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# THE LYNN JOURNAL

Friday, October 11, 2024

## City celebrates opening of new Lynn Woods Playground

Special to the Journal

The City of Lynn held a ribbon-cutting ceremony Oct. 4 for the new Lynn Woods Playground located on Great Woods Road adjacent to the softball field.

Mayor Jared Nicholson led the ceremony and speaking program for the beautiful ADA-compliant facility.

“On behalf of the City of Lynn, we are so happy to be opening this park,” said Mayor Nicholson. “This project was funded by the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds.”

Nicholson said after meeting with residents to discuss how the ARPA funds could be best



Mayor Jared Nicholson prepares to cut the ribbon for the new Lynn Woods Playground as city officials and partners in the project also participate in the ceremony.

Please see PLAYGROUND Page 8

## MBTA extends popular Lynn Ferry service through November 29

Special to the Journal

Due to popular demand, the Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority (MBTA) announced that weekday Lynn Ferry services will be extended this fall through Friday, November 29, 2024, extending beyond its typical seasonal schedule. Ferry

service schedules are available at [mbta.com/ferry](http://mbta.com/ferry). This decision comes as a response to public demand and the services’ success during the summer months.

“We are excited to be announcing that the Lynn Ferry will continue to run through November 29,” said Transportation Secretary and CEO Monica Tib-

bits-Nutt. “We strongly encourage anyone traveling to and from the North Shore to take advantage of this travel option. Water transportation takes cars off the roads and helps the Healey-Driscoll Administration continue to take steps to support greenhouse gas

reductions and build a resilient, safe, and reliable transportation network.”

“Water transportation is a vital link in our overall service and has seen strong ridership on the Lynn Ferry. With such a positive response, we are pleased to now

extend weekday ferry services in Lynn through November,” said MBTA General Manager and CEO Phillip Eng. “I’m proud that the MBTA team can continue to offer this ferry service to

Please see FERRY Page 3

## Family friends fete Jean O’Donnell on her 90th birthday

Special to the Journal

Genevieve “Jean” Donnell celebrated her 90th birthday in the company of her children, other members of her proud family, and friends at Old Tyme Italian Restaurant.

Jean attended Sacred Heart School and St. Mary’s High School, graduating with the

Class of 1952.

Jean worked as a teachers’ aide for many years at the Callahan, Brickett, and Lincoln Thomson score.

In a city known for candlepin bowling, Jean O’Donnell reached the top tier of the sport as a professional bowler. She en-



Genevieve “Jean” Donnell celebrates her 90th birthday.

Please see O’DONNELL Page 6

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# EDITORIAL

## OCTOBER 7, ONE YEAR LATER

The barbaric attack a year ago this week by the Iranian-backed Hamas terrorist group shocked and horrified the world. The brutal slaughter, rape, and torture of 1250 men, women, children, and elderly Israeli citizens, plus another 300 who were taken captive, by Hamas invaders who poured across the northern Gaza-Israeli border, affirmed that Iran and its terrorist proxies, Hamas, Hezbollah, and the Houthis, know no bounds in their hatred for Jews and their stated aim of wiping Israel off the face of the map.

The attack and its aftermath accomplished a number of goals of the Iranian-backed terrorists. Not only did October 7 deal a blow to Israelis' sense of security, but it also destabilized Israel politically and economically. More than 100,000 Israeli citizens have been displaced both along the Gazan border and in northern Israel, where Hezbollah has been shelling northern Israeli communities. Israeli citizen-soldiers have been fighting for a full year, with no end in sight.

The attack of October 7 predictably unleashed a devastating military response by Israel on the Gaza Strip, a narrow piece of land that is about 140 square miles and home to two million people, of whom half are children, in its effort to kill every Hamas fighter. (By comparison, Boston and Suffolk County consist of about 120 square miles with 750,000 people, of whom 20 percent are children). After a year of ceaseless Israeli bombardment, the Gaza Strip has been laid to waste, with more than 40,000 Gazans killed, tens of thousands more maimed for life, and the entire population facing mass starvation. The Israeli government now seems bent on replicating the same devastation in Lebanon from where Hezbollah has been shooting its rockets onto Israeli communities.

The Israeli government, which itself is controlled by religious extremists, fell into the trap set by Iran and its proxies by waging its brutal assault on Gaza. When images of the Middle East are shown on our TV screens each night, it is the horrors being endured by Gazan children that we see. It is their plight (as well as those of Palestinians who are being attacked by Israeli settlers on the West Bank), not that of the Israeli victims, that is garnering the world's attention and sympathies.

