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WINTHROP

SUN TRANSCRIPT

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THURSDAY,
March 11, 2021

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DEATHS

Rio Amaral
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INDEPENDENT



Newspaper Group

NEWS Brief

MVES TO HOLD FREE VIRTUAL WORKSHOP SERIES

Mystic Valley Elder Services (MVES) will present a free virtual workshop series—A Matter of Balance—on Wednesdays, beginning April 7 to May 26, 2021, from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m.

A Matter of Balance is a

See NEWS BRIEFS Page 3

Winthrop Public Schools Preschool Screening

The Winthrop School Department will conduct the annual Preschool Screening for 3 and 4 year old children born prior to September 1, 2018. The screenings will be held on March 29, 30 and April 1, 2021 in the preschool classroom at Winthrop High School. The purpose of the screening is to identify those children in need of special education services.

Additionally, children who will be 4 years of age prior to September 1, 2021, not identified as a student in need of special education services, will be eligible for tuition based lottery openings in the integrated preschool program. Information regarding program options can be found at: www.winthrop.k12.ma.us under the Parent Information tab.

All students must participate in the screening process to be considered for placement.

To schedule an appointment and obtain the required application, please contact Andrea Sullivan, 617-846-5500 x7125, on or before March 26th. Screenings are held by appointment only.

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▲ **TOUCHDOWN:** Tyler Rockefeller (40) finds an opening and steps into the Marblehead end zone during Winthrop's football scrimmage at Marblehead on Thursday, March 4. It was the Vikings first contest on the gridiron since Thanksgiving Day 2019, and real play finally returns Friday at Peabody.

◀ **AIR DEFENSE:** Bobby Hebert gets a piece of the ball to break up a Marblehead pass play.

Winthrop football opener canceled due to Peabody coronavirus situation

By Cary Shuman

The Winthrop High football team will have to wait one more week to start its season as Friday's scheduled opener against Peabody has been canceled due to a Peabody player having been in direct contact with the coronavirus.

Winthrop head coach Jon Cadigan said he was notified by Peabody officials on Tuesday about the health situation in the Peabody program.

Winthrop had been practicing in preparation for the kickoff to the regular season and had competed in a scrimmage against Marblehead last

Thursday.

"As you can imagine it's pretty disappointing right now, but I guess these are the times we're living in," said Cadigan. "We've been preparing the last couple of weeks getting ready for this game and watching Peabody on

See FOOTBALL Page 8

29 new COVID-19 cases reported in Town

Staff report

The Massachusetts Department of Public Health has notified Town officials of 29 additional confirmed positive cases of the virus in Winthrop since our last reporting on March 4.

This brings the numbers

up to 2,030 total cases with 35 deceased, 38 isolated and 1,957 recovered.

The Winthrop Public Health is offering assistance to those who may have difficulty registering for the Covid vaccine. Anyone in need can call the EOC num-

ber at 617-539-5837 or email eoc@town.winthrop.ma.us.

Winthrop Stop the Spread Testing Information

Indoor Testing by ap-

See COVID-19 Page 2

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Somerset Ave. project underway

By Kate Anslinger

The development project at 10 Somerset Ave. is well underway and on schedule. Abatement of the building was completed before March 1 and demolition of the structure started last week and will continue throughout the month. At this time, the demolition crew is focusing on gently removing the façade of the front of the building.

Procopio Companies, the developer of the project, has just received the foundation and building permits and will continue to work with Town officials, not only to coordinate construction activities on his site, but also, to coordinate with P. Gioioso & Sons, Inc., contractor for the Center Business District to ensure that both projects move forward simultaneously and

maintaining a six-foot distance in the classroom. If the state adopts a three-foot distance, all students will be able to be back in the building, however; the district will be faced with new classroom arrangements that will require hefty expenses.

At the middle school and high school level, the current five-foot long, two-person classroom tables will need to be removed and replaced with individual desks to ensure a three-foot distance, which will be measured from one edge of a desk to another edge of a desk. To accommodate the 475 students in the middle school, more than 600

See START DATE Page 3

without disruption. The Center Business District deals with infrastructure improvements.

Ground improvement and foundation work for the new building will commence in April following demolition and debris cleanup.

Suzanne Martucci, of Winthrop Book Depot on Somerset Ave., commenting on the new building said, "We're really excited to see work starting. And we're happy with how well the demolition is going, it's very methodical and safe and honestly pretty fascinating to watch."

The new building will be home to 29 apartments with a first floor commercial store front and 25 parking spots.

According to Town Manager Austin Faison, Center Business District construction will begin again on March 22.



The demo work at 10 Somerset Ave.

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WINTHROP POLICE BLOTTER

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

MONDAY, FEB. 22

1528: An officer provided assistance to the Fire Dept., which was assisting a person who was locked out of his motor vehicle (MV) in the 400 block of Shirley St.

1624: An officer assisted the owner of a MV retrieve his vehicle that had been blocked-in by construction fencing at the tennis courts across from the high school.

2035: An officer stopped a motor vehicle (MV) with a registration revoked for insurance cancellation at Revere St. and Upland Rd. The operator produced documentation indicating that there had been a change of his insurance company, but that the Registry's computer had not updated the information. The officer directed the operator to contact the insurance company forthwith to resolve the issue.

2055: An officer stopped a motor vehicle (MV) on Revere St. for the civil infraction of a red light violation. The officer issued a citation to the operator.

TUESDAY, FEB. 23

1144: A tow company reported the trespass tow of a MV at Governor's Park.

1316: A resident re-

ported an attempted scam from a person who stated that they were calling on behalf of National Grid and demanded immediate payment for an overdue bill. The caller directed the resident to go to a store to send a money order. The resident called National Grid and was informed that he does not have an overdue bill.

1445: An officer assisted the parties with the exchange of papers at a minor motor vehicle accident (MVA) at Walden and Main Sts.

1713: An officer retrieved a hypodermic syringe that was in the street on Cliff Ave and brought it back to the station for proper disposal.

1739: An officer stopped a motor vehicle (MV) at Winthrop and Atlantic Sts. for a civil infraction and gave a verbal warning to the operator

1925: An officer issued a civil citation for marijuana possession to the operator of a MV with three passengers at Hannaford Park.

2034: A repossession company reported the repo of a MV on Circuit Rd.

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 24

0913: An officer stopped a motor vehicle (MV) on Shirley St. for a civil infraction and gave a verbal warning to the operator.

1147: Officers executing a search warrant in East Boston arrested Joseph Paci Jr., 45, of East Boston, for the criminal

offenses of trafficking in more than 10 grams of fentanyl, illegal possession of a Class B controlled narcotic substance with intent to distribute (subsequent offense), illegal possession of a Class D controlled narcotic substance with intent to distribute (subsequent offense), illegal possession of a Class C controlled narcotic substance, carrying a dangerous weapon, possession of a sawed-off shotgun, being a felon in possession of a firearm, illegal possession of a firearm with three prior violent or drug-related offenses, improper storage of a firearm, possession of ammunition without an FID card, and possession of a firearm without an FID card.

1411: A resident came to the station to report having been the victim of a larceny. The officer filed a report.

THURSDAY, FEB. 25

0132: An officer stopped a motor vehicle (MV) at Main and Banks Sts. for the civil infraction of failing to stop for a traffic control signal. The officer issued a citation to the operator.

0828: An officer ordered a tow for a MV parked at Veterans Rd. and Almont St. with an expired registration for which the officer also issued a citation to the owner for that civil infraction.

0852: A resident came to the station to turn in an I-phone that the resident

had found. The owner of the I-phone was contacted and came to the station to retrieve his phone.

0919: A Hermon St. resident reported the theft of three bags of groceries that had been delivered to her door. After an officer responded and attempted to determine whether there was any video footage from a neighbor's Ring camera, the resident called back to report that she found the bags, which had been left on the side of her home.

1532: A tow company reported the trespass tow of a MV at Governor's Park.

1651: A resident reported being locked inside the tennis courts at Ingleside Park. The Parks Dept. director was contacted and an officer came to get the key for the gate to let the person out.

2327: A Sea Foam Ave. resident reported being robbed in his residence by a man with a handgun who was accompanied by a woman. The resident said the suspects may have gained access to the victim's apartment through the back door. The officer filed a report and will attempt to obtain video footage from the area.

FRIDAY, FEB. 26

1215: A tow company reported the trespass tow of a MV from Governor's Park.

1257: A person came into the station to turn in a shotgun he had found while cleaning out the residence of his father, who recently had passed away.

1908: An officer stopped a MV on Harvard St. for the civil infraction of an expired registration. However, the operator was able to show the officer that the registration had been renewed on-line. The

RMV's records are slow to be updated because of COVID.

2144: An officer stopped a motor vehicle (MV) on Governor's Drive. for the civil infraction of violating the hands-free law. The officer issued a citation to the operator.

SATURDAY, FEB. 27

0039: An officer stopped a motor vehicle (MV) on Main St. for the civil infraction of a red light violation. The officer issued a citation to the operator.

1044: A resident reported that her identity had been used to file a fraudulent claim for unemployment.

1328: An officer stopped a MV on Revere St. When the operator was unable to produce a valid driver's license, a licensed operator was contacted and took control of the MV.

1439: A caller reported that she discovered an old handgun while cleaning out the residence of her recently-deceased mother. An officer went to the home to retrieve the handgun.

1702: An officer stopped a motor vehicle (MV) on Beal St. for a civil infraction and gave a verbal warning to the operator.

1718: An Underhill St. resident reported that a MV was blocking her driveway. An officer spoke to the operator of the MV and had it moved.

2215: An officer directed loud party-goers at a family party being held under a tent on Willis Ave. to bring it in for the night.

SUNDAY, FEB. 28

0151: An officer stopped a motor vehicle (MV) on Pleasant St. for the civil infraction of

speeding. The officer issued a citation to the operator.

1444: A resident reported finding a dog with no collar at the entrance to Kilmartin Park on Revere St. An officer contacted the kennel, but the party called back to report that the dog was reunited with its owner.

1514: A resident reported that he gave out his Social Security number in response to a text he had received from what purported to be the state's Dept. for Transitional Assistance and is now concerned that his Social Security number may be compromised.

1530: An officer requested a tow for a MV with a registration revoked for insurance cancellation that was parked at the skatepark on Walden St.

1708: An officer stopped a MV at Revere and Harvard Sts. The operator was unaware that his license had expired. The officer stood by while the operator renewed it on-line.

2258: An officer stopped a motor vehicle (MV) at Main and Hermon Sts. for the civil infraction of speeding. The officer gave a verbal warning to the operator.

MONDAY, MARCH 1

0036: An officer stopped a motor vehicle (MV) on Winthrop St. for the civil infraction of a stop sign violation. The officer gave a verbal warning to the operator.

0417: An officer responded to a report of a noise disturbance in an apartment in the 500 block of Shirley St. The officer directed the party making the noise, who was yelling at his dog because the dog had an accident in the house, to keep it down for the night.



Lent 2021

ST. MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL PARISH

It is hard to believe but the “Alleluia” and the green vestments have been put away, replaced by purple vestments and a more somber and spartan liturgy. Lent began on Ash Wednesday, February 17th. This season will carry us from the starkness of the desert with sand and ashes to the vitality of tulips, lilies and the Resurrected Jesus. It asks us to consider our sinfulness and need for repentance and carries us to God’s vast mercy and forgiveness. Lent invites us to journey from death to life.

- Father Chris O’Connor

Eucharistic Adoration & Sacrament of Reconciliation



St. John’s Church will be open every Wednesday evening from 5 pm to 7 pm for Eucharistic Adoration. Drop in for a few minutes during that period or spend the entire time. All are welcome to come and sit in prayer with the Lord.

Throughout Lent, the Sacrament of Reconciliation is available from 5 pm to 6 pm on Wednesdays, after Masses and through the rectory by appointment.

Fridays at St. John the Evangelist at 7 pm

Divine Mercy Chaplet Prayer Group, lower church
Stations of the Cross, upper church



Virtual Lenten Faith Sharing Group

This faith sharing group is based on the Lenten Gospel Reflections of Bishop Robert Barron. Sundays, February 21-March 28, 7:00-8:00 pm

For more information or to register, please contact Graceanne Bowe at St. Michael’s Faith Formation office, bowe@stjohnswinthrop.org

Lenten Regulations

On the Fridays of Lent, the Church requests all over 14 years of age to abstain from meat. On Good Friday, the Church requests all between the ages of 18 and 60 to fast, having one full meal and two smaller meals for nourishment and strength. Liquids are allowed throughout the day.

The Faithful enjoy freedom of conscience to excuse themselves from these regulations but, as the U.S. Bishops state, “no Catholic Christian will likely excuse themselves from so hallowed an obligation” on these days.

COVID-19 //CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

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Testing Hours can be found on <https://app.beacontesting.com/login>.

Please register online at <https://app.beacontesting.com/login> to see available appointment slots. (617) 741-7310 <https://app.beacontesting.com/login>

COVID-19 Vaccine Information

- Individuals age 65 and older are now eligible
- Please visit <https://www.town.winthrop.ma.us/home/news/resources-residents-75-scheduling-covid-19-vaccine-appointments> for more information
- The Winthrop Health department does not have vaccine available and do not expect vaccines for at least 3-4 weeks (also dependent on how many doses the state receives)
- All appointments are made online for state-sponsored sites.


For the most up to date information on vaccines in Massachusetts, go to <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/covid-19-vaccine-frequently-asked-ques...>

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 Massachusetts Department of Public Health: www.mass.gov/covid-19 Massachusetts 2-1-1 general COVID-19 information: Click here or dial 2-1-1 (24/7) United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention: www.cdc.gov The best way to contact the Public Health Department is by email at COVID19info@town.winthrop.ma.us

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MBTA schedule changes take effect March 14

Staff report

The MBTA reminds customers that upcoming spring 2021 subway and bus schedules will take effect on Sunday, March 14. These changes are part of Forging Ahead, the MBTA’s plan to preserve transit access and quality of service available to transit-critical customers and were approved by the Fiscal and Management Control Board (FMCB) in December 2020 along with other service adjustments to other MBTA travel modes. These short-term service changes for Fiscal Year 2021 (FY21) help match service levels with current and near-term low ridership demand.

For full and complete listing of all upcoming service changes, including all changes to bus routes, Commuter Rail lines, subway, and ferries, please visit mbta.com/ForgingAhead.

•Subway Service Changes Effective March 14:

There will be no changes in the hours of operation or any elimination or consolidation of any subway routes.

Service frequency will be reduced by 20 percent on the Red, Orange, and Green Lines. Frequency on the Blue Line

will be reduced by up to 5 percent.

•Bus Service Changes Effective March 14:

In order to better reflect ridership levels and preserve access and quality of service for transit-critical communities, a number of bus schedule changes will go into effect on March 14.

Bus routes with high ridership serving high transit-critical communities have been prioritized in the Forging Ahead plan and will not change. Other routes will operate with less frequency, with both increased and decreased frequency depending on the time of day, or with their hours of service changed. A number of bus routes will be suspended, consolidated, or have routing or trip changes with service alternatives and details available online.

