suggested in his interview on Sunday with 60 Minutes.

The number of Americans who still are contracting -- and dying from -- COVID each and every day continues to be staggering: The daily average of new COVID cases in the U.S. is more than 60,000 and the daily average for new deaths is almost 500. More Americans are dying from COVID every week than died on 9/11.

The toll that so-called long-COVID is wreaking on our population also is enormous. By some estimates, 20 percent of those who contract COVID, even if they have mild cases, will suffer from the effects of long-COVID, including many that are physically and mentally debilitating over the long term.

However, the availability of the new COVID-19 vaccine marks a huge step forward in our ability to reduce the ravages of the COVID pandemic. The new vaccine, which became available two weeks ago for all adults, is the only type of vaccine that can protect against the most dominant Omicron strains of COVID-19 in the US. The new booster is bivalent, which means it provides better protection against both the original strain of COVID-19 and the Omicron variants that are currently causing most infections (BA.4 and BA.5).

In addition, preliminary research suggests that the new vaccine offers significant protection not only against serious illness and death, but also against contracting long-COVID.

Health professionals are recommending that even if you have had COVID, you should get the new vaccine as soon as a month after your illness, and for those who have received all of the previous boosters, you should get the new vaccine two months after your last shot.

Those with compromised immune systems should consult with their doctor about getting the new vaccine.

We urge all of our readers not to walk, but to run, to a health care provider to get the new vaccine ASAP.

## AMERICA NEEDS IMMIGRANTS MORE THAN EVER

For the first time in the history of the world, there are more people on the planet over the age of 65 than under five.

For industrial nations such as the U.S., this is a profound change from what has been the norm for the past 75 years, when the arrival of the Baby Boomer generation marked the beginning of just the opposite trend.

But with the Baby Boomers leaving the workforce in unprecedented numbers, we're seeing some of the effects of this new change in demographics. There simply are not enough Americans to fill jobs of all kinds -- reportedly there is just one worker for every two job openings -- and no matter how much the Fed raises interest rates, that is not going to change.

Moreover, as the majority of Baby Boomers begin to hit their 70s, the demand for service employees, ranging from healthcare professionals (doctors, nurses, home health aides) to the travel industry (flight crews, airline ground staff) is going to increase exponentially.

Whether going to a hospital emergency room or an airport these days, it's already a nightmare, with the consequences ranging from life-and-death to inconvenience.

Japan has been the canary in the coal mine of this demographic shift. Its economy has been stagnant for a decade and even shrinking in comparison to other nations because of the decline in its birth rate and its aging population.

The industrialized world is facing the reality of simple arithmetic: There are fewer young people to take care of a lot more old people.

In 1970, the median age of the U.S. population was 28.1. Today it is 38.6. In other words, our population today is almost a full generation older (if you count a generation as being 15-20 years) than it has been in the past.

With the U.S. government stuck in gridlock, it is obvious that we as a nation are not going to be able to do anything to address this impending seismic shift in demographics over the long term.

America's greatness always has stemmed from those who have immigrated from other countries. Immigrants come to America to make a better life for themselves and their families. They work hard and possess an entrepreneurial spirit. In addition, they bring a diversity that has created the wonder that is the American melting pot.

More than ever, America needs immigrants to fill the jobs and pay the taxes that will support our aging population.

We realize that a lot of people may not want to hear that -- but that is the reality.

## GUEST OP-ED

### The call of our common humanity

By Cardinal Seán Patrick O'Malley

Immigration policies and practices stand as an abiding moral, legal and political challenge to our Commonwealth and our country. We have delayed far too long in developing an effective response to immigrants, migrants, and refugees at a moment when the movement of men, women, children, and families surpasses any other known example in our history.

Our common humanity is the lens through which our response to immigrants and refugees must be judged. Pope Francis has made the plight of immigrants and refugees a constant theme of his pontificate. The Holy Father's witness, in word and deed, has been based on understanding immigrants and refugees as pilgrims forced by socio-economic conditions, human rights abuses, and the climate crisis to leave their homes in search of safety, security and stability for themselves and their families.

Last week the humanity and vulnerability which immigrants and refugees share has come home to us in Massachusetts. The Venezuelan refugees have come from a situation of enormous oppression and suffering in their own country.

As is often the case, human tragedy evokes moral goodness. The citizens of Martha's Vineyard have shown us all how common humanity motivates generosity and effective kindness. I commend young and old for their example and effective re-

sponse.

The need for a systematic longer-term response is required. I thank Governor Baker for his promise of providing shelter and security for those who have come to us in Massachusetts without either. An effective strategy inevitably requires the leadership and assistance of state and city government. Within that basic framework other organizations can then make their skilled response.

