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SUN  TRANSCRIPT

50 CENTS

**THURSDAY,
March 13, 2025**

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INDEPENDENT



Newspaper Group

READ ACROSS WINTHROP!



GFB teachers (left to right) Bonnie Albert, Taylor Monson, and Jen Alioto shown with their class celebrating Read Across America this past week. See more photos on Page 6.

Ice Ages

Winthrop makes historic return to Garden

By Cary Shuman

Playing at a championship-caliber level on what has been an incredible post-season run, the Winthrop High School boys hockey team has advanced to the Division 4 state championship Sunday at 9 a.m. at the TD Garden.

Coach Dale Dunbar's Vikings moved to history's doorstep with thorough, end-to-end victories over No. 4-seed Littleton (4-0) and No. 1-seed Stoneham (5-1).

Only a red-hot and senior-led Dedham High team stands in the way of Winthrop High School capturing the school's first state

title since the 1976 season (see related story on Dedham).

Senior goaltender Michael Donahue's performances are a major factor in the team still playing hockey in mid-March.

"Michael's is seeing it right now – he's dialed in, and he's focused, that's what you want obviously from your goaltender at this time of year," said Dunbar.

Winthrop's offense clicks in nine-goal outburst

Senior captain Phil Boncore had two goals for the Vikings, the first on an assist by linemate Joe Pumphret, and the second on an assist by Paul Ferrara, as

See HOCKEY Page 7

Updated fire station project website goes live

By Adam Swift

The town's website with information on the proposed \$38.5 million fire station at the old middle school site on Pauline Street is active and has been updated with new information on the project.

Voters will be asked to approve a Proposition 2-½ debt exclusion for the project during a special election

on Saturday, April 5. Polls will be open from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. for the election, which will also include two override questions regarding the school budget.

The website is winthrop-firestation.com, and there is also a link to the site on the town's website.

The website provides information on the background, rationale, considerations, and community

involvement related to the project. There is information about the condition of the town's two existing fire stations, plans for the new building, and the financial impact of the override on homeowners.

"The website is completely up and running now," said Fire Chief Scott Wiley. "The numbers are

See FIRE STATION Page 3

Fire chief addresses town evacuation plan

By Adam Swift

Fire Chief Scott Wiley addressed some questions about the town's emergency evacuation plan at last week's town council meeting.

"There were questions as to whether or not we have an evacuation plan," said Wiley, adding that he has been asked by some people in town if one is in place.

The chief said the emergency evacuation plan has been in place for 12 years and is updated every five years. Because of the sensitive nature of the plan, Wiley said the entire plan is not made public.

However, Wiley did hit upon some of the highlights and major themes of the plan at the council meeting. "We talked about the 72

hours people should be prepared to shelter in place," said Wiley. "This comes up multiple times in this document. Strategy one will be to shelter in place. It is the fastest protective action to employ; it's less costly and disruptive and it's preferable in poor weather conditions."

Sheltering in place is not safe in all hazards, Wiley added, and is a short-term protection depending on the resources available.

While the document recommends sheltering in place in many circumstances, Wiley said the town does have the ability to move people within the town when an emergency or disaster strikes.

Moving people from one part of the town to another is far more likely to happen

than evacuating tens of thousands of people from the town entirely, Wiley said.

"It is extremely unlikely that that would ever happen ... but moving people from point A to point B, from an incident in the Highlands to a shelter at the Cummings School ... from Point Shirley due to a storm to the Cummings School is possible," said the chief. "The thought that we would evacuate tens of thousands of people at any time is extremely unlikely."

Wiley noted that he also met recently with the chief of Boston's emergency management department and that they are both looking to bring in more agencies for a larger meeting regarding evacuation and emergency management plans for the region.

FIRST CHURCH OF WINTHROP ST. PATRICK'S DAY DINNER



Volunteers Valerie and Cullen Millar serve up corned beef and boiled vegetables during the United First Methodist Church's St. Patrick's Day dinner held on March 8. See more photos on Page 9.

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Sen. Edwards named Chair of the Joint Committee on the Judiciary

Special to the Journal

Third Suffolk District – March 10th, 2025 – State Senator Lydia Edwards (D-East Boston) was named Chair of the Joint Committee on the Judiciary for the 194th Massachusetts Legislative Session. As Chair, Senator Edwards will also lead one of the most critical joint committees in the state legislature. The committee formerly handles all matters concerning crimes, penalties and sentencing, criminal offender record information, judiciary, including the recall of judges, the salaries of judges, court clerks and court officers of the various courts, probation officers, juries and jury duty, parole, registers of deeds. However, many



State Sen. Lydia Edwards.

of the constitutional issues, reproductive rights, civil rights, the UCC, gun rights have also been referred to the committee.

“I am grateful to Senate President, Karen Spilka for appointing me to this important role,” said Senator Edwards. “The Judiciary Committee plays an important role in drafting policies

that affect the lives of every resident in our Commonwealth. As chair, I am committed to advancing justice, equity, and fairness in our legal system, and ensuring that the voices of all communities are heard as we continue to move forward”

The Joint Committee on the Judiciary reviews a wide range of issues including criminal law, civil rights, family law, and judicial appointments. Senator Edwards, before getting elected to the Boston City Council in 2017, has advocated for criminal justice reform, racial justice, immigrant rights, and policies that strengthen the rule of law while ensuring equal treatment for all residents of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

SEN. EDWARDS INTRODUCES CONG. MARKEY AT TOWN HALL EVENT



On Saturday, March 8, at Malden High School, Sen. Ed Markey held a town hall event. More than 1,000 people showed up (above left) to hear Markey. Sen. Lydia Edwards (above right) was honored to introduce Markey to the stage. Edwards said, “At a time when chaos and dysfunction dominate the highest levels of government, we need steady, experienced leaders who fight for justice, equity, and working families. Senator Markey has always been that leader—standing up for our communities, protecting our rights, and delivering real results for our communities. I am grateful for his commitment to Massachusetts and proud to stand with him in this fight!”



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: COARception@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, March 17

- 9:00am-3:00am: Computer Usage
- 10:00am-11:30am: Representative Turco Office Hours
- 10:00am-11:00am: Yoga with Trish (\$5)
- 11:00am: Grab \$ Go Lunch Pick-Up
- 11:30am-2:30pm: Game Day/Mahjong

Tuesday, March 18

- 9:00am-3:00pm: Computer Usage
- 9:30am-10:30am: Exercise Class (\$1)
- 11:00am - 12:00pm: Blood Pressures
- 11:00am: Grab & Go Lunch Pick
- 12:30pm-2:30pm: Art Class with Dawn (\$6)
- 1:00pm-2:00pm: Winthrop Police Senior Partnership

Wednesday, March 19

- 9:00am-3:00pm: Computer Usage
- 9:15am-10:15am: Yoga with Trish (\$5)
- 10:00am-12:00pm: Bereavement & Caregiver Support Group
- 10:00am-12:00pm: Low Vision Support Group
- 10:30am-11:30am: Zumba with Cindy (\$5)
- 11:00am: Grab & Go Lunch Pick-Up
- 11:45am-12:45pm: Balance & Strength Training with Cindy (\$5)
- 12:30am-2:30pm: Charlie Card Workshop

1:15pm-2:45pm: Italian Class

Thursday, March 20

- 9:00am-3:00pm: Computer Usage
- 9:30am-10:30am: Exercise Class (\$1)
- 10:30am-11:30am: Coffee & Conversation
- 10:30am-11:30am: Seaside Tappers (\$5)
- 12:00pm-12:30pm: Dine-In / Grab & Go Lunch Pick-Up
- 12:45pm-3:00pm: Bingo

Friday, March 21

- 9:00am-12:00pm: Computer Usage
- 9:00am-10:00am: Yoga with Trish (\$5)
- 10:00am-11:00am: Line Dancing (\$5)
- 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.

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Eastern MA and Big Sister Association of Greater Boston unite

Special to the Transcript

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Eastern Massachusetts (BBBSEM) and Big Sister Association of Greater Boston (BSAGB) are merging to expand access to one-to-one youth mentoring programs and resources for hundreds of children, families, and volunteer mentors across the region. The announcement comes after months of strategic planning in which the co-affiliates have agreed to operate as one organization under the BBBSEM umbrella.

“Our innovative approach to youth mentoring, and ability to scale across 150 communities throughout Eastern Massachusetts enables us to play a vital role in the youth development landscape,” says Mark O’Donnell, BBBSEM President & CEO. “The merger with Big Sister Association of Greater Boston will help us to expand girls’ programming outside of Boston and help to further our collective impact across the region to ensure young people have consistent access to mentorship.”

As part of the merger, BBBSEM will maintain BSAGB partnerships and programs, which will give BBBSEM an opportunity to learn, grow, and evolve gender-specific programming. The entire BBBS community – the mentors, mentees, and their guardians – will continue to be professionally supported by BBBS staff members with access to resources and shared-best practices to continue best in class gender-specific programming, curriculum, and match support. By creating a stronger, unified voice for mentorship in the region, youth will gain access to a variety of support and recruitment of volunteers and partners to the mission will broaden. BBBSEM is committed to building a gender-inclusive community where mentorship is accessible so all youth and families can thrive. To date, one part-time and six full-time staff members from BSAGB have joined the BBBSEM team and nearly 300 BSAGB community-based matches and over 80 site-based matches have transitioned their mentoring relationships to be support-

ed by BBBSEM.

