

# MELROSE WEEKLY NEWS



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## Hospital's parent company now Tufts Medicine

MELROSE — Wellforce, the high quality, integrated Massachusetts health system, announced today it will be uniting its member organizations under a new name – Tufts Medicine. Tufts Medicine includes Lowell General Hospital, MelroseWakefield Hospital, Tufts Medical Center, Home Health Foundation and a network of more than 2,000 physicians. Local hospitals within the system will operate under their respective

names in conjunction with the Tufts Medicine name.

The Tufts Medicine name was selected to better reflect the system's shared identity, its close relationship with Tufts University, and its commitment to unite the best of both academic and community health care and deliver a complete connected care experience when, where and how consumers want it.

"Consumers have told us that they want more than the healthcare industry is currently delivering. They want an affordable, high-quality experience that anticipates and seamlessly orchestrates all their care needs no matter who or where they are," said Michael Dandorph, Tufts Medicine CEO and President. "Our teams have embraced this challenge to reimagine healthcare and do it as one high quality, clinically integrated

and digitally connected health system. The pandemic reinforced for us that a more equitable and consumer centric approach to healthcare is urgently needed, and we have the greatest power to lead this change when we work together, side by side with a 'one team' mindset."

The system identity

HOSPITAL Page 15

### Determination



THESE YOUNG SHOVELERS won't let anything get in the way of the work at hand.

(Photo by Raj Das, edphotos.com)

## City has new HHS Dept.

MELROSE — The City of Melrose announced its Health Department has been renamed the Health and Human Services Department as of February 24, 2022. The name change comes as the department expands and reorganizes to increase its mental health services and staff as part of Mayor Paul Brodeur's initiative to better support the social, mental, and physical health of residents of all ages.

"The health department's mission has always been to promote the personal and environmental health of the Melrose community through education, policy development, and collaboration with individuals and organizations," said Anthony Chui, Director of the Melrose Health & Human Services Department. "This name change will better represent the current and adaptive services the Health and Human Services department is providing to the community and emphasizes that the importance of community wellness."

In alignment with Mayor Brodeur's designation of 2022 as the Year of Community Health and Wellness in Melrose, the renaming of the Health and Human

HEALTH Page 11

## City launches Community Needs Assessment Survey

MELROSE — The office of Mayor Paul Brodeur has launched a Community Needs Assessment Survey in an effort to collect community feedback around the use of the City's American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds. Community members can complete

the four-minute survey, which asks participants to rate a series of community needs and identify projects of interest, by visiting [www.surveymonkey.com/r/BWDVLZ5](http://www.surveymonkey.com/r/BWDVLZ5).

Under the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), passed by the federal government

in March 2021, the City of Melrose will receive federal aid to respond to the public health and economic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic. The City of Melrose will receive approximately \$8.4 million in relief funds

over the course of the next two years. All the funding must be expended or committed by December 31, 2024.

Mayor Brodeur and his staff have been in

SURVEY Page 2

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# Mystic Valley honor roll

MALDEN — Mystic Valley Regional Charter School recently released its second quarter honor roll for the 2021-2022 academic year. All in all, 357 MVRCS students in grades 7-12 achieved either high honor roll or honor roll recognition. Fifty one young men and women hailing from Melrose were part of the list. To be on the honor roll, a student needs to finish the quarter with no grade lower than a B-, to be on the high honor roll a student needs to finish the quarter with no grade lower than an A-.

**High honor roll**

**Grade 12:** Ilona Beacom-Domotor and John Bibilos.

**Grade 11:** Hailey Ho.

**Grade 10:** Isadora Dasilva, Lila Giamanco, Sofia Leung, Eric Loue, Anna Tracey and Jonathan Yip.

**Grade 9:** Kaylie Blauvelt, Jade Law and Timothy Rosell.

**Grade 8:** Varun Chawla, Ethan Co, Wes Cunningham, Arjun Doshi, Ruairi Michael Flood, Sami Jamouq,

Sylvie LaFeber, Sara Leonard, Jay Raj, Oren Santillo and Evan Yip.

**Grade 7:** Maya Abuzaid, Bennecio Brincheiro, Fransabelle DaSilva, Ayush Doshi, Gabriel Leung, Raquel Santos Moreira, John Thompson, Veronica Xu and Brian Zhao.

**Standard honor roll**

**Grade 12:** Katelyn Brandano, Mairead St. Clair, Amine Jamouq, Matthew Loue and Rupa Raj.

**Grade 11:** Jeremy Cheng, Hudson Kugele, Nathan Orton and Robert Tracey.

**Grade 10:** Alexandra Beacom-Domotor, James Bibilos, Vishant Chawla, Ethan Tu and Brandon Zhao.

**Grade 9:** Alberto Brincheiro, Riley Constantine, Caroline Higoneng, Mabel Ho, Graham Kugele, Nicholas Ng and Sean Tumbry.

**Grade 8:** Juliet Chevalier and Cara Tian.

**Grade 7:** Daniel Brandano, Charlie Rose Crain, Walker Kugele, Hajar Merazka and Wesley Rosell.

## Crystal clear



**AFTER LAST WEEK'S winter storm went out to sea, City Hall stood out against a cloudless blue sky.**

(Photo by Raj Das, edphotos.com)

## Endicott College dean's list

BEVERLY — Endicott College, the first college in the U.S. to require internships of its students, is pleased to announce its fall 2021 dean's list students. In order to qualify for the dean's list, a student must obtain a minimum grade point average of 3.5, receive no letter grade below "C," have no withdrawal grades, and be enrolled in a minimum of 12 credits for the semester.

The following students from Melrose have met these requirements:

Lauren Carlino, Art Therapy,

daughter of Andrea Carlino and Michael Carlino; Liam Crovo, Sport Management, son of Kristen Crovo and Brian Crovo; Nina Gesnaldo, Nursing, daughter of Irene Gesnaldo and Frank Gesnaldo; Jessica Glynn, Nursing; Quin Healy, Accounting, daughter of Laura Healy and Christopher Healy; Matthew McDonough, Mktng Comm/Advertising, son of Caren McDonough and Brian McDonough; and Paul Ventura, International Studies, son of Theresa Ventura and Paul Ventura

### SURVEY Continued from Page 1

the process of collecting and evaluating proposals from City departments and community members for use of the ARPA funds, reflecting a wide range of needs.

It is a priority of Mayor Brodeur's and his staff to gain community members' input on this process. Brodeur said that receiving community feedback will help the City prioritize the use of these financial resources and will enable the City to best support the community's needs over the next three years.

"My office is grateful to work for such an engaged community and are looking forward to receiving your input regarding what you think Melrose's top community needs are," said Mayor Brodeur. "To help us gain input from as many community members as possible, please share this survey with your Melrose friends, family members, and neighbors. Your input is a crucial component to our evaluation process."

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**1ST AD**

**194 Broadway, Wakefield**  
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**UNDER AGREEMENT**

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# DI teams off to States

MELROSE — Six Melrose Destination Imagination teams ranging from grades K-10 will compete over the weekend of March 12-13 in a statewide creative showcase of STEAM-based educational projects. STEAM is the acronym for science, technology, engineering, arts and math, with the emphasis on integrating arts and creativity into the STEM fields.

Destination Imagination (DI) is a nonprofit, volunteer-run organization that inspires and equips students to become innovators and leaders. Each year, DI publishes seven new STEAM Challenges. Groups of two to seven kids of similar age form a team, choose a Central Challenge, and work collaboratively over a period of several months on solutions to that challenge. Teams also practice "Instant Challenges" to learn quick

thinking and teamwork.

The hallmark of DI is "no interference." Kids work completely independently on creative ideas and trial-and-error solutions to challenges. Parents do not assist with costumes, props, scripts or ideas.

There are 153 teams from across Massachusetts competing at the State tournament over the March 12-13 weekend. Melrose fielded six teams this year in grades K-10, including four returning teams and two new teams. Our Melrose DI teams have worked hard over the last several months on these creative projects, and we wish all teams a great tournament experience and best of luck.

If you'd like to be notified when next season's Destination Imagination teams are forming, email us at di@melrosedi.com to be added to our fall email newsletter.

# Melrose to collect medical supplies for Ukrainians



**ALIONA'S DAUGHTER Margo can be seen rallying among other demonstrators who marched from the Boston Public Garden to the State House on Sunday February 27. (Courtesy Photo)**

MELROSE — In response to a call for help on Facebook by nonprofit organization Sunflower for Peace, the City of Melrose has announced it will collect donations of medical supplies for Ukrainian orphans, displaced persons, and those most affected by the current situation in Ukraine, which began on Monday, February 28.

The Melrose community is invited to drop off donations of medical supplies at Mayor Paul Brodeur's office, the City Clerk's office, or the Health & Human Services Department during City Hall's regular business hours until March 10, when the donations will be collected by Sunflower of Peace. The mayor's office is located on the second floor of City Hall on 562 Main Street.