For complete bus route schedules, please visit mbta.com/servicechanges or each route’s individual schedule page.

•Paratransit Service (The RIDE) Changes:

As a result of changes to subway, bus, and Commuter Rail service, The RIDE will implement the following changes in the coming weeks:

*Some RIDE ADA trips may become premium fare trips, complementing the changes to fixed

route changes. RIDE service boundaries will not change.

*Trips will be scheduled 40 minutes from request time instead of 30 minutes.

*Premium service hours will be adjusted to complement Commuter Rail hours of operation.

RIDE customers impacted by these changes will be notified in the coming weeks.

As part of its Forging Ahead initiative, the MBTA organized a months-long process to solicit the public’s input, including more than 7,000 comments from riders and stakeholders. This process and the feedback received were used to shape the final plan approved by the FMCB.

The MBTA and FMCB continue to discuss how the MBTA will add back and increase service. Ridership will be monitored with MBTA staff returning to the FMCB every month to show where ridership stands compared to service planning scenarios. Other data sources will also be monitored, including passenger surveys, employer surveys, roadway data, general travel data, and economic recovery planning. FY22 service levels will be planned as part of the FY22 budget process.

News Brief //CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

free, award-winning program designed to manage falls and increase activity levels. You’ll learn how to see falls as something you can control; set goals for increasing your physical activities; make modifications to your home to reduce fall risks; and practice exercises that will increase your strength and balance. This workshop is designed for anyone—whether you are concerned about falls, have a history of falling, or are interested in improving balance, flexibility, and strength.

Learn how to connect virtually thru this Zoom platform and take the class from the comfort of your own home! Registration is free, but required. To register please call Donna Covelle at 781-388-4867 or e-mail her at dcovelle@mves.org.

MCU OPENS COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Metro Credit Union (MCU), Massachusetts’ largest state-chartered credit union, today an-

nounced that it will provide scholarship opportunities for the 2021-2022 academic year. To be eligible, the applicant and/or their parent or guardian must be a member of Metro Credit Union.

“Metro is committed to providing opportunities to further the education of our members and their families,” said Robert Cashman, CEO and president. “We look forward to seeing what’s in store for high school students in the communities we serve, and we are happy to help guide them toward rich futures filled with possibilities.”

Metro Credit Union Scholarship Program

Thirteen scholarships, for \$1,000 each, will be awarded to graduating high school seniors who have been accepted to an accredited undergraduate program.

The application deadline is April 15, 2021 at 4:00 p.m. To be considered for the scholarship awards, all applicants must apply online. Scholarship recipients are selected

based on academic record, demonstrated leadership and participation in school and community activities, honors, work experience, statement of goals and aspirations.

Cooperative Credit Union Association’s Massachusetts College Scholarship Program

Metro Credit Union is a sponsoring credit union in the Cooperative Credit Union Association’s Massachusetts College Scholarship Program. The Association will award six (6) \$1,500 scholarships to high school seniors who will be enrolled in an undergraduate college degree program during the 2021-2022 academic year.

The application deadline is Friday, April 9, 2021. Applications will be evaluated based on essay, grades and extracurricular/community activities.

Full details for both opportunities can be found at metrocu.org/scholarships.

For more information about Metro Credit Union, please visit metrocu.org, or connect with us on LinkedIn.

Winthrop Police participating in One2One program to support fatal overdose prevention

Special to the Transcript

Chief Terence Delehanty is pleased to share that the Winthrop Police Department is participating in the Police Assisted Addiction and Recovery Initiative's (P.A.A.R.I.) One2One: Engagement to Recovery Initiative.

Piloted in the spring and summer of 2020, the One2One: Engagement to Recovery initiative empowers police officers and community partners to distribute fentanyl test strip (FTS) kits to those in need, as well as provide referrals to treatment and information about other resources available to those who use drugs and their loved ones. One2One is a pilot-tested, evidence-based, police-led intervention project across Massachusetts and Maine which seeks to increase engagement in substance use related services and supports among people using stimulants and opioids who are at risk of fatal overdose.

The initiative is the result of a partnership between P.A.A.R.I. and Brandeis University, and

Winthrop Police joined departments from Maine and Massachusetts to begin the program on Friday, Feb. 26.

"Our department is committed to doing everything we can to prevent overdoses and help those struggling with drug use, as well as their loved ones, to ensure those who need help are connected to the resources and supports available in our community," Chief Delehanty said. "This program is a tremendous asset as we continue to work to combat the opioid epidemic, and we're deeply appreciative of the guidance, education and materials P.A.A.R.I. is connecting us to through this effort."

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, in 2019 more than 36,000 people died from overdoses including synthetic opioids.

Nearly half of all drug overdose deaths in the U.S are associated with illicitly manufactured fentanyl, which is now used alone and found in heroin, cocaine, methamphetamine, and counterfeit opioid pills. New England is par-

ticularly hard-hit by illicit fentanyl, which is highly potent and thus prone to cause accidental overdose. Research has shown that FTS is a feasible, useful tool linked to increased self-efficacy and important safety and drug use behavior changes.

Through the One2One program, P.A.A.R.I. will provide training for officers and community partners on how to distribute the FTS kits as well as the kits themselves. P.A.A.R.I. will also provide training on how to offer referrals, share information about relevant services, and provide other selected tools to kit recipients.

The Winthrop Police Department is also directly involved in the Winthrop multidisciplinary C.L.E.A.R. Team formed in 2014 to reduce and prevent overdoses in the community. The team continues to evolve and is currently comprised of public safety and public health personnel who use police data to find and help people struggling with mental health, substance use and domestic violence challenges.

If you or a loved one is in need of assistance, or if you'd like to request a kit with three fentanyl test strips, which can be mailed, dropped off, or picked up at the station, please contact Lt. Sarko Gergerian at 617.846.1852 X 1062 and/ or sgergerian@town.winthrop.ma.us.

Members of the community are also reminded to always call 911 in an emergency.

For information about the One2One program, visit paariusa.org/one2one.

The Police Assisted Addiction & Recovery Initiative (P.A.A.R.I.) is a nonprofit organization with a mission to help law enforcement agen-

cies nationwide create non-arrest pathways to treatment and recovery. Founded alongside the groundbreaking Gloucester, Mass. Police Department Angel Initiative in June 2015, P.A.A.R.I. has been a driving force behind this rapidly expanding community policing movement. P.A.A.R.I. provides technical assistance, coaching, grants, and other capacity-building resources to more than 600 police departments in 35 states. P.A.A.R.I. currently works with more than 130 law enforcement agencies in Massachusetts alone. P.A.A.R.I. and our law enforcement partners are working towards a collective vision where

non-arrest diversion programs become a standard policing practice across the country, thereby reducing overdose deaths, expanding access to treatment, improving public safety, reducing crime, diverting people away from the criminal justice system, and increasing trust between law enforcement and their communities. P.A.A.R.I.'s programs and partners have saved thousands of lives, changed police culture, reshaped the national conversation about the opioid epidemic and have placed over 24,000 people into treatment since its founding in June 2015. Learn more at paariusa.org.

Start Date //CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

desks will need to be ordered. This number will include the desks that will be utilized in the cafeteria and the team room, during lunchtime. The cost of 100 desks, without chairs, is estimated to be \$7,998.

The high school side would need to utilize other spaces of the building for lunch, as there are currently 80 desks separated by six feet in the cafeteria.

“If we have a full return to school, we’d have to accommodate 130 students per lunch,” said Principal Matt Crombie. “We should be able to use the outdoor patio and the PE room for additional space.”

The average high school classroom will need 28 desks, spaced at three-feet. This can be accommodated in most cases, however; larger classes would need to move to

other areas.

Crombie said it will take a lot of shifting and moving classrooms around which will require the hiring of additional staff to monitor the extra spaces being used.

Superintendent Howard said that renting tents is a possibility, and while that comes with a \$8,000 monthly price tag and permitting fees, it is what it is and we won’t consider it a barrier to education.

If the district utilized tents for outdoor learning and lunch space, the town would have to permit the use of spaces and mandatory steps would need to be taken.

“If cost was a barrier all the time, we would be nowhere,” said Howard, who confirmed that the district is entitled to FEMA and COVID grant money.

While the price of fur-

niture is at the forefront of challenges the district must face to open a full in-person learning environment, there are also staffing shortages that will need to be addressed. The additional use of spaces and distancing mandates will require additional staff to monitor bathrooms, lunches, recess, and added classroom spaces. The bathroom capacity in most of the school buildings, will have a limit of one to three students, which will result in longer wait times and necessary management of traffic.

The committee voted to postpone a vote on middle and high school students pending additional guidance from the state, which is expected this week. On Monday, March 15, the committee will regroup to vote.



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Winthrop

SUN TRANSCRIPT

PRESIDENT: Stephen Quigley - stephen.quigley@reverejournal.com

MARKETING DIRECTOR: Deb DiGregorio - deb@reverejournal.com

OUR Opinions

WHAT ARE THEY THINKING?

Patrick Henry, the fiery American patriot and orator during the American Revolution, famously said, “Give me liberty, or give me death!”

However, Republican governors in some of our Southern and Midwestern states have, under the guise of “freedom,” given that phrase during the current pandemic a 21st century twist:

“Give us liberty AND give us death!”

Ever since COVID-19 first was discovered, there have been a lot of unknowns about the disease and how it is transmitted. Scientists and medical professionals still are discovering new things about this bug and no doubt will continue to do so for years to come.

However, there is ONE thing about which there is now universal acceptance: Masking is THE most effective means we have for stopping the spread of this terrible disease.

Some Republican governors have refused to order public mask mandates for reasons that clearly are about politics and have nothing to do with the health and safety of their citizens.

They make the argument that they want to reopen their states because the economic benefits outweigh the potential negative health consequences. That, at least, is a debatable point.

However, the need to wear masks during a pandemic that features a virus that is spread by airborne particles from our noses and mouths is not debatable. More to the point, requiring citizens to wear masks is not inconsistent with “reopening” states’ economies. A state can still allow all of its businesses to operate fully AND also require that everyone wear masks at all times.

President Joe Biden remarked that these governors, mostly notably Bill Abbott of Texas and Kristi Noem of South Dakota, are “neanderthal” in their thinking. Although the pundits quickly joked that Biden gave the Neanderthals (who became extinct, by the way) a bad name, it is no laughing matter that their dangerous policies will lead to entirely preventable deaths in their states, exposing front-line workers, first-responders, and healthcare providers to unnecessary risk of harm.

Ms. Noem’s state of South Dakota for example, has the fifth-highest COVID death rate and second-highest infection rate among the 50 states.

Every state has speed limits, stop signs, and red lights on its highways. Every state requires every citizen to wear pants in public at all times. The suggestion that a mask mandate during a public health crisis represents an impingement on personal freedom is absurd on its face (no pun intended).

We are fortunate that in Massachusetts and surrounding states, masking at all times has been widely-accepted since the beginning of the pandemic. We have a governor and a public health infrastructure that have left no doubt about the need for everyone to wear masks while among others.

There may be a lot of unknowns about COVID-19, but the efficacy of wearing masks is not one of them.



**DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME BEGINS MARCH 14
SET CLOCKS AHEAD 1 HOUR.**

LETTERS to the Editor

SUPPORTS FUCILLO

Dear Editor,

As a lifelong resident of Winthrop, I’ve noticed an increasing disconnect between the town and its residents. Whether it is the steady onslaught of complaints around our tremendously high cost of water, growing concerns about the quality of public education during the pandemic, or infrastructure ‘improvements’ that turn an otherwise lovely town square into a parking lot...there seems to be no shared sense of unity or faith in the direction of our beautiful town. Even during the recent Democratic primary to see who will fill the spot left vacant by Speaker DeLeo, the nastiness and overall tone of the various forums was disheartening, to say the least. I think one way to stop some of the politics as usual’ is to elect a State Representative who will work to unite us all at the town, district, and state level.

I’ve heard it said that Winthrop will always vote blue; a democratic stronghold that rejects the principles of any other platform. Well, I propose that we think outside the confines of outdated thinking, stereotypes, and party profiling, and look to a fresh perspective that is an independent voice. As one who hopes to make Winthrop my lifetime resi-

dence, I don’t want to echo the complaints of previous generations, but would rather add my voice to a higher standard of expectation; where our elected officials work for ‘us’ and not for their party. With all due respect to Mr.Turco, I believe that the newest generation of voting citizens should reflect a new way of thinking about governance at every level.

I feel that Richard Fucillo, Jr., an independent candidate in the upcoming Special Election on March 30, is that fresh perspective that will usher in a new wave of leadership. As an independent, I trust that he won’t be blinded by party lines or mindlessly conforming to the masses. His young age makes me hopeful that he’s open to new ideas, innovative approaches to compromise, and applying fresh solutions to some of our age-old challenges. He understands the issues of our generation but also those of older residents and wants to address the challenges with accountability and transparency.

On March 30, I will be casting my vote for Richard Fucillo, Jr. I hope you will consider voting for him too.

Samantha Skobeleff

CONGRATS RICHARD HONAN

Dear Editor,

I am writing to con-

gratulate Richard Honan on having been selected as the Massachusetts DAR (MDAR) Outstanding Veteran Volunteer for 2021. The next steps in this process are that the nomination is now being reviewed at the District level (6 New England States and New York). From there, your nomination could be forwarded to the National level, where there will be nominations from each of the state and District of Columbia DAR organizations.

Your achievements in recognizing active military and veterans as a veteran are truly outstanding. Our chapter will be planning a program to honor your contributions at a time when we can meet in person, rather than via zoom.

Typically, the Outstanding Veteran Volunteer is honored at our March State meeting. However, during COVID, nothing is typical! Our March State meeting is being held virtually due to the ongoing COVID mitigations. Therefore, you will be honored and presented with the MDAR Outstanding Veteran Volunteer award at the MDAR Fall State Meeting. You will receive an invitation for either lunch or dinner on Friday, September 17 or lunch on Saturday, September 18. Our chapter would love it if your wife and children could attend,

as guests of our chapter.

You will be receiving more information as we get closer to the date. As Regent of the Boston Tea Party Chapter, NSDAR, I wanted to congratulate you on this honor and award that you so richly deserve.

Peggy O’Connor

Regent

Boston Tea Party Chapter, NSDAR

SUPPORTS CARUCCIO

Dear Editor,

I write to express my support for Paul Caruccio who is seeking to become the next person to represent Winthrop as our District’s next State Representative. I have known Paul for many years. He is intelligent, hard working and honest.

As Paul stated in his campaign message, it is his intention to grow jobs and revitalize our business base. As the former owner of Michael’s Hallmark store Paul remembers the days when business was thriving in Winthrop.

Paul has stated he will fight to protect and preserve our communities and families, restore election integrity, fight against increased taxes and reduce spending, waste, fraud and abuse.

It is time to restore a two party system to Beacon Hill. I urge you to vote for Paul Caruccio.

