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THURSDAY, January 30, 2025

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NEWS Briefs

SULLIVAN RECEIVES COLLABORATION RECOGNITION **AWARD**

Lillian Sullivan Winthrop was selected by their peers to receive the Collaboration Recognition Award at Lasell University for the 2024 Fall semester. Recipients of the Collaboration Recognition Award are selected by their peers for exemplifying superior skills in collaboration by sharing ideas and useful information, communicating in a professional manner, and cooperating in a way to ensure success.

LASELL UNIVERSITY STUDENTS NAMED **TO FALL 2024 DEAN'S LIST**

The following local students were named to Lasell University's Fall Dean's List:

Camryn Carrillo Lillian Sullivan

See NEWS BRIEFS Page 6





Winthrop Girl Scout Troop 70227 shown at the Winthrop Police Station.

Girl Scouts partner with Police to earn Detective Badge

Special to the Transcript

Winthrop Girl Scout Troop 70227 had an exciting and educational experience thanks to Detective Lieutenant Callinan and Detective Adamson of the Winthrop Police Department. The detectives generously hosted the troop at the police station, providing the girls with a unique opportunity to earn their Detective Badge while learning valuable life skills.

During their visit, the Girl Scouts explored the inner workings of the police department with an informative station tour. They

were introduced to the fascinating world of forensic science, learning how fingerprints are used to solve crimes. The highlight of the visit was when the girls had the chance to dust for fingerprints at a mock crime scene, putting their newfound knowledge to the test in a hands-on activity.

Beyond learning about investigative techniques, the Scouts engaged in thoughtful discussions with the detectives, asking a variety of questions about law enforcement and community safety. The experience provided invaluable lessons on how to stay safe and help

protect those around them.

The troop and their leaders extend their sincere gratitude to Detective Lieutenant Callinan and Detective Adamson for their time, patience, and enthusiasm in making this badge-earning opportunity both educational and memorable. Many of the girls left feeling inspired, with some even expressing interest in pursuing careers in law enforcement.

Through experiences like this, Troop 70227 continues to grow in confidence and knowledge, all while strengthening their connection to the community they proudly serve.

Council shifts new fire station location to old middle school, schedules April debt exclusion vote

A debt exclusion vote for a new fire station will be on a special town election ballot on Saturday, April 5.

At last week's town council meeting, the council voted to move forward with selecting the old middle school on Pauline Street as the site of a new fire station. Earlier this year, the council had unanimously selected the town basketball courts on Walden Street as the fire station site.

But after a roundtable discussion on the future of the old middle school earlier this month, Town Council President Jim Letterie asked the council to reconsider the site of the fire station.

Both the Walden Street and old middle school sites were considered as a possible site after a debt exclusion to build at the site of the Wadsworth Building failed in 2023.

Last week, the council voted 8-1 to move forward with the old middle school site, with Councilor Pat Costigan casting the lone no vote. Councilor John Munson asked for an amendment asking that voters be given the choice of the two sites on the ballot, but that vote failed 7-2 with Costigan joining Munson.

The fire station debt ex-

clusion will join two school override questions on the Saturday, April 5 special election ballot. Polls will be open from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m., and there will be regular polling locations, with Precinct 4 voting on Golden Drive and all other precincts voting at the old middle school on Pauline Street. On Monday, Letterie said he estimated the debt exclusion amount for the new fire station will come in around \$38 million.

The plan calls for the demolition of the middle school building and auditorium, but the gymnasium and ice rink would remain in place for use by the town.

"I always look at the numbers when I look at any potential project, and we all know that the need for the firehouse is something that 85 to 90 percent of the people in Winthrop agree with," said Letterie. "We don't agree on the costs and sometimes we don't agree on the location many times, but we agree that there is a

After listening to the voters in 2023, Letterie said the town looked for other locations, narrowing it down to the Walden Street and old middle school sites. About 1,100 people replied

See FIRE STATION Page 3

Council approves new five-year contract for town manager

The town council unanimously approved a new

rent Town Manager Tony Marino at last week's meet-

five-year contract with cur-\$205,000.

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Marino has been town manager since 2022, when he signed a three-year contract at an annual salary of

The new contract runs from May 23, 2025 through May 23, 2030, and includes a cost of living increase of 2.5 percent per year beginning on July 1, 2025, which aligns with the town's fiscal year.

"The general consensus out of not only the finance subcommittee, but council in general, is that we are lucky to have (Marino) as town manager," said Councilor and Finance Subcommittee Chair John DaRos. "During our finance subcommittee meeting ... (Town Council President Jim Letterie) made a good point, and that is talent for a town manager for our town is hard to come by in terms of everything we want and need for a town manager."

DaRos noted that the

also I think I speak for the feedback Marino gets every year on his performance reviews from councilors is very positive.

> Precinct 5 Councilor Joseph Aiello said Marino has been a pleasure to work with.

"He has been more responsive with a limited staff than any other town manager I have dealt with in the past," he said.

Aiello also praised Ma-

See TOWN MANAGER Page 3



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.

MONDAY, JAN. 13

0820: An officer stopped a motor vehicle on Shirley St. for the civil moving infraction of speeding. The officer issued a citation to the operator for that offense, as well as for the civil infraction of not having her license in possession. In addition, the vehicle was not registered. The officer followed the operator to where she dropped off her child at school and directed her to park her vehicle on private property until it is regis-

0827: A Shore Drive resident reported that her motor vehicle's rear windshield had been smashed overnight. The officer filed a report.

0846: An officer stopped a motor vehicle on Washington Ave. for the civil moving infraction of speeding. The officer gave a verbal warning to the operator.

0855: An officer stopped a motor vehicle on Lewis Ave. for a civil moving infraction. The officer issued a citation to the operator.

0905: An officer stopped a motor vehicle on Washington Ave. for the civil moving infraction of speeding. The officer gave a verbal warning to the operator.

0957: An officer stopped a motor vehicle on Veterans Rd. for the civil moving infraction of speeding. The officer issued a citation to the operator for that offense, as well as for the civil infraction of not having his registration in his presentation.

tration in his possession.
1019: An officer stopped a motor vehicle at Franklin and Cross Sts. for a civil moving infraction. The officer issued a citation to the operator.

1040: An officer stopped a motor vehicle on Veterans Rd. for the civil moving infraction of speeding. The officer gave a verbal warning to the operator.

1312: A resident came into the station to report that her identity had been used to open several lines of credit. The officer filed a report.

1525: An officer directed the operator of a vehicle parked illegally on Woodside Ave. to move the vehicle.

e. 1742: A resident came into the station to report suspicious activity on several bank accounts. The officer filed a report.

2012: An officer stopped a motor vehicle on Cross St. for the civil moving infraction of operating without headlights after dark. The officer gave a verbal warning to the operator.

TUESDAY, JAN. 14

0002: An officer stopped a motor vehicle on Main St. for the civil moving infraction of an equipment violation. The officer gave a verbal warning to the operator.

0023: An officer stopped a motor vehicle on Pleasant St. for the civil moving infraction of speeding. The officer issued a citation to the operator.

0157: An officer stopped a motor vehicle on Crest Ave. for the civil moving infractions of operating without headlights after dark and a one-way violation. The officer gave a verbal warning to the operator.

0224: An officer issued parking tickets to 25 vehicles on Shirley St.

1346: An officer stopped a motor vehicle on Winthrop St. for the civil moving infraction of violating the hands-free law. The officer gave a verbal warning to the operator.

1430: An officer stopped a motor vehicle on Walden St. for the civil moving infraction of a stop sign violation. The officer issued a citation to the operator.

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 15

0010: A tow company reported the trespass tow of a motor vehicle from Shirley

0051: A tow company reported the trespass tow of another motor vehicle from Shirley St.

0721: A Nahant Ave. resident reported that her motor vehicle had been struck and damaged by a hit-and-run operator overnight. The officer filed a report.

0922: An officer arrested a 46 year-old Winthrop man, who had four outstanding warrants from another jurisdiction, at the bus stop at Governor's Drive.

on officer stopped a motor vehicle on Shirley St. for the civil motor vehicle infraction of a red light violation. When the officer determined that the vehicle's registration had expired and that the operator only had a learner's permit (and the passenger's license was suspended), the officer directed the vehicle to be parked on private property.

The officer issued a citation to the operator for the criminal offense of operating without a license and for the civil infractions of speeding and operating an unregistered motor vehicle.

1227: A 35 year-old Winthrop man was arrested on an outstanding warrant from another jurisdiction.

1455: A person came into the staton to report an assault and a breaking & entering. The office filed a report.

2240: An officer arrested a 70 year-old Winthrop man on six outstanding warrants.

THURSDAY, JAN. 16

0115: A tow company reported the trespass tow of a motor vehicle from Governors Park.

0329: An officer issued parking tickets to 14 vehicles without resident parking stickers on Siren St.

0758: An officer stopped a motor vehicle on Payson St. for the civil moving infraction of a stop sign violation. The officer issued a citation to the operator for that offense as well as for the criminal offense of operating an uninsured motor vehicle and for the additional civil infraction of operating an unregistered motor vehicle. The motor vehicle was towed.

0941: An officer stopped a motor vehicle on Main St. for the civil moving infractions of speeding in a school zone and a stop sign violation. When the officer determined that the operator's license was suspended, which is a criminal offense, the officer arrested the operator, Joseph E. LeBlanc, 61, of 57 Hutchinson St., for that offense. He also was cited for the two civil infractions. The vehicle was towed.

1157: An officer ordered a tow for a parked motor vehicle on Woodside Ave. with a registration revoked for insurance cancellation.

1235: An officer stopped a motor vehicle on Veterans Rd. for the civil moving infraction of speeding. The officer issued a citation to the operator.

-- An officer stopped another motor vehicle on Veterans Rd. for the civil moving infraction of speeding. The officer issued a citation to the operator.

-- An officer stopped a third motor vehicle on Veterans Rd. for the civil moving infraction of speeding. The officer issued a citation to the operator.

1657: A person walking a dog on Shore Drive reported that the dog had gotten

loose. The Animal Control Officer responded and located the dog.

2048: An officer stopped a motor vehicle on Main St. for a civil moving infraction. The officer gave a verbal warning to the operator.

2324: An officer stopped a motor vehicle on Shore Drive for the civil moving infraction of a number plate violation. The officer gave a verbal warning to the operator.

2333: An officer stopped a motor vehicle on Shore Dr. for a civil moving infraction. The officer gave a verbal warning to the operator.

