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# WINTHROP

## SUN TRANSCRIPT

EST. IN 1882 50 CENTS



**WEDNESDAY, December 23, 2020**

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**INDEPENDENT**

008805 93062 7

Newspaper Group

### Santa Claus to be on streets in Winthrop on Dec. 24

The tradition continues in spite of it being 2020. The Winthrop Firefighters announce Santa's Route for December, 24 Christmas Eve.

Anyone standing out along the route should practice social distancing, wear a mask or face covering, and stand with people that you live with.

Times listed below are estimated.

4:30PM\*\*Start at Deer Island to Tafts\*\*Tafts to Elliot\*\*left on Elliot to Church Square\*\*left on Shirley to Triton\*\*down Triton to Bay View\*\*Bay View to Shirley\*\*left on Shirley to Crystal Cove\*\*Crystal Cove to Park\*\*left on Park to Beacon\*\*right on Beacon to Beacon Circle\*\*down

See SANTA ROUTE Page 8

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### MY EVEREST



Liam Woodward gets ready to climb his mountain of snow in his front yard. See more photos on page 8.

### WINTHROP RESIDENTS REMEMBER BELOVED EDUCATOR

## In a world where you can be anything, #belikeAmy

By Kate Anslinger

Exactly one year ago today, Amy Gallagher was featured in the Transcript as an "Ordinary Person with an Extraordinary Story." If you passed Amy on the street as a stranger in her path, she may appear to be ordinary, but there was truly nothing ordinary about the proud Winthrop resident. On November 30th, Amy left behind a legacy that is laced in kindness, compassion, and love. A legacy that will undoubtedly live on forever.



Amy Gallagher

"There is always a need in one way or another and I love to help find a way to fill it," Amy, a proud graduate of the WHS class of 1983, was quoted saying in last year's article. Born with a fierce determination to do good in the world, Amy set herself apart from others by giving selflessly with consistency and passion.

It was these traits that made her well-loved by her family, friends and colleagues. Her dedication to doing good meant

that she was often seen as a focal point at community events. The combination of being a devout Catholic and her love of the holiday season led her to slip effortlessly into the role of leader of the St. John's Breakfast with Santa for several years. She was a board member of St. Vincent de Paul Society and a past member of the Winthrop Catholic Women's Club. Over the years she has spearheaded countless fundraisers, using her creativity to design baskets to raise money for students. Living by the motto "Kindness Matters," Amy helped run the Win-

throp Food Pantry during the pandemic and made it her mission every year to raise enough money so that every eighth grader at Winthrop Middle School (WMS) could attend the annual Washington, D.C. trip.

Known as the heart and soul of WMS, Amy served as an ESP for ten years and was a devoted presence in the building, sharing her energy and time to serve as the Co-Quiz Bowl Advisor, the Student Council Advisor, the Spelling Bee Co-Chair, and the Winthrop Teachers Association PR Officer. Deemed as the Queen of the Café by past WHS graduates, Amy was a fixture in the school district, with a smile that always reached her eyes and a hearty laugh that will likely echo throughout the halls forever.

Eighth grade teacher, Chris Farnsworth, witnessed Amy's gift for working with the students firsthand. Having her in the classroom as an ESP, he recalled how well-loved she was and how

See GALLAGHER Page 10

## DeLeo files disclosure that he is considering a position at Northeastern

By Cary Shuman

Speaker of the House Robert A. DeLeo has disclosed that he is negotiating job opportunities with Northeastern University.

Speaker DeLeo's Office released the following statement last Friday, Dec. 18:

"Today I filed a disclosure letter with the House Clerk and the Massachusetts State Ethics Commission to disclose that I intend to begin negotiating prospective employment opportunities with Northeastern University. As of today, I have not personally had any discussions with anyone from Northeastern University relative to any possible employment opportunities.

"On December 16, 2020, I requested that my personal legal counsel contact the Massachusetts State Ethics Commission to discuss my status and to ensure compliance with the requirements of the Conflict of Interest Law. Although, based on my current status, a disclosure is not currently required I have nevertheless elected to disclose my intention to begin negotiating prospective employment opportunities with Northeastern University out of an abundance of caution.

"As such, and while I know of no matter, particular matter or general legislation presently before me in my official role that would affect Northeastern University, I filed the disclosure to dispel any appearance of conflict pursuant to G.L. c. 268A, s. 23(b)(3)."

As one would expect, the news of the state's most powerful Democrat's decision to pursue a position at Northeastern set off a media frenzy. DeLeo was the lead story on all of Boston's TV news shows and has been featured

prominently in the daily editions of the Boston Globe and Boston Herald newspapers.

The Speaker DeLeo-to-Northeastern University story was the talk of the town in the two communities – Revere and Winthrop – that he has so ably represented in the Nineteenth Suffolk District since taking office in 1990. He has been the Speaker of the House since 2009, the longest-serving Speaker in the history of the Commonwealth.

DeLeo has been a champion on many important issues – municipal health reform, economic development, education, a nation-leading gun safety law, opioid addiction, domestic violence, veterans' benefits, and clean energy – during his legislative career. Many organizations and programs, such as the Winthrop and Revere Chambers of Commerce, early-education and child-care, and the school districts have benefited from his leadership and his ability to bring home state funding for local projects.

"I think Bob DeLeo is the best speaker of the house in our state's history," said Revere Councilor-at-Large Anthony Zambuto. "He's had our back on Beacon Hill. He has a tremendous record representing the City of Revere. He's done so much for us. Just to have a Speaker representing your hometown is a very

See DELEO Page 5

**TRASH NOTICE**

Due to the Christmas Holiday, Trash will be on schedule Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday Delayed by one day on Friday

Thank you,  
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**CENTURY 21**  
Seaport

**YES VIRGINIA, THERE IS A SANTA CLAUS**

In 1897, Francis P. Church, an editorial writer for the New York Sun, received this letter from a little girl, and wrote the nowfamous reply. It remains appropriate for this holiday season 107 years later.

Dear Editor,  
I am 8 years old. Some of my little friends say there is no Santa Claus. Papa says, "If your see it in The Sun, it's so." Please tell me the truth. Is there a Santa Claus? Virginia O'Hanlon 115 West 95th St. New York, N.Y.

Dear Virginia,  
Your Little Friends are wrong. They have been affected by the skepticism of a skeptical age. They do not believe except what they see. They think that nothing can be which is not comprehensible by their little minds. All minds, Virginia, whether they be men's or children's are little.

In this great universe of ours, man is a mere insect, an ant, in his intellect, as compared with the boundless world about him, as measured by the intelligence capable of grasping the whole truth and knowledge.

Yes, Virginia, There is a Santa Claus.

He exists as certainly as love and generosity and devotion exist, and you know that they abound and give your life its highest beauty and joy. Alas! How dreary would be the world if there were no Santa Claus. It would be as dreary as if there were no Virginias.

There would be no child-like faith then, no poetry, no romance to make tolerable this existence. We should have no enjoyment, except in sense and sight. The eternal life with which the childhood fills the world would be extinguished. Not believe in Santa Claus! You might as well not believe in fairies! You might get your papa to hire men to watch in all the chimneys on Christmas Eve to catch Santa Claus, but even if they did not see Santa Claus coming down, what would that prove. Nobody sees Santa Claus, but that is not a sign that there is no Santa Claus. The most real things in the world are those that neither children nor men can see. Did you ever see fairies dancing on the lawn? Of course not, but that is not proof that they are not there.

Nobody can conceive or imagine all the wonders there are unseen and unseeable in the world. You may tear apart the baby's rattle and see what makes the noise inside, but there is a veil covering the unseen world which not the strongest man, nor even the united strength of all the strongest men that ever lived could tear apart.

Only faith, fancy, poetry, love, romance, can push aside the curtain and view and picture supernatural beauty and glory beyond. Is it all real? Ah, Virginia, in all this world there is nothing else real and abiding.

No Santa Claus! Thank God! He lives, and he lives forever. A thousand years from now, Virginia, nay, ten times ten thousand years from now, he will continue

*Century 21 Mario wishes our clients & friends a very Happy and Merry Christmas and Prosperous New Year*

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12/24



WINTHROP POLICE BLOTTER

The following incident reports are among the calls to which the Winthrop Police Department responded on the listed dates:

MONDAY, DECEMBER 7

0736: An officer issued a parking ticket to a motor vehicle (MV) that was blocking the driveway of the Winthrop Golf Club maintenance building on Veterans Rd.

1024: An officer responded to a minor motor vehicle accident (MVA) at Pleasant and Main Sts. and assisted the parties with the exchange of papers.

1141: A resident in the 800 block of Shirley St. found a small dog on the street and brought it home. The officer who responded united the dog with its owner.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 8

0818: A contractor working on a building in the 400 block of Shirley St. reported that someone had broken into the construction site overnight and spray-painted the walls. The damage was minor and will be painted over.

0856: A Fairview St. resident reported that his MV had been entered overnight while parked in his driveway and spare change was taken.

1021: A person came to the station to report that the trailer on the back of his truck was struck by a bus, causing minor damage to the trailer. The officer filed a report.

1207: A detail officer at Somerset Ave. and Pleasant St. reported that an Amazon truck backed into a parked MV, causing minor damage.

1211: A caller reported that his MV was struck by a hit-and-run operator at Putnam and Jefferson Sts.

1645: An officer responded to a residence on Main St. regarding an on-going landlord/tenant dispute. The officer spoke to the tenant's daughter, who reported that the landlord let herself into the apartment without permission.

1747: An officer responded to a report of two women engaging in an argument in the street on Banks St. One of the females had left the area by the time the officer arrived.

2337: An officer assisted with a semi-tractor trailer that was having difficulty turning around on

Pleasant St.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 9

1050: An officer stopped a MV at Sagamore Ave. and Revere St. When the officer determined that the operator's license was expired, a licensed driver arrived on the scene and parked the MV at a residence on Sagamore Ave.

1222: An officer spoke to a group of children without masks who were playing football at the Ft. Banks playground.

1342: An officer was requested to assist with traffic control at the COVID testing site at the Zeke McKenna basketball courts on Walden St. because the line of cars was stretching along Pauline and Hermon Sts.

1616: An officer responded to a minor MVA near the COVID testing site at the basketball courts and assisted the parties with the exchange of papers.

1801: An officer stopped a MV at Main and Paine Sts. for the civil infraction of operating after dark without its headlights. The officer gave a verbal warning to the operator.

1824: Officers responded to a report that two males in gray sweatshirts had taken an Amazon package from a porch on Sea Foam Ave. and had run off. The officers were unable to locate the suspects, but they were able to determine that other delivery packages in the area had been opened. They will check with area residents for video camera footage. The officers filed a report.