Finally, the bloody attack of October 7 and the military response by Israel achieved another of Iran's major goals by creating political fissures both in the Western democracies and in Israel itself, as well as upending plans for a treaty among Israel, the U.S., and Saudi Arabia.

Just as 9/11 changed our world, so too has October 7. A year later, with a wider war all but certain, it is clear that peace in the Middle East is more elusive than ever with an outcome that will reverberate across the globe today and for generations to come.

## THE MOST PATHETIC GAME IN NFL HISTORY?

We don't mean to keep harping on our poor Patriots, but their contest this past Sunday with the Miami Dolphins has to rate as the most pathetic excuse for a professional football game we've ever seen in our lives -- and we've been Pats' fans since the 1960s, so we've witnessed quite a few sorry performances.

The Pats entered the game as the #31 offensive team in the NFL, exceeded in futility only by the Dolphins at #32 -- and the game lived up to the low expectations of both teams, featuring a variety of miscues that normally you might see once in an NFL game, not multiple times.

In the first half alone, the Dolphins missed a mid-range field goal that bounced off the goal post, dribbled a snap back to the holder on another field goal attempt, snapped a ball over their quarterback's head, and had a punt blocked.

The Patriots missed a short field goal, shanked a punt, allowed hapless veteran quarterback Jacoby Brissette to be hit countless times, and committed 12 penalties for 105 yards.

It was a performance by both teams not worthy of even a JV high school game -- and fans paid hundreds of dollars for a ticket for that sorry demonstration. From the perspective of long-time Pats' fans, we'd like to chalk it up to just a tough week, but it is clear that this will be a season that is only going to get worse.



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## SEND US YOUR NEWS

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)

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# Wellness Pathways at GLSS celebrates class of 2024

Wellness Pathways at Greater Lynn Senior Services (GLSS) held its first annual graduation celebration on Thursday, October 3, at the Demakes Family YMCA in Lynn. The festive program recognized the achievements of over 160 adults—proudly dressed in caps and gowns—who completed one of several evidence-based healthy living workshops offered by GLSS in 2024.

“These workshops are not simply a one-hour lecture about living a healthier lifestyle,” said Kathryn C. Burns, GLSS’ CEO. “They require a willingness to actually make the changes that can control chronic illness. You have all achieved something very important.” Lynn Mayor Jared Nicholson commended the graduates for their commitment to being part of creating a healthier community.

Programs offered by Wellness Pathways include the award-winning “A Matter of Balance” class for older adults who have concerns about falling; several workshops geared towards people living with one or more chronic conditions, including

specialized programs for people living with diabetes and chronic pain; and healthy eating workshops for older adults who wish to consider how dietary and lifestyle changes can improve overall health. Classes meet weekly for 6-8 weeks.

Graduates represented several local senior living and adult day health programs: Best Choice Adult Day Health Care (Revere), East Point Adult Day Care Center (Salem), Lynn Adult Day Care Center, Lynn Council on Aging, North Shore Adult Day Health Care Center (Lynn), Ocean Shores Apartments, Revere Adult Day Health Care Center, and Silsbee Tower Apartments. The Best Choice Russian Community Choir entertained the graduates with a lively concert, which inspired the crowd to sing and clap along.

To learn more about Wellness Pathways programs and upcoming opportunities, contact Jousette Anaya at 978-883-4151 or visit/scan:

<https://www.glss.net/Help-me-find/Health-and-Well-Being/Wellness-Pathways>



Leaders of the Wellness Pathways Program pictured here with GLSS CEO Kathy Burns and Lynn Mayor Jared Nicholson, from left to right: Volunteer Suresh Rao, GLSS Program Supervisor Jousette Anaya, Volunteer John Calabrese, GLSS CEO Kathryn C. Burns, Mayor Nicholson, GLSS Senior Director of Consumer Services Holly Jarrell-Marcinelli, and Volunteer Andres Johnson, who received a special Certificate of Recognition.

GLSS is the Aging Services Access Point and Area Agency on Aging serving people age 60 and older in Lynn, Lynnfield, Nahant, Saugus, and Swampscott. The agency offers information

and referral, in-home services, meals and nutrition, clinical counseling and support, elder protective services, mobility and healthy living workshops, and long-term services and supports.

Many of its programs reach beyond the Greater Lynn area, serving people of all ages throughout the North Shore and Merrimack Valley, including Wellness Pathways.