Catholic Charities of Boston has informed me of their readiness to cooperate with civil authorities in welcoming those who come to our Commonwealth in need of assistance. Not only Venezuelans, but Haitians and other Latin Americans are caught up in the crushing emergency of the U.S. southern border. When non-profit agencies can partner with civil authorities, people at risk will find welcome, support and space to organize their lives.

In a globalized world, immigration challenges will continue. In our country a broken immigration system requires immediate reform. From the Dreamers who still seek legal stability in their lives, to those fleeing war in Ukraine, poverty in Latin America and Africa, or crises in the Middle East, the call of our common humanity will be with us for years to come. I pray we will be equal to the challenge.

*Seán Patrick O'Malley OFM Cap GCIF is an American cardinal of the Catholic Church serving as the archbishop of Boston.*

## THE LYNN JOURNAL

**PRESIDENT:** Stephen Quigley

**EDITOR IN CHIEF:** Cary Shuman [cary@lynnjournal.com](mailto:cary@lynnjournal.com)

PHONE 781-485-0588 // FAX 781-485-1403

EMAIL: [EDITOR@LYNNJOURNAL.COM](mailto:EDITOR@LYNNJOURNAL.COM)

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# Cambridge Health Alliance launches state-of-the-art robotic surgery program



Cambridge Health Alliance has launched its robotic surgery program with the da Vinci® Xi surgical robot. The cutting-edge technology enables CHA to offer more minimally invasive procedures.

Cambridge Health Alliance (CHA), a community health system serving Cambridge, Somerville, and Boston's metro-north communities, launched its robotic surgery program with the da Vinci® Xi surgical robot. CHA now offers many patients the most cutting-edge technology in surgeries ranging from hernia to lung cancer. This is a significant step in CHA's efforts to offer the finest specialty care for its patients and communities conveniently offered closer to home.

The da Vinci Xi allows highly trained surgeons to use tiny instruments mounted on robotic arms to do complex surgeries with a high degree of precision. It enables CHA to offer more minimally invasive procedures which often result in less pain and quicker recovery times.

Siva Vithiananthan, MD, CHA's chief of surgery, has extensive experience with robotic surgery. During his time as chief of minimally invasive surgery and bariatric surgery at Miriam

Hospital in Providence, R.I., he performed hundreds of cases on the da Vinci system and believes this modern technology "has the opportunity to revolutionize surgical care, not only for CHA patients, but for patients throughout the country."

CHA is now using its da Vinci robot in general surgery and thoracic surgery, with the first procedures completed at CHA Cambridge Hospital on August 22. CHA plans to use the da Vinci robot for urology and OB/GYN surgeries in the near future.

"We know that surgery is a team sport," said Dr. Vithiananthan. "Each robotic surgery relies on colleagues from surgery, anesthesiology, nursing, sterile processing, materials management, and others to be successful. I am thrilled that we have an excellent team in place at CHA in all these areas, and I cannot wait to offer surgical options for patients seeking up to date technology and high quality care in our patient-centered tradition at CHA."

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## CITY PAWS

## Dogs at play

By Penny &amp; Ed Cherubino

Our first dog, Sassy, grew up in a suburb where she never had the opportunity to play with other dogs. When we moved to the city, she was highly reactive to any dog we met on our walks. Our second dog, Maggie Mae, grew up in the city and loved people and other dogs.

One of the best things in Maggie's puppyhood was meeting Tipper, a beagle the same age who loved to play. Any time one

of the humans needed some tired puppy time, we'd set up a play date and let the pups tussle until exhausted.

**Playing or Fighting?**

The American Kennel Club offers tips on how to evaluate rough play. All that growling, wrestling, and mouthy behavior could seem like a dogfight. However, if the action begins with a play bow, mouths are wide open, movement is bouncy and silly, and both dogs keep coming back

for more, it's all playful.

Fighting would involve a stiff body, hackles up, ears pinned back, curled lips, closed mouth, and low warning growls. If it's a fight, the losing dog will try to get away, won't come back for more, and will have its tail tucked.

Important guidelines are to never let a group of dogs gang up on one. This is especially important in dog recreation areas. And finally, the AKC says, "Keep food and toys out of the picture.



These puppies may look fierce, but in reality, they are play fighting!

# First Day At School

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



## PLEASE SHARE THOSE PHOTOS WITH US

- Child's Name • School • Newspaper to be published in (Choose One)

Photos will be published in  
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Most dogs are possessive of their food and their stuff. To them, it's worth fighting for."

**Expert Opinion**

Researchers Barbara Smuts, Ph.D., and Camille Ward, Ph.D., in an article on the website "The Wildest," write, "Our research shows that for many dogs, play fighting is the primary method used to negotiate new relationships and develop lasting friendships." They concluded that play fighting helps with socialization, enhances cognitive development, is excellent exercise, and lets the dogs practice for unexpected situations. It's an integral part of their education.