1940: An officer responded to a report of a verbal dispute between neighbors on River Rd. The officer spoke to the parties and restored the peace.

2018: A resident called to report that a package was stolen from her residence and she has video footage of two suspects.

2058: An officer stopped a MV at Revere St. and Deane Ave. for the civil infraction of operating after dark without its headlights. The officer gave a verbal warning to the operator.

2144: An officer responded to a call from a Wave Way Ave. homeowner who stated that he had recovered some of the delivered items that

had been stolen on Shore Drive.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 10

0013: An officer responded to a report of a pick-up truck parked on Veterans Rd. with a dog barking inside. After the officer determined that the registration plates were stolen, he ordered the vehicle to be towed. The Animal Control Officer came to take custody of the dog.

0131: An officer issued a parking ticket to a MV on Sea Foam Ave.

0836: A repossession company reported the repo of a MV on Shore Drive.

0850: An officer following up on the reports of the theft of Amazon packages located several empty boxes in the area of Sea Foam and Wave Way Aves.

1213: An officer stopped a MV on Pauline St. for a civil infraction and gave a verbal warning to the operator.

1238: Another Sea Foam Ave. resident reported the theft of a package.

1256: A resident came into the station to report receiving threats over social media.

1320: The Animal Control Officer brought the dog that had been taken last night from a pick-up truck to the kennel because the owner never came to get the dog.

2055: An officer responded to a report of three males ripping off a boat covering in the boat yard at Shirley St. and Washington Ave. The officer located one boat with a ripped tarp and the door open. The officer was unable to locate the suspects.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 11

1041: A resident came into the station to report that his identity had been used in a fraudulent unemployment scheme. The officer filed a report.

1449: A resident came into the station to report that his identity had been used in an attempt to file a fraudulent unemployment claim. The officer filed a report.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 12

0229: An officer restored the peace at a Winthrop St. apartment where the occupants were engaging in a loud party.

0339: An officer restored the peace in a parking lot on Main St. where occupants of a car were

Sgt. Racow retires from Winthrop Police Department

Chief Terence Delehanty announces the retirement of a longtime member of the Winthrop Police Department, Sgt. Judy Racow.

Racow joined the Winthrop Police Department in August 1993 and spent much of her career as a detective, having served as the department's first female detective.

Sgt. Racow has received numerous commendations and awards for bravery and actions beyond the call of duty during her long career in law enforcement. She received the Narcotics Enforcement Officers Award in 1996 from the New England Narcotic Officers Association. She

also received the department community service award in 1996, having organized the Winthrop Police Department holiday toy drive for many years.

In 1996, while investigating drug case, then-Officer Racow was working undercover when a drug suspect tried to kidnap her. She struggled with the suspect and ultimately helped make the arrest. For her actions, she was honored with the George L. Hanna Memorial Award for Bravery by the Massachusetts Executive Office of Public Safety and Security.

Sgt. Racow is also a military veteran and veteran of Operation Iraqi Freedom.



(COURTESY PHOTO WINTHROP POLICE DEPARTMENT)  
Sgt. Judy Racow.

"We are grateful for Sgt. Racow's many years of service to her community, and on behalf of the entire Winthrop Police Department, I wish her all the best in her next chapter," Chief Delehanty said.

arguing loudly over the telephone.

0900: An officer stopped a MV on Cross St. for the civil infraction of speeding. The officer gave a verbal warning to the operator.

1143: An officer responded to a minor MVA at Shirley St. and Washington Ave. and assisted the parties with the exchange of papers.

1321: A resident came to the station to report that he may have been scammed regarding the purchase of a motor vehicle on-line. The officer filed a report.

1412: An officer stopped a MV on Cross St. When the officer determined that the registration of the MV had been revoked for cancellation of insurance, the officer issued a citation to the operator for the criminal offense of operating

a MV with a registration revoked for insurance cancellation. The MV was towed.

1422: An officer directed the owner of dogs barking for over an hour in the backyard of a residence on Main St. to bring the dogs in.

1945: An officer stopped a MV at Pleasant and Palmyra Sts. for the civil infraction of operating after dark without its headlights. The officer gave a verbal warning to the operator.

2014: An officer issued parking tickets to two vehicles parked past the No Parking sign on Cliff Ave.

2309: An officer directed persons having a loud party at the Suburban Extended Stay on Shirley St. to quiet down. When the occupants did not answer the front door, an officer had to climb a fire escape

Faison, 50-plus leaders ask State for small biz relief

Town Manager Austin Faison and more than 50 Massachusetts municipal leaders – including Boston Mayor Martin Walsh – are calling on State House leadership to provide immediate relief for small businesses struggling during the COVID-19 pandemic.

The leaders are calling on State House leadership to provide immediate relief for small businesses struggling during the COVID-19 pandemic. The coalition of 53 officials representing cities and towns throughout Massachusetts signed a letter urging the Legislature to help small businesses bridge the gap toward an equitable recovery. The call comes after several communities, including the Winthrop temporarily returned to earlier stages of the Commonwealth's reopening plan this week, amid ris-

ing COVID cases and worsening hospital capacity.

Chelsea City Manager Tom Ambrosino said any further restrictions for COVID have to be accompanied with relief for businesses, and said there is strength in numbers on that request.

"I think most City leaders agree that if we are seeking further restrictions to combat COVID, that must be accompanied by more economic relief for these businesses that we are requiring to scale back operations," he said. "We think the two must be done together, and we are hoping the Legislature will expedite the economic relief portion."

Added Boston Mayor Walsh, "Boston along with other cities and towns across the state continue to find new and creative ways to support our small

businesses, which have faced unprecedented challenges this year, but we need our state and federal partners to leverage all the tools at their disposal to further our local efforts. As municipal leaders, we're united in our message to the state: please pass the economic development bond bill now and provide relief to small business, restaurants, and their employees at this critically urgent time."

The Massachusetts House and Senate currently have several economic relief options under consideration: an economic development bond bill which includes funding for small business grants and loans, and a supplemental budget filed by Gov. Baker which requests an additional \$49 million in small business support.

Municipal leaders are calling on the Legislature to pass these measures, and to also consider other creative funding mechanisms that would support small businesses, employees and restaurants. Of the 16,000 restaurants in Massachusetts, 3,400 never re-opened after mandatory closures in the spring, and more of them close every day as the pandemic wears on.

Small business relief funding and programs provided by the state, unlike those that might come in a federal stimulus package, could be deployed immediately. "Small businesses and their employees are facing extreme financial distress, especially restaurants, which are facing a mass extinction, and there is every reason to believe this will get worse over the winter," said Metropolitan Area Planning Council Executive Director Marc Draisen.

St. John the Evangelist and Holy Rosary

ALL MASSES AT ST JOHN'S

—

Eucharistic Adoration on Wednesday 5pm - 7pm

Christmas Eve 2 pm, 4 pm (webcast), 5:30 for Holy Rosary, 10pm

Christmas Day 8am (webcast), 10am, 12 noon

firstchurchwinthrop First Church of Winthrop

Christmas Eve

4pm - Virtual Service of Lessons and Carols premeires on WCAT Channel 3 and Facebook

6pm - In-person Candle-lighting Service in the church parking lot

Christmas Day 11am - Virtual Service of Lessons and Carols repeats on WCAT Channel 3

DID YOU KNOW?

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WINTHROP MARKETPLACE

pass the time with new recipes!

BROCCOLI CHEESE BAKE

INGREDIENTS:

8 cups fresh broccoli crowns	1 small onion, chopped
½ cup butter	1¼ cups milk
2 tablespoons all-purpose flour	salt and pepper to taste
	4 cups shredded Swiss cheese
	2 eggs, beaten

DIRECTIONS:

STEP 1 Preheat oven to 325 degrees F (165 degrees C).

STEP 2 Place broccoli in a steamer over 1 inch of boiling water, and cover. Cook until tender but still firm, about 2 to 6 minutes. Drain.

STEP 3 Melt butter in a medium saucepan over medium heat and add flour; cook until bubbly. Stir in onion and gradually add milk, stirring well. Bring to a boil and cook for 1 minute. Remove from heat and season with salt and pepper. Stir in cheese and eggs; mix well. Combine mixture with broccoli and transfer to a 9 x 13 inch casserole dish.

STEP 4 Bake in preheated oven for 30 minutes.

35 REVERE ST., WINTHROP (617)846-6880



# NO MORE WARNINGS

By Laura Plummer

Around 28 members of the public attended the virtual meeting of Town Council on Dec. 15 where the latest COVID surge was the dominant theme of the night.

As of the date of the meeting, Winthrop had a total of 1,109 total positive cases, with 27 deceased and 196 in isolation. There were 269 new cases in the month of November, but 300 in just the first two weeks of December. “We’re not doing great,” said Council President Phil Boncore. “We have got to keep up the vigilance.”

## COVID spike dominates Council meeting

The state is currently under a mask mandate both indoors and outdoors, and the council president said he would urge the police to step up enforcement. “No more warnings,” said Pres. Boncore. “If you’re not wearing your mask, you’re going to get a ticket.” Town Manager Austin Faison urged residents to stay with their households during the coming celebrations, citing that the surges since May have followed holidays. As always, he encouraged per-

sonal responsibility. “It’s not worth the police’s time to be enforcing the mask order,” he said. Faison added that the money the town has depended on from the CARES Act expires at the end of the month. The additional funds have been used for staffing the Emergency Operations Center, empowering municipal staff to work remotely, and stepping up law enforcement. “We don’t have that resource anymore,” he said. “Things may become trickier starting in Janu-

ary.” COVID testing will be extended past the end of the month, but will be moved indoors and available by appointment only. While vaccines are currently being administered, the general public won’t have access to them until late spring or early summer. Vaccines will be prioritized to the most vulnerable, such as those in residential facilities, before being administered to essential workers. The schools are still on track to open on Jan. 4, with special needs stu-

dents receiving services as early as Dec. 18. Councilor Robert DeMarco asked the town manager for instructions about how the council can transition to in-person meetings. “If it’s safe for kids to be in class, then it should be time to meet in person,” said DeMarco. “There must be some physical presence.” Earlier in the evening, Faison said that “education, business and the economy all take a back seat to COVID,” so it’s possible that enabling council to reconvene in person is not high on his priority list.

The matter was referred to the Public Safety Committee. Several communities in the region announced that they were rolling back their reopening to Phase 2 Step 2. Winthrop was [initially reported](#) to be one of those communities, but the Winthrop Board of Health voted against the rollback during an emergency meeting on Tuesday. The rollback would have closed gyms, indoor event spaces, indoor recreational centers, historical locations and other industries.