FRIDAY, JAN. 17

0050: An officer issued parking tickets to 10 vehicles without resident parking stickers on Belcher St.

0117: An officer issued parking tickets to 13 vehicles without resident parking stickers on River Rd.

0842: A Waldemar Ave. resident that a Black Lab was in her front yard. The Animal Control Officer came to pick up the animal and returned him to its owner.

0845: A report of a dead rabbit in the roadway on Pleasant St. was referred to the DPW.

0917: An officer issued a parking ticket to a vehicle parked on the wrong side of the road on So. Main St.

the road on So. Main St. 1152: Officers responded to a motor vehicle accident at Shirley and Revere Sts. in which a motor vehicle ran into a pole. The motor vehicle was towed. The officer filed a report.

1222: An officer stopped a motor vehicle on Court Rd. for the civil moving infraction of operating an unregistered motor vehicle. The officer gave a verbal warning to the operator and directed her to park the vehicle in her driveway until it is registered.

a motor vehicle on Sturgis St. for the civil moving infraction of unsafe operation. The officer gave a verbal warning to the operator.

1319: An officer issued a parking ticket to a vehicle for misuse of a handicapped placard on Woodside Ave.

1322: An officer stopped a motor vehicle on Veterans Rd. for the civil moving infraction of speeding. The officer issued a citation to the operator.

1338: An officer stopped a motor vehicle on Veterans Rd. for the civil moving infraction of speeding. The officer issued a citation to the operator for that offense, as well as for the civil infraction of not having his license in his possession.

1349: An officer stopped a motor vehicle on Veterans Rd. for the civil moving infraction of speeding. The officer gave a verbal warning to the operator.

1400: An officer stopped a motor vehicle on Veterans Rd. for the civil moving infraction of speeding. The officer issued a citation to the operator.

1405: An officer issued parking tickets to two vehicles parked in the handicapped spots at the high school.

1409: An officer stopped a motor vehicle at Main and Bowdoin Sts. for the civil moving infraction of a stop sign violation. The officer gave a verbal warning to the operator.

1431: An officer stopped a motor vehicle on Veterans Rd. for the civil moving infraction of speeding. The officer gave a verbal warning to the operator.

1601: A Winthrop St. resident came into the station to report that a package was stolen. The officer filed a report.

1834: An officer stopped a motor vehicle on Winthrop St. for the civil moving infraction of a red light violation. The officer gave a verbal warning to the operator.

1959: An officer issued parking tickets to two vehicles parked in the bus lane on Walden St.

2121: An officer directed a person playing music loudly in their Governors Park apartment to turn it down for the night.

2141: An officer stopped a motor vehicle on Lincoln St. for the civil moving infraction of operating without headlights after dark. The officer gave a verbal warning to the operator.

2151: An officer stopped a motor vehicle at Banks and Main Sts. for the civil moving infraction of making an improper left turn. The officer issued a citation to the operator.

SATURDAY, JAN. 11

0120: An officer issued parking tickets to 12 vehicles without resident parking stickers on Faun Bar Ave.

0130: An officer stood by while the operator of a motor vehicle changed a tire at Magee's Corner.

0919: An officer stopped a motor vehicle on Revere St. for the civil moving infraction of a red light violation. The officer gave a verbal warning to the operator.

for the school override

votes, but elected to hold

the override and the fire sta-

tion debt exclusion votes in

7 a.m. to 8 p.m. on Satur-

day, April 5 for the special

election. There will be reg-

ular polling locations, with

Precinct 4 voting on Golden

Drive and all other precincts

voting at the old middle

Jim Letterie said the council

chose to hold the election

on a Saturday in the hopes

that it would increase turn-

out and make it easier for

Town Council President

school on Pauline Street.

Polls will be open from

one election.

1004: An officer directed the owner of a motor vehicle with an expired registration on Fairview St. to park the vehicle on private property until the registration is renewed.

1030: An officer stopped a motor vehicle on Revere St. for the civil moving infraction of excessive window tint. The officer gave a verbal warning to the operator.

1220: An officer ordered a tow for a vehicle and a trailer (that had a small boat) with canceled plates and an expired registration from the Public Landing. The officer filed a report.

1303: An officer stopped a motor vehicle on Pleasant St. for the civil moving infraction of a marked lanes violation. The officer issued a citation to the operator.

1716: An officer stopped a motor vehicle on Winthrop St. for the civil moving infraction of a stop sign violation. The officer gave a verbal warning to the operator.

SUNDAY, JAN. 19

0619: An officer responded to a one-car motor vehicle accident on Washington Ave. The operator was transported to the hospital and the vehicle was towed. The officer filed a report.

0752: An officer directed a person who was doing construction work on his home on Sea View Ave. to cease doing so per the town by-law.

2022: Officers ordered tows for 15 vehicles around town that were parked on the street in violation of the town's snow emergency by-law. Altogether, 300 violations were written for non-complying motor vehicle owners.

MONDAY, JAN. 20

0146: Officers responded to a report of an assault and battery on Woodside Ave. in which a caller reported being assaulted by a male and female. The officer issued a summons to the female for a court hearing.

0230: An officer directed a person operating a snowblower at Bowdoin and George Sts. to cease doing so for the night.

0306: An officer directed a person playing music loudly at his Revere St. residence to turn it off for the night.

0338: An officer directed a person operating a snow-blower on Bellevue Ave. to cease doing so for the night.

PUBLIC NOTICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW PROJECT

Saratoga Street Shoreline Restoration Project
LOCATION: Boston, Massachusetts
PROPONENT: Massachusetts Port Authority(Massport)
The undersigned is submitting an Environmental Notification
Form ("ENF") to the Secretary of Energy & Environmental Affairs
on or before January 31, 2025. This will initiate review of the
above project pursuant to the Massachusetts Environmental
Policy Act ("MEPA," M.G.L. c. 30, ss. 61-62L). Copies of the
ENF may be obtained from: Fiona Vardy (Foth):

fiona.vardy@foth.com; (401) 910-7720, or Chris Busch (Massport): cbusch@massport.com; (617) 568-3524
Electronic copies of the ENF are also being sent to the Conservation Commission and Planning Board of Boston, Massachusetts (Municipality).The Secretary of Energy & Environmental Affairs will publish notice of the ENF in the Environmental Monitor, receive public comments on the project, and then decide if an Environmental Impact Report is required. A site visit and/or remote consultation session on the project may also be scheduled. All persons wishing to comment on the project, or to be notified of a site visit and/or remote consultation session, should email MEPA@mass.gov or the MEPA analyst listed in the Environmental Monitor. Requests for language translation or other accommodations should be directed to the

Office, referencing the above project. By:Massachusetts Port Authority

same email address. Mail correspondence should be directed to

the Secretary of Energy & Environmental Affairs, 100 Cambridge

St., Suite 900, Boston, Massachusetts 02114, Attention: MEPA

School override questions will be on April 5 special election ballot

By Adam Swift

Two school override questions will be on the ballot for a special election on Saturday, April 5.

The two override requests, which seek to close an anticipated \$3.5 million budget shortfall for the Fiscal Year 2026 operating budget and to set aside

stabilization account, will be on the ballot with the fire station debt exclusion vote. The school committee

\$1.45 million for a school

had recommended that the school override votes and the fire station debt exclusion take place in separate elections. At last week's town coun-

cil meeting, the council voted to approve new language

language

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people who work during the week to vote.

On the school side of the ballot, voters will be able to vote yes or no on both school override amounts. If

ballot, voters will be able to vote yes or no on both school override amounts. If both figures pass, it would equal the \$4.95 million override request that failed at the ballot last November.

At last week's school

committee meeting, School Committee Chair Jennifer Powell and Superintendent of Schools Lisa Howard highlighted the importance of the full \$4.95 million override request for the schools and the town.

After last year's vote, the school committee initially recommended a tiered approach to requesting the override funds on the ballot, but Powell said that after further discussions, it was determined that the current menu approach to the override would be clearer and add more transparency.

"If voters vote for only the stabilization fund and not the money we need for the school year, we would still be able to use the stabilization money to help us with the budget, but we would still have a shortfall and be facing cuts," said Powell.

See OVERRIDE Page 4

Winthrop Farmers Market: A community hub of support and sustainability

Special to the Transcript

As the vibrant heart of our community, the Winthrop Farmers Market (WFM) has made significant strides in promoting local agriculture, supporting our neighbors, and fostering a commitment to sustainability. This beloved market not only provides fresh produce and local goods but also plays a vital role in giving back to the community

Over the past seasons, WFM has successfully donated a substantial portion of its proceeds to various organizations within Winthrop, including Mi Amore, which supports families in need, and The Winthrop Food Pantry, ensuring that no one in our town goes hungry. These contributions

reflect the market's dedication to uplifting our community and addressing food security issues.

In addition to its charitable efforts, the Winthrop Farmers Market is proud to support education through its annual high school scholarship. This scholarship is awarded to graduating seniors who have demonstrated a commitment to environmental pursuits, sustainability, and public health. By investing in our youth, WFM encourages the next generation to be mindful stewards of the earth and advocates for healthier communities.

This season, the market is expanding to take place every Sunday, offering even more opportunities for the

community to engage with local vendors and enjoy fresh, seasonal products. The weekly market will be held at Ingleside Park, every Sunday from June 22 to September 14, from 9am-1pm. There will be no market on 8/31 (Labor Day Weekend).

As they look forward to another exciting season, the Winthrop Farmers Market is seeking enthusiastic volunteers to join their team. Whether you're passionate about local food, community service, or simply want to meet new people, there are plenty of opportunities to get involved. Volunteers help with everything from setting up and breaking down the market to assisting vendors and engaging



Winthrop Farm Market Directors Tim Burgers (left) and Vanessa Flavin (right) present Dona O'Donnell of the Winthrop Food Pantry with a donation.

with customers. Your support is crucial in making each market day a success.

If you're interested in volunteering, please sign up here: https://www.winthropfarmersmarket.com/ volunteer

Together, we can continue to make the Winthrop Farmers Market a thriving space that nourishes our bodies, supports our neighbors, and promotes a sustainable future. WFM invites everyone in the community to come out, support local vendors, and experience the camaraderie that our market fosters. Let's make this season the best one yet.

Fire Station // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

to a town-wide survey, with about 55 percent of the respondents preferring the old middle school location, he added.

"I looked at Walden Street, and I think the location is good, the fire chief thought the location was good, and it was a little bit less money," said Letterie.

