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# WINTHROP

SUN TRANSCRIPT

EST. IN 1882

50 CENTS



THURSDAY,  
March 28, 2024

## CELEBRATING WOMEN IN OFFICE



An inaugural Breakfast in Celebration of Elected Women was held recently at Pamona Cafe in Winthrop, celebrating the women holding office in Revere, East Boston and Winthrop. Elected officials from all three communities were present. See more photos on Page Δ.

## Winthrop hosts meeting on MBTA Communities Act

By Cary Shuman

Winthrop residents Diana Viens and Vasili Mallios co-chaired a meeting March 14 about the MBTA Communities Act and its impact on Winthrop.

Attorney Michael Walsh, who is representing Rockport residents in challenging the constitutionality of the MBTA Community Act (which is state law), Clayton Soba, chair of the Cape Ann Political Action Committee, and Christine Delisio of the Manchester-By-The-Sea Planning Board, were the guest speakers at the meeting. Walsh, a graduate of Suffolk University

and Suffolk Law School, has emerged as a leading expert on the matter and his presentation was comprehensive and informative while pausing to take questions from the audience.

Under the new law that was passed in January, 2021 during the Charlie Baker Administration, Winthrop, as a community adjacent to an MBTA transit stop, would be required to create zoning for 882 new multi-family units in the town.

Viens, an attorney who attended BU Law School,

See MBTA Page 14

## MBTA announces return of Winthrop, Eastie and Lynn ferry service this spring

Special to the Transcript

The MBTA announced that East Boston ferry service will resume for the season effective Monday, April 1, and the Lynn and Winthrop ferries will resume for the season effective Monday, April 29. Weekend Hingham/Hull/Logan to Boston ferry service will also resume beginning Memorial Day weekend, Saturday, May 25, through Columbus/Indigenous Peoples' Day weekend, Monday, October 14.

Service schedules for the East Boston ferry are available online now at [mbta.com/East-Boston](http://mbta.com/East-Boston). Lynn, Winthrop, and weekend Hingham/Hull/Logan ferry schedules will be posted in the coming weeks at [mbta.com/ferry](http://mbta.com/ferry). Spring service schedules for Subway, Bus, and Commuter Rail will be available soon at

[mbta.com/ServiceChanges](http://mbta.com/ServiceChanges).

The East Boston ferry operates on weekdays and weekends from April 1 through November 30 between East Boston at Lewis Mall Wharf and the downtown Boston area at Long Wharf (North). A one-way fare on the East Boston ferry is \$2.40 (or \$1.10 for Reduced Fare riders), which is the same as taking the subway. Tickets can be purchased on the mTicket app. Printed LinkPasses, Commuter Rail Zone passes, and M7s are also accepted. M7 cards, or M7s, are MBTA Student CharlieCards that are pre-loaded with monthly passes for the school year for middle and high schoolers. In support of MassDOT's Summer Tunnel project, the East Boston ferry will be free for riders as an al-

See FERRY Page 2

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INDEPENDENT

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Newspaper Group

### DEATHS

Sheila Fallon  
Deborah Madden  
Frances Milito  
Marlene Anne Schwartz McCabe  
Obituaries Pg. 10

### NEWS Brief

### COMMUNITY EASTER EGG HUNT AND PLAY DAY WITH ROCKABYE BEATS THIS SATURDAY

This Saturday March 30 from 10:00 to noon at Ingelside Park, Harbor City Church and Project Play have teamed up to combine the Community Easter Egg Hunt (rescheduled due to rain) and final Winter Play Day (originally scheduled to be held inside the church) for one big family friendly celebration at Ingelside Park.

Festivities begin at 10:00 am with a free musical performance by Rockabye Beats, sponsored by Senator Lydia Edwards, followed by egg hunts and a visit from the Easter Bunny. In addition to Project Play's signature pop-up playspace, there will also be face painting, door prizes, crafts, popcorn and cotton candy. Donations to the Harbor City Foster Closet are welcome but not required (baby shampoo and lotion, body wash, Desitin, children's socks,

See NEWS BRIEFS Page 3

## School Comm. approves '24-25 school start before Labor Day

By Adam Swift

The School Committee approved the school calendar for the 2024-25 school year at its Monday meeting.

In addition, it also set the official date for the last day of school for the cur-

rent school year.

"The last day of school is now June 12," said Superintendent of Schools Lisa Howard.

The schools were closed one day this winter for a predicted snow storm that ended up being predomi-

nantly rain.

Howard also reminded parents and students that the spring recess is coming up from April 15-19.

The calendar approved by the committee on Monday night sees students returning to school on

See SCHOOLSTART Page 3

## WHS students donate to 'Survivors by the Sea'

By Transcript Staff

This past January, the students of the Winthrop High Digital Photography and Graphic Design course and the Advanced Art classes displayed and sold their art and photography at the Book Depot to raise money for a local charity, "Survivors by the Sea."

"Survivors by the Sea is an organization whose goal is to 'Pay It Forward,'" said founder Linda Calla. "We nurture cancer patients and their

families through treatment with love, experience, and empathy. Beyond treatment, we help survivors maintain their quality of life through continued support, friendship and healthy living."

The class was inspired to raise money to donate in the name of retired art teacher Eva Kearney, who is currently undergoing a battle with cancer. The class met with Eva and Calla to celebrate the successful fundraiser. The class hopes to make this a yearly effort as a way to

raise money, display some amazing art, and promote Survivors by the Sea.

To find out more about this amazing organization and all the supportive actions that it does for the local community, visit [www.suvivrosbythesea.org](http://www.suvivrosbythesea.org).

Mr. Donnelly and the Digital Photography class would like to thank Susan Martucci and Suzanne Gallo of the Book Depot for displaying the art work, supporting the fundraiser, and doing all they do for the community.



The students of the Winthrop High Digital Photography and Graphic Design course and the Advanced Art classes recently displayed and sold their art and photography at the Book Depot to raise money for the local charitable organization, "Survivors by the Sea."

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### WINTHROP POLICE BLOTTER

The following incident reports are among the calls to which the Winthrop Police Department responded on the listed dates. The log is a public record and available for review. All persons who are arrested or charged with a crime are presumed innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.

filing a report of a larceny and fraud.

1507: An officer responded to a report of a verbal argument between two female parties on Main St. and restored the peace.

1510: A resident came into the station to report receiving a phone call from a person purporting to be from the FTC who said he was investigating a money laundering case in Texas. The person requested that the resident send him \$8000 in gift cards. The resident said he gave no personal information to the caller. When the officer called back the number, the caller hung up.

2038: An officer issued a parking ticket to a vehicle blocking a fire hydrant on Coral Ave.

#### WEDNESDAY, MARCH 13

1223: A caller reported that two of his work trucks were vandalized at Seal Harbor. Four tires were slashed. The officer filed a report.

#### THURSDAY, MARCH 14

1206: An officer responded to a motor vehicle accident at Coral Ave. and Shirley St. in which the vehicle ran into a stone wall. There were no injuries. The officer filed a report.

1213: A resident reported finding hypodermic syringes on Nahant Ave. An officer came by to retrieve the needles and brought

them back to the station for proper disposal.

1406: An officer stopped a motor scooter with no plates at Shore Drive and Trident Ave. In addition, the operator was not wearing a helmet. The officer directed the operator to park the scooter until he registered it and to buy a helmet.

1429: An officer directed a person to stop working on his motor vehicle on Woodside Ave. because of the town by-law forbidding automotive work in the street.

1624: A resident came into the station to report that she was the victim of a gift card scam. The officer filed a report.

1742: An officer directed the owners of seven vehicles parked illegally on Willow Ave. to move along.

2159: An officer assisted the parties with the exchange of papers at a minor motor vehicle accident on Jefferson St. The officer filed a report.

#### FRIDAY, MARCH 15

1117: A Pleasant Park Rd. resident reported that his motor vehicle was struck by a hit-and-run operator overnight while it was parked in front of his residence. The officer filed a report.

1236: An officer stopped a motor vehicle at Revere St. and Sagamore Ave. for the civil moving infraction of a red light violation. The officer gave a verbal warning to the operator.

1444: An officer issued a parking ticket to a vehicle parked in the handicapped spot at the 7/11 on Revere St.

1452: An officer stopped a motor vehicle on Winthrop St. with a registration revoked for insurance cancellation. The officer ordered the vehicle to be towed.

1624: Emergency personnel responded to a motor vehicle accident at Highland and Crest Aves. One person was transported to the MGH. The officer filed a report.

1746: An officer stopped a motor vehicle on Shirley St. for the civil moving infraction of a stop sign violation. The officer issued a citation to the operator.

1854: An officer directed the operator of a truck blocking a driveway on Cliff Ave. to move the vehicle.

2013: Officers assisted the Fire Dept. with traffic control at the scene of a chimney fire at a residence on Emerson Rd.

2023: An officer directed the operator of a vehicle blocking a driveway on Sea Foam Ave. to move the vehicle.