## Ferry / CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

the public we serve and thank all the MBTA teams for coordinating this effort this fall season.”

“The Lynn Ferry continues to be popular with commuters and is key to enhancing connectivity and accessibility for our community,” said Mayor Jared Nicholson. “We are grateful to the MBTA for coordinating an extension of ferry service, which aligns with the City’s commitment to highlight the City’s waterfront while also increasing transportation opportunities for all our residents.”

“The outstanding ridership on the Lynn Ferry has proven that water transportation is a popular option for our North Shore commuters and visitors,” said Senator Brendan Crighton. “The ferry service has not only helped mitigate traffic congestion during critical construction projects like the Sumner Tunnel Restoration, but is consistently full of riders who have come to love their commute. We are grateful that the MBTA has agreed to extend the service through the end of November and we look forward to working together to ensure this service becomes permanent.”

“I am grateful to the devoted Lynn Ferry riders who continue to prove the viability of water transport – and to the MBTA for acting on our enthusiasm with extended service,” said Representative Jenny Armini. “Going from one place to another by boat is just plain common sense in the Bay State.”

“This announcement about the extended ferry service is a game changer for our commuters,” said Representative Dan Cahill. “This expansion not only provides greater convenience for daily travel but also helps alleviate traffic congestion on our roads. By offering alternative travel, we’re making it easier for people to get to work and access essential services. This is positive news for our community!”

“This extension of ferry services through the end of November is a testament to the growing demand for more accessible transportation options in our community, and I am thankful for the MBTA leadership for making this important investment,” said Representative Peter Capano. “Not only does this help improve our city’s connectivity

with Boston, but the ferry also reduces traffic, lowers emissions, and paves the way for Lynn’s continued economic growth and development.”

“Over 30,000 riders chose the Lynn Ferry this summer showing a strong ridership demand,” said Executive Director of the Economic Development & Industrial Corporation of Lynn Jim Cowdell. “We are beyond overjoyed with the success of the ferry.”

The Lynn Ferry operates 10 trips per weekday, which will continue to operate daily through November 29. The Lynn Ferry also operates 11 trips on weekends, which will end for the season as planned on October 13. A one-way fare is \$7 (or \$3.50 for reduced fare riders). Tickets can be purchased on the mTicket app or with cash or credit cards on board. Commuter Boat or Commuter Rail Zone 2 (or higher) passes and M7 cards are also accepted. The Lynn Ferry operates between the Blossom Street Pier and the downtown Boston area at Long Wharf (North).

As a reminder, the Charlestown Ferry operates seven days

per week year-round; the Hingham/Hull Ferry operates on weekdays year-round with weekend service ending for the season on October 13; the East Boston Ferry operates on weekdays and weekends through November 30; and the Winthrop/Quincy Ferry operates on weekdays through November 29.

Passengers should note that some schedule adjustments or cancellations may be made due to weather this season. Service information will be available at [mbta.com/alerts](http://mbta.com/alerts).

For more information, visit [mbta.com/ferry](http://mbta.com/ferry) or connect with the T on X @MBTA, Facebook / TheMBTA, Instagram @theMBTA, Threads @thembta, or TikTok @thembta.

The Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority (MBTA) opened America’s first subway tunnel in 1897, pioneering public transportation in the United States. Today, the MBTA is one of the largest public transit systems in the country, operating an extensive network of subway, bus, commuter rail, ferry, and paratransit services across 176 cities and towns. The MBTA is

undergoing a transformative period, focusing on cultivating a culture of safety and excellence, modernizing infrastructure, and improving reliability and accessibility. Current priorities include accelerating critical infrastructure repairs, expanding accessibility, and reducing emissions. The MBTA is committed to providing dependable, frequent, and accessible service that riders can rely on, while supporting the region’s economic vitality. Through initiatives like the unprecedented Track Improvement Program and the Bus Network Redesign and Rail Vision, the MBTA aims to connect communities and improve riders’ daily experiences and trips. For questions or assistance, customers are encouraged to contact the MBTA Customer Center at 617-222-3200. Members of the press are encouraged to contact [mediarelations@mbta.com](mailto:mediarelations@mbta.com). For the latest updates on MBTA services, projects, and initiatives, visit [MBTA.com](http://MBTA.com) or follow @MBTA on social media.

