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## SUN TRANSCRIPT

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SEE STORY ON  
PAGE 7.**

**THURSDAY,  
March 14, 2024**

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Hugh F. Hibbard  
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**WILMOT TALKS CHANGES AT EBNHC, THE FUTURE OF THE HEALTHCARE PROVIDER**

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See EBNHC Page 11

**UNITED FIRST CHURCH HOSTS  
ST. PATRICK'S DAY BOILED DINNER**

Families and friends lining the buffet table for corned beef and cabbage during the St. Patrick's Day Boiled Dinner hosted by United Methodist Church.

**Marie Greenlaw, Judy Anderson, Barbara Fronduto, and Audrey DiPasquale enjoying an evening with friends. See more photos on Page 6.**

MARIANNE SALZA PHOTOS

**School district close to selecting new elementary ELA curriculum**

By Adam Swift

The school district is getting close to choosing a new ELA and reading curriculum for its elementary schools.

On Monday night, the school committee approved adding a half day to the current school year calendar on June 5 at the elementary schools. The additional half day will be used for professional development for teachers and staff to get a headstart

on the new curriculum.

Superintendent of Schools Lisa Howard said building teachers and administration have spent the past several months looking at options for a new curriculum for the schools. Currently, the district is looking to make a final decision on one of two options.

"When the curriculum is chosen by the staff, we will come back and make sure the school committee is well aware of the curriculum and able to see the curriculum," said Howard. "This has been a process that has gone on for quite some time."

Materials for the new curriculum will be paid for with the federal ESSER Covid relief funds.

"It's a good use of that money for a curriculum that is going to last us for a few years," said Howard. "I have to applaud the teachers; there has been a large team of teachers that has been looking at this curriculum along with the direction of some of our reading specialists and other folks in the district really vetting it out."

Howard said the final selection will come down to what works best for the students in the district.

"The work starts with

See CURRICULUM Page 2

**Goodwin appointed next police chief**

By Adam Swift

Fresh on the heels of Town Council President Jim Letterie's State of the Town address on Monday, there was a lot of big news about transitions in the town on Monday night, including the resignation of one town councilor and the selection of a new police chief.

Earlier this year, Police Chief Terence Delehanty announced he will be retiring this summer. On Monday night, Town Manager Tony Marino announced that Winthrop Deputy Police Chief John Goodwin will be the town's next police chief.

John Goodwin.

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**Letterie delivers State of the Town address**

By Adam Swift

During his annual State of the Town address on Monday night, Town Council President Jim Letterie highlighted some of the accomplishments of the past year, as well as laying out goals for the council and town in the coming year.

The futures of the old middle school and a new fire station, as well as the ongoing issue of the state's MBTA 3A zoning were all singled out by Letterie as

issues the town will tackle this year.

"No such address can begin without expressing my sincere thanks and appreciation to all of our department heads, their staff, as well as our boards and committees," said Letterie. "Without them, our town could not function. They provide us comfort and safety, they educate our children and grandchildren, they keep our town clean and invi-

See SoT ADDRESS Page 3

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WINTHROP POLICE BLOTTER

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

MONDAY, FEB. 26

1223: An officer stopped a motor vehicle on Walden St. for the civil moving infraction of a stop sign violation. The officer gave a verbal warning to the operator.

1309: A Pauline St. resident came into the station to report that his motor vehicle had been struck overnight by a hit and run operator while parked overnight in front of his home. The officer filed a report.

1527: A Grovers Ave. resident reported that the glass from the rearview side mirrors of her motor vehicle had been removed, damaging the wiring harnesses. The officer filed a report.

1553: A resident reported that he called Apple Pay to give them a new debit card, but it was a scam. He lost \$900 and gave his Social Security number.

1803: A person came into the station to report an ongoing case of harassment at the high school.

1806: An Enfield Rd. resident reported that three Amazon packages

were stolen from her front porch.

TUESDAY, FEB. 27

0139: An officer issued parking tickets to nine vehicles without resident parking stickers on Locust St.

0140: An officer issued parking tickets to eight vehicles without resident parking stickers on Hermon St.

0154: An officer issued parking tickets to 12 vehicles without resident parking stickers on Atlantic St.

0614: A tow company reported the trespass tow of two motor vehicles from Governors Park.

0910: A report of a dead skunk in the middle of Hawthorn Ave. was referred to the DPW.

1519: An officer stopped a motor vehicle on Walden St. for the civil moving infraction of a stop sign violation. The officer issued a citation to the operator.

1551: A Governors Park resident reported that a package was stolen from the lobby of her building. The officer filed a report.

2050: An officer responded to a report of three persons arguing and causing a disturbance on Beach Rd. The officer filed a report.

2127: An officer responded to a report of a loud group of partygoers in a Cutler St. residence and directed them to keep it down for the night.

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 28

1647: A Governors Park resident reported that a package was stolen from the lobby of her building. The officer filed a report.

THURSDAY, FEB. 29

0100: An officer issued parking tickets to three vehicles without resident parking stickers on Somerset Ave.

0556: A tow company reported the trespass tow of a motor vehicle from Governors Park.

0841: An officer stopped a motor vehicle at Pauline and Hermon Sts. for the civil moving infraction of a stop sign violation. The officer gave a verbal warning to the operator.

1029: An officer stopped a motor vehicle on Washington Ave. for a civil moving infraction. The officer gave a verbal warning to the operator.

1252: An officer stopped a motor vehicle on Washington Ave. for the civil moving infraction of a stop sign violation. The officer gave a verbal warning to the operator.

1404: An officer assisted the parties with the exchange of papers at a minor motor vehicle accident on Kennedy Rd.

1713: An officer stopped a motor vehicle on Revere St. for the civil moving infraction of a red light violation. The officer issued a citation to the operator.

1720: An officer stopped a motor vehicle on Main St. for the civil moving infraction of a stop sign violation. The officer issued a citation to the operator.

1930: An officer stopped a motor vehicle at Main and Read Sts. for a civil moving infraction. The officer gave a verbal warning to the operator, who did not have a previous driving history.

2354: A repossession company reported the repo of a motor vehicle.

FRIDAY, MARCH 1

0735: A resident called the station to report that her daughter's parked motor vehicle had been struck by another vehicle on Nevada St. and that the other operator had left a note on her daughter's vehicle. The officer filed a report.

1534: An officer stopped a motor vehicle at Shirley St. and Washington Ave. for the civil moving infraction of a stop sign violation. The officer gave a verbal warning to the operator.

1634: A resident came into the station to report receiving a scam phone call. The officer filed a report.

1853: An officer stopped a motor vehicle on Revere St. for the civil moving infraction of a red light violation. The officer issued a citation to the operator.

1945: A person came into the station to report that his motor vehicle had

been vandalized while parked on Shirley St. The officer filed a report.

2046: An officer directed the owner of a motor vehicle parked facing the wrong direction on Read St. to move his vehicle.

2151: An officer responded to a report of a dog barking at a residence on Hillside Ave. The officer attempted to get in touch with the owner.

SATURDAY, MARCH 2

0146: An officer issued parking tickets to 17 vehicles without resident parking stickers Cottage Park Rd.

0900: An officer stopped a motor vehicle on Main St. for the civil moving infraction of a red light violation. The officer issued a citation to the operator.

1410: A resident came to the station to report receiving threats via Facebook. The officer filed a report.