Since 1951, Big Sister Association of Greater Boston has delivered a range of programming to support girls and young women across 69 cities and towns of Greater Boston. Through one-to-one and group mentoring, school- and site-based programs, group and near-peer mentoring, and its New Girls Network, BSAGB has been a leader in gender-intentional mentoring, fostering a supportive community for thousands of girls and gender-fluid youth over the past seven decades.

“Both organizations share a deep commitment to empowering youth through the transformative power of mentoring and I am excited about this merger which represents a significant step forward in achieving this shared vision,” says Annissa Essaibi George, Big Sister President & CEO. “Big Sister has a long, nationally recognized, legacy of serving girls and young women in the Greater Boston area. The merger with Big Brothers Big Sisters of Eastern Massachusetts will lead to expanded gender-intentional programming and a strengthening of the power of that sisterhood to more female-identifying youth. By working together, we will create a brighter future for more young people in Greater Boston, equipping them with the tools and confidence to reach their full potential.”

In its 75th year of service, BBBSEM stands at its highest point as the second largest Big Brother Big Sister affiliate in the country, behind only the nonprofit covering the entire state of Texas. This year, the organization is supporting nearly

4,000 youth, over 50 percent of whom identify as female. In the past seven decades, BBBSEM has created and served more than 25,000 matches.

BBBSEM is now enrolling and matching Littles and Bigs. The organization welcomes Bigs and Littles of all races, ethnicities, cultures, socio-economic backgrounds, genders, sexual orientations, and physical abilities. For more information, to donate, or to become a volunteer or register your child, visit: www.emassbigs.org.

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Eastern Massachusetts is an innovative, energetic organization that is making a real difference in the lives of nearly 4,000 youth annually by providing them with an invested, caring adult mentor in long-term, professionally supported relationships. With research and proven outcomes at its core, Big Brothers Big Sisters of Eastern Massachusetts is working to defend the potential of children facing adversity and ensure every child has the support from caring adults that they need for healthy development and success in life. The organization’s vision is to inspire, engage and transform communities in Eastern Massachusetts by helping youth achieve their full potential, contributing to healthier families, better schools, more confident futures and stronger communities. Throughout its 75 years, the largest Big Brothers Big Sisters affiliate in New England has created and served more than 25,000 youth. For more information about the agency and its mission, visit www.emassbigs.org.

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Chief Wiley gives update on regional dispatch center

By Adam Swift

Fire Chief Scott Wiley provided an update on Chelsea joining Winthrop and Revere in the Metro North Regional Emergency Communications Center (MNRECC) at last week's town council meeting.

Wiley talked about the background of Winthrop's history with the MNRECC, current training for dispatcher and call-takers, how Chelsea joining will impact the center, and some concerns that have been raised by residents.

"In 2017, we entered into the Metro North Regional Emergency Regional Communications Center with Revere police and fire and Winthrop police and fire," said Wiley. "The RECC is located at the Revere Police Department headquarters on Revere Beach Parkway. When it was built, it was not meant to be a permanent location for them."

Winthrop is currently as-

essed \$440,000 per year to be a member of the MNRECC and Revere is assessed about \$1.6 million, based on the call volume per community.

The RECC is overseen by a board of directors, which Wiley currently chairs. The board also includes the Winthrop police chief and town manager as well as the Revere mayor, police chief, and fire chief and one rotating member.

Several weeks ago, the Chelsea City Council voted unanimously to join the MNRECC alongside Winthrop and Revere.

"It's approximately a two-year project, and there will be a major rehabilitation of the McKinley School in Revere that will be paid for completely by the state and grant money," said Wiley, adding the total cost of the project will be around \$15 million.

Once Chelsea is onboard, staffing will increase from five to six dispatchers and

call-takers on duty per shift to nine dispatchers and call-takers at night and 10 during the day.

"One of the issues brought up in public comment last week was an issue that happened approximately five years ago on a call when a dispatcher or call-taker was not familiar with some of the landmarks in Winthrop," said Wiley. "Since that time, we have gone through a couple different iterations of both the board of directors and executive directors of the RECC. About 18 months ago we brought Whitney Morgan in as the executive director of the RECC ... and since she came aboard, there has been a big turnover in the direction of the RECC; it is much more professional and it is really a well-run organization."

One of the things the RECC has implemented in its training sessions, the fire chief said, is that dispatchers must know the

communities they serve to ensure rapid and accurate dispatches. To achieve that goal, either the executive or deputy director takes new dispatchers through the area to familiarize them with key locations.

"Dispatchers must be able to recognize areas, like for Winthrop, the Five Sisters, the Landing, and the Kilmartin Path ... immediately to avoid delays in emergency response," said Wiley.

Another positive change over the past several years is that all calls from cell-phones in the region now immediately go to the Revere dispatch center, and not to the state police center in Framingham as it did years ago.

Wiley added that having Chelsea onboard with additional personnel in the dispatch center should improve safety for the communities.

"I can't see how anyone can say 10 dispatchers in

a room isn't better or safer than having six dispatchers or four dispatchers," he said. "It increases the numbers and they are all capable of jumping on each other's calls. If a major incident is happening in Chelsea and nothing is happening in Winthrop, they are able to help the Chelsea people take control of the phone calls and dispatches; they are all able to work with each other."

Censure // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

all accurate, the interactive finance page is accurate. If anybody hasn't been to it, it will tell you exactly ... there is a link to the assessor's page, you can type in your address and it will tell you your exact assessed value.

"Plug in your exact assessed value, and it will tell you not only what your annual cost for the project will be, but your quarterly cost for the project," the chief continued. "It goes on to give you an update on the debt exclusions that are coming off the rolls in the future during the lifetime of this debt exclusion."

Wiley said there is also a tab on the website for anyone who has questions about the project.

"Somebody on the firehouse committee will get back to you right away,"

said Wiley.

Anyone who wants to host an informational coffee hour on the project can also request that through the website, he added.

There are currently two coffee hours that are on the schedule and will be open to the public, Wiley said. One is this Thursday, March 13 at 6 p.m. in the function room at Seal Harbor 3. The second is on Tuesday, March 25 at 1 p.m. at the senior center.

At Monday's firehouse building committee meeting, Town Council President Jim Letterie reviewed the details of the question residents will be asked to consider during the special election on Saturday, April 5.

"It's a \$38.5 million debt exclusion that we're ask-

ing for," said Letterie. "The thought is to pay this off in 25 years instead of 30, like it's a typical home mortgage, and the savings to the town by doing that is roughly \$8.4 million."

The average assessed value of a home in Winthrop today is \$697,305.

"Based on that property, this cost would be roughly \$495 a year, roughly \$135 a tax bill, a quarter," Letterie said. "This would not start, the full impact of this, that \$135 a tax quarter, would not kick in until Jan. 1 of 2028. There would be some early anticipated (bonds) that would go out ... to pay for demolition and such, but the full borrowing would not take effect until fiscal 28."

CPYC Spring Open House set for March 23

Special to the Transcript

Mark your spring calendar! March may still be chilly but summer's coming. Cottage Park Yacht Club's 2025 Open House is scheduled for Sunday, March 23 from 1 to 4 pm.

Come in and meet members, ask questions about membership, get a tour, and find out about all that's going on at CPYC. Our family-friendly club offers summer outside and on the water through adult sailing lessons, a kayak and sailboat loan program, casual Thursday evening cruises, youth sailing, loads of events, dining in the Pilot-



CPYC kids sailing as part of the summer program in 2022.

house and gathering with friends at the Sunset Bar.

If you're a boat owner, CPYC has launch service and immediate openings in its mooring fields, as well as space for member kayaks on its dock racks, and wet and dry dinghy storage.

The afternoon Open House will feature music by John and Lori Wadkins, a sampling of appetizers from our kitchen, and cash bar. It will also feature door prizes and tours for potential new members.

Come check out the gym and the renewed marina, and see what CPYC is all about. For more information, our website is www.cpyc.org or email membership@cpyc.org



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Winthrop

SUN TRANSCRIPT

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OUR Opinions

PLEASE: NO PUBLIC OR UNDERAGE DRINKING ON ST. PATRICK'S DAY

With the St. Patrick's Day holiday and traditional South Boston parade approaching on Sunday, March 16, we urge our public safety officials to plan for enforcing the laws which prohibit drinking in public, especially by underage drinkers.

A couple of years ago in the aftermath of the South Boston parade, we found ourselves in the unfortunate situation of riding the Red Line to the South Shore. The trains were packed with highly-inebriated, rowdy, under-age drinkers who were drinking openly on the trains and then flinging their empties around the train cars, striking other passengers. The platforms resembled war zones, with large-scale fights and scores of youths who were passed out left-and-right.

We realize that everyone wants to relax and have a good time on St. Patrick's Day, but that is no excuse for our public safety officials turning a blind eye to underage drinking and drinking in public. In addition, for those of us of Irish descent, the perception that being "Irish for a day" means drinking heavily is highly-insulting.