# MBTA launches NextGen Bus Navigation Pilot Program, employees to use new digital tools

Special to the Journal

The MBTA announced the beginning of its new NextGen Bus Navigation Pilot Program, a new initiative designed to assist bus operators in navigating detours and other road challenges. In partnership with Swiftly, a transit technology company committed to open data and interoperability, off-the-shelf tablet technology will be piloted in the operator cabs of up to 100 buses by the end of the year, providing turn-by-turn directions similar to navigation apps like Google Maps or Apple Maps. The NextGen Bus Navigation Pilot is supported by major new features in Skate, the MBTA's internally managed bus dispatching app, which allow the MBTA's Operations Control Center to map out, monitor, and manage unplanned bus detours on-the-fly.

"This technology is a step for-

ward in improving service for customers and supporting our drivers who need to be nimble when unforeseen obstacles get in the way of running vehicles on regular routes," said MassDOT Secretary and CEO Monica Tibbits-Nutt. "MBTA bus service is a great option for travel and we believe the new technology will result in more efficient bus service, reduced travel times, and improved service reliability."

"As we continue to improve bus service for our riders, it's important to put our workforce in a better position to succeed. We all know how the ability to navigate our road network can vary from day to day, and even hour by hour, affecting travel times. We are utilizing technology to give our dispatchers and operators the tools to make timely decisions and deliver improved and more reliable travel for our riders. The NextGen Bus Navigation Pilot does just that,"

said MBTA General Manager and CEO Phillip Eng. "Providing our front-line bus operators with turn-by-turn directions is another example of the investments we're making in our workforce, building a more resilient and nimble transit system. Credit goes to our Technology and Operations teams along with our Safety Division that have worked to ensure the NextGen Bus Navigation Pilot Program is safely implemented."

Automobile drivers increasingly use navigation apps like Google Maps or Apple Maps for turn-by-turn directions, which typically provide the fastest, most efficient route. However, the needs of the MBTA's buses, which operate along fixed routes making hundreds of scheduled stops at bus stops, are very different. During special events, closed streets, and unplanned subway service suspensions, MBTA buses follow approved detours and shuttle bus accommodations provided by the Control Center, which can sometimes be complicated by narrow and winding streets.

In designing and implementing the NextGen Bus Navigation Pilot, the MBTA addressed these challenges by:

Using modern practices from the technology industry: Rather than relying purely on proprietary systems, the MBTA combined its in-house software engineering staff experts with an in-development tool from Swiftly.

Centering safety: Minimizing distractions is even more important for bus operators than for most drivers given their varied responsibilities keeping riders safe. The MBTA's Safety Division has been engaged since this pilot's inception, orchestrating testing and planning that helped Swiftly and internal technology staff ensure that the pilot technology is supportive, not distracting, for bus operators.

Listening to front-line staff: For almost a year, the MBTA and Swiftly iterated and tested with bus operators, inspectors, and dispatchers, ensuring that the turn-by-turn software and new detour features in Skate reflect the input and expertise of front-line staff.

"Providing safe and reliable service is the core to everything we do at the T — and that starts with supporting our operators," said MBTA Director of Bus Safety Asia Williams. "Turn-by-turn navigation will ensure a seamless transition as the T continues to update its routes and reinforce bus operators' existing knowledge, giving them more confidence. We

tested this feature with our operators and instructors to ensure that the technology works seamlessly in real-world conditions, creating a safer on-board experience."

Swiftly's navigation solution will provide bus operators audible and visual turn-by-turn directions from a low-cost, off-the-shelf tablet. Concurrently, new features in the internal Skate app allow bus dispatchers to draw detours on a map from the Control Center — Skate then allows these detour maps to be shared with inspectors and other staff who manage service in real time across the system. The MBTA plans to eventually push these detour directions to the in-cab Swiftly tablets, and ultimately also to bus riders via industry-standard real-time open data feeds.

"We are delighted to partner with the MBTA to bring a modern navigation experience for the unique concerns of transit to life," said Swiftly's Chief Product Officer Meredith Bordoni. "With Navigation in Onboard App, transit agencies can prevent wrong turns, improve service reliability and safety, guide operators through detours, and build operator confidence. While feedback from dozens of transit agencies informed Swiftly's approach, the MBTA's unique open data standard orientation and innovative development approach made the agency an extraordinary partner in solving transit navigation challenges for the whole industry."

By building on a combination of in-house tools, off-the-shelf hardware, and modern vendors like Swiftly, the MBTA is preparing for future innovation and iteration. In an industry where technology can often remain stagnant, the MBTA's Technology Innovation Department can iterate quickly based on feedback from dispatchers and other front-line staff.