1448: An officer unlocked the gates at the tennis court at Ingleside Park for a person who had been locked in.

2033: An officer directed a loud group of partygoers at an Edgehill Rd. residence to keep it down.

SUNDAY, MARCH 3

0346: A call from a Main St. resident who reported that he had no running water and that the plumbing was backing up into his home was referred to the DPW.

0628: A Harbor View

Ave. resident reported that both of her parked motor vehicles were struck and damaged by a hit and run operator overnight. The officer filed a report.

1133: An officer issued a parking ticket to a vehicle parked on the wrong side of the road and impeding traffic on Bayview Ave.

1138: An officer issued a parking ticket to a vehicle blocking the crosswalk on Tileston Rd.

1628: An officer stopped a motor vehicle on Main St. for the civil moving infraction of making a right turn on red where not allowed. The officer issued a citation to the operator.

1650: An officer stopped a motor vehicle on Revere St. for the civil moving infraction of a red light violation. The officer issued a citation to the operator for that offense, as well as for the additional civil infraction of not having his registration in his possession.

1711: An officer stopped a motor vehicle on Beach Rd. and issued a citation to the operator for unlicensed operation of a motor vehicle, which is a criminal offense. The officer allowed the operator to park the vehicle in a legal space.

1941: An officer stopped a motor vehicle at Main and Pleasant Sts. for the civil moving infractions of speeding and unsafe operation of a motor vehicle. The officer issued a citation to the operator.

FBIM to host annual meeting March 24

Special to the Transcript

The Friends of Belle Isle Marsh (FBIM) will be holding their Annual Meeting on March 24 from 2-4PM. The event is free and open to the public, and will be held at St. John's Episcopal Church Hall, 222 Bowdoin Street,

Winthrop.

The Keynote Speaker will be Conor Ofsthun.

Conor Ofsthun serves as a coastal scientist for Woods Hole Group, working on a variety of projects ranging from local redevelopment projects to regional planning studies.



Conor Ofsthun holds a bachelor's degree in geological sciences and environmental studies from Tufts University, and a master's degree in coastal processes and physical oceanography from the University of South Carolina. He has lived and worked on the Atlantic coast, Gulf coast, and Pacific coast, and aims to take a holistic approach to problems and an innovative approach to solutions.

He prepares studies on the topics of coastal hazards (erosion, flooding) evaluation, sea level rise planning and adaptation, shoreline and sediment management, living shorelines, beach nourishment, wetland restoration, inlet and harbor dredging, and environmental conditions assessments. He specializes in coastal processes assessment and adapting our shorelines to present and future conditions for the mutual benefit of the environment and society.

There will also be:

- Keynote Speech and Updates from Board
- Election of Officers
- Refreshments

If you are a member in good standing and are interested in serving on the Board of Directors, or would like to nominate a member in good standing, please send an email with the subject "nomination" to [contact@friendsofbelleislemarsh.com](mailto:contact@friendsofbelleislemarsh.com).

Goodwin // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

tion.

Goodwin will be appointed chief on April 1, and Marino said there will be some time for the transition from Delehanty to Goodwin.

Monday night, Letterie also announced that Precinct 1 Councilor Richard Fucillo resigned his position on the council. The council presented a citation to Fucillo for his service, and announced that it is now seeking candidates to fill out the remainder of his term in Precinct 1.

"Rich is an incredible young man," said Letterie. "For 24 years of age, he

has accomplished so much and we are so thankful. He joined the council a couple of years ago, and what did I do for his first task? I made him chair of the finance commission, which is just incredible.

"I know that I was on the council for six years before I was able to do that, and he did it at 22, 23."

Letterie said Fucillo brought youth and enthusiasm to the council and town politics.

"This is not an easy decision for Rich, but he was fortunate enough to buy a piece of property outside

of the town," Letterie added. "We wish him nothing but the best."

In other town partings, Marino said that Town Planner Rachel Kelly is moving on to another position outside the town. He said the town will be looking at how to best replace Kelly, whether by hiring a new town planner or readjusting the position.

Marino said he has been involved with many of the planning issues in the town, and will stay on top of them until the transition is complete.

Curriculum // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

recognizing where is it that our kids are doing very well, where is it that we see a great need for our kids and then cross referencing those curriculums to see which one offers us the largest opportunity to reach the most students that we have," said Howard.

School Committee Chair Jennifer Powell did request that the final choice go to the committee's curriculum subcommittee for review.

In other business, Howard said there will be a draft of the 2024-25 school calendar ready for review at the next school committee meeting on March 25.

"We are working on putting that together now and getting feedback from the principals, including things like professional development day and parent-teacher conferences," said Howard.

There are also ongoing discussions about school start and end times, which Howard said may not be solidified by the March 25

meeting.

"But for planning purposes for families and vacations, we like to get it up as soon as we can," said Howard.

The March 25 meeting will also feature presentations on the school improvement plans for the district's elementary schools. The school improvement plan presentations for the middle and high schools will take place at the next committee meeting after that, according to Howard.

Howard also noted that the district's Project 351 student ambassador, Emanuela Novak is organizing a clothing drive for Cradles to Crayons at the middle school that will be held through Friday, March 15. Anyone with new or gently used clothes to donate can drop them off at bins located at the middle school, the Arthur T. Cummings School, and on the third floor of the Winthrop School of Performing Arts.

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# Winthrop, Revere, Everett, Chelsea join regional homelessness program

Special to the Transcript

For the first time, eight communities north of Boston will launch a joint program to provide supportive services and outreach to those who are homeless, at-risk of becoming homeless, or fleeing domestic violence. The new program will serve Malden, Arlington, Chelsea, Everett, Medford, Melrose, Revere, and Winthrop and

will respond to incidents of homelessness and provide basic necessities like food and water as well as dedicated case management, housing problem solving, and more to help get people transition from homelessness to stable housing. The services will be available in the eight communities, which are funding the effort with approximately \$1.8 million

over four years with federal HOME-ARP funds that the cities collectively receive. The program is being managed by the City of Malden through its Office of Strategic Planning and Community Development, with service delivery from Housing Families and their partner The Neighborhood Developers. “We look forward to expanding on the continued

partnership that we have cultivated with Housing Families in this new iteration of homelessness support,” said Mayor Patrick Keefe of Revere. “We are confident that this program will mesh well into each community’s existing infrastructure and fill in the gaps we know are still occurring. Homelessness and domestic violence don’t recognize traditional city borders, and with this

regional approach, we can tackle these issues more collaboratively.” Malden Mayor Gary Christenson of Malden announced the initiative during his annual State of the City address last week, noting that none of the communities would be able to provide these services on their own. “Only together can we respond with the care, compassion, and capacity

that these most vulnerable residents need,” Christenson said. “I’m grateful to the mayors and managers of our partner cities for their continued commitment to this vital work.” Chelsea City Manager Fidel Maltez stated that vulnerable populations are experiencing unprecedented difficulties when it

See HOMELESSNESS Page 5

## SoT Address // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

ing, they provide us with attractive and welcoming parks and recreation spaces, they maintain our infrastructure and streetscapes; in short, they facilitate providing us a community which I am extremely proud, appreciative, and honored to call home.”

Over the past year, he said the town council and town officials have been busy focusing on many items that have either been enacted or are about to be enacted shortly. The list of those items included the GFOA municipal budget format, the Revere Street TIPS project, the assessors’ office, flooding issues, a new town website, the old middle school site, the proposed new fire station and public safety building, the Veterans Road fire, and MBTA 3A zoning.