It is all-but-inevitable that with the high degree of public intoxication that is tacitly permitted by our public safety officials, there will be a tragedy. We urge our public officials to take steps ahead of time to stop this annual reign of dangerous mass chaos and drunkenness.

If officials in many Florida communities have been able to curb the rowdiness of spring-breakers, we can do so here on St. Patrick's Day.

THERE'S AN UPSIDE TO OUR LOUSY PRO SPORTS TEAMS

When we were younger (from when we were kids through our 40s), the adrenaline rush from watching one of our local sports teams compete in a big game was something we looked forward to.

But now that we're a "bit" older, the thrill of it all has made us wary of getting too excited, as every long-time diehard Sox, Bruins, Pats, and Celtics fan who has had the urge to throw a shoe at the TV screen can attest.

We thought we were unique in our stressed-out sports-mindedness when our teams lost a big game, but we recently read of a study in the American Journal of Cardiology that found an increase in the rates of cardiovascular deaths (and deaths from all causes) in the Los Angeles area when the Rams lost to the Pittsburgh Steelers in the 1980 Super Bowl. The death rates were higher on the day of the Super Bowl and the following two weeks compared with other days.

In a study of the 2006 FIFA World Cup, the incidence of cardiac emergencies in Bavaria was 2.66 times higher on days when the German team played, according to a study in the New England Journal of Medicine. These events were highest in the quarterfinal, when Germany beat Argentina in a penalty shootout.

Most of the cardiac events occurred in the first two hours after the start of matches, though the numbers were higher for several hours before and after the contests. It should be noted that about 47% of those who had heart attacks already had been diagnosed with coronary artery disease -- which means older people are more vulnerable to the effects of a big game.

So yes, it's been sad to watch the pathetic play of the Sox and Pats (and now the Bruins) these past few years after their great successes in the era from 2001-2019. But the upside to their string of last-place finishes is that we can watch a game with no hopes and no expectations -- and thus no reason to get stressed-out by the outcome.

To be sure, it is not fun to be on the outside looking in, so to speak, when other teams are competing for world championships. But on the other hand, fewer of us will be taken out on a stretcher to the ER.

Forum



LETTERS to the Editor

CALLING ON OUR ELECTED REPRESENTATIVES

Dear editor,
I am writing as a resident of Winthrop, I'm calling on Representative Katherine Clark to do more to prioritize our health, climate, and future. This includes:

- Stopping efforts to repeal the Inflation Reduction Act's climate and clean energy policies that will put us on a path to cut climate pollution 40 percent by 2030, create 9 million jobs, and lower energy prices.
- Blocking the Trump administration and unelected billionaire Elon Musk from cutting vital government programs and staff to pay for tax cuts for the wealthy.
- Resisting attempts to eliminate various environmental protection laws.

As a concerned grandparent climate issues impact me greatly. We have heating and cooling with an HVAC system; a good discount through the Inflation Reduction Act enabled us to install it. I want everyone to be able to get this.

I urge Representative Clark to protect people in our community over corporate polluters!

Carol Walker SUPPORTS NEW FIREHOUSE

Dear Editor,
I am writing to voice my strong support for the proposed new firehouse to replace our current, outdated facility. Our firefighters are the backbone of our community, responding to emergencies at all hours to keep us safe. Yet, they are working out of a firehouse that is in an unacceptable condition—deteriorating, undersized, and lacking the modern infrastructure needed not only for an effective emergency response, but for the health and safety of our firefighters.

The dilapidated condition of the existing firehouse isn't just an inconvenience; it's a danger to both them and us. I have personally experienced the dedication of our local firefighters, and I have witnessed their

response to emergencies experienced by several of my neighbors as well. They show up, ready to help us in any and all situations. When we need them, we call them, and they come. Every time, without fail and without delay. Yet, when they ask us for help, as they did in 2023, we let them down. We turn our backs and let them know that their health and safety do not matter to us. It is disgraceful.

Despite their professionalism and speed, they are working under subpar conditions that hinder their ability to serve us at their best. The tax increase is a small price to pay for the safety of our families and the security of knowing that help will arrive as fast as possible when we need it most. Investing in a new firehouse is not just about improving a building—it's about ensuring that our community has the best possible emergency response when disaster strikes.

Let's stand by our firefighters the way they stand by us every day. Please join me in voting 'Yes' for the new firehouse on Saturday, April 5th. Put it on your calendar and make a plan to vote.

Tracey Honan
Precinct 5

VOTE YES ON BALLOT QUESTIONS

Dear Editor,
Our community has an important election coming up on April 5 (a Saturday). As JFK said, "ask not what your country can do for you, ask what you can do for your country". I implore the residents of Winthrop to invest in the future of our community by voting yes on all three ballot questions. This will support continued services for our students and prevent massive staffing cuts and program reductions. It will also support construction of a safe and appropriate fire house for the people who keep us safe in emergencies. Nothing exists in a vacuum; firefighters have children in our schools, and teachers who serve our

students benefit from the safety of the new station supporting our firefighters. When all our community's needs are met everyone in the community benefits. Please vote yes so that we can ensure a bright future for our town. investinwinthrop.com to find out more.

Cassie Witthaus
Precinct 6

WINTHROP SCHOOL COMMITTEE URGES COMMUNITY TO VOTE YES ON QUESTIONS 2 AND 3 TO SECURE THE FUTURE OF OUR SCHOOLS

Dear Editor,
The future of Winthrop's public schools is at a crossroads, and the upcoming town vote on April 5 presents a critical opportunity to protect the quality of education for many years to come. We, the Winthrop School Committee are urging residents to vote YES on Ballot Questions 2 and 3, which will provide essential funding to maintain staffing levels, preserve academic programs, and create financial stability for the district.

Why This Vote Matters
Winthrop Public Schools (WPS) faces a looming budget shortfall that threatens core educational services. Without additional funding, the district will be forced to make severe cuts that will negatively impact students, families, and the community. A YES vote on Questions 2 and 3 will ensure that WPS can continue providing a high-quality education, maintaining critical programs, and securing financial stability for future years.

Question 2: Maintaining Educational Excellence
A YES vote on Question 2 will provide \$3.5 million in critical funding for the Fiscal Year 2026 (FY26) operational budget, allowing the district to maintain current staffing, programs, and essential resources. Without this funding, WPS will face:

- The potential loss of up to two teacher positions

per grade (K-8), increasing class sizes from 20-22 students to 26-32 students.

- Cuts to Advanced Placement (AP) courses, special programs, and foreign language offerings.

- The elimination of up to 12 additional staff positions across the district.

- The potential loss of middle school athletics or steep increases in fees for participation.

- Reductions in instructional materials, technology, textbooks, and software licenses.

- Higher fees for after-school programs, clubs, and extracurricular activities.

As Superintendent Lisa Howard has shared over the course of the last year or so, this isn't about adding new programs—it's about preserving what we already have. Without this override, our students will experience larger class sizes, fewer opportunities, and a diminished educational experience.

Question 3: Ensuring Long-Term Financial Stability
A YES vote on Question 3 will establish a \$1.45 million School Stabilization Fund dedicated to future school expenses. Rising operational costs—such as health care (+9.5%) and utilities (+8.4%)—have placed a significant financial burden on WPS. This stabilization fund will help the district manage these increasing costs while allowing for strategic long-term planning.

A stabilization fund gives us the ability to plan ahead and avoid crisis budgeting. This is about ensuring that Winthrop's students receive the education they deserve.

What Does This Mean for Taxpayers? The cost of these measures is a reasonable investment in the town's future. Based on the averaged Winthrop assessed home value of \$697,309, the estimated quarterly costs are:

- Question 2: \$160
- Question 3: \$66

Communities that invest

See LETTERS Page 5

Independent Newspaper Group

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City of Chelsea announces 250th anniversary of the Battle of Chelsea Creek

Special to the Transcript

This Memorial Day Weekend, the Chelsea community and visitors from across the state can experience a once-in-a-lifetime celebration of the 250th Anniversary of the Battle of Chelsea Creek, the first naval battle of the American Revolution.

"The City of Chelsea is a grateful recipient of a MA250 grant that will directly fund a series of free, all-ages, community events centered around the Battle of Chelsea Creek over Memorial Day Weekend," said City Manager Fidel Maltez. "The Battle of Chelsea Creek is an often-overlooked chapter in our nation's history, and we're excited to use the State's support to deepen our community's understanding of this pivotal event. In collaboration with East Boston and partner organizations, we will present an exciting weekend of cultural programming, including the docking of a historic 1894 schooner, the SSV Ernestina-Morrissey, for the general public to board."

Jonathan Lane of Revolution 250 said it is inspiring to see these communities come together for such an important event as the 250th Anniversary of the Battle of Chelsea Creek.

"Though these communities' demographics have changed over the past 250 years, the ideals that the Provincial soldiers fought for—liberty, independence, and self-determination—remain a vibrant part of our lives," said Lane.

Genesis Pimentel, Commemoration Commission Manager, said the 250th anniversary of the Battle of Chelsea Creek is an opportunity to honor and illuminate a pivotal yet often overlooked chapter in our

nation's history,

"This commemoration allows us to reflect on the resilience and sacrifices of those who fought for our nation's independence while deepening our collective understanding of the Revolutionary War's impact on our region," said Pimentel. "We are proud to support efforts that bring history to life and celebrate the rich heritage of the Chelsea and East Boston communities."