#### SATURDAY, MARCH 16

0710: A report of an injured opossum on Plummer Ave. was referred to the Animal Control Officer.

1037: An officer stopped a motor vehicle on Pauline St. for the civil moving infraction of a

stop sign violation. The officer gave a verbal warning to the operator.

1045: An officer stopped a motor vehicle on Emerson Rd. for the civil moving infraction of a stop sign violation. The officer issued a citation to the operator for that infraction and a verbal warning for the civil infractions of not having his license in his possession and for not updating his address with the Registry.

1053: An officer stopped a motor vehicle on Pauline St. for the civil moving infraction of speeding. The officer gave a verbal warning to the operator.

1149: An officer stopped a motor vehicle on Revere St. for the civil moving infraction of defective equipment (the rear door would not shut). The officer gave a verbal warning to the operator and followed her home so she could park her vehicle.

1258: An officer stopped a motor vehicle on Main St. for the civil moving infraction of excessive window tint. The officer gave a verbal warning to the operator.

1306: An officer stopped a motor vehicle on Pauline St. for the civil moving infraction of a crosswalk violation. The officer issued a citation to the operator.

1512: An officer stopped a motor vehicle on Shirley St. for the civil moving infraction of a one-way violation. The officer gave a verbal warning to the operator.

1737: An officer stopped a motor vehicle at Shirley and Cross Sts. for the civil moving infraction of a stop sign violation. The officer issued a citation to the operator.

1906: An officer stopped a motor vehicle on Shore Drive for the civil moving infraction of operating with blue lights. The operator voluntarily removed the lights and gave them to the officer.

#### SUNDAY, MARCH 17

0132: An officer issued parking tickets to seven vehicles without resident parking stickers on Myrtle and Hawthorn Aves.

0702: An officer issued a parking ticket to a vehicle partially blocking a driveway on Cutler St.

1114: An officer stopped a motor scooter on Revere St. The scooter was unregistered and the officer directed the owner to walk the scooter home and register the scooter. The officer filed a report.

1135: An officer stopped a motor vehicle on Main St. for the civil moving infraction of excessive window tint. The officer issued a citation to the operator.

1524: An officer directed the parents of youngsters playing street hockey on Banks St. to find a safer place to play.

#### MONDAY, MARCH 18

0149: An officer issued parking tickets to 10 vehicles without resident parking stickers on Sturgis and Perkins Sts

### Ferry // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

ternate mode of transportation in July and August 2024. East Boston ferry service is funded through the Commonwealth.

on weekdays starting April 29 with new weekend service beginning Saturday, May 25, through October 31 between the Blossom Street Pier and the downtown Boston area at Long Wharf (North). A one-way fare on the Lynn ferry is currently \$7 (or \$3.50 for Reduced Fare riders) in April, May, June, September, and October. In support of MassDOT's Summer Tunnel project, a one-way fare on the Lynn Ferry will be reduced to \$2.40, the same cost as a one-way subway ride, in July and August 2024.

Tickets can be purchased on the mTicket app or with cash. Printed LinkPasses, Commuter Rail Zone passes, and M7s are also accepted.

The Winthrop ferry operates on weekdays from April 29 through November 30 between Winthrop Landing, Quincy, and the downtown Boston area at Central Wharf (South). A one-way fare on the

Winthrop ferry is \$6.50 (or \$3.25 for Reduced Fare riders) in April, May, June, September, and October. In support of MassDOT's Summer Tunnel project, a one-way fare on the Winthrop Ferry will be reduced to \$2.40, the same cost as a one-way subway ride, in July and August 2024. Tickets can be purchased on the mTicket app or with cash. Printed Link-

Passes, Commuter Rail Zone passes, and M7s are also accepted.

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

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## CELEBRATING ELECTED WOMEN IN OFFICE

Courtesy Photos

The inaugural Breakfast in Celebration of Elected Women from Revere, Winthrop, and East Boston took place this past Saturday at Pamona Cafe, orchestrated by host Winthrop Town Councilor Hanna Belcher. The event saw a gathering of elected officials from the respective communities, including the presence of State Representative Jessica Giannino and State Senator Lydia Edwards.



Shown above, elected officials and elected-hopefuls from Revere, East Boston and Winthrop, alike gathered to celebrate women in local office at Pamona Cafe in Winthrop.



Shown to the left, State Sen. Lydia Edwards with Winthrop Town Councilor and event host, Hanna Belcher, and State Rep. Jessica Giannino.



Elected officials shared laughs and conversation over the breakfast table. Shown above, Revere School Committee women Aisha Millbury-Ellis speaks to everyone at the table.

## School Start // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Wednesday, August 28. There are also additional half days in the school calendar for 2024-25 for professional development for teachers.

Under the approved school calendar, teachers return on Monday, August 26 and would have two full days of professional development and preparation before students return for a full day on that Wednesday. Everyone would have a full day of school on Thursday and then be off on Friday, August 30 for the four day Labor Day weekend break. Classes would resume with a full day on Tuesday, Sept. 3.

In addition to the extra half-days in the school year, election day would once again be a full day of professional development for teachers in Winthrop and surrounding communities while students have the day off.

Howard said the school building principals were in favor of students coming back to class before Labor Day.

School Committee member Suzanne Leonard said she felt that students coming back before Labor Day gives them more time to acclimate to school for two days before having the Labor Day break.

Committee member and Council President Jim Letterie said he'd like to see a full two-week break in December and January with Christmas falling on a Wednesday this year. The approved calendar has students off from Dec. 23 through the 27, and then returning to school on Thursday, Jan. 2 after New Year's Day.

Letterie said rearranging the calendar slightly could provide utility savings by having the schools closed for two full weeks, and also give families more time together.

Committee member Gus Martucci said the district had closed for two weeks for the holiday break in the past and that there were noticeable utility savings. While he did not propose that for the 24-25 school year, he said

he would like the district to look into the possibility of a two-week break for future school years.

In other business, Howard said the district will be sending out information on a recent Stop and Block presentation for caregivers that the school district held in conjunction with the Suffolk County District Attorney's office and the police and public health departments.

The presentation is aimed at adults, and focuses on social media and the dangers it presents for children.

"I was blown away by some of the information during the presentation about how to talk to kids," said Howard.

Howard said the information will be sent out to parents in multiple languages and will also give links to ways for caregivers to talk to their children, as well as the types of social media platforms and how caregivers can limit access to them.

## News Briefs // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

undergarments, new pajamas, gift cards).

### PUBLIC FORUM ON MBTA 3A LAW ON APRIL 9

A public forum will be held on Tuesday, April 9 at the Winthrop Senior Center on Harvard Street starting at 7 p.m. on understanding the MBTA 3A law and the impact on the community

This New Law mandates that Winthrop must zone for 890 more multi-family units in town. Plans to accomplish this must be completed immediately, and this New Law overrules our Town Zoning Laws. What are our options and what are the implications of this mandate from the State on our community? Your future and the future of your community await.

- Hear the facts from our Representative Leaders at the State House and our Winthrop community leaders about MBTA 3A and what it means for Winthrop and you!
- Ask questions and get your answers.

Everyone is Invited to understand how the future of your community will be shaped.

All state and local leaders have been invited and are urged to attend to inform this community.

The event is sponsored By: Winthrop Sun Transcript and The Winthrop Republican Town Committee; "Here to make a difference"

For More Information go to Facebook: Winthrop Republican Town Committee, email wrtc@gmail.com, see Winthrop Transcript Newspaper.

### PROJECT BREAD SEEKING WALKERS FOR 2024

The Walk for Hunger, Project Bread's annual fundraising event and the Commonwealth's largest and oldest day of community action against hunger, is seeking walkers for the celebration. The one-day event is set for Sunday, May 5 on the Boston Common, and will feature family-friendly activities along the 3-mile loop. In its 56th year, Project Bread invites you to help raise more than \$1.3 million to support the leading statewide food security organization's approach to permanently solve hunger, which includes working year-round across policy initiatives, programs, and hunger prevention measures to ensure food access for all children and families in Massachusetts.

To register for the event and create a personal or team fundraising page for the Walk for Hunger or to make a donation, visit [projectbread.org/walk](http://projectbread.org/walk) or email [walk@projectbread.org](mailto:walk@projectbread.org).

### SUFFOLK DOWNS TO HOST ANNUAL DAFFODIL DASH

Looking for a family friendly way to kick-off the Boston Marathon weekend? On Saturday, April 13, The HYM Investment Group LLC (HYM), will host the third annual Marathon Daffodil Dash from 10am-1pm at The Track at Suffolk Downs, in partnership with the Revere Parks and Recreation Department and the Marathon Daffodil Project.

The Marathon Daffodil Project began after the Boston Marathon bombings in 2013 with the yellow daffodil used as a symbol of strength and hope. In commemoration of the 11th anniversary of the Boston Marathon Bombings, The Track at Suffolk Downs will be filled with the "Marathon Daffodils" that line the streets of Boston leading up to the Boston Marathon finish line.