Town Manager Tony Marino was called out for praise several times in the address, including for undertaking a more transparent and open municipal budget process. Letterie noted that including the town’s enterprise funds, the town’s upcoming budget for Fiscal Year 2025 will be over \$70 million.

Letterie addressed the upcoming Revere Street TIPS project, which will be funded through MassDOT and is scheduled to get underway this spring. “You will begin to see

some construction mobilization in the McGee’s Corner section, which is where the project will begin,” said Letterie. “We will not see much disruption, if any, until early May. This project will include complete drainage work, along with new streets, sidewalks, some streetscapes, and a bike lane.”

The project will take multiple seasons to complete. While the project is being overseen by the state, Letterie noted that Marino was able to arrange several public meetings with state officials on the project at the senior center on March 23 and 26.

This spring will also see the final stages of the paving of the Revere Street section from Crest Avenue to the Revere line, which should begin at the beginning of April and take about a month.

The council president also praised the reorganization of the assessors’ office with increased staffing and bringing all the work in-house. He said the move has facilitated an increase in new growth that the town has never seen before.

While the winter did not see a lot of snow, Letterie said there have been continued flooding issues over the winter, and that the town is continuing to

take steps to address them. The council has approved funding to begin survey work and engineering for the especially hard hit Tilestone, Girdlestone, and Pico Avenue neighborhoods.

“We have also applied for a federal grant for \$650,000 which should help with all the engineering work for those areas,” said Letterie.

In addition, the town has also received a grant for design work for flood mitigation options for the Morton Street area.

Letterie said the town continues to work on multiple fronts concerning the future of the old middle school.

“There will be a much anticipated proposal from Edge Sports, who responded to the RFI (request for information),” said the council president. “They are expected to come to present by the end of April. We are looking at the possibility of a new rink, along with a relatively small 55 and over complex, keeping our options open.”

The coming year will also see renewed efforts to build a new fire station after a plan failed at the ballot box last November.

“We have not given up the fight for a new fire station, as well as the possibility of a public safety building,” said Letterie.

“We learned much from our efforts last year, and I believe the most important item we learned is that the town does support building a new fire station. They understand that our two facilities are in deplorable condition, and that we need a new station along with our own ambulance service. “We will be reporting back with a presentation in relatively short order with multiple options for you to consider, and we hope to have another ballot question ready for the fall.”

Letterie also praised the town’s efforts following the massive last year on Veterans Road that displaced 60 families.

The council president also spoke about the role of an elected official in a small town, especially when it comes to addressing issues like the proposed MBTA 3A zoning that could force the town to create zoning for 882 multi-family housing units.

“Be honest, do your homework, listen to your constituents, help inform

them of the pluses and minuses of whatever issue you might be working on, and do your best,” said Letterie.

The 3A zoning has been discussed extensively over the past three months, and Letterie said the outcome of those discussions will drastically affect the community moving forward.

“The purpose (the state) says is to increase housing and create more density,” said Letterie. “The reason to me is questionable. It is set out to be a one-size-fits all mandate, when in my opinion, it really shouldn’t be.”

Letterie noted that in comparison to most of the communities in the state, Winthrop has a much denser per capita population, and a far lower percentage of single-family homes.

For more than a decade, he said the town has taken a responsible approach to zoning and growth that has actually met many of the goals that the state is trying to meet with the 3A zoning. Letterie said the town should not be pe-

nalized when it has been ahead of the curve on the housing issues.

In the coming year, Letterie said he will continue to focus on what is best for the town, no matter the issue.

“I feel that one of the most crucial jobs we do as councilors is to try to evaluate these consequences and the facts, educate the public, and make decisions that will have the best outcome for our residents,” he said. “Our town is not just a place on a map, it is a living, breathing testament to the strength, resilience, and collaboration and spirit that defines us. We recognize that challenges exist, but let me assure you, they are stepping stones, not stumbling blocks.

“By facing them with the same determination that defines us, we will overcome them and emerge even stronger,” Letterie concluded. “We have a unique blend of backgrounds, perspectives and talents that I think makes our town resilient and dynamic.”

## Real Estate Transfers

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## Your opinions, please

The Winthrop Sun Transcript welcomes letters to the editor. Our address is 385 Broadway, Revere, MA 02151. Letters may also be e-mailed to editor@reverejournal.com. Letters must be signed. We reserve the right to edit for length and content.

# EXPERT AUTO REPAIR INC



120 Shirley St,  
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## Dear valued Customers,

It is with bittersweet emotions that I announce the closure of Expert Auto Repair effective March 29, 2024. I want to take this opportunity to express my deepest gratitude for your loyal patronage and trust, which has been the driving force behind my success. It has been a honor and privilege to serve the Town of Winthrop and surrounding communities. I want to thank each and every one of you for your support, kindness and friendship. Best Wishes to all!

Sincerely,  
Jim Kalogeris  
Expert Auto Repair



OUR Opinions

THE VERDICT IS IN:  
WE ARE EATING  
OURSELVES TO DEATH

Most Americans by now are aware that we are among the most overweight people on earth: 40 percent of us are obese and another 32 percent are overweight, which means that a total of 72 percent of Americans -- that's almost 3 of every 4 among us -- have an unhealthy body weight.

That's bad enough, but scientists say that if current trends continue, by 2030 that number will increase to 80%, so in a few more years, about 4 out of 5 Americans will range from overweight to obese.

Although the new weight loss drugs -- which originally were formulated to combat diabetes (Ozempic/Wegovy by Novo Nordisk and Mounjaro/Zepbound by Eli Lilly) and then were shown to have the "side effect" of bringing about substantial weight-loss in those who take the drugs -- hold the promise of solving our national excess weight problem, a host of hurdles stands in the way of helping every American who might benefit from them.

The high cost of those drugs (which presently are not covered by health insurance companies for weight loss), the potential for side-effects (they clearly are not for everyone), and the fact that they have to be taken for life, may leave many Americans who struggle with their weight on their own without the benefit of these medications.

But there may be another solution. A recent study has concluded that the true culprit for our obesity epidemic may lie in the kind of food we eat -- the so-called ultra-processed foods.

It is estimated that 70% of the food supply in the U.S. consists of ultra-processed foods. Two-thirds of the calories children consume in the US are ultra-processed, while about 60% of adult diets come from ultra-processed foods.

What constitutes an ultra-processed food is not always easy to figure out. There's a wide range of food items between fresh fruits and vegetables (which are not processed at all) and, say, Twinkies, which perhaps are emblematic of the ultimate ultra-processed "food." On the other hand, a shorthand way to think about ultra-processed foods is whether they are found in nature: Twinkies don't grow on trees.

According to the authors of a recent meta-analysis (they examined 45 studies involving almost 10 million human subjects), eating high intakes of ultra-processed foods substantially raises the risk of developing dozens of diseases and health conditions that are related to excess weight, with diabetes, heart disease, and cancer being chief among them.

That's because what goes into an ultra-processed food product is not real "food" at all. If you look at the ingredients on the label of a typical packaged-food product, they consist of chemically-manipulated ingredients such as modified starches, sugars, oils, fats, and protein isolates, with little if any whole food added,

But it is not just our physical health that is at risk from diets high in ultra-processed foods. Many of these fake foods, which are loaded with sugar, sodium, and are low in fiber and high in fat, also are thought to have negative effects upon our mental health, including anxiety, sleep disorders, and depression.