In addition, Letterie said he has always looked toward the reuse of the middle school as a potential revenue and development opportunity for the town.

But after the recent meeting on the future of the old middle school. Letterie said he did not see the council coming to any kind of agreement on its use in the near future.

In addition, Letterie said he took into consideration the perceived greater public support for using the middle school site over Walden Street, as well as the potential and ongoing development in Winthrop that is already in the works.

"I'm not looking at what is necessarily the bottomline cheapest way to go, I am looking at being 100 percent honest at which one do we have the best opportunity to get it done," said Letterie. "We all agree we need a new firehouse, and

I think that is the middle school site."

The council president said he's spoken to a number of people in town who prefer the middle school location because they are sick and tired of seeing the site underutilized for nine years.

Several councilors said they still prefer the Walden Street site, but were willing to move forward with the old middle school location.

"I think it still has its drawback, but I think the time is now to get this done," said Council Vice President Hannah Belcher. "We have to think of what has the best chance of passing, we can't make the firefighters wait any longer."

cautioned Costigan against giving up on the Walden Street site and the potential loss of revenue from further development of the old middle school.

Letterie also compared the debt exclusion for the new fire station to the override for the schools.

"A fire station is different from an override, where it is a debt exclusion," said Letterie. "It's borrowed in spurts, you don't go out and borrow \$35 million or \$37 million or \$38 million. You are going to borrow as you need it, so the majority of bonding for this would not hit the tax rolls until Fiscal Year '27 or '28."

The average cost to a

homeowner with a house assessed at the average of \$689,000 would see an increase in their tax bill of about \$460, Letterie said. In addition, he said the

Miller Field debt exclusion, which is about \$148 per year to the average homeowner, will come off the books in FY'31.

"So after the first three years, the net effect for a new firehouse would be roughly \$315 per year," Letterie said.



Architectural conceptual rendering of the proposed new fire station at the old middle school site on Pauline Street. The current gym can be seen on the right. The gym and ice rink would remain in place as part of the proposed project, which goes before voters for a debt exclusion vote on Saturday, April 5.

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Town Manager // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

ability to patiently explain financial and municipal is-

Tassinari his vigilance in producing a capital plan for the town and his efforts to get a financial impact study underway.

"Thank you for getting us started on a path where we

rino's judgement and his can actually visualize a future that is more than a year or two ahead of us," he said.

Council Vice President Councilor-at-Large Max Hannah Belcher said Marino has helped streamline how the departments in the town work and has also helped to ensure that Winthrop brings in as much rev-

enue as it can. "It's been a great relationship and I know we are showing a commitment to you, and I know you, in terms of this contract, are also showing a commitment to Winthrop," said Letterie. "My big thing with a town manager is to be a blue collar town manager that can get your hands dirty and get in there, and it's been a pleasure working with you."



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Winthrop SUNMTRANSCRIPT

PRESIDENT: Stephen Quigley - stephen.quigley@reverejournal.com MARKETING DIRECTOR: Deb DiGregorio - deb@reverejournal.com

OUR Opinions

GLP-1 WEIGHT-LOSS DRUGS SHOULD BE MADE AFFORDABLE FOR ALL **AMERICANS**

The widespread acceptance of the so-called GLP-1 drugs, Zepbound by Eli Lilly and Wegovy by Novo Nordisk, for weight loss has created a game-changing dynamic for the overall health of the 72% of Americans who struggle with maintaining a healthy weight.

The U.S. presently ranks among the most obese nations in the world and the trend had been predicted to climb upwards. However, for the first time in decades, obesity rates among Americans declined in 2024, reversing decades of our unhealthy collective weight gain as a nation. (The average American male today weighs 30 pounds more than he did in 1960 and the average American female today weighs 26 pounds more than she did in 1960 -- and no, it's not because we are taller today than then.)

The principal reason for this welcome reversal has been the use of the GLP-1 drugs, which have been shown both to decrease a person's appetite (thereby preventing overeating) and to make sugary, salty, and high-fat foods less appealing.

These drugs initially were formulated to assist persons with diabetes to maintain control of their blood sugar levels. However, it soon became clear that the drugs had the "side-effect" of a reduction in patients' body-weight because the drugs reduced their cravings and overeating.

Yes, the GLP-1 drugs have side-effects -- patients who use them lose muscle mass -- but overall, the drugs have been nothing short of a miracle for persons who struggle with eating healthily. In addition, the drugs have shown promise both in combating a number of other addictive behaviors (including alcohol abuse and gambling) and having direct, positive effects on other health conditions such as cardiovascular disease (the drugs lower blood pressure, among other things).

Making these drugs affordable for all Amercans (in addition to those who receive prescriptions for their diabetes treatment for whom insurance covers the cost) should be the proverbial no-brainer. Yes, the drugs are extremely expensive (about \$1500 per month without insurance), but those costs will come down as Eli Lilly ramps up production at its new drug-making facilities in the near-future. Further, the federal government can negotiate price reductions for those on Medicare.

But right now, these drugs, when used for weight control only, are available as a practical matter only to the very wealthy who can afford the high price tag. In addition to plain fairness, making these drugs affordable for everybody who needs them to reduce their weight by covering them under insurance will make our nation healthier, which not only is a laudable goal in itself, but also will reduce our health care costs (most of which are traceable to being overweight) in the years ahead.

In short, failing to make the GLP-1 drugs widely affordable and available to all Americans is the proverbial case of being penny-wise and pound-foolish (and yes, the pun is intended.)

WE'RE OVER THE HUMP

The winter season generally is measured in two ways. There's meteorological winter, the three months of December, January, and February. And then there is astronomical winter, which begins with the winter solstice on December 21 and ends with the spring solstice on March 21.

But however you want to think about "winter," the last week of January basically brings us over the proverbial hump for the 2025 winter season. December and January are in the rear view mirror with only the short month of February ahead. (If you prefer astronomical winter, we'll be very close to the mid-point between December 21-March 21 by the end of this week.)

Of course, as we all know, Ol' Man Winter doesn't always play by the rules -- or the calendar. The infamous Blizzard of '78 occurred in February, as did a number of other huge storms. The first week of March may bring out the colorful crocuses and snowdrops pushing through the ground in our garden, but just as often as not, they're peeking through a fresh few inches of snowfall.

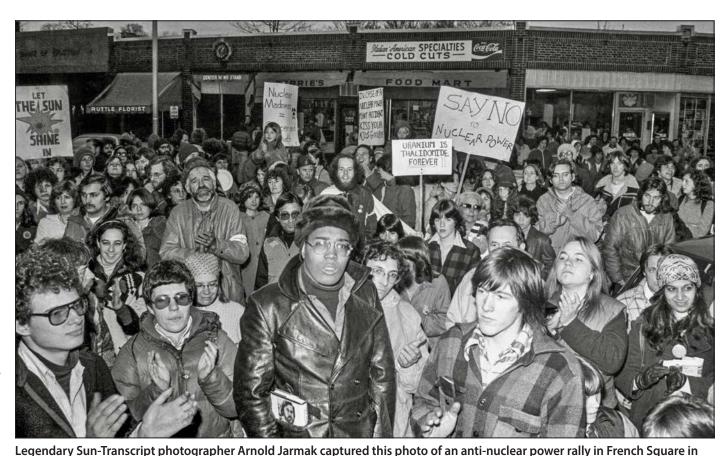
But what is undeniable, however you prefer to measure the seasons, and regardless of what Ol' Man Winter has in store for us, the days are now getting noticeably longer. There will be 10 hours and five minutes of daylight on February 1, compared to just the nine hours and eight minutes that we had on December 21.

In addition, when we take our walks and go for our runs, the sun's warmth is becoming noticeably stronger every day. And even if we get some snow, it typically disappears much faster in February and March than in January thanks to the strength of the sun.

So yes, after our colder-than-normal January, as far as we are concerned, spring can't come soon enough!

Forum

FROM THE ARCHIVES — WINTHROP CENTRE IN THE 70s



Winthrop Centre in the late 1970s in the wake of the Three Mile Island disaster, an event that all but ended the construction of new nuclear power plants in the U.S. Ironically, what's old is new again and nuclear power is making a comeback thanks to the growing demands of electrification and the need for clean energy. In the center of the photo in the background is shown the original location of Terrie's Italian Food Mart, a Winthrop institution that was operated by the Abbatessa family, whose store evoked a classic Italian salumeria from the North End. The Abbatessas relocated their business to the opposite side of the Centre at 67 Woodside Ave. and eventually sold it to Winthrop resident Jim Letterie, who has operated Letterie's Italian Market for the past quarter of a century, both continuing the tradition of Terrie's and establishing his own devoted following. Letterie has announced the closing of his store at the end of this week, marking the end of an era for generations of Winthrop residents.

LETTER to the Editor

ON THE FIRE **STATION**

Dear Editor,

Our two fire station buildings are outdated, inefficient, unhealthy, and past their prime. Winthrop sandwiched between two major entities: Massachusetts Water Resources Authority [MWRA] and Logan Airport. Winthrop firefighters need the safest, most efficient, and most effective work environment to perform their jobs as first responders. We are responsible and obligated to provide our firefighters with a physically healthy work environment free of mold, asbestos, and other dangerous toxins. Winthrop's two existing fire station buildings were constructed in 1880 and 1905. Many towns and cities across the commonwealth have replaced their fire station buildings with new ones and their existing firehouses are not nearly as ancient and outdated as Winthrop's.

We cannot "fix up" our existing fire station buildings. It has been explained countless times why these buildings are no longer viable for public safety use and must be replaced by a centrally located firehouse. Every Winthrop resident who is a registered voter needs to tour both fire station buildings and see the conditions our firefighters are being exposed to. In my opinion, the conditions are beyond deplorable. I am surprised we have not lost some Winthrop firefighters to other communities that provide better, safer, and healthier working conditions. There is a cost to providing first responders with the tools they need to protect our community from potential fire, and many other types of emergencies that may occur. A safe work environment is one of those costs. Let us accept that and move forward.

The conversations have always been focused on location and cost, and not necessarily the well-being of our first responders. There are many health hazards firefighters are exposed to at the fire station buildings. That's factual. We cannot ignore it any longer. There is no way to 'band-aid' our current situation to make it workable. It is not an option. Our only way out is to take on the debt exclusion and build a new fire station. This issue of a new fire station has been on the docket for a long time. It is not a new issue for the Winthrop community. It has been jockeyed through various town council leadership(s) for years. And here we are in 2025

still trying to slay the dragon on this issue. The dragon is now breathing fire and the only way to extinguish this fire is to build a new fire station, which comes with a price tag we must deal with.