## Holiday hours for Stop The Spread COVID-19 testing site are posted

The Holiday Schedule for Stop the Spread COVID Testing Site at McKenna Basketball Courts on Walden St. will be as follows:

Wednesday 12/23:  
9 AM – 1 PM  
Thursday 12/24: CLOSED  
Friday 12/25: CLOSED  
Saturday 12/26:  
Noon - 7 PM  
Monday 12/28:  
Noon - 7 PM  
Tuesday 12/29:  
Noon - 7 PM  
Wednesday 12/30:  
9 AM – 1 PM  
Thursday 12/31: CLOSED  
Friday 1/1: CLOSED

Wash your hands often Those who are at a high risk for COVID-19, including those over the age of 65 and with underlying health conditions, are advised to stay home and avoid non-essential tasks and errands. Wear a mask in indoor and outdoor spaces at all times. Face coverings should: Cover the nose and mouth Fit snugly and comfortably against the side of the face Be secured with either ties or ear loops Permit breathing without difficulty Be able to be washed and machine dried without damage. Face masks should be washed regularly depending on the amount of use. For more information about COVID-19 prevention and symptoms, visit the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) website here and the Massachusetts Department of Public Health website here. Stay Informed! The Town encourages everyone to stay informed regarding COVID-19. The following websites are recommended for the most updated information: Town of Winthrop COVID-19 resource page: WinthropCOVID19.com Town of Winthrop Official Website: www.town.winthrop.ma.us



Pictured (left to right) Manny Lopes, President and CEO, Dr. Jackie Fantes, Chief Medical Officer and Family Medicine Doctor, Morgan Brister, Nurse for South End Community Health Center, Dr. Mothusi Chilume, Family Medicine Director, Karina Mendoza, Nurse, Testing, Dr. Jaime Gallegos-Salazar, Infectious Disease Director and Adult Medicine Doctor, and Courtney Senechal, Employee Health Nurse Manager.

## EBNHC received and administered the Moderna COVID-19 Vaccine

EBNHC received and administered the Moderna COVID-19 Vaccine to its first staff this morning just shortly after it arrived. The first three employees to receive the vaccine are

pictured here along with members of Health Center Management looking on. The Health Center will continue to vaccinate its staff beginning with those in the front lines

treating COVID-19 patients and other clinical staff most at risk and hope to proceed with other staff as they receive more vaccine. EBNHC is preparing for what it will take

to vaccinate those most at risk in the community once we enter into that phase and eventually all that they serve.

## Officials urge continued vigilance as COVID-19 risk remains high

Town officials have given the following health update and announcement as of December 21. There are 1,173 total cases: 27 deceased, 132 isolated and 1,014 recovered. The Massachusetts Department of Public Health has notified the Town officials of three additional confirmed positive cases of the virus in Winthrop.

The Stop the Spread Covid-19 testing site will have a modified schedule for the holidays.

Town Manager Austin Faison and Health Director Meredith Hurley urge residents to remain vigilant against the spread of COVID-19 as the community remains at high risk for the disease, and to review the state’s health and safety guidance as they finalize plans and prepare for their holiday celebrations this year.

According to public health data released on Thursday, Dec. 17, the Town’s designation remains at “Red,” indicating a “high risk” of spread in the community. The average daily incidence rate for the Town of Winthrop is 107.1 per 100,000 residents, up from 76.09 last week.

Winthrop Public Health officials report that there are currently 176 active cases of COVID-19 in the community. There have been a total of 1,143 cases in Winthrop since the start of the pandemic. Of those who have been infected with the virus in

the community, there have been 940 recoveries and 27 deaths attributed to the virus.

Residents are strongly encouraged to avoid high risk activities, especially indoor social or holiday gatherings, and all Massachusetts residents are under orders from the Governor to wear masks at all times while in public.

According to the Massachusetts Department of Public Health (DPH), residents should take the following precautions this holiday season:

Limit in-person celebrations to household members only Postpone or cancel travel this holiday season. If you do choose to travel, be aware of and comply with Massachusetts travel order requirements. Note: Hawaii is currently the only state where people can travel from to Massachusetts without being required to fill out the state’s travel form and quarantine and/or produce a negative COVID-19 test result.

Follow the current state gathering size limits and sector-specific workplace safety standards.

Those who still choose to travel or host a small gathering are urged to consider lower risk alternatives and review the precautions they can take to protect themselves and others from COVID-19.

DPH recommends several lower risk activities for celebrating the holidays this year, such as:

Lower-Risk Celebrations and Activities:

Limit in-person holiday gatherings to only people you live with. Host a virtual holiday dinner with extended family or friends. Prepare foods for family and neighbors and deliver them in a contactless way. Virtually attend your traditional holiday activities, such as a visit with Santa. Consider virtual caroling or reciting. Provide a link to your virtual caroling for the people you want to sing to. View holiday lights from your car with those you live with. Higher-Risk Celebrations and Activities:

Any time you gather with others outside of your household, you increase the risk of contracting or spreading illness. All residents are discouraged from gathering with those from outside their household. Gatherings in Massachusetts are subject to gathering size limits.

You are risking your health and the health of others if you host or participate in any in-person festivities if you or anyone in your household: has been diagnosed with COVID-19 and has not completed the isolation period;

has symptoms of COVID-19; is waiting for COVID-19 viral test results; may have been exposed to someone with

COVID-19 in the last 14 days; or

is at increased risk of severe illness from COVID-19, such as older adults or those with certain medical conditions.

If in-person caroling or reciting, stay more than 25 feet from the people you are reciting or singing for and wear a mask. Remain outdoors while caroling. If you visit Santa Claus in person, wear a mask, stay six feet from Santa and others while in line, and make a reservation for your visit where available. If viewing holiday lights outdoors, take a one-way walk with those you live with and maintain distance from others. Other Recommendations and Guidance:

Always wear your mask and watch your distance. (Remove your mask only for eating and drinking.) Do not share food, drink, or any utensils, including serving utensils. Seat people with plenty of space (at least six feet) from one another while dining. Consider seating people at smaller tables in multiple rooms instead of around a large family table. Improve ventilation by opening windows and doors. If setting up outdoor seating under a tent, ensure guests are still seated with physical distancing in mind. Enclosed four-wall tents will have less air circulation than

LOST HAND BAG

At Winthrop Arms


Saturday Night (12/19/20)

Gold mesh with long gold chain

& Jewels

Sentimental to owner

617-846-1307



Ornament design for WIHA by Susan Saulnier.

Winthrop Improvement & Historical Association Presents

The 2020 Winthrop Christmas “HOPE” Ornament

Proceeds Benefit the Historic Deane Winthrop House

On Sale \$10 each

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Shirley True Value Hardware

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Swett’s Liquors

Salon Luxo

Winthrop Arms

Winthrop Book Depot

Winthrop Meat Market

Webster First Federal Credit Union

Simon’s Winthrop Book Store



# Holiday Spirit from Home



**AnneMarie and Eddie**



**Grace, Johnny and Max**



**Mario and Guliana**



**Violet, Sienna, Andrew, Gavin, Adeline, Sloane & James**



**Charlotte**



**Gianni**



**Hagstrom Family**



**Sophia, Ava and Lola**



**Mathew**



**Rosie**



**Steele and Shay**



**Buster and Santa**



**Fiona**



**Autumn**



**Sookie**

# Merry Christmas



## DeLeo //CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

big deal and he was very good to Revere. His legacy will go down as one of the greatest speakers, I think, for what he accomplished in so many different areas.”

DeLeo’s popularity in both communities and statewide has been unmatched in the annals of Massachusetts politics. The charismatic Speaker’s many appearances on the WCVB-TV show, “On The Record” have generated the highest ratings.

Despite his many statewide obligations as Speaker, DeLeo always attended events and gatherings such as Chamber of Commerce awards dinners and installations for local organizations. And while he has rooted for both teams in the annual Revere-Winthrop Thanksgiving football games, DeLeo’s support of the Winthrop Vikings is legendary in the town. His knowledge of high school sports history is extraordinary.

DeLeo’s decision to pursue a position at Northeastern generated brisk political movement in that five candidates have emerged in a potential race for DeLeo’s seat. The five candidates considering a run at this time for the seat are Revere Director of Veterans Services Marc Silvestri, Democratic State Committeeman Juan Pablo Jaramillo, Revere Beach Partnership President and former Winthrop Town Council President Jeffrey Turco, Winthrop School Committee member Valentino Capobianco, and Democratic State Committeewoman Alicia DelVento.

Following are the statements of the five potential candidates for state representative:

**Jeffrey Turco**  
Dear Friends and Neighbors:  
As many of you have heard, Speaker DeLeo is rumored to be stepping down for a role in academia. His

leadership and commitment to our communities has been on display for over 30 years and leaves tremendous shoes to fill.

I have spoken with many of you over the past several days, and your encouragement and enthusiasm for a "Turco for Representative" campaign is humbling to say the least. Your feedback is all the more meaningful to me as we reflect on a difficult year and with Christmas just a week away. I am blessed to have friends and family like you.

Running for office is never an easy task...especially in these strange times. I have spoken to my family, and upon careful consideration, have decided to run for State Representative should Speaker DeLeo make his departure official.

Over the coming weeks and months, I look forward to continuing a conversation about what you would like to see in your next State Representative. If you would like to reach me, please do not hesitate to email [jrturco@aol.com](mailto:jrturco@aol.com) or call 508-450-8843.

**Valentino Capobianco**  
“Though there is no open seat as of this hour, it certainly appears that there will be a special election for the Nineteenth Suffolk State Representative seat in 2021.

First, let me say that I am truly humbled by the amount of people that reached out to me this week.

I am seriously considering becoming a candidate for State Representative if and when the seat becomes available. I plan on taking this next couple of days to talk with my family, friends, supporters, and voters throughout our district and look forward to the discussions ahead.

Having been in public service since the day after I graduated from college and having the opportunity

to work alongside Speaker DeLeo and others, I have seen the value in having representatives in Government that care about people and stand up for our communities. As a school committee member and former Chair, I understand the challenges that are facing working parents, educators and local officials in this unprecedented time.

Speaker DeLeo is a valued friend and mentor and I know that the next Representative from our district has big shoes to fill.”

I requested that my personal legal counsel contact the Massachusetts State Ethics Commission to discuss my status and to ensure compliance with the requirements of the Conflict of Interest Law. Although, based on my current status, a disclosure is not currently required I have nevertheless elected to disclose my intention to begin negotiating prospective employment opportunities with Northeastern University out of an abundance of caution.

“As such, and while I know of no matter, particular matter or general legislation presently before me in my official role that would affect Northeastern University, I filed the disclosure to dispel any appearance of conflict pursuant to G.L. c. 268A, s. 23(b)(3).”

**Marc Silvestri**  
“I have completed my forms with the state Office of Campaign and Political Finance (OCPF) and became certified as a candidate with the state Monday. I will 100 percent be a candidate, but if Speaker DeLeo remains in the seat, I will not.