Moreover, given the addictive nature of these foods (the sugar rush to the brain and the lack of fiber that leaves you never feeling full), they create a feedback loop (no pun intended), so that the more we eat of these products, the more we want to eat.

Convenience is the driving force behind the ever-increasing use of ultra-processed foods by Americans. Frozen pizzas and dinners are a quick-and-easy meal solution for harried parents. Fast-food restaurants, with their triple-bacon cheeseburgers, chicken nuggets, fries, and super-size soft drinks, are everywhere.

By contrast, it should be noted that local restaurants typically do NOT serve the ultra-processed foods of the fast-food chains and that frozen meals prepared in-house in local grocery stores do not rely heavily on ultra-processed products.

For example, the list of ingredients for french fries at one famous national restaurant chain is this: Potatoes, Vegetable Oil (canola Oil, Corn Oil, Soybean Oil, Hydrogenated Soybean Oil, Natural Beef Flavor [wheat And Milk Derivatives]\*), Dextrose, Sodium Acid Pyrophosphate (maintain Color), Salt. \*natural Beef Flavor Contains Hydrolyzed Wheat And Hydrolyzed Milk As Starting Ingredients.

(Yuk! After reading that list of ingredients, who would want to put that in their body?)

On the other hand, if you order a baked potato with your dinner at a local restaurant, you get the whole potato and nothing but the potato.

We realize that eating fewer ultra-processed foods is easier said than done. On the other hand, some of the solutions to avoiding ultra-processed foods are quite straightforward: Buy real food and cook it at home; read and compare product labels and try to choose less processed alternatives (for example, swap flavored-yogurt for plain yogurt with added fruit); add fresh, frozen, or canned fruits, vegetables, beans, and legumes to your diet; avoid sugar-sweetened beverages that have no nutritional value and instead drink water; and, when eating out, go to local restaurants instead of fast-food chains.

If we can significantly reduce ultra-processed foods from our diets, we can go a long way to solving the national epidemic of obesity that literally is killing us.

ON 3A,  
COMPASSION,  
CLARITY,  
COLLABORATION  
ARE KEY

**Dear Editor,**

The state law passed by Governor Baker in early 2021 known as the MBTA Communities Act, or Section 3A, has sparked a firestorm of unrest in Winthrop (and several of the other 177 communities subject to this law) since its first public presentation at a Town Council meeting in January. Some of this response has been warranted- after all, there was no context provided as to why new zoning for multifamily housing was being proposed, no background explaining how or why the state came up with this ruling, and no effort to engage the public in a process until what appeared to have been fully baked maps were put forth. Indeed, we've had a lot of catching up and a lot of collective learning to do around this law.

However, some of the public response that's taken shape, particularly on social media, has been divisive and combative, aimed at instilling fear and skepticism rather than seeking to understand and form solutions. Rather than urging our elected officials to reject state law and risk losing access to critical grant programs while taking on expensive legal fees, we should be supporting them towards opportunities for creative thinking and collaboration- with the state, with each other, and with the communities they serve. This type of thinking requires compassion, both

for the people who support this law and for those who oppose it, fueled by a willingness to hear other perspectives while seeking information that provides clarity to an otherwise confusing issue (zoning).

We believe Winthrop has the ability to be part of the solution to our state's debilitating housing crisis without overcrowding our neighborhoods, burdening our schools or exacerbating traffic or parking woes. Robust and thoughtful planning informed by both the lived experiences of residents and the guidance of industry experts can help us succeed. But we have to be willing to listen, to learn and in some cases, to make compromises.

In a state where population and job growth has outpaced housing growth for decades, zoning is but one of many tools at our disposal to proactively respond to this supply/demand mismatch. Only the market can determine what actually gets built, but with careful and strategic planning, we can create zoning that steers new development to the places we deem most appropriate with design characteristics and additional requirements (for heights, affordability, greenspace etc) that reflect the priorities of our community. A robust and transparent public process will be critical to ensuring this happens, and we hope our town officials make this a priority.

The State is not and should not be our enemy- nor should the people who try to inform and support this process. We can, and should, work collaboratively towards a zoning plan that reflects the work

Winthrop has already done to meet housing demand while still meeting compliance with the law. We believe this is possible if both "sides"- including the Town and the State, the supporters and the opponents- are willing to bend.

Ultimately, both "sides" of the 3A debate have been guilty of overstating the magnitude of the 3A zoning law, from its capacity to build affordability to our region's most exclusive suburbs to its risk of being a boon to greedy developers. While there are merits of truth in these claims, both are creating a somewhat distorted perception and clouding our ability to see things clearly. This quote in a recent Commonwealth Beacon article sums it up in a way that we think resonates: "To borrow a baseball analogy, MBTA Communities is a clutch hit. But it's more likely a single than the promised (or threatened) home run."

Winthrop is a strong, amazing community with minds and backgrounds as diverse as our housing stock. We have the ability to take in all perspectives, all concerns, and all resources available to us as we move through this planning process for which we have until the end of 2024 to complete. As concerned residents who have invested in this town, we look forward to working with our state and local elected leaders and our neighbors as fellow stakeholders in that process.

**Scott Mahoney-Wright,  
Precinct 3  
Julia Wallerice,  
Precinct 2**

**THANK YOU,  
VIKING NATION**

**Dear Editor,**

On behalf of Coach Norris, our staff and myself, I would like to extend my deepest gratitude towards our fans, parents, alumni, boosters and administrators for your unwavering support. I want to especially thank our student section whose enthusiasm and creativity with different themes for each game was awesome!!

This season was so special because an incredible group of kids made us all feel so proud to be Vikings! The brotherhood these boys formed was so genuine and our captain's and seniors should be very proud in creating such a selfless culture both on and off the ice. I've had so many people approach me and not just from our town, telling me what a classy group of kids we have which speaks volumes to their character!

Although we didn't achieve our ultimate goal of winning a state championship for our great town and program, this year's NEC Championship was our seniors' third in four years which is an amazing feat. This team has left its mark in our program's great Tradition and leaves a legacy and blueprint of the highest of standards for all our youth players, parents and fans to follow.

Personally, I will miss this senior class immensely (Petey Silverman, Billy Hayes, Rob Rich, Hunter Fife, Joe Rich, Jackson Andy, Glen Calla and Teddy Bailey) but you will walk together forever!

**Respectfully,  
Coach Dunbar**



THE MORE Things Change ...

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

**10 years ago  
March 13, 2014**

The annual community Spring Forum is set for March 18, at the Robert A. DeLeo Senior Center. The Winthrop Town Charter states that the purpose of the annual Spring Forum is to provide an opportunity for the public to bring their concerns, comments, and questions regarding budgeting and other spending matters to the attention of the elected and appointed officers of the town. Council President Peter Gill said that he has changed the format this year to shift the input of the forum to come more directly from the citizens, encouraging them to bring forward their vision for the future of Winthrop.

Dr. Joel Snider, an internal medicine physician who has served with East Boston Neighborhood Health Center and cared for patients in Winthrop for over 35 years, has announced his retirement.