**Urgently needed medical sup-**

**plies include:**

Aspirin; Antibiotic cream; Antiseptics; Burn aid; Eye wash; First-aid bandages; Gloves (medium and large size); IV starter kits; Medical scissors; Medical tourniquets; Multi-trauma dressings; Ibuprofen and Tylenol.

City Hall is open Mondays through Thursdays from 8:30 a.m. - 4 p.m. and on Fridays from 8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Sunflower of Peace's mission is to mobilize support and aid for Ukrainian orphans, internally displaced persons, and those most affected by the current situation by providing medical assistance and other necessities. Sunflower of Peace is also raising money to put together first-aid backpacks for frontline Ukrainian paramedics and doctors.

# Chamber of Commerce Annual Meeting



**LAST WEEK the Melrose Chamber of Commerce had their meeting at Rising Eagle Publick House. The Keynote Speaker was Mayor Paul Brodeur along with President Jeff Newman, Boston Photo Rental, and Director Kevin Devinney, Eastern Bank. (Photo by Raj Das, edphotos.com)**



# Malden Catholic honor roll

MALDEN – Malden Catholic students have completed the coursework required for the first and second quarter of the 2021 - 2022 school year. The school has three categories for outstanding academic performance honors: headmaster's list (90 - 100 in all classes), first honors (85 to 89 in all classes) and second honors (80 to 84 in all classes).

The following students from Melrose were named to the honor's list for quarter one:

**Headmaster's list (90 to 100 in all classes)**

James Mulvey, Charles Dilman, Samuel Sanzone, Duy Thuc Trinh, Grayson Diller, Jinpeng Ma, Matthew Tarpey, Zeyu Xiao, Jaime DeVale, Timothy Lepore, Ashlin Boyle, Olivia Diller, Victoria Chary, Therese Sanzone, Ella Freely, Eavan Flood, Madelyn Johnson, Ailish Sullivan, Madison Turner, Sofia Papatsoris and Emma Lafontaine.

**First honors (85 to 89 in all classes)**

Lucas Donahue, Josh Lopresti, Matthew D'Antona, Brendan Zinck, AnaMaria Ruiz Rodriguez, Tess Ahern, Jenna Lapenta, Maya Friedlaender, Jacqueline Smiles Rodriguez, Clodagh Duffy, Selene Ferreira, Kayley Ryan, Veronica Hill and Gianna DeFrancesco.

**Second honors (80 to 84 in all classes)**

Jonathan Tran, Joshua Burke, Matthew

Schwarze, Luke Overgaag, Christopher Gill, Abigail Lafontana, Caitlin Connarton, Claudia Minacapilli, Madison Perry and Amelia Hansen.

The following students from Melrose were named to the honor's list for quarter two:

**Headmaster's list (90 to 100 in all classes)**

Jonathan Tran, James Mulvey, Charles Dilman, Samuel Sanzone, Duy Thuc Trinh, Ashlin Boyle, Olivia Diller, AnaMaria Ruiz Rodriguez, Tess Ahern, Victoria Chary, Abigail Lafontana, Jenna Lapenta, Therese Sanzone, Caitlin Connarton, Ella Freely, Eavan Flood, Isabel Gamache, Madelyn Johnson, Ailish Sullivan and Madison Turner.

**First honors (85 to 89 in all classes)**

Joshua Burke, Matthew Schwarze, Grayson Diller, Jinpeng Ma, Matthew Tarpey, Zeyu Xiao, Lucas Donahue, Josh LoPresti, Matthew D'Antona, Maya Friedlaender, Sofia Papatsoris, Madison Perry, Jacqueline Smiles, Clodagh Duffy, Selene Ferreira, Emma Lafontaine and Kayley Ryan.

**Second honors (80 to 84 in all classes)**

Luke Overgaag, Christopher Gill, Jaime DeVale, Timothy Lepore, William Moss, Brendan Zinck, Veronica Hill, Amelia Hansen, Gianna DeFrancesco and Emma Morrow.

# Views

## We need this concert

The Melrose Symphony Orchestra returns Saturday and we can't wait.

The venerable MSO, a city institution for decades, is back with music featuring the harp and Melrose's historic pipe organ in Memorial Hall. The March 5 show begins at 8 p.m. and doors open at 6:30 p.m.

General Admission tickets cost \$30. For students, tickets cost \$10.

As of earlier this week there were 75 tickets left. Tickets purchased online will be held at the door under your name. Any remaining tickets will be sold at the door (cash/check preferable).

Join the Melrose Symphony for some much-needed live music. You'll hear beautiful music by Debussy and Ravel featuring acclaimed harpist Ina Zdorovetchi, Saint-Saëns's Organ Symphony, highlighting Melrose's historical pipe organ, and an overture by Louise Farrenc, an extraordinary pianist, composer, and campaigner for women's equity in the 19th century.

### Program

- Farrenc - Overture No. 1 in E minor, Op. 23
- Debussy - Danses sacrée et profane
- Ravel - Introduction and Allegro
- Saint-Saëns - Organ Symphony

### Covid policy

Concert attendees are required to show proof of full vaccination or a negative Covid PCR test upon entering the concert hall. Additionally, patrons are required to wear masks inside the building.

See you at Memorial Hall!

## That's not your boss

*This is from the Better Business Bureau.*

You may be used to getting text messages and emails from your boss, which is why a recent texting scam is so effective. Scammers find out where you work and pose as the CEO or other executive. Be on guard and don't share money or information – be it your own or your company's.

### How the scam works

You receive a text from a number you don't recognize, claiming to be from your boss. The sender knows your name, where you work, and your boss's name. It seems so real! The text message might read something like this: "Hi Chris, I'm tied up in a conference call right now but let me know if you get this text. Thanks [your boss' name]."

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**MELROSE WEEKLY NEWS**

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## Thank you Girl Scout Troops 62846 and 6771

Last month a delightful group of local Brownies and Cadet Girl Scouts, together with their leaders, sponsored the Senior Center's recent "Friendship Cupid Drive Through" at the Milano Center. Although their generosity is to be celebrated, their welcoming smiles and their excitement and exuberance as they brought their task-at-hand to completion I think is to be celebrated even more! I still smile when I think of them as they greeted us that day – and I offer a very sincere thank you to all of them and their Troop leaders.

That task was to brighten the day and the lives of over 100 seniors by providing not only a pre-cooked/ready to warm up dinner (I managed to get two dinners out of mine) in a large grocery store-sized brown bag with handles filled with extra special goodies! Each bag was decorated front and

back with hand-made colorful and timely pictures/messages/decorations. And each bag was hand-delivered to the driver's window by those smiling faces as they greeted each of us with well wishes, plus a box of Girl Scout Cookies! Standing among the Scouts and their leaders was Mayor Paul Brodeur whom, I am certain, was as proud as could be as he witnessed our Melrose community in action during this entire event.

Our Council on Aging Executive Director Stacey Minchello and her wonderful staff has tried to find ways of keeping the local senior citizens engaged during these awful weeks, months, and even years, of pandemic life and she has succeeded by coming up with some holiday or theme for almost every month as she sets up these drive-throughs. We have been greeted by Red, White and Blue themes;

Leprechauns, Gingerbread Men, Ghosts and Goblins, and at Christmas time we had Santa Claus and his busy little Elves running around everywhere. However, there is just something about a group of young Scouts being led by some wonderful leaders, that really leaves a nice warm feeling deep in our hearts!

Although I do not have the names of the Girl Scout Leaders, their Troop Numbers were 62846 and 6771. I know I speak for more than myself when I say kudos to all. My wish is that this spirit of doing for others always blooms in the hearts of each of the Scouts themselves. I do not know who said this before me, but I'd like to leave you with this thought which I've tried to live by over the years: "If you can be anything at all, be kind."

Marie Ryan

Volume 47 - Report No. 8 February 21-February 25, 2022

## Beacon Hill Roll Call

By Bob Katzen bob@beaconhillrollcall.com

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**Beacon Hill Roll Call** provides a summary and analysis of current bills and gives readers an opportunity to monitor local legislators' actions at the State House. The column is prepared by Bob Katzen and follows the votes of Kate Lipper-Garabedian - D, Thirty-second Middlesex District, Jason Lewis D, Fifth Middlesex District. Bob Katzen welcomes feedback at bob@beaconhillrollcall.com



LIPPER-GARABEDIAN



LEWIS

**THE HOUSE AND SENATE:** As is customary during the February school vacation week, the Legislature met in only brief informal sessions and there were no roll call votes in the House or Senate last week.

During the week of February 21-25, the House met for a total of 31 minutes and the Senate met for a total of 30 minutes.

**BILLS APPROVED BY SENATE AND STUCK IN THE HOUSE FOR SEVERAL MONTHS** – Several bills have received unanimous or near-unanimous approval in the Senate as far back as September 2021 and are still stuck in the House Ways and Means Committee which has not acted on them and has not sent them to the full House for debate and a vote.

Beacon Hill Roll Call asked House Speaker Ron Mariano (D-Quincy) and House Ways and Means chair Aaron Michlewitz (D-Boston) for a comment on the four Senate-approved bills being stuck in the House and Means Committee.