Our first responders deserve far better than they have had to deal with. Our community deserves better. I challenge every resident with the power of their vote to tour both fire station buildings, look our first responders in the face, and tell them the conditions are fine. Come spring, when it is time to step up at the ballot box on this issue, I implore you to vote in favor of the debt exclusion and let us get this done. Let us prove to our first responders that we care about them and value their contribution to this community.

Scott Mahoney-Wright Precinct 3 / Point Shirley

Override // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

If the \$3.5 million passed but not the \$1.45 million for the stabilization account, it would fund a level-services budget for FY26, but the schools would continue to have anticipated budget shortfalls in future years.

"What I would say to the voters is that we need the whole \$4.9 million, and putting a bandaid on it is not a solution to the problem, it's just a quick fix," said Town Councilor Rob DeMarco.

Powell said there are no absolute numbers at this point, but she said that if the override fails, there would be staff layoffs and increases in class size since there would be no other way to close the budget gap.

Councilor John DaRos said supporting the override is an investment in the whole town, and not just the school department.

Howard noted that while many communities go for school overrides every five to seven years, there has not been one in Winthrop for close to 16 years.

The superintendent noted that if the schools do not have the money for a lev- represent a large percentage el-services budget for FY26, the cuts would need to come cause there are other fixed

of the school budget and befrom staffing, since salaries costs that cannot be cut.

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DIRECTORY

President

Stephen Quigley; stephen.quigley@reverejournal.com **Marketing Director**

> Deb DiGregorio; deb@reverejournal.com Assistant Marketing Directors

Maureen DiBella; mdibella@winthroptranscript.com

Legal Advertising

Ellen Bertino; ebertino@eastietimes.com

Ad Design

Kane DiMasso-Scott

Managing Editor

Cary Shuman; cary@lynnjournal.com Copy Editing, Layout

Kane DiMasso-Scott. Scott Yates

Business Accounts Executive Judy Russi; judy.russi@eastietimes.com

Printer Gannett

Office Phone Number: 781-485-0588

Group. Text or attachments emailed to editor@reverejournal.com are preferred.

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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 **January 30, 2015**

The Blizzard of 2015 dumped 27 inches of snow in Boston this past week, wreaking havoc on travel and closing schools for two

Town Council President Peter Gill has announced that he will not be seeking re-election to the post he has held for the past four years, bringing to a conclusion what arguably has been one of the most productive and positive eras in town history. Winthrop's finances have stabilized, a new middle-high school is under construction, business development in town is advancing by leaps and bounds, and Winthrop looks better than ever. In addition, many residents believe that Gill's most valuable contribution to town government over the past four years is the positive tone and high degree of civility with which he led the Town Council.

Winthrop's State Senator, Anthony Petruccelli, was elevated to Majority Whip last Thursday by Senate President Stanley Rosenberg (D-Amherst), the same position that catapulted former State Senator Robert Travaglini to the Senate Presidency in 2003.

Taken 3 and Selma are playing at the Revere Showcase Cinemas.

20 years ago **February 3, 2005**

Winthrop Fire Chief Larry Powers said he is pleased that the Winthrop Fire Department ranked sixth in the Boston Metro area and 26th in the state for responding to structural fires in six minutes or less.

Police Chief David Goldstein reported this week that the police department responded to 9976 calls in 2004, continuing an upward trend over the past few years. However, arrests decreased from 344 in 2003 to 323 in 2004.

Area authorities are investigating an ATM fraud ring that has penetrated the ATM accounts of thousands of area residents and which has been stealing thousands of dollars from individuals' bank accounts.

Are We There Yet?, Coach Carter, and Hotel Rwanda are playing at the Revere Showcase Cinemas.

30 years ago **February 9, 1995**

The Personnel Board will hear seven grievances that have been filed by police officers concerning overtime pay, work shifts, and detail assignments. Some officers have asserted that they have been targeted because of their union activities. Sgt. Robert Diaz, secretary-treasurer of the local union, said, "The past 18 months have been hell." The new set of grievances brings to 17 the number that have been brought in the past 12

Billy Madison and The Brady Bunch Movie are playing at the Revere Showcase Cinemas.

40 years ago **February 13, 1985**

Local residents are mobilizing for a formal hearing to be held by the federal EPA at Memorial Auditorium February 28 to voice their opposition to the consideration of Deer Island as the site of a new primary or secondary sewage treatment plant for Boston Harbor. More than 200 local residents were on hand for an informational meeting sponsored by the Elks this past week that was attended

by many state and federal

officials.

Police reported that they towed 41 cars during last week's snowstorm pursuant to the snow emergency by-

Paul Dawson has announced his candidacy for the post of Town Clerk that is being vacated by longtime clerk John Clark.

A community advisory group has recommended to School Supt. Peter Finn that harsh penalties be meted out to students who are in violation of the drug and alcohol laws on school property.

The Killing Fields, Heavenly Bodies and A Passage to India are playing at the Revere Showcase Cinemas.

50 years ago February 12, 1975

The Special Town Meeting adopted all but one of the Advisory Committee's recommendations Monday night and approved \$136,470 in transfers of funds for town departments that already have run out of money for the current fiscal year.

Massport Chairman James B. Fay, speaking this week at the Winthrop Women's Club meeting at the Masonic Hall, said that a citizens advisory group should be formed in Winthrop to offer input into Massport's Master Plan study for Logan Airport.

The Workingmen's Cooperative Bank has completed its expansion project for its offices in Winthrop Center.

The State Tax Commissioner has ordered the town to comply with the recent State Supreme Judicial Court decision that orders all cities and towns in the state to assess real estate at 100 percent of valuation.

Two men are being sought for the armed holdup of the 7-11 store on Revere St. last week.

Winthrop resident E. Arthur King has announced his retirement after 29 years of service with the Harvard Trust Co.

Burt Reynolds stars in The Longest Yard at the Kincade Theatre.

60 years ago

February 11, 1965 The selectmen have expressed their unanimous consent in urging that the legislature permit the repeal of the 1911 Tenement House Act which the board says is outdated and outmoded for present-day Winthrop. Repeal of the act will allow for the construction in town of modern apartment dwellings that will bring in badly-needed tax revenue and provide for affordable housing for the town's se-

nior citizens. After a hearing at the State House, state officials conceded that they will be unable to do anything about the odors emanating from the mudflats at low tide in the Winthrop Inner Harbor until 1966. The odor, which is so strong it peels the paint off homes in the neighborhoods around the inner harbor, has been plaguing the town for the past six years.

Former Mass. Senate President John E. Powers, who now is the Clerk of the Supreme Judicial Court for Suffolk County, told an audience of 250 persons at the Temple Tifereth Israel of his recent trip to Israel.

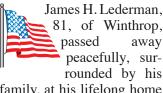
Dr. and Mrs. Nathan Caplan will be the co-chairmen f the 1965 Winthrop Heart Fund drive.

James Darren and Pamela Tiffin star in The Lively Set at the Winthrop Theatre.

70 years ago **February 10, 1955** Alert work by rookie

James Lederman

Winthrop Transcript Sports Writer and Voice of the Vikings



family, at his lifelong home on January 21, 2025.

Jim was born in Boston to Samuel and Mae Lederman on April 14, 1943. He was the youngest of three boys and loved and greatly admired his older brothers, the late Edward and late Alan.

A proud Winthrop High ,Class of 1960 graduate, he attended the University of Rhode island and served in the National Guard.

He is survived by his beloved wife of nearly 60 years, Carol Ann (Pike, of Melrose) who he met when they were both enjoying an evening out with friends at the Lewis Dance Hall on old Revere Beach. Jim is survived by his two loving daughters - Elizabeth Gardner (Roessler, of Portsmouth, NH) and Sarah Lauren (Lederman and her life partner, Michael Savage, of Dover, New Hampshire.

"Papa" adored his granddaughter, Jamie Lee (named in his honor) and grandson, Michael, currently Corporal Scali in the United States Marine Corps, 1st Battalion, 11th Marine Regiment, stationed at Camp Pendleton in San Diego, California. "Uncle Jimmy" delighted in his visits on holidays, birthdays with his wonderful nieces and nephews, who all looked forward to the amazing meals and warm home created and decorated by his one-and-only Carol.

He enjoyed a long career traveling throughout New England as a sales manager of office equipment to small businesses, schools and libraries. He especially loved exploring the main streets and backroads, learning and sharing with all the best driving shortcuts, hidden gems for lunch and, of course, ice cream spots in each town he visited.

Jim was well-known to many as the legendary "Voice of The Vikings" and a sportswriter for the Winthrop Sun Transcript. He loved "calling the games" for decades as the public address announcer for WHS Football home games at Miller Field. He phoned in weekly "tips" to The Globe and Herald to alert writers to great high school athletes in all sports in town that sometimes led to All-Scholastic and Boston newspaper write ups and created awareness



to colleges. Fundraising and event-planning for reunions and tributes brought him great joy for many years.

Jim was dedicated and loyal to all things "Winthrop-By-The-Sea" and was often found kibbitzing with friends at iconic hometown spots such as Samuel's and later Brown's, over a lime rickey or frappe.

Papa was a passionate ocean lover: daily summertime "quick dips" with his girls immediately after work at nearby Rocky Beach, many family daytrips up north to Good Harbor and Wingaersheek, visiting family and dear friends in Marblehead and Swampscott, and many years of special Ogunquit trips to Meadowmere with "Jamie Lee and Mikey." He firmly believed that salt water and sunshine cured all that ailed, as his dear mother Mae, aka

"Nina", would always say! For many years, Jim, Carol and their girls savored year-round getaways to Grammy and Grampy Pike's place in Waterville Valley, NH - skiing in the winter, swimming and playing tennis and more in fall, summer and spring. The Topsfield Fair and North Shore farmstands were also seasonal musts.

The Ledermans are forever grateful for the decades of extraordinary friendships and loving community of their neighbors surrounding "211" in the Highlands.

His love of cats, (very) early morning cover-to-cover readings of The Globe, Herald and local and national news and all Boston sports commentary with his wife and best friend, Carol, and the world's best checkin phone calls and comedic voicemails will be deeply missed.

Family and friends are cordially invited to attend the visitation from the Caggiano-O'Maley-Frazier Funeral Home, Winthrop on Sunday, February 2, 2025 from 4 to 7 p.m.