Town Manager James McKenna has announced that the town of Winthrop Grants department is now accepting applications for a HOME rehabilitation project. Income-qualified applicants can receive low interest loans through the town to rehabilitate their homes. Funded through the U.S. Dept. of Housing and Urban Development, the town's HOME program is ideal for residents who need to bring their property up to code or who need assistance getting major projects completed.

The Town Council has given Town Manager James McKenna strong commendations across all categories in their annual evaluation of his performance.

Robocop, The Grand Budapest Hotel, and Mr. Peabody and Sherman are playing at the Revere Showcase Cinemas.

**20 years ago  
March 18, 2004**

Town officials have directed the North Suburban Youth Hockey League to take steps to ensure that parent rink rage incidents cease at Larsen Rink in the wake of a second incident involving a youth hockey parent who was arrested for disorderly conduct for

yelling after a game. Area news media have descended on Winthrop to cover the events. The incidents have involved out-of-town parents and teams.

Winthrop High Principal Steve Chrabaszcz has received notice that Winthrop High School may

See YEARS Page 5

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Newspaper Group

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UNITED FIRST CHURCH HOSTS ST. PATRICK’S DAY BOILED DINNER

Photos by Marianne Salza

First Church of Winthrop, United Methodist, parishioners were grateful for the celebration of fellowship during the Saint Patrick’s Boiled Dinner on March 9. Ralph Tufo performed traditional, Irish jigs and chanteys on piano accordion and concertina

during the gathering. “This continues to be the premiere event. Great food has been prepared. The food that we eat will strengthen our spirits, minds, and bodies,” prayed Pastor Dave Jackson while blessing the corned beef and cabbage supper.



Musician, Ralph Tufo, performing a traditional, Irish jig.



Friends gathering at the First Church of Winthrop, United Methodist, Saint Patrick’s Boiled Dinner on March 9.



Joe Pike, Giovanni Joseph, and Sue Meegan selling tickets for door prizes.



Veronica and Star Richards.



Louise Corkhum, laughing with Mary and Dennis Corbett.



Father Walter Connelly and Dona O’Donnell.



Louise Corkhum, with Mary and Dennis Corbett.



Pastor Dave Jackson, with his administrative assistant, Louise Warwick, and her husband, Chuck Warwick.



JoAnn Troisi, Susan Castella, Gerry Cash, Florance Catizone, Mary Craig, Sharon Martin, Joan Murray, Valerie Millar, Rose Kaye, Senator Lydia Edwards, Jean Barry, and Barbara Marley.



Betty Maylor and Representative Jeff Turco.



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Leo and Summer Welch with their mother, Kayleigh Doucette, and their papa, Paul Doucette.



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1924-2024

# Sports

## MIAA Final Four

### Vikings lose to Dover Sherborn, 2-1 in a shootout

By Cary Shuman

The Winthrop High School boys hockey team’s hopes for a state championship ended in a 2-1 loss to Dover-Sherborn in the Division 4 state semifinals Saturday at Gallo Arena in Bourne.

The two teams battled through two eight-minute, thrill-a-second overtimes before Dover-Sherborn outscored Winthrop, 2-1, in the five-round shootout.

Senior captain Petey Silverman scored Winthrop’s goal late in the first period on one of his patented rushes into the offensive zone after receiving a pass from Mike Holgersen. Dover Sherborn’s Brayden McKenna tied the game at 1-1 on a shorthanded goal with 8:27 remaining in the second period.

The game remained deadlock at 1-1 as Winthrop goaltender Mike Donahue (33 saves) and Dover-Sherborn goaltender Andrew Goldstein (37 saves) were simply sensational and clutch as it became increasingly clear to the capacity crowd that the next goal in regulation would most likely stand up as the game-winner.

Silverman had one of the better scoring opportunities, but his shot rattled the crossbar and the puck soared upward.

Holgersen, who played a superb game, was tripped up on a rush toward the net late in the third period, giving the Vikings a power play that carried into the first overtime. The Vikings had some excellent chances but were unable to produce the tiebreaking goal.

Holgersen’s goal in the shootout (in which five players from each team individually try to score in penalty-shot fashion against the opposing goaltender) tied it at 1-1 after McKenna had given Dover-Sherborn the edge. Calvin Roman also scored for Dover-Sherborn in the shootout.

Dover Sherborn (20-4-0) will play Hanover (15-9-0) in the state championship game Sunday at 11 a.m. at the TD Garden. Winthrop (18-4-2) defeated Hanover, 5-2, in a regular-season game.

#### Dunbar talks about the shootout controversy

Winthrop head coach Dale Dunbar, whose team had outscored its opponents, 22-3, in its run to the Final Four, said the goaltending was outstanding on both sides. He also addressed the shootout controversy.

“Both goaltenders were phenomenal,” said Dunbar. “We had our chances. But it never should come

down to a shootout. You don’t end a basketball game with foul shots. You don’t end a football game with field goals. Overtime is one of the most exciting things you can do. And to take everybody out of the game and put all that pressure on five kids, it’s just a joke, and they do it for what, for scheduling so games are on time? Our whole crowd who was going crazy the whole game, all of sudden, you’re taking the crowd out, and you have to watch a shootout. The shootout is wrong. They should let it be decided on the ice. I feel devastated for our kids.”

Dunbar also questioned the choice of venue for the game.

“We’re the No. 1 seed. What did that mean? We

See HOCKEY Page 8

Senior captain Petey Silverman applies the pressure with a shot on Dover-Sherborn goaltender Andrew Goldstein in the Division 4 state semifinal Saturday at Gallo Arena in Bourne.

Senior captain Billy Hayes and junior forward Mike Holgersen look to move the puck out of the zone as goaltender Michael Donahue protects the net in the Vikings’ MIAA tournament game against Dover-Sherborn.

Winthrop High's All-NEC goaltender Michael Donahue was outstanding throughout the regular season and continued his stellar play in the MIAA Tournament.

Junior forward Phil Boncore unleashes a wrist shot toward the net in the Vikings’ MIAA Tournament game Saturday at Gallo Arena in Bourne.

## Dover Sherborn coach Marlow lauds Petey Silverman, Vikings

By Cary Shuman

Dover-Sherborn/Weston head coach Alex Marlow knew his team had just competed in one of the most exciting hockey games in Dover-Sherborn, Weston – (and Winthrop) - school history.

“It’s one of the greatest hockey games I’ve ever been part of, and I can’t wait to rewatch it so I can actually enjoy it,” Marlow told reporters after his team’s 2-1 victory in a shootout over Winthrop in the Division 4 state semifinals Saturday at Gallo Arena in Bourne.

Marlow said his team paid special attention to Winthrop’s Petey Silverman, the Vikings’ leading scorer, from the opening faceoff.

“I’m not going to sugarcoat it, he’s a special, special player,” said Marlow. “Obviously, he was a point of interest for us from the get-go. We just knew that at all times we had to know where Silverman was - always. And kudos to our players, with just two days to get a game plan for [Winthrop], and they all bought in and they knew where he was at all times.”

Dover Sherborn goaltender Andrew Goldstein (37 saves) said the team was well aware of the Silverman factor.

“We did a lot of research on him. He’s a tremendous player. I think he got the one [goal] on me, but credit to the ‘D’ just containing him. We did a great job – he’s one heckuva player.”

Goldstein realized early on that Winthrop’s goalie Michael Donahue was matching him in the save department.