Over this past weekend, I spoke with a lot of close family and friends, and together we decided that we’re up for the challenge if it comes to be. I am going to be honored to have the ability to just run for this seat and that’s the truth.

“On December 16, 2020,

It was something that I wasn’t expecting. It was something that I’ve thought about for a long time, getting the bug on the campaign trails of the Senator and the Mayor, and working for the Veterans Office and seeing the impact that I have on lives in such a small micro-level – that I am excited just to have the opportunity to make that impact on so many more people.

In this period of the COVID-19 pandemic and the unprecedented times of hunger and homelessness, we’re going to see issues in the district that not many people are going to be used to. And even with the vaccines coming through, I feel like no one is ready for the “after effect” of the pandemic. And what I mean by that is ‘anywhere you’re removed from your comfortable environment, I think we’re going to have a lot of people – and this is going to be one of my top issues: COVID-19 relief; making sure we have relief not only for tenants but landlords, making sure the vaccine is available whether you have health insurance or not, and making sure that something is done with the mental health and homelessness issues that we’re already starting to see rise.

I like to pride myself as a good leader – and that’s listening as well as leading, and not being afraid to

speak up. I think those are important things and that’s what we need right now.

I have been reaching out to people and I have been getting a great response to my candidacy. A lot of people are very excited and I’m excited and my family is excited.”

**Juan Pablo Jaramillo**  
“I am exploring the ways in which I can extend my public service to the communities of Revere and Winthrop. When my family and I immigrated to the United States, Revere invested in me as we sought refuge and in doing so this City, this community, renewed its commitment to the American Dream. It is here that I learned the values of hard work and service and that is why I have dedicated my life to giving back to our community; whether fighting for working families by ensuring they have a better wage, my experience in the State Legislature crafting policy working for Senator Boncore, serving on the Revere Planning Board, or coaching Pop Warner football -- I am dedicated to the growth and success of Revere and Winthrop. In the coming weeks, and as I observe the holidays ahead, I will be talking with residents, family, and loved ones about what our community needs the most and how I can continue my service.”

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**MERRY CHRISTMAS**



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**Valentino Capobianco**  
School Committee

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**Merry Christmas and Happy New Year**

From

**THE MARTUCCI FAMILY**



OUR Opinions

THE TRUE SPIRIT OF CHRISTMAS

The Christmas season usually is the most wonderful time of the year.

But Christmas, 2020, is anything but wonderful.

We are undergoing a degree of hardship unlike any that we have experienced in our lifetime. More Americans are dying each and every day from the coronavirus than perished in any of our wars or on 9/11. As the cumulative death toll inexorably continues to climb, the total number of Americans who will have been killed by the virus likely will exceed all of the combat deaths in all of our wars against a foreign enemy.

The death count from the pandemic only tells part of the story, however. Those who have survived a bout with the virus face an uncertain future because of the serious long-term health effects on their vital organs.

The burden that has been placed upon our doctors, nurses, and other front-line workers has been enormous and continues to grow as the virus relentlessly attacks our populace and fills our hospitals to overflowing.

In addition, the economic impact of the pandemic has been profound for the millions of Americans who have lost their jobs, their businesses, and their homes. Millions of Americans, including one in five children, do not have enough to eat. The lines of cars at food banks stretch for miles.

For our nation's young people, the virus has disrupted their lives to such an extent that economists say the effects upon their education and future job prospects will linger for years to come.

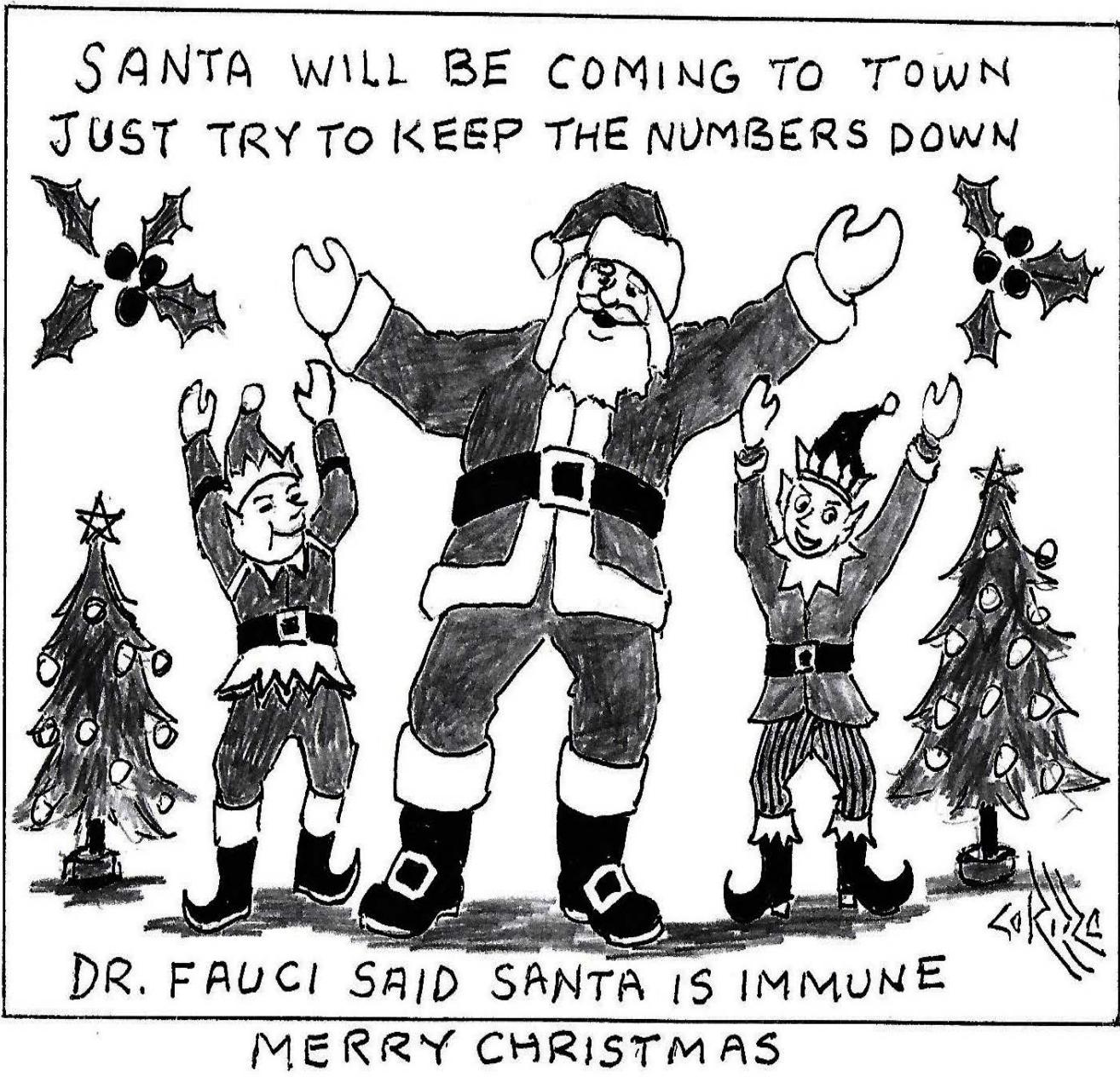
The pandemic has eviscerated the usual holiday celebrations that bring together family, friends, and colleagues, adding to the mental health and anxiety issues, especially for older Americans, that are a by-product of the constant stress in our lives.

But amidst all of the chaos and danger that society is facing, this holiday season has provided us with an opportunity to discover a new-found appreciation for the things that really matter in our lives.

With the usual holiday frenzy of parties, gift-shopping, vacations, and other self-indulgent pursuits no longer viable, we have a unique opportunity to reflect on what is really important: The health and safety of ourselves and our loved ones, as well as the urgent need to assist those who find themselves in dire straits this holiday season.

We hope that all of our readers will heed the warnings of our public health officials and that those with the means to do so will help the vast numbers of our less-fortunate fellow Americans.

If we do these things, we will come to a true understanding of what the Christmas season really is all about.



GUEST OP-ED

Our Christmas Spirit

Dr. Glenn Mollette

Years ago, our church group was out Christmas caroling. We weren't far from the church and our leader led us out to the back of Mr. Castle's house to sing to he and his wife. His wife came to the door and greeted us with a smile and was gracious. We sang to her when suddenly through the window we saw her husband appear in the family room with a big towel around his body. He obviously had just gotten out of the shower. He came into his family room unknowing that 20 carolers had all eyes on him. Several of the women began to chuckle. I just knew we were all about to see something we had not planned on. Sitting down on his sofa he put his feet up and was preparing to relax. The volume of laughter from a couple of his adult friends grew louder when Mr. Castle looked up and saw us.

He immediately made an "Oh no" expression while shaking his head a bit and jumped up and departed to another part of the house. We sang to his sweet wife and moved on down the street with a new visual that I still remember to this day. I'll always remember what a good spirit he and his wife had and that we all left feeling uplifted by them.

This week I walked to the back of a local nursing home to look through a window to see a friend. Ms. Southard is 99. My wife and I visited in her home recently. She was agile, mentally sharp and dancing around like she always does. Her attitude always lifts us up. She did say on that very day we were there, "I don't want to end up in a nursing home. "I told my son I don't ever want to be in one," she said. Two weeks later while closing her curtains she made an awkward

step, fell and broke her leg. Surgery was required and also rehabilitation. Her insurance plan would not pay for her to go to the local rehabilitation hospital but instead put her where she never wanted to be, a nursing home.

I found out from a nurse which room she was in and how to find the right window to look through. The nurse said she would meet me at the window and let Ms. Southard know I was there. I dreaded what I might see but wanted to wish her a Merry Christmas. Knocking on the window I was delighted that she was sitting up and started laughing and waving at me. We exchanged Merry Christmas the best we could yelling through a window. While I almost wanted to cry seeing her there, I was so encouraged by her good spirit.

The spirit of Christmas is inside you. This spirit is

greater than you and I and pulls us through the awkward and the very difficult times of life.

The Christmas season we celebrate is one of hope and celebration. The story of Jesus is the story of God's hope coming to us in the little baby a long time ago. 2020 has certainly been a year we've needed hope.

2021 is going to be a better year. Vaccines for Covid-19 are coming. May your spirit be rekindled. Share your spirit with others and may the year ahead be one of the best ever for us all.

Glenn Mollette is the publisher of Newburgh Press, Liberty Torch and various other publishing imprints; a national columnist – American Issues and Common Sense opinions, analysis, stories and features appear each week. In over 500 newspapers, websites and blogs across the United States.

