



THE NEDLAM NEWS

Volume III No. 31
May 15, 2020



Mayor Gary Christenson is a longtime supporter of Junior Varieties (shown above at this year's show) and all MHS events.. *Courtesy Photo/ Blue and Gold*



SCHOOL NURSE DAY
 SCHOOL NURSES:
Supporting Students in Times of Crisis

MAY 6, 2020



Malden comes together in the COVID-19 crisis

Mayor Christenson checks in with MHS Blue and Gold

By Mayor Gary Christenson
Special Contributor to the Blue and Gold

A Nor'easter? Salt, plow and we're typically back up in a couple of days. Budget shortfalls? Leave vacant positions unfilled and we can usually balance. COVID-19? No playbook for this one. I can still remember like it was yesterday when I found

out that the Coronavirus was spreading. Not having a plan to turn to we went with pure instincts which was to make sure our students were safe. That is why the first decision we made was to call off school until we knew just what we were dealing with and the state later followed suit.
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INSIDE: Malden High's Londino named GBL indoor track 'Coach of Year' P.4



FREE BREAKFAST & LUNCH is AVAILABLE for ANY STUDENT who is a MALDEN RESIDENT @ Malden H.S. (Ferry St. lot, beside CVS) & Salemwood School from 10:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m., Monday-Friday ... Drive-Up or Walk-up/ Safe pickup

Plenty of people deserve thanks this week... but that is certainly no surprise at Malden High!

ALSO: Plans in the works to honor our Seniors

To All Malden High School Educators, Staff, & Administrators:

As we complete our ninth full week of being apart I sincerely hope that all of you, your loved ones and friends continue to be safe and healthy as we go through what is evolving into one of the most monumental challenges ever experienced.. It has turned the world of education totally upside down, but still we have stayed together and came up with solutions. We've adopted totally new ways of thinking to forge ahead and accomplish our #1 purpose: Caring for and educating our students. There are plenty of people who deserve our thanks at this time. Last week was Teacher Appreciation Week. Traditionally, we have hosted a breakfast to say "thank you" for all that you do for our kids. We can't do that this year, I can only offer my most sincere thank you here!!



Mr. Mastrangelo

During an unsettling and unprecedented time in history, you continue to give everything that you have to our students. While juggling your own families, your own fears, and your own questions, you kept our students calm. You put your own methods aside and assimilated to educating remotely with an entirely new approach. Perhaps the most amazing thing is that you did this in a matter of weeks. Think about that, you changed all that you did as a teacher in just weeks and you did this with the best interest of our kids in mind. I want you to know just how much you are appreciated. Your efforts are also greatly appreciated by Supt. Oteri and the central administration. Please read a letter from the Superintendent inside. I also would like to thank the over 100 staff members who volunteered to help us distribute lawn signs on Wednesday, May 13 to the homes of all of our Senior Class of 2020 members. Your selflessness never ceases to amaze me. All we do is ask and we get a huge, heartfelt response. Thank you to Mayor Gary Christenson and other city officials for helping make this happen. I am also excited to announce we are planning a staff parade around the city to honor our Seniors on Sunday, May 31, the originally scheduled graduation date. We are bringing the graduation *See Page 6*



Malden High School Aspirational Instructional Focus Statement

Malden High School educates an inclusive and equitable community of diverse learners whom we are preparing to be Communicators, Collaborators, Critical Thinkers, Innovative Learners, Empowered Citizens, and Persistent Individuals. As such, MHS instructional practices present authentic and relevant experiences that are intellectually engaging, student-centered, inquiry-based, cognitively complex, process-oriented, and encourage productive struggle. Furthermore, these instructional practices encourage students to pursue their interests, leverage their strengths, and explore unfamiliar concepts that prepare students for life in our ever-changing modern world.



Mayor Christenson: Malden's community-wide spirit will lead us through these unsettling times

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But despite the sadness of the past several weeks there has been much to be thankful for as many from within our community have come together to help those in need. From students making masks for first responders and deliveries to residents who can't get out to businesses like Pisa Pizza feeding our frontline workers and Encore Boston Harbor helping the Bread of Life with donations of soap and shampoo to the grassroots organization called Malden Neighbors Helping Neighbors who have called many of our senior citizens to check in on them, the spirit and resiliency of our city has never been stronger.