“Their goalie played amazing – he was making a ton of saves,” said Goldstein. “Sometimes, it can be a little discouraging when your team can’t find the back of the net, but for me, I just stayed focused on what I need to do. My job never changes. It’s always to make saves and focus on doing whatever it takes to win.”

Goldstein was asked by the Sun-Transcript reporter about the shootout format that is used in the state tournament.

“I had a lot of fun. We came out with a win, so I think that’s a big part of it. But look, I’d say once it’s past two overtimes, I

See MARLOW Page 9

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# TOTAL DEVELOPMENT TRAINING OF WINTHROP HOSTS SOCCER CLINIC IN CONJUNCTION WITH WINTHROP YOUTH SOCCER AND ST. MICHAEL’S PARISH

Last Thursday evening was the first of 6 sessions every Thursday evenings of basic soccer training by Francesco and Tommaso D’Adostino owners of Total Development Training. They are broken into 3 1-hour sessions, 3-5, 6-8 and 9-12 years of age, hours from 430pm 730pm. Coach Francesco stated he wanted to extend the knowledge of the game to the early learners and get basics instilled into the older players before any bad habits are formed. This program has the approval of the very successful Winthrop Youth Soccer Program, and with the help from St. Michael’s gymnasium it’s a perfect fit for all.



The future soccer players of WHS with Coaches Francesco and Tommaso D’Adostino from Total Development Training.



Coaches Francesco and Tommaso gather the 3–5-year-old players for the first session.



It’s not the most popular soccer position but it works for Thomas Symmes.



Lots of parents along the sidelines cheering on their players, Anderson and Kai Faiz and Camden and Charles Kennedy were part of the crowd



Michael Cimmino waits for more instructions.



Cyrus Deeb during the dribbling exercise.



Vivian Diaz waits for the program to begin.



Tommaso and Francesco D’Agostino hosting a 6-week soccer clinic at St. Michael’s Parish Gymnasium.



The first of a 6-week program began with the 3-5 year old players.

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## Hockey // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 7

have to travel an hour to Gallo [Arena]? It was a beautiful venue, but we should not have to get on a bus and go an hour when we should just be going to Stoneham [Arena] and

selling that out like we have been. That’s the advantage of being the No. 1 seed, the proximity of the rink.”

(Coming in next week’s Sun-Transcript: Coach

Dunbar honors his seniors, looks back on the 2023-24 season, and says he will return as head coach next season).



Winthrop High School students traveled to Gallo Arena in Bourne to continue their season-long support of the Vikings ice hockey team.







# Winthrop Senior Center News

35 Harvard Street, Winthrop, MA 02152

Hours: Mon-Thurs: 8:30am-3:30p.m. / Friday: 8:30am-1p.m.

Website: [www.town.winthrop.ma.us](http://www.town.winthrop.ma.us)

Email: [COAReception@town.winthrop.ma.us](mailto:COAReception@town.winthrop.ma.us)

Phone: 617-846-8538

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

Monday, March 18

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

10:00am-11:00am: Yoga with Trish

10:00am-11:30am: Representative Turco Office Hours

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

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

Tuesday, March 19

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

9:00am-10:30am: Exercise Class (\$1)

10:00am-11:00am: Exploring Medicare Advantage Plans/BCBS

11:00am-12:00pm: Blood Pressures

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

12:30pm-2:30pm: Art Class with Dawn (\$5)

Wednesday, March 20

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

9:30am-10:30am: Yoga with Trish (\$5)

10:00am-12:00: Bereavement & Caregiver Support Group

10:00am-12:00pm: Charlie Card Workshop

10:00am-12:00pm: Low Vision Support Group

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

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

11:30-12:30pm: Tai Chi / Qi Gong with Cindy (\$5)

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

Thursday, March 21

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

9:30am-10:30am: Exercise Class (\$1)

10:30am-11:30am: Coffee & Conversation

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

12:45pm-3:00pm: Bingo

Friday, March 22

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

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

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

11:30-12:30pm: Creative Writing Workshop

Visit the Senior Center Online for more information



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

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

Applications for the 2024 Senior Citizen Property Tax Work-Off Program are now available at the DeLeo Senior Center (35 Harvard Street) and online. Applications must be returned to the Senior Center by 12:00 pm on Friday, April 5, 2024. The Senior Citizen Tax Work-Off Program allows Winthrop homeowners, aged 60 and older, to volunteer their services in exchange for a reduction in their property tax bill. Participants may earn a maximum reduction of \$750 per fiscal year based on a rate per hour of service that cannot exceed the Commonwealth of Massachusetts' minimum wage. If you have any questions, please contact the Senior Center.

## News Briefs //

and two new weekend roundtrips between Moynihan Train Hall at New York Penn Station (NYP) and Washington Union Station (WAS), and a new weekday morning departure from William H. Gray III 30th Street Station (PHL) in Philadelphia to NYP. There is also now one new weekend trip between PHL and Boston South Station (BOS). These service changes result in a 20% increase in weekday service and 10% increase on Sundays, which collectively deliver an additional capacity of more than 1 million seats to the Northeast Regional.

“More people are taking the train than ever before and we’re proud to offer our customers additional travel options when they ride with us on the Northeast Regional,” said Amtrak Executive Vice President and Chief Commercial Officer Eliot Hamlisch.. “The Northeast Regional gets you where you want to go comfortably, conveniently and sustainably as you breeze past traffic on I-95 for a more enjoyable travel experience.”


These new schedules drive Amtrak’s ambitious goal of doubling annual ridership to 66 million by Fiscal Year (FY) 2040. Momentum has already begun with ridership achieving 8% above pre-pandemic levels and Northeast Regional ridership having nearly 9.2 million customers in all of FY23 - growing more than 29% compared to FY22.

Northeast Regional offers relaxing and affordable downtown-to-downtown

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

## LEGAL NOTICES

### LEGAL NOTICE




**TOWN OF WINTHROP**  
**TREE REMOVAL**  
**PUBLIC HEARING**

The following trees are hereby considered for removal under Massachusetts General Laws relating to such action: 170 Grovers Avenue 51 Loring Road

The trees at these locations are posted. A public hearing will be held on **MONDAY, March 18th at 6:00 PM** at the Public Facilities Building, 100 Kennedy Drive. In the event you have any objections and are unable to attend the hearing, a written notice should be filed with the DPW prior to the hearing. The Town of Winthrop does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age and handicapped status in the provisions of services.

Sincerely,  
Paul O'Donnell,  
Tree Warden  
[podonnell@town.winthrop.ma.us](mailto:podonnell@town.winthrop.ma.us)  
3/7/24, 3/14/24 W

### LEGAL NOTICE




**BOARD OF APPEALS**  
**PUBLIC HEARING**  
March 28, 2024: Case 002-2024

Notice is hereby given in accordance with Chapter 40A of the Massachusetts General Laws and Chapter 17 of the Code of the Town of Winthrop that the Winthrop Board of Appeals will conduct a public hearing on Thursday, March 28, 2024, at or after 6:30 p.m. held in the Harvey Hearing Room upon the application of person requesting: Frank M. Constantino 82 Main Street, Winthrop, MA 02152

Applicant seeks a modification to the Decision to Grant Variance for the above referenced address dated October 24, 2013 to allow the continued residential use of the second floor of the detached two-story accessory building while striking or deleting the requirement that such use be limited to immediate family only and in lieu thereof by adding language of the Decision that would allow for non-immediate family members to use and occupy the second-floor of the detached two-story accessory building. The public is invited to attend, and interested parties shall have an opportunity to be heard. Copies of the application and plans are on file and available to review at the Town Hall Planning Office, Room 2A, Winthrop Town Hall.