To sign the online guestbook, go to www.caggianofuneralhome.com.

Winthrop police officer William Furey and patrolman Arthur Floyd resulted in the spectacular arrest at gunpoint of an escapee from Deer Island in the doorway of Walter's Cleansing Shop on Shirley St.

Winthrop Boy Scouts are observing their 45th anniversary this week.

Harry Botsford has been installed as the sixth President of the Pt. Shirley Associates.

Secretary of State Edward J. Cronin said that Massachusetts recorded the largest number of births in the state's history in 1954.

Marilyn Monroe, Ethel Merman, and Donald O'Connor star in There's No Business Like Show Business at the Winthrop Theatre.

80 years ago **February 8, 1945**

Officials of the Winthrop Elks Club announced at this week's Rotary Club meeting that they are forming plans for the creation of a Winthrop Youth Foundation to meet the needs of Winthrop youth.

Winthrop resident Frederick I. Crocker has taken exception to a state official's suggestion that the surplus funds accumulated during the war years in cities and towns be used for public improvement projects when the troops return home. Crocker believes that the money, which amounts to \$235,000 in Winthrop, should be returned to taxpayers by reducing the tax rate.

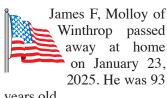
The Boston Elevated Railway has announced plans to expand its train service to Revere Beach and has purchased land along Belle Isle Inlet for the purpose of a new car house.

Donald O'Connor stars in Bowery to Broadway at the Winthrop and State The-

OBITUARIES

James F. Molloy

Past Knights of Columbus Grand Knight



Born in Winthrop, he was the beloved son of the late Clara (Gould) and George G. Molloy. A resident of Winthrop for over 62 years, he enlisted in the US Army during the Korean War reaching the rank of corporal. After his honorable discharge, he went on to work as a configuration manager for the Department of Defense. He also was a member of the Knights of Columbus where he was a past Grand Knight.

He was the devoted husband of the late Lorraine G. (Purcell) and the loving father of Sharon O'Donoghue and her husband, Michael of Lexington, Karen Letch and her husband, Richard of East Boston and Kathleen Thistle and her husband. Ken of Braintree; cherished grandfather of Ashley and Daniel.

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The funeral service was held in the Caggiano-O'Maley-Frazier Funeral Home, Winthrop on Wednesday, January 29, 2025. Services concluded with military honors in the Belle Isle section of Winthrop.

To sign the online guestbook, go to www.caggianofuneralhome.com.

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To place a memoriam in the Winthrop Transcript, please call 781-485-0588



Collective Soul

Eli Tennen celebrates his bar mitzvah, generously gives back to Winthrop in town project

By Cary Shuman

In November, Eli Tennen celebrated his bar mitzvah, which is a tremendous honor in the Jewish religion that signifies a boy entering adulthood on his 13th birthday.

Tennen was joined on the day of his bar mitzvah by his proud parents, Eric and Leah, his older brother, Lev, his grandparents, Raquel Tennen, Susan Hart, and Macy Hart, other family members, and several Winthrop Middle School mates during a wonderful Sabbath at Temple Emmanuel in Chelsea.

"It felt good to be bar mitzvahed," said Eli, who delivered a flawless chant of the haftarah after being trained by Rabbi Scott Segal for the momentous ceremony. "The bar mitzvah was really fun."

Launching a fund to help others in town

Inspired by his bar mitzvah honor and a love of all sports, Eli Tennen started a community service project, "Everybody Deserves to Play" that was designed to help others participate in local sports and recreational programs.

"I've played multiple sports for a long time, and it's one of my main characteristics and helps identify who I am," explained Eli. "I just thought about what my life would be without sports, and with all the lessons I've learned, all the friends and memories that I've made, it would be crazy without them. So, I thought about people who don't have this opportunity. I wanted to do something to help."

That, he did. And it's been an amazing success story for the seventh grader.

Eli's project helps defray expenses for families wishing to enroll their children in Winthrop Parks and Recreation programs.

"I went to the Fall Fair in October and the Thanksgiving football game and raised a lot of money," he said.



Eli Tennen enjoys the company of his classmates and friends at his bar mitzvah Nov. 9 at Temple Emmanuel in Chelsea.

"And then meeting with people, relatives, and just asking for donations and advertising online - so many people have stepped up and helped me."

All told, Eli Tennen has raised more than \$3,500 todate for the "Everybody Deserves To Play" Fund.

Driscoll hails youth's contribution to Rec program

Parks and Recreation Director Sean Driscoll summed up Eli Tennen's benevolent act of community service, stating, "He did a good thing."

"Eli decided to raise funds for people who were facing financial challenges," said Driscoll. "With the honor of being bar mitzvahed, Eric didn't want anyone to go without, and with the fees being raised through the years, he took it upon himself to create a fund for others who want to participate in our program. The fund gives us a little bit of an option when a financial need arises."

"Eli has been in our afterschool program and basketball and flag football programs," noted Driscoll. "He and his brother, Lev, are great kids and they both have big hearts."

Eli plays Winthrop town and middle school basketball and was a third baseman and outfielder for the Winthrop Little League 'A' Division champion Marlins. He also plays in the Winthrop Youth Football program.

Asked if he considers himself a multi-versatile athlete, Eli replied humbly, "I like to say that."

"We try," added his father, Eric.

Enjoying the Town of Winthrop

Eric Tennen said the family has lived in Winthrop for 11 years, having relocated from East Boston.

An excellent student, Eli attended the Gorman and Cummings Schools and is now attending Winthrop Middle School. At the Cummings School, he learned to appreciate the athletic achievements of Jillian Dempsey, a professional women's hockey player.

"It was sort of interesting

being next to her, because she was a such a famous athlete, but she was also a teacher," related Eli.

His favorite pro favorite athlete is Shaquille O'Neal.

"I like the way he gives to charity," said Eli about the 7-foot-1-inch NBA Hall of Famer who is now a television broadcaster. "When I was in fifth grade, I did a poster-board project, and I chose Shaquille O'Neal as the subject."

Through all the success he's enjoyed and a bar mitz-vah celebration that he will treasure forever, Eli Tennen said he's appreciative of his parents' positive influence on his life and their day-to-day inspiration and support.

"They definitely helped me a lot and I'm thankful," said Eli.



Eli Tennen is pictured on the basketball court representing Winthrop.

News Briefs // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

To be named to the Dean's List, Lasell students must complete at least 12 credits as a full-time student and acheive a semester GPA of 3.5 or higher.

STUDENTS NAMED TO CURRY COLLEGE DEAN'S LIST

Curry College congratulates over 800 students who were named to the Fall 2024 Dean's List.

Colin Jordison Peter Jurovich Olivia Skomro

Curry College, founded in Boston in 1879, is a private, co-educational, liberal arts-based institution located on 131 acres in Milton, Massachusetts. The College extends its educational programs to a continuing education branch campus in Plymouth. The College offers 24 undergraduate majors in specialized and liberal arts programs, as well as graduate degrees in accounting, business, education, criminal justice, and nursing to a combined enrollment of nearly 2,500 students. The student body consists of 1,700 traditional students and nearly 800 continuing education and graduate students. The College offers a wide array of co-curricular activities ranging from 16 NCAA Division III athletic teams to an outstanding theatre and fine arts program. Visit us

on the web at www.curry.

LEBRON NAMED TO SNHU DEAN'S LIST

Maria Lebron of Winthrop has been named to Southern New Hampshire University's Fall 2024 Dean's List. The fall terms run from September to December.

Full-time undergraduate students who have earned a minimum grade-point average of 3.500 to 3.699 for the reporting term are named to the Dean's List. Full-time status is achieved by earning 12 credits over each 16-week term or paired 8-week terms grouped in fall, winter/spring, and summer.





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Sports

Demetri Koutsouflakis selected to Boston Globe All-Scholastic Team

By Cary Shuman

Demetrius Koutsouflakis of Winthrop, a running back and linebacker for the St. Mary's High School football team, was selected to the 2024 Boston Globe All-Scholastic Team.

"It's an amazing accomplishment and a lot of hard work went into it this season and in the offseason" said Koutsouflakis. "I give big thanks to my offensive linemen. They blocked really hard for me all season. This was a group effort and a group award. It's not just myself. It [being an All-Scholastic] was one of my goals before the season, and I got it."

Koutsouflakis, whose nickname is DK ("Everybody calls me that," he noted) undisputedly posted numbers that were worthy of earning one of the state's most prestigious individual awards.

5-foot-10-inch, 195-pound senior. Koutsouflakis rushed for close to 1,200 yards and scored 12 touchdowns while leading the Spartans to 9-2 record and a playoff berth. His longest touchdown run of the season was 68 yards. On defense at linebacker, DK had 56 tackles, three forced fumbles and one interception for a touchdown.

Koutsouflakis was also named the Catholic Central League Offensive MVP, a Daily Item All-Star, and a Division 6 All-State Honorable Mention. He has been nominated to play in the Shriners All-Star Game and the Harry Agganis All-Star Classic.

A big welcome at his new school

Koutsouflakis began his high school football career at Catholic Memorial and played two seasons at Winthrop High School before deciding to transfer to St. Mary's of Lynn.

"I appreciate Coach Sean [Driscoll] and Coach Dylan [Driscoll] and the coaching staff for bringing me into the program," said Koutsouflakis. "The school welcomed with me open arms – everyone, from teammates to classmates, to teachers and coaches. It felt like family. It felt like home. St. Mary's is a a great school, a great place. I'm very thankful that I'll graduate from

One other Winthrop resident, Jack Hurley, was an All-Conference player for the Spartans.

"We commute [to St. Mary's] together, every morning," said Koutsouflakis.

Coach Driscoll lauds DK on his All-Scholastic honor

St. Mary's head coach Sean Driscoll of Winthrop said that Koutsouflakis was "a very good addition to our program."

"DK had a nice year," said Driscoll. "He's doing great in school academically. UMass/Dartmouth likes him a lot. He'd be a great fit there because they run the option and he'd be a good fullback in that offense."

Driscoll said DK worked hard in the offseason to prepare for his final season and the dedication paid off with a prolific senior year.

"He's a big kid who's worked hard at the game the last couple of years," said Driscoll. "We were happy to have him in our program and we're excited about his success."

A tradition of athletic excellence

Koutsouflakis is carrying on a family tradition rich in athletic achievement. DK's father, John Kuntz, played professional basketball in Greece for 11 years. His first cousin, Christian Kuntz, an All-American linebacker at Duquesne, plays for the NFL's Pittsburgh Steelers as their long snapper.