The event will feature three 50-yard dash races for grades K-2, grades 3-5, and grades 6-8.

Following the races, all participants and families are encouraged to hang out in The Paddock and enjoy snacks from local vendors, face painting, flower crowns, and music with DJ Steve Fortes.

"We are thrilled to partner with the Marathon Daffodil Project and Revere Parks and Recreation again for our third year hosting the Daffodil Dash," said Thomas N. O'Brien, Managing Partner and Chief Executive Officer of the HYM Investment Group LLC. "At Suffolk Downs, our family-friendly neighborhood is designed for Greater Boston residents to come together and create lasting memories as part of this vibrant community."

The event is free and open to the public, but registration for the Daffodil Dash is required to participate in the race events. The races will kick off at 10:30am. The Track at Suffolk Downs is located at 525 McClellan Highway Boston, MA 02128. Parking is free and available on-site. The Track is also accessible from the MBTA's Suffolk Downs Blue Line station.

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Cuello, Facund O	Foley, Brittany	404 Revere St	\$710,000
Avdyli, Besart	Governors Pk Portfoli LL	600 Governors Dr #6	\$315,000
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## Your opinions, please

The Winthrop Sun Transcript welcomes letters to the editor. Our address is 385 Broadway, Revere, MA 02151.

Letters may also be e-mailed to [editor@reverejournal.com](mailto:editor@reverejournal.com). Letters must be signed.

We reserve the right to edit for length and content.

## OUR Opinions

### CAN AI SAVE THE ENVIRONMENT?

The coming revolution in Artificial Intelligence (AI) holds great promise for the future benefit of mankind. (Yeah, we know, there are pitfalls, but for purposes of this editorial, we're writing about a potential positive.)

As we were listening the other day to an interview with the amazing Jensen Huang, the President and CEO of Nvidia, the chip company that is pioneering the AI revolution, in which he was saying that AI could shorten the cumbersome Phase I-IV trial periods for new drugs by years (not to mention that AI can be used to develop new drugs), it occurred to us that in the same way, AI could be used to shorten environmental review periods for the construction of new wind and solar power facilities and their transmission lines.

Right now, the biggest obstacles to clean energy becoming more prevalent across the U.S. are the environmentalists themselves. Clean energy advocates and companies are finding it's one thing to build-out a wind and solar farm, but quite another to obtain the permits for transmission lines to carry the new energy to population centers because of cumbersome and time-consuming regulations and the opposition of environmental groups by lawsuits.

For example, our region could have had cheap and clean hydropower from Canada almost 10 years ago, but environmental groups in Maine filed lawsuit after lawsuit to stop the transmission lines from going through their state. Each and every suit has been dismissed, but here we are, almost a decade later, and we still do not have hydropower from Canada -- and there is some question as to whether it ever will be accomplished.

Similarly, it took 17 years (that's not a misprint) for regulatory approval for the construction of the largest wind project in the country in the New Mexico desert so that this clean energy can get to population centers in Arizona.

So it got us to thinking: Perhaps AI, which can accomplish billions of calculations in seconds, can help speed up the regulatory process so we can get these projects on-line ASAP.

Because here's the problem: Environmentalists are now their own -- and the environment's -- worst enemy. With the energy industry on-board with developing energy from renewable sources -- even the big oil companies are looking at green and blue hydrogen production -- the problem is that nothing can be built quickly because of the lengthy environmental review processes and laws (that allow lawsuits by the dozens) which can delay clean-energy projects for years and years.

But with each day's news informing us of impending environmental catastrophe, it is obvious that we do not have time to waste. It also is becoming increasingly clear that we human beings are incapable of saving either ourselves or the natural world.

But perhaps the AI machines can do it for us -- and if so, they will give literal meaning to the metaphorical term, "Deus ex machina."

### ANOTHER HAPLESS SEASON FOR THE SOX

With the Red Sox set to open their 2024 season this week, it seems all but assured that the Sox are destined for a third-straight last-place finish in the American League East.

For those of us who cherish our copy of the "Impossible Dream" record album, which chronicled the 1967 Red Sox, who improbably won the American League pennant ("The Red Sox win! It's pandemonium on the field!"), this has been the sorriest stretch by a Sox squad since the early and mid-1960s, when the Red Sox similarly were cellar-dwellers year-in and year-out.

It's obvious that the Red Sox ownership, which brought us four World Series titles from 2004-2018, basically has checked out and is taking the Fenway Faithful for granted. Sad to say, it looks like 2024 will be another long, hot -- and losing -- summer for Boston baseball fans.

*The Independent Newspaper Group reserves the right to edit letters for space and clarity. We regret that we cannot publish unsigned letters. Please include your street and telephone number with your submission. The Independent Newspaper Group publishes columns, viewpoints and letters to the editor as a forum for readers to express their opinions and to encourage debate. Please note that the opinions expressed are not necessarily those of The Independent Newspaper Group. Text or attachments emailed to editor@reverejournal.com are preferred.*

# Forum



## GUEST OP-ED

### Thoughts on MBTA Laws and Winthrop

By Senator Lydia Edwards

In the past month, I have heard from legislators, both past and present, community members, and councilors about the MBTA Community law. In doing my due diligence it has become readily apparent there is a lot of misinformation, fear, anger, and confusion.

Before I go into my thoughts and suggestions for how to deal with this law, I wanted to first assess how we got here and speak to the conditions that drove Governor Baker and the Massachusetts legislature to pass this bipartisan, popular law (receiving almost unanimous support in the state house).

Massachusetts was, and is, in a housing crisis. The state does not have enough housing units. Estimates from the state housing department suggest we need at least 220,000 new housing units. The housing crisis has resulted in Massachusetts being one of, if not the most, expensive states to live in. No matter the income level, it is hard to find a place to call home and raise a family. There are waitlists in the tens of thousands for public housing. Even market rate is becoming scarce, with buyers paying over asking price and pricing out middle- and working-class would-be first-time homeowners. The state is approaching this housing crisis in two distinct ways: first, the MBTA laws, and second, a \$4.1 billion dollar housing bond bill (which I will address in another article).

The MBTA Community law, passed by Governor Baker in 2021, is now three years old. The law has two major components. The

first requires that cities and towns near MBTA transit to upzone by requiring "at least one zoning district of reasonable size in which multi-family housing is permitted as of right and meets other criteria set forth in the statute including: minimum gross density of 15 units per acre; located not more than 0.5 miles from commuter rail station, subway station, ferry terminal or bus station; and there be no age restrictions and be suitable for families with children." The second component lowers the threshold required for approving plans or projects for more density from a 2/3 majority to a simple majority. This was done to prevent one person in local government from stalling projects or preventing them from happening.

After passing the state house, the baton was passed to local governments to plan for the increased density.

A total of 177 cities and towns are called to do their part to provide housing to close the gap on needed units throughout Massachusetts. The vast majority have met the timeline and standards of the law. There are, of course, some outliers that refuse to cooperate, but Winthrop is not one of them.

At this moment, Winthrop is being called to do her part to deal with the housing crisis. We can choose to follow in the footsteps of Milton, currently entangled in legal challenges, financial denials, public scrutiny, and increasing costs. Or we can emulate Hull and North Andover, whose proactive engagement with the Healey administration led to a more favor-

able reassessment of their housing unit requirements. This choice saved them time, money, and the uncertainty that comes with resistance. Let's choose the latter path.

Still, like many people, I was shocked at the suggested target of over 800 units for Winthrop. My first thought was "where will they go, who will pay for it, and how did they get that number." I then was incredibly inspired by our local leaders. Many of them, like myself, were not in office when the MBTA Communities law passed. Still, to their complete credit, they got to work. The letters and back and forth and respectful discourse with the Healey Administration, I believe, will result in a lowering of the required units.

After meeting with town council members on Sunday mornings, reviewing town council district meetings and council meetings, I am proud to stand with our local leaders. Every single one of them deserves accolades for having stood up to meet the challenge while facing onslaughts of vitriol and anger. It is not easy to navigate at this moment, and yet our town councilors are showing grace under fire.

As your senator, I intend to lead with the town council. I joined in their request to the Secretary of Housing and Livable Communities and called on Secretary Ed Augustus to come to Winthrop and meet our town. I want him to try commuting in and out, see how full our schools are, and most importantly, see the work we have already done. Winthrop is ahead of the state in the percentage of

multifamily versus single-family housing. We have planned projects that are approved and set to be built. We are revitalizing our downtown and, in all aspects, Winthrop is a shining example of community planning and responsible growth.

My promise is to fight for Winthrop. I believe after researching and truly getting to know Winthrop, the Secretary will see that we don't need to plan for an additional 800+ units. I think, after a healthy back-and-forth with the town council and state legislators, our unit count may reduce to one to two hundred units, if that.

As a small town, we should only be required to do our part in helping to solve the housing crisis commensurate with our size. Moreover, we will not be undertaking this without significant financial resources from the state. To place an unfunded mandate on any town with a threat to defund us if we are not compliant, is wrong. We expect to be acknowledged for our hard work, supported as we go forward, and respected throughout the entire process. I intend to fight for all of these things, as well as a reduction in our unit requirements.