Darren Baird, Chairman  
Denise Quist, Town Clerk  
Winthrop Board of Appeals  
3/14/24, 3/21/24 W

### LEGAL NOTICE



**LEGAL NOTICE**  
**PUBLIC HEARING**  
on March 14, 2024  
Winthrop Board of Health  
Regulation on Letter Grading of Food Establishments and Food Trucks

Notice is hereby given that the Winthrop Board of Health will conduct a Public Hearing on Thursday, March 14, 2024, at the Harvey Hearing Room at or after 6:30 pm regarding a proposed Regulation on Letter Grading of Food Establishments and Food Trucks. For a copy of this proposed Regulation, please go to the Winthrop Board of Health website at [www.town.winthrop.ma.us/368/Board-of-Health](http://www.town.winthrop.ma.us/368/Board-of-Health). Written comments can also be sent to the Board of Health until Friday, March 29, 2024 at [BoardofHealth@town.winthrop.ma.us](mailto:BoardofHealth@town.winthrop.ma.us).

3/14/24 W

### LEGAL NOTICE

(617)788-8300  
CITATION ON PETITION FOR CHANGE OF NAME  
Docket No. SU23C0646CA  
In the matter of: Elisa Kalscheur Hereid

A Petition to Change Name of Adult has been filed by Elisa Kalscheur Hereid of Winthrop, MA requesting that the court enter a Decree changing their name to: Theodore Wesley Vitale

**IMPORTANT NOTICE**  
Any person may appear for purposes of objecting to the petition by filing an appearance at: Suffolk Probate and Family Court before 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 03/28/2024. This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance if you object to this proceeding.


WITNESS, Hon. Brian J. Dunn, First Justice of this Court.  
Date: February 27, 2024  
Stephanie L. Everett, Register of Probate  
3/14/2024 W

### LEGAL NOTICE

**PUBLIC HEARING DATE OF APRIL 2, 2024**

Notice is hereby given in accordance with Section 2.9 (c) of the Code of the Town of Winthrop that the Win Town Council will conduct a Public Hearing on Tuesday, April 2, 2024 at on/about 7:00 PM In the Harvey Hearing Room that the Town Council


Vote to appropriate



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## HELP WANTED



### WINTHROP HOUSING AUTHORITY

#### Maintenance Groundskeeper/Custodian

TEL. (617) 846-7100 FAX. (617) 846-7581

The Winthrop Housing Authority is looking to fill a full-time position: Maintenance Groundkeeper/Custodian. Regular Hours are Monday - Friday 8 am - 5 pm with some mandatory overtime (i.e. snow removal and emergencies). Excellent benefits and wages paid in accordance with State prevailing wage set for the position.

Primary duties include a variety of tasks in maintenance and upkeep of public housing properties and grounds such as: Cleaning, including trash removal, maintain common areas of residential apartment buildings, community buildings, lavatories, offices, stairwells, hallways, walls, woodwork, mopping floors; polish and maintain floors, empty wastebaskets and clean dumpsters, wash windows. Landscaping includes tasks such as cutting grass, pruning shrubs, raking leaves. Snow Removal, general maintenance related duties; Moving and lifting heavy objects, driving small trucks. Operate power driven equipment including riding and push mowers, snow blowers, buffers, vacuum cleaners, etc. All other duties of the class as directed by Executive Director.


The successful candidate will be professional in appearance; must successfully pass a CORI background check and physical and drug screening, Must be 18 years or older and have a valid MA driver's license, and have an unblemished driving history for auto insurance purposes. WHA is an equal opportunity employer. Please submit cover letter, resume and references for consideration by 9:30 AM February 23, 20204. Posting will remain open until position is filled.

Winthrop Housing Authority  
ATTN: Peg Lyons [peg.lyons@winthrophousing.net](mailto:peg.lyons@winthrophousing.net)  
9 Golden Drive, Winthrop, MA 02152

**DEADLINES:** For classified line ads, deadlines are Monday by 4 p.m.

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### Maddy is Lost - please help us find her

Missing since 2/20/24 Mini Bernadoodle, 2 yrs old, female  
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Please Call 781-985-5333 - reward.





# EBNHC // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

the City of Boston, with more than 45,000 visits in 2023. “It’s a very busy place,” said Wilmot.

## Rebrand to NeighborHealth begins in June

“I think the rebrand does a few things,” said Wilmot. “It unifies our organization which has really grown to a multi-site, multi-community organization and it allows us to reflect that to our patients during their care journey with us,” said Wilmot. “It also works well for our staff, who may serve patients at one location or another, but we really wanted to make sure that everyone felt part of the same organization with the same values across our organization.”

Wilmot added that when EBNHC joined forces with the South End Community Health Center in 2020, “it was important for us to have a unified brand to avoid confusion, but also to make sure everyone felt connected to the same institution.”

## Becoming a national model and an award-winning health center

East Boston Neighborhood Health Center is the largest community-based primary care health system and community health center in Massachusetts and one of the largest in

the United States.

“We find ourselves connecting with communities across the nation to talk about the work that we’ve done for many years,” said Wilmot.

One of the health center’s most recent achievements was being honored by the U.S. Health Resources Services Administration (HRSA) as one of the top-performing Federal Qualified Health Center in the nation, with specific recognition for its work in maternal and child health, where it received a gold badge for quality – earning EBNHC status in the top one percent of community health centers in that category. EBNHC also received a gold badge for its HIV treatment and care.

“Some of the ways we were able to achieve those national awards is based on the innovative model of care that we have here,” noted Wilmot. “I am proud of our continued accomplishments. What is true is that our health center is 55 years old. We’re born out of an acknowledgement and recognition of community-based access, and I’ve been privileged to continue to serve that mission. It is a mission that has been served by many. I’m the third CEO of this organization, but I feel like I’ve been handed the baton and just continu-



EBNHC President and CEO Greg Wilmot is pictured in the library area of the Revere PACE Center during a visit to the center Monday.

ing to run a race that was started many, many years ago.”

## Expanding life expectancies

On average today, people in the United States are living a lot longer.

“What’s really important is that people not just live longer, but that they live high quality lives as well,” said Wilmot. “We believe that families, especially our aging population, should have the opportunity to age in the community, which is important to improving quality of life, but also improving health outcomes

ultimately. So, programs like PACE (Programs of All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly) are one of the ways that we support seniors.”

## Addition of behavioral health services at EBNHC

Last October, EBNHC introduced behavioral health urgent care services at its site at 10 Gove St. in East Boston where it shares a location with its emergency department.

“Those services are meant to allow patients who are having an urgent behavioral health issue to receive their care in an

appropriate setting,” said Wilmot. “Often times, patients might go to an emergency department for that care, which isn’t a great place for behavioral health care services. So, we created this very unique access point to make sure that our patients could receive their care in a high-quality environment and receive treatment from behavioral health providers that are trained in emergency and urgent behavioral health care services. And then we connect those patients back to treatment in primary care.”

## Active in their communities

Greg Wilmot, who stands a towering 6 feet, 6 inches, has become a highly visible and charismatic presence in the Greater Boston community. He is active in many organizations and causes and attends numerous events.