**Play Bonds with People**

Playtime can also be important in creating a bond between humans and their dogs. Our Poppy and Ed have a play routine that they both seem to enjoy. One of them will pull a stuffed toy out of Poppy's basket and begin a game of toss. We know that corporations pay to create team bonding experiences. With dogs, all we have to do is play!

One note we picked up in our play research came from Linda Case's website, [dog.com. In her article "Teasing is Bad. \(Science Says So\)," she reviewed two research studies on dogs' reactions to teasing. Teasing might be with fake throws of a stick or toy, taunting with something held too far for the dog to reach, or deliberately withholding a treat.](http://www.thescience-</a></p>
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<div data-bbox=)

She summed up the two studies. "Teasing is bad for dogs for many reasons. Not only is it unkind, but dogs appear to be aware of a teasing person's nefarious intentions and they neither enjoy the encounter nor do they enjoy interacting with such a person."

We'll sum up this topic by saying play is essential to a dog's life. It's vital for young dogs and can be a perfect way for a dog to socialize with both other animals and humans. We think it is also great for the humans who can have some childish fun playing with their pups and get to know more people in their community as they watch over their dogs at play.

*Do you have a question or topic for City Paws? Send an email to [Penny@BostonZest.com](mailto:Penny@BostonZest.com) with your request.*



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# Orange Line, Green Line extension service resume on schedule

Special to the Times-Free Press

On Monday, September 19, both the Orange Line service and Green Line Union Square service resumed.

The MBTA initiated the 30-day full closure of the Orange Line on August 19 to complete five years of improvements in 30 days and bring track and signal infrastructure into a state of good repair, while also addressing safety actions identified by the Federal Transit Administration (FTA).

Orange Line track replacement work addresses FTA Special Directive 22-4 which mandates that the MBTA take actions related to maintenance of way. In Directive 22-4, the FTA noted that defective track conditions had forced the MBTA to implement slow zones where trains had to operate at restricted speeds. By replacing thousands of feet of rail during the Orange Line closure, the MBTA is eliminating the slow zones, and providing riders with faster and more reliable service.

“A tremendous amount of choreography, coordination, and hard work has been accomplished during these 30 days, including over a dozen projects to replace rail, track, signals, rail fasteners, and more that would have taken the T five years of nights and weekends to accomplish,”

said MBTA General Manager Steve Poftak. “We’ve also met our goal of eliminating six slow zones along the Orange Line, which creates faster and more reliable commutes for customers, and surpassed our goal for new vehicles with 72 new Orange Line cars ready to serve riders. Thank you to all of our partner municipalities along the Orange Line for collaborating with us throughout the entirety of these 30 days; to the MBTA workforce, contractor crews, shuttle bus operators, Transit Ambassadors, in-station personnel, and more for their dedicated work, skill, and service; and especially to our Orange Line riders – we’re excited to welcome you back to a faster, safer, more reliable ride tomorrow on a line comprised of predominantly new cars.”

“The 30-day Orange Line shutdown was a monumental opportunity which allowed the MBTA to conduct critical maintenance operations aggressively to help ensure travel on the MBTA is safe, accessible, smooth, and convenient,” said MassDOT Secretary and CEO Jamey Tesler. “This historical undertaking would not have been possible without thorough and thoughtful multi-level coordination and collaboration, and I would like to thank MassDOT’s Highway Division for all their

support, everyone who worked hard and spent countless hours helping to bring this project to fruition, and members of the public for all of their continued patience.”

“The MBTA’s Capital Transformation program has successfully applied its experience and lessons learned from previous surges as we brought together multiple other MBTA departments to continue the transformation of the Orange Line,” said MBTA Chief of Capital Transformation Angel Peña. “Our work during the Orange Line shutdown was rooted in our devotion to riders and their safety. This devotion will continue to drive our focus on quality, accessibility, modernization, and service for years to come.”

Work accomplished during the 30-day Orange Line closure includes:

- Elimination of six slow zones to allow for faster service at Jackson Square and Stony Brook, State and Downtown Crossing, Tufts Medical Center and Back Bay, Community College and North Station, and two slow zones between Assembly and Wellington along Dana Bridge.
- Replacement of 14,000 feet of rail and more than 2,800 rail ties.
- Replaced 3,500 feet of track.



MAYOR'S OFFICE PHOTO BY JOHN WILCOX

Boston Mayor Michelle Wu passes through the turnstile to ride the newly re-opened Orange Line on Monday.