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

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COVID //CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

open air tents and should be considered indoor spaces (also check fire codes for heating tents). If outdoor temperature or weather forces you to put down the tent sidewalls, consider leaving one or more sides open or rolling up the bottom 12 inches of each sidewall to enhance ventilation while still providing a wind break.

More information about the state's guidance for holiday celebrations can be found here.

Additional Information Residents are reminded to always take the following precautions to prevent further spread of COVID-19 in the community:

Remember that an infected individual can spread COVID-19 before they have symptoms, which is why social distancing -- maintaining a minimum of 6 feet from others -- is critical. Those who must go out are urged to: Avoid gathering in groups Maintain 6 feet from people outside your household Do not shake hands or hug Wash your hands often Those who are at a high risk for COVID-19, including those over the age of 65 and with underlying health conditions,

are advised to stay home and avoid non-essential tasks and errands. Wear a mask in indoor and outdoor spaces at all times. Face coverings should: Cover the nose and mouth Fit snugly and comfortably against the side of the face Be secured with either ties or ear loops Permit breathing without difficulty Be able to be washed and machine dried without damage. Face masks should be washed regularly depending on the amount of use.

For more information about COVID-19 prevention and symptoms, visit the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) website here and the Massachusetts Department of Public Health website here.

Additional Information The Town encourages everyone to stay informed regarding COVID-19. The following websites are recommended for the most updated information: Town of Winthrop COVID-19 resource page: WinthropCOVID19.com Town of Winthrop Official Website: www.town.winthrop.ma.us

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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 December 23, 2010

Colleagues in the Winthrop Police Department, friends, and family recently honored Detective Robert McFarland at a retirement party at the Senior Center. McFarland retired after 36 years of service, 34 in the position of detective. Police Chief Terence Delehanty served as master of ceremonies for the speaking program.

Winthrop Firefighters Local 170 announced this week that they have been in contact with Santa Claus and have finalized arrangements for the jolly old elf’s annual trip through Winthrop, beginning at about 4:30 p.m. on Friday, December 24, and ending at approximately 9 p.m.

Beverly and David Phipps, who have been running the Winthrop Food Pantry for the past 14 years, are seeking volunteers to take over for them. David Phipps is 76 and the physical demands of running the center are quite a bit more difficult to keep up with. Their “retirement” from the Food Pantry is on hold while they search for some help and restructure the operation to take some of the physical burden off them.

Little Fockers, The Fighter, and Gulliver’s Travels are playing the Revere Showcase Cinemas.

## 20 years ago December 21, 2000

The selectmen, after meeting with the School Committee, have set a date of March 19 for a Prop. 2 and 1/2 override of \$2 million that would be split evenly between the School Dept. and the rest of the town departments.

The selectmen, after a meeting with the Chairman of the Board of Assessors, Robert Indresano, approved a tax rate for FY 2001 of \$13.04, an increase from \$12.33 for the current fiscal year, of which 18 cents is attributable to the cost of construction for the new Ft. Banks elementary school.

The selectmen have announced the appointment of Paul Sagarino Jr. as the town’s new Treasurer/Collector.

The Emperor’s New Groove, Proof of Life, and Traffic are playing at the Revere Showcase Cinemas.

## 30 years ago December 19, 1990

Santa Claus once again will make his usual appearance throughout the town on Christmas Eve courtesy of the Winthrop Fire Dept.

The selectmen were informed by an engineering firm at their meeting Monday night that repairs to the seawall on Grand View Ave. could cost as much as \$500,000. The deteriorated condition of the seawall was determined upon an inspection after the powerful gas line explosion two months ago.

Tom Conley, the director of Larsen Rink, told town officials that the prospects for adding more time for public skating by local residents is not financially feasible because of the need to rent the rink to outside groups in order for the rink to break even.

The Bells of Boston provided holiday entertainment in the Centre on

Saturday courtesy of the Parks and Rec. Dept.

The School Committee has hired former Town Accountant Lester Towlson as a financial consultant to the School Dept.

The Godfather Part III, Bonfire of the Vanities, and Kindergarten Cop are playing at the Revere Showcase Cinemas.

## 40 years ago December 24, 1980

Firefighters battled a three-alarm blaze at 55 Fremont St. in freezing temperatures Sunday night. Fire apparatus from five nearby communities assisted the local fire department. Damage to the house, which was all but gutted, is estimated at \$50,000.

Asst. Supt. of Schools Peter Finn provided a blueprint to the School Committee for saving money given the reality of the cutbacks that will be required by Prop. 2 and 1/2. Finn said that the committee can close the E.B. Newton School, moving those students to the Wilis School, and combining classes at the Chase and Dalrymple schools.

## 50 years ago December 23, 1970

Joseph Clark has been named the chairman of the Winthrop Jaycees’ second annual Distinguished Service Award dinner.

The Very Rev. Thomas J. Reddy, a Winthrop native, has been reappointed provisional of the Oblates of the Mary Immaculate for a three-year term.

## 60 years ago December 22, 1960

A bare quorum of Town Meeting members granted pay raises of \$200 to all regular members of the Fire Dept. at the special session that was postponed from the week before because of the crippling blizzard. Members also approved an article transferring funds to various departments to carry them through the rest of the year.

Santa will make his Christmas Eve visit throughout the town on Saturday, starting at 4:45 p.m. and ending at 7:00 at the Central fire station.

The hustle and bustle at the local Post Office, the well-stocked local stores in the Centre and other business areas in town, and the scene of busy shoppers, laden with bundles scurrying to and fro’ on last-minute errands, all attested to the nearness of Christmas Day this week.

All children in Winthrop will have the opportunity to be tested for tuberculosis in January in the local schools.

John Wayne and Stewart Granger star in North to Alaska at the Winthrop Theatre.

## 70 years ago December 21, 1950

Walter A. Brown, the president and general manager of the Boston Garden-Boston Arena Corp. and owner of the Boston Celtics, will receive the annual Achievement Award of the Temple Tifereth Brotherhood at the Sports Night festivities to be held January 16 in the Community Building.

The selectmen declared a state of emergency Monday night, in line with similar pronouncements by federal and state offi-

cials, and then ordered an appropriation of \$5000 for the Civil Defense Dept. Deputy Chief Wyman told the selectmen that the town’s air raid sirens should be set up and functioning within a week.

The Trustees of Winthrop Community Hospital have undertaken the task of raising \$15,000 for alterations that are mandatory under the new state law pursuant to guidelines established by the Dept. of Public Health. The hospital needs to have two new delivery rooms, two nurseries, a formula room, and an isolation nursery.

George F. Chandler Jr. has been named the head of the 1951 Red Cross Drive in Winthrop.

With the strains of Christmas music coming from the loudspeaker at the Centre fire station, crowds surging at the local Post Office windows, and last-minute shoppers setting upon the town’s stores, all appears in readiness for Christmas in Winthrop this weekend.

Donald O’Connor and Jimmy Durante star in The Milkman at the Winthrop and State Theatres.

## 80 years ago December 19, 1940

Santa has sent a letter to all of the children in town informing them that he will arrive here Christmas Eve and drive his reindeer through the streets of the town.

George J. Hamilton, the Commodore of the Pleasant Park Y.C., has been named the chairman of the 1941 Greater Boston Community Fund.

Youngsters of all ages are invited to the annual electric train show at the Knights of Columbus.

Claudette Colbert and Ray Milland star in Arise My Love at the Winthrop and State Theatres.

## 90 years ago December 20, 1930

Ther annual dinner and meeting of the Winthrop Golf Club was a fitting completion to the most progressive year ever of the local club. More than 100 members and guests enjoyed the evening’s entertainment and presentation of trophies.

The selectmen have been corresponding with officials from the Narrow Gauge railroad to discuss the possibility of making a small playground near the railroad crossing at Locust St.

Maurice Chevalier stars in Playboy of Paris at the Winthrop and State Theatres.

## 100 years ago December 16, 1920

Supt. of Schools Edward R. Clarke spoke on the topic of Administration of the Schools at a meeting of the Winthrop Woman’s Civic League that was held at the home of Mrs. Harry E. Wright.

Commuters are noticing cleaner trains and lamp chimneys, and the East Boston station has been swept, as officials of the Narrow Gauge railroad seek to respond to the outrage by local residents and officials over the increase in fares and reduction in service recently enacted by the company. Still, trains regularly run late and people are tired of wasting time and money.

# Massachusetts commits to groundbreaking regional program to reduce pollution

Massachusetts Governor Charlie Baker, Connecticut Governor Ned Lamont, Rhode Island Governor Gina Raimondo and Washington, D.C. Mayor Muriel Bowser signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) committing to a groundbreaking multi-state program that will reduce motor vehicle pollution by at least 26 percent and generate over \$1.8 billion in Massachusetts by 2032. The bipartisan Transportation and Climate Initiative Program (TCI-P) will allow participating jurisdictions to invest in equitable, cleaner transportation options, and create significant new employment opportunities while substantially improving public health across the Commonwealth and New England.

Underscoring the importance of regional action, other Transportation and Climate Initiative (TCI) jurisdictions released a joint statement committing to continued collaboration on the development of the regional program, as well as working to identify additional regional strategies to reduce air pollution, create healthier communities, and invest in cleaner, more equitable transportation systems. Significantly, the State of North Carolina joined the joint statement, committing for the first time to working with the other TCI jurisdictions on the development of the program. With the issuance of the MOU, the remaining TCI jurisdictions have the ability to formally sign the MOU at any time. The program is slated to begin in 2023 after a reporting year to allow for additional jurisdictions to sign on.

“As a Commonwealth, we have an obligation to address climate change head on and a challenge this great requires action across our region and nation. That’s why I am proud to join Governor Lamont, Governor Raimondo and Mayor Bowser to launch this trailblazing program to reduce greenhouse gas emissions while building the clean, resilient transportation system of the future,” said Gov-

ernor Charlie Baker. “By partnering with our neighbor states with which we share tightly connected economies and transportation systems, we can make a more significant impact on climate change while creating jobs and growing the economy as a result. Several other Transportation and Climate Initiative states are also committing to this effort today and we look forward to these partners moving ahead with us as we build out this first in the nation program.”

In a region with nation-leading climate goals, Massachusetts, Connecticut, Rhode Island and Washington, D.C. are committing to bold action to ensure the achievement of emissions reduction targets while positioning the jurisdictions and region as leaders in the clean transportation economy. Accounting for 73 percent of the transportation emissions, 76 percent of the vehicles, and 75 to 80 percent of the gross domestic product in New England, the three states and Washington D.C. are taking this action at a time when the impacts of climate change continue to be felt across the country and region.

In New England, transportation is responsible for over 40 percent of greenhouse gas emissions, and exposure to air pollution exacerbates lung and heart ailments, causes asthma attacks, and increases the risk of a stroke and other serious health conditions. To address these challenges, the new program will make available over \$160 million in allowance auction proceeds to Massachusetts by 2023 — money to provide better transportation options that result in less pollution, improved health, and a growing economy.