Carol A. DeMio

GUEST OP-ED

World Water Day 2021: Cleaner Rivers for Massachusetts

By Julia Blatt, Executive Director,
Massachusetts Rivers Alliance

As Massachusetts observes World Water Day this year, our state’s communities have particular reason to celebrate. The Massachusetts legislature recently enacted (and Governor Baker signed into law) a state sewage notification bill. This important new law has been a long time coming.

World Water Day falls on March 22nd of each year. Since it first became a United Nations Observance Day in 1993, World Water Day has served as a time to think about, and take action to address,

the water crisis. In 2021, World Water Day focuses on the environmental, social and cultural value people place on water. The day provides Massachusetts residents an opportunity to consider the importance of clean water. Clean water is not something to take for granted.

On this year’s World Water Day, Massachusetts Rivers Alliance, the Voice of Massachusetts Rivers, is celebrating a major step the state has taken toward ensuring safer rivers. For years, Mass Rivers led advocacy efforts with many partners to pass a state law requiring sewer operators to establish a notification

system. The goal was to let the public know when there is a sewage discharge into a public waterbody, so residents could avoid contaminated waters.

Fecal bacteria poses many public health threats, including ear and eye infections, skin rashes, hepatitis, and inflammation of the intestines. Emerging research also suggests that fecal bacteria can spread COVID-19.

Many cities in the Northeast combine sewage and stormwater collection systems, a relic of long-ago urban engineering. These systems are designed to bypass wastewater treatment facilities

if the volume of water is too much for the facilities to handle. For these aging systems, heavy rain sends a mixture of untreated sewage and stormwater into local waterways. Until now, there was no way for the public to know when these discharges occurred, leaving people downstream at risk of contact with contaminated waters.

In 2018, an especially large volume of sewage pollution was discharged into the Merrimack River. As a downstream community, Newburyport bore the brunt of all this sewage

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SUBSCRIPTION INFORMATION

The Winthrop Sun Transcript is published every Thursday by the Revere-based Independent Newspaper Group. Periodical postage rates paid at Boston Ma. Subscription rates are \$30 per year in Winthrop, and \$60 per year outside the city. Postmaster, send change of address information to Independent Newspaper Group, 385 Broadway, Suite 105, Revere, MA 02151.

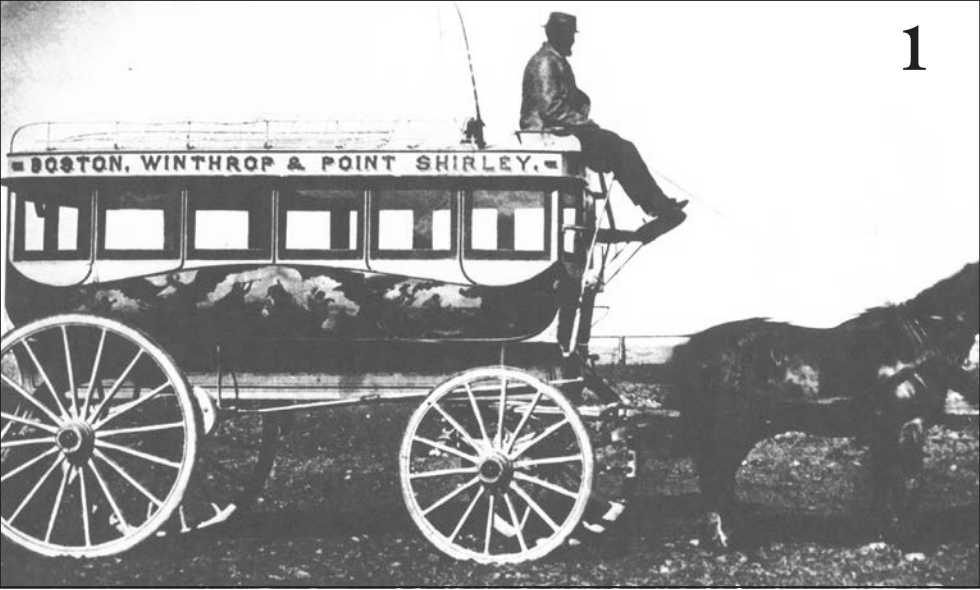
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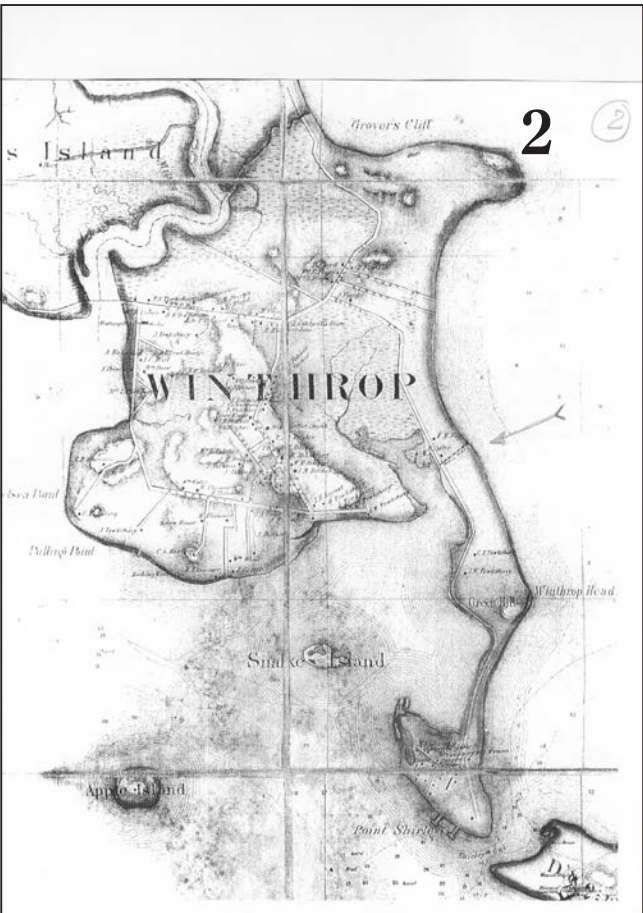
WINTHROP Then and Now

Winthrop Improvement and Historical Association
By G. David Hubbard, Town Historian • Photos courtesy of Stephen F. Moran

ARTICLE 957 - EARLY MODES OF PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION – 1841 - 1887

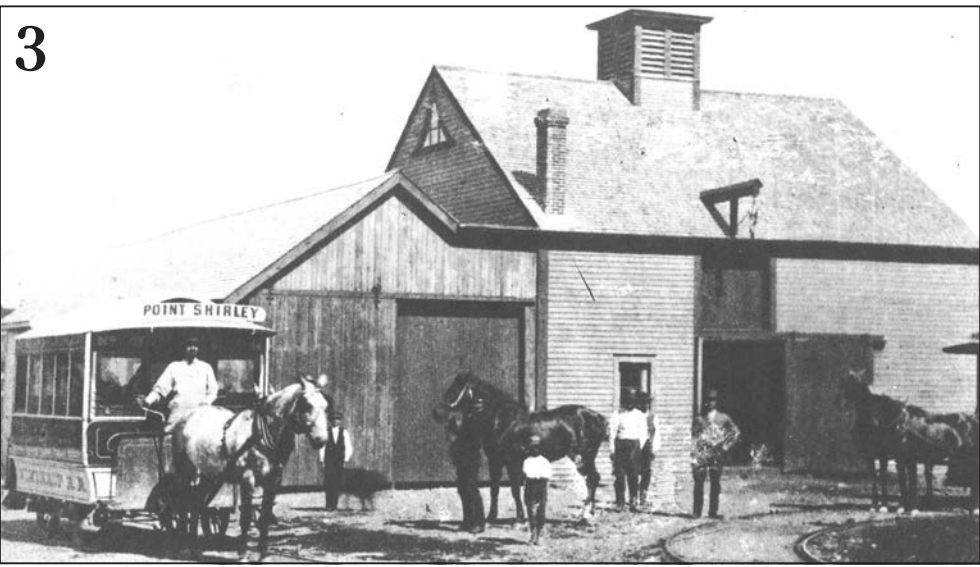


This is the first of two articles devoted to various early modes of public transportation available to Winthrop residents and visitors prior to, as well as in conjunction with, our beloved Narrow Gauge Railroad which operated from 1888 to January 27, 1940. Our first connection to East Boston was in 1839 with the construction of a bridge that ran from the end of Main Street across Belle Isle Inlet to Saratoga Street on the same site as the one we have today. In 1841, Albert Richardson initiated the operation of our first Stage Coach and Express Delivery line which ran from Maverick Square through East Boston, across this bridge, down Main Street to Revere Street and then on out Shirley Street to the Taft Inn at the end of the Point. The first picture depicts one of these stagecoaches. This business changed ownership several times until it finally ceased operation in 1872. In the second picture, showing the 1859 Winthrop map, a short railroad is identified by an arrow as running from Shirley Street along what is now Cutler Street to the ocean. This was before a road along the beach was constructed or any of the resort developments or summer homes had been built in this area. Since few records of this railroad have been found, its use is open to speculation. One theory is that a horse drawn car took people from the previously discussed stage line on Shirley Street out to the beach for a day in the sun. A second theory is that this railroad was used to haul cannons out to the



corner of Cutler Street and what is today Winthrop Shore Drive to fire on a test firing range at a target mounted on two poles at Fort Heath. The test firings of such cannons have been verified by records and the finding of several period cannonballs at Fort Heath when the Apartments were built there in the 1970's. In the third picture, the horse drawn trolley, which looked something like the old electric cars a few of us may remember in Boston, operated in Winthrop from 1872 to 1877. It ran from the Taft Inn at the Point up Shirley Street to Revere Street and on to McGee's Corner where it turned up Winthrop Street, passed by the Town Hall (located where the Police Station is today) and on to Payne's corner at the intersection of Winthrop St., Washington Ave. and Pleasant St. It

then proceeded down the length of Pleasant Street to Main Street, turned left over the bridge to Saratoga Street and passed through Breeds Island to the corner of Chelsea Street. From there it ran on the tracks of the Metropolitan Horse Railway to Maverick Square and the ferry. The horse and car barns for this trolley line, which can also be seen in this picture, were on Revere Street on the site of the current Winthrop Marketplace. In the fourth picture, one of the horse drawn surreys that transported people during the summer months from the Beach station of the Narrow Gauge Railroad out to the Point is shown. These surreys ran prior to the opening of the 1910 – 1929 Ridgeway electric trolley line that will be shown next week.



10 years ago
March 10, 2011

Winthrop police are continuing their investigation this week into a brazen bank robbery at the Bank of America branch on Bartlett Road last Friday morning shortly after the bank opened for the day. Police Chief Terrence Delehanty said that detectives from Winthrop are working with investigators from the Federal Bureau of Investigations, Massachusetts State Police, and the bank robbery task force in developing leads and identifying suspects. The suspect approached a teller, handed over a note that indicated that he was carrying a bomb in the bag, showed a device to the teller, and took all of the money from one teller drawer, before fleeing the scene. “We believe strongly that this is the same robber who executed a similar robbery at a bank in Everett the day before (on Thursday, March 3),” said Chief Delehanty. “The same techniques were used in both robberies, so we believe that he has at least those two robberies under his belt.” Initial reports indicate that the robber got away with “a couple of thousand dollars” in the Winthrop robbery and a similar amount of money in the Everett case as well.

Winthrop residents are among those mourning the passing of Tom Butler, the long-time director of Government and Community Affairs for the Massachusetts Port Authority who fiercely believed that economic growth fueled by Boston Logan International Airport and the Port of Boston needed to be tempered with compassion for residents of communities most impacted by Massport's facilities. Butler died on Friday, March 4, of complications from leukemia at Brigham and Women's Hospital surrounded by his family. He was 59. A son of South Boston who never forgot where he came from, Butler worked the corridors of power on Beacon Hill and Capitol Hill with the same zest he applied to helping residents of Winthrop, Eastie and South Boston. He was revered and residents viewed him with kindness and respect – sentiments they did not usually have for Massport.

The Adjustment Bureau, Rango, and Battle: Los Angeles are playing

at the Revere Showcase Cinemas.

20 years ago
March 8, 2001

Although a predicted huge snowstorm did not materialize, the powerful Nor'easter combined with unusually high tides to cause significant flooding in the town. Water that poured over Shore Drive washed down the side streets to flood Shirley St. Metricom, a national company that is a leading provider of internet services, wants to include Winthrop as part of its national internet network.

The Winthrop Playmakers have announced auditions for their production of Neil Simon's play, Fools. Christine Arnold is the director.

Sweet November, The Mexican, and 15 Minutes are playing at the Revere Showcase Cinemas.

30 years ago
March 6, 1991

The new got even worse for the town's budget picture this week as the Advisory Committee informed department heads and the selectmen that the deficit has been revised upwards from \$1.2 million to \$1.8 million, without even taking into account the 10 percent reduction in local aid being proposed by Gov. William Weld that would add another \$700,000 onto the budget gap. The School Department is looking at a budget gap of over \$1 million from last year's budget and \$2 million from its proposed budget.

With the annual town election just four weeks away, the candidates are picking up the pace. Selectman Robert E. Noonan this week endorsed Town Clerk Marie Turner in her bid against Noonan's colleague, incumbent Selectman Richard DiMento. Noonan said that “every Monday night when the selectmen meet, it's an adventure.”

The Army Corps of Engineers has informed the town that there is no available funding for repairs to the seawall on Grandview Ave.

New Jack City, Goodfellas, and Dances With Wolves are playing at the Revere Showcase Cinemas.

40 years ago
March 11, 1981
Asst. School Supt. Pe-

ter Finn reported to the School Committee that the Advisory Committee will be recommending a cut of “only” \$642,400 to the school budget. The Advisory Committee previously had suggested that the schools might have to be cut by up to \$1.5 million out of its \$6.2 million budget. After hearing from Finn, the School Committee voted to adopt a budget of \$5.56 million which includes closing the E.B. Newton School and transferring its students to the Willis School. The committee also voted to relinquish Larsen Rink to the town, which should save the School Department \$158,000. A five-person volunteer Rink Committee had tried to persuade the School Committee that it could turn the rink from a \$32,000 money-loser into a profitable enterprise. Rink Committee Chairman William Franzese said the rink should attract new customers and hire a full-time manager. However, Franzese said his group would need \$50,000 in start up funds before revenue would start coming in.

The Concerned Citizens Committee has scheduled a public forum to discuss the

implications of Prop. 2 and 1/2. The selectmen, State Rep. Alfred Saggese, State Senator Michael LoPresti, and the School Committee all have been invited.

More than 100 persons were on hand for the annual installation of officers of the Chamber of Commerce last night, which was held at Maria's Restaurant in the Centre. Installing officer Carol Loomis welcomed Atty. Jerome Falbo as the new President and Belle Liberman as vice president.

Goldie Hawn and Chevy Chase star in It Seems Like Old Times at the Kincade Theatre, which is celebrating its eighth anniversary under the ownership of longtime residents Bill and Dorothy Kincade, who were professional vaudevillians in the 1940s and 50s.

50 years ago
March 10, 1971

Town Meeting members will face a warrant of 43 articles when they

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Op-Ed // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

winding up in their waters.