- Installation of 400 rail fasteners called “Cologne Eggs,” which dampen vibrations and noise for a more comfortable ride.
- Upgraded signals at Oak Grove and Malden Center from analog to digital to reduce time and maintenance.
- A total of 48,000 feet of new signal cable laid, including 45,000 feet of signal cable within the Southwest Corridor, which will be activated in 2023 as part of the Signal Upgrades project when the new system is placed in service.
- Repaired and weatherproofed Sullivan Square station’s roof and canopy to protect it from the

- elements and the roadway above.
- Forest Hills station is now fully accessible from both the Washington Street and Banks Place entrances. New granite tiles have also been installed at station entrances along with a new skylight. Additional improvements include the polishing and sealing of the terrazzo, painting lobby ceilings, and completing construction of the redundant lobby elevator.
- Upgraded two Crossovers at Ruggles and Jackson Square so trains can seamlessly move between tracks.

Please see ORANGE LINE Page 9

## MISSING DOG

PLEASE HELP US FIND HIM

### SUSHI

Breed: YORKIE  
Color: BLACK/GRAY  
Collar: LIGHT BLUE

Sushi has been missing since 8pm on 9/13. Last seen at 1AM by Arnold St. in woods along Route 1A running towards Saugus. Please don't chase him – just call.



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### FIRE AND POLICE FAMILY FUN DAY

After a brief absence, the Lynn Fire & Lynn Police Family Fun Day returned at the entrance of Lynn Woods on Great Wood Road. This was the 5th Annual open event with games, activities, and fun for families and friends. It was an excellent time for everyone to enjoy as children and adults participated in a road race through Lynn Woods, Fire trucks on display for children to explore, two bouncy houses were available, and finally a Corn Hole tournament with a bean bag toss toward a target. Proceeds from the Fun Day were divided between Lynn Fire and Lynn Police toward a charitable cause.



Enjoying Fun Day – Officer Meg Sullivan with Jax, Chief Stephen Archer, Officer Sean Coppinger, and Beth Hilton with Harry.



Firefighters Jack Barry and Justin Murray with Layla, Delilah, and Milo at Family Fun Day.



Drench Lynn Youth Fire Academy students – Alejandra, James, Rashaud, and Giselle.



Lynn Fire Rescue Unit: Jacob Griffith, Josh Echevarria, and Lt. Brett Johnson.



Finnerty Family Corn Hole Team - Nathan, Xavier, Rob, and Megan with Retired Firefighter Steven Walsh and Diesel.



Firefighter Brad, Sara, and Dahlia Ray meet Mayor Jared Nicholson and his son, Henry.



Firefighter Dan Navaroli with his family, Sanja, Liam and Alannah.

# Commuter Rail announces service changes as Orange Line service returns

Keolis and the MBTA announced several changes to Commuter Rail operations as the Orange Line returned to service on Monday. Oak Grove station, which was re-opened to support passengers during the Orange Line service disruption, will remain in service, becoming a regular stop on the Haverhill Line in Zone 1A. Additionally, some of the service that was added at Forest Hills Station will remain, ensuring two trains an hour in the weekday morning inbound peak at that station. All passengers are reminded that regular fare collection will resume for Zones 2, 1A and 1. The amended schedules can be found online at <https://www.mbta.com/schedules/commuter-rail>.

“We’re pleased to add Oak Grove as a permanent regular stop on the Haverhill Line and to make additional stops at Forest Hills going forward,” said MBTA General Manager Steve Poftak. “This is an exciting development that came about following the Orange Line shutdown that we hadn’t previously planned. Thank you to our partners at Keolis for their teamwork and collaboration on these station and schedule improvements.”

“During the Orange Line service disruption, we welcomed many new riders to the Commuter Rail,” said Abdellah Chajai CEO of Keolis Commuter Services. “We hope that they found their trips to be reliable and convenient and that they will continue to see the Commuter Rail as a great option for their transportation needs.”

Ahead of the Orange Line service disruption, Oak Grove Station was recommissioned to offer a service alternative for

Orange Line riders. As part of recommissioning, repairs were made to the Commuter Rail platform, including installation of new a new platform edge tactile and updated signage. Additional upgrades to the lighting will be made now that the station is being permanently returned to the schedule.

During the Orange Line service disruption, in preparation for the post Labor Day return to work and school, Commuter Rail service at Forest Hills station was expanded, offering a 5 inbound trains in the 7:00 a.m. hour and 4 trains an hour for the remainder of the weekday peak. With the Orange Line returning to service, the Commuter Rail will maintain some of that additional service, ensuring two trains an hour inbound during the weekday morning peak.

When the Orange Line returned to service on September 19, the Commuter Rail returned to its normal fare collection practices, requiring visual validation of a ticket purchased for the appropriate zone. Passengers will no longer be able simply show a CharlieCard to ride trains within Zone 2. Passengers are reminded that Commuter Rail tickets can be purchased on the mTicket mobile app, at fare vending machines, and at ticket windows at North, South and Back Bay stations. For more information about Commuter Rail fares visit [www.mbta.com/fares/commuter-rail-fares](http://www.mbta.com/fares/commuter-rail-fares)

Passengers can stay connected with Commuter Rail by calling customer service at 617-222-3200, following @MBTA\_CR on Twitter or signing up for T-Alerts at [www.mbta.com/alerts](http://www.mbta.com/alerts).