Another cousin, Tasso Sfanos, is a 6-foot-2-inch



Demetri Koutsouflakis holds off a defender in a game this season.

See KOUTSOUFLAKIS Page 10

WHS SPORTS ROUNDUP

WHS BOYS HOCKEY **DEFEATS** MARBLEHEAD, NOW ALONE ATOP **NEC**

The Winthrop High boys hockey team earned a pair of big victories this past week over Northeastern Conference (NEC) North Division rivals Danvers and Marblehead to remain undefeated and in sole possession of first place in the NEC North with a 6-0 record.

Coach Dale Dunbar's Vikings traveled to Endicott College in Beverly last Wednesday to take on Danvers at Ray Bourque Arena and skated home with a 3-1 triumph.

Junior forward Nick Romano got Winthrop off to a quick lead with a goal in the opening period, assisted by senior Jay Fotiades. The Falcons took advantage of some Viking penalties in the middle frame to knot matters at 1-1, but the Vikings were the ones who came out flying to start the third peri-

Sophomore Joe Pumphret, assisted by junior Tomas Babine, lit the lamp for the eventual game-winner and senior captain Mike Holgersen, assisted by Fotiades, slid home an empty-netter to seal the deal.

That set the stage for a classic battle for first place this past Saturday when Winthrop hosted Marblehead, which entered the contest tied with the Vikings atop the NEC North with a 5-0 league mark, before a standing-room-only crowd of fans (including many from Marblehead) at Larsen Rink.

Both teams came out on fire, but their up-and-down, physical play ended with the score deadlocked at 0-0 after one period.

Winthrop appeared to have the momentum in the middle period, carrying the play at both ends, but proved unable to dent the Marblehead net thanks to some fine play by the Magi-

cian goaltender. Marblehead closed out the period by taking advantage of a Winthrop penalty and scored on the power play (with under 30 seconds left on the penalty) to take a 1-0 advantage heading into the final period.

But the Vikings remained undaunted and came out of the locker room after the break on a mission. Sophomore Pumphret, assisted by senior captain Phil Boncore and Fotiades, brought the game back to level, igniting the boisterous Viking fandom. Minutes later, Boncore found the back of the Magicians' net, assisted by Pumphret and Dom Spinale, to give Winthrop its first lead of the game to the delight of the Winthrop partisans in attendance.

At that point, the vaunted offense of the Magicians, the defending Division 3 state champs who entered the game ranked at #4 in D-3 the MIAA's power rankings, was stymied by a staunch Viking defense, led by senior Aiden Survilas, and backstopped by senior captain Mike Donahue, the returning NEC all-conference netminder, who made big save-after-save in the Winthrop net to deny the Magicians the game-tying tally.

Boncore then put the game away with his second goal, assisted by asst. captain Luke Githinji and Babine, for the 3-1 finale.

Winthrop, which now stands at 9-4 overall on the season and is ranked #5 in D-4, will host NEC North rival Gloucester this Saturday for a 3:00 opening faceoff at Larsen. The Vikings then will trek to Salem State University (SSU) next Wednesday (February 5) for a rematch with Marblehead at 7:30. A large contingent of Winthrop fans is expected to make the trek to SSU's Rockett Arena to root on their Vikings.

WHS GIRLS HOOP **HOSTS MASCO** TONIGHT

The Winthrop High girls basketball team is scheduled to host NEC North foe Masconomet this evening (Thursday) and NEC South opponent Salem on Tuesday, with both of those contests tipping off at 6:30 on the Chris Tsiotos Court at Winthrop High.

Coach Anthony Hatzisavas and his Lady Viking crew had been ranked at #30 in the MIAA's Division 4 power rankings as of last Friday, a rating that would have guaranteed them a spot in the post-season state tournament. However, they have fallen to #34 as of this Tuesday after coming up

See ROUNDUP Page 10

Grocery

Makesi



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| tortellini-pasta ready) | 4/÷5.00 |
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| Green Giant Baby Carrots 1 lb pkg | .2/ \$3 .00 |
| Fresh Cello Wrapped Sno-White Cauliflower | \$ 2.99 |
| Fresh & Tasty Grape Tomatoes pint pkg | .2/\$5.00 |
| | |
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| Deli. | |
|-------------------------------------|------------------|
| Smithfield Domestic Cooked Ham | ≑5.99/ lb |
| Finlandia Imported Swiss Cheese | ≑7.99/ lb |
| Kretshmar Rotisserie Chicken Breast | |
| Carando Genoa Salami | ≑8.99/ lb |
| Kayem Natural Casing Franks | ≑7.99/ lb |
| | |

| | "Meat Cut Fresh Every Da | ay" |
|---|--|-------------------|
| 1 | Bottom Round Pot Roast | ≑6.49/ IŁ |
| (| Grade A Boneless Skinless Chicken Thighs | ≑2.99/ 1₺ |
| (| Grade A Chicken Tenders | ≑2.99 lb |
| 1 | Boneless Center Cut Pork Chops | . ≑3.49 lb |
| I | Kayem Bacon 12 oz pkg | ÷6.99 |
| 4 | Al Fresco Chicken Sausage | 2/÷9.00 |
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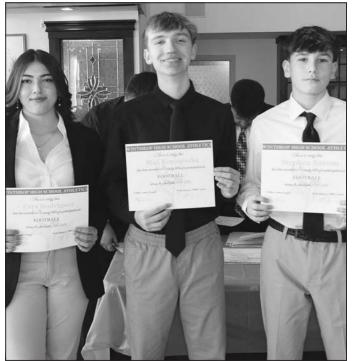
35 REVERE ST., WINTHROP ● (617) 846-6880 WWW.WINTHROPMKTPLACE.COM Store Hours: Mon-Sat 8am-8pm; Sun: 8am-7pm Not responsible for typographical errors. We have the right to limit quantities.

THE WINTHROP LODGE OF ELKS HOSTS WHS VIKING BLUE AND GOLD AWARDS BRUNCH



Winthrop Lodge of Elks Exalted Ruler Richard Kennedy accepts a signed football from Head Coach of the Vikings Jon Cadigan, and Vikings players, Phil Boncore, Gabe Grein, Will Murphy, Nick Cappuccio, Matt Noonan, and Matt Reardon.

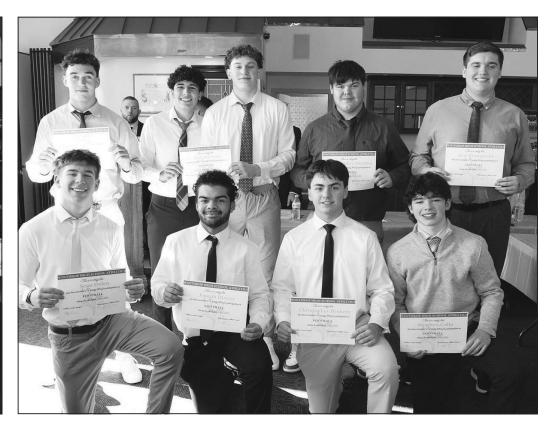
The WHS Vikings football team held its annual awards banquet on Sunday, Jan. 19 at the Lodge of Elks Hall.



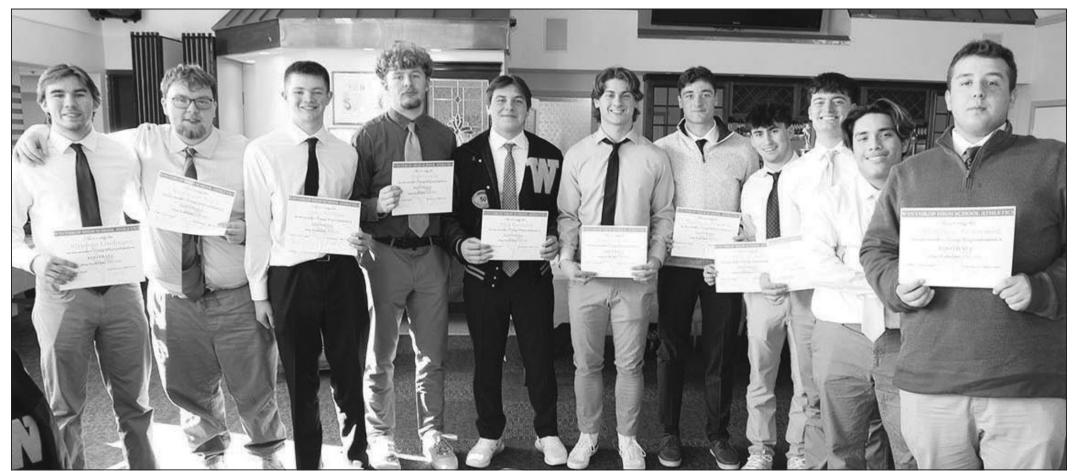
WHS Viking Freshmen.



WHS Vikings Sophomores.



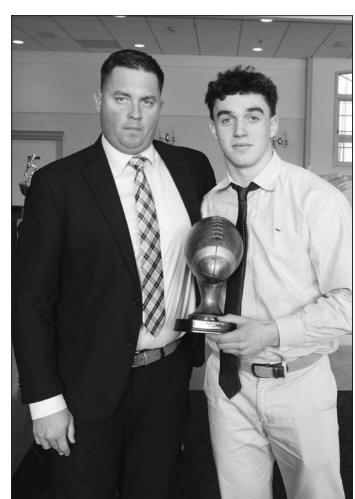
WHS Vikings Juniors.



WHS Vikings Seniors.



The Paul Frazier Scout Player of the Year went to, Desmond Cassidy, Nathan Previte, Manny Zapata, Dominic Spinale, and Jeremy Pena, presented by Coaches Vinny Sparacino and Nick McCarthy.



Coach Alex Smith presented the William Rutherford Thanksgiving Day MVP to Seth Sacco.

THE WINTHROP LODGE OF ELKS HOSTS WHS VIKING BLUE AND GOLD AWARDS BRUNCH



WHS Viking All-Stars and All Conference, Nick Romano, Nick Cappuccio, Phil Boncore, Matt Noonan, Matt Reardon, Sean Dolen, Seth Sacco, Gabe Grein, and Will Murphy.



The Thomas D'Ambrosio Unsung Hero Award/Scholarship presented by Coach Mark D'Ambrosio to Matt Reardon.



Coach Mark D'Ambrosio presented the Anthony "Lefty" Defelice Award to Matthew Noonan.