The problems experienced in Newburyport, however, are not unique. Sewage discharges regularly harm water quality in our state. In Massachusetts, there are 181 combined sewer overflow (CSO) outfalls, and 24 CSO permittees. In a typical year, Massachusetts' waterways receive almost 3 billion gallons of untreated and partially treated sewage mixed with stormwater from CSOs. These outfalls are concentrated in urban areas, like Fall River, Lawrence, and Lowell, making CSO pollution an environmental justice issue, as the closest waterways to residents of urban neighborhoods may be contaminated without their knowing.

The Massachusetts sewage notification bill was filed during five

consecutive legislative sessions. Finally, in the summer of 2020, the bill passed the Massachusetts House of Representatives unanimously, and was sent to the Senate, where it sat until the final hours of the legislative session in January 2021. In quick succession that night, the Senate voted to pass it, and the House agreed to Senate modifications, sending the bill to the Governor's desk. Governor Baker signed the bill on January 12, 2021.

Raw and partially treated sewage should never be discharged into our waters. Public notification of sewage discharges is an important first step, and Mass Rivers hopes the new law will lead to a greater public willingness to invest in much needed water infrastructure, including separating these combined

sewer systems. These are expensive projects, but these investments are critical to protecting our environment, public health and safety, and ensuring environmental justice and climate resiliency. On World Water Day 2021, Mass Rivers encourages all Massachusetts residents to pledge themselves to the goal of clean, safe water for all.

Julia Blatt is the Executive Director of the Massachusetts Rivers Alliance. The Massachusetts Rivers Alliance is an alliance of 80 organizational members across the Commonwealth. Founded in 2007, Mass Rivers works to strengthen statewide river policies in four areas: water quality, streamflow, wildlife habitat, and investment in green infrastructure.

OBITUARIES

Rui Amaral

Member of Winthrop and Revere Elks Lodges and Avid Boater

Rui M. Amaral, 65, of Winthrop passed away on March 7.

The beloved husband of Deborah A. (Matarazzo) Amaral, he was born in Flamengos, Azores, Portugal, the cherished son of the late Manuel S. and Maria R. (Do Amaral) Amaral.

Rui was employed as a furniture upholsterer. He was a member of the Winthrop Lodge of Elks #1078 and the Revere Lodge of Elks #1171. Rui was an avid boater and enjoyed many years being out on the water.

Rui was the devoted father of Sarah M. Sheffield and her husband, Peter and Alissa M. Amaral, all of Winthrop and the adored grandfather of Autumn Sheffield; the dear brother of Carlos M. Amaral and his wife, Maggie of Tewksbury, Maria F. Bromley and her former husband, Peter of Cambridge and Manuel F. Amaral and his wife, Terri of Tewksbury and the son-in-law of William S. and the late Marie Matarazzo of



Medford. He was also lovingly survived by many nieces and nephews. Rui's funeral will be held from the Maurice W. Kirby Funeral Home, 210 Winthrop St., Winthrop on Friday, March 12, at 9 a.m. followed by a Funeral Mass in St. John the Evangelist Church-Winthrop at 10 a.m. Relatives and friends are invited. Interment will follow in Winthrop Cemetery (Belle Isle Section). Visiting hours will be held in the funeral home, following current social distant and capacity limits allowed, today, Thursday, March 11, from 3 to 7 p.m. To sign Rui's guestbook, please visit: www.mauricekirbyfh.com.

Blood donation remains essential amid COVID-19 pandemic

Staff report

A year ago, many things in the world paused due to the COVID-19 pandemic. But, the need for blood never stopped. Today blood donations are just as essential, and the American Red Cross urges individuals who are healthy to make an appointment to donate blood.

For patients in the emergency room, fighting cancer or coping with a life-threatening illness, help can't wait. Their health is reliant on the selfless generosity of blood donors. However, the blood supply continues to face challenges from the ongoing pandemic and extreme winter weather that impacted much of the U.S. last month.

More donors, especially those with type O blood, are needed now to ensure that patients have lifesaving blood products available for emergencies and everyday medical treatments. Schedule a blood donation appointment by downloading the Red Cross Blood Donor App, visiting RedCrossBlood.org, calling 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or enabling the Blood Donor Skill on any Alexa

Echo device.

March is Red Cross Month, and the Red Cross is celebrating blood, platelet and plasma donors for stepping up to meet the constant need for blood amid the pandemic. In thanks for being a vital part of the organization's lifesaving mission, all who come to give March 15-26 will receive an exclusive Red Cross T-shirt, while supplies last.

•Important COVID-19 information for donors

The Red Cross is testing blood, platelet and plasma donations for COVID-19 antibodies. The test may indicate if the donor's immune system has produced antibodies to this coronavirus, regardless of whether an individual developed COVID-19 symptoms. Testing may also identify the presence of antibodies developed after receiving a COVID-19 vaccine. Red Cross antibody tests will be helpful to identify individuals who have COVID-19 antibodies and may now help current coronavirus patients in need of convalescent plasma transfusions. Convalescent plasma is a type of blood donation collected from COVID-19 survivors that have antibodies

that may help patients who are actively fighting the virus. Plasma from whole blood donations that test positive for high levels of COVID-19 antibodies may be used to help COVID-19 patients.

COVID-19 antibody test results will be available within one to two weeks in the Red Cross Blood Donor App or donor portal at RedCrossBlood.org. A positive antibody test result does not confirm infection or immunity. The Red Cross is not testing donors to diagnose illness, referred to as a diagnostic test. To protect the health and safety of Red Cross staff and donors, it is important that individuals who do not feel well or believe they may be ill with COVID-19 postpone donation.

Each Red Cross blood drive and donation center follows the highest standards of safety and infection control, and additional precautions – including temperature checks, social distancing and face coverings for donors and staff – have been implemented to help protect the health of all those in attendance. Donors are asked to schedule an appoint-

ment prior to arriving at the drive and are required to wear a face covering or mask while at the drive, in alignment with Centers for Disease Control and Prevention public guidance.

Upcoming blood donation opportunities March 15-31:

•Boston

3/15/2021: 7 a.m. - 11:30 a.m., Northeastern University, 77 St. Stephen St.

3/17/2021: 9 a.m. - 2 p.m., Old South Church 645 Boylston St.

3/19/2021: 10 a.m. - 3 p.m., AC Hotel by Marriott Boston Downtown, 225 Albany St.

3/19/2021: 10 a.m. - 3 p.m., Big Night Entertainment Group, 110 Causeway St.

3/26/2021: 10 a.m. - 3 p.m., Big Night Entertainment Group, 110 Causeway St.

•Chelsea

3/31/2021: 1 p.m. - 6 p.m., Homewood Suites by Hilton Boston Logan Airport Chelsea, 145 Beech St.

•Winthrop

3/27/2021: 9 a.m. - 2 p.m., Zenith Lodge, 196 Winthrop St.

Years // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5

convene Monday night in Memorial Auditorium. Among the articles is one calling for the appointment of a full-time Executive Secretary for the Board of Selectmen. Other articles call for consolidating certain town departments, pay raises for town employees ranging from six to nine percent, and construction of a skating rink adjacent to the Memorial Auditorium.

A crowd of 150 was on hand for the installation of Byron Wasson as the new President of the Chamber of Commerce at Elks Hall. State Rep. Ralph Sirianni served as Toastmaster and introduced Winthrop's new State Senator, Mario Umana, who made a few remarks to the crowd.

Local police were kept busy over the weekend with three store robberies and a handbag snatching in broad daylight.

The newly-renovated and expanded Winthrop Community Hospital will hold an Open House next month. The cost of the project was \$1.6 million.

The new McDonald's Restaurant on Pauline st. across from the E.B. Newton School is open for business.

WHS Principal John Domenico has announced that four students have been named Outstanding Teenagers of America for 1971. They are Neil Shapiro, Teresa Carideo, Julianne Guide, and Marlene Rubitsky.

The local Knights of Columbus will mark their 75th anniversary with a Diamond Jubilee dinner and dance at the Elks Hall.

2001: A Space Odyssey, is playing at the Winthrop Cinema.

60 years ago

March 9, 1961

The three incumbent selectmen, Henry O'Connell, Walter Van Dalinda, and Melvin Carver, all handily won re-election in Monday's town election, turning aside the challenge of candidates Ralph Sirianni, William Kincaide, and James T. Reddy. In the race for the vacant School Committee seat, John M. Milne Jr. defeated Oliver Green. Voters returned Edward Sharkey as Town Meeting Moderator, as he overcame a challenge from Barnett "Barney" Samuels. A total of 46 percent of voters came out to cast ballots.

Revere State Rep. Harry Della Russo easily claimed victory for the Democratic nomination for State Senator, Della Russo was the lone candidate from Revere in a field

of nine candidates. Della Russo also was on the Republican primary ballot and appears to have won a close victory, though a recount looms.

Former Winthrop Chamber of Commerce said this week that the town has a bright future if we all have faith in the national economy.

Disney's The Swiss Family Robinson is playing at the Winthrop Theatre.

70 years ago

March 8, 1951

With 56 percent of voters casting ballots, one of the closest elections in town history on Monday saw just 272 votes separating the top four candidates in the contest for the three seats on the Board of Selectmen. Incumbents Peter Princi, Fred Baumeister, and William Pierce won re-election, but Andrew Benson came in fourth place, just 72 votes behind third-place finisher Pierce.

Incumbent Tax Collector Philip Genovese was unopposed and received the highest complimentary vote with 5971 votes.

Pfc. William Jacques Jr., 17, who enlisted in the Army and recently was wounded in Korea, visited the local Red Cross headquarters and expressed his thanks to the Red Cross workers for the aid he received after he was wounded. There presently are 25 Winthrop boys serving in Korea who will be receiving gift packages shortly from Winthrop residents, thanks to a committee headed by Philip Vitagliano.

90 years ago

March 7, 1931

The worst storm here since 1909, accompanied by a high tide and strong east winds, caused severe damage along the boulevard and coastline. Huge granite boulders were strewn along the boulevard pavement and hundreds of yards of iron railing from the sidewalks were scattered among the debris like so much log wood. Homes and cellars were flooded and for two and one half hours Winthrop was completely marooned. Large crowds

were on hand to watch the boulevard receive a pounding from the ocean's fury and many more came to Winthrop from out of town to look at the damage, which was reported in words and pictures in the Boston papers.

The three candidates endorsed by the Winthrop Republican League, Gordon Fullerton, G. Wallace Tibbetts, and Preston B. Churchill, handily were elected to the Board of Selectmen in Monday's annual town election at which 64 percent of the town's voters cast ballots. The independent candidacies of Messrs. Lili and Harvey did show some strength, however.

Frederic March stars in The Royal Family of Broadway at the Winthrop and State Theatres.

100 years ago

March 5, 1921

For the first time in town history, women will be voting for all elective offices, not just for School Committee, in Monday's annual town election. The Winthrop Republican League has endorsed its slate of candidates.

110 years ago

March 11, 1911

Only 1334 voters turned out for the annual town election for which there was little interest. Incumbent selectmen William Sanby, Brendan Keenan, and Fred Curtis all faced little opposition and were handily re-elected. The major interest was in the School Committee contest, in which 245 women voted, with Fred W. Woodcock defeating William B. Orcutt by a 3-1 margin.

120 years ago

March 9, 1901

Voters returned incumbents Winthrop Magee, Ahrend C.J. Pope, and Charles G. Craib to the Board of Selectmen. Pope was the top vote-getter with 465 votes. Voters rejected the candidacy of former selectman Orlando Lewis.

At the annual Town Meeting held in the evening, it was voted to appoint a committee to plan for the town's 50th anniversary.

Robert C. Hough

5th Anniversary
Mar. 16, 2016 - Mar. 16, 2021



When we close our eyes, we see you
When we open our eyes, we miss you
Our hearts are full of memories
With pride we speak your name.
Though life goes on without you,
it will never be the same.
Remembering you is easy,
we do it every day, but
missing you is the heartache
that never goes away.

We Miss and Love You
Your Loving Wife, Linda,
and Family

In Loving Memory Kevin B. Donohue

Nov. 18, 1948 - March 14, 1996
25th Anniversary



Forever in Our Hearts
Until we meet again

May his soul and the
souls of all the faithful
departed, through the
mercy of God,
Rest in Peace.
Amen.

All types of services for all types of people.

Some people prefer traditional funeral services. Others prefer cremation.

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OBITUARIES

Effective Jan. 1, 2021

All obituaries and death notices
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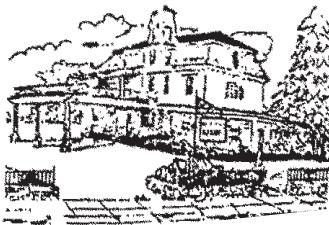
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ON THE CAMPAIGN TRAIL

Lifelong Winthrop resident Richard Fucillo joins the race for DeLeo seat

By Melissa Moore-Randall

Richard Fucillo is the latest Winthrop resident to enter the race for State Representative of the 19th Suffolk District. Fucillo, 21, is the youngest candidate to enter the race. A lifelong resident of Winthrop, he sees himself as the best successor for this position because of his status as an independent candidate. “I think everyone can agree that politics are too divisive. My goal is to work for the people of this great district and State and provide what is in the people’s best interest and not a special interest group or a political party. The hardworking people of our district have no time for political games and partisanship.”

Fucillo comes from a family who has been greatly involved in Winthrop in one way or another. A number of his family members have taught in Winthrop Public Schools and other family mem-

bers have belonged to various committees within the town. “My father also founded Viking Pride which has played an instrumental role in helping fund Winthrop Schools. I am the son of Cathleen Clark and Richard Fucillo Sr. I am a middle child and have one older sister, Anna Fucillo, and one younger sister, Sara Fucillo. Both my parents have lived in Winthrop their whole life and I intend to do the same. I grew up attending Winthrop Public Schools and went to, and graduated from Winthrop High School. In high school I was a 3 sport athlete playing baseball, basketball, and golf.”

He is currently attending Emerson College as a Senior Communications Major with Sign Language Minor. He also coaches a U10 baseball team in Woburn for an organization called Pure Baseball and umpires baseball games in and around Winthrop during the season.

He decided to run for DeLeo’s seat because he wants to continue his family’s legacy. “Robert DeLeo has always done a great job for our town and I want to continue that legacy. I had planned on running for Town Council, but when this opportunity popped up, I made the decision to run. I have always wanted to give back to my community and this is the best opportunity to do just that. Speaker DeLeo has done a marvelous job for our district and his shoes are certainly going to be difficult to fill. We have gone 30 years without having to think about a replacement for his great work and now we need a candidate who best looks out for our communities.”

A top priority for Fucillo, if elected, would be the internet. “This is a huge issue, especially right now during the pandemic. We rely on the internet, yet, there are over 20,000 people in Suffolk County who do not have access to



Candidate for State Representative of the 19th Suffolk District Richard Fucillo.

broadband internet speeds, and over 8,000 who do not have access to any internet. Another big issue we currently face in our community is the soaring cost of living in our communities. The skyrocketing prices are driving hardworking people out of our town. The third issue at hand is the mental health and drug crisis

If elected he would like to continue to lobby for the 2019 Student Oppor-

tunity Act. “The Student Opportunity act was a big win for our state, however it was not fully funded due to the pandemic. We need that money to fully fund our public schools and provide the most opportunities to our teachers and students.”