“I’m active in the community as are many members of our staff,” said Wilmot. “What’s really interesting about our organization is that 50 percent of our employees are residents of the communities we serve. Our new name, NeighborHealth, was a little bit of a nod to that, because we are, in fact, serving our neighbors. We live in the communities that we serve. It’s important that we maintain that deep connection to our commu-

nities.”

## Future growth and expansion

EBHNC has become widely known for its excellence and being a national model in the health-care industry. Many cities and towns in Massachusetts would welcome a health center as comprehensive and well established as the one founded in East Boston a half-century ago. For example, EBNHC opened a center for senior care in the City of Everett in 2023.

Wilmot said that EBNHC will “continue to grow to meet the needs of our communities.”

“If that means new services, new locations, we are here to serve, and based on our history, that has been something we have done, and I think it’s something we will continue to do,” said Wilmot. “I think our name change allows us to do that flexibly and engage with our new communities in an inclusive way.”

Asked about EBHNC’s record of success and accomplishments, Wilmot credited his staff. “We have 2,000 amazing staff members,” said Wilmot. “We have a great team of professionals that have a deep commitment to what we do, and that’s the thread that connects every person in this organization.”

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# WIHA hosts presentation on ‘The Lightship Service’

Story & Photos by Marianne Salza

Operating a lightship was considered to be the most jeopardous responsibility in the United States Coast Guard. The floating lighthouses were crewed by 10-12 sailors, and anchored some 10 miles offshore to guide other vessels through unwieldy terrain, dense fog, and vicious hurricanes.

“The purpose was to mark dangerous shoals or reefs at important entrances where it was impractical to build a permanent lighthouse structure,” defined Robert M. Mannino, Junior, Founder/President, United States Lightship Museum.

Lightships were stationed throughout the country, predominantly in the northeast; but the most hazardous location was Nantucket Shoals, off the eastern coast of Nantucket Island. Water depth could be as shallow as 3-feet along the 50 miles of sandbars, weather was violent, and there was constant risk of being struck by passing freighters, ocean liners, or tankers.

“Lightship duty was extremely treacherous, especially in the Nantucket Shoals, the most remote station in the world. The lightship there was anchored 100 miles off the coast of the United States,” explained Mannino.

During a March 5 Winthrop Improvement and Historical Association dinner meeting in the Deane



Robert M. Mannino, Founder/President of the United States Lightship Museum

Winthrop House barn, Mannino emphasized the vital role of lightships, and the importance of preserving their history with his presentation, “The Lightship Service: 1820-1985.”

Lightship service started in the United States in 1820. Transoceanic commerce increased dramatically by the mid-19th century; and so to prevent shipwrecks, the Nantucket Lightship was established in 1854. It provided navigational aid for famous vessels such as the S.S. United States, the Queen Mary, and the Normandie.

“The Nantucket Lightship station was called the ‘Atlantic Gateway into the United States,” said Mannino. “All shipping -- mostly going to and from Europe -- was guided by Nantucket Lightship.”

The vessel itself -- which was the initial lightship to be outfitted with a Marconi radio system

-- was referred to as the “Statue of Liberty of the Sea” because it was the first landmark for immigrants traveling from Europe.

Nantucket Lightship/LV-112 was built as a steam-powered vessel by the United States Lighthouse Service in 1936, and embarked on its maiden voyage in Boston. In 1960, the 150-foot-long ship was refitted with an eight-cylinder engine.

“A lightship is built like a battleship,” exclaimed Mannino. “The Nantucket has 43 air-tight compartments, is double-hulled, and double-plated. It was made of high-quality, high-grade steel. It’s built to withstand a collision.”

The Nantucket Lightship/LV-112 was at sea for 39 years, only returning to shore ones or twice a year for service at a facility in Chelsea. Adjacent to the Meridian Street bridge, where the Eastern Minerals salt piles are today, was the Buoy and Lightship Depot, built by the U.S. Lighthouse Service.

Mannino also discussed the evolution of light beacons. Early lightships were equipped with steel, cast iron baskets with a live flame lit by whale oil. Lightships typically used two beacons at a time; but newer lightships were configured with one beacon, like a conventional lighthouse.

As light beacons modernized, they became more efficient, such as with the addition of mechanical devices to rotate the beacon around a mast. Another generation was gimbaled so the beacons remained level when ships rocked.

The Nantucket Lightship has two-duplex Fresnel lenses on rotating light beacons that have 500,000 candle power, and a flashing pattern designed to be seen from 20 miles at sea.

In 1985, Nantucket Shoals became the final U.S. lightship station to be discontinued. The Nantucket Lightship/LV-112



Winthrop Improvement & Historical Association members gathering in the Deane Winthrop House barn on March 5 for “The Lightship Service” presentation by Robert M. Mannino.

was designated as a National Historic Landmark in 1989. Since its decommission, the lightship has since been utilized as a museum. When it became at risk of being scrapped in 2008, Mannino was determined to save it.

“Knowing how valuable the lightship was historically, we had a surveyor look at it. It was in terrible condition,” Mannino revealed. “The ship was badly scarred. The inside was a mess. It was full of rain water. Nothing worked.”

Mannino founded the United States Lightship Museum as a non-profit organization, and purchased Nantucket Lightship in 2009. When he contacted the U.S. Coast Guard Lightship Sailors Association, former lightship sailors gathered from around the country every weekend in 10° temperatures to prepare the Nantucket Lightship for towing to Boston from Long Island, New York.

“One of our volunteers was a retired ship electrician, and restored most of the equipment. It was a labor of love,” recalled Mannino. “It’s important to save these historic sites because when they’re gone, they’re gone forever.”

The United States Lightship Museum has restored 95% of Nantucket Lightship/LV-112’s exterior. Over eight tons



Volunteers, Kathy Masse, Susan DePippo, and Kim Witthaus, served corned beef and cabbage dinners to members.

of marine growth were removed from the bottom of the ship, rivets were repaired, and the vessel was sandblasted.

Nearly 70% of renovation efforts have been completed, and the museum is presently focused on refurbishing the electrical infrastructure, plumbing, heating system, ventilation, and engines. Over \$2.5 million have been invested in the venture; and another \$2 million is projected to complete the renovations. All funding has been provided through donations from individuals, corporations, and grants.

Nantucket Lightship/LV-112 is now berthed in its home port at the Boston Harbor Shipyard and Marina, 256 Marginal Street, East Boston, where it serves as a floating learning center.

“We have a lot of seniors, local school groups, and people from all over the world visit the ship. We have classes here,” Men-

nino mentioned. “When people visit, they’re able to talk on the phone, steer the wheel, climb the ladders, and do fun things. It’s one of a kind.”

Nantucket Lightship/LV-112 will be open to visitors 10am-4pm, from the last Saturday in April through the last Saturday in October. The cost of admission is an \$8 donation, and children under the age of 5 are free. Individual and tour groups can be arranged by appointment throughout the year. For more information visit [www.NantucketLightshipLV-112.org](http://www.NantucketLightshipLV-112.org) or call (617) 797-0135.

“It’s an important maritime treasure,” said Mannino. “When we bring kids on, we try to inspire and motivate them to become interested in historic preservation. We’re trying to get young people invested as much as possible so they can pick up the reins from where we leave off.”



Kathy Vorse, vice president, Stephanie Honan, treasurer, and Claire and Dave Hubbard.

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