The TCI-P jurisdictions have committed to invest 35 percent of annual revenue in communities underserved by current transportation options, and with disproportionately high levels of pollution. To ensure equitable clean transportation outcomes, Massachusetts will designate an advisory body with diverse representation to identify underserved and overburdened communi-

ties, provide guidance for investments, and define goals and metrics for measuring progress.

“Tackling a challenge as big as climate change requires regions to work together and both the Memorandum of Understanding and joint statement represent a commitment by a broad group of states to continue collaborating on strategies that can bend the curve of transportation greenhouse gas emissions, which continue to be the largest and fastest growing source of climate-altering pollution,” said Transportation Secretary and CEO Stephanie Pollack.

TCI-P will require large gasoline and diesel fuel suppliers to purchase “allowances” for the pollution caused by the combustion of fuels they sell in the regions. The total number of emission allowances would decline each year, resulting in less transportation pollution. Each participating jurisdiction will independently decide how to invest program proceeds. These proceeds will be invested in ways that help both urban and rural residents, including improving and expanding public transportation; zero-emission buses, cars, and trucks; electric vehicle charging infrastructure; development of interstate electric vehicle charging corridors; improving high speed wireless internet in rural and low-income areas to allow for teleworking; repairing existing roads and bridges; and providing safer bike lanes and sidewalks.

TCI-P was developed with extensive outreach and input from thousands of residents, stakeholders, businesses, and organizations, as part of the Transportation and Climate Initiative (TCI), a multi-jurisdictional collaboration of Northeast, Mid-Atlantic, and Southeast states and the District of Columbia. With the signing of the TCI-P MOU, there will be many additional opportunities for the public to provide feedback during the subsequent development of a model rule, and program implementation.

## Real Estate Transfers

BUYER 1	SELLER 1	ADDRESS	PRICE
Deeb, Robert L	Daigneault, Aaron M	170 Cottage Park Rd	\$515,000
Cahani, Dhashim	Desimone FT	900 Governors Dr #35	\$281,000
Strong, Danielle	Tang, Mathew	28 James Ave #28	\$330,000
Asquam Properties LLC	BCRZ LLC	10-34 Putnam St	\$5,100,000
Zhu, Zhengkun	Rosati, Maria L	191 Somerset Ave	\$755,000
Guzman, Tang V	Gjinovci, Petrit	305 Winthrop St	\$582,000



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CHILDREN HAVE FUN IN THE SNOW

The first snow of the season came in strong last Thursday at far more than just a dusting. There was plenty of snow to play in, and the children in Town took complete advantage of it.

Santa Route // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Shore Drive to Tewksbury\*\*left on Tewksbury to Shirley\*\*  
5:00PM\*\*right on Shirley to Veterans Road\*\*right on Veterans Road to Locust Street\*\*left on Locust Street\*\*Locust to Revere Street\*\*right on Revere Street to Sagamore\*\*  
5:30PM\*\*Sagamore to Grovers\*\*left on Grovers\*\*Grovers to Cliff\*\*right on Cliff to Seal Harbor\*\*Seal Harbor to Pond Street\*\*right on Pond Street to Highland Ave\*\*right on Highland to Nahant\*\*Nahant to Grovers\*\*left on Grovers\*\*  
6:00PM \*\*Grovers to Highland\*\*right on Highland to Cliff\*\*Cliff to Quincy Ave\*\*left onto Quincy\*\*Quincy to Upland Road\*\*left on Upland to Revere Street\*\*left on Revere Street\*\* right on Revere Street\*\*left on Harvard to Payson\*\*right on Payson to Main\*\*  
6:30PM\*\*right on Main to Bowdoin\*\*left on Bowdoin to Centre\*\*right on Centre to Hermon\*\*left on Hermon to Belcher\*\*Belcher to Winthrop\*\*left on Winthrop to Atlantic\*\*left on Atlantic to Hermon\*\*  
7:00PM\*\*right on Hermon to Main\*\*right on Main to Winthrop\*\*left on Winthrop to Banks\*\*Banks to Main\*\*right on Main to Pleasant\*\*left on Pleasant to Lincoln\*\*left on Lincoln to Brookfield\*\*right on Brookfield to Pleasant\*\*left on Pleasant to Waldemar\*\*  
7:30PM \*\*left on Waldemar to Pauline\*\*right on Pauline to Lowell Road\*\*Lowell to Maple\*\*Maple to Loring\*\*right on Loring to Court\*\*left on Court to Johnson\*\*Johnson to Somerset\*\*left on Somerset  
8:00PM\*\*Somerset to Pleasant\*\*right on Pleasant to Cottage Park\*\*right on Cottage Park to Bartlett Parkway\*\*left on Bartlett Parkway to Orlando\*\*Orlando to Bartlett Road\*\*  
8:30PM \*\*Bartlett to Pleasant\*\*right on Pleasant to Plummer\*\*right on Plummer to Frances\*\*left on Frances to Sunnyside\*\*left on Sunnyside to Pleasant\*\*left on Pleasant to Bartlett\*\*right on Bartlett to Jefferson\*\*right on Jefferson to Putnam\*\*right on Putnam to Buchanan\*\*  
9:00PM\*\*left on Buchanan to Winthrop\*\*right on Winthrop to Washington\*\*left on Washington to River Road\*\*left on River Road to Chester\*\*left on Chester to Bowdoin\*\*right on Bowdoin to George\*\*left on George to Winthrop\*\*left on Winthrop to Jefferson\*\*Jefferson to Freemont\*\*right on Freemont to Pauline\*\*right on Pauline to Fire Headquarters\*\*  
9:30PM\*\*Santa heads back to North Pole to load up his sleigh  
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Marc and Maya Chapdelaine.



Miles Aiello stays warm with his Winthrop Vikings hat.



Maggie Chapdelaine molds her first snowball.



Ruby and Hazel Viens turn the sidewalk into a fort.





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## BASKETBALL ROYALTY: THE TSIOTOS FAMILY



One of the greatest families in the history of Winthrop High School athletics, The Tsiotos Family in 2008, from left, Max Tsiotos, Constantinos “Dino” Tsiotos, Niki Tsiotos, Katerina Mallios, Poli Tsiotos, Elaine Tsiotos Mallios, and Nick Tsiotos. On this night, members of the Tsiotos Family turned out to support former WHS captain and NEC All-Star Katerina Mallios, who went on to play college basketball at Babson College.

## WHS SPORTS THROUGH THE YEARS

10 years ago  
December 16, 2010

The Winthrop High boys basketball team Tuesday saw a two-year undefeated streak in the Small Division of the Northeastern Conference come to an end with a 65-58 loss to Marblehead. “We have a lot of new players and we’ll go through some growing pains,” said WHS head coach Dave Brown. The Vikings drained 10 three-pointers on the night and received fine offensive performances by Quinton Dale (18 points, 12 rebounds, six blocked shots) and Taj Generazzo (16 points). Michael Griffin and J.P. Doherty hit for eight points apiece and Joe D’Amore chipped in with six, all in the second half.

The Winthrop High hockey team opened its season in dramatic fashion with a game-tying

goal with just 4.9 seconds showing on the clock to earn a 3-3 deadlock with Wilmington Monday evening in a non-league encounter at Larsen Rink. Freshman Dan Eruzione lit the red lamp to earn Winthrop the tie, but his goal was preceded by another key marker when Mitch Paulson brought the Vikings within 3-2 with a tally with about two minutes to play. Senior Joe Scarfo notched the first goal of the season for Winthrop in the middle frame, assisted by Chris LeBlanc. Both Scarfo and LeBlanc earned assists on Eruzione’s equalizer and Eruzione assisted on Paulson’s tally. “This was a real character-building game for us,” said WHS head coach Dale Dunbar. “It was hard-fought all the way and the team never quit. We just kept the pressure on in the final minute and it paid off.”

Dunbar also lauded the effort turned in by WHS goaltender Steven Waites.

20 years ago  
December 14, 2000

Senior Patrick Rogowicz, a captain and two-way lineman for the 7-4 WHS football team, is this year’s recipient of the prestigious Irving P. Alexander Trophy, which is presented annually by the Winthrop Rotary Club and is emblematic of the most valuable player on the Viking football team. This marks the 48th presentation of the award, which was begun by the Rotary Club in 1953 after the passing in 1952 of Mr. Alexander, a past club

See YEARS Page 10

## WINTHROP HIGH SPORTS ROUNDUP

### NEW COACH, NEW YEAR FOR WHS BOYS BASKETBALL

The Winthrop High boys basketball team, under the direction of new head coach Mike Triant, began its practice sessions for the 2021 season last week.

“Things have been going great. We had a great first week,” said Triant. “They are a great group of kids and they have been really getting after it.”

The 2021 edition of the Vikings will be led by returning senior captain Cam Conway and junior Chris Cappuccio, who was selected as a captain this week.

“They will be our two captains this year,” said Triant. “We’ve had great leadership throughout the first week by all of the upperclassmen.”

The challenges facing a first-year head coach are difficult enough, but the complications facing Triant because of the COVID-19 restrictions will make his first season at the helm of the WHS boys’ program immeasurably more difficult.

“To say this has been a different year would be an understatement,” said Triant. “It certainly has not been the way I envisioned the first eight months on the job. We obviously were not able to spend time together or get guys together in the off-season to work out and develop a rapport

with one another.

“All that being said, we are focused on staying safe and having a great season,” Triant continued. “The coaches and players are thrilled to be together and to be making the commitment that we are making to one another. That is really what it is all about -- it is about the guys in the gym and what we all want to put into the season and into the development of the program.

“I know the staff we have is committed and I think we have a great group of young men who understand the commitment,” added the coach. “Moving forward, that commitment to one another will be a tremendous asset toward accomplishing our goals. We will all be committed to one another and to the improvement of Winthrop basketball.

“I’ve been telling the team that the work you put in now will be seen years down the road and you will know that you helped reestablish Winthrop basketball where it needs to be,” Triant added.

Despite the obstacles of the pandemic, Triant and his crew are happy to be playing ball and thankful to school officials for the opportunity to compete in 2021.

“I am grateful for all of the hard work the town and the school administrators have put in to enable us to get back on the floor,” said Tri-

ant. “I am elated for our student-athletes and look forward to working with the school department and the school administrators to enable them to compete in a safe environment. Sports are such an amazing outlet for kids. They need this now more than ever before. A basketball season is a great first step toward a return to normalcy in their lives.

“In terms of the season and the COVID rules, we will do whatever needs to be done to keep us safe and we are looking forward to competing against all of our opponents whenever and wherever that will be,” Triant added.

Although a schedule has yet to be completed, Athletic Director Matt Serino said there will be no games prior to January 8.