"We've hired over 350 new operators in the last year. Though we train operators on all routes, it still can be a nerve-wracking experience to get out on the road for new operators," said MBTA Executive Director of Bus Transportation Sean Mills. "This helps provide them with more confidence to learn more routes and be able to cover what would otherwise be dropped trips, when they have availability."

"The team has built the detours feature with dispatchers, for dispatchers," said MBTA Bus Dispatcher Byron Randolph. "They've done it by spending time learning from us, speaking

our language, and understanding our needs. I appreciate what the team has built. It'll make detour management so much easier for dispatchers by saving us time and improving how we work with staff in the field."

The MBTA will monitor the NextGen Bus Navigation Pilot over the fall and the winter 2024/2025. Following this evaluation period, the new technologies will be prepared to roll out to all bus garages with detailed real-time bus detour information available for riders too.

The MBTA's Technology Innovation team utilizes creative technology solutions to improve transit service for riders and the T's workforce. Members of the public interested in joining this exciting team can view their open positions online.

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

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# Catholic Charities Lynn Food Pantry hosts legislative delegation

Special to the Journal

The Catholic Charities Lynn Food Pantry welcomed State Senator Brendan Crighton (D-Lynn) and other members of the state legislative delegation for a tour of its modern pantry on Monday, Oct. 7. The visit came as food insecurity remains a top priority for families and individuals across the region.

Since its opening two years ago, the 3,600-square-foot regional Lynn Food Pantry has served over 8,000 clients from Greater Lynn. It is one of four pantries operated by Catholic Charities Boston, one of the largest food distributors for the Greater Boston Food Bank (GBFB).

Sen. Crighton, joined by State Rep. Dan Cahill (D-Lynn), State Rep. Jenny Armini (D-Marblehead), and State Rep.-elect Sean Reid, (D-Lynn), toured the pantry and engaged with both staff and clients. Sen. Crighton has been a strong advocate for the pantry and successfully secured \$50,000 in the Fiscal Year (FY25) state budget for its operation.

Catholic Charities Boston President and CEO Kelley Tuthill, along with Larry Mayes, Senior Vice President for Government and Community Relations for Catholic Charities Boston, thanked the Lynn delegation for their ongoing support of local families in need.

“We are incredibly grateful for the support of our lawmakers as we continue to assist families and individuals who struggle to afford groceries,” said Tuthill. “Our food pantries are open to



Shown inside Catholic Charities Boston's Lynn Food Pantry (front row left to right) are Kelley Tuthill, Catholic Charities Boston President and CEO, Yuri Sanchez-Rijo, Catholic Charities North Basic Needs Case Manager, Christine Keller, Catholic Charities Boston Director of Food Pantries, Representative Jenny Armini, Lauren Wood, Catholic Charities Boston Senior Director of Grants and Contracts, and Beth Chambers, Catholic Charities Boston Vice President of Basic Needs. Back row (left to right) are Senator Brendan P. Crighton, Representative-elect Sean Reid, Representative Daniel Cahill, and Larry Mayes, Catholic Charities Boston Senior Vice President for Government and Community Relations.

anyone facing food insecurity.” Over the past two years, the Lynn Food Pantry has distributed 1.2 million pounds of food. According to the (GBFB), one in

three Massachusetts households struggle with food insecurity. For more information visit: <https://www.ccab.org/basic-needs/food-pantries/>.



Yuri Sanchez-Rijo, Catholic Charities Boston Basic Needs Case Manager and Lynn Pantry clients pictured inside Catholic Charities Boston's Lynn Food Pantry.

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EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY

# O'Donnell / CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

joys visits to Foxwoods and Encore Boston Harbor casinos and playing the Lottery.

Jean belongs to many groups, including the Knotty Knitters, the Luncheon Group, and the Ancient Order of Hibernians.

It was an outstanding celebration as the many guests thanked

Jean for her friendship and kindness through the years.

City Council President Jay Walsh and Ward 5 Councilor Dianna Chakoutis presented a City of Lynn citation to Jean O'Donnell, capping off a wonderful afternoon for one of Lynn's most beloved residents.



Ward 5 Councilor Dianna Chakoutis and City Council President Jay Walsh present a City of Lynn citation to Genevieve "Jean" O'Donnell "in recognition of the joyous occasion of your 90th birthday and acknowledging your accomplishments, dedication to the community, and overall excellence."