The process of growing our community should be a unifying and constructive endeavor. It's disheartening to see it become a source of division. We have a golden opportunity to lead by example, to show how a community can grow responsibly and inclusively, and we will.

*Lydia Edwards is a State Senator for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.*

## LETTER to the Editor

### ON ZOOM BOMBINGS

Dear Editor,

Across the commonwealth, "Zoom Bombing" incidents at city and town meetings are on the rise.

Perpetrators of such acts

infiltrate these events as an opportunity to instill fear, create divisiveness and fuel hatred. Winthrop is just one of many communities that has found itself a target of Zoom bombing. In December of 2023,

during a town council meeting, attendees found themselves on the receiving end of a horrific Zoom bombing. The offender, while on camera spewed an antisemitic message and a swastika flag was

visible in the background. Members of the council and town manager took swift action, quickly severing the Zoom video and audio connection. While

See LETTER Page 5

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**Ad Design**  
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# THE MORE Things Change ...

Items selected from past issues of the Winthrop Sun, The Winthrop Review, The Winthrop Visitor, The Transcript and The Sun-Transcript

## 10 years ago March 26, 2014

Bobbie Finocchio, the principal of the Arthur T. Cummings elementary school for the past three years, is resigning to accept the principal's position at the Fort River elementary school in Amherst, Mass.

Superintendent of Schools John Macero will present a recommended budget for the 2014-2015 school year of \$18,573,789 budget, an increase of \$1.9 million, to

the School Committee at the Cummings School this Monday.

The Winthrop High School football cheerleading squad made its mark at the National Championships in Florida, finishing in 11th place out of 70 squads from across the country. Head coach Rachel Mustone said 15 WHS students competed in the event that was held at the Jostens Center, a sports arena located in ESPN's Wide World of Sports Complex that is

part of the Walt Disney World Resort.

## 20 years ago April 1, 2004

The legislature's Constitutional Convention has approved a measure sponsored by State Senators Robert Travaglini and Brian Lees that would ban same-sex marriages. The measure now must be passed by the next Constitutional Convention in 2005-06 before it can reach the ballot for approval by the voters. The

Mass. Supreme Judicial Court ruled last year that a ban on same-sex marriage violates the Mass. Constitution as it now stands and has ordered that same-sex marriages be permitted starting May 17. Gov. Mitt Romney has asked the court to stay its ruling.

The Board of Selectmen has authorized a test program for the proposed Winthrop Commuter Ferry project that has been in the planning stages for five years. A federal grant obtained by Congressman

Ed Markey will provide the funding necessary for the construction of a temporary pier. The ferry will begin operation June 15.

The second annual Hamburger Hop at the Hi Tide Restaurant to benefit WINARC was a big hit Thursday night.

A total of 27 candidates have filed nomination papers for a seat on the Town Charter Commission. The town election is set for May 3.

Recent data reveal that the average selling price of a single-family home in Winthrop increased by 10 percent in the past year, from \$329,577 to \$362,776.

Construction on another Dunkin' Donuts in the town has begun on Main St. at the former Fleet Bank drive-thru.

A large crowd of more than 200 persons was on hand for the retirement party for former Police Chief Mike McManus that was held at the Sheraton Colonial in Wakefield. McManus served on the Winthrop P.D. for 33 years.

## 30 years ago April 7, 1994

About 41 percent of the town's voters went to the polls for Monday's annual

See YEARS Page 11

## Letter // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

the Zoom bombing literally lasted a few seconds, it left a lasting impression on each and every person in attendance. I was in that meeting and I still feel a knot forming in my stomach and extreme feelings of anger when thinking about what happened that night. The Zoom bombing was an assault on our Jewish residents and in my opinion, every member of the Winthrop community. It was an incredibly deeply disturbing and disheartening situation.

Less than twenty-four hours following the incident, Winthrop Police Chief Terence Delehanty stated that he was working with the Massachusetts State Police and FBI to identify the person responsible for the Zoom bombing. He indicated that the Winthrop Police Department is actively investigating the incident as a hate crime. Winthrop's Town Manager, Anthony Marino stated that Winthrop is a fantastic community and hate has no home here. I wholeheartedly agree with his sentiment. The fact of the matter is that hate exists in every part of the world including our own community. Of this, we can not deny. We must swiftly eradicate it at every turn

and when each opportunity presents itself.

At a recent Worcester City Council Meeting, a participant via Zoom let loose with hate-filled diatribe. It was the second time in less than a month that something like this occurred in Worcester. The deplorable tirade included antisemitic, racist, and homophobic comments, all of which were stomach turning and abusive. Other communities that have been at the center of similar Zoom bombings include Ashland, Brookline, Concord, Framingham, Lexington and Marblehead. These incidents are becoming far too frequent and the perpetrators more emboldened.

On February 8, 2024 in Ashland, a town planning board meeting found itself on the receiving end of a Zoom bombing. Two members of the planning board were called out by name by the perpetrators using antisemitic and homophobic language. One board member is Jewish and the other a lesbian. The fact that the Zoom bomber singled out the two planning board members by name is most alarming. I reached out to town officials in Ashland to ask if law enforcement had

made any strides in identifying the perpetrator. I was told the police department did investigate, but found no criminal wrongdoing. The Ashland leadership received a strongly worded letter from the Middlesex County District Attorney's office in response to the incident. They were sympathetic to town officials and decried the perpetrators behavior as abhorrent, but stated the perpetrators had a right to express themselves as long as they were not disruptive. Had I been an Ashland resident, I would have questioned the District Attorney's response. Isn't shouting hateful antisemitic and homophobic rhetoric at members of a town's planning board during a meeting considered disruptive? If it is not, then what does actually qualify as disruptive? I am truly unimpressed by the response given over this incident in Ashland.

In late February 2024, a Lexington School Committee meeting became the victim of a Zoom bombing. The hateful rhetoric targeted the LGBTQ+ community and specifically, transgendered people. As with most Zoom bombing incidents, perpetrator(s) typically

leave their video cameras off, so they can not be easily identified by meeting participants or law enforcement. Disabling their cameras or wearing masks while visible is nothing short of cowardice. It is no different than members of any hate group that attempt to hide their appearance from others.

March 14, 2024, a Zoom bombing occurred at Concord's Finance Committee meeting. The rhetoric was antisemitic in nature, deeply disturbing and offensive. Concord officials had something similar happen at their recent Board of Appeals meeting. Town Manager, Kerry Lafleur decried the atrocious rhetoric and the incident as a whole.

Like so many other towns and cities across the commonwealth, Winthrop has implemented stronger controls when using Zoom for public meetings. That's a good and effective start. Each of these Zoom bombing incidents needs to be investigated by local police, state and federal law enforcement. The perpetrators are out there living amongst us. Some are tied to extremist groups spread throughout the United States. Nathan Allen who in 2021 gunned

down and murdered Winthrop resident's David Green and Ramona Cooper, walked, shopped and lived amongst the Winthrop community. He held antisemitic and racist ideologies. None of us knew this until it was too late. He was not on anyone's radar.

Remaining aware and diligent is everything. Not existing in fear is important. But pretending hate doesn't exist or cannot touch our lives is naive and dangerous. How we respond to incidents like this is what truly counts. Unity, supporting one another, not being afraid to stand up against hate in all of its many forms; in not denying that hate exists and working together to extinguish its volatile and deadly flames, we will succeed. As human beings and as a community, we must decide who we live our lives; either in fear or with great courage.

What is the message we wish to take away from these incidents? Do we tell ourselves it was a random one-time occurrence? That someone like Nathan Allen could not ever reside amongst us again? That the perpetrator who Zoom bombed our town council meeting lives thousands

of miles away and has no ties to this community? That the perpetrators of all these other Zoom bombings are just disturbed people with too much time on their hands living far, far away from us? Or do we accept the fact that we have much work to do in order to build a community that is truly inclusive of all people? Not that we just say we are a welcoming community, but we actually seek to prove it. I personally feel we have a long way to go and it is going to take a collaborative effort where we learn from one another, actively listen to each other, focus on common goals to create stronger unity and ensure that our law enforcement and town leaders set the tone for how we will respond as a community to hateful rhetoric and hateful acts. The message has to be just as Town Manager Marino stated clearly, "Hate has no home here" and from Chief Delehanty, "We will respond aggressively to this attack on our community. There is no place for hate in Winthrop. Not in person; not online; not anywhere."

In peace, faith and hope;  
**Scott Mahoney-Wright**  
Precinct 3

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# WINTHROP SUN TRANSCRIPT

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Dalyn



William & Lucas



Kevin



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Happy Easter Cabot!



Kathy



Liam



Happy Easter, Alexandria!



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Happy Easter from Figo!

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## Sports

### WHS SPORTS ROUNDUP

#### WHS BOYS LACROSSE LOOKING FORWARD TO ANOTHER BIG YEAR

The Winthrop High boys lacrosse team will open its 2024 season with a contest at non-league rival Malden Catholic next Tuesday (April 2).