## Orange Line / CONTINUED FROM PAGE 7

- Updated Oak Grove’s accessibility by replacing the roof, doors, windows, stairs, granite, pavers, terrazzo flooring, and elevators.

- Readied 72 new Orange Line cars, an increase from 30 cars when the Orange Line shutdown first started.

- Riders should be aware that slow zones will remain in place for about a week after service resumes. This is because it takes time for the new track and ballast to settle as trains repeatedly run over the areas where the slow zone removal work was done.

The Orange Line provides approximately 101,000 trips each day with ridership approximately 49% of pre-pandemic ridership.

With the reopening of the Orange Line, the CharlieCard Store located within Downtown Crossing will increase its business hours to better serve MBTA customers. On Mondays, the CharlieCard Store will be open by appointment, and Tuesday through Friday it will be open 8:30 AM to 5 PM, serving all transactions.

### Commuter Rail Updates Effective September 19

Because many Orange Line riders chose the Commuter Rail during the Orange Line closure, the T will add Oak Grove station to the Haverhill Commuter Rail Line schedule as a Zone 1A stop to offer riders an additional choice to their daily commute. Nine train stops at Forest Hills station that were added during the Orange Line shutdown will also continue on the Franklin and Providence/Stoughton Commuter Rail Lines, ensuring two trains an hour in the weekday morning inbound peak at that station. Passengers are reminded that regular fare collection will resume for Zones 1A, 1, and 2. Amended schedules can be found online at [mbta.com/CR](http://mbta.com/CR).

### Green Line Extension Service

Green Line service between Union Square and Government Center stations will also resume at the start of service tomorrow. The T suspended service last month to facilitate the opening of the Medford Branch of the Green Line Extension in late November 2022 and to allow for continued

work at the Government Center Garage project.

Completed work on the Green Line Extension includes:

- Adjustments to the overhead wire on the East Cambridge Viaduct that eliminated a temporary slow zone, allowing trolleys to operate at the system’s designed speed of 25 mph on a permanent basis.

- Final testing and integration of track switches, power lines, signal equipment, and digital communications between the Green Line’s Union Branch, the soon-to-be-operational Medford Branch, and the MBTA’s Operations and Control Center.

- Installation of the last remaining sound wall panels along the Union Branch and additional work items along the Union and Medford Branches’ including track, stations, and rights of way.

As with the Orange Line, Green Line riders should note that slow zones will continue to be in place temporarily for about one week where the work was performed.

# Permanent street changes following Orange Line shutdown announced

Mayor Michelle Wu and Chief of Streets Jascha Franklin-Hodge announced several street changes made to mitigate impacts from the MBTA’s Orange Line shutdown will be made permanent following the reopening of the Orange Line Monday. The Boston Transportation Department (BTD) took unprecedented steps to quickly install priority bus lanes, pop-up bike lanes, and change parking restrictions along the Orange Line route. Certain infrastructure changes that improved traffic flow or public safety will remain in place. The Mayor also announced street changes that will be temporarily removed and then reinstalled permanently. All other changes made during the Orange Line shutdown will be removed.

“Over the last 30 days, our City teams have been focused on measuring what’s working so we could ensure continual improvement during a stressful time of the Orange Line shutdown,” said Mayor Michelle Wu. “We’re keeping in place some of the changes that have helped with traffic flow and transit access, so that commuters will see lasting benefit above ground even as the subway comes back online. I’m

so proud of the Boston Transportation Department for their hard work during this unprecedented event, and grateful to commuters across the region for their patience and input.”

“The past 30 days provided an opportunity to create new ways to use our public spaces to ease how residents move within the City,” said Chief of Streets Jascha Franklin-Hodge. “We look forward to working with the community to take the lessons learned and apply them to future infrastructure projects that will enhance public space and improve mobility for pedestrians, people on bikes, and transit riders.”

The following street infrastructure changes will remain in place:

- Chinatown MBTA SL5 bus stop: This newly added bus stop creates a vital link for Chinatown residents to the SL5.

- Copley Square area bus lanes: These bus lanes include Boylston Street (Ring Road to Clarendon Street); Clarendon Street (Boylston Street to Columbus Ave.); St. James Street (west of Berkeley Street to Dartmouth Street). These bus lanes support the 39, 9, and 10 bus routes, which together

serve more than 10,000 riders per weekday.

- South End loading zones and drop-off zones: Changes to parking restrictions in this area will remain in place for improved curbside management and reduced double parking in the unprotected bike lane.

- Jamaica Plain pavement marking and signage: This includes traffic safety elements such as “Don’t Block the Box” and parking restrictions at corners to improve visibility. These changes have shown to improve traffic safety and management.