Mass. High School Hockey Hall of Fame head coach Mark Lee and his parents, Dave Lee and Irene Lee, wish Jean O'Donnell a happy birthday at the celebration in her honor.



Two of Lynn's most distinguished gentlemen, David Solimine Sr. and Dave Lee, join Jean O'Donnell and her friends for a photo on the special occasion of her 90th birthday.



Jean O'Donnell and The "Luncheon Group" have enjoyed many outstanding meals together at Old Tyme Italian Cuisine on Boston Street. The women are pictured above with their favorite members of the restaurant staff, Diana Chakoutis and Kristin Beliveau at the party.

# FAMILY FRIENDS HONOR JEAN O'DONNELL AT HER 90TH BIRTHDAY



Jean O'Donnell, pictured with her nieces and nephews.



Jean O'Donnell, pictured with her friends from West Lynn at her 90th birthday party.



The ladies of The Ancient Order of Hibernians join Jean O'Donnell for a photo at her 90th birthday celebration.



Guest of honor Jean O'Donnell, pictured at her 90th birthday celebration with her son Joe, daughter Kathy, adopted daughter Michelle, and son James.



Kelly Harney and Patty Harney wish Jean O'Donnell a happy 90th birthday at the celebration at Old Tyme Italian Cuisine.

# Playground / CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

utilized, “across the city playgrounds and parks were really toward the top of that list.”

“This is the first of the major renovations of our parks and playgrounds to be completed,” said Nicholson. “And it wouldn’t have happened and come out as beautiful as it is, without the hard work of so many people who are here today. This whole effort has

been a great collaboration at City Hall.”

He noted the contributions from the Inspectional Services Department, the DPW, and the CFO’s Office and “external partners Leftfield, CBA Landscape Architects, and J.J Phelan Construction.”

“The construction team did a beautiful job. It came out terrif-

ic,” lauded Nicholson. “What is so thrilling about this [park] is you have a beautiful place to play that’s next to one of the most incredible natural resources in the country, Lynn Woods, along with the Gannon Municipal Golf Course.”



Associate DPW Commissioner Lisa Nerich, Project Manager Laura Stockfisch, Jim Nishina of J.J. Phelan and Son, D.J. Chagnon of CBA Landscape Architects, Linda Liporto of Leftfield, Preston Holleman of CBA Landscape Architects, Mayor Jared Nicholson, Policy Director Danya Smith, and Chief of Inspectional Services and Building Commissioner Michael Donovan.



Mayor Jared Nicholson, Ward 1 Councilor Dr. Peter Meaney, Ward 4 Councilor Natasha Megie-Maddrey, and Councilor-at-Large Nicole McLain, pictured after the ribbon-cutting ceremony.



Ward 1 Councilor Dr. Peter Meaney, former Ward 1 Councilor Wayne Lozzi, Mayor Jared Nicholson, and Ward 2 Councilor Natasha Megie-Maddrey, pictured at the ribbon-cutting ceremony for the Lynn Woods Playground.



The K Security team, Darly Stack, Dave Gauvain, Jim Keighley, Bob Merlina, Associate DPW Commissioner Lisa Nerich, and Patrick Keighley.



Kristen Steriti and grandson, Grayson Stamatopoulos, Diane Edgett and grandson, Owen Edgett, pictured on opening day for the new Lynn Woods Playground.



FRESH AND LOCAL

Apple season

By Penny & Ed Cherubino

One of the joys of this time of year is the ever-changing selection of apple varieties at the farmers' markets. Different apples have specific seasons. Some of the first apples we see at the markets are those that farmers have carefully tucked away, in optimum conditions, from their last harvest.

By August, the early apple-picking season has begun. These varieties are followed by what professionals call mid-season and late-season crops. If you're looking for a favorite apple, just ask the farmer. They're always happy to tell you when they expect to have that apple on the stand. Moreover, most farmers can suggest a current variety that fits the same taste, texture, and sweetness profile.

We love trying new varieties and often buy two apples to share during our afternoon apple snack sessions. It's fun to compare the qualities of each apple and decide if a particular one belongs on our list of favorites. We admit that sometimes we buy an apple because it has a great name. Recently this led us to discover that we love "Molly Sheepnose" apples!

Apple Profiles

We highly recommend local author Amy Traverso's award-winning "The Apple Lover's Cookbook" to learn more about different varieties of apples. In addition to dependable recipes, this is an illustrated primer to 70 varieties of apples. Amy includes characteristics for each apple, including best use, origin, availability, season, taste, and texture.