The celebrations will take place in Chelsea and East Boston during the Memorial Day weekend, with a main celebration on Saturday, May 24, from 11:00 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Port Park, 99 Marginal St, Chelsea, that will offer an exciting lineup of historical programming and activities for all ages, including artillery demonstration, Revolutionary-Era Militia Encampment, food vendors, a beer garden, and more.

The SSV Ernestina-Morrissey, an 1894 schooner from the Massachusetts Maritime Academy, will be coming back to Chelsea's port after more than two decades for residents and visitors to explore as part of Saturday's events.

Simultaneously occurring with Saturday's Port Park festivities, Governor Bellingham-Cary House Museum will open its doors to the community for free Open Houses where everyone can explore this historical site with special access to the museum's exhibits and stories from Chelsea's past.

Additional festivities during the Memorial Day weekend include a 90-minute guided boat tour through Mill Creek and Boston bay provided by Boston Harbor Now, in partnership with National Park Services,

See CHELSEA CREEK Page 6

Letters // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

in education see long-term benefits, including higher home values, stronger local economies, and safer neighborhoods. By supporting this override, Winthrop residents will be investing in the future success of students and the overall well-being of the town. Our schools are more than just places of learning—they are the foundation of our community. If we don't act now, we risk seeing the quality of our education decline. This is a defining moment for Winthrop.

We encourage all residents to vote YES on Questions 2 and 3 on April 5. By approving these measures, the community can ensure that students continue to

receive a strong education, teachers have the resources they need, and the district remains financially stable in the years ahead.

For more information on the override and how it will impact Winthrop Public Schools, visit InvestInWinthrop.com. Together, we can secure a brighter future for Winthrop's children.

Sincerely,

The Winthrop School Committee
Jennifer Powell, Chair
Julie Barry, Vice-Chair
Jim Letterie, Town Council Chairman
Suzanne Leonard
Gus Martucci
Layne Petrie
Zachary Purinton

News Brief // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

responsibly, refrain from alcohol consumption and unruly behavior on the MBTA, secure personal belongings, and report suspicious activity. Bikes will not be allowed on the MBTA during the parade. The MBTA encourages riders to use their See Say App to discreetly report concerns.

The MBTA is emphasizing the importance of respecting public spaces and avoiding vandalism or disorderly conduct, which can create safety hazards and divert resources. They urge riders to follow staff instructions and seek medical attention when needed. The MBTA leadership, in-

cluding Transportation Secretary Monica Tibbits-Nutt and General Manager Philip Eng, highlight the commitment to ensuring a safe and enjoyable experience for all.

For detailed service information and safety tips, riders can visit mbta.com/StPatricksDay or follow the MBTA on social media. The MBTA, in collaboration with Keolis Commuter Services, aims to provide reliable and efficient transportation for all parade attendees, encouraging everyone to leave their cars at home and utilize public transit.

OBITUARIES

Anna (Ann) Belmonte

Full of love, laughter and resilience, she touched the lives of all who knew her

Anna (Ann) M. (Visco) Belmonte of Winthrop passed away comfortably at her home on March 6th, in her 95th year, surrounded by her family.

She was the loving wife of the late Aldo Belmonte, a role she cherished deeply. Ann was the devoted mother of Steven Belmonte and his wife, Eliane, Anita Belmonte and the late Robert Durante, Dianne Belmonte and her partner, Peter Hebert and loving grandmother of Stella DeAlbuquerque-Montalvao, all of Winthrop. She was predeceased by her beloved parents, Filomeno and Assunta Visco, her dear siblings: sister Florence and her husband, Angelo Serafini and her brothers: Alphonse Visco and Anthony and his wife, Nancy Visco; loving aunt of Gloria and Frank Giammanco of Boston, Dan and Karen Serafini of South Carolina, Anthony Visco of Saugus, Linda Visco of Saugus, and the late Rhonda and Richard Serafini of East Boston; cherished great-aunt of Michelle Sousa and her husband, Virgil, Lisa Giammanco, Jennifer Giangregorio, Melissa Giangregorio, Ralph and Stacey Giangregorio, Laura Visco, Michelle Visco and Tylor Sousa. Ann leaves behind many dear cousins and treasured friends, her extended family, whom she loved dearly.

Ann was a devoted mother who loved raising her family and spending time with her nieces and nephews. She loved people and warmly welcomed every-



one to her home. Ann was a terrific cook who enjoyed hosting many holiday gatherings and the annual 4th of July celebrations with family and friends. Ann had a fondness for old movies, with Now Voyager, An Affair to Remember, and Moonstruck being among her favorites. She held dear spending time on her deck surrounded by family, friends, and her beloved Mr. Buddy.

Full of love, laughter and resilience, she touched the lives of all who knew her. She was a wonderful mother who was there when we needed her most, offering abundant support, wisdom and love. She was our shining star, always a smile on her face and an appreciation for life. Ann will be deeply missed but her love, kindness, and wonderful sense of humor will forever stay in our hearts.

Ann's funeral services have passed. Please go to www.ruggieromh.com for more information. In lieu of flowers, please make donations in Ann's name to St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital, 501 St. Jude Place, Memphis, TN 38105.

Debra Mae 'Dixie' Richard

Of Malden

Debra Mae "Dixie" Richard, 68, passed away on March 8, 2025, in Winthrop, Massachusetts. The daughter of Gene and Lenora (Bradley) Richard. Debra was born and raised in Malden. She lived a life filled with love, laughter, and cherished moments with family and friends.

Debra worked as a Hearings Officer for the Registry of Motor Vehicles in Boston before retiring in 2021. Beyond her professional life, Debra found joy in simple pleasures and treasured traditions and will be remembered by many as "the life of the party". She loved spending Tuesday nights with the girls, creating intricate diamond art pieces, soaking up the sun at the beach, dancing to her favorite tunes, and hosting lively card nights filled with laughter, camaraderie, and mimosas. These moments, and everyone she shared them with, brought her immense happiness.

She is lovingly remembered by her children: Lenora Dever and husband Paul of Wilmington, Jennifer Melanson of Malden, Scott Croscup Jr. and wife Sheila of Abington, her beloved grandchildren Adam Dever, Luke Dever, Aidan Labillois and Jeffery Buckley. She also leaves behind her sister Jean and husband Phil Johnson of Sandwich, twin brother Daniel Richard and Diane Hatfield of NH,



and Gary Richard and wife Lori of AL. as well as many other loving nieces, nephews, cousins, godchildren, and dearest friends. Her companion Michael Behen was a cherished presence in her life.

Debra was predeceased by her parents, her husband Joseph C. Melanson and her siblings Lorraine Keenan, Mark Richard, Thomas Richard and Marcella Richard Araujo.

Her warmth, kindness, and vibrant spirit will be deeply missed by all who knew her. May her memory bring comfort to those who loved her.

Visitation for Debra will be held at the Weir-MacCuish Golden Rule Funeral Home, 144 Salem St. Malden on Thursday March 13th from 4-8 pm. Funeral services will be held the following day Friday March 14th at St. Joseph's Parish in Malden at 11:00 am. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made in her memory to St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital.

Eunice Ivaldi Capobianco

Cherished mother, grandmother and great grandmother

It is with deep sorrow that we announce the passing of Eunice Ivaldi Capobianco, born in Boston, May 6, 1922. She was a cherished mother, grandmother and great grandmother.

The beloved daughter of Atilio and Angelina Ivaldi departed this life on February 22, 2025, leaving behind a legacy of love and devotion.

Eunice was a dedicated mother to her two daughters, Joanne Bigley (Jack) of Winthrop and Patricia Melendez (Hugo) of Miami, FL. Her family was her greatest joy, and she took immense pride in her role as a grandmother to Steven Bigley and Jacqueline Bigley Feudo both of Winthrop and Karina and Kenny Melendez of Miami. Eunice's heart was also filled with love for her great grandchildren, Sabrina (deceased) and Max Feudo of Winthrop.

Throughout her life, Eunice was known for being the Life of the Party. She created cherished memories for all who had the privilege of knowing her.

She had a long, beautiful



life and passed peacefully at home at the age of 102.

A celebration of life will be held at a later date.

"May their memory be a blessing to us all, and may we find comfort in the promise of eternal life."

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11th Anniversary



March 19, 2014 – March 19, 2025

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Yet in our hearts you linger on.

Though time has passed, the love remains,

A silent bond that still sustains.

In memory's light, your never far,

Forever with us, like a star.

Happy Birthday 3/15

We love & miss you everyday Mom

In Loving Memory of Jennifer M. Casey

2.21.1981- 3.10.2005



We thought of you with love today,

But that is nothing new.

We thought about you yesterday

And days before that, too.

We think of you in silence.

We often speak your name.

Now all we have are memories

And your picture in a frame.

Your memory is our keepsake

With which we'll never part.

God has you in his keeping.

We have you in our hearts.

We all Love & Miss you Fafa,

Memorial Mass will be held on

Saturday, April 5 @ 4pm

St. John's Church, 320 Winthrop St., Winthrop, 02152

OBITUARIES

All obituaries and death notices will be at a cost of \$195.00 per paper.