- Boylston Street one-way for vehicles: Closing part of Boylston Street (between Amory & Lamartine) to traffic throughout the shutdown has improved safety (collisions and near-misses) along the Southwest Corridor. Reopening this stretch as a one-way street from Amory to Lamartine for vehicles will support long-term bike connectivity plans, improve safety for all modes, and reduce conflict at the high crash intersection of Boylston and Lamartine Streets.
- Huntington Avenue bus & bike priority lane: The priority

## LEGAL NOTICE

### LEGAL NOTICE NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE

Notice is hereby given by McGarvey Towing of 1481 Broadway Saugus, MA, pursuant to the provisions of Mass G.L.c. 255, Section 39A, that they will sell the following

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9/15, 9/22, 9/29

# Baker declares September 18 to 24 to be Forensic Science Week

Governor Charlie Baker has declared September 18-24 as Forensic Science Week in Massachusetts. This week marks the 10th anniversary of National Forensic Science Week, which recognizes the public service of forensic science professionals within the criminal justice system. The Baker-Polito Administration is pleased to recognize the Massachusetts State Police Crime Laboratory (MSPCL) and its team of forensic practitioners for supporting public safety and advancing criminal investigations through impartial and reliable scientific examination of physical evidence.

“Forensic science, and the highly-skilled individuals who

work in labs conducting these investigations and analyses, play a vital role in the criminal justice system,” said Governor Charlie Baker. “We are proud to recognize the forensic science community for their contributions to this critically important field, and their commitment to discovery, integrity and innovation.”

“In recognition of forensic science professionals and their important role in the criminal justice system, our administration commends the nationally accredited MSPCL and its practitioners for their public service and wide-ranging technical expertise in areas such as DNA, ballistics, drugs and toxicology, trace evidence and fingerprint analysis,”

said Lt. Governor Karyn Polito. “Their efforts help support the delivery of justice for victims of violent crimes, and we are grateful for their service.”

“We are proud of the dedication and expertise consistently demonstrated by the highly skilled team at the Massachusetts State Police Crime Lab,” said Public Safety and Security Secretary Terrence Reidy. “Forensic Science Week offers an important opportunity to recognize the important contribution of the Commonwealth’s forensic investigators and scientists and their critical role in providing unbiased scientific evidence to advance criminal investigations and support the administration of

justice.”

“I’m extremely proud of the professionals in our Forensic Services Group for their outstanding work in gathering and analyzing evidence across a range of disciplines,” said Colonel Christopher S. Mason, Superintendent of the Massachusetts State Police. “Their dedication, skills, and training ensure that scientific evidence is examined and presented according to the highest standards of their field, allowing for the fair and unbiased application of such evidence to the criminal justice process.”

The Massachusetts State Police Crime Laboratory is a full-service laboratory system with nine locations across the

Commonwealth, including a new state-of-the-art evidence storage facility. The highly trained scientists at the Laboratory respond to crime scenes, perform laboratory testing, and provide expert testimony. The lab’s scientists conduct forensic analysis in various disciplines, including Criminalistics, DNA, Trace/Arson and Explosives, Drug Chemistry, Ante and Post-Mortem Toxicology, Latent Print and Impression Evidence, and Firearms. Additionally, the Laboratory performs Breath Alcohol Instrument calibrations and collects and processes DNA database samples.

## Boston Marathon Jimmy Fund Walk set for October 2

Registration is now open for the 2022 Boston Marathon® Jimmy Fund Walk presented by Hyundai. Scheduled for Sunday, October 2, funds raised from the Walk support all forms of adult and pediatric patient care and cancer research at one of the nation’s premier cancer centers, Dana-Farber Cancer Institute.

The Jimmy Fund Walk is the only organized walk permitted on the famed Boston Marathon course and participants have the flexibility to choose from four distance options:

- 5K Walk (3.1 miles from Dana-Farber Cancer Institute)
- 10K Walk (6.2 miles from Newton)
- Half Marathon Walk (13.1

miles from Wellesley)

- Marathon Walk (26.2 miles from Hopkinton).

Whatever route walkers choose, participants will be treated to 12 refueling stations as well as poster-sized photographs of patients – Jimmy Fund Walk Heroes – displayed at each mile and half-mile marker as inspiration. All four routes of the Jimmy Fund Walk end at the Copley Square Finish Line with a celebration complete with food, music, and a speaking program.

If walkers wish to participate a bit closer to home, the Jimmy Fund Walk has flexible opportunities. Participants can also join the event virtually by “walking their way” from wherever they are most comfortable—in

their neighborhood, on a favorite hiking trail, or on a treadmill at home. Virtual programming and supporting materials will be available.