### WHS GIRLS HOCKEY GETS BACK ON THE ICE

The Winthrop High girls hockey team opened practice sessions this past week as the Lady Vikings look forward to competing in a 2021 season that will get underway on Saturday, January 9, when they will host Northeastern Hockey League rival Medford/Malden. The shortened season will consist of 11 games and end on February 20.

“We are just glad to be

See ROUNDUP Page 11

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NEWS FROM AROUND THE REGION

SEEKING MORE INFORMATION ON VACCINE

CHELSEA - City Councilor Damali Vidot said she is calling on the medical professionals in the state and in Chelsea to provide residents with more information about the coming COVID-19 vaccines, and she said as of now, she is skeptical of it even though she has an auto-immune disorder.

Vidot said she was recently asked if – as a community leader – she would advocate for residents to get the COVID vaccines.

“I said ‘no,’” she said. “I feel it would be irresponsible for me to encourage people to go get the same vaccine that I have concerns about...I do feel if the vaccine does work and it’s safe, Chelsea should be prioritized, but at the same time right now we need to be educating people about the differences between Pfizer and Moderna and Johnson & Johnson. We need to know the data. We shouldn’t blindly go into something, and I won’t encourage that, and just have people get injected with something blindly.”

She said the fact that the Operation Warp Speed vaccine program was run by the Trump Administration brings doubts into a lot of people in the community of Chelsea, and she said having a medical professional explain what has happened would be a good way to combat that.

“In my personal experience I don’t trust the vaccine because I don’t have the research on it,” she said. “If I read the scientific studies, I won’t understand them. I need someone from the medical field to explain this to me and to the residents. I know people are tired of being at home – I get it – but we need to be careful.”

She said one of her doubts lies in the fact that the vaccine came so quickly, and she wonders how that happened. While many vaccines and therapies take years to hit the market for public use, she said some steps must have been skipped. That process is something she said people need to know about before they get in line for the vaccine in the coming months so they can weigh the risks.

Particularly, one thing she isn’t comfortable with is many people with doubts are scared to express those feelings. She said too many feel they’ll be labelled “fringe” or “anti-vaxers.”

“If our residents are too scared to say something, then that means we’re playing politics with people’s lives,” she said. “I’m

not into that...We have to be cautious. I won’t be the first in line and I’m in a vulnerable category.”

VACCINE SHOTS ADMINISTERED

CHELSEA - Boston Medical Center (BMC) received the area’s first doses of the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID19 vaccine last week, taking it into cold storage immediately and, on Wednesday, beginning the first rounds of vaccinations on staff members.

Mass General Brigham followed suit on Tuesday, receiving 9,000 doses of the Pfizer vaccine and putting it in storage as well. On Wednesday, prioritized employees began to be vaccinated.

At Mass General, the first vaccination was given to Registered Nurse Belza Betancur, a Chelsea resident, on Wednesday morning by Ellen O’Connor.

At BMC, Registered Nurse Cheryl Tull was the first BMC employee to get the vaccine around 9 a.m. on Wednesday, Dec. 16. She is also the Associate Chief Nursing Officer at the hospital. The first five vaccinations at BMC were given to Tull, a Family medicine doctor, an Infectious Diseases doctor, a respiratory therapist, and an environmental services employee whose job it is to disinfect patient rooms.

BMC said it expects to vaccinate 1,000 employees through Saturday, and a total of 2,000 by the end of next week. In the next two months, a spokesman said they expect to vaccinate 6,000 patient-facing employees using guidance from the state.

BMC said it received 1,950 doses Monday morning and planned to equitably disperse them throughout the front-line workers at the hospital, a process that started Wednesday morning.

“Monday morning, Boston Medical Center received 1,950 doses of the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID19 vaccine,” read a statement. “Beginning Wednesday, we will begin the first wave of vaccinations to front line health care workers, a group including doctors and nurses from our ICU and Emergency Department and patient floors that treat COVID-19 patients, but just as importantly, employees from environmental and support services, and other crucial positions that work in COVID-positive patient areas.”

The doses were put into a freezer at the BMC inpatient pharmacy.

Mass General Brigham (MGH) confirmed on Tuesday it had received its first shipment of the Pfizer

COVID-19 vaccine. Mass General Brigham received an initial shipment of nearly 9,000 vaccine doses to be allocated proportionally across the 12 hospitals in its system. They also began vaccinating health care workers at the hospitals on Wednesday.

Meanwhile, Community Health Centers like East Boston Neighborhood Health Center has been planning for their role in receiving and vaccinating workers and the public. Community health centers are expected to play a large role in the coming weeks and months as the general population starts to qualify for the vaccine.

“We are taking important steps to prepare for the COVID-19 vaccine to ensure its equitable distribution throughout our communities,” said East Boston Neighborhood Health Center CEO and President Manny Lopes. “We have a specific team that will manage all aspects of the vaccine, from preparing for its arrival through to administering doses to our communities. Our Massachusetts COVID-19 Vaccine Provider Agreement has been approved, so we are now eligible to receive the COVID-19 vaccine as soon as it becomes available. This is an important step in ensuring the safety of our communities, especially our patients that have been disproportionately impacted by the pandemic.”

The Chief Medical Officer for the health center, Jackie Fantes said they are awaiting direction from the state Department of Public Health. She said the health center plans to vaccinate their staff and high-risk patients first.

“The big questions about how and when we will administer the vaccine will depend greatly on the guidelines developed by our partners at the Mass Department of Public Health as well as the amount of supply,” she said. “We now serve more than 100,000 patients at our East Boston, South End, Revere and Winthrop facilities. Our priority will be to administer the vaccine first to our staff and patients at high risk of complications from COVID-19, such as the elderly and those with chronic health conditions. It is also important to us to focus on vulnerable populations like those in essential worker roles or those living in multi-generational households who cannot isolate.”

In a historic press conference on Monday, Health and Human Services Secretary Alex Azar, Dr. Moncef Slaoui and General Gustave Perna –

FIRST SHIPMENT



PHOTOS COURTESY BOSTON MEDICAL CENTER

The BMC supply team walking the first shipment of the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID19 vaccine to the pharmacy on Monday morning. The first deliveries of vaccine will be administered to front-line medical workers on Wednesday morning.

all members of the Operation Warp Speed vaccine team – reported on the first shipments of the Pfizer vaccine.

The reported that 2.9 million doses of the vaccine had been shipped and another 2.9 million would be held back for the second booster dose that will be given to those inoculated in 21 to 28 days. The Pfizer vaccine requires an initial shot and a second booster for full immunity, they said.

Those shipments would continue through Tuesday, and Wednesday and the rest of the week likely, Perna said. He said they have used a public/private partnership with the federal government, UPS and FedEx to distribute the doses, and now are entering into a “steady drumbeat” of constant shipments as the days and weeks go on.

“The point here is the initial push that we have shows we can execute,” he said. “Now we’re starting our drumbeat of continuous shipments of vaccine.”

All vaccine shipments destinations and dosage amounts are determined by each state’s governor, they said. For Massachusetts, Gov. Charlie Baker issues an initial priority list last week that is now being followed in the first dosages. There were 636 sites across the United States identified to Operation Warp Speed, with 145 getting shipments on Monday.

There were 425 that would receive shipments on Tuesday, and 66 on

Wednesday.

All expected the Moderna vaccine, also a two-shot program, to get emergency use authorization by the weekend, and that would start to be shipped out by next Monday, Dec. 21. There would be approximately 100 million doses of that vaccine available initially as there has been more time to manufacture in the run-up to authorization.

They expected to be able to vaccinate 100 million people by the end of the 1st quarter of 2021. That will be bolstered if a Johnson & Johnson vaccine – a one shot program – is approved for emergency use in late January or early February. Another vaccine by AstraZeneca is also on the same timetable and could be in use before the end of the first quarter, Slaoui said.

Meanwhile, Azar said they are confident they will have enough vaccine for anyone that wants it and that no American would have to pay for the vaccine if they want it.

“No American faces an out of pocket expense for this vaccine,” Azar said.

The Centers for Disease Control has authorized \$140 million to pay for long-term planning for the vaccine. Meanwhile, Operation Warp Speed is paying for the vaccine cost and all of the supplies, including syringes and other materials.

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ation has graciously donated 300 winter coats to our students through a collaboration with Operation Warm. This is the third consecutive year Exelon has made this generous gesture to provide warmth to hundreds of children. The coats will be distributed to students throughout the district, under the direction of principals and assistant principals, over the rest of the holiday season.

“We’re pleased to help Everett Public School students dress warmly for our cold New England winters,” said Archie Gleason, General Manager, Northeast Region, Exelon Generation. “On behalf of our district, my sincerest thanks to Mr. Gleason and the employees of Exelon Generation for this thoughtful and timely donation,” said Superintendent of Schools Priya Tahiliani. “These are very challenging times, and we are grateful for Exelon helping us endure them. These coats will certainly brighten the holidays for our students.”

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See METRO NEWS Page 14

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# Metro News // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 12

Gatsby,” F. Scott Fitzgerald wrote “So we beat on, boats against the current, borne back ceaselessly into the past”. The last lines of the novel were a metaphor of a burning desire to row against the flow of a current --even when it seems pointless.

In this era of COVID we can relate to the ending of Gatsby as many are trying to row against a negative current even when it seems useless to do so.

Some have had success while others have not, but nonprofits like Piers Park Sailing Center (PPSC) are weathering the storm and continue to row against the current--hopeful that the pandemic will be over and the world will return to normal soon.

“We have been a strong community through highs and lows,” said PPSC Executive Director Alex DeFronzo reflecting on this past sailing season and looking forward to next year. “Masked up, our students socialized, learned together, had fun together, and grew together.”

However, pulling off the program was a big challenge this year and it seemed the entire program was operating in those last lines of Gatsby.

“We went from a 1:6 staff to student ratio to 1:2 and many of our usual routines went out the window,” said DeFronzo. “Our staff did it all with grace because one thing you’ll find in every Piers Park Sailor is the ability to adapt and persevere.”

The Sailing Center had 45 instructors on staff this summer with 26 teen instructor trainees.

“We had 180 Harbor Explorers and 140 Science of Sailing students this past summer as well,” said DeFronzo. “That’s a community of 391, where in a normal year we would have more than 2,000.”

Now into the cold season PPSC is getting ready to run an in-person learning pod for high need students in partnership with Maverick Landing Community Services. This will allow students who are at home learning remotely to get the extra help they may need through the learning pod.

However, all this comes with a cost, and DeFronzo is hoping for additional community support as the pandemic continues to rage in Boston.