"We are very excited about the upcoming season and hope to continue to build on the success of last year and improve in areas that we know we can build on," said WHS head coach Brian Donnelly, whose squad compiled a 14-4 record in the regular season, winning the South Division of the Northeastern Conference (NEC), earning the #13 ranking in Division 4, and winning their opening-round game in the D-4 state tourney.

"We have the majority of our starters returning -- we lost the trio of attackman Jack Hayes, midfielder Alex Daignault, and defenseman Welvis Acosta to graduation -- and are looking forward to having a bunch of new players join the ranks," said Donnelly. "We have goalie Hunter Fife and Robert Rich as returning captains and senior defenseman Donovan Cassidy also is joining the ranks of captain. They have started off the year strong, leading by example, and we hope they continue to find their voice as leaders."

"Our pre-season has been good so far, as we are really trying to focus on getting fundamentals down and tightening up our defensive and offensive systems," Donnelly added. "We are very excited to see how much players like Ace Daignault, Colin Cifuni, Seth Sacco, and Michael Holgerson have progressed in the off-season, as well as to see what some new players are going to add to the mix."

After Tuesday's match with Division 1 Malden Catholic, the Vikings will

play their home opener next Thursday (April 4) against NEC South rival Saugus at 4:30 on the turf at Miller Field.

Winthrop will meet its four NEC South foes (Saugus, Salem, Gloucester, and Swampscott) twice each and its five NEC North opponents (Danvers, Masconomet, Marblehead, Beverly, and Peabody) once each. Five non-conference opponents (Malden Catholic, Manchester-Essex, Tyngsborough, Hamilton-Wenham, and Lynnfield) round out their 18 game schedule.

The members of the 2024 varsity and JV teams are as follows:

**Varsity:**  
Robert Rich (C), Colin Cifuni, Hunter Fife (C), Dan Thomai, Ace Daignault, Sean Dolan, Colin O'Leary, Seth Sacco, Donovan Cassidy (C), Glenn Calla, Michael Holgerson, Andrew Faretra, Nick Romano, Stephen Lindinger, Jackson Andy, Thomas Babine, Dylan Sykes, Declan Howard, Chris Beshere, Chase Cifuni, Paul Ferrara, and Charlie Ferrara.

**Junior Varsity:**  
Bryan Guerra Duarte, Michael Harrison, Gianluca Talluto, Edward Leal, Evan DeMayo, Jeremy Pena, Riley Moccio, Matt Maddallone, and Owen Pumphret

#### WHS BASEBALL TEAM HAS HIGH HOPES

The Winthrop High baseball team will open its 2024 season at non-league opponent Cardinal Spellman this coming Monday (April 1).

"It is exciting to get started for my third year as the head coach," said WHS head coach Mark DeGregorio. "We are returning a young group of players who made contributions over the last few years. We are a team with a lot of positional flexibility and some positional battles leading up to the

See ROUNDUP Page 9

### Silverman sparkles in Mass. Coaches All-Star Game

By Cary Shuman

Winthrop High senior captain Petey Silverman competed for the North Team in the Massachusetts State High School Coaches Association Boys' Hockey All-Star Game Sunday at the Fidelity Bank Ice Center in Worcester. Silverman had a goal and two assists in the game that was won by the South, 8-7.



Shown above, head coach Dale Dunbar, Petey Silverman, and his Winthrop teammates Billy Hayes, Joe Rich, and Rob Rich.

### BELMONT HILL COACH ANTHONY FUCILLO ATTENDS MHSFCA "SUPER 26" ALL-STATE DINNER; TOMMY RUPLEY IS HONORED



CARY SHUMAN PHOTO

Belmont Hill School head football coach and assistant athletic director Anthony Fucillo (left) attended the Massachusetts High School Football Coaches Association "Super 26" All-Star Team Awards Dinner March 17 at the Burlington Marriott. Fucillo is pictured at the awards banquet with Belmont Hill junior Tommy Rupley (right) who was honored as an All-State player for the 2023 season. A major college football prospect who has received multiple scholarship offers, Rupley will be returning to Belmont Hill next season. Fucillo led Belmont Hill to the ISL championship in his first season as head coach last fall. Anthony is the son of Mass. State Coaches Hall of Fame inductee Tony Fucillo and Carolyn Fucillo.

### WINTHROP'S ADRIANNA RIZZOTTO CONCLUDES HER OUTSTANDING CAREER IN MHSFA ALL-STAR GAME



Winthrop High senior captain Adrianna Rizzotto (pictured above) wrapped up her outstanding career with an appearance in the Massachusetts High School Hockey Coaches Girls Hockey All-Star Game. She was selected as one of six defensemen to play for the North Team. Rizzotto was a four-year starter for Coach Butch Martucci's Vikings. She was an assistant captain as a junior and one three Vikings' tri-captains as a senior. Rizzotto finished her career with 16 goals and 39 assists for a total of 55 points. "Adrianna was a tremendous leader and a fantastic player to coach," said Butch Martucci. "We wish Adrianna the best as she continues her playing career at Framingham State University next year."

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Pillsbury Cinnamon Rolls.....	2/ \$6.00
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## WHS STUDENTS OF THE MONTH

**ELLIE O'DONNELL**  
GRADE 12  
FAV. SUBJECT: AP STATISTICS  
ACTIVITIES: GYMNASICS & CHEERING

**LEO CORREIA**  
GRADE 12  
FAV. SUBJECT: AP STATISTICS  
ACTIVITIES: STEM CLUB AND BIRD WATCHING

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# BOSTON BRUINS ALUMNI FACE-OFF AGAINST BOSTON STRONG ALL STARS AT LARSEN RINK

Last Sunday afternoon the Boston Bruins Alumni were skating at Larsen Rink in Winthrop against the Boston Strong All Stars. This annual event raises money for multiple Bruins Foundation programs and activities.

Adding to the pre-game ceremonies, State Auditor Dian DiZoglio, State Representative Jeff Turco, Mayor Patrick Keefe, and Revere Ward 2 Councillor Ira Novoselsky.



Bruins fans to the end, Colton and Conner Segee and Gabriel Cabral.



Capt. Kevin Chiles Sr. with Gerard Cioffi, and Atty. Jim O'Shea.



Capt. Kevin Chiles Sr. with State Auditor Diana DiZoglio and Bruins goalie Keith Segee.



The benefit hockey game with the Boston Bruin Alumni Team, and the Boston Strong All Stars took place last Sunday afternoon at Larsen Rink in Winthrop. Proceeds of the game and donation to benefit the Boston Bruins Foundation.



Headliner Comedian Dave Russo in his iconic cap was on skates for the Boston Strong All Stars, shown with Referee Doug Smith.



Heading to center ice, State Representative Jeff Turco, Mayor Patrick Keefe, State Auditor Diana DiZoglio, and Councillor Ira Novoselsky.



Reed Farrell and Thomas Wright waiting to get some autographs between period at Larsen Rink last Sunday afternoon.



Raising money for good things is what it's all about, generous contributions for 25 thousand Dollars will go a long way. Shown in photo, Bruin Bob Sweeney, State Representative Jeff Turco, Bruin Al Pederson, State Auditor Diana LiZoglio, Councillor Ira Novoselsky, Mayor Patrick Keefe, and Boston Strong Captain Kevin Chiles Sr.



Bruins Captain Bob Sweeney and Captain Kevin Chiles Sr. face-off in the ceremonial puck dropping by Massachusetts State Auditor Diana DiZoglio, Sstae Rep. Jeff Turco, Councillor Ira Novoselsky, and Mayor Patrick Keefe.



Shown to the left enjoying the game in the front row, the Bodner family, Barbara, Linda, Izzy, Katie, Jack and Adam.

Shown to the right, Kevin Chiles Sr. and Kevin Chiles Jr enjoy ice time together at this annual Bruins event.





# Roundup // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 7

season after we graduated four seniors.

“The four seniors who graduated leave behind some areas that we need to fill,” DeGregorio continued. “Colin Kinsella was a two-time captain and catcher. He batted close to .500, so that is something that is always difficult to replace. Zach Bogusz was a great pitcher and hitter for us last year. He batted .350 and led the teams in wins. Nick Marchese was an absolute rock at second base. He made all the plays over there and he contributed in more ways that we can count. Finally, we graduated Ryan Gagnon, who was a very good outfielder and got on base a ton for us. So the positional battles going into the first game are going to be very interesting as we have a lot of young guys who will be filling those holes.

“We are returning two captains in Petey Silverman and Matthew DeCarney,” DeGregorio said. “Petey was a league all-star last year, our leadoff hitter, and played a phenomenal shortstop. Matt DeCarney will be depended on a lot this year to pitch and go deep into games. Rounding out the captaincy spots this year are senior Evan Rockefeller and senior Billy Hayes. These two contributed a lot last year and will be looked at to take a step forward as well to assist the younger players. Evan Rockefeller became a huge part of our offense down the stretch last year. He has a lot of power and is fearless at the plate. Billy Hayes played outfield for us last year and continued to improve as the season wore on. We are looking for our seniors to contribute to the team’s success just like last year’s seniors.