The Jimmy Fund Walk has raised more than \$155 million for Dana-Farber Cancer Institute in its 33-year history. For additional information please email [JimmyFundWalk@DFCI.harvard.edu](mailto:JimmyFundWalk@DFCI.harvard.edu) or call 866-531-9255.

To register for the Jimmy Fund Walk (#JimmyFundWalk) or to support a walker, visit [www.JimmyFundWalk.org](http://www.JimmyFundWalk.org) or call (866) 531-9255. Registrants can enter the promo code NEWS for \$5 off the registration fee. All registered walkers will receive a bib, medal, and a Jimmy Fund Walk T-shirt.

## Changes / CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9

bus and bike lane that was added to Huntington Avenue from Brigham Circle to Gainsborough Street has improved speed for the Route 39 bus. As a permanent lane, it will continue to support the thousands of people who ride the Route 39 bus and will improve safety for those on bikes.

- Columbus Avenue pop-up bike lane: This will remain until early December and then be removed for the season. BTD Active Transportation will continue to monitor and move barrels daily to enable street sweeping. Long-term planning is underway for a potential permanent facility. This is one of the busiest corridors for biking. Improving conditions, even on just a few blocks, can make the overall trip safer and more enjoyable.

- Bluebikes parking: The City will retain Bluebikes docks added during the shutdown, with minor modifications as needed, to keep up with record-breaking ridership numbers. The City is also exploring options to provide free or

low-cost bike share service.

The Boylston Street pop-up bike lane will be removed as the City works to design the recently announced permanent facility. Boylston Street is an important link in the bike network, and improved infrastructure here will make a safer ride for people biking from Brookline, Mission Hill, the LMA, and Back Bay to Downtown. The pop-up Boylston Street bike lane will be in place through September 26. The permanent Boylston Street bike lane will be prioritized for installation in the spring.

The Boston Transportation Department is also evaluating potential designs for additional protected bike lanes, pedestrian zones, bus lanes, and safety improvements informed by the changes that were temporarily in place during the Orange Line shutdown. These changes will undergo evaluation and engagement and be publicly announced before any implementation.

## October is named Bullying Prevention Month

We have all heard the stories of bullied teens taking their own lives. Suicide is the 2nd leading cause of death for youth ages 10-18 and in many cases bullying can be a catalyst. Studies have shown that bullying aggravates depression and increases suicide risk for both the victim and the perpetrator. When kids who are at risk for suicide because of depression or other mental health issues are bullied, the results can be disastrous.

According to a Washington State Healthy Youth Survey, nearly 25% of tenth graders who reported being bullied also reported having made a suicide attempt in the past twelve months. An article by JAMA pediatrics reported that cyberbullying cause kids to consider suicide

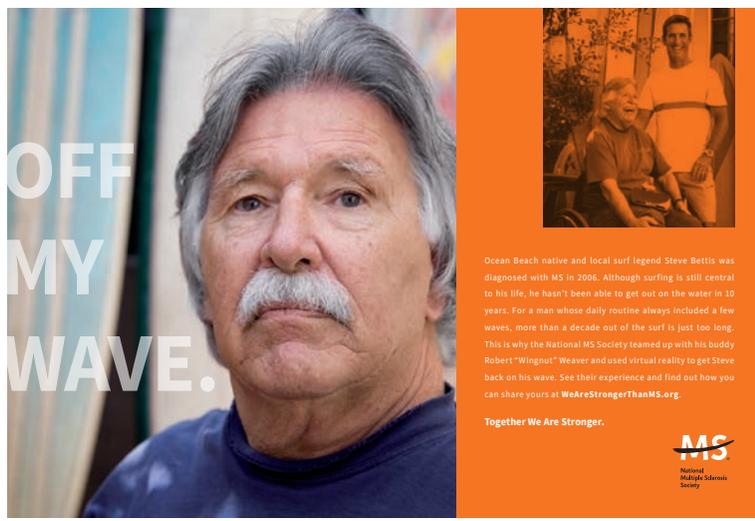
more than traditional bullying.

Cyberbullying happens via technology and can be just as devastating as in-person bullying and can lead a victim to low self-esteem, a feeling of loneliness, and a drop in school grades. Parents can help prevent cyberbullying by talking about it, limiting data access, knowing your child’s passwords, and enforcing internet rules. New research done by The Journal of Child and Family Studies identifies that certain positive parenting practices have a strong effect on both school bullying and cyberbullying. Those are a surplus of warmth, autonomy/support, and structure.

If your child has been the victim of bullying and you have noticed a change in his or her

mental health as a result, get help now. The National Suicide Prevention Lifeline, 1-800-273-TALK (8255) or 988, is a free resource, available 24 hours a day. Or you can text “Jason” to 741741 where trained counselors can offer you support.