Coach Chris Ferrara presented Matthew Reardon and Gabe Grein the Dan Govoni Lineman of the Year Award.



The Curtis Cramb Offensive Player of the Year went to Seth Sacco and Matthew Reardon, presented by Coach Mark D'Ambrosio.



The WHS Viking High Honor Roll Student Athletes.



The Peter Caggiano Winthrop Youth Football Award presented by Coach Mark D'Ambrosio to Matt Reardon and Phil Boncore.



Phil Boncore was presented the Dr. Robert Harney Defensive Player of the Year Award by Coach Derek Brodin.



Sean Dolen was presented the Edward McFarland Scholar Athlete Award by Coach Nick McCarthy.



The Anthony Fucillo/ Irving P Alexander Award presented to Nick Cappuccio by Head Coach Jon Cadigan.

Winthrop Senior **Center News**

35 Harvard Street, Winthrop, MA 02152 Hours: Mon-Thurs: 8:30am-3:30p.m. / Friday: 8:30am-1p.m. Phone: 617-846-8538 Website: www.town.winthrop.ma.us Email: COAReception@town.winthrop.ma.us

A full list of the activities, programs, trips, and services offered at the Senior Center can be found in our newsletter, which is available at the Senior Center and on our website.

Monday, February 3

9:00am-3:00pm: Computer Usage

10:00am-11:00am: Yoga with Trish (\$5)

11:00am: Grab & Go Lunch Pick-Up

11:30am-2:30pm: Game Day / Mahjong

Tuesday, February 4

9:00am-3:00pm: Computer Usage 9:30am-10:30am: Exer-

cise Class (\$1) 10:00am: Bowling at the Winthrop Elks (\$15 annu-

 $11:00 \,\mathrm{am} - 12:00 \,\mathrm{pm}$: **Blood Pressures**

11:00am-12:00pm: Exercise for Arthritis 11:00am: Grab & Go

Lunch Pick-Up 12:30pm-2:30pm:

Class with Dawn (\$6)

Wednesday, February 5

9:00am-3:00pm: puter Usage 9:15am-10:15am: Yoga

with Trish (\$5) 10:00am-12:00pm: Bereavement & Caregiver Support Group

10:30am-11:30am: Zumba with Cindy (\$5)

11:00am: Grab & Go Lunch Pick-Up

11:45am-12:45pm: Chi / Qi Gong (\$5) 12:30pm-2:30pm: Char-

ie Card Workshop 1:00pm-2:00pm: Legal Aid Q & A

1:15pm-2:45pm: Italian

Class

Thursday, February 6

9:00am-3:00pm: Computer Usage 9;00am-3:00pm: Medical

pedicures 9:30am-10:30am: Exercise Class (\$5)

10:30am-1:30pm: Hearing Screenings

10:30am-12:00pm: Red 10:30am-11:30am: Seaside Tappers (\$5)

12:00pm-12:30pm: Dine-In / Grab & Go Lunch Pick-

12:45pm-3:00pm: Bingo

Friday, February 7

9:00am-12:00pm: Computer Usage 9:00am-10:00am: Yoga

with Trish (\$5) 10:00am-11:00am: Line Dancing (\$5)

11:00am-12:00pm: All Around New England Trip

11:00am: Grab & Go Lunch Pick-Up

11:30am-12:30pm: Journaling Workshop



Senior Lunch Program:

The Senior Center offers in-person dining on Thursdays from 12-12:30pm. Grab and Go Lunches are also available for pick up Monday - Friday between 11am and 1pm. To reserve a lunch, please stop by the front desk or call the Senior Center at 617-846-8538 by 11am the day before (for Monday lunch, reservations must be made by 11am on Friday). Menus are available on our website and at the Senior Center. Please note, lunches cannot be held overnight; they must be picked up on the day that they were requested for.

Senior Van. The Senior Van runs Monday - Thursday from 8:45am-3pm and Fridays 8:45am-12:15pm. Reservations are on a first come, first served basis, and can be made by calling the Senior Center at least two weekdays prior to the desired date. Rides to medical appointments will be prioritized. A list of destinations and pricing is available on our website and in our newsletter.

Senior Van Schedule **Updates:** Beginning in February, the Senior Van will run on Fridays from 8:45am to 12:15pm. Rides will be limited to Winthrop, Revere and East Boston destinations only. Return trips must be completed by 12:15pm.

Senior Van Shopping Schedule (beginning February 1, 2025) Mondays: Market Basket

Chelsea at 8:45am

Tuesdays: Market Basket

Revere at 8:45am Wednesdays: Stop & Shop/Target at 12:30pm

Thursdays: Stop & Shop/ Target at 8:45am

Fridays: Market Basket Revere at 8:45am

Rides may be booked up to 2 weeks in advance but must be scheduled at least 2 weekdays in advance by calling the Senior Center at 617-846-8538. A full list of destinations/pricing is available in our newsletter and online at www.winthropma. gov/council-aging.

Talia Martucci gets it done in Winthrop's in 3-2 OT win over Winchester

By Cary Shuman

The flu big hit the Winthrop High School girls hockey team last week, but Coach Butch Martucci's determined crew battled through it and eked out a 3-2 victory over Winchester Saturday at the O'Brien Rink in Woburn.

"It was a real battle because our whole team is fighting the flu," said Martucci, whose team improved its record to 8-2-1.

Talia Martucci, who's having a banner season as she marches up the alltime scoring charts, netted the game-winning goal just more than a minute into the five-minute overtime. Talia had missed four practices during the week, but when the puck dropped on Saturday, Talia was game-ready, contributing two goals and an assist.

"Talia was able to play on Saturday and gave us whatever she had, and luck-

ily it was enough to get us through," said her father, Butch Martucci.

Winthrop took a 2-0 lead into the third period on goals by Tegan Pereira and Talia Martucci.

But Winchester, a perennial powerhouse, scored goals late in the third period, the latter tally coming with 3.3 seconds left in regulation after pulling their goaltender.

Martucci ensured a triumphant bus ride home with the breakaway game-winner. Junior goaltender Riley Towse started the sequence with a save. Senior captain Amelia Spencer cleared the puck along the boards, and Martucci outskated two defenders to get to the net and deposit the puck.

"Winchester's a very good team," said Butch Martucci. "Their record (5-6-2) may not indicate that, but it's only because they play such a tough schedule. It was a good battle all the

way. Our girls played well."

Martucci credited Towse for another sterling effort in net. Towse made 16 saves, including the key one in overtime that ultimately launched Talia Martucci onto to breakaway land.

Winthrop (8-2-1) was set to take the ice at Larsen Rink Wednesday for a "championship banner implications" game versus main rival Peabody.

The Division 1 field of prospective MIAA tournament teams looks well-balanced, with only one school (No. 1-ranked Hingham) standing with a completely unblemished record (13-0-

Couture piling up the assists

Junior first-line center Chloe Couture had an assist in the Winchester game and leads the team with 13 for the season. "She's a great

faceoff person," said Coach Martucci. "In fact, she won a faceoff and got the puck to Talia for a goal. Chloe is flying all over the ice. She's been huge for us all season."

Second-line center Reese Ferrara has five assists while seeking her first goal of the season. "Reese has given the team so much. I just wish she had a couple of goals and a couple of more assists to show for all the hard work she's doing," said Martucci.

Moving Up

Talia Martucci has 13 goals and eight assists for 21 points. With 121 career points, the senior sensation is in line to surpass Julia Holmes (126) on Winthrop's all-time list of scor-

Martucci has emerged as one of the state's premier players and a definitive All-Scholastic candidate this season.

Koutsouflakis // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 7

guard for the Division 2 University of South Carolina Beaufort men's basketball team.

DK said he is extremely proud of his Greek heritage. "It's a big part of my life. My whole family is Greek, and I speak Greek fluently."

DK credited the support of his parents, John and Carol Kuntz, for being instrumental in his success.

"My dad played a big role in my athletic career, said DK. "He taught me to always work hard and own

my decisions. Yes, we had some disagreements along the way, but in the end, it really paid off, and I appreciate him very much for that."

Looking ahead to college football

Koutsouflakis is totally immersed in the college application and recruiting process. He has been in correspondence with Duquesne University in Pittsburgh, UMass Amherst, Endicott College in Beverly, St. Anselm, Assumption, UMass Dartmouth, and other Division 3 schools in Massachusetts. He has visited the Duquesne and Endicott campuses.

Koutsouflakis said his likely field of college studies, which is architecture, will have an influence on his decision. Endicott has an acclaimed five-year program in Architecture that would produce bachelor's and master's degrees.

"Architecture is something that I've been interested in my whole life," said

Koutsouflakis. "I can draw well, and I really like mathematics and science."

Endicott's football program is on the rise, having been a Top 10 nationally ranked team and advanced to the second round of the NCAA Division III playoffs this past season.

Koutsouflakis said he will be competing in the St. Mary's outdoor track program, specializing in the javelin event.

Roundup // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 7

short at non-league opponent Hamilton-Wenham and Northeastern Conference foes Marblehead, Swampscott, and Saugus in recent contests.

After the two home contests, the Winthrop girls, who stand at 4-10 on the season, will make the long trek to NEC South rival Gloucester next Thursday.

WHS GYMNASTICS TEAM EDGED BY BEVERLY BY 0.20

The Winthrop High gymnastics team hosted its first tri-meet of the season, entertaining rivals Peabody and Beverly at the Winthrop Gymnastics Academy.

The Vikings anticipated a close match with Beverly (Peabody is amidst a rebuilding of its program and brought only six competitors) and the match played out as expected, with the visiting Panthers prevailing by the narrowest of margins (two-tenths of a point to be precise), 130.95-130.75.

The contest started out with Beverly on the balance beam and Winthrop on the uneven parallel bars. Senior Sara Jurovich hit her routine, scoring a season-high 7.5, tying her with teammate Callie Anderson. Eighth-grader Gaby Ilie scored a 7.3. Macy Werstak performed a good routine, scoring a 7.9. Senior Isabella Rice hit her highest score of the season, an 8.8. Last up for Winthrop was junior all-around Zoe Rey, who scored an 8.9, her best score of the year.

The Vikings' fine performances after the first event left Winthrop with a 33.1-31.0 lead.