“Positionally, Phillip Boncore is being asked to step in as the new catcher for the team,” DeGregorio noted. “Thus far he has been very good behind the plate in the preseason and our first scrimmage. He looks very comfortable back there. It has been a few years since he last played catcher because he is a lefty. It is very unconventional to have a left-handed catcher, but when you have a player that can do everything that a right-handed catcher can do, then it does not come across as a disadvantage at all at the high school level.

“Also returning is Spencer Parco, another player who started the majority of games for us. Spencer played a great third base for us last year and really took his defense to a new level last year over there,” DeGregorio said. “He is a natural shortstop, but stepped into third base and played great. Jay Fotiades is a pitcher and second baseman/third baseman. He is someone who has been very dependable for the team ever since his freshman year. He will be a three-year varsity player as a junior this upcoming season.

“We also are returning Will Murphy, Matthew Noonan, Matthew Reardon, and Timmy Vargus,” the coach added. “They all contributed last year at various points in the season. The coaching staff is very excited about what they can bring to the table this year. We will need all players to contribute to win games in the difficult Northeastern Conference and our difficult non-conference schedule.

“We are also very excited about the future of the program with a large freshman class,” DeGregorio noted. “We have a few freshmen who could be pushing some of the older players for playing time. The freshmen are Joseph Pumphret, Ryan Murphy, Desmond Cassidy, Michael D’Ambrosio, Tony Bordonaro, Nathan Previte, Nikita Rossi, Domenic Spinale, Ricky Mackenzie, Ryan Buchman, Dax Sabin, Joe Dalton, and Evan Tallent. It is a large class, and we are excited about what they can bring this year and to the future of the program. We also have 10 new eighth-graders entering the program.

“In the offseason we put together a more challenging schedule for us than we even had last year,” said DeGregorio. “We looked at how we can try to increase our opponent value rating as part of the new MIAA rankings. We decided to add Manchester-Essex and Amesbury to our schedule. Both of these opponents run great programs and are consistently good each and every year. Amesbury went deep in the tournament last year and Manchester-Essex is two years removed from the state championship.

“We are returning most of the coaching staff that

I rely heavily on,” said DeGregorio. “The coaches are always prepared, professional, and very knowledgeable. I think having the continuity that we have as a group is very important. As a head coach there is not much more that you can ask for in your coaches. Returning is Joseph Murphy, who is going into his third year in the program. He is a former Rhode Island College baseball alum. Michael Vatalaro, whom I have personally known since basically we were old enough to pick up a baseball -- we played baseball together since we were four and he played at Salem State -- was one of the better shortstops to come through the Winthrop High program. Coach Anthony Sorrentino is returning and has actually been in the program longer than I have. The kids really do look to him for guidance, and he is very-respected. Jack Wallace is returning again this year to keep working with the pitchers. He was a four-year pitcher at Franklin Pierce and was a pitcher for national champion Eastern Connecticut in his post-grad year. Also, joining the staff this year is former Winthrop baseball and hockey alum Ryan Skoczlas. Kurt Rodrigues returns as the JV coach this year for the third year. Joining him are Tommy Capasso and Dan Shannon this year as coaches. Finally, Frankie Fabiano returns to the staff. He is an integral part of the program and we are excited that he continues to be a part of our program. As you can see, we have a very large coaching staff. It is by design, as we like to keep our players constantly moving at practice. We break them up into positional groups and work on skills. There is always a coach there for them to work on something.”

DeGregorio has been pleased with his team’s effort in the pre-season. “We recently played a scrimmage on Monday against Stoneham and we competed well against a very good program,” said the coach. “They have also been very good, and it was good for us to face them as they are a new Division 4 opponent as they moved down from Division 3 this year. There were a lot of really good things that the coaches saw in the scrim-

mage. We pitched well and put the bat on the ball pretty consistently. We have some things we need to continue to work on and will make sure we prepare our players as best as we can for our opening day.”

The Vikings had one more scrimmage yesterday (Wednesday) against Lynn Classical at Fraser Field. After Monday’s opener with Spellman, the Vikings and will travel to Northeastern Conference (NEC) South rival Peabody on Tuesday. The Vikings have a 20 game schedule, meeting their four NEC South foes (Saugus, Salem, Swampscott, and Peabody) twice each and their five NEC North opponents (Danvers, Beverly, Marblehead, Masconomet, and Gloucester) one each. They will meet non-league foes Cardinal Spellman, Rockport, Ipswich, Wakefield, Sharon, Amesbury, and Manchester-Essex once each.

## WHS SOFTBALL HOSTS SAUGUS THIS MONDAY

The WHS softball team, under the direction of head coach Erin Vercruyse, will open its 2024 campaign on Monday, entertaining NEC South opponent Salem at the Little League Field.

“We are coming into the 2024 season with a strong freshman class on varsity and gaining a strong seventh grade class on junior varsity as well,” said Vercruyse. “We lost six strong seniors last year, but have some players who have really stepped up to fill those gaps. We’re greatly looking forward to being more competitive in our league this year.”

The 2024 Lady Vikings are:

Varsity: Carolina Gonzalez (Captain), Zoe Bakos, Gianna Indrisano, Hannah Barrett, Izzy Cash, Amelia Spencer (Captain), Tori Bates, Jenna Whitehead, Deanna Nee, Francesca Indrisano, Sofia Gonzalez, Kylie McFarland, Brianna

Rizzotto, Makayla Herdt, and team manager Adriana Viscio.

Junior Varsity: Xaviera Figueroa, Lucy Boncore, Sonny Theberge, Emma Previte, Norah Zaffini, Ava Rogowicz, Audrina Petrola, Ruby Viens, Molly Titemore, and Briella McFarland.

After Monday’s opener, the Lady Vikings will travel to Swampscott next Wednesday. In addition to their 13 contests with their nine NEC rivals, Vercruyse and her crew will meet non-league opponents Hamilton-Wenham (2), East Boston (2), Northeast Regional, Excel Academy, and Lynn Classical to complete their 20-game schedule.

## WHS ATHLETES SWING INTO ACTION

The 2024 spring sports season will swing into high gear this coming week for Winthrop High athletes.

The WHS girls lacrosse team opens its season Tuesday at Lynnfield and will travel to Saugus next

Thursday. In addition to their NEC opponents, the girls will meet non-league foes Lynnfield, Stoneham (2), No. Reading, Arlington Catholic, Bishop Fenwick, and Somerville.

The WHS boys and girls tennis teams, headed by Marie Finn and Jeff Beck respectively, will get into the swing on Monday against non-league foe Watertown. Finn and her boys, who will trek to Watertown on Monday, will travel to Ipswich on Tuesday and to Medford on Wednesday. Beck’s Lady Vikings, who host Watertown on Monday, will entertain St. Mary’s of Lynn on Tuesday and Medford on Wednesday.

The boys and girls track teams, led by Nik Beshere and Warren MacPhail respectively, will face Swampscott at Miller Field in their season-opener on Wednesday.

The WHS sailing team will take to the chilly blue ocean on April 13, while a new sport at WHS, girls flag football, kicks off its season on April 11 at Needham.



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# OBITUARIES

## Marlene Anne Schwartz McCabe

To Know Her Was To Love Her

Marlene Anne Schwartz McCabe of Revere, formerly of Winthrop, passed away suddenly at her home on January 19. She was 74 years old.

The beloved wife of 40 years of Thomas McCabe, she was born in Winthrop, the cherished daughter of the late Thelma (Terri) Friedman Schwartz and the late Joseph Swartz. Marlene was the devoted and loving sister of Susan and Ronald Miles of Winchester, Steven Schwartz of Florida, David Schwartz and Daniel Koester of California and South Dakota, Sherri and James Esposito, Rona Swartz, Jo-El Swartz and her partner, Bradford Hurley, Christen Hakins and her partner, Ted Vest and Michael and Alyson Swartz, all of Florida; dear aunt of many loving nieces and nephews—one Special One to whom she was like a Second Mother, Jenna and her husband, John Murphy and an Adoring Great-Aunt to Addie and Aiden of Winthrop, who she loved being with and visiting regularly—and enjoyed babysitting for them often.

Marlene will also be greatly Missed by many Dear Friends—but a few Very Special Ones—Patricia Swartz, Sandra Young, Donna Cuomo, Roseanne Reid, Lynne Kosofsky Moore and Maureen Crosby.

Marlene had a genuine Passion for Dogs and Always had a Special Place in her Big Heart for her Childhood Boston Terrier, Button, her Dog-Nephew, Bentley and Bella, who she especially enjoyed having for Sleepovers regularly.