The Jason Foundation is another valuable resource. JFI is dedicated to the awareness and prevention of youth suicide through educational programs that equip youth, parents, educators, and the community with the tools and resources to identify and assist at-risk youth. Visit [www.jasonfoundation.com](http://www.jasonfoundation.com) to learn more about youth suicide, the warning signs, and how you can make a difference.



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

Together We Are Stronger.





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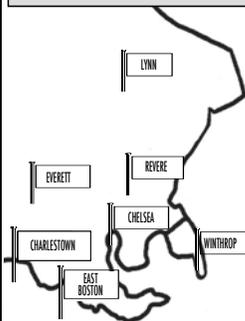
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## LYNN KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS ANNUAL CHARITY GOLF TOURNAMENT



Lynn Knights of Columbus held its 38th Charity Golf Tournament at Cedar Glen Golf Course. This charitable event began in 1994 and continues to be a successful supporter for charitable causes each year. All proceeds benefitted Lynn's Santa Island and the Ukraine Solidarity Fund. After playing 18 holes of golf everyone returned to Council 70 for a delicious dinner.

## Details listed for return of \$2.941 billion in excess tax revenue to taxpayers

Following the State Auditor's certification that Fiscal Year 2022 (FY22) net state tax revenues exceeded allowable revenues per Chapter 62F by \$2.941 billion, the Baker-Polito Administration has announced details regarding the return of this excess revenue to taxpayers.

"Stronger-than expected state tax revenues have led to a major surplus for Fiscal Year 2022, and we are pleased to be able to return nearly \$3 billion in excess revenue to the taxpayers," said Governor Charlie Baker. "With families facing continued pressure from high prices and inflation, these returns will provide some needed relief. Even with nearly \$3 billion going back to taxpayers, significant state and federal resources remain, and we look forward to working with the Legislature to invest this funding into our economy, communities and families."

"Strong economic growth throughout our Commonwealth, combined with careful management of state tax dollars, has resulted in a significant surplus this past fiscal year," said Lt. Governor Karyn Polito. "In the coming months, our administration will work diligently to distribute these funds back to taxpayers, and we look forward to working with the Legislature to invest additional surplus dollars in local economies across our state."

In accordance with the statute, the \$2.941 billion will be returned to eligible taxpayers by the Department of Revenue in

proportion to personal income tax liability in Massachusetts incurred by taxpayers in the immediately preceding taxable year – Tax Year 2021. In general, eligible taxpayers will receive a credit in the form of a refund that is approximately 13% of their Massachusetts Tax Year 2021 personal income tax liability. This percentage is a preliminary estimate and will be finalized in late October, after all 2021 tax returns are filed. To be eligible, individuals must have filed a 2021 state tax return on or before October 17, 2022. An individual's credit may be reduced due to refund intercepts, including for unpaid taxes, unpaid child support, and certain other debts.

Individuals eligible for a refund will receive it automatically as a check sent through the mail or through direct deposit. Distribution of refunds is expected to begin in November 2022.

"While the exceptionally high tax collections we saw in FY22 are a testament to the strength and resilience of the Massachusetts economy, we are pleased to be in a position to return a substantial portion of this revenue back to taxpayers," said Administration and Finance Secretary Michael J. Heffernan. "With many feeling the strain of rising prices, these refunds will be a welcome source of relief for more than three million hardworking individuals across the state, and we look forward to executing on the delivery of the refunds in the coming months."

In total, \$41.812 billion was collected in FY22, representing overall revenue growth of more than 20% above Fiscal Year 2021. After accounting for the Chapter 62F refunds and the recently filed \$840 million final FY22 supplemental budget, a surplus of \$1.5 billion remains available to support permanent tax relief measures and other critical investments pending in the FORWARD/economic development bill, in combination with \$2.2 billion in remaining American Rescue Plan Act funds.

Additional information about Chapter 62F taxpayer refunds, including Frequently Asked Questions and a refund estimator, is available at [www.mass.gov/62frefunds](http://www.mass.gov/62frefunds). This website will be updated as additional information becomes available in the coming months. A call center will also be available to answer questions about 62F refunds beginning Tuesday, September 20, 2022 at 877-677-9727 and will be open Monday through Friday, 9am-4pm. The call center will not be able to provide exact refund amounts – however, the estimator on the FAQs page can help individuals calculate a preliminary estimate.

Chapter 62F is a Massachusetts law enacted by voters in 1986 via a ballot question that requires the Department of Revenue to issue a credit to taxpayers if total tax revenues in a given fiscal year exceed an annual cap tied to wage and salary growth in the Commonwealth.

The law requires that the Department of Revenue submit a report to the State Auditor on the net state tax revenues and the allowable state tax revenues for each fiscal year by September 1st. The State Auditor then makes the determination of whether net state tax revenues

exceed allowable state tax revenues – and, if so, by what amount – on or before the third Tuesday of September.

The Chapter 62F process has been triggered once before, in 1987.

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