Includes photo.No word Limit.

Please send to

obits@reverejournal.com

or call 781-485-0588

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

WINTHROP STUDENTS, TEACHERS CELEBRATE READ ACROSS AMERICA

From March 3 - March 8th, 2025, Winthrop Public Schools celebrated "Read Across America" Week! National Reading Month kicked off with the celebra-

tion of Dr. Seuss' birthday on March 2, and encourages schools to support a love of reading for young learners throughout the entire month of March.

To celebrate, the administration and teachers at the William P. Gorman Fort Banks(GFB) encouraged students to have fun with their attire by dressing up in honor of Dr. Seuss' literary classics. On Monday students wore silly socks for "Fox in Socks;" Tuesday, fun hats honoring "Cat in the Hat;" Wednesday, wacky clothes and hair for "Wacky Wednesday," and on Thursday they wore their favorite college or vacation t-shirt for "Oh, the Places You'll Go!" The week concluded with "Dress Like Your Favorite Book Character," and students got creative paying homage to Harry Potter, Eloise, Dorothy from the Wizard of Oz and Mo Willems' Pigeon.

Over at the high school, the Little Vikings Preschool invited guest readers from our community to sit in on the fun and read their fa-



The Little Vikings wrapped up Read Across America Week with guest reader Superintendent Lisa Howard reading "Green Eggs and Ham." After the story, the kids voted on whether they'd like green eggs and ham if given the chance to try it, five said "yes" and 13 said "no."



Officer Joyce from the Winthrop Police Department reading to The Little Vikings.

vorite books to the emerging readers. Guest readers included: high school guidance counselor Mrs. Partie, Officer Joyce from the Win-

throp Police Department, Gorman Fort Banks Principal Mrs. Reynolds, Joel Johnson from the US Army and concluded with a read-



Little Vikings Teacher Andrea Sullivan, WHS Graduate and Army National Guard Specialist Joel Johnson, his mother and teacher Robin Fowle and Acacia Lynch.



GFB Students (left to right) Joie Piccinni, Macie DeBisz, Niamh McAughey and Nora Murrin dressing as their favorite book characters.



Logan Emanuele with "Caps for Sale!"



Little Vikings students show their hot air balloon craft for "Oh, The Places You'll Go!"



Winthrop High School Students do a special craft with the preschoolers as part of their special Child Growth and Development class. This course includes practical field rotations in the preschool program.



Kindergarten students wearing their "Wacky Socks!"

Chelsea Creek // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5

GreenRoots, and the MysticWater Association. There will be an opportunity to sign up for the boat tour as the celebration nears.

"Sharing the stories and commemoration of the Revolutionary War of America belongs to all of us," said Rebecca Smerling, Director of Programs for Boston Harbor Now. "Boston Harbor and its surrounding communities played an integral role in the War, and Boston Harbor Now is looking forward to animating the commemoration of the Battle of Chelsea Creek with a harbor cruise, allowing for a new perspective on this battle and providing additional access to Boston Harbor." GreenRoots Executive

Director Roseann Bonciovanni said her organization is excited to partner with the City of Chelsea and others on a boat tour commemorating the Battle of the Chelsea Creek. "The colonists won this historic battle, yet there is little to celebrate that victory or to recognize Chelsea's role in the Revolutionary War. Yet the colonists lost the Battle of Bunker Hill and we have monuments and bridges named for it and a holiday in Boston," she said. "It's time for Chelsea Creek to gain the respect it deserves."

For more information and a full schedule of activities, please visit www.chelseaprospers.org.

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5K RUN \$30
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Sports

Matchup years in the making

Dedham is a red-hot opponent hoping to make its own history

By Cary Shuman

Dan Panciocco was the captain of the 1976 Dedham High School hockey team. That team lost to Braintree in the Division 1 quarter-finals at the Garden. Had Dedham won that game, it would have played Winthrop in the Eastern Mass. finals.

As Vikings fans all know, Winthrop went on to defeat Braintree and Springfield Cathedral to win the 1976 Division 1 state championship.

Forty-nine years later, Dan Panciocco finally gets his shot to play Winthrop

at the Garden as the second-year head coach of Dedham High School.

"It's kind of like a cycle for me - it's Dedham-Winthrop again," said Panciocco, a retired 32-year officer and detective in the Dedham Police Department.

Panciocco's team, that includes eight seniors, has been on a tremendous roll in the MIAA Tournament. The Marauders have scored 19 goals in four games and its goaltender, Noel Adams, the Tri Valley League Large Division MVP, has posted three shutouts (over Rockland, Dover Sherborn, and Hudson) and allowed only

one goal for an 0.25 GAA.

"We're peaking," said Panciocco. "We've been playing very well in the tournament. I'm happy with the effort. I've got great senior leadership. We made a couple of adjustments (moving senior, two-year captain, Brian Dunne, from defense to offense), and we just caught on fire. The last four playoff games, we've given up only one goal. Hudson had not been shut out all year. We were the first team to shut them out."

Senior forward Timmy Holton is Dedham's leading scorer, netting two goals in the 5-0 victory over Hudson

in the semifinals.

Dedham is in Division 4 and plays a tough schedule against higher-division Tri-Valley League teams. In fact, Medfield, is playing in the Division 3 state final Sunday. This season Dedham defeated Norwood for the first time in 20 years.

"Tri-Valley is a tough league with Division 2-3 teams," said Panciocco, noting that his team is undefeated against Division 4 opponents.

Like Winthrop head coach Dale Dunbar, who played on two NEC championship teams for the Vikings and at BU, Panciocco

went on to attend New Prep and ULowell, which was then a Division 2 program under coach Bill Riley.

"I know that Dale played at BU and in the NHL," said Panciocco. "And we saw the coaches [Mike Norris and Mike Eruzione] on the bench when they played Stoneham - your coaching staff is well-recognized and highly regarded."

Panciocco said Dedham fans are excited about the chance to bring home the school's first-ever state championship.

"The town support has been unbelievable. Dedham's never gotten this far,"

said Panciocco. "My 1976 team, the 1966 and 1967 teams, got to the semifinals, but we're the first to get to the finals. It's a history thing for us."

Panciocco expects a close, hard-fought game on Sunday.

"Winthrop's a great team," said Panciocco. "They're going to be hard to beat. It's going to be a tough game. I don't see either side winning in a blowout. We know one thing: Winthrop will be ready to play hard. Hey, they're the favorites. They're the higher seed. We are the underdogs."

Hockey // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Winthrop skated past a Littleton team before a capacity crowd at Loring Arena in Framingham.

Dom Spinale, assisted by Nick Romano and Luke Githinji, made it 2-0 in the second period. The line of Joe Pumphret (1 goal, 2 assists), Phil Boncore, and Mike Holgersen produced the third goal, with Pumphret, he of the triple-OT heroics, getting the lamplighter.

Benefiting from another tremendous show of support from its student body, the Winthrop hockey team took down No. 1-seed Stoneham in rather stunning fashion.

The schools have become good football rivals, with Stoneham enjoying a slight edge, but the key hockey battle - with a berth in the state finals at stake - went to Winthrop in a landslide.

Displaying a tough-to-contain combination of superior speed and stick-handling, Holgersen gave Winthrop the early edge. Holgersen's persistence paid off with a power play goal, assisted by linemate Boncore.

Sophomore Joe Pumphret made it 2-0 after one period, assisted by Nikita Rossi.

Boncore started the second period with a power play goal, assisted by Paul Ferrara. Stoneham closed

the gap to 3-1 and its fans tried to energize their team. But just 22 seconds later, Boncore struck again for his second goal of the period, assisted by Ferrara and Pumphret.

Nick Romano all but punched Winthrop's invitation to the state championship game with his goal, assisted by Ferrara.

And now, a season that began with high hopes in November, moves on to Boston for a game on the biggest stage there is in high school sports.

Staying focused on the prize

Dale Dunbar said the focus is only on the present and Sunday's showdown versus Dedham.

"You know what happens when you start going over history, you forget about the present. I'm not living in the past. All that matters is Sunday. We have three periods of hockey left to play and they have to be our best three," said Dunbar. "We're sticking to our structure and our discipline. As long as we do that, we'll have an opportunity to win."

Norris was part of last trip to Garden

Assistant coach Mike Norris was a member of the last Winthrop High hockey team that made it to the

Boston Garden.

"Our 1981 team played at the Garden, recalled Norris this week. "We drew a first-round bye, beat Billerica, 5-1, but lost to Acton-Boxboro (6-2). That was my senior year. It seems like a lifetime ago, but I remember the experience like it was yesterday."

Acton-Boxboro was led by goaltender Tom Barraso, who won two Stanley Cups with the Pittsburgh Penguins, Bob Sweeney, who later played for the Boston Bruins, and Allen Borbeau, who went on to star at Harvard University.