"They're under review," was the brief 5-word response from Ana

Vivas, Mariano's spokesperson. Mariano's office also cited five bills that have been approved by the House and are currently stuck in the Senate Ways Means Committee.

Despite repeated requests from Beacon Hill Roll Call, no one in House Ways and Means Chair Aaron Michlewitz's office responded to our request for a comment.

Here are the four bills and how local senators voted on them:

**CHANGE GENDER ON BIRTH CERTIFICATES AND MORE (S 2533)** - On September 23, the Senate 39-0, approved a bill that would allow people to change their gender on their birth certificate, driver's license, learner's permit, identification card or liquor purchase identification card, including to a non-binary option other than male or female. The possible designations include "female," "male" or "X" which would indicate that the person is another gender or an undesignated gender. The gender can only be changed by an adult, an emancipated minor or the parent

or guardian of a minor.

No documentation is required but the person changing the gender must submit an affidavit executed under the penalty of perjury attesting that the request is to conform to the person's gender identity and is not made for any fraudulent purpose. The bill also directs the state to develop a plan for allowing a non-binary option on all state forms and instances where a gender choice is required.

"People know what gender they are," said sponsor Sen. Jo Comerford (D-Northampton) at the time the measure was approved. "This bill simply allows for gender identification and IDs as diverse as our people. The Legislature must ensure that all of our constituents have access to IDs with nonbinary gender markers as beautifully diverse as they are."

(A "Yes" vote is for the bill.)

**Sen. Jason Lewis Yes BENEFITS FOR MILITARY FAMILIES (S 2558)** - On October 21, the Senate 39-0, approved

## Wakefield man running for State Senate

WAKEFIELD — On Tuesday, Ed Dombroski, a Wakefield attorney, small business owner, and town councilor announced his campaign for the Massachusetts State Senate, representing the 5th Middlesex District communities of Malden, Melrose, Reading, Stoneham, Wakefield, and part of Winchester.

Councilor Dombroski, a registered Republican, aims to bring a commonsense approach to legislating in the Massachusetts Senate.

“I am running to focus on the issues that matter most to the residents of these communities,” said Dombroski. “I am proud of my record of accomplishment on the Wakefield Finance Committee

and the Town Council and know that there is so much more we can do on Beacon Hill. I’ve watched Republican leaders like Governor Charlie Baker demonstrate how we can work together beyond party lines to get things done, and that is how I will lead if elected.”

Dombroski, first elected in 2017, is currently serving his second term on the Wakefield Town Council. He previously served as Chairperson on the Town Council. As a Trustee of the Massachusetts Bar Foundation (and recently elected to leadership as Secretary), Dombroski helps oversee grantmaking of millions of dollars each year to expand access to legal services to many underserved populations. He previously served on the Board

of Directors for RESPOND, Inc., New England’s first domestic violence agency. He is also actively involved with the work of Wakefield Alliance Against Violence (WAAV) and the Stoneham-Wakefield Boys and Girls Club.

Dombroski is the Managing Partner of Travers Dombroski, a full-service family law practice. For two decades, Dombroski has helped families navigate some of life’s most difficult challenges as a family law attorney. Dombroski represents clients throughout Massachusetts and from across the country and around the world in matters in the Massachusetts state and federal courts.

For more information visit [www.edforma.com](http://www.edforma.com).



ED DOMBROSKI

## Meeting on MBTA fare changes March 15

BOSTON – The MBTA will host a virtual public meeting on Tuesday, March 15, 2022, at 6 p.m. to collect public feedback on proposed fare policy changes to support Fare Transformation. These proposed changes include:

- Ending “Passback”: Currently allowed through the legacy fare system, the same CharlieCard or CharlieTicket loaded with fare value can be used to allow multiple riders through a fare gate. The MBTA refers to this practice as a “passback.” In order to have “proof of payment,” introduce mobile and contactless payments, and integrate the Commuter Rail without creating pricing

errors, “passbacks” will be discontinued.

- Fare Media per Rider: Customers aged 12 and older will need to have their own fare media to ensure riders do not experience unexpected duplicate charges at fare gates and on fare readers as well as for riders to be able to provide proof of payment.

- \$3 Fare Media Fee and Free Card Distribution: There will be a \$3 card cost for most new fare media issued by the MBTA. The MBTA recognizes that the cost for fare media may be a burden for some riders and is currently developing a plan to distribute free Charlie Cards to minority and low-income communities through partner organizations.

Cards will continue to be free to Reduced Fare Riders and for all riders purchasing a 1-Day Link Pass on a new Charlie Card.

- “One More Trip” Protection on Charlie Cards: The upcoming fare media will allow riders to board with low/zero balance to improve convenience and avoid leaving riders stranded.

The MBTA welcomes public comment on these proposals. During the meeting, attendees will have the opportunity to ask questions and provide input.

The meeting will be held via Zoom. Members of the public can register for the meeting online at [zoom.us](http://zoom.us) (“Fare Media Chang-

es Public Meeting”). The meeting will be recorded and posted online for those who cannot attend.

The official public hearing on these fare proposals will be held virtually on Tuesday, March 22, at 6 PM. For specific details to access these virtual meetings and/or to submit direct comments regarding these proposed updates and changes, please email [publicengagement@mbta.com](mailto:publicengagement@mbta.com). The public may submit comments through Thursday, March 31, 2022.

## PayByPhone contactless parking available to three MBTA Lots

MELROSE – Residents and visitors of the City of Melrose will have the ability to use PayByPhone when parking in the City’s three MBTA parking lots. PayByPhone, the leading global provider of mobile parking payment solutions, will expand its services to the Melrose Highlands Ave, Melrose Cedar Park, and Wyoming Hill train station lots beginning March 7, 2022. PayByPhone had originally planned to launch its services in these select parking lots on March 28, but has since bumped up the launch date.

The City of Melrose has not increased parking fees, nor expanded paid parking in the city. The PayByPhone service is intended to be a more convenient way to pay parking fees only at these select Melrose lots.

“We’re thrilled to bring a safe and easy-to-use parking payment option to our City’s MBTA parking lots,” said Melrose Mayor Paul Brodeur. “PaybyPhone has been a tremendous partner in our effort to simplify

and enhance the MBTA parking experience for our community. Our hope is that the use of this application is effortless, so people can focus on enjoying all that our City has to offer.”

PayByPhone is a hassle-free solution for over 35 million registered drivers, allowing them to pay for parking with just their smartphone. The app sends text messages automatically when a parking session expires, giving drivers the ability to extend their parking session without needing to return to their vehicle. Drivers can also begin a session without registering for an account, making it ideal for those who are pressed for time.

Commuters can learn how to use the app by visiting [www.paybyphone.com/how-it-works/parking](http://www.paybyphone.com/how-it-works/parking) or by watching a PayByPhone tutorial on YouTube: [www.youtube.com/watch?v=k7xWxX3C1P0](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=k7xWxX3C1P0). For more information, visit [paybyphone.com](http://paybyphone.com).

## MVES hosts free workshop series beginning in March

MALDEN — Mystic Valley Elder Services will present a free virtual chronic disease self-management workshop series *My Life; My Health*, beginning Wednesday, March 16 to April 20, from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. Learn how to connect virtually through a Zoom platform and take the class from the comfort of your home. You don’t want chronic disease, pain or discomfort to limit the activities and life you enjoy.

The series is for anyone living with an ongoing medical condition, such as arthritis, asthma,

chronic back pain, chronic fatigue syndrome, cancer, COPD, diabetes, fibromyalgia, heart disease, high blood pressure, Parkinson’s disease, or stroke. Topics will include managing and controlling pain, beginning (or improving) an exercise program, handling stress and learning to relax, increasing energy, and eating for your health and well-being.

Class size is limited, so reserve your spot today. To register or if you have any questions about the program, contact Donna Covelle at [dcovelle@mves.org](mailto:dcovelle@mves.org) or call 781-388-4867.

### EDITORIAL Continued from Page 4

If you reply that you received the text, you’ll be asked to do a quick task. This could be purchasing gift cards for a client or wiring funds to another business. In some cases, the scammer may ask you to send personal information to someone, often giving you a plausible reason to carry out the request.

**No matter how believable the reason sounds, always double check before taking any action.** Once you send the money, gift cards, or infor-

mation, it will be in the hands of a con artist.

**How to protect yourself from impostor scams**

- **Don’t trust unsolicited messages from unfamiliar numbers.** If your boss regularly communicates with you via text message, save their number in your contact list. Don’t respond to potential impersonators reaching out from a different number.

- **Be wary of unusual requests.** If your boss has never asked you to buy

gift cards, even if the request comes from a number you’ve saved, think twice. Scammers can potentially clone phone numbers and might have hijacked your boss’ number to target employees.

- **Double check with your boss personally.** If a request comes from a strange number or just doesn’t sound right, call or email your boss first, using their real contact information, rather than replying to the message. It’s better to double check than to

rush into a scam. Plus, your boss will want to know if they are being impersonated, so they can warn their other employees.