Mayor Gary Christenson

I believe this spirit is what has ultimately helped get us through these unsettling times and without a doubt will carry us forward into the future.

UPCOMING @ MALDEN HS:

EFFECTIVE APRIL 21 — Governor Baker has announced that all schools statewide, including the Malden Public Schools, will be closed indefinitely through the end of the 2019-2020 year due to COVID-19. No entrance to the MHS building for any activities will be allowed.



Malden High School Vision Statement

The Malden High School community believes in the potential of all students to learn, to grow and to become active, conscientious participants in the 21st century global society. We believe that students learn most effectively in a safe, respectful environment that encourages diverse viewpoints, promotes critical thinking and perseverance and establishes vigorous standards for all. We honor the diverse nature of our Malden community, promote social awareness and community involvement and strive to meet the needs of all students through innovative methods and continued continued professional development. We are committed to ensuring that Malden High School graduates are thoughtful, independent, purpose-driven, lifelong learners. We seek to equip all students with the skills and habits necessary to successfully navigate and contribute to our ever-changing world.



Check out: [mhs_virtual_zen_den](#) ...via *Instagram*

MHS Social workers have created this to support Malden High Students' Social Emotional Health! (Pass it on to students who may want to visit!)



MHS girls indoor track Coach Londino is named GBL's 'Coach of the Year'

By David Cartledge
Blue and Gold

Due to the overwhelming success of the Malden High School Girls' indoor track team, head coach David Londino received the Greater Boston League's (GBL) "Coach of the Year" award this past season. The award is given based on a vote from all the coaches in each league, which means that Londino was chosen out of five coaches for each team. Also of note, this was the first "Coach of the Year" bestowed on a girls track coach by the GBL after three seasons. Malden had competed in the Northeastern Conference (NEC) for the past three seasons before returning to the GBL when it was reconstituted before the start of the 2019-2020 school year with members Malden, Medford, Revere, Somerville and Everett.



Coach Londino

The MHS Tornado girls indoor track team won the GBL Championship with a perfect 4-0 league record this past winter, clinching the title with a victory in the last meet of the season, over visiting Revere in a competition held at the Salemwood School in Malden.

The success of the team is both a result of runners' skill, as well as direction and guidance from coaches. While being the winner of the award, Londino said he felt the honor does not only fall on him, but rather, the whole coaching staff, as Londino stated that "any coaching accolade is a reflection of the entire coaching staff and the effort of the athletes." However, Londino mentioned how "I am very proud of the fact that other coaches recognize and appreciate the way we operate." Londino never seemed to solely take credit for the award, which showed how great of a coach he really is, as he acknowledged the performance shown but that make each other improve in the end.

Awards, however, are not a new thing in Londino's coaching career, as he won the Division 1 Coach of the Year award back in 2014, when the team was still in the



the GBL before swapping to the NEC. Even six years later, Londino acted just as humble as he does today, having originally stated that their victory in 2014 would never "have been possible without the effort of the whole team and coaching staff."

As for goals throughout the season, Londino said he felt that "I always required the highest level of commitment from myself." Adding on to this, Londino mentioned that "I also made sure my decisions are what is best for the team, and the individuals on it" and "I ask this of everyone on the teams, so I to model that and lead by example."

As for the future of the team, Londino said he hopes to "continue to promote a team culture that values commitment, hard work, and equal ownership of team success."

Malden educators have risen to the unexpected challenges we're now facing

Supt. Oteri, central staff express their gratitude during National Educators Appreciation Week

May 4, 2020

Dear Colleagues,

Today marks the beginning of National Educator Appreciation Week, a day when we stop to honor those who have devoted their lives to giving their best to the field of education. Although we appreciate what you do every day of every year, we are especially grateful for your work under these extraordinary circumstances. We extend our heartfelt gratitude for all you have done and continue to do for Malden's children. We recognize that this profession is not easy on a "normal" day, but the challenges we have faced as a nation over the past weeks have been like nothing we have ever seen. And yet, as you always do, you have risen to the challenge.