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AARON ARMITSTEAD - INDOOR TRACK
AMELIA SPENCER - HOCKEY

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WHS SPORTS THROUGH THE YEARS

**10 years ago
March 12, 2015**

One of the greatest seasons in Winthrop High School athletic history ended Tuesday afternoon on the Celtics' famed parquet floor at the TD Garden in Boston. The WHS girls basketball team, coming off successive wins over Catholic Central League powerhouses St. Mary's of Lynn and Bishop Fenwick to claim the Division 3 North title, fell short of a CCL triple-knockout, losing to powerful Archbishop Williams, 47-34, in the Division 3 state semifinals. Archbishop Williams has two Division 1 college players in its lineup, 6-foot-3-inch center Jaylen Williams (Penn State) and 6-foot-guard Alana Gilmer (Virginia Tech) and it was the latter's 20 points -- 10 in the fourth quarter -- that ultimately kept Winthrop from advancing to Saturday's state final in Worcester.

Senior Kristen Siscamanis, who emerged as one of the state's best basketball players this season, led the Vikings with 16 points, (4-of-4 from the line) and 11 rebounds. Junior center Nina Bartlette had seven points. Sophomore guard Ally Love had five points, including a three-pointer early in the fourth quarter that closed the margin to 31-27 and ignited the large Winthrop rooting section. Senior forward Maura Lanza, one of the unsung heroes in the Lady Vikings' 21-4 season, had four points and was part of an excellent defensive effort that held Williams to 29 points for three quarters before Gilmer exploded in the fourth. Senior point guard Niki Tsiotos had two points and it was her leadership at the defensive end that helped hold Gilmer in check for three quarters. Senior Poli Tsiotos and junior Jaida Hightower also

played well in the Winthrop girls' first trip to the semifinals since 1993. Along the way to the Garden, the Lady Vikings defeated defending state champion St. Mary's, 47-44, in the semifinals. Siscamanis was superb with 19 points and seven rebounds. The game was a rematch of last year's North final. Niki Tsiotos was immense on defense, helping Winthrop contain St. Mary's freshman guard Marnelle Garraud. The Lady Vikings then earned a hard-fought 36-35 win over Fenwick in the North final Saturday. Siscamanis and Bartlette led the Vikings with 12 points apiece. Love hit two three-pointers for six points. Niki Tsiotos (4), Poli Tsiotos (2), and Maura Lanza also played well for the Vikings who held on for the thrilling victory that earned them a trip to the Garden.

King of the Crease

Donahue seeks a state title for team and family history

By Cary Shuman

Senior goaltender and captain Michael Donahue has a direct connection to the last Winthrop High School team that won a state hockey championship.

His uncle, Sean Donahue, was a member of the 1976 Vikings that went 26-0-1 and brought home the Division 1 state championship.

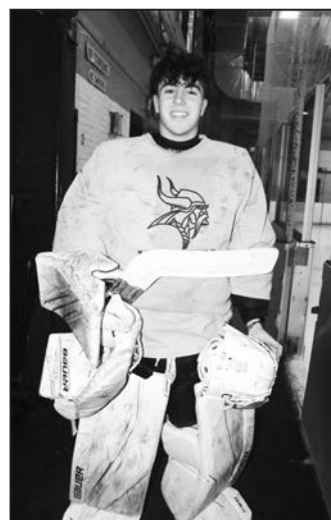
"I'm proud of him for that [accomplishment]," said Michael after practice Monday. "It would be great for the last two Donahues to be on two state championship teams, so we're going to try to make that happen."

One could sense the anticipation and emotion in Donahue's voice as he talked about the game at the Garden.

"It feels great. All the boys are excited to play at TD Garden, and winning a state championship would mean so much to the whole team, the coaches, and this whole town," said Donahue.

He said the Vikings' success on defense in the tournament has been a team-wide effort.

"It's a credit to the defensive four in front of me playing so well -- Paul Ferrara, Nikita Rossi, Aidan Survilas, and Ricky Mack-



Winthrop's All-NEC goaltender Michael Donahue is pictured Monday after practice at Larsen Rink.

enzie -- they're just making it easy for me," said Donahue. "I just have to make the saves I have to make."

The Larsen Experience

Donahue's first two tournament games at Larsen Rink were particularly uplifting as the student rooting section was situated adjacent to the Winthrop net for various periods.

"When all your friends and family come down to support you, it feels so good," related Donahue. "It just fires you up. It makes you play even better."

Moving on from the shootout

Last season ended in a

controversial shootout loss to Dover Sherborn.

"After losing in the states last year, it just made me work even harder, and I'm excited for Sunday," said Donahue, who attended a goaltending clinic last summer as part of his off-season workouts.

The matchup of netminders

Donahue is aware that Dedham goalie Noel Adams is having a terrific post-season that rivals Donahue himself.

"I know the Dedham goalie is very good, but the way we're playing, I think we can get a lot on him," said Donahue.

Has the season met his expectations to-date?

"We still have a state championship on the line, and if we win that, it will definitely meet it [expectations]," said Donahue.

Donahue began playing goalie early in his youth hockey career.

"I've been a goalie since probably seven years old," said Donahue. "One day, they needed a goalie, and I just strapped on the pads and I've been doing very well since then. I've been playing hockey with the majority of these [Winthrop] guys since I was a Mite."

Phil Boncore: Winthrop's Mr. March

By Cary Shuman

Of all the post-season quotes by high school hockey stars in the Boston newspapers this March, we enjoyed the one most by senior captain Phil Boncore after the Vikings' 5-1 victory over No. 1 seed, Stone-

ham.

"It's a huge deal. They're here for us, and I love it. I'm speechless." Boncore told the Boston Herald in appreciation of the large Winthrop student rooting section on hand in Chelmsford.

Boncore has always been a confident spokesperson for his team during interviews with the Sun-Transcript. It's an admirable quality that will bode well in his future career.

Case in point. Boncore was asked about his torrid offensive performance in the post-season a la Reggie Jackson, the Yankees' Mr. October, and he deflected, saying, "My line is just doing what we need to do. We're finding each other at the right times, and we've all been in the right spots at the right times."

Then asked specifically what he likes about his

linemates Mike Holgersen and Joe Pumphret, Boncore said a bit self-effacingly, "They're both wicked fast, and I'm not going to lie, I'm not the fastest guy out there, so they're kind of doing everything for me."

An NEC All-Star linebacker in football, he understands the philosophy that defenses wins championships.

"[Michael] Donahue has been great for us. He's been keeping us in games and been locking it down back there," credited Boncore.

Asked if he thought Winthrop could return to the Final Four following such a tough loss in a shootout to Dover-Sherborn, Boncore said, "Absolutely. I know we lost some key guys, but with the closeness of the guys we have here, everyone that was still here wanted the same thing, and we're close to it."

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Lent & Easter 2025 at St. Michael the Archangel Parish

<p>Ash Wednesday March 5</p> <p>Stations of the Cross March 7, 14, 21, 28 and April 4 at 7:00pm</p> <p>Friday, April 18: "Living Stations" drama by teens at 7:00pm Palm Sunday, April 19: "Living Stations" drama by teens at 7:00pm</p> <p>St. Joseph Table March 25</p> <p>Parish Mission March 24-26</p> <p>Confessions Thursdays 5:00pm-6:00pm during Eucharistic Adoration (Upper Church), Fridays after 9:00am Mass (Lower Church), Saturdays 5:00pm-5:45pm (Upper Church), and Holy Saturday (April 19) 5:00pm-6:00pm, or at the Parish Center by appointment</p> <p>Eucharistic Adoration Monday 9:50-10:50am (Lower Church), Thursdays 5:00pm-7:00pm (Upper Church)</p> <p>Daily Mass Monday through Saturday 9:00am (Lower Church)</p> <p>Holy Week & Easter Schedule</p> <p>Palm Sunday Vigil, April 12 Mass at 4:00pm</p> <p>Palm Sunday, April 13 Masses at 8:00am, 10:00am, 11:00am, 12 Noon, & 5:00pm "Living Stations" drama by teens at 7:00pm</p> <p>Holy Thursday, April 17 Mass of the Lord's Supper at 7:00pm</p> <p>Good Friday, April 18 Liturgy and Veneration of the Cross at 7:00pm</p> <p>Holy Saturday, April 19 Confessions heard 5:00-6:00pm Easter Vigil Mass at 7:00pm, featuring trumpet music</p> <p>Easter Sunday, April 20 Masses: 8:00am 10:00am Family Mass featuring trumpet music and followed by Easter Egg Hunt. 11:00am 12 Noon (no 5:00pm Mass)</p>	<p>Masses are at 7:00am, 9:00am, 5:00pm, and 7:00pm</p> <p>Logan Airport Chapel: 10:50am - 11:50am Ash Distribution only</p> <p>Join us for this festive traditional gathering after the 10:00am Mass.</p> <p>Take some time for yourself this Lent by coming to hear great speakers and enjoy moving music. Please bring your friends and family. If you cannot make it, our mission will be live streamed.</p> <p>Monday, March 24 "St. Faustina" Speaker & Sacrament of Penance Tuesday, March 25 "St. Benedict" Speaker & Eucharistic Adoration Wednesday, March 26 "St. Ignatius" Speaker & Holy Mass Reception to follow in the Parish Lower Church.</p>
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FIRST CHURCH OF WINTHROP ST. PATRICK'S DAY DINNER



The church function hall was filled with celebration of St Patrick's Day.