- **If you suspect a scam, don’t reply.** If you’re fairly certain you’ve been contacted by a scammer, don’t reply to the text message. Replying lets scammers know they have an active phone number and could leave you vulnerable to future attacks. Instead, block the number and delete the message.

# Police charge Saugus man with attempted murder

MELROSE — A 30-year-old Saugus man in mental distress was charged with trying to kill another patient at MelroseWakefield Hospital Saturday, Feb. 26.

According to police, Zachary Devito of 209 Broadway in Saugus was at the hospital voluntarily and was waiting for a psychological evaluation around 1:25 a.m. when he reportedly tried to choke a female patient. The victim was traumatized and suffered bruising to her neck.

Devito was charged with attempted murder and was also arrested on an out-of-city warrant.

On Wednesday, Feb. 24 police were told that a man who had been previously kicked off the Town Line Inn property on Route 99 after breaking a vending machine was back on the property and

seen trying to break into room. He was gone when police arrived around 10:40 p.m.

Following are other examples of recent police business:

**MONDAY, FEBRUARY 21**

A vehicle was parked on the sidewalk in front of Spear Street home, drawing a complaint around 8:50 a.m.

Someone in physical distress on Natalie Avenue was taken to Winchester Hospital around 9:05 a.m.

Suspicious activity in front of a Stevens Place home was checked out by police around 1 p.m.

A tractor trailer was blocking traffic along a downtown section of Main Street around 1:05 p.m.

A possible fraud report was dealt with around 1:20 p.m. on Elm Street.

Motorists were warned after being stopped at Franklin and Vinton streets around 5:40 p.m. and on West Wyoming Avenue around 7:30 p.m.

**TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 22**

Someone who was not supposed to be at the Town Line Inn showed up there around 3:45 a.m. The person left the area before police arrived.

At 9:13 a.m. a wire was reportedly across the roadway at Lebanon and Sylvan streets. Police said they found no such wire.

Someone with severe pain on Washington Street was taken to an area hospital around 10:50 a.m.

Police stood by while MelroseWakefield Hospital staff discharged a "threatening patient" around 3 p.m.

At about 6:05 p.m. police could not find a man walking in the middle of Swains Pond Avenue.

A man was reportedly begging for money around 6:20 p.m. near the corner of West Wyoming Avenue and Pleasant Street. He was gone from the area when police arrived.

Suspicious behavior was reported by a local business owner around 9:40 p.m.

**WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 23**

A citizen reported hitting a deer on or near Greenwood Street around 5 a.m.

Staff at the downtown CVS had trouble with a man asking people in the store for money around 9 a.m. By 9:05 a.m. he was back again and was given a verbal trespass order.

Someone in physical distress was taken from Upham Street to the hospital around 10:40 a.m.

Stolen license plates were reported on Green Street around 11:25 a.m.

A vehicle was blocking a Linwood Avenue driveway around 5:30 p.m. Peace was restored.

**THURSDAY FEBRUARY 24**

A noise complaint was lodged by a resident of Washington Street just after midnight.

Vehicles were moved after police were told they were parked in a restricted area at MelroseWakefield Hospital around 8:35 a.m.

First responders helped someone who fell in the 600 block of Main Street around 12:40 p.m.

First responders also assisted a person who fell near the McCarthy House on Main Street around 4 p.m.

A motorist was verbally warned after being pulled over on Swains Pond Avenue around 4:15 p.m.

A citizen reported a vehicle being driven with its windshield broken in the Upham Street-Geneva Road area around 10:20 p.m. The vehicle was located in Saugus.

**FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 25**

Peace was restored on Tappan Street following an argument around 1:25 a.m.

Two vehicles were impeding snow removal operations on West Emerson Street around 4:40 a.m. Police located both vehicle owners and had them relocate the cars.

Someone was assisted by first responders on Walton Park around 5:20 a.m.

Police helped the DPW deal with vehicles parked on Rockland Street around 8:10 a.m.

Someone was sleeping in a motor vehicle parked near Rockland Trust on Main Street around 8:45 a.m. The vehicle was towed from the area.

Police could not find a person said to be covered in a blanket while sitting on a curb at Main and West Emerson streets around 9:10 a.m.

Peace was restored after a dispute over snow removal developed on Linden Road around 10:20 p.m.

More vehicles were relocated to help the DPW clear Felicia Road around 12:50 p.m.

A Beacon Place resident complained about snow removal around 12:50 p.m.

First responders helped a senior citizen who was either sitting or lying in the snow near City Hall around 6:20 p.m.

A vehicle was moved after police were told it was preventing someone from backing out of their Trenton Street driveway around 7 p.m.

**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 26**

A vehicle was stuck in a snow bank on Pearl Street around 2:30 a.m.

Phone threats were reported by a Clifton Park resident around 9:50 a.m.

A Toyota Prius impeding traffic was moved from the corner of West Emerson and Main streets around 11:30 a.m.

A two-vehicle accident was reported on Melrose Street at the Lynn Fells Parkway around 11:35 a.m. Police helped the drivers exchange paperwork.

A stolen package was reported on Banks Place around noon.

At 12:17 p.m. a vehicle was blocking a driveway on Vine Street. That vehicle was eventually towed.

A transformer explosion was reported on Banks Place around 3:55 p.m.

**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 27**

Police said all appeared secure at an Upham Street home following an alarm activation around 9:40 a.m.

Vehicles were said to be blocking parking spaces on Berwick Street around 10:50 a.m.

Someone fell inside a Willow Street residence and needed the help of first responders around 11:10 a.m.

A motorcycle was said to be speeding around the Wyoming depot lot on West Wyoming Avenue around 1:20 p.m.

A lost or stolen ID was reported by an Albion Street resident around 1:40 p.m.


Someone passing by a Maple Street home around 2:30 p.m. told police the sidewalks were unshoveled and perishable packages were on the front porch. Police said it appeared that no one was home.

A vehicle was reportedly side-swiped on Summer Street around 3:40 p.m.

A woman walking around the Main Street-Porter Street area around 4 p.m. was returned to MelroseWakefield Hospital.


**MONDAY, FEBRUARY 28**

Someone told police of an early delivery on Martin Street around 6:15 a.m.



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# SPORTS

JEN GENTILE, Sports Editor  
email: jengentile@rcn.com

## Red Raiders bow out in D2 opener Charlestown pulls no punches in 76-64 loss

By JENNIFER GENTILE

CHARLESTOWN—The Melrose Red Raider basketball team's playoff journey ended on Tuesday, March 1 in the opening round of the Div. 2 playoffs when Melrose (#35 seed) fell to Charlestown (#30 seed), 76-64 on the road. The loss ends the season for Melrose while Charlestown will advance to play No. 4 seed Burlington on Thursday.

Charlestown proved tougher than advertised but Melrose brought a crowd that outnumbered the Townie counterparts. A high scoring event, the tempo of the game never relaxed and it was at times a free-wheeling scoring bonanza that often resulted in

a slew of Melrose turnovers. Charlestown capitalized on that and took off to early leads of 10-2 and 20-11 thanks to numerous three pointers that kept Melrose out of reach for most of the game. Melrose was led in scoring by junior Cam Lippie and senior Zach Federico, both with 14 points.

Despite the slow start, Melrose would score courtesy of senior Rob Colozzo (7 pts), Owen Dewey (8 pts), Cam Lippie and Zach Federico. The Red Raiders would be down in deficits of 26-11 and 33-16 as the Townies simply ran the floor, capitalizing on Melrose turnovers. The Red Raiders utilized the bench with solid contributions from Miles Nzui was fouled on the three



ELLIS DAVIS is among those expected to lead Melrose in 2023. His Red Raider team fell to Charlestown in the opening round of the Div. 2 playoffs.

(photo by Raj Das edphotos.com)



ROB COLOZZO and the Melrose Red Raiders finished a winning season this week when they fell to Charlestown in the opening round of the Div. 2 playoffs.

(photo by Raj Das edphotos.com)

line and sank all three, nice defense from Sage Jones and smart ball handling from freshman John Arens, who assisted on two straight treys by Max Kirby (10 pts) and Owen Dewey. It kept Melrose at pace but down 41-23 at the half.

Cam Lippie had a big third quarter for Melrose with 8 points and some baskets from Max Kirby kept Melrose within range at 54-36. Fortunately, the fourth quarter was Melrose's best effort of the night and the Red Raiders narrowed the gap at times and kept pace against a relentless Charlestown team, thanks to some great shooting from Federico (11 points in the quarter) along with Max Kirby and Rob Colozzo. The free-wheeling scoring between the two teams, complete with dunk attempts, steals and three pointers was certainly entertaining for the crowd. So, by the time Melrose seniors came off the floor, they were proud to have some of their best work behind them in the quarter. This season, Melrose loses a talented crop of senior starters including captains Zach Federico and Owen Dewey, along with Max

Kirby and Rob Colozzo.

"We had great year, we started 1-4 and the seniors really showed true strength and leadership," said head coach Dan Burns after the game. "We had injuries and COVID would have kept us down. But we fought back."