Beverly then switched to the uneven bars and Winthrop went to the balance beam. Charlotte Zarba opened for the Vikings, scoring a 7.2. Gaby Ilie and Callie Anderson tied with a 7.3. Isabella Rice and Zoe Rey scored 7.8 and 7.9 respectively. Senior Julia Hurley, still working her way back from a cheerleading injury, hit her routine for an 8.25, good for second place.

However, after

events, Beverly now held a slim advantage, 67.64-

Winthrop next headed to the vault and Beverly to the mat for the floor exercise. Mackenzie Lynch did her handspring vault, scoring an 7.85. Sara Jurovich followed with an 8.1. Zoe Rey stuck her second vault, earning an 8.4, Zoe's highest score of the season. Brooklyn Banfield hit her first vault, scoring an 8.2. Isabella Rice hit her first flipping vault, scoring her highest tally yet with an 8.8. Last up was Macy Werstak, who hit her handspring, full-twist, scoring an 8.9.

When the scores were totaled after the three events, the teams were deadlocked at 98.65.

Winthrop's last event was the floor exercise, with Beverly competing on vault. Sara Jurovich started the Vikings off with her new routine,"pumpkins," scoring a season high of 7.3. Brooklyn Banfield received a 7.6 with no major breaks. Callie Anderson, Julia Hurley, and

Zoe Rey all tied with an 8.0. Isabella Rice earned Winthrop's highest score with an 8.1, which was good for second place.

The final tally showed the Panthers prevailing by just 0.20 of a point, 130.95-130.75.

Winthrop will be back in action tomorrow (Friday) evening at 7:00 with another home match at the Winthrop Gymnastics Academy.

TWO FOR THE ROAD FOR WHS BOYS **HOOP**

The Winthrop High boys basketball team will be on the road this coming week, traveling to Northeastern North opponent Masconomet this evening (Thursday) and making the long trek to NEC South opponent Salem next Tuesday.

Coach Quinton Dale and his crew will return home next Friday (Feb. 7) when they will host NEC South rival Gloucester for a 7:00 opening tip on the Chris Tsiotos Floor at the WHS gym.

LEGAL NOTICES

LEGAL NOTICE OF MASSACHUSETTS THE TRIAL COURT PROBATE AND **FAMILY COURT** Suffolk Probate and Family Court 24 New Chardon St. Boston, MA 02114 (617)788-8300 CITATION ON PETITION FOR ORDER OF COMPLETE

SETTLEMENT

Docket No. SU18P0252EA Estate of: Thomas A. McNiff, Jr. 11/27/2017

Date of Death: A Petition for Order of Complete Settlement has been filed by Richard J. Rodes of Winthrop, MA requesting that the court enter a formal Decree of Complete Settlement including the allowance of a final account. Determine

and approve the distri-

bution as proposed and other such relief as may be requested in the Petition. IMPORTANT NOTICE

You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 02/19/2025. This is NOT a hearing date. but a deadline by which

you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an Affidavit of Objections within thirty (30) days of the return date, action may be taken without further notice to you. WITNESS, Hon. Brian J. Dunn, First Justice of this

Date: January 22, 2025

Register of Probate

Stephanie L. Everett, Esq.,

Court.

LEGAL NOTICE



COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS LAND COURT DEPARTMENT OF THE TRIAL COURT Docket No.

and to all persons entitled to the benefit of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act, 50 U.S.C. c. 50 § 3901 (et seq) NewRez LLC d/b/a Shellpoint Mortgage Servicina claiming to have an interest in a Mortgage covering real property in Winthrop, numbered 212 W Shore Drive a/k/a 212 Winthrop

Shore Drive, Unit No. 3 of

the Sunrise Condominium

24 SM 003329

ORDER OF NOTICE

TO: Paul J. Dinan

to "MERS", Mortgage **Electronic Registration** Systems, Inc., a separate corporation that is acting solely as nominee for Citibank, N.A., "Lender"; its successors and assigns dated March 21, 2013, and recorded in the Suffolk County Registry of Deeds in Book 51201, Page 8, and now held by Plaintiff by assignment, has/have filed with this court a complaint for determination of

Defendant's/Defendants'

given by Paul J. Dinan

If you now are, or recently have been, in the active military service of the United States of America, then you may be entitled to the benefits of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act. If you object to a foreclosure of the above-mentioned property on that basis, then you or your attorney must file a written appearance and answer in this court at Three Pemberton Square, Boston, MA 02108 on

Servicemembers status.

opportunity to challenge the foreclosure on the ground of noncompliance with the Act. Witness, Gordon H. Piper, Chief Justice of this Court on 1/16/2025 Attest: Deborah J. Patterson

or before 02/24/2025

or you may lose the

Winthrop man charged with OUI after allegedly crashing into police cruiser

By Transcript Staff

A Winthrop man was arrested and charged with operating under the influence, among other charges, after he allegedly crashed into a police cruiser on Wednesday, Jan. 22.

Joseph Clemens, 22, was arrested and charged with operating under the influ-

violation, speeding, negligent operation of a motor vehicle, and possession of open containers of alcohol in a motor vehicle.

Police Chief John Goodwin reports that Winthrop Police arrested and charged a man with operating under the influence among other charges after he crashed into

ence of liquor, marked lanes a police cruiser Wednesday night.

On Wednesday, Jan. 22, at about 5:44 p.m., a Winthrop police officer operating in a marked police cruiser was traveling southeast on Veterans Road, was struck head-on by a Ram 1500 pickup truck traveling northwest, according to Police Chief John Goodwin.

An initial investigation determined that the pickup truck had completely crossed the marked center lines and was driving on the wrong side of the road at the time of the crash, according to police.

The officer who was operating the cruiser was transported to an area hospital for treatment of injuries believed to be non-life-threatening.

The operator of the pickup truck, identified as Clemens, was evaluated by EMS crews on-scene. He sustained no injuries as a result of the crash.

Both vehicles sustained significant front-end body damage and were towed from the scene.

A subsequent investigation determined that Clemens was operating under the influence, according to

police Clemens was arrested without incident and ar-

raigned in East Boston Dis-

trict Court.



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EBCCS hosts Young Authors' Presentation

Photos & Story by Marianne Salza

East Boston Central Catholic School (EBCCS) began their two-day-long Young Authors' Presentation on January 27 in celebration of Catholic Schools Week. The display featured hardcover books written and illustrated by students, from early education through 8th grade.

Teachers worked closely with little ones during library class and after school programming to help inspire stories and develop students' literary and writing skills; while older students independently produced original works, including mysteries and comedies.

"With the older children, it's a writing process," said Roberta Casaletto, Library Teacher. "When I look at these stories and I read them, it brings tears. I want to give every one of them an award. They're unbelievable."

Casaletto is amazed at the outstanding creativity and illustrations of her students, and encouraged children to share positive reviews of their classmates' pieces on a poster board. She appreciates that visiting families not only took the time to admire their children's books, but that they also read other students' projects.

"I've seen parents crying looking at their children's books," shared Casaletto. "They come up to me and say that they can't believe that their child is an artist and has this imagination. That's rewarding."



Beth and her daughter, Evelyn, recipient of a "Young Authors Award" for her book, "The Newborn Star."



Alexia, 10-years-old, holding her book, "The Scientist of the World," with her mother,



Fifth grade students writing positive book reviews.



Mrs. Casaletto, Library Teacher, with two fifthgrade students holding their books.



Three fifth grade students looking at books created by first graders.



Two fifth graders reading a sixth-grade student's book.



Sharon Rozzi, fifth-grade teacher, with two of

Governor Healey signs cat declaw ban into law

Special to the Journal

On January 9, Governor Maura Healey signed An Act Prohibiting Inhumane Feline Declawing (S.2552) into law. The law bans cat declawing in Massachusetts, except in rare situations of medical necessity, such as a cancer in the nail bed or other conditions that jeopardize the cat's health. Cat declawing is an invasive surgical operation that is akin to amputating the last knuckle of a human finger. Declawing can cause lifelong medical issues for cats, including permanent disability, nerve damage, chronic back pain,

countless cats in the Com- ban cruel and unnecessary monwealth from a painful cat declawing. Our humane procedure an owner is like-

and lameness.

and unnecessary surgical procedure that is typically performed for human convenience rather than the cat's well-being," said Animal Legal Defense Fund Senior Legislative Affairs Manager Stephanie Harris. "Massachusetts joins other states that have effective declaw bans, alongside the many local laws that have been passed in cities of all sizes. We hope to build on this momentum in 2025 as we continue to advocate for cat declaw bills nationwide, including in neighboring Rhode Island."

"As a leader in animal protection, Rhode Island should follow the precedent "This law will protect already set in our state and

state already prohibits landlords from requiring tenants' cats to be declawed, and passing this bill is the next logical step," said Rep. William O'Brien (D-Dist. 54). "It's time for Rhode Island to join Massachusetts, New York, and Maryland in protecting cats from this unnecessary cruelty."

"Declawing is an abhorrent practice that most veterinarians view as inhumane, but it is also a procedure that is widely misunderstood and requested by owners," said Sen. Mark Montigny (D-Second Bristol and Plymouth). "By passing this law, veterinarians will no longer have to weigh the choice knowing that if they don't provide the ly to just look for someone who will. This is another step in my commitment to protect animals in the Commonwealth."

"Cats' claws are integral to their natural behaviors, including stretching and playing," said Senate bill sponsor Sen. Melissa Murray (D-Dist. 24). "Declawing is an amputation surgery with serious and often lifelong consequences. Declawed cats often become fear biters and carpet wetters, putting them at greater risk for surrender or abandonment; many suffer from crippling arthritis in old age. Declawing has no place in our society. I appreciate my colleagues' support for the Declaw Bill in 2025."

The declaw bill passed on the last day of the two-year legislative session, capping off a successful session for animals in Massachusetts that included the passage of laws protecting wild animals used in circuses, dogs entrusted to daycare or boarding facilities, puppies and kittens too young to be separated from their mothers, as well as human and animal victims trapped in violent situations using coercive control.

In June 2024, the Animal Legal Defense Legislative revealing 70 percent of veterinary professionals oppose cat declawing. The poll also found that half of the veterinarians interviewed reported that their practice does not perform any declawing procedures due to policy or no veterinarians willing to perform the procedure.

Besides Massachusetts,

currently New York and Maryland have banned the procedure, as well as jurisdictions including Los Angeles, San Francisco, Pittsburgh, Madison, West Hollywood, Austin, Denver, Beverly Hills, Berkeley, and Washington, D.C. Virginia has also banned the procedure with limited exemptions.







mdibella@winthroptranscript.com.to-reserve.your.spc