“Even though that’s less than 20 percent of the enrollment of a normal year, our youth program cost more to operate in 2020 than it did in 2019,” said DeFronzo. “We plan to come back strong again in 2021. An inclusive harbor isn’t going to happen by itself – we need your help. Please join in and support what we are doing at Piers Park with a charitable gift today. Your past support was essential in the recovery and strengthening of our programs over the last four years. Building an inclusive community on and around the harbor is a team effort and we are asking for your help.”

Donations to the Sailing Center can be made at <https://piersparksailing.org/donate>.

“The 2020 CARES Act allows you to deduct up to \$300 in charitable contributions even if you don’t

itemize your taxes,” explained DeFronzo. “If you do itemize, the CARES Act also increases limits on charitable deductions.”

A generous matching gift made by the Piers Park Sailing Center Board of Directors and by Elizabeth and David Basile means that the first \$5,000 raised through this campaign will be doubled.

## STATE AID TO FIGHT COVID-19

EAST BOSTON - Last week Senator Joseph Boncore and Representative Adrian Madaro joined their colleagues in the Massachusetts Legislature to pass the state’s \$46.2 billion Fiscal Year 2021 (FY21) budget.

Within the state budget is direct aid to an East Boston agency that has been helping the community during the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic by addressing food insecurity among residents.

At a time of widespread food insecurity in the neighborhood due to the COVID, Boncore and Madaro announced \$50,000 in funding for the East Boston Community Soup Kitchen. The earmark will allow the soup kitchen to continue their work providing essential food and nutritional aid to East Boston residents.

“Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, the East Boston Community Soup Kitchen has been on the front lines serving those in need,” said Boncore. “The \$50,000 secured for the Soup Kitchen will allow them to continue these critical efforts and remain a welcoming,

inclusive presence in our community.”

Boncore added that as the state continues towards recovery from the COVID pandemic, the FY21 budget provides critical funding: including relief for those most impacted by the public health crisis.

“Despite the fiscal difficulties caused by the COVID-19 emergency, I am pleased that the legislature has passed a budget which has avoided any major cuts and preserves funding for critical programs across Massachusetts, including those right here in East Boston,” said Madaro. “As many in East Boston continue to suffer from food insecurity, funding for the East Boston Community Soup Kitchen ensures that it will be able to continue the necessary work providing food to local families.”

In addition to COVID support the state legislature approved funding to support students and families at East Boston High School.

The budget calls for full funding for Mass Insight. This will allow Mass Insight to continue supporting Advanced Placement and STEM Programming at the High School. Last month, these programs earned East Boston High School the Josh Boger Innovative School of the Year Award from the Massachusetts Biotechnology Education Foundation.

“In addition, students at East Boston High School affected by virtual learning will continue to be fully supported in their AP and STEM programming as a result of the Mass Insight earmark,” said Madaro. “I was proud to vote in favor of this budget and I look forward to seeing it signed into law.”

The budget now goes to Governor Baker’s desk for his signature.

## CAL'S NEWS CONTINUE WINNING STREAK

LYNN - The answer to the mystery of who won the \$1 million prize in the Ultimate Millions Instant Ticket Game that was sold at Cal’s News is: Michael Chol Ater.

Ater received his first of 20 annual checks from the Mass State Lottery, opting for a yearly payout over one lump sum.

“We’re very excited,” said Barry Calvani of Cal’s News after learning of the winner’s name from the Lynn Journal. “I know Michael well and I’m very happy for him. I want to see him step out from behind the curtain. Everybody has been asking me, ‘Who was it? Who was it?’”

Calvani said the Lynn Journal was the store’s “good luck charm,” having published a recent, front-page story in the newspaper that Cal’s News hadn’t sold a \$1 million ticket since the Instant Ticket Games began in 1974.

“Had I known that all it would have taken was an interview with the Lynn Journal, I would have done it many years ago,” joked Calvani.

The winning ticket at Cal’s was the seventh prize of \$1 million or more in the city this year (see accompanying chart). One store, the 7 Eleven, 50 Western Ave., sold a \$4 million Instant ticket and a \$1 million Instant ticket this year.

“I love to see the Lottery players win, that’s

what drives sales,” said Calvani. “In my own store, I have people who are regulars and some who haven’t been in the store for awhile. And now the search is on for \$1 million winner No. 2 at Cal’s. Lottery players are superstitious by nature and now there’s a large percentage of people who think Cal’s is now a quote, unquote, “lucky store.”

Mass Lottery Assistant Executive Director and Communications Director Christian Teja said each store that sells a \$1 million ticket gets a one percent bonus, meaning that Cal’s News will receive a \$10,000 bonus.

“It’s always exciting when a store sells a million-dollar ticket, especially when it’s their first,” said Teja. “And even more exciting when they’ve been in business for such a long, long time like Cal’s.”

Teja said a new set of Instant Ticket Games will be launched in January. There are currently five ongoing Holiday Instant Ticket Games.

“Holiday tickets always make great gifts,” said Teja, noting that all recipients must be 18 years of age or older.

Teja noted that the Lottery’s Lucky For Life twice-weekly (Monday and Thursday) game will become a daily game beginning in July.

## KEEFE FRUSTRATED OVER ONLINE LEARNING

REVERE - In a powerful statement that reverberated in the educational community into the weekend and on to this week, City Council President Patrick Keefe expressed frustration with students still being unable to attend classes in person at Revere schools.

Keefe’s remarks, made at a joint meeting of the Revere City Council and Revere School Committee Friday, were apparently not well received by some Revere teachers, two of whom expressed their discontent during the meeting broadcast live on Revere TV.

During the meeting two parents did seem to concur with Keefe that the overall remote learning experience did not meet the exceptionally high standards for which the highly acclaimed Revere school system is known. The parents cited a lack of information and updates being presented to parents by school administrators during the remote-learning process. Mayor Brian Arrigo, Supt. of Schools Dr. Dianne Kelly, Public Health Director Lauren Buck and Mayor Arrigo’s Chief of Staff Kim Hanton participated in the meeting.

Keefe said the issues was personal to him in that he [and his wife, Jennifer] have two children enrolled in the Revere schools. He prefaced his remarks by stating that “I know for 100 per cent certainty that everyone on the School Committee, especially the superintendent [Dr. Dianne Kelly], and all of the faculty and the teachers have done an unbelievable job thus far. They have worked unbelievably hard.”

But then Keefe lowered the boom.

“I believe education is essential to our children, but as a parent I’m frustrated where we currently stand for eight months

and I feel helpless, a person watching my children deteriorate” said Keefe. “Just imagine how the other 8,000 families in Revere feel.

“This is why I believe it’s imperative that we make some corrective action in how we are attempting to get children back into our schools,” he continued.

Keefe called the curriculum and school system “the city’s gold standard” for years, especially so under the direction of Supt. Kelley.

“On March 12, that all went away. It changed when we closed the doors to everyone. And I agree that at the time it was the right decision to step back and reflect and plan a path forward.

“But fast forward eight-plus months and to continue to even be unable to consider the concept of going back in to these former safe havens, it’s not acceptable and it goes against everything these schools have stood for,” said Keefe.

Keefe inferred that the blame rested on the teachers when he said, “I don’t create a suggestion that there is one group to cause for this great resistance for getting back into at least partial in-person learning, although it’s quite clear by many closely involved that this is the answer.”

Mayor Brian Arrigo, who is the ex-officio chair of the School Committee, was the first to respond to Keefe’s “perspective and frustration.”

“The level of anxiety and the challenges that come along with remote learning certainly come through the screen and I just appreciate the fact that you would take the time to express those feelings as a parent, first. Your perspective is one that I value and I certainly understand the frustration that you have,” said Arrigo.

The mayor said the frustration Keefe was experiencing was also being experienced by the School Committee and the superintendent of schools.

Kelly said, “I feel also, Patrick, for what you’re saying and I will say that I have had a number of parents reach out who feel the same way that you do, and a number of teachers who have reached out and are really desperate to get back to the classroom and have some in-person instruction with their students.

“I think the most responsible thing that we can do and the School Committee has been in agreement with is follow the guidelines from our medical professionals and from the Department of Education, the CDC, the Department of Public Health. Although I learned a lot more about this infection, about vaccines, about ventilations systems – I am not an expert in any of them and so we all need to rely on the people who are.”

Kelly said Revere has consistently been among the communities with the highest COVID-19 positivity rates in Massachusetts.

The superintendent said the school system conducted a recent survey in which 3,100 families responded – which is a fantastic return. Kelly indicated that 85 percent of the parents indicated that they were very pleased with their children’s remote-learning experience during the pandemic.

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Raymond Mukler a/k/a

Johan Fruij, DEFENDANT(S), and George Mey (Party-in-Interest) SUMMONS  
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# Vocational School students help out at My Brother's Table

Special to the Journal

When Northeast Metro Tech prepared to transition to hybrid learning this month for the first time since the COVID-19 pandemic began and schools nationwide began holding remote learning last March, Culinary Instructor Liz Beals saw the change as an opportunity for her students to help members of the community facing hardship. Hybrid learning began at Northeast Metro Tech on Dec. 3, and in the weeks leading up to that time, Beals formed a relationship with My Brother's Table, a hospitality based nonprofit in Lynn which provides free meals to anyone in the community. There are no prerequisites to accessing the services at My Brother's Table, a principle of the organization meant to ensure anyone in need of help feels comfortable and welcome to visit.

My Brother's Table has seen a significant rise in the number of people accessing its services amid the ongoing pandemic, and served more than 600,000 meals from January through November of this year. To help support this work, students in the Culinary Arts program at Northeast Metro Tech will be preparing a meal for the nonprofit approximately once a week for the foreseeable future. The first donation was made on Friday, Dec. 11. To watch a video about the effort, click here. "Initially, when the pandemic first started there were a lot more income supports for people and now as we've seen some of those disappear, it has become harder for people," said My Brother's Table Executive Director Dianne Kuzia Hills. "There is so much need and we're seeing all kinds of folks that we've

never seen before here. It is virtually impossible for us to keep up with that demand by ourselves so we really turn to community partners and other folks to help us out, and having young people be a part of that has been great." Culinary Arts students at Northeast Metro Tech prepared a brisket for the Dec. 11 donation, which Beals delivered to My Brother's Table. "When I discovered we were doing a project where we would donate a bunch of food to My Brother's Table in Lynn, it made me want to do even better. It gave me even more motivation to come back and really help out that cause, and prepare the food for the people that really do need it right now," said Connor Ayers, a Culinary Arts senior from Saugus. "I am so proud of the students," Beals said. "This is an experience that contributes to who



Students in Culinary Instructor Liz Beals' class are preparing meals approximately once a week for My Brother's Table in Lynn.

they are as a person, their humanity, who they are as a professional. I really want students to understand that a vast majority of our food production would, could or should go to people that need it, that need access to it, that need it to be affordable for them."

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