Melrose ends a season with a final record of 11-10 that doesn't exactly reflect Melrose's talent. The naturally athletic team had many high scoring victories and a well-balanced offense that seemingly did it all: stayed sharp on the foul line, good with treys, strong in the paint and even showcased a dunk or two. All season a super talented bench was ready to step in to contribute. It certainly made for exciting winter nights as a packed stadium of fans can attest. And there's no reason to think 2023 will be any different. Look for Cam Lippie and Ellis Davis, among others, to use their senior experience for Melrose's advantage.

Summed up the coach, "I couldn't be more proud of the team and it was such a privilege for me to coach this group."



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# Successful end for Melrose High gymnasts

## Team shines at North Sectionals

By JENNIFER GENTILE

NORTHBOROUGH—The Melrose High gymnastics team wrapped up their winning season with a surprise appearance at the 2022 North Sectionals after finishing a winning season in which they qualified for post season with a point average of 135. They joined fellow Middlesex League stand-outs Wakefield, Reading, Wilmington/Bedford and Burlington at the MIAA North Sectionals on Saturday, Feb. 26 at Algonquin Regional High School in Northborough. This small team of 11 saw their winning season culminate in a post season and earned some high marks on Saturday as a finale.

Representing Melrose were Grace Burke, senior captain Katherine Carney, Isabella Ferranti, Grace Gentile, senior capt. Lucy Hannon, Owen Mistretta, Taylor Pesce, Sofia Pitcher, Katelyn Plourde, Maya Weissman and Noah Williamson.

Melrose earned a total of 132 points with the highest being a fan-



**THE MELROSE High North Sectional qualifying gymnastics team: top left: Katelyn Plourde, Grace Burke, Grace Gentile, Maya Weissman, Noah Williamson, Sofia Pitcher, Owen Mistretta. Front row: seniors Lucy Hannon, Katherine Carney and Taylor Pesce. Missing from photo: Isabella Ferranti. (photo by Raj Das edphotos.com)**

tastic 9.4 earned by Owen Mistretta in the vault. Melrose has seen vault as their strength this season and sure enough teammates Lucy Hannon (8.675) Noah Williamson (8.6) Katherine Carney (8.55) Sofia Pitcher (8.5) Taylor Pesce (8.5) got the job done.

Melrose began the meet with performances on the floor by Lucy Hannon, Sofia Pitcher, Katherine Carney, Isabella Ferrante, Taylor Pesce and Katelyn Plourde. Melrose's Lucy Hannon led with a score of 8.625 while Katherine Carney scored a 8.45 and Katelyn Plourde scored a 8.35. Melrose had a nice showing in beam as well with a top score from Lucy Hannon (9.125) and solid work from Katelyn Plourde, Sofia Pitcher, Grace Gentile and Isabella Ferrante. Representing Melrose on bars were Lucy Hannon, Sofia Pitcher, Katelyn Plourde, Isabella Ferranti and Maya Weissman.

Departing this season are seniors Katherine Carney, Lucy Hannon and Taylor Pesce.

# State champs send Marceau to New Englands

By JENNIFER GENTILE

FITCHBURG—The 2022 State Champion Melrose High wrestling team competed at the MIAA All States last Saturday at Game On in Fitchburg, MA just a week after clinching their second Div. 3 State Title in three years. There, the Red Raiders faced the best in all divisions on a busy Saturday, Feb. 26 and Sunday, Feb. 27.

Representing Melrose were qualified medalist wrestlers Alec McLaughlin, Braden Marceau, Oto Albanese, Sean Thomas, and

Shea Fogarty. According to Melrose coach Larry Tremblay, it was his expectation to qualify at least one wrestler into Day 2, and sure enough, Melrose junior Braden Marceau answered the call by medaling in 6th in the 285 heavyweight which punched his ticket to All States this weekend. His finale was nothing short of outstanding. Once again, he was pitted again his season-long rival from Wakefield, heavyweight Nate Ickes, paired up for the fourth time this season,

and after three straight losses, this time Marceau prevailed in triple overtime against Ickes, which sent Marceau to the podium and clinched a spot at New England Finals.

Fourth time was the charm, indeed. Marceau had previously fallen to Ickes at the Brawl in the Hall, the MIAA North Sectionals, and Div. 3 States, though in all of those efforts he prevented pins that helped secure leads in both the Bawl in the Hall and the Div. 3 State Final. Clutch doesn't even start to describe him. "This is

just a wrestler who got better and better each week," says Melrose coach Larry Tremblay. "He gained a huge amount of confidence over the season and look at him now. His transformation came right around the time he earned a pin against Milford earlier in the season. There was no looking back for him. I know how much it means that he finally prevailed over Ickes for a win."

And a remarkably low scoring one. Marceau prevailed in a 2-1 decision over Ickes, thanks to an escape and his ability to ride out

the clock. Previously in the day, he had taken wins against Brody Flannery of Nashoba in a decision, and a pin over Pete Stanwood of Duxbury.

Says Tremblay. "The Middlesex League is really strong in this weight class. I'm just so happy to he is moving on to New Englands. He's a great kid." The exciting win will send Marceau to represent Melrose at the New England Interscholastic Wrestling Finals on March 4 in Providence. On Sat-

WRESTLING Page 11



**BRADEN MARCEAU (center) is heading to New Englands after medaling for Melrose High at All States in the 285 weight class last weekend. Pictured with assistant coach Eric "Bubba" Johnson, left and head coach Larry Tremblay (right). (courtesy photo)**

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# MHS' Andrew DiFiore reaches finish line

## Swimmer medals at States in 100 free

BOSTON—The Melrose High boy's swim team was well-represented in post season thanks to two Red Raiders who competed at the MIAA North Sectionals and MIAA Div. 2 State finals over the last two weeks.

On Feb. 20, Melrose saw two of their top swimmers, senior Andrew DiFiore and Ben Terentiyev represent the team at MIAA North Sectionals in several races. Terentiyev swam the 100 breast and 200 IM, placing 17th and 19th respectively. DiFiore also had a solid day with a 12th place finish in the 100 free and a 12th finish in the 50 free.

DiFiore had qualified to advance to the Div. 2 State Finals held on Feb. 27 at Boston University. There he competed with all of the best swimmers in Div. 2 in the 100 freestyle race. In the race, he certainly went the distance, finishing 6th in the state in the 100 free with a time of 49.42. That was good enough to land him on the podium with competition from Longmeadow, Weston and Scituate.

His coach Alex Pennachio lauded his effort and DiFiore's overall swim journey. "This meet and this medal are really the perfect way for Andrew to wrap up his swimming career," he says. "He's put so much effort both in and out of the pool to be able to swim at such a high level. It's no surprise to see him have this success."



MELROSE'S ANDREW DiFiore, second to left, earned a 6th place medal in the 100 free at the Div. 2 State Finals last weekend.

(courtesy photo)

# 25th Annual Melrose Run for Women May 8

MELROSE—The annual Melrose Run for Women returns for a special 25th anniversary this Mothers Day on May 8, 2022. The popular race returns one year after a pandemic pause and this spring is expected to draw hundreds from Melrose and local areas.

What better way to celebrate Mother's Day than run with other women? Hosted by the Melrose Running Club and sponsored by Fitzgerald Physical Therapy

Associates, the Melrose Run For Women will take place at Pine Banks Park in Melrose with a start time of 9:00 a.m.

In its 25 years of operation, the Run has raised close to \$300,000 to benefit the Melrose Alliance Against Violence (MAAV) the city's domestic violence prevention and education organization. Last year's event did not take place due to the pandemic, but the year prior the run boasted over

1,000 participants.

This family event honoring mothers is a Melrose Mother's Day tradition drawing hundreds of female athletes. The festivities kick off with a series of kids races followed by the main event: a 3.5 mile run/walk which winds through the scenic Swains Pond section of the city. The race finishes up with children handing out flowers, a bounty of baked goods and coffee, music, and awards. The awards given will



THE 25th Melrose Run for Women returns for 2022 on Mothers Day, May 8 here in Melrose.

be to the top finishers, the first mother and grandmother to finish, and best mother/daughter team finishers. Awards are also given to top age group finishers. You don't have to be a marathoner for this race. Many walk, lightly jog or simply push their little ones in their carriages along the route.

"We're one of the longest running women's runs in Massachusetts," notes organizer David Bryson, a member of the The Melrose Running Club. "It's such a

special cause for us and this event is a great chance for women to run with women, which comes with its own unique comfort zone."

Decades back, The Melrose Running Club made it their commitment to support the MAAV after discovering nearly 150 restraining orders had been issued at that time to protect Melrose women. The MRC started in the 1990s and rents space at the Melrose Knights

RUN Page 11

## Register now for Babe Ruth

MELROSE— The registration for the 2022 Melrose Babe Ruth Season is now open. To register, please go to [http://melroseba-](http://melroseba-beruth.org)

beruth.org. If you have any questions, please contact the league at [melrosebaberuth@gmail.com](mailto:melrosebaberuth@gmail.com).