Photos by Derek Kouyoumjian

The United First Methodist Church in Winthrop held a St Patrick's Day dinner

in its function hall. A fine boiled dinner of corned beef and vegetables accompanied live entertainment and the warmth of community.



Veronica Richards and her daughter Star are showing their St Patrick's Day spirit.



Ralph Tufo with Barbara Marley.



Children's books written by entertainer Ralph Tufo.



Frank Goodwin and Viking Gustafson.



Volunteer Earl Richards helps serve food.



Nancy Dalrymple and United First Church Minister David Jackson.



Joe Pike with Valerie Millar.



The entertainer for the evening was Ralph Tufo singing with his concertina.



The church function hall was filled with celebration of St Patrick's Day.



Debbie and Paul Doucette with daughter Kayleigh and grandchildren Summer and LJ Welch.



Joe Wilson is proud to announce that he's 3/4 Irish.



Organizers and volunteers of the St Patrick's Day event: Joe and Renee Pike, Judy Anderson, Marsha Wiseman, Brenna Connelly, Nancy Dalrymple, Minister David Jackson, and Ruth Hopkns. In front: Valerie and Cullen Millar and Earl Richards.

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THE MORE Things Change ...

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

10 years ago March 13, 2015

Winthrop High School was placed in a "hold in place" at 10 a.m. last Thursday after Winthrop police received a call from Tewksbury police regarding alleged threats made on Facebook. The Tewksbury police had been contacted by the Manchester, N.H. police after they had received a tip. Winthrop Police Chief Terence Delehanty said the call came in at 9:49 a.m. from Tewksbury police stating that a suicide pact and threats had been made toward Tewksbury and Winthrop high schools. The posts allegedly appeared on the Facebook pages of a 16-year-old Winthrop High girl and a 15-year-old Tewksbury High girl. One allegedly posted that she wanted to get two guns and make a suicide pact. The Winthrop girl allegedly posted, "Can we shoot up school first?" and the Tewksbury student allegedly posted, "Yo, let's do it." Police in Tewksbury put their high school in lockdown and then found the student in the school. She was arrested and charged with making threats and conspiracy. The Winthrop student was picked up outside the school and taken into custody.

The Friends of Belle Isle Marsh will hold their annual meeting March 15 at the Episcopal Church Hall in Winthrop. The featured speaker will be Dave Rimmer, who will speak about osprey in northeastern Massachusetts.

The Winthrop School Committee held a public hearing Monday night to discuss the proposed \$17,997,378 school budget for fiscal year 2016. Individuals voiced their concerns about salaries, three year trends on stipends paid, state budget cuts, and

the breakdown of technology costs. The budget request for FY16 is \$1,047,378 more than the FY15 budget of \$16,950,000, a 6.18 percent increase.

Superintendent of Schools John Macero announced this week that the Winthrop schools will be in session until June 26 because of the large number of days canceled because of the snow this winter.

Chappie, Cinderella, and The Divergent Series: In-surgent are playing at the Revere Showcase Cinemas.

20 years ago March 17, 2005

The selectmen voted to approve the sale of bonds totaling \$7.608 million Monday night to help pay for the construction costs of the Arthur Cummings elementary school.

Local real estate agent Linda Calla, working in conjunction with the Molly Bish Foundation, is bringing the first Child Safety ID Day to the Arthur Cummings School March 24.

The selectmen voted 3-0 to deny an entertainment license that would have allowed the Kasbah Restaurant to use belly dancers.

The Pacifier, Because of Winn-Dixie, and Sideways are playing at the Revere Showcase Cinemas.

30 years ago March 23, 1995

A majority of members of the School Committee, Nancy O'Malley, Cathy Marino, and Steve Machcinski, voted not to renew the contract of School Supt. Dr. Joseph Laino, citing a "lack of leadership" in the schools. However, Laino, who has been superintendent for the past eight years and served for two years before that as the principal at Winthrop High, still has two years remaining on his current contract.

The Board of Health has entered into a contract with a recycling firm that will pay the town \$20 per ton for most of its recyclables and \$60 per ton for its office paper.

The Advisory Committee has advised the School Committee that the town does not have the money to pay for the \$1.2 million increase in the school budget that the School Dept. is seeking. Advisory Committee members noted that funds from the MWRA mitigation agreement will decline by \$400,000 from last year for FY 1996.

Billy Madison, Dumb and Dumber, and The Brady Bunch are playing at the Revere Showcase Cinemas.

40 years ago March 27, 1985

Police report that political signs for various candidates are being vandalized around the town.

Town Clerk John A. Clark is predicting a moderate turnout for Monday's annual town election, which will be highlighted by the contest for Town Clerk, the office that Clark is stepping down from, that features four candidates, Marie Turner, Paul Dawson, James Marr, and Daniel McCarthy.

The newly-created MWRA has announced a stunning increase of 37 percent in water and sewer rates for Winthrop residents. However, the rate hike is in the middle of the pack compared to rate increases that have been announced for other communities in the MWRA's district.

The town has begun negotiations with Warner Amex Cable for a new contract. Warner told town officials that if the new cable contract is approved, local cable subscribers will be able to receive a new, 52-channel cable system.

Vision Quest, The Break-

fast Club, and Into the Night are playing at the Revere Showcase Cinemas.

50 years ago March 26, 1975

Screams by a female resident who discovered an intruder in her condo at 3 a.m. Sunday forced the man to make a quick exit out a balcony window.

The School Committee, acting under pressure from the town's building inspector, has appropriated \$13,625 for emergency repairs to the schools.

WHS students took over the reins of town government this week for the annual Good Government Day festivities.

WHS students are producing a daily TV show at Winthrop High featuring a live newscast and other events.

Former Massport Exec. Director Edward J. King was feted at a testimonial dinner recently at which 1600 persons were in attendance.

Alan Arkin and James Caan star in Freebie and the Bean at the Kincade Theatre.

60 years ago March 25, 1965

With the annual cherry sheets from the state showing that the town will receive 12 percent less in receipts from the state this year, Advisory Committee Secretary Robert J. Kane is predicting a tax increase of \$5.17.

Town Meeting members voted for a \$500 pay raise for Winthrop police and firefighters.

A group of residents met with the selectmen Monday to protest the issuance of a building permit for a vinegar bottling plant that will occupy the former movie house at the Beach on Shirley St.

James Garner and Rod

Taylor star in 36 Hours as the Winthrop Theatre.

70 years ago March 24, 1955

Town Meeting opened its 1955 session by acting on all but six of the articles on the warrant. Economy was the theme, with no pay raises being granted for town employees other than a pay hike of \$173.15 for the Town Clerk to equalize that position's salary with that of the Tax Collector, as had been the case for 35 years until a few years ago. A pay raise proposal of \$200 for police officers was defeated on a standing vote. Town Meeting approved a total town budget for 1955 of \$1,952,205.

State Senator Andrew P. Quigley has filed a bill calling for the resanding of Revere and Winthrop beaches.

Firefighter James T. Healey collapsed and died before medical help could arrive when he was stricken while fighting a blaze on Revere St.

The Winthrop Beach Bowl-A-Way Lanes, featuring automatic pinsetters, are now open for business at 433 Shirley St.

Stewart Granger and Grace Kelly star in Green Fire at the Winthrop Theatre.

80 years ago March 22, 1945

Town Meeting completed action on all 59 articles of the warrant, sustaining the recommendations of the Advisory Committee 100 percent. Among the articles approved was one calling for the jurisdiction of Miller Field to be transferred to the School Dept.

The Transcript raises the

question in an editorial of whether the high price paid by the Marines for the taking of Iwo Jima was worth it.

Fred MacMurray and Paulette Goddard star in Forest Rangers at the Winthrop and State Theatres.

90 years ago March 23, 1935

Town Meeting approved appropriations of \$800,000 for the 1935 town budget in a three-hour session Monday. Members voted against allowing sporting events in the town on Sundays. They voted against erecting a chain link fence around Miller Field, but voted in favor of chain link fence at Donovan's Beach. However, members deferred taking action on several articles pertaining to grants for federal ERA programs.

Mayor Mansfield of Boston has filed a bill calling for the removal of Chelsea, Revere, and Winthrop from Suffolk County inasmuch as those communities do not pay any contribution toward the expenses of the county, which are borne solely by the City of Boston. Winthrop State Rep. Honan suggested during a discussion of the bill that if Winthrop, a thrifty and conservative town, had representation in the affairs of the county, its citizens could show those of Boston how to save money in the annual expenditure of \$3 million for county costs.

A petition has been filed with the state Supreme Judicial Court to order the Board of Registrars of Voters to have a recount for the offices of moderator and selectman. A. Russell Belcher,

See YEARS Page 12

LEGAL NOTICES

LEGAL NOTICE



BOARD OF APPEALS PUBLIC HEARING Thursday, March 20, 2025: Case 2025-004.