Fucillo added, “Part of being a leader involves the ability to learn about the things that you don’t know, which is why I take pride in the fact that I am

a student and I am willing to learn about the issues I don’t know about. A lot of people asked why am I running at such a young age. Well, a lot of issues that we face every day have existed longer than I have been alive, and we haven’t been able to solve them. My generation will be essential at solving these issues, so we might as well get to work now. Another question I get is how do you respond to people who say you have no political experience? When people talk about political experience they are talking about the past. Politics are an ever changing atmosphere and stories about the past are not going to help. We need answers and solutions for tomorrow, and that’s what I will provide as the next State Representative. I will only cater to the needs of the people and not a political party or special interest group.”

A special election is set for March 30.

AARP Massachusetts reports monthly fraud watch update

Staff report

Did you know that someone’s identity gets stolen every two seconds? The AARP Fraud Watch Network can provide the tips and resources to help spot and avoid identity theft and fraud so you can protect the family. This watchdog alerts will keep one up to date on con artists’ latest tricks. It’s free of charge for everyone: AARP members, non-members, and people of all ages. Be a fraud fighter! If you can spot a scam, you can stop a scam. Report scams to local law enforcement. Contact the AARP Fraud Watch Network at www.aarp.org/fraudwatchnetwork for more information on fraud prevention.

The AARP Fraud Watch Network is:

§ An Educator: Get real-time alerts about the latest scams, tips on how to spot them, and the inside scoop on how con artists think so you can outsmart them before they strike.

• A Watchdog: Our nationwide scam-tracking map gives you access to a network of people who’ve spotted scams and the opportunity to pass along your own experiences, so together we can beat con artists at their own game.

• A Resource: Get connected to a real live person trained in how to avoid fraud and advise you if you or a loved one has

been scammed by calling our fraud hotline or attending a forum in your community.

• Free for Everyone: Anyone, of any age, can access our resources at no cost.

SCAM ALERT #1: NATIONAL CONSUMER PROTECTION WEEK

It’s National Consumer Protection Week —and while AARP is focused on protecting consumers year-round — this is a good time to highlight key tips to keep you safe.

Never give out personal or financial information over the phone or internet — especially if you don’t know the person on the other end. Be careful of what links you click on or what numbers you call back. If something seems to be good to be true it is. Lastly, be your own detective by using trusted resources to determine if something is a scam before responding.

One great resource is the Federal Trade Commission and its website, www.consumer.ftc.gov. It has resources to help protect yourself from scams and fraud and ID theft as well as tips on how to maximize your security online.

SCAM ALERT #2: SORTING FACT FROM FICTION WITH VACCINES

At the start of the pandemic, scammers hawked fake cures, treatments and vaccines. Now that vac-

cines are available, scammers are making bogus offers to move you to the front of the line for getting your vaccine — for a fee. Some are even setting up fake vaccine distribution sites. Unfortunately, this means that consumers looking for a vaccine appointment have to sort through fake and legitimate information in search for a shot — a process that can be confusing and dangerous.

With thousands of localities taking their own approach to vaccine distribution, it’s important to follow guidance provided by local public health officials and trusted healthcare providers. When signing up for your vaccine, find out how you will be contacted for any follow-up information or guidance.

SCAM ALERT #3: DEBT RELIEF SCAMS

COVID-19 and the economic downturn have put millions of Americans in financial peril. For most people, one of the first steps to getting back on their feet is getting rid of debt. Enter the con artist.

Shady companies will claim they can remove bankruptcies, liens and bad loans from your record, or even erase a bad credit history completely, helping you start over with a new credit identity. All you have to do is pay an upfront fee.

To avoid falling victim to these scams it’s important to remember that no

one can remove bad information from your credit report if it is correct and timely. Things like bankruptcy or significant debt can stay on your credit record for up to 10 years. When looking for legitimate help with managing debt, avoid anyone who promises they can erase your debt history, increase your credit score or asks for an advance payment.

SCAM ALERT #4: CONSUMER SENTIMENTAL REPORT

The numbers are in. The Federal Trade Commission released its report of fraud complaints from last

year, and it was historically high, due in large part to COVID and the economic downturn. Criminals thrive in times of confusion and 2020 was the perfect storm. Staying on top of COVID related scams was a never-ending game of whack-a-mole for consumers, and the problem hasn’t gone away.

Reported losses topped \$3.3 billion — an increase of around \$1.5 billion over the previous year. The top scams were identity theft, impostor scams and online shopping scams. Most of these same scams are still active in 2021, which is

why it’s important to avoid answering calls from unknown phone numbers or clicking on links from texts or emails from suspicious or unknown senders. And as long as COVID remains a challenge, beware of offers for miracle cure or a shortcut to a vaccine.

Be a fraud fighter! If one can spot a scam, one can stop a scam.

Report scams to local law enforcement. For help from AARP, call 1-877-908-3360 or visit the AARP Fraud Watch Network at www.aarp.org/fraudwatchnetwork.



SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES 2021



Massport is currently accepting applications for the following Scholarships:

• **Deborah Hadden Gray Memorial Scholarship**
Awarded to a high school senior who resides and is involved in community service or employment in the City of Boston, Chelsea, Revere or Winthrop with a minimum 3.0 GPA.

• **Lowell L. Richards III Memorial Scholarship**
Awarded to a high school senior who resides and is involved in community service in the City of Boston, Chelsea, Revere, or Winthrop, with a minimum 3.0 GPA.

• **Diversity STEM Scholarship**
Awarded to high school seniors of color who reside or attend school in the City of Boston, Chelsea, Winthrop, Revere, Worcester, Bedford, Concord, Lexington, or Lincoln, and are involved in community service with a minimum 3.0 GPA.

Scholarship applications must be received by Massport no later than 5:00 p.m. on Friday, April 30, 2021. For more information on these scholarships, including application checklist and criteria please visit www.massport.com

DUA announces new anti-fraud identification measures

Staff Report

The Massachusetts Department of Unemployment Assistance (DUA) has announced that the Department has implemented new security measures to speed up identity verification and to protect claimant accounts. These measures also address the continued surge of fraudulent claim attempts.

The Department has contracted with the security vendor ID.me, a federally certified identity verification provider that specializes in digital identity protection. ID.me will implement solutions designed to reduce wait times on identity verification issues for unemployment claimants.

This new mobile-friendly method of identity verification will help protect the integrity

of the system and allow DUA to make payments more quickly to legitimate claimants. ID.me is being implemented for the traditional Unemployment Insurance (UI) program. The identity verification process for the Pandemic Unemployment Assistance Program (PUA), which provides financial assistance to groups like the self-employed, is not undergoing any changes at this time.

The initial group of claimants who will benefit from the introduction of ID.me are those who are currently waiting for identity verification issues to be adjudicated. DUA has implemented ID.me for existing UI claimants. ID.me will be added for new claimants in the coming weeks.

For all claimants clearing the ID.me process, a

Notice of Approval will be issued from UI Online, and if otherwise eligible, payments to the claimant will commence within several days.

DUA is also implementing additional Multi-Factor Authentication (MFA) measures within the UI Online system to help reduce the risk of fraud and cybersecurity attacks. MFA is an authentication method that requires the user to provide an additional form of verification to gain access to a system. Generally, this is a code sent to the claimant’s cell phone or email that the claimant must then enter to access UI Online. MFA is one aspect of a strong identity and access management policy that strengthens access to these critical systems and reduces the likelihood of any cybersecurity attacks.

WHS SPORTS SCHEDULE					
MARCH 8-13					
DAY	DATE	ACTIVITY	TIME	VERSUS	LOCATION
Mon	03/08/2021	Soccer: Boys Varsity	4:00 PM	KIPP Academy	Miller Field
		Soccer: Girls Varsity	4:00 PM	KIPP Academy	Manning Field
Tue	03/09/2021	Volleyball: Girls JV	4:30 PM	Saugus	Saugus High School
		Volleyball: Girls Varsity	6:00 PM	Saugus	Saugus High School
		Soccer: Girls JV	4:00 PM	Northeast Metro Tech	Miller Field
Wed	03/10/2021	Soccer: Girls Varsity	4:00 PM	KIPP Academy	Miller Field
		Soccer: Boys Varsity	6:00 PM	KIPP Academy	Manning Field
Thu	03/11/2021	Volleyball: Girls JV	4:00 PM	Marblehead	Winthrop High School
		Volleyball: Girls Varsity	5:30 PM	Marblehead	Winthrop High School
Fri	03/12/2021	Football: Varsity	5:00 PM	Peabody HS	Peabody HS
		Cheerleader: Varsity	5:00 PM	Peabody HS	Peabody HS
Sat	03/13/2021	Football: JV	10:00 AM	Peabody HS	Miller Field
		Soccer: Boys JV	1:00 PM	Northeast Metro Tech	Miller Field
		Soccer: Girls JV	3:00 PM	Northeast Metro Tech	Miller Field

Football // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

film. We're trying to get over that disappointment and move on."

Instead of Friday's game, the Vikings will play their season opener against Saugus on Friday, March 19 at 6 p.m. at Miller Field. There will be a pre-game "Senior Night" ceremony honoring the 15 Winthrop seniors and their families.

Viking Captains Are Announced

Coach Cadigan has announced that seniors Stevie Perullo, Chris Ferrara, and Tyler Rockefeller will be the team's captains.

The election process is that a player has to be nominated by a teammate and then accept the nomination. Each player and coach has one vote in the election, according to Cadigan.

Vikings score one TD versus Marblehead

The Vikings played in a scrimmage at Marblehead last Thursday, scoring one touchdown against the Magicians, who have been one of the winningest programs in the NEC for the past decade.

Tyler Rockefeller scored Winthrop's only

touchdown on a 1-yard run on the opening drive of the second half. Quarterback Duke Doherty threw a pass to Mike Chaves for the two-point conversion.

Marblehead scored three touchdowns in the 21-8 decision.

"As the game went on, I thought we moved the ball well offensively," said Cadigan.

In a brilliant move a la Bill Belichick, Cadigan scheduled the scrimmage in the late afternoon to simulate the travel and time-of-day conditions that the Vikings would have experienced on their road trip to Peabody for the opener.

Herald 'Players to Watch'

Duke Doherty was listed as one of Danny Ventura's "Dandy Dozen" players in the Boston Herald football preview. Doherty has committed to the Naval Academy.

Tyler Rockefeller and Bobby Hubert were named as "Players to Watch" in the division.

Interestingly, Hubert will be handling all of the placekicking and punting responsibilities for the



UP AND OVER: Winthrop's Ryan Hoverdale tries the over-head route to avoid a Marblehead tackler.

Vikings. Doherty will be the holder on field goals and extra points. Stevie Perullo is the center (long snapper).

Coaching Staff Is Ready

Jon Cadigan is beginning his third season as head coach and 19th season in the program. He received a Super Bowl championship ring in the undefeated 2006 season when the Winthrop Vikings defeated the Wareham Vikings, 25-8.

Cadigan will be assisted on the Winthrop coaching staff by offensive coordinator Bobby Nimblett, defensive coordinator James Fucillo, offensive

line coach Chris Ferrara, defensive line coach Derek Brodin, wide receivers coach Mark DiGregorio, linebackers coach Tyler Gillis, volunteer offensive assistant Mark D'Ambrosio, volunteer assistant Rob Doherty, and volunteer assistant Frank Ambrosino.

Frankie Fabiano, longtime team manager and assistant to Athletic Director



SEEKING HIS PREY: Defensive lineman Mike Carter pressures the Marblehead quarterback.

Matt Serino, will also have a position on the staff.

Fucillo, Smith at the microphone

The reports are that former Winthrop High standouts Anthony Fucillo and Alex Smith will be the broadcast team for WHS football games.

The former teammates went on to play college football, Fucillo at Colgate

and Tufts, and Smith at Endicott. Anthony is currently an assistant football coach at Harvard. His father is Hall of Fame coach Tony Fucillo, the leader of the 2006 Super Bowl team that most consider the greatest team in WHS history. Alex's father, Paul Smith, was instrumental in the success of the early days of the Winthrop Youth Football program.



PHOTOS BY BOB MARRA

MAKE A WISH: Matt Hurley (29) Steve Perullo (68) and Tyler Rockefeller (40) put an end to a Marblehead run.

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MEET YOUR 2021 WHS CHEERLEADERS



Senior Captains, Rachel Farley and Nellie Carter.



▲ Coaches Jenna Marchant (left) and Mari Johnson (right) with the WHS Viking Varsity Cheerleaders. Front row; Sofia Vitale, Captains Rachel Farley and Nellie Carter. Back row: Sydney Crotty, Bella Giuffre, Taylyn Portrait, Annika Holgerson, Haven Pereira, Ellie O'Donnell, Emily Rodriguez.

▲ The 2021 Seniors, from left; Sydney Crotty, Capt. Rachel Farley, Capt. Nellie Carter, Bella Giuffre, Sophia Vitale and Taylyn Portrait.

WHS SPORTS ROUNDUP

WHS VOLLEYBALL DOES WELL IN SEASON-OPENER

Although the Winthrop High volleyball team dropped its season-opener to Swampscott, 3-1, last Thursday, the Vikings showed a lot of promise for their 2021 Fall II campaign.

“Despite the loss, we were proud of our team,” said WHS co-coach Rachel Del Solio, who is co-coaching once again this season with Lauren Kostegan. “This is the first time many of the players have played together, and

the first time some of them have played at the varsity level. After not playing or practicing volleyball for over a year, they did well for their first game of the season.

“We already have noticed great chemistry with the players out on the court,” Del Solio continued. “We had strong defensive play by senior Xhona Kokeneshi and junior Megan Goudge. Senior Adyana Barbarisi had a great varsity debut. She adjusted really well when we needed her, which helped us out on some big

plays.

“Also, our returning captains, Caroline Earl and Carolyn Kinsella, were a strong presence on the court and gave it their all for the whole match,” Del Solio added.

The Vikings were scheduled to play at Saugus this past Tuesday. They will host Marblehead this evening (Thursday) before trekking to Salem next Tuesday and to Swampscott next Thursday.

The volleyball team has an 11-game schedule for

their Fall II season that will conclude on April 15.

SOCCER TEAMS OPEN WITH VICTORIES OVER KIPP

The Winthrop High boys and girls soccer teams opened their Fall II seasons with triumphs over KIPP Academy of Lynn on Monday.

Coach Tracey Martucci's girls' squad handily defeated their KIPPster rivals by a score of 7-0, while coach Kyle Gagin's

boys earned a 2-1 victory.

Both teams were scheduled to take on KIPP in a rematch yesterday (Wednesday).

The teams then will encounter Northeast Regional in home-and-home matches this coming Monday and Wednesday. The girls will be home at Miller Field on Monday at 4:00 and away on Wednesday, and vice-versa for the boys.