With little warning, our lives were turned upside down, and school, as we have always known it, suddenly did not exist. As a group of educators, you came together and wrapped your arms around the learning community. You checked in with parents and students, making them feel connected to the safety and security of school. You went out of your way to celebrate students' special events. You introduced students to the special people (and pets!) in your life with the many videos you distributed. And you pivoted to remote learning like the

pros that you are. Of course, you have done more than can be captured in a brief message, and no words could adequately capture the awe you have inspired and the gratitude we have for all you do.

Teaching has never been an easy job, and these past weeks have posed incredible challenges.

Know that your work matters more than ever – to our students, our families, and each other. It is humbling to be part of a district

where educators give their best every day, going above and beyond to give the powerful gift of an excellent education to every single child in the district.

Thanks for all you do, today and every day of the year. Sincerely,

John, Michael, Toni, Ashley, and Kelly



In May, we celebrate Asian Pacific American Heritage Month

Director of Humanities Greg Hurley writes:

During the last several weeks we have, as a community, faced and endured some of the most challenging times in our careers and in our lives. I, along with all of my administrative colleagues, have been so impressed with the dedication and care each of you has shown for our students during these challenging and unprecedented times.

The month of May is Asian Pacific American Heritage Month, and this year the month holds additional significance to the members of the community which this month celebrates. With the advent of COVID-19 we have seen the very best of humanity shining around the world, but we have also seen some of the worst. Our Asian American and Pacific American neighbors have faced bias, bigotry, and hate because of their culture and ethnicity. Not only have our neighbors, colleagues, families, and students all faced the fear and uncertainty of a global pandemic, but those of Asian and Pacific Heritage have had to deal with a sharp uptick in incidents of hate and bias and face a growing fear of becoming targets of racially motivated violence during this pandemic.

It is important to recognize the overwhelming challenges being faced by all people of color, being disproportionately affected by this pandemic. With the extraordinary circumstances under which we're working this year, please continue to provide the support you have been for our students and their families, particularly those students and families of color. In addition to the incredible social, emotional, and academic support you are providing for our students, please consider incorporating activities into your remote learning *See Next Page*

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Continued from Page 2

to their homes. We can't wait to honor the Senior Class of 2020 in this way! At this time, we are also planning on honoring our Senior Class members in the traditional way, with a "real deal" Graduation Ceremony at the Stadium, potentially in August, if the health and safety guidelines permit such an event. There would be restricted attendance and also some substantial physical distancing involved, both in the stands and on the field for the graduates. But if it is possible to do so, we are going to try and do it.

We are also hoping to honor our seniors in some other ways and the biggest item on the list is the Senior Prom. Like every other event the one we planned for May 22 at the Danversport Yacht Club has been cancelled. It would not be feasible to reschedule it to another date or function facility in June or even July, as we do not know what the health and safety guidelines would be at that time. It's too early to tell. Right now, we are considering possibly hosting a Senior Prom celebration in our own Malden High School courtyard, also sometime in August. We do not have any details yet, but we are working on it and again, it's something we would love to do, as long as guidelines were met and followed. As for other senior events, it will not be possible to hold a Senior Cookout this year and we also have cancelled two signature events traditionally held in the Jenkins Auditorium: Senior Night, where last year we presented over \$100,000 in scholarships, and the National Honor Society (NHS) Induction and Senior Ceremony. We assure our seniors that all of the scholarships will be presented this year, but we are not going to be able to present them in a public ceremony format. As for the the NHS event, a major, annual highlight on our academic calendar, we are looking into holding a virtual ceremony to honor the top students at MHS. Again, we thank Mayor Christenson and Supt. Oteri for their support in these endeavors.

Some more thanks are very much in order this week....

—Thank you to our School Nurses, Sheila Butler, Kathy Donahue and Maureen Vona, for all the fantastic work and care you put in each day for our students, as National School Nurses Day was observed on Wednesday, May 6.

—Thank you to our Athletic Director Charlie Conefrey and MHS educator Mark Ruelle for the tremendous Senior Spotlight segments you've been putting on Twitter the past few weeks, highlighting our senior student-athletes.

—And thank your to Director of Humanities Greg Hurley for providing information to our teachers on how to mark Asian Pacific American Heritage Month which is celebrated in May. Stay safe, stay heathy, stay positive! You are not alone!