Notice is hereby given in accordance with Chapter 40A of the Massachusetts General Laws and Chapter 17 of the Code of the Town of Winthrop that the Winthrop Board of Appeals will conduct a public hearing on Thursday, March 20, 2025, at or after 6:30 p.m. held in the Harvey Hearing Room upon the application of person requesting: Project Address: 54 Wilshire Street- Winthrop, MA 02152 Applicant Name/ Address: Wilshire, LLC- 787 North Shore Road- Revere, MA 02151 The Applicant seeks a permit to develop a two-family town house with stories in height, residential dwelling units, with parking on the lot. The proposed project is within the RA District and is a permitted use RA District. The Applicant seeks a permit for noncompliance of proposed structure with respect to max stories/height; right side setback; and left side setback. The public is invited to attend, and interested parties shall have an opportunity to be heard. Copies of the application and plans are on file and available to review at the Town Hall Planning Office, Room 2A, Winthrop Town Hall.

Darren Baird, Chair Denise Quist, Town Clerk Winthrop Board of Appeals 3/6/25, 3/13/25 W

LEGAL NOTICE



BOARD OF APPEALS PUBLIC HEARING Thursday, March 20, 2025: Case 2025-005.

Notice is hereby given in accordance with Chapter 40A of the Massachusetts General Laws and Chapter 17 of the Code of the Town of Winthrop that the Winthrop Board of Appeals will conduct a public hearing on Thursday, March 20, 2025, at or after 6:30 p.m. held in the Harvey Hearing Room upon the application of person requesting: Project Address: 67 Woodside Avenue- Winthrop, MA 02152 Applicant Name/ Address: Tien Pham- 47 Woodside Avenue- Winthrop, MA 02152 The Applicant seeks a permit to develop a three-story, mixed-use property in the Center Business District containing one commercial office space and four one-bedroom residential dwelling units, with parking on the lot. The proposed project is within the Center Business District and is a permitted use. However, the project abuts an RA District, therefore limiting the project to two and half stories. The Applicant is requesting a permit for noncompliance of proposed structure with respect to max stories/height. The public is invited to attend, and interested parties shall have an opportunity to be heard. Copies of the application and plans are on file and available to review at the Town Hall Planning Office, Room 2A, Winthrop Town Hall.

Darren Baird, Chair Denise Quist, Town Clerk Winthrop Board of Appeals 3/6/25, 3/13/25 W

LEGAL NOTICE



BOARD OF APPEALS PUBLIC HEARING Thursday, March 20, 2025: Case 2025-003.

Notice is hereby given in accordance with Chapter 40A of the Massachusetts General Laws and Chapter 17 of the Code of the Town of Winthrop that the Winthrop Board of Appeals will conduct a public hearing on Thursday, March 20, 2025, at or after 6:30 p.m. held in the Harvey Hearing Room upon the application of person requesting: Project Address: 386 Revere Street- Winthrop, MA 02152 Applicant Name/ Address: Mauricio Menendez- 386 Revere Street- Winthrop, MA 02152 The Applicant seeks a permit to construct a two-story addition per plans submitted on an existing single-family home of the above referenced property. The addition is to create habitable living space. The permit was denied in accordance with the Town's By Laws. The Applicant is requesting a Special Permit to alter or extend a non-conforming structure. The public is invited to attend, and interested parties shall have an opportunity to be heard. Copies of the application and plans are on file and available to review at the Town Hall Planning Office, Room 2A, Winthrop Town Hall.

Darren Baird, Chairperson Denise Quist, Town Clerk Winthrop Board of Appeals 3/6/25, 3/13/25 W

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FRESH & LOCAL

Dial It In!

By Penny & Ed Cherubino
 Recipes are not infallible. If you spend a lot of time cooking from or brainstorming with recipes, you'll find a few reliable sources and many that are not as trustworthy. However, even recipe developers who produce well-measured, fully-explained, and reliable recipes can't consider a few essential factors.

Where to Start Adapting
 As a cook, you should dial in a recipe, accounting for allergies, aversions, taste, and even what you have on hand. A recipe is a starting point or a guideline. You'll find variations in different recipes for the same dish. Read through a few and choose to begin with the

one most appealing to you. More experienced cooks may adjust the ingredients or measurements immediately. We usually reduce the added salt depending on the other salty ingredients called for in the original. We are a no-mayo household. When an interesting recipe calls for mayo, Penny begins by considering whether yogurt, crème fraîche, sour cream, or a vinaigrette can substitute. Ed has a mango allergy; therefore, another tropical fruit will replace mango in a dish. If you're cooking for someone gluten-free, vegetarian, or vegan or with a special medical diet or cultural restrictions, we suggest you begin with recipes designed for those needs. Today, we are fortunate that

special foods are widely available, making accommodating these diets easier.
Taste and Adjust
 When ingredients like raw proteins are safe to taste, begin working with your tasting spoon. There are sanitary ways to do this. You can keep a cup of tasting spoons nearby and use a new one each time. You can use the cooking spoon to drip some of the food onto your tasting spoon. As your skills grow, you can drip a bit on the back of your hand and taste it. Be as mindful as possible as you taste, and consider the primary flavors and their balance. We've learned much about this balance from cooking and eating Thai food, where



Taste and sniff to adjust a recipe to make it your own.

chefs work to harmonize salty, sweet, sour, spicy, and creamy flavors. We add umami to that grouping. If you find one flavor note dominating or missing, put some food in a small bowl and experiment. If sour is dominant, add a dash of sweet. If you want a creamier texture, add a thickener or more of any creamy ingredient, such as coconut milk. Once you're happy with the flavor, adjust the rest. Use all your senses to make the food pleasing to your palate. Remember, flavor is a combination of aroma and taste. Chefs often

pull the steam above a pot closer to their noses with an open hand to test the aroma. Texture is also a factor in food enjoyment. A typical example in our culture is the vegetable okra, which is a bit slimy when cooked in specific ways. Some people love it, and others say, "No thanks." One of the final adjustments Penny will make to any dish is adding a bit of an acid. Consider what a squeeze of lemon will do for a piece of fish or a teaspoon of vinegar for a cabbage dish.

Family Recipes
 Many families have recipes passed down through generations, which are now meaningful traditions. However, Grandma and Aunt Sally may make slightly different versions. You can decide which you like and then make it your own. Your version may become the favorite, causing the next generation to continue the tradition.
Do you have a question or topic for Fresh & Local? Email Penny@BostonZest.com with your suggestion.

Years // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 10

who was just four votes shy in the selectmen's race, and Joseph Davison, long-time Town Moderator, who lost his seat by just 44 votes, are the petitioners.

George Raft and Carole Lombard star in Rumba at the Winthrop and State Theatres.

100 years ago
March 28, 1925

Interest in yacht racing at the Winthrop Yacht Club is at an all-time high. Willie Kelley, the regatta racing chairman at the club, attributes the increase to anticipation to the switch to the latest Marconi rigging on the new, 18-foot, one-design Hustler case boats.

110 years ago
March 27, 1915

The adjourned Town Meeting concluded business Thursday evening with 250 persons present. The members voted down an article calling for lighting at Ingleside Park and another calling for funds to develop town-owned land at the Playstead. Moderator Davison ruled that members could not consider an article calling for half-day holidays on Saturdays, with pay, for town employees, because the issue was a matter of state law.

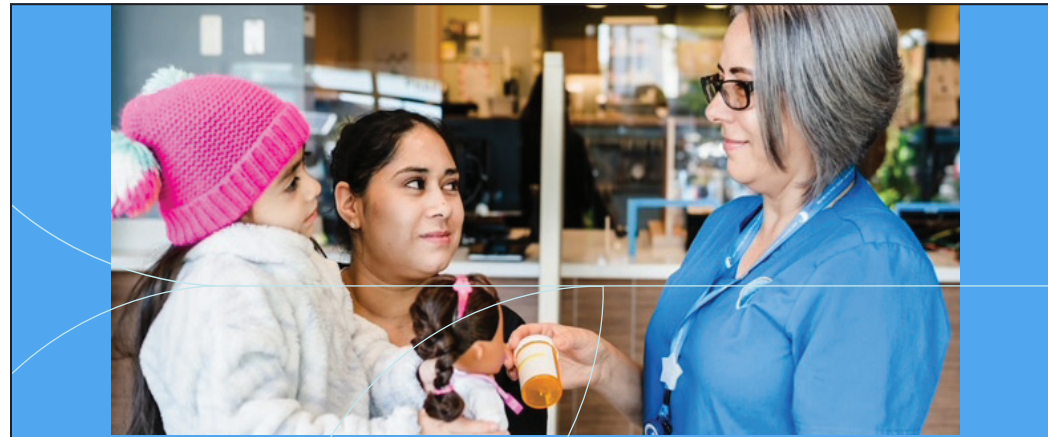
120 years ago
March 24, 1905

Now that Town Meeting, after a seven hour session,

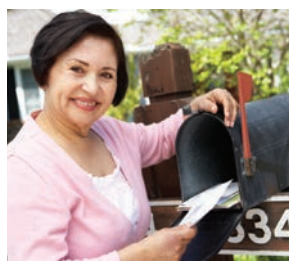
has voted to purchase the Revere Water Works Co. property, at issue is whether the legislature will act on a bill to allow the town to borrow outside of its debt limit to pay for the acquisition. Town Meeting will reconvene Monday to take up the rest of the articles on the warrant.

140 years ago
March 27, 1885

Mr. Chandler Crocker, 78, the oldest resident in town, passed away this week. Owners of summer cottages report that many of last year's visitors have renewed their leases and prospects are good for the season ahead.



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