The WHS soccer program did not participate in the regular fall season with the Northeastern

Conference because of the town's high coronavirus positivity rate at that time, but is engaging with the Commonwealth Athletic Conference this spring.

WHS TRACK ON TRACK FOR MEET WITH SAUGUS

The Winthrop High track teams will open their season next Thursday with a meet against Saugus at Miller Field.

WHS SPORTS THROUGH THE YEARS

10 years ago
March 3, 2011

The Winthrop High Lady Bulldog hockey team, which earned the fifth seed in the Division 1 State Tournament, will host the winner of the Arlington vs. Barnstable contest this Saturday evening at Larsen Rink. Winthrop finished the season with a sterling 15-3-1 record en route to capturing the North Cape League championship.

The Winthrop High girls basketball team clinched a spot in the state tourney in the final game of the season with an overtime victory in the consolation contest of the Viking Classic Basketball Tournament last Wednes-

day against Hull. Senior Johnna Fisher, despite being ill, was immense in OT, as she had been all game, and ended up with 25 points and 18 rebounds despite having missed the entire first period. Johnna also was clutch from the free throw line, hitting on six of her nine attempts from the charity stripe. Angelina Favalaro turned in what was her best performance of the year, tingling the twice for 17 points and grabbing four rebounds. Angie hit on 4 of 5 from three point land, including one in OT and another as the shot clock was expiring in the fourth period. Freshman Theresa

See SPORTS YEARS Page 10

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B&M Baked Beans 16 oz.....	4/¢5.00
General Mills Plain Cheerios 8.9 oz.....	2/¢5.00
V-8 Juice 46 oz.....	2/¢5.00
Best Yet Potato Chips.....	2/¢4.00
Best Yet Paper Towels 6pk	¢5.99
Best Yet Waffles	4/¢5.00
Stouffers French Bread Pizza.....	4/¢10.00
Green Giant Mashed Cauliflower.....	¢3.99
Philadelphia Soft Cream Cheese Tub 7.5-8 oz	2/¢6.00
Silk Pure Almond Milk 64 oz.....	2/¢6.00

Bakery

Variety Quarter Cheesecake.....	¢4.99
Flat-out Rosemary Olive Oil Bread	¢2.99
Ciabatta Bread	¢2.99

Deli

Carando Genoa Salami	¢7.99/lb
Butterball Oven Roasted Turkey Breast....	¢5.99/lb
Russer Canadian Maple Ham	¢5.99/lb
Our Own In Store Cooked Chickens ...	¢5.99 +meal tax

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Bob Evans Side Dishes..... 2/¢7.00

Kayem Polska Kielbasa

2/¢8.00

Al Fresco Breakfast Patties 7 oz

2/¢6.00

Best Yet Shrimp Ring 31-40 ct.....

¢6.99

Weekend Specials

Friday, March 12th to Sunday March 14th

"while supplies last"

BAKERY

Chocolate Crumb Cake

¢6.99

DELI

Best Yet Corned Beef

¢5.99/lb

Natural Casing Hot Dogs.....

¢5.99/lb

Our Own In Store Antipasto Salad

¢6.99/lb

PRODUCE

Fresh California Lemons.....

2/¢1.00

Tangy & Juicy Limes.....

2/¢1.00

Natures Finest All Purpose

White Potatoes 5 lb bag

2/¢5.00

MEAT

Family Pack Boneless

New York Strip Steaks

¢8.99/lb

Family Pack Chicken Tenders

¢2.99/lb

Sugardale Bacon 12 oz.....

2/¢8.00

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2/¢7.00

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Winthrop Senior Center News

Website: town.winthrop.ma.us/council-aging

Email: COARception@town.winthrop.ma.us

The Senior Center remains closed to the public at this time. If you need assistance, please call us at 617-846-8538 (or email coareception@town.winthrop.ma.us) and leave a message, as well as your name and phone number. We will do our best to get back to you in a timely manner.

East Boston Neighborhood Health Center COVID Vaccine Clinics: The East Boston Neighborhood Health Center is now offering vaccination clinics in East Boston, Revere and Chelsea. You

must schedule an appointment to receive the vaccine. Vaccination is free to all residents. You may be asked for your insurance information if available to bill your insurance, but you do not need to have insurance.

Eligible residents (currently residents 65+, and individuals with two or more comorbidities) can request an appointment by calling 617-568-4870. Vaccinations at EBNHC locations are available by appointment only. You must call for an appointment. For more information,

go to: ebnhc.org/en/services/covid-19/covid-19-vaccine

To find other locations to receive the vaccine, please visit the State's COVID-19 site: mass.gov/info-details/covid-19-vaccination-locations

Mystic Valley Elder Services Offering Transportation Services to COVID Vaccine Sites for Adults 60 Years and Older. There are three eligibility guidelines to get approved for your two roundtrips: you must be 60 years of age or older; do not have other means

to get to a vaccination site; or do not have access to the vaccine in the building complex where you live. For more information, or to schedule a ride, call MVES at 781-324-7705. If you need a ride, please make sure to call in advance so you can plan the most convenient travel time for yourself.

Meals on Wheels continues to operate. Residents who are in need and are not currently on the list to receive meals through Meals on Wheels can call Mystic Valley Elder Services at 781-324-7705, with their name, phone

number and address to be included in the program.

Senior Phone Buddy Program. Senior Center volunteers are available to make friendly phone calls to homebound seniors. If you, or someone you know would like to receive a call, please contact the Senior Center at 617-846-8538, or email COARception@town.winthrop.ma.us. Additionally, if you would like to volunteer to be a friendly caller, email mrodes@town.winthrop.ma.us.

Exercise with Ernie Sarro: WCAT will present Exercise with Ernie Sarro Monday – Friday at 10:30am on Channel 3.

Subscribe to the Senior Center's monthly newsletter. You can now subscribe to receive the Senior Center newsletter via email. To sign up, go to www.town.winthrop.ma.us/subscribe, enter your email address and select "Senior Center Newsletter" from the options.

VVA President Rowan presents legislative priorities before Congress

Staff report

"From Vietnam to the present-day, members of the U.S. military have been exposed to toxic elements, at home and abroad, that have killed more people than our enemies," said John Rowan, National President, Vietnam Veterans of America (VVA), in testimony March 4 before the Joint Session of House and Senate Veterans Affairs Committees. "What has made the situation more disgraceful,"

noted Rowan, "is our government hid the negative aspects of these toxic substances from everyone serving in these areas and fought their claims with the VA for many years."

"Toxic exposures, not only to Agent Orange, remain our prime concern," noted Rowan. "We are seeking champions in Congress to introduce and enact the Toxic Wounds Registries Act of 2021. Toxic Wounds registries would enable epidemiological research by link-

ing, in Electronic Health Records, a veteran's military history by encoding their location and time of service. VA techs would be able to access the appropriate registry to locate others with whom they served. We call on Congress to ensure this capability is built into the VA's IT system," said Rowan.

This legislation would authorize the VA Secretary to enter into an agreement with the National Academy of Medicine to review peer-reviewed scientific research, and it would re-

quire those conclusions to inform the Secretary's selection of research to be conducted and/or funded by the VA. It would also establish a presumption of service connection for benefits and healthcare.

This legislation would direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to establish a master registry that would incorporate registries for:

- Exposure to Agent Orange during and in the aftermath of the Vietnam War;
- Exposure to toxicants relating to deployment

during the 1991 Persian Gulf War;

- Exposure to toxicants from a deployment during Operations Enduring Freedom, Iraqi Freedom and New Dawn, and the Global War on Terror;

- Exposure to toxicants during a deployment to Bosnia, Somalia, or the Philippines; and

- Exposure to toxicants while stationed at a military installation contaminated by toxic substances overseas and/or here in CONUS.

"It is our hope that this

legislation will ensure that our most recent veterans will not have to wait 50 years for answers," said Rowan. "We will continue our battle for justice on behalf of all veterans who are suffering ill health effects due to military toxic exposure and for their children and grandchildren--our fellow veterans whose health has been impacted by their service, for our younger brothers and sisters, the veterans of the Gulf War and those who served Post-911."

Sports Years // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9

Jones saw a lot of action (26 minutes) and contributed six points and five rebounds. Temison Meggison chipped in with six points and snared eight boards, while point guard Alyssa Mackey came through with a fine all around effort, scoring seven points, grabbing seven rebounds, and dishing out four assists. Liana Ferullo added three points and Taylor Duplin and Brittany Lento each sank a free throw. Coach Ignacio Oyola and his crew earned

the 13th seed in the D-3 North Sectional and were set to take on fourth-seeded Ipswich.

The WHS boys basketball team opened up March Madness season with a 70-54 win over Snowden Tuesday night at the WHS gym. The 14-6 Vikings, seeded 5th in Division 4 of the MIAA North Sectional, led all the way against a 12th-seeded Snowden squad that came into the contest with a 5-12 mark. The Vikings showed some tightness through the first

half and after a 15-15 deadlock in the first quarter, held a slim 31-25 lead at the half. However, Winthrop came out on fire after the intermission, led by J.P. Doherty, who drained three treys in the third period to pace a Winthrop spurt that saw the Vikings outscore Snowden 24-12 to open up an 18-point advantage by the third buzzer. Winthrop's big men, Quinton Dale and Anthony Hatzisavas, ruled the lane, scoring 17 points each and pulling down 17

and 10 rebounds respectively. Doherty and Michael Griffin contributed nine points apiece.

The Winthrop High boys hockey team will embark on its Journey to the Tourney against Lincoln Sudbury this evening (Thursday) in Watertown. The Northeastern Conference champion Vikings garnered the number two seed in the Division 2 North bracket thanks to their fine 14-2-4 record. Lincoln Sudbury, the number 15 seed with a 10-7-3 record, earned the right to meet Winthrop with a 4-0 shutout of No. 18 seed North Reading Monday evening.

**20 years ago
March 1, 2001**

The Winthrop High boys hockey team will face St. Bernard's in the opening round of the Division 2 North state tourney. The Vikings are seeded third in the North Sectional with a 13-4-2 record. They met St. Bernard's in the opening round of the tourney last year and saw a 3-0 lead dissipate into a 5-4 loss in overtime.

Leah DeGregorio scored eight points and grabbed five rebounds for the WHS girls basketball team in a 50-33 loss to

Lynnfield in the season finale.

The WHS boys basketball team fell by a score of 81-39 to Watertown in the opening round of the state tourney Tuesday night. James Arena led Winthrop with 11 points.

**30 years ago
Feb. 27, 1991**

The WHS girls basketball team won its opener in the state tourney with a 49-43 win over Tewksbury at the WHS gym. Coach Ron Spinney's squad was led to victory by a trio of sophomores: Liz Doherty led Winthrop with 18 points; Lori Thomas had numerous blocked shots and added nine points; and Joanna Saggese hit for 12 points and pulled down eight rebounds.

**40 years ago
March 4, 1981**

Winthrop star shot-putter Mike Brenner captured the Class D state championship Saturday with a toss of 55'-1.5". Brenner now will compete in the all-state meet.

After defeating Billerica 7-1 in the state tourney-opener behind the four goals of Chuck Sullivan, the WHS hockey team fell to undefeated Acton Boxboro 6-1 in the

quarterfinals played at the Boston Garden. Sullivan scored the Viking goal.

Winthrop's Joyce Kelly led the MIT women's basketball team with a scoring average of 8.9 points per game this season.

**50 years ago
March 3, 1971**

The WHS hockey team won its first-ever state tourney game with a 6-3 triumph over Bedford. Co-captain Ed Rossi had a goal and two assists as did Mike Eruzione. Paul Buckley scored two goals for Winthrop.

Sun-Transcript sports columnist Bob Remer writes that with hockey nets replacing basketball hoops in the town's backyards and more than 400 local youngsters in youth hockey programs, Town Meeting should approve the plan for a hockey rink adjacent to the Memorial Auditorium.

**60 years ago
March 2, 1961**

Despite 24 points from Capt. Al DiPierro and 10 from Len Riley, the WHS basketball team fell to Braintree in a Class B Tech Tourney game at the Boston Garden.

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WHS GIRLS SOCCER WINS SEASON OPENER WITH SHUTOUT, 7-0



Winthrop's Abby Holmes takes aim on the KIPP net.



Winthrop's Maddie Stiglets encounters an obstacle in KIPP's Emma Ngigua.



Lily Skomro (14) controls the ball in front of the KIPP defense.



Grace Galuris (17) gets control of the ball in front of KIPP Academy's Marissa Estaban during Winthrop's 7-0 victory at Manning Field Monday.

Photos by Bob Marra

Winthrop's girls soccer

team got their season off to a rousing start with a 7-0 win over KIPP Acad-

emy Monday at Manning Field.



Winthrop's Grace Arenas sends a pass into the KIPP toward the KIPP goal.



Mia Martucci (22) chases after a loose ball.



Winthrop's Mia Martucci (22) stumbles as she tangles with KIPP's Andrea Reyes.

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NEWS FROM AROUND THE REGION

“LIZ” MCBRIDE DIES AT 100

CHELSEA - Mrs. Elizabeth “Liz” McBride, who served on the Chelsea School Committee for many years and was a member of the Chelsea Kiwanis Club, died on March 1. She was 100 years old.

McBride was a beloved public figure and attended numerous events hosted by local organizations and was warmly welcomed by all. She had incredible energy and spread her goodwill efforts throughout the community.

Mrs. McBride was a pioneer in the local Kiwanis Club, becoming its first female member. Kiwanis President Sylvia Ramirez lauded Mrs. McBride’s dedication to the club, stating that she was “a vivid and passionate member whose presence has been missed at our meetings.”

“We are saddened by this huge loss to our community,” said Ramirez. “I just hope to be at least a tiny percent of what she was for Kiwanis during my Kiwanis years. Not only was she active in Kiwanis, she was a member of the School Committee, engaged with our children, and passionate about bicycle safety – she was a great woman and we will miss her terribly.”

Ramirez said the members will be paying tribute to Mrs. McBride at her memorial observance. “We will all be wearing our red jackets to honor her.”

Councilor-at-Large Leo Robinson described Mrs. McBride as “a wonderful lady.”

“Liz devoted her life’s work to the Chelsea schoolchildren and Chelsea School Committee,” said Robinson. “Through the Kiwanis Club and her advocacy for our students, the Kiwanis Club has been a generous donor of scholarships to Chelsea High students and Liz made it happen,” said Robinson.

Chelsea School Committee member Rosemarie Carlisle served on the committee with Mrs. McBride. She was also a friend and neighbor on Sagamore Avenue.

“She was a wonderful lady who cared about all the students in the City of Chelsea,” said Carlisle. “She made sure that the decisions she made in the educational system were in the best interests of the students. She cared about all the teachers and made sure the teachers were happy in the classroom.”

Carlisle recalled how Mrs. McBride would visit the Mary C. Burke Complex and read books to the elementary school students there. They would lovingly call her, ‘Grandma’, related Carlisle.