When the farmers are busy, you might see us type an apple's name into a search engine to find what a few producers or websites

say about it. We suggest you bookmark one or two apple rating websites that align with your taste.

Try a Crab Apple

It's been years since Penny was part of a gang of silly kids climbing a crab apple tree and eating the puckery fruit until they were queasy. Recently, while selecting apples from the Foppema's Farm display, she saw "Sweet & Crunchy" on the sign for chestnut crab apples. We were pleasantly surprised by their lovely, nutty flavor.

Most people who grow crab apples as a crop use them to make jelly, but originally, they may have been planted when home cooks made their own pectin. Crab apples are high in pectin and can be boiled down, strained, and canned to make a supply of pectin for next year's jams and jellies.

Pick-Your-Own

A visit to an apple orchard is a beautiful way to celebrate apple season. The Massachusetts Department of Agriculture maintains a Pick-Your-Own Farms page where you can click on apples and connect with a "Mass Grown" map of the farms offering this service. We highly recommend that you check for the latest information on the orchard's website since many factors can change the availability of this option.

Red Apple Farm, which has a stand at the Boston Public Market, offers a nice variety of apples nearby. You can also check their website to see what they are picking. From experience, we recommend Russel's Orchard in Ipswich for a day of apple picking and lobster shacks.

By the way, some farmers' markets run well into autumn, with a few open until Thanksgiving week. These include Copley



One of the joys of this time of year is the ever-changing selection of apple varieties at the farmers' markets.

Square, Central Square, Davis Square, Dewey Square, Kendall Square, Roslindale Village, and the Fish & Farm Market at Boston Fish Pier.

We encourage you to take

time in your week to support these good people who bring fresh food to the city. It's not just about the apples; it's also about the community and the responsibility we all share in supporting

local farmers.

*Do you have a question or topic for Fresh & Local? Email Penny@BostonZest.com with your suggestion.*

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# LYNN ENGLISH HIGH SCHOOL CLASS OF 1966 HOLDS 58TH REUNION



Debbie Howard Benson, Tom Boucher, Dee Murphy Boucher, Barbara Penny, and Judy Fraher O'Blenes.



The Class of 1966 Reunion Committee did a great job organizing the reunion. From left, are Cheri Duly Sullo, Jean Cerica Peters, Maria Nomey Bansfield, Betti Capano Ferrini, and Dee Murphy Boucher.



Frank Zak, Pat Zak, Bob Ross, and Marshall Mah.



Dave Legere, Dotty Legere, Carol Cheever, and Roy Cheever.

The Lynn English High School Class of 1966 held its 58th Reunion Sept. 28 at the Gannon Golf Course function hall.

The guests enjoyed a delicious buffet meal and musical entertainment. The classmates reminisced about their years growing

up in Lynn and attending Lynn English School. A great time was had by all.



Seated are Betti Capano Ferrini, Louie Pento, Joanne Nauss Pento, and Jean Cerica Peters. Standing are Joanne Civiello Harnois, Judy Chiplinsky Bates, Nancy Cerica Joens, Brenda Irvine, and Sue Cope.



Seated are Bob Marcotte, Sue Gheringhelli Bastarache, Karen Bronstein, Kathy Moulison, and Barbara Rozavsky. Standing are Joanne Civiello Harnois, Betti Capano Ferrini, Maria Nomey Bansfield, Jeanne McDonald Buckley, Donna Devine, and Leanne Staples.



Jean Cerica Peters, Betti Capano Ferrini, Jean Holmes Lyons, Dave McIntosh, Diana McIntosh, Judy Chiplinsky Bates, Marie Nomey Bansfield, Kathy Moulison, and Cheri Duly Sullo.

## NEWS BRIEFS

### POLICE DEPARTMENT GETS MUNICIPAL SAFETY GRANT

The Healey-Driscoll Administration recently awarded more than \$12.4 million in federal traffic safety funding to promote safer roads in communities across Massachusetts, including \$59,959 for Lynn through the Municipal Road Safety Program.

The funds are managed and administered in Massachusetts by the Office of Grants and Research (OGR).

“Everyone deserves to be safe on Massachusetts streets, whether traveling by car, foot, public transportation or bike,” said Governor Maura Healey. “As individual communities work to address their unique traffic safety concerns, these programs provide resources and supports that will ensure they have the tools they need to protect road users.”