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# MVMMS 6th grade girls dominate league

*Future is bright with this squad*

MELROSE—The Melrose High Class of 2028 is going to be packed with basketball prowess. For now, the current 6th grade Melrose Memorial Middle School girls basketball team is making a big impact in the River Valley League and at local tournaments, as well as on the regional AAU circuit. Heading into the final weekend of the regular season, they have already garnered 25 wins this winter including several over D1 teams. Also noteworthy, they have won tournaments and are playing for the Division 2 regular season league championship on March 5 and 6. Wins over league foes Newburyport and Nashua would secure first place. The following weekend they are likely to be moved up to Division One for playoffs.

The 6th grade team, led by leading scorer Ella Beshel, stands out in many categories. Their press, fast break, teamwork, great court vision and sharp shooting put opponents on their heels from the get go. Beshel's scoring and defense are outstanding, making her a prospect for any select team. Guards Zoe Breay and Ella DiCalogero add a solid scoring punch. Forward Cailin Razi-Thomas and center Gen Overlan round out the starting 5 bringing solid defense, high basketball IQ and strong inside finishes to the team. Lily Buono's passing and game sense allow her to run the team with efficiency and confidence at point guard. Morgan Good's intensity and hustle frustrate opponents weekly. An inside force, Maddie Koerber adds height and depth off the bench. Teammates the



**MVMMS 6TH grade girls' hoop team is a dominating force thanks to these players. Back row from the left: Frankie Talieri, Ella Beshel, Cailin Razi-Thomas, Elise Marchais, Maddie Koerber and Gen Overlan. Front row from the left: Lily Buono, Morgan Good, Griffin McDonald, Sadie Smith, Zoe Breay and Ella DiCalogero. (courtesy photo)**

ever-hustling and upbeat speedy backcourt of Griffin McDonald and Sadie Smith, sharp-shooting Frankie Talieri and much-improved Elise Marchais round out a deep, strong team.

This team has come into greatness after months and months of hard work and team building. In the fall of 2020, 5th grade girls from Melrose could be found masked up at an outdoor basketball court in Winchester, playing

for EVOLUTION Basketball under the tutelage of Melrose mother and coach Andrea Razi-Thomas, who also coaches the current MVMMS squad. Razi-Thomas, a former standout guard at Princeton University, hoped to share

her passion for basketball with the girls, despite pandemic restrictions. The girls joined players from area towns and competed in AAU tournaments through 2020 and 2021, in the hopes of learning the game and bringing their skills back

to their towns when travel basketball resumed.

When things opened up and games started there were losses and bumps in the road but as skills developed, gradually the team started to win some games. In the summer of 2021, Razi-Thomas started an all Melrose travel program called the Melrose All-Stars. This entering 6th grade crew of gals represented the first team to don the All-Stars uniforms, and went ahead to win their summer league with an undefeated record! Come November 2022, twelve of these EVO and Melrose All-Stars were selected to represent Melrose Veterans Memorial Middle School.

These girls have grand basketball knowledge and aspire to play alongside the best. They play whenever they can and are chomping at the bit for more games and better competition, nearly all of them playing year round. They run plays with efficiency, share the ball well, and work harder on defense than most their age. They are eager to learn and excel at the game they love. The future looks bright for this group! Watch out for this team in the months and years to come. As you drive around Melrose you may very well see many of them working on their games in their driveways and at local outdoor courts.

## WRESTLING Continued from Page 9

urday Marceau is pitted to wrestle R'cardo Smith-Selguedo in the opening bout of the 285 weight class.

In other Day 1 action at All States, Melrose's Alec McLaughlin faced opponents RJ Tetricelli and Tommy Grover of Wakefield, beating the latter. Senior captain Sean Thomas took a win over Garret McNeil of Beverly. Junior Oto Albanese faced Akiva Lind of Newton South and Hunter Johnston

of Tewksbury. And Shea Fogarty took a win against Foal Lodewick of Essex Tech.

Wrestling for their last time as Red Raiders on Saturday were senior captains Shea Fogarty and Sean Thomas. Look for experienced junior wrestlers such as Oto Albanese, Braden Marceau and Steven Fogarty, plus seasoned underclassmen, to keep Melrose hard to beat in 2023.

## HEALTH Continued from Page 1

Services Department is connected to the City's filling of its Public Health Specialist role – formerly known as the Substance Use Coordinator position - last month.

"I am thrilled to announce the formation of a new Health and Human Services Department for the City of Melrose," said Mayor Brodeur. "In the year ahead, in consultation with our Director of Health and Human Services, we will continue to evaluate the need to deploy additional City resources and respond to the increased demand for access to social services and substance use prevention."

The City's Public Health Specialist, Emily Hatchouel, will provide substance use prevention support and resources to Melrose

youth along with health and wellness support to community members of all ages.

The City of Melrose is also preparing to hire its first full-time community social worker to complement the efforts of the City's part-time social workers, Rachael Cordella, who joined the Council on Aging in 2021 to server older residents, and Toni Corcoran, who joined the Police Department earlier this year as an on-call clinician through the City's partnership with Eliot Community Human Services. Corcoran has a background in substance use prevention.

## Not over yet...



**THE MELROSE Red Raider hockey team has qualified for a post season in the Div. 2 playoffs and at press time was traveling to #1 seed Tewksbury on Thursday, March 3 at Breakaway Arena for a 7:10 p.m. tilt. Melrose, at #32 seed will look to knock off the favored Redmen. See our issue next week for game results. (Jennifer Gentile photo)**

## RUN Continued from Page 10

of Columbus. They welcome runners of all abilities and are proudly beginning their Walk-to-Run 10 week program beginning on April 26.

To register for the run visit, [mrfw.melroserunningclub.com/2022/mrfw2022.php](http://mrfw.melroserunningclub.com/2022/mrfw2022.php) and the Melrose Running Club web page at [www.melroserunningclub.com](http://www.melroserunningclub.com).

The event also has its own webpage at: [www.facebook.com/MelroseRunforWomen](http://www.facebook.com/MelroseRunforWomen)

Numbers will be available for pick up at the following time and locations:

Marathon Sports - 401 Main Street - Melrose, MA  
Thursday, May 5, 3PM-6PM  
Friday, May 6,

3PM-6PM  
Saturday, May 7, 12AM-4PM  
Pine Banks Park (Race Day)

Sunday, May 8, 7:00-8:30AM

Pre-race online registration only, no race day entry for teams.

Until April 30, 2022:

Individual \$35

Mother/Daughter Team \$30 per runner (5 max)

Fee: From May 1, 2022:

Individual \$40

Mother/Daughter Team \$35 per runner (5 max)

# Obituaries

## Frank J. Tambini, 89

**Avid tennis player, golfer and skater**

MELROSE — Frank J. Tambini, 89, passed away at his home in Melrose, on February 22, 2022.



Frank was born in Somerville on January 15, 1933 to the late Frank & Mabelle (Benway) Tambini. Frank was raised in West Peabody, graduated from Peabody High School and has been a resident of Melrose for the last 62 years. He served his country with pride in the US Navy during the Korean War from 1952-1956. Mr. Tambini worked as an engineering assistant at the Massachusetts Institute for Technology (MIT) for 30 years. Frank was a very athletic person, was an excellent skater, enjoyed golfing and was an avid tennis player. He was a member of St. Mary's Church in Melrose, the Woburn/Stoneham Elks and the Wakefield Retired Men's Club. Mr. Tambini was a tal-

ented artist and woodcarver who had one of his woodcarvings (the Lion and the Lamb) hung in the State House for two years. Frank loved bird watching and was an excellent dancer who loved to go ballroom dancing with his wife Marion.

He was the beloved husband of 64 years to Marion B. (Gentile) Tambini. Loving father of Dianne Tambini, Marie Rudzinsky, Julie Maimaron, Steve Tambini and Lisa Hascher. Caring brother of the late William Tambini. Proud grandfather of 11 grandchildren and five great grandchildren.

Funeral services and burial will be private. The Tambini Family suggests those wishing to make a contribution please plant a tree in Frank's memory. To send a message of condolence please visit [www.gatelyfh.com](http://www.gatelyfh.com).

MELROSE — Paul Szabo, 68, resident of Melrose, passed away on Saturday, February 26, 2022 at Beth Israel Medical Center.

Born on August 26, 1953 in Winchester, Paul was one of five children of the late Stephen and Catherine (McCaffrey) Szabo. Paul grew up in Stoneham, graduating from Stoneham High School in 1971. He enjoyed playing softball, pick-up hockey, and playing guitar in the band "Uncle Splat."

Paul initially worked several years at General Tire before becoming a paint contractor. He was an excellent painter, and his work was highly sought after.

Family was the most important thing in Paul's life. He adored Marlene and was devoted to his children and grandchildren. He enjoyed taking family trips to amusement parks where he took great joy in riding the roller coasters.

Paul was also the former Director and Coach of the Melrose Destination Imagination. Other interests include hiking, kayaking

## Paul Szabo, 68

**Talented painter, athlete**



at his beloved Newfound Lake in New Hampshire, gardening, taking scenic drives, fly fishing, going on cruises, and listening to music. He also had planned on teaching himself to play the ukulele.

Paul's kindness, warmth, and love will be missed by all.