Carlisle said she has great memories of serving on the School Committee with Mrs. McBride and being a partner in the effort to bring Boston University officials to Chelsea to manage the local school system. “Liz McBride, and Morry Seigal, Lydia Walata, Andrew Quigley, and Chubby Tiro – all of us worked together to bring Boston University to reality in Chelsea.”

As a neighbor, Carlisle often saw Mrs. McBride near her home in Prattville.

“I grew up with all her kids – she was a wonderful mother,” said Carlisle. “She loved her husband, John, and they were good parents to their kids. They were all brought up the

right way in the City of Chelsea. They’re really Chelsea people.”

CITY HALL TOWER GETTING A FACELIFT

CHELSEA - While a lot of Chelsea City Hall has been modernized or upgraded in the last 10 years, the tower and dome have literally remained a time capsule – though the time may not have always been right on the tower clock.

Nevertheless, this month the City’s Department of Public Works began a complete restoration project for the tower – getting rid of 100-year-old rickety stairs, fixing leaks, repointing the brickwork, righting the clock and even applying a new layer of gilding to the Hall’s golden dome.

“We’re doing a full restoration of the tower, and that will include gilding the entire dome,” said DPW Director Fidel Maltez. “That will be done later this summer and when it’s done, it will really look awesome.”

The impetus for the restoration comes from many directions.

First and foremost, the leaks in the tower had become expensive and disruptive. The tower sits right above the Council’s Conference Room, and more than a few storms had brought water into the tower, where it stood in puddles and leaked down into the Conference Room. That caused extensive damage and lots of repairs.

“What happens is on the north side of the tower, we had a lot of water coming in and would destroy the Conference Room,” he said. “In my four years here, we’ve re-done that roof four times. That was the driving force of this project. Once we started that, we pushed the Council for a holistic project that restored the entire Tower. We believe after this we won’t have to tackle the Tower for another 100 years.”

That part of City Hall was built in 1909, and it does show.

Right now, Contracting Specialists Inc. (CSI) are working on the brick work and the masonry to stop all the leaks. They are also repairing all four faces of the clock, and the clock will be computerized so that it looks historic, but also keeps good time and resets itself automatically. In fact, all four faces of the clock were to be removed on Tuesday of this week.

They will also be installing new stairs on the inside of the tower, and, of course, the new gilding on the dome – along with some other smaller repairs.

Maltez said the plan is to have the restoration complete in June, and he hopes that upon completion, residents could be invited up to the tower to see the inner workings of the clock.

The Hall is on the National Register of Historic Places, and so the renovations are being held to historic standards.

The project costs a total of \$1.8 million, with the City getting a \$150,000 boost from the Community Preservation Committee.

DEMARIA SEEKS RE-ELECTION

EVERETT - Mayor Carlo DeMaria officially announced that he would be seeking re-election as mayor of Everett in 2021.

The mayor’s Campaign Committee had indicated previously in the Independent that he was going to run and he has informally said over the last several months that he would, indeed, seek another four-year term.

In his official announcement, he said he still has big goals and big plans, and hopes to continue them in 2022.

“I have big goals, aggressive goals, but I’m confident they can be accomplished if given the opportunity to continue to serve as your Mayor,” he wrote in an op-ed to the paper. “I am excited to get back on the campaign trail this year and hope to have the opportunity to discuss our past accomplishments as well as bold plans for the future with you directly. Your early support and encouragement will fuel this campaign.”

The mayor relayed many of the actions and accomplishments from 2020, in the midst of the pandemic, and said he’s ready to move past last year and re-claim the City’s momentum.

“I am committed to continuing to move our City forward – together,” he said.

“As Mayor, I promise to continue to make strides towards bettering our community in all aspects, including, but not limited to, transportation, capital improvements, and infrastructure. The pandemic required the City to shift gears and adapt to a global crisis; however, we are ready to pick up where we left off and continue to move Everett forward.”

He said a lot of what will be done the remaining part of his current term, through 2021, will be helping residents and businesses get on their feet and ready for the plans he has in 2022.

“Since then, our City has truly come together to support one another,” he said of the actions after schools and City Hall were closed on March 14, 2020. “We have distributed 1.4 Million pounds of food, delivered 130,000 meals to the elderly, and provided financial assistance to residents and local businesses alike. In 2021 my Administration will be focused on getting our children back into the classroom, providing all residents an opportunity to get vaccinated, and distributing additional financial assistance to residents and businesses.”

He also mentioned that in 2020, Everett was named one of the top places to live North of Boston by the Boston Globe, noting that Everett was a “winning bet” with the recent increases in property values. He added that even with those increases, Everett has the one of the lowest single-family tax bills in Greater Boston.

DeMaria said serving as mayor has been an honor, and he hopes to be able to do so for another four-year term.

“Serving as Mayor has truly been an honor and a privilege,” he said. “It is something that I have never and will never take for granted. The trust and encouragement provided by the residents over the years continues to inspire my family and me. I look forward to continuing this journey with you, the great people of Everett.”

DARREN PIERRE PAINTS HIS WAY

EVERETT - In front of

CITY OFFICIALS, NEIGHBORHOOD HONOR WORLD WAR II VET ON HIS 100TH BIRTHDAY



City of Boston’s Veterans Affairs Commissioner Robert Santiago presents East Boston resident and World War II veteran Salvatore Murano with a special citation on his 100th birthday during a parade past his Leyden Street home Sunday.

a two shades of blue and on top of a red floor sits a lonely and isolated young man – empty and seemingly without hope.

It is the stark picture of how the pandemic started for Everett High star artist Darren Pierre, who won a Silver Key art award late last month for the painting – which he titled ‘Isolated’ and for which so many students and staff have come to relate to as how they also felt.

Pierre, 18, said he has won Silver Keys in the past – one of the district’s most consistent winning artists – but this one was a little more personal because the painting (dubbed ‘Isolated’) bore more raw emotion than he usually lets into his work.

“At the beginning of the Quarantine I was in a really bad spot and wasn’t really trying to come out of it,” he said. “I stayed in my room 24/7 and never went out even if my mom let me go out. I would only go out if she sent me to the market. I didn’t want to associate with anyone for a while. I was depressed. This painting described how I felt. I did that painting when I felt exactly like that – isolated.”

Like many young people, Pierre struggled through many months, but has emerged and figured out how to remain creative and not fall into the depths of where he was when he painted isolated – though he said he values the painting because it’s an honest representation of how he felt.

Art Teacher Evan DeMarzo said so many students and staff have had strong feelings about relating to the painting, but a remarkable think for Pierre – DeMarzo said – is that after that painting his work began to show his growth within the situation.

“He had a drawing later on that showed him in the same corner, except this time he’s laying down on the floor and there’s a guitar by him, plants growing around him and he’s smiling,” said DeMarzo. “You see through his art that he’s kind of figured this thing out. It’s such a great contrast.”

Pierre is the rare artist that has as much interest in what he calls his “weird art” as he has in a more commercialized form of art – which he practices in his own home-based business that has been humming with orders and projects over the last several months. Meanwhile, he has also kept his artistic flair alive painting from home while taking remote classes and beginning the transition to go to Monserrat College next fall.

Pierre said his business is what has kept him going with art, kept him interested and able to perform at the level that would earn him another Silver Key award.

“Me being able to do this business has kept things going,” he said. “If it wasn’t for the business, I would have stopped doing art by now. It’s keeping me extremely busy and getting orders left and right. I’m just really excited to see it come to life now. That’s exciting and it keeps me going.”

The business is based in fashion, where he customizes clothing or objects for customers. That’s something he hopes to continue doing when he moves on to Monserrat, as the teachers there have told him they like his fashion portfolio and it’s something he could investigate in his artistic journey there.

That said, Pierre’s art career didn’t begin on a pair of designer jeans or on a canvas even.

When he was very young, he said his dad was studying to become an architect and would always be doing architectural drawings at his work desk.

“He would always be drawing buildings for his school and I was intrigued,” said Pierre. “Then, every time I got a book I would draw the characters in the book on the back pages of the book. I also drew on the walls, but my mom did not like that.”

Pierre started his schooling at the Keverian School and then moved up to Everett High, where he is a senior. At Everett High he has taken a number of classes including Studio Art, Advanced Art and Illustration – among so many others.

Yet, it was a contest sponsored by the MWRA that truly pushed him to begin thinking about art.

“My very first time really trying to do serious art was in the fifth grade for the MWRA Poster Contest,” he said. “That was crazy. I had always wanted to win that and hear my name called over the speaker at school. As it happened the day I actually won was one of the few days I was late to school. When I got there my friends were telling me I won the award. The one day I was late to school, and I missed my moment.”

But other moments would come and are yet to come.

Art Director Amanda Gil said the teachers at EHS expect big things out of Pierre, but not just on the canvas. He is also a talented singer, and certainly has a mind for

business too. Plus, she said, he is a kind and caring young man.

“It’s not because Darren is super successful in his talent and his art, but his character is one of a kind,” she said. “He’s humble and kind and it speaks a lot about who he is as a person and an artist.”

In addition to Gil and DeMarzo, Pierre said he had been greatly influenced by teachers Annette LeRay and Brianna Pierce.

He is the son of Jean and Darlene Pierre.

NOT FOOLING AROUND WITH RESTAURANT GUIDELINES

EAST BOSTON - Earlier this month when Mayor Martin Walsh said the City is taking swift action when establishments do not meet safety protocols he wasn’t kidding.

Since restaurants were able to reopen with capacity restrictions during the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic the Boston Licensing Board has instituted a weekly standing emergency hearing on Mondays to address any violations. Those hearings have resulted in immediate closures, when necessary.

Last week the Licensing Board issued a one-day suspension to La Hacienda Restaurant on Meridian Street for exceeding 40 percent of the restaurant’s normal seating capacity.

La Hacienda’s suspension was served on Monday of this week just as the city announced it was lifting seating capacity at area restaurants.

Throughout the winter the Inspectional Services Department worked with Boston Police, Boston Fire, the Licensing Board, and Boston Public Health Commission on enforcement. They had been in constant contact with business owners to make sure they understood the regulations.

However, some, like La Hacienda and several other Boston restaurants were unfortunately found to be in violation and issued suspensions by the Licensing Board last week.

On Monday, Walsh announced that the Governor announced that the State is moving forward in reopening.

“Starting today with Phase 3, Step 2; and starting on March 22 with Phase 4, Step 1,” Walsh said at a press briefing Monday. “Boston is also moving forward, but we have some important ex-

Metro News //CONTINUED FROM PAGE 12

ceptions to the changes going into effect today. This is consistent with the City’s cautious approach throughout the crisis. We are moving up to 50 percent maximum capacity at many indoor businesses including gyms, museums, offices, movie theaters, hotels, and stores. We are moving forward to allow the use of fitting rooms in retail stores.”

The city is lifting the capacity limit at restaurants but requiring six feet of space between tables, six people maximum per table, and 90-minute limits on seating. This, like the seating capacity restrictions, will be strictly enforced by the city.

“We are not moving forward with live music in restaurants until at least March 22,” said Walsh. “We are not opening indoor performance venues like concert halls and theaters until at least March 22. And we are not opening higher-contact indoor recreation like roller skating, laser tag, or trampolines until at least March 22. On those steps, as well as Phase 4, the City of Boston will move forward on March 22, if our case data and public health guidance supports it.”

The Mayor emphasized that the City of Boston is committed to economic recovery and at the same time, keeping people safe and continuing to slow the spread.

“This must be our first priority,” said Walsh. “Our economic recovery depends on our public health progress.”

CANNABIS DISPENSARY IS ONE STEP CLOSER

EAST BOSTON - The adult-use cannabis dispensary proposed for Orient Heights Square is one step closer to becoming a reality after it was approved by the Boston Cannabis Commission (BCC).

Following a hearing last month with the owners of Local Roots, the BCC voted to greenlight the proposal. Local Roots will now enter into a Host Community Agreement with the city and seek final approval from the Boston Zoning Board of Appeals.

Local Roots ownership team consists of current Tufts Tobacco owner Jimmy Sheena, former City Councilors Michael Ross and Sal LaMattina, as well as Nicole Modica, (the daughter of Carla Santarpio of Santarpio’s Pizza Dave Modica, who owned Ecco for many years), Lorraine Curry, Jane England and Tracy Glissman.

“Everyone on the team lives in the neighborhood so we all got together and are attempting to do this Local Roots business,” said Ross. “Over half of the ownership are East Boston residents or have had roots here or done business here for decades and that’s why we decided to name the company Local Roots.”

Local Roots plans to take over Tufts Tobacco on Bennington Street in Orient Heights Square-- a business owned by Sheena for over 25 years.

At the hearing Ross said Sheena has experience

running a successful and highly regulated business in the community. Like Tufts Tobacco, no one under the age of 21 would be able to step foot into the adult use facility once it is operational, so Ross said it made sense to have Sheena on the Local Roots ownership team.

At the hearing representatives from the offices of City Councilors Lydia Edwards and Anissa Essaibi George, Rep. Adrian Madaro and Sen. Joseph Boncore, as well as the Mayor’s Office, all went on record to support the proposal.

The proposal also received backing by well known local residents and community leaders like Joe Mario, Mary Berninger and Nancy LoConte--who all testified in favor of the proposal at the BCC hearing.

Other residents, like Orient Heights Neighborhood Council President Toni Noble, used to live above Tufts Tobacco and said Sheena was a great neighbor and the Modicas, who owns the building, were a responsive landlord.

“I am here to voice my personal support for this proposed recreational marijuana facility,” said Noble. “I actually used to live directly above Tufts Tobacco and the Modicas were always very responsive landlords--not just to my own concerns as a tenant--but if I had any questions about the community at all. I also grew to know Jimmy (Sheena) and in my time living there he, as owner of Tufts Tobacco, was always very responsive, kind and cared not only for the building but his neighbors and the entire Orient Heights community.”

Berninger testified while she wasn’t initially thrilled about having an adult-use cannabis facility in her neighborhood she has grown to support the proposal.

“I’m a member of the Oregon Heights Neighborhood Council and I’ve observed a great deal of community outreach from the applicants,” said Berninger. “I didn’t vote for the law but it has since been settled in Massachusetts. It’s time to bring these businesses online to bring job opportunities in the community. The pandemic only heightened the need for more economic development and good paying job opportunities in East Boston.”

Only one resident spoke in opposition to the project because she felt the proponent’s plan for parking was not adequate enough and feared customers to the dispensary would double park on Bennington Street. However, according to officials, this has not been a problem with the first dispensary that opened in Eastie on Meridian Street.

A WINNING CAREER FOR NGUYEN

LYNN - Van Nguyen was an ideal student-athlete in the St. Mary’s High School girls basketball program. She began her career as a freshman,

worked hard on her game in the off-season, and became an important contributor to the team’s success. Nguyen said she has immensely enjoyed her four-year athletic and academic experience at St. Mary’s.

Nguyen, who lives in Lynn, played her last high school basketball game for the Spartans and it ended in a 46-40 victory over Bishop Fenwick in the Catholic Central League Cup final.