Prior to her Retirement, Marlene had been employed by the Common-



wealth of Massachusetts for 40 years—initially having worked for the Department of Law Enforcement, the Department of Natural Resources and ultimately for the Department of Elder Affairs. Her love for helping her friends extended into her retirement when she devoted her energy to caring for a few very Dear Friends who Adored her, as she shared a very Special Bond with them for many years. She truly cared about others demonstrating her affinity for them constantly. To Know Her was to Love Her!

Marlene was known for her wit and sense of humor—entertaining friends wherever she went.

During her Retirement Years, she enjoyed taking long walks with her husband along Winthrop Beach (where she spent her childhood) and Deer Island. Marlene also enjoyed shopping and lunching with close friends. One of her greatest pleasures was getting together with her many Siblings—whether it be going out to dinner or visiting for Sunday Dinners and playing cards. She especially looked forward to Cherished Visits from her brother on the West Coast and visits with as many siblings as possible annually at her Timeshare on Singer Island. We will All Miss gathering there for those very Intimate and Entertaining Visits which were Always such Fun and Memorable Occasions!

Donations in Marlene's Memory may be sent to St. Jude Children's and Research Hospital, 50 St. Jude Place, Memphis, TN 38108. To sign the online Guestbook, please visit the Funeral Home

Website: [www.torffuneralservice.com](http://www.torffuneralservice.com).

## Deborah Madden

Employee of the Winthrop Water and Cemetery Departments

Deborah M. Madden of Winthrop passed away at the Massachusetts General Hospital in Boston on March 16, 2024. She was 71 years old.

Born in Malden, she was the beloved daughter of the late Alice J. (Frazier) and Wesley P. Alexander. A resident of Winthrop for over 48 years, she worked for the Town of Winthrop for many years in the Water Department and the Cemetery Department where she still worked up until her passing.

She was the loving mother of Melissa Currier and her husband, Brian of Beverly, Alexander Madden of New Hampshire and Elizabeth Madden of Winthrop; dear sister of Patricia Alexander of Dorchester; beloved aunt of Jason Alexander and cherished grandmother of Matthew, Chris, Jake,



Ashley, Madison, Andy, Luke and Dylan.

A Funeral Service was held in the Caggiano-O'Maley-Frazier Funeral Home, Winthrop on Friday, March 22, 2024. Services concluded with the interment in the Puritan Lawn Cemetery in Peabody.

To sign the online guestbook, go to [www.caggianoofuneralhome.com](http://www.caggianoofuneralhome.com).

## Frances "Chubby" Milito

She graced this world with her presence for 87 years

Frances B. Milito (Chubby), beloved mother, grandmother, and great-grandmother, passed away peacefully at the Kaplan Family Hospice House on March 25th surrounded by loved ones.

Born on October 12, 1936 in East Boston, she was the daughter of the late Samuel and Gertrude (Rose) Sylvester, wife of the late Salvatore J Milito and sister of the late John Sylvester. She graced this world with her presence for 87 years.

Frances leaves behind her daughters, Anne Milito and Doreen Bonacorso; grandchildren: Jessica (Jonathan) Heller, Christopher (Amanda) Bonacorso, Frank Bonacorso; great-granddaughters, Lily and Addison Heller, as well as nieces and nephews.

Frances found joy in her work in the retail industry, where she touched the lives of many with her sense of style and honesty. Her dedication and passion for her profession left a lasting impact on those around her.

But above all, Frances cherished her time spent with loved ones. She found immense happiness in the company of friends, with whom she shared countless cherished memories. Among them, Angela held a special place in



her heart, akin to that of a sister.

Frances will be deeply missed by her family, friends, and all who had the privilege of knowing her. Her legacy of love, generosity, and laughter will continue to inspire those whose lives she touched.

May she rest in peace, forever remembered and cherished in our hearts.

Family and friends are cordially invited to attend the visitation from the Caggiano-O'Maley-Frazier Funeral Home, Winthrop on Monday, April 1, 2024 from 9 to 11 a.m. followed by a Funeral Mass in St. John the Evangelist Church, 320 Winthrop St., Winthrop at 11:30 a.m. Services will conclude with the interment in the Belle Isle section of Winthrop Cemetery.

For directions or to sign the online guestbook, go to [www.caggianoofuneralhome.com](http://www.caggianoofuneralhome.com).

## Sheila M. Fallon

Retired Registered Nurse

Sheila M. Fallon of Winthrop passed away on March 19, 2024. She was 80 years old.

Born in Winthrop, she was the cherished daughter of the late Jeannette P. (Visconte) and Robert E. Fallon.

Sheila was employed as a Registered Nurse. She graduated from the New England Deaconess School of Nursing, worked for the American Red Cross and retired from the Brigham and Women's Hospital as an Emergency Room nurse.

Sheila enjoyed antiquing, gardening, celebrating Halloween and going to Salem and cheering on the Boston Celtics with her niece, Erin.

Sheila was the dear sister of Kitsy Wilcox and her husband, James of

Vermont, the late Carolyn Marks and her husband, Paul of Madison, NH and Patricia McCarthy and her husband, Thomas of Winthrop. She was the loving aunt to Erin McCarthy, Robert Wilcox, Lesli Hyland and her husband, Brian, Michele, David and Jill Marks and great-aunt to Merrick and Matthew Poto.

A funeral service will be held in the Maurice W. Kirby Funeral Home, 210 Winthrop St., Winthrop on Friday, March 29th at 11:30 a.m. Interment will be in Winthrop Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Epilepsy Foundation, 175 Cabot St. #301 Lowell, MA. 01854.

To sign Sheila's guestbook, please visit: [www.mauricekirbyfh.com](http://www.mauricekirbyfh.com).

## Women Artists of the North Shore lecture at StoveFactory Gallery

Special to the Transcript

On Friday April 12, join art historian Judith Curtis to discover untold stories of early 20th century women artists of the North Shore. Judith's lecture, based on her work as co-curator of the 2015 "Strokes of Genius: Women Artists of New England" exhibition at the Rockport Art Association & Museum, will delve into the lives and works of influential artists Jane Peterson, Marguerite Pearson, Emma Fordyce McRae, and others, highlighting subject matter helped establish these women as experts in their field despite facing immense challenges in the male-dominated art world of their time.

Explore the current exhibition in the StoveFactory Gallery prior to and after the lecture; "Clean Slate: A Juried Exhibition Inspired by the Change of Season."

Tickets on Eventbrite, [www.eventbrite.com/e/856385882227?aff=oddtcreator](http://www.eventbrite.com/e/856385882227?aff=oddtcreator). Eventbrite tickets are free; suggested donation of \$10 to the AGC at the door. This lecture is made possible by the Charlestown Community Impact Fund. doors open at 5 pm, Complimentary refreshments. The StoveFactory Gallery is at 523 Medford St. in Charlestown, there is free parking at the lot at 511 Medford Street.

## DA Hayden announces 2024 Community Reinvestment Grant program

Special to the Journal

District Attorney Kevin Hayden announced that community non-profit organizations in Suffolk County can apply for grants of up to \$10,000 through his office's Community Reinvestment Grant (CRG) program.

Last year, Hayden's Community Reinvestment Program delivered the largest amount of funding to community partners in Suffolk County CRG history, with grants ranging from \$4,000 to \$7,500.

"I am extremely proud of the amount of funding we distributed last year. In total, we were able to award \$260,000 to 45 Suffolk County non-profit organizations. I look forward to presenting the next round of funding to help these mission-driven organizations. Together, we can provide our youth with more opportunities,

services and intervention necessary for them to succeed," Hayden said.

The CRG program will provide funding of up to \$10,000 to 501(c)3 nonprofits that provide programming designed to prevent youth violence, substance use disorder, or substance use treatment in Boston, Chelsea, Revere, and Winthrop. State law allows prosecutors to distribute up to 10 percent of assets seized in narcotics prosecutions to community-based organizations for crime prevention and substance use treatment.

The deadline for submissions is April 25, and Hayden expects to announce grant recipients on May 20.

More information on the CRG program can be found at [suffolkdistrictattorney.com](http://suffolkdistrictattorney.com) and submission forms are available at 2024 Community Reinvestment Grant.

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# Fresh & Local // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 11

## Iceberg Tips

Take your time when choosing a head of Iceberg. We opt for a large, heavy head. Look for signs of damage from drops and bumps on the leafy part and the core end. Buy one with the least browning and no slime in the package.

You can remove the core with one quick tap when you need a whole

head of Iceberg for a large salad or shredded for a tray of taco toppings. Hold the lettuce by the top in one hand and give the core a firm tap with the heel of your other hand. The core will free itself and come out in one piece. Penny has also tapped it on her cutting board.

If she's not using the whole head but shredding off some for our favorite

Vietnamese noodle salad (Bun Thit Nuong), she'll select the best outer leaves she removed and trim off brown spots. She wraps those leaves over the cut end before she returns the head to a clean bag for storage. We find it protects the cut end and keeps it fresher.

## Nutrition

The medically reviewed

Healthline website addressed the question of the nutritional value of Iceberg lettuce. "Despite its reputation for being a complete zero on the nutritional scale, iceberg lettuce provides significant amounts of vitamins A and K. It also has small amounts of many other healthy nutrients. Although it's low in fiber, it has a high water content,

making it a refreshing choice during hot weather. It also provides calcium, potassium, vitamin C, and folate."