Paul was the beloved husband of Marlene J. (Haroth) Szabo with whom he shared 32 years of marriage. Devoted father of Michael J. (Christine R. Paschal) Szabo of Northboro and Peter H. Szabo of Somerville. Dear brother of Ste-

phen J. Szabo of N.H.; John W. Szabo of Hawaii; Judy W. Salvage of MS and the late Anne Carroll; brother-in-law of Howard H. and Susan A. Aborn. Cherished grandfather of Ivy E. and Lily K. Szabo. Also survived by numerous nieces and nephews, and former wife Janet O'Toole Szabo of Fla.

Relatives and friends were kindly invited to gather during visiting hours at the Robinson Funeral Home, 809 Main St., Melrose on Thursday, March 3 from 4-7 p.m., and on Friday at First Baptist Church, 561 Main St, Melrose for his funeral service celebrated at 10 a.m. Per Paul's request, please get vaccinated. If you have not been vaccinated, the family requests that you wear a mask to the visitation and funeral. In lieu of flowers, donations in Paul's memory may be made to First Baptist Church, Pantry of Hope, 561 Main St., Melrose, MA. 02176, or Beth Israel Medical Center, Office of Development, 330 Brookline Ave., Boston, MA. 02215. For online tribute visit [RobinsonFuneralHome.com](http://RobinsonFuneralHome.com).

## Russell T. Priestley, 99

**Joined the Boston Olympics amateur hockey team in the 40s**

MELROSE — Russell T. Priestley, 99, lifelong resident of Melrose, departed the physical world on Friday, February 25, 2022.



Born on July 17, 1922, Russ was one of five children of the late

Bernard G. and Olive C. (Phippen) Priestley. He grew up on Washington Street in Melrose and graduated from Melrose High School (which he walked to through many blizzards, uphill both ways). He and his brothers were all inducted into the Melrose High School Ath-

letic Hall of Fame. His sister, Olive, helped found the MHS Girls Ice Hockey Team. Russ captained the high school hockey team, played in college, and joined the Boston Olympics amateur hockey team in the 1940s.

After high school, Russ attend-

ed the University of Illinois for a year and a half before enlisting in the U.S. Army Air Corps in 1942 to become a test pilot. He served during World War II, mainly in the Pacific Theater, including 18 months on Guam. He qualified to fly 32 different aircraft with anywhere from one to four engines. In those days, airplanes were transported by ship and assembled on site; then someone had to test every one of them to make sure it would fly. That's what Russ did, until the war ended.

Returning home in 1946, Russ met his future wife, Nancy Lynch, at a Red Sox game. They married on August 7, 1948, and shared 37 wonderful years together, while raising a family of six boys, before her passing in 1985 from MS.

In the early years of his career, Russ worked as a cartoonist for various publications, including the Boston Globe. After that, he started a business in Boston as a commercial artist for numerous organizations, such as John Hancock. For many years he commuted to the city every day by train from Melrose Station, until he retired at age 65. In his "golden" years, Russ took up all sorts of activities, such as teaching a PAL course in cartooning for third through sixth graders in Melrose schools; working as an editor for the online

newsletter, the Melrose Mirror; and going on ocean cruises to far-off places with special friends.

In his last years, Russ lived in the Residence at Melrose Station, where he connected with a number of old friends and came full circle to the place where he began his daily commute.

Russ leaves behind five sons and their families: Steven J. Priestley of Portland, Maine; Michael W. (and Joanne) Priestley of Stowe, V.T.; Joseph K. Priestley of Newton Upper Falls; Russell T. Priestley, Jr. of Haverhill, N.H.; and William S. (and Darlene) Priestley of Piermont, N.H. Along with nine grandchildren and four great-grandchildren (so far). He was predeceased by his oldest son, James R. Priestley, and son John, who died in infancy from SIDS. He also leaves behind three step-sisters, Jean Flanagan, Marie Dolloff, and Anne Spencer, and fond memories of his own siblings, all deceased: Gilbert "Gil" Priestley, Olive "Marie" Ryan, Bob Priestley, and Warren "Git" Priestley.

A memorial gathering and celebration for extended family and friends will be held in Melrose in early spring. To leave a message of support for the family, please visit [RobinsonFuneralHome.com](http://RobinsonFuneralHome.com).

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# Obituaries

## Pauline Shea, 101

### *A strong-willed, sassy woman with a huge heart*

MELROSE — Following 101 years of love, laughter, and inspiration, the last of the beautiful Shea sisters of Malden, Pauline (Polly), entered eternal life on February 28, 2022. She joined her beloved sisters Mary Richmond and Barbara Driscoll as well as brother Peter, along with their parents Honora (Regan) and John J. Shea.

Strong-willed, smart, and sassy with a huge heart and boundless energy, Polly was a force. She seized each day with determination and enthusiasm, always dressed with flair, and ensured that everyone she met left her presence feeling better than before their encounter. Polly was a consummate storyteller and the heart and soul of every social gathering she attended (and she never declined an invitation). She spoiled everyone around her, treating family, friends, and those she hadn't quite yet met (there were no strangers) to coffee at Melrose's former Breads 'n' Bits of Ireland and D'Amici's and so much more. She modeled self-care, calling it "Be Good to Polly Day" and wanted everyone around her to do the same for themselves. Her zest for life, service to others, wit,



and wisdom were experienced by so many and beloved by all. There was only one Polly Shea.

Born only three years after WWI, as a young teenager, Polly assumed the role of maternal caretaker following the untimely death of her mother. She helped her father raise her younger sisters and manage the household while completing her education at Cheverus High School and business school at which time she worked her way up the administrative ladder at the John Hancock Life Insurance Co. in Malden retiring as Office Supervisor, one of the first women to hold that position.

She leaves her beloved nieces and nephews Sheila Driscoll and Cliff Brown, Colleen and Scott Kinder, James (Jeff) and Margaret Driscoll, John (Jack) and Marion Driscoll, Gail and Mike Burati, and Julie and Francis (Fran) Nolan. She is also survived by her great-nieces and -nephews Alyssa, Ashley, John Peter, Ryan, Andrew, Lizzie, Claire, Dylan, Frankie, Marissa, and Danny as well as three great-grandnieces and two great-grandnephews.

Visitation will be held at the Gately Funeral Home, 79 W. Foster St., Melrose, on Friday, March 4 from 9 - 10:45 a.m. with a Mass of Christian burial immediately following at St. Mary of the Annunciation Parish, 4 Herbert Street, Melrose at 11:30 a.m. Interment will immediately follow at Holy Cross Cemetery, Malden. Relatives and friends are respectfully invited to attend.

In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made in Polly's honor to the Fitch Home, 75 Lake Ave., Melrose, MA 02176 or Cheverus Catholic School, 30 Irving Street, Malden, MA 02148. To leave an online message of condolence please visit [gatelyfh.com](http://gatelyfh.com).

## Ursula J. Daley

### *An extraordinary teacher with a loving soul*

MELROSE — Ursula J. Daley (Sawicki), of Melrose, passed away peacefully, surrounded by family on February 18, 2022. Loving mother of Alicia M. Hill and her husband, Tony, of Marysville, Ohio and Kimberly A. Theriault and her husband, Brian, of Andover. Cherished daughter of the late Walter and Halina Sawicki. Devoted grandmother "Babci" of Georgia, Delaney, Jack and Clara. Caring sister of Richard Sawicki, along with his wife Elizabeth of Tewksbury and their sons Jared, Jeremy, and the late Joshua and Stephen. Also survived by grandnieces, grandnephews, relatives and friends.

Ursula was born in Plonsk, Poland in 1944 during WWII. She came to America in 1948 when she was three years old and was raised in Chelsea where she attended St. Stanislaus Grade School. She graduated from Cardinal Cushing Girls High School in South Boston, and received her Bachelors and Masters education degrees through Boston State Teacher College.

Mrs. Daley, as her students fondly knew her, taught math at Melrose High School for 25 years. Her teaching career was much longer than this and the number of lives she touched through education is countless. She was a mentor to young people pursuing this field and continued to raise money



for scholarships during her career and into retirement.

Ursula retired in 2006 and she quickly became a grandmother. She truly enjoyed every day of her retirement with her friends and family. She loved to travel... taking trips to Florida, Africa, The Panama Canal, our National Parks and The Mediterranean, including two trips to Italy. Day trips and adventures were filled with lunches with friends, visiting museums and going to the theatre or opera. She also loved the simple pleasures of life... talks on the phone (she was the best listener), writing to friends and family and reading a good book with a warm cup of tea. She took so much pride in her family and loved hearing about what the grandkids were learning. She even continued to help them with their math homework many years after retirement.

Ursula was an extraordinary

person. She remembered every holiday, birthday and anniversary of those she loved and enjoyed sending "little packages" in the mail to her grandchildren, grandnephews and grandnieces. If you knew Ursula Daley you were truly blessed. Whether you knew her for a short time or your whole life she touched you with love and tenderness. It is so hard to let go of such an extraordinary, loving soul. Chuck Palahniuk once said "The goal isn't to live forever, the goal is to create something that will." Ursula leaves a legacy of educating young minds and teaching us all to love each other more every day. She truly made the world a better place.