Nguyen was a key part of a terrific senior class that helped St. Mary’s win a state title in 2020 and claim more than 80 victories overall. The 2018-19 team also won in the Garden and played in the state final in Worcester.

Nguyen spoke about her career after joining the team in accepting the first Catholic Central League Cup Feb. 20 at the Tony Conigliaro Gymnasium.

“I just want to say thank you to Coach Newhall and Mr. Ridley for everything that he has done - he helped me out through all four years and it’s been a long run, but I finally made it,” said Nguyen.

Nguyen said the key to her improving her basketball skills was playing basketball all year round. “I worked hard in the off season and I made sure to stay close and around and kept playing and did whatever Coach Newhall said,” related Nguyen.

Among the highlights was playing (and excelling and winning) at the Boston Garden.

Nguyen played basketball for the Breed Middle School team and traveled to various parks in Lynn for games. Often times, she was the only girl competing on the court.

With the encouragement and support of her mentor, Jim Ridley, Nguyen enrolled at St. Mary’s High School.

St. Mary’s Coach Jeff Newhall lauded Nguyen for her contributions to the program over the past four years.

“Van is just a great kid who worked hard and was admired and respected by all of her teammates,” said Newhall. “Our senior class really stepped up this year during a challenging year and Van set a great example for the underclassmen with her dedication, positive attitude, and team spirit.”

Nguyen said she is considering Emmanuel and Salem State for college in the fall.

REVERE HIGH TO PARTNER WITH NSMHA

REVERE - Through a state grant, Revere High School will partner with North Suffolk Mental Health (NSMHA) to deliver mental health and substance abuse services to students.

The Baker-Polito Administration made the announcement this week and the partnership between Revere High and North Suffolk is part of \$4.9 million in grants awarded to six agencies in the state.

The state funding to treatment and behavioral health centers like North Suffolk will create evidence-based and data-driven substance use

disorder/mental health response teams at Revere High.

These teams will be embedded in the high school in Revere and nine other communities to offer intervention and treatment services, and provide alternatives to school suspension for substance use.

“Disruptions to in-school learning due to the COVID-19 pandemic have taken a social and emotional toll on many students, and especially those most at risk for substance use and mental health issues,” said Health and Human Services Secretary Marylou Sudders. “This grant will allow much-needed resources to reach students remotely and offer a mental health-driven alternative to suspensions.”

The program at Revere High will respond to students’ and their families’ needs, increase collaboration with schools, and provide support to students in crisis.

“We are very excited to partner with North Suffolk on this grant program,” said Revere Public School Superintendent Dr. DiAnne Kelly. “It will allow us to increase access to mental health professionals for all of our students; which is a district priority. Because this grant is specific to high school students and based on the needs there, the program plan will focus on students with substance use issues and students with risk factors that typically lead to substance use. The deeper layer of individual intervention available through this grant will complement our existing support group program for students with substance use disorders and those who are at risk of substance use disorders.”

The grant at Revere High will be distributed over the course of six years with a total of \$136,864 spent per year to support the partnership between Revere High and North Suffolk.

The state program is funded through the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration’s (SAMHSA) State Opioid Response grant. The grant will serve to support the Commonwealth-wide adolescent addiction workforce that is specifically trained and certified to provide targeted substance use interventions and treatment to at-risk students, reducing their risk of developing an opioid or substance use disorder.

The grant in Revere will support Massachusetts schools’ efforts to effectively respond to student substance use and mental health concerns, as access to high-potency marijuana products increases, rates of on-campus vaping surge, and the overall perception of harm associated with adolescent substance use decreases.

“Massachusetts is taking action to reinforce protections for children affected by substance use and mental health issues in these unprecedented times,” said Deirdre Calvert, Director of the Bureau of Substance Ad-

diction Services at the Department of Public Health. “This grant program will ensure that at-risk youth receive the services they need to prevent substance use, help combat the opioid epidemic, and support families during the COVID-19 state of emergency.”

MALPICA NAMED COMMUNITY OUTREACH COORDINATOR

REVERE - Karen Malpica has been on the staff at the Paul Buonfiglio and Sons Funeral Home for four years.

Earlier this year, Malpica became the community outreach coordinator at the well-known funeral home that has been owned and operated by the Buonfiglio family since 1911.

In her new outreach position, Malpica will assist families in the planning of funeral arrangements and also to bring the neighborhood and community together “to not only celebrate the life of someone who has passed, but to celebrate the moment that we are all in now.”

“The funeral arrangement process of having to bury someone you love can all be very devastating,” said Malpica. “My goal as a community outreach coordinator is to be here for families who need assistance and help in any way that I can, especially during such difficult and challenging times.”

Malpica also intends to join local organizations and volunteer in any causes within the city.

“With COVID-19, there are some restrictions,” she said. “However, we’re very hopeful that soon we’ll be able to get out there and be more hands-on and get to know more people through organizations and start to build our relationship in that way,” explained Malpica.

Malpica herself serves as an excellent role model for young women as she symbolizes an inspiring story of being a daughter of immigrants who has worked hard in pursuing a college degree and intends to make an impact in her community.

The daughter of Lidia Calzada and Jose Malpica who came to the United States from Mexico in 1998, Karen Malpica was born in the United States and is fluent in Spanish.

She is currently a senior at Boston University and will receive her degree in Youth Justice with a minor in Human Development.

She is looking forward to meeting residents in her new capacity at Buonfiglio and Sons Funeral Home.

“I’m very grateful for the opportunity,” said Malpica. “I’m privileged to be here and work with Paul Buonfiglio and to connect with the community and our neighbors and start to build even more genuine relationships. This is a project that I will continue to work on and I’m looking forward to the next steps in the process of community-building.”

Malpica said she had the honor of meeting Mayor Brian Arrigo in person and hopes to meet other

city officials and build relationships that will benefit the city.

A helpful mentor in Paul Buonfiglio

Karen Malpica first met Paul Buonfiglio III, owner and director of the funeral home, close to 15 years ago.

“When I was very young, my mother [Lidia Calzada] was looking to rent an apartment in Revere – we were moving from Brockton,” recalled Karen. “The apartment just so happened to be Paul’s rental property. Ever since we moved to Ambrose Street, Paul has been a part of my life and a very good mentor.”

Karen, who has a younger brother, Miguel Malpica, attended the Abraham Lincoln School and Garfield Middle School. She played basketball and tennis at Revere High School.

“The teachers at Revere High were very friendly and very nice,” said Malpica. “Also guidance counselors, Ms. Tiffany Curry and Ms. Amy Chamberlin (sister-in-law of Paul Buonfiglio III) were very motivational in helping me follow through with my college applications and financial aid information. They were huge assets for me.”

Malpica was enrolled at Wheelock College, a private college in Boston, for one semester when school officials announced that Wheelock would be merging with Boston University.

“We had the choice of transferring to another college or continuing on to Boston University and I made a decision to continue at BU,” said Malpica, who has attained Dean’s List honors at the elite institution. “I’ve attended BU for three years and I’m very excited and looking forward to getting across the finish line in May.”

At this point, due to the pandemic, it is not known whether BU will have an in-person commencement ceremony, but Karen is hopeful.

“It would be amazing for my parents to see me graduate from college,” said Karen. “I’ll actually be the first member of my family to graduate from college. This is the moment that I have been working really hard for and this is the moment that my mom would love to see and I would love to experience it, so I’m hoping we’re able to have some sort of ceremony or celebration. I have faith that something will get done.”



Including new newspaper!!

Applications now being accepted for Women in Finance Fellowship

Staff report

The State Treasurer's Office of Economic Empowerment is accepting applications for the 2021 Women in Finance Fellowship program. In its fifth year, the initiative places Massachusetts' female-identifying undergraduate students into financial departments within the State Treasury. The Fellowship did not run in 2020 due to the

COVID-19 pandemic. "This fellowship will provide young women who seek careers in finance, the opportunity to enhance their skills, build confidence and develop relationships with mentors and their peers," said State Treasurer Deborah B. Goldberg, "By providing firsthand job experience with exposure to financial leaders in both Treasury and throughout the community, we are

investing in the future success of our fellows, and also building toward a more gender balanced sector." The Women in Finance Fellowship seeks to identify and foster female talent for the financial services industry, build a network and pipeline for women in finance, and advocate for the placement of women in leadership roles. The Fellowship will help recruit, retain, and

foster female talent, and promote awareness of the benefits of hiring women at all levels of management. Although the Fellowship will be virtual this year, the Office of Economic Empowerment is incorporating educational sessions throughout the summer with leaders in the industry. The deadline to apply is Wednesday, March 17. The program launches on June 1, and will

conclude on July 30. For more information about the Women in Finance Fellowship or to apply, visit <https://www.mass.gov/service-details/what-the-women-in-finance-fellowship-offers>. On her first day in office, Treasurer Goldberg created the Office of Economic Empowerment, led by a deputy treasurer, with the deliberate goal of implementing a range of economic empowerment

initiatives that include closing the race and gender wage gap, addressing racial equity, increasing access to financial education, improving college affordability, and investing in STEM careers and education. For more information about OEE visit www.mass.gov/orgs/office-of-economic-empowerment.

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March is National Pet Poison Prevention month

Keep your pets safe with tips from Best Friends Animal Society

Staff Report

Watching your dog or cat get sick from toxic items or poison is a nightmare for any pet owner. Symptoms of poisoning can be especially traumatic, ranging from seizures and vomiting to nosebleeds and diarrhea.

“Nobody wants to see their pets suffer in such a painful way or, worst-case scenario, have a fatal incident. That’s why it’s important to make sure your home environment keeps dogs and cats as safe as possible,” said Dr. Erin Katribe, veterinarian and medical director for Best Friends Animal Society.

As March is Pet Poison Prevention Month, Best Friends encourages pet owners to protect their pets from potential ingestion of any of the following:

- Antifreeze
- Bait for rodents
- Batteries (which can contain corrosive fluid)
- Car care products, such as cleaners or oils
- Fertilizer
- Gorilla Glue (or similar products)
- Household cleaners
- Ice-melting products
- Medications – prescribed and over-the-counter
- Nicotine products
- Pesticides for insects
- Pool or pond products

“Pets can be very inquisitive, so it’s always best to keep these items in a sealed cabinet area that your pets cannot have access to, whether that’s in



COURTESY BEST FRIENDS ANIMAL SOCIETY

the home, in a shed, or in a garage,” Katribe said. “If you use any of these products, always make sure to clean up any spillage immediately and thoroughly so ingestion can’t happen that way, either.”

Food can be toxic to pets, so it’s always important to remember to never give or allow your pets to have access to any of the following:

- Alcoholic beverages
- Substances containing caffeine, such as coffee
- Chocolate
- Fatty foods, especially drippings and grease from cooking
- Chicken and turkey bones
- Grapes and raisins
- Onions and garlic
- Macadamia nuts
- Salt and sugar
- Yeast or bread dough

“Plants can also be toxic and poisonous to pets,” Katribe said. “These plants include English ivy or holly, lilies, Chinaberry, iris, poinsettia, pokeweed and daphne. For cats, even contact with the pollen of some lilies can be severely toxic.”

Should your pet show any signs of poisoning, which include vomiting, diarrhea, seizures, blood in stool, paralysis, loss of appetite, bruising, nosebleeds, irregular heartbeat or inability to urinate, a veterinary con-

sult is in immediate order.

“Call your veterinary office or an emergency clinic as soon as possible to let them know of your pet’s symptoms and what they could have possibly ingested. The veterinary staff may be able to provide instructions on how to help decrease the severity of the situation prior to coming in or they may advise that you come in immediately,” Katribe said. “Time is of the essence when it comes to minimizing the dangerous effects of any poison, so every second counts.”

Best Friends Animal Society is a leading animal welfare organization working to end the killing of dogs and cats in America’s shelters by 2025. Founded in 1984, Best Friends is a pioneer in the no-kill movement and has helped reduce the number of animals killed in shelters from an estimated 17 million per year to around 625,000. Best Friends runs lifesaving programs all across the country, as well as the nation’s largest no-kill animal sanctuary. Working collaboratively with a network of more than 3,200 animal welfare and shelter partners, and community members nationwide, Best Friends is working to Save Them All. For more information, visit bestfriends.org.

CITY PAWS

Take long walks this spring

By Penny & Ed Cherubino

After a year of confinement, many of us are ready to snap on a leash and stretch our legs on some nice long dog walks. What’s more, since our own daily walks have been confined to the areas around our home, we’re making plans to safely extend our vistas.

Regular readers know that when we write about suggested destinations for dog-related adventures, we usually provide information on how to get there on mass transit and where you would find food and restrooms for the humans. This year we’ll all make decisions about our comfort level for getting places and doing things.

We won’t be using mass transit for some time to come, don’t have a car, and would prefer to avoid public restrooms. Our plan is to rent a small camper-van for a couple of weeks this spring.

Spring Beaches

We love area beaches in the months before dogs are excluded. In past years, we’ve enjoyed taking Poppy, our Westie, for long walks along state and town beaches.

In spring, we’ve often found empty parking lots and ample space to set up our chairs and enjoy the sunshine. This year the open air and space for social distance will help us relax.

On a particularly nice day or weekend, you might want to check a traffic app to see if the area is experiencing heavy traffic, might be crowded, and is turning away additional visitors.

In some cases closed access roads, or restricted parking, have been used to prevent overcrowding.

Also, while the open-air space may be open, the facilities and services may be closed. Of course, this is often the case in the off-season in any year.

Parks and Reservations

Before you begin your trip to area parks and reservations it’s a good idea to check their websites to be sure they are open, to learn the pandemic rules, and that they still allow dogs.

We’re big fans of the Trustees of Reservations and appreciate the dog-friendly policies they have for some of their properties. In planning our list of places to stroll, we checked the rules for the deCordova Sculpture Park and Museum, in Lincoln. It brought a smile when we saw, “We welcome dogs, please keep them on a leash and pick-up after them.”

We also saw the following about four well-loved Trustees’ properties, “The deCordova Sculpture Park and Museum in Lincoln, Castle Hill in Ipswich, Fruitlands Museum in Harvard, and World’s End in Hingham are open with a required timed or daily parking pass that will limit overcrowding and keep both visitors and staff

safe by staying aligned with the state’s social distancing guidelines.” We hope these guidelines can change over time, but check before you start your day out.

Pack for You and Your Dog

Long walks and lots of fresh air and breezes can make us all thirsty so be sure you bring plenty of water for you and your dog. Don’t forget your dog pick up bags and your own trash bag since trash barrels may not be available.

For those of us who are still uncomfortable dining inside, there are more places with large outside dining spaces in less urban areas. In addition, you can support your favorite roadside restaurants by ordering take out for your meal while on the road.

Our spoiled pup likes her three meals a day and would be very put out if we sat down to enjoy a picnic lunch with nothing for her. That means that we’ll also pack a meal for her and a few treats to reward her for her good behavior on our outing.

Do you have a question or topic for City Paws? Send an email to Penny@BostonZest.com with your request.



Our Poppy does love long walks on a quiet beach, even when it’s warm enough to make her pant a bit when we stop to rest.

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