Crunch was a significant factor in putting Iceberg back on our shopping list. This lettuce is excellent for Ed's favorite "Salad Nonna" (the simple tossed salad his Italian grandmother and mother always made),

toasted sandwiches, and wedge salads. Consider trying this long-time favorite on your next trip to a produce counter. It might win a place in your meal rotation.

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

# Honors // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 12

research initiatives span all Tufts campuses, and collaboration among the faculty and students in the undergraduate, graduate, and professional programs across the university's schools is widely encouraged.

Dean's List honors announced at Tufts University

Tufts University recently announced the dean's list for the Fall 2023 semester. Dean's list honors at Tufts University require a semester grade point average of 3.4 or greater.

Zoe Long of Winthrop, Class of 2027

Nora McCarey of Winthrop, Class of 2026

Tufts University, located on campuses in Boston, Medford/Somerville and Grafton, Massachusetts, and in Talloires, France, is recognized among the premier research universities in the United States. Tufts enjoys a global reputation for academic excellence and for the preparation of students as leaders in a wide range of professions. A growing number of innovative teaching and research initiatives span all Tufts campuses, and collaboration among the faculty and students in the undergraduate, graduate, and professional programs across the university's schools is widely encouraged.

## SICURELLA NAMED TO DEAN'S LIST

Jack Sicurella of Winthrop has been named to the Dean's List for the 2023 fall semester at the University of New England. Dean's List students have attained a grade point average of 3.3 or better out of a possible 4.0 at the end of the semester.

The University of New England is Maine's largest private university, with two beautiful coastal campuses in Maine, a one-of-a-kind study-abroad campus in Tangier, Morocco, and an array of flexible online offerings. In an

commonly welcoming and supportive community, we offer hands-on learning, empowering students to make a positive impact in a world full of challenges. We are the state's top provider of health professionals and home to Maine's only medical and dental colleges, a variety of other interprofessionally aligned health care programs, and nationally recognized degree paths in the marine sciences, the natural and social sciences, business, the humanities, and the arts.

## BRYANT UNIVERSITY STUDENTS NAMED TO FALL 2023 DEANS' LIST

Bryant University is pleased to recognize the students named to the Fall 2023 Deans' List.

To earn a place on the Deans' List, students must have a GPA of 3.4 or better for at least 12 semester hours of work. Congratulations on this outstanding achievement!

Jason Merlino of Winthrop

Nicolo Sullo of Winthrop

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the forefront of delivering an exceptional education that anticipates the future and prepares students to be innovative leaders of character in a changing world. Bryant delivers an innovative and uniquely integrated business and liberal arts education that inspires students to excel. With approximately 3,700 graduate and undergraduate students from 38 states and 49 countries, Bryant is recognized as a leader in international education and regularly receives top rankings from U.S. News and World Report, Bloomberg Businessweek, Forbes, and Barron's.

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**MBTA //** CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

spoke about the impact the new law would have on the town while welcoming the large crowd to Winthrop.

“We are an adjacent community so we would have 882 units assigned to the town regardless of land size,” said Viens. “It’s very important to understand that the densest communities [such as Winthrop] are getting really truly punished for being so dense.”

Viens compared Winthrop’s size and population (1.6-square miles and approximately 20,000 residents) to the town of Wayland as an example of how the law is being misapplied.

“Wayland is 15.9 square miles and has a population of 13,882,” said Viens. They have less units that they have to add and they’re way larger and their population is way less.”

Viens also noted that the City of Boston is exempt from the MBTA Communities Act.

Mallios also spoke about the negative implications of the MBTA Communities Act. He thanked residents for their support.

“Thank you all for coming. It does mean a lot for you to come and learn about the law and also

see what our concerns are and how this law is going to impact our community that we are to stay in as long as we can,” said Mallios, adding, “I know I’m going to be here as long as I can. I just bought a house last week.”

Mallios, who was JFK-esque in his eloquence and rapport with the audience and received praise from Viens for his “fantastic work” on the issue, drew applause for his personal “home-buying” decision to live in Winthrop.

“So why does Winthrop not fit [MBTA] 3A [Law]?” asked Mallios.

“Winthrop is 36 percent made up of single-family units,” said Mallios. “The average for the state is 76 percent. Winthrop has only two ways in and out. Everyone knows that – we have East Boston and Revere. The traffic is atrocious. Towards East Boston, we’re going to start to see additional development with Suffolk Downs. Suffolk Downs [with its new housing and the projected number of residents who will be living there] is actually going to be close to almost the size of Winthrop. There will be congestion and traffic, and they expect us to use the ‘T.’”

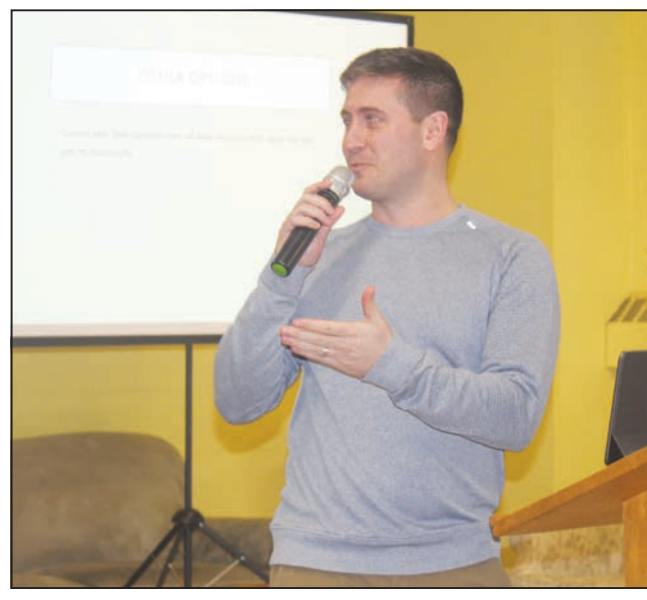
Mallios also said that if



Winthrop resident Diana Viens, one of the organizers of the meeting, delivers opening remarks.



Residents listen to the guest speakers at the meeting about the new MBTA Communities State Law and its potential impact on Winthrop.



Vasili Mallios, one of the organizers of the meeting, speaks to the audience at the meeting.



Winthrop Town Council President James Letterie looks on from the audience during the meeting.



Attorney Michael Walsh, who is representing a group of Rockland residents in the matter, speaks at the meeting.

882 units were to be added to the town’s housing stock, “the town is going to have to cover the [infrastructure] costs if we have developers coming in and building.”

Citing another impact of having additional families living in Winthrop, Mallios said the Winthrop Middle/High School that opened in 2016 “was built for 970 students and is over-capacity as of today.”

Town Manager James Letterie attended the meeting, citing his opposition to the MBTA Communities Act in an interview this week.

“I’m against the law based on my feeling that the law is unconstitution-

al,” said Letterie. “I do not feel the state should be telling us how to run our town. And I think we have been pro-active with this. And what the state is trying to get cities and towns to do is something that Winthrop has done over the last 15 years. We have created zoning for well over 800 units. We are one of the most dense communities in the Commonwealth. The average number of single-family homes in Massachusetts is 76 percent. Winthrop’s only at 36 percent. So

Winthrop is what the state is hoping that other cities and town would emulate. We should be commended, not made to do more.”

Letterie credited Viens and Mallios for putting the spotlight on such a crucial issue that would greatly affect the town.

“I think Diana and Vasili did a tremendous job putting this meeting together,” said Letterie. “I think the attendance was fantastic. This is a situation where knowledge is king. This was a three-paragraph law that was signed

three years ago. And now it has transformed more and more as time goes on. I think we all need to be very well-educated on the process, and that why’s these meetings are important.”

The discussion will continue as the Winthrop Republican Town Committee will be holding a meeting about the MBTA Communities Act on Tuesday, April 9 at 7 p.m. at the Robert A. DeLeo Senior Center.



Pictured at the meeting are, from left, co-organizer Vasili Mallios, Clayton Soba, chairman of the Cape Ann Political Action Committee, Christine Delisio of the Manchester-By-The-Sea Planning Board, co-organizer Diana Viens, and attorney Michael Walsh.

## FREE FAMILY FUN DAY!

For Kids Only Program Hall - 233 Winthrop St.  
Accessible - plenty of parking in back

### Sunday, April 7th 2-4p.m.

**Children’s Book Event**  
Readings/Signings with local authors:  
Ralph Tufo, Sherry Cerino, & Christine McNamee

**Children’s Music**  
The Sunny Fishcakes Music Revue  
The Squeezebox Stompers Duo

**Art Activities**  
Jory Mason & Dawn Mahoney

**Hosted by**  
Ralph Tufo  
ralphtufo@gmail.com

This program is supported in part by a grant from the Winthrop Cultural Council, a local agency which is supported by The Massachusetts Cultural Council, a state agency.



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