Visiting hours was held at the Gately Funeral Home, 79 W. Foster St., Melrose on Sunday, February 27, 2022, from 12 - 3 p.m.. A funeral service was held at the Gately Funeral Home on Monday, February 28, 2022, at 10 a.m. Relatives and friends respectfully invited to attend. Interment in Woodlawn Cemetery, Everett. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to the Melrose-Wakefield AAUW Scholarship Fund c/o Judith Clark 106 West Foster St. Melrose, MA 02176. For directions & to sign online condolence visit [www.gatelyfh.com](http://www.gatelyfh.com).

## BHRC Continued from Page 4

legislation that would support military families who relocate to the Bay State by providing career stability for the spouses of service members and education for their children.

Provisions include making it easier for military personnel and their spouses who move to the Bay State to get a Massachusetts professional license, if their job requires one, so that they can continue their civilian careers and provide for their families without interruption; requiring the Commissioner of Education to issue a military spouse a valid certificate for teaching if he or she holds a valid teaching license from another state; allowing children of military members to register and enroll in a school district at the same time it is open to the general population by waiving the proof of residency requirement until the student actually begins school; creating a purple-star campus designation for certain schools that are military-kid friendly and show a major commitment to students and families connected to the nation's military; and requiring that a child or spouse of an active-duty service member in Massachusetts continue to pay the in-state less expensive tuition rate at state universities even if the service member is assigned to move out of the state.

"Our commonwealth has always led from the front in terms of taking care of our active-duty service members and veterans, but I strongly believe that there is more we can do for the spouses and children of service-members who also call Massachusetts their home," said sponsor Sen. John Velis (D-Westfield) at the time the proposal was approved. "Anyone who has worn the uniform or has a family member who has worn the uniform knows that the sacrifice of military service goes far beyond the individual service member. By passing this legislation, we are saying to these families that we understand their challenges, that we recognize the great sacrifices that they have made and that we are committed to doing everything we can to support them."

(A "Yes" vote is for the bill.)

### Sen. Jason Lewis Yes

**INCREASE MENTAL HEALTH ACCESS (S 2572)** - On November 17, the Senate 39-0, approved a measure known as the Mental Health Addressing Barriers to Care (ABC) Act that will make mental health care more accessible in the Bay State.

"Today, the Massachusetts Senate took vital strides toward transforming mental health care in Massachusetts," said sponsor Sen. Julian Cyr (D-Truro) at the time the bill was approved. "By unanimously passing [this bill], we affirm that mental health is just as essential as physical health and take a leap forward to ensure that all people in Massachusetts can access the mental health care they need and deserve."

(A "Yes" vote is for the bill.)

### Sen. Jason Lewis Yes

**SEX EDUCATION (S 2541)** - On September 23, the Senate 38-1, approved legislation that would require that all public schools offering a comprehensive sexual health education curriculum "provide medically accurate, age-appropriate sexual health education."

Under current law, public schools are not required to teach sex education and the bill does not change that but rather mandates that any schools that choose to teach sex education are required to follow a curriculum, based on age, that includes human anatomy, reproduction and sexual development; the benefits of abstinence and delaying sexual activity; the importance of effectively using contraceptives to prevent unintended pregnancy and sexually transmitted diseases, including HIV and AIDS; ways to effectively discuss safe sexual activity; relationship and communication skills to form healthy, respectful relationships free of violence, coercion and intimidation; and information about gender identity and sexual orientation for all students, including recognition that people have different sexual orientations, gender identities and gender expressions.

The measure also requires any school offering sex education to notify parents about the school's sex education curriculum and gives parents the right to withdraw a student from the instruction. Another provision creates a process for parents to inspect the program instruction materials prior to the start of the course.

Supporters said that under the bill, local cities and towns still have the authority and power to decide whether sex education is taught in their schools. They said the measure will ensure that schools that choose to teach sex education will have a framework to follow. They noted the bill will prepare students to make healthy decisions and will reduce teen pregnancy and sexually transmitted diseases.

"I am very proud that the Massachusetts Senate has once again reaffirmed our commitment to this commonsense healthy policy that will ensure our youth have the tools needed to protect their health and form respectful relationships," said sponsor Sen. Sal DiDomenico (D-Everett) at the time the legislation was approved. "This legislation makes it clear that sex education in the commonwealth must be inclusive for all students and emphasize the importance and necessity of consent."

"This is a highly controversial bill, as demonstrated by the fact that it has failed to pass for multiple sessions," said Sen. Ryan Fattman (R-Sutton) at the time the measure was approved. He was the only senator who voted against the bill. "If this legislation is to pass into law, it would be a direct usurpation of the local school district's decision-making abilities. Each community has different needs based on their specific demographics, which is why they should have the ability to decide their curriculum. By mandating a statewide sex educa-

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**HOSPITAL** Continued from Page 1

change follows Dr. Helen Boucher's joint appointment as Interim Dean of Tufts University School of Medicine and Chief Academic Officer of Tufts Medicine. "Sharing this name signals the alignment between the university and the health system from an educational, research and clinical translation point of view," said Tufts University President Dr. Anthony P. Monaco. "The name Tufts Medicine signifies that the university and the whole system is committed to advancing our academic missions, and together we will improve the healthcare of patients and their wider communities by building on the best practices of academic medicine and expanding teaching and research opportunities throughout the system."

"Our mission at Wellforce has been to provide the very best care as close to the consumer as possible - in their towns, neighborhoods and even their homes," said Jody White, President and CEO of Lowell General Hospital, a founding member of the system. "We've made great progress, especially with our clinical collaborations, but there is more to do. With one name we can show our diverse communities that 15,000 people are working in unison every day in ways that are highly personalized to improve their lives and their health."

"Our talented and passionate people are the essence of our brand, and we are designing an environment that will offer the most rewarding experience to all caregivers. We are more focused than ever on

their health and wellbeing and enabling their success, which we know will translate to even better consumer outcomes and experience," said Michael Wagner, MD, Tufts Medicine chief physician executive.

The organization has been building a strong system foundation since its founding in 2014. Over the last two years under the leadership of CEO Michael Dandorff, Tufts Medicine has partnered with its physicians to align under one clinically integrated network, it has expanded its human resource offerings, and brought together its information technology, financial services, and several other functions designed to create a frictionless, destination workplace that enables our care teams. The system recently hired a Chief Consumer Officer from

the consumer products industry.

The system has invested in and is developing major digital transformation initiatives to help consumers more easily navigate care while also easing the administrative burdens physicians and employees experience. In April, Tufts Medicine will be the first in the country to launch a systemwide electronic health record platform securely in the cloud through a unique partnership with Amazon Web Services. This, along with a series of other innovative healthcare applications, is designed to engage patients in highly personalized ways with enhanced reliability and speed.

For more information about Tufts Medicine and its future, visit [tuftsmedicine.org](http://tuftsmedicine.org).

**BHRC** Continued from Page 13

tion curriculum, you directly take away the ability of a community to decide how sensitive topics like sex education are taught."

"It is quite troubling that our elected officials think taking local control away from school districts and parents regarding sex ed curriculum is a good idea," said Andrew Beckwith, executive director of the Massachusetts Family Institute. "And even worse is the type of graphic content they want to push on students in the curriculum they are sanctioning. In what reality does normalizing high risk sexual activity like anal and oral sex for teens or teaching young vulnerable girls how to obtain abortions without their parents' knowledge or consent result in healthy youth?"

(A "Yes" vote is for the bill. A "No" vote is against it.)

**Sen. Jason Lewis Yes**

**ALSO UP ON BEACON HILL COVID TREATMENT**

The Massachusetts Department of Public Health (DPH) reminds residents that free treatment options are available that can be used to prevent severe illness and hospitalization from COVID-19. Several treatments, including monoclonal antibody infusions and oral therapeutics, are widely available across the state. Treatment is available for people who are at increased risk of severe disease, test positive for COVID-19 and have any symptoms, even mild ones such as a runny nose or cough. Residents who think they may be eligible and have questions on if treatment is right for them should contact their medi-

cal provider or call the Gothams COVID-19 Self-Referral Treatment Line at (508) 213-1380. The line is a free resource that can help refer individuals to sites for monoclonal antibody treatments.

"These therapeutics, including COVID pills and infusions, are potentially lifesaving but for eligible individuals, they need to be administered quickly to be effective," said Massachusetts Public Health Commissioner Margret Cooke. "They can help keep you from getting very sick and out of the hospital. If you test positive for COVID-19 and have any kind of risk factor such as diabetes or high blood pressure or asthma—we encourage you to call your provider or the Gothams phone number immediately to see if the

treatment could be right for you. Do not wait to see if your symptoms worsen."

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158 Essex St	PR Melrose Propco LLC	LCB Melrose Station LLC	\$28,457,309	Cong Housing	02/08/2022
34 N Cedar Park	Ephesus LLC	Stephen D. and Jodi Texeira	\$665,000	1-Fam Res	02/08/2022
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