Funds awarded to municipal police departments through the Municipal Road Safety Grant Program allows the departments to afford initiatives that include conducting traffic safety enforcement, bicyclist and pedestrian safety enforcement, non-enforcement activities such as trainings or community events, and purchasing traffic safety equipment or safety items to distribute in the community such as bike helmets. This year, OGR awarded \$5,637,336.83 to 191 departments – a record number of recipients for the program.

### MCDONALD'S OWNER/ OPERATORS ACROSS NEW ENGLAND LAUNCH FIRST-EVER DIGITAL FUNDRAISER Benefiting Local Sports

Local McDonald's owner/operators in Lynn and across New England have joined forces to launch a digital fundraising initiative supporting local athletic programs this fall. On

Thursday, October 10th from 3p.m. to 9p.m., participating McDonald's restaurants across the region will donate 20% of their app sales to bolster local middle and high school sports programming throughout New England, a first-of-its-kind collective effort in the area.

“We are a local brand at heart, and our commitment goes beyond providing great food to the communities we serve. All McDonald's in New England are locally owned and operated by families or business owners who take great pride in their communities,” said Sara Amato, New England McDonald's Owner/Operator who also oversees the McDonald's app engagement for the region. “Sports play a pivotal role in youth development and teach life-long skills like teamwork, discipline and perseverance. We're so excited about this program as it allows us to rally together and make an impact on the lives of young athletes in our neighborhoods where we live and operate in.”

Spearheaded by local operators, this initiative is a natural extension of McDonald's' long-standing and deep-rooted commitment to providing meaningful support to its people and communities. New England operators consistently contribute to numerous give-back programs, including Round-Up for Ronald McDonald House Charities1 and Archways to Opportunity2 for employee tuition assistance, contributing more than \$1,000,000 to RMHC and \$557,000 in tuition dollars for employees respectively year-to-date. In its inaugural year, the upcoming digital fundraiser is anticipated to provide a meaningful financial boost to local school sports programs, benefiting thousands of student-athletes across the region.

- Participating Restaurants
- 780 LYNN WAY, Lynn, MA 01905 benefiting Lynn Tech
  - 567 LYNN WAY, Lynn, MA 01905 benefiting Lynn Classical
  - 60 BOSTON ST, Lynn, MA 01904 benefiting Breed Middle School Softball

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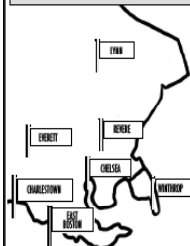
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### LHAND'S 26TH ANNUAL SCHOLARSHIP GOLF OUTING

LHAND'S ROLE in the community goes beyond providing housing, it also believes its job is to give back to the community

On September 13, the Lynn Housing Authority & Neighborhood Development (LHAND) hosted its 26th Annual Scholarship Golf Tournament in memory of Laurie Walsh, former Chairperson at LHAND, was held at Gannon Golf Course. The event was coordinated by Cassandra Lopez, John Ladd, Cathy Rowe, and Jason Newhall. In attendance were Mayor Nicholson, State Representative Dan Cahill, State Senator Brendan Crighton and City Councilors Dianna Chakoutis, Fred Hogan, Jay Walsh, Brian Field, and Brian Lapierre, all of whom are dedicated supporters of the LHAND Scholarship Fund. The event's major sponsors were Jim Connors of McGrath Construction along with Obtek Services, EDIC and Eastern Bank.



ance counselors in all Lynn high schools. Thanks to the dedication of these counselors, LHAND has successfully supported many students in their academic pursuits.

Through our Annual Scholarship Golf Tournament, we receive generous donations from LHAND staff individuals, families, businesses, and nonprofits to support local students in their pursuit of higher education. One of our most committed sponsors, Jimmy Connor of McGrath Construction, has consistently invested in the LHAND Scholarship Fund year after year. The success of the LHAND Scholarship would not be possible without the support of our dedicated sponsors.

"This cause is incredibly im-

portant to us at LHAND," said Charles Gaeta. "We recognize the challenges that rising education costs create for the youth in our city. That is why LHAND strives to support many young adults with scholarships each year."

The Lynn Housing Authority & Neighborhood Development is eagerly anticipating the opportunity to award another group of scholarship recipients in the spring, recognizing their hard work and dedication while providing essential support for their higher education journeys. This upcoming round of scholarships aims to empower local students as they pursue their academic and professional goals, fostering a brighter future for the community.