COURSE SELECTION goes 'ALL-ONLINE' for 2020-21

MPS Director o Guidance Erin Craven tells us: 2020-2021 Student Course Selection Goes Virtual! (like everything else):

This is a big deal! Ann O'Connor led our charge to take what was an entirely counselor-facing, computerized course selection process, so the students can self-select courses, starting from May 7-18. *Things to note for Course Selection, so you are in the know, if students ask:*

—Counselors will be reaching out to EVERY student in grades 9 through 11, between May 11 and June 5, to ensure they engage with the material, and select a schedule suitable for their academic needs at this time.

—We released a Course Selection Instructions & FAQ page, as well as a Step-by-Step Instructional Guide to Choosing Classes in Aspen for the students

—The final MHS Program of Studies for 20-21 is included with their instructions, and we encourage them to actually read it, when choosing electives.

Our EL teachers are partnering with us to post course selection materials on their own Google classrooms, with the intent to ensure all of our students get equitable access to these materials with proper support and guidance along the way

MHS Scholarship Process Also Goes Virtual - Please share with seniors!

—All seniors got an email and Classroom post, encouraging them to fill in our new MHS Google Scholarship form

—Any student who did it on paper, can also send their House Principal and counselor a clear picture, if easier.

—Any student who already did it, we will get into the form, or they may do the form and we will not count them twice

—APPS DUE MAY 15th! Winners will be selected by members of our community who offer the scholarships (per usual)

—A press release will share winners and donors sometime in June

—Thank you to Jeanne Marquardo for all her hard work and diligence processing and recording the application process

PLEASE CONTRIBUTE TO
'THE NEDLAM
NEWS'!

LET'S SHARE THE GOOD
NEWS ABOUT MHS!

ASIAN PACIFIC ISLANDER Cont. from P.5 plans which recognize and celebrate Asian and Pacific American Heritage. Our Asian and Pacific American neighbors are unable to celebrate their heritage in a way that they normally would this year, so it would be wonderful if we could create a way for that heritage to be celebrated through our work with students and families and let our neighbors know that they and their cultures are supported, celebrated, and loved within our city during this challenging time. Please refer to an email I sent everyone earlier this week which was forwarded to me by the Chinese American WWII Veterans Recognition Project. It links to several videos which celebrate the lives and accomplishments of Asian and Pacific Americans throughout our country's history. Other resources are available at asianpacificheritage.gov. Thank you for all that you do!

Rest in peace, Coach Bill Tighe; A Malden High Golden Tornado Hall of Famer & a Mass. state legend

Coach Tighe passed April 15 at 95; Coached 52 seasons in all, including from 1964-1972 @ Malden HS; Was oldest active HS Football Coach in the Nation when he retired from Lexington HS in 2010 at age 86

By Steve Freker
For the Malden Public Schools

On paper it says that Coach Bill Tighe, who passed away April 15 at age 95, was the oldest active high school football coach in the nation when he stepped down in 2010, after 36 seasons as the Lexington High football field general. Many probably don't realize that he spent a few more years "under the radar" —and past his 90th birthday— as a volunteer assistant with the Stoneham High Spartans staff and head coach Bob Almeida, in the town where he lived. Still helping others, still preaching the gospel of high school football and all the dividends players could reap from its fountain.

Coach Tighe toiled on the fields in this area for 52 seasons and coaches 514 games in all, including nine seasons at Malden High School (1964-1972), where he taught physical education and also served as athletic director for a couple of years. He mentored many young Tornado student-athletes and recorded five Thanksgiving Day victories over archival



"Coach Tighe is as fine as they come, the whole package as a coach and a mentor. He was a role model for me as a high school student-athlete and that relationship remains to this day... Whether it was on the field or off the field, you could always count on him to give you straight talk, the best advice and the right guidance. He inspired me to be a coach and a teacher and I was so fortunate to learn from such a great leader."
— **Former 27-year Malden HS head football coach Paul Finn at Coach Tighe's Golden Tornado Hall of Fame**

Medford, including his first three out of the gate, in 1964, 1965 and 1966. He stepped down after the 1972 season, but proved to be far from finished on the sidelines. He moved on to Lexington High, taking over in 1975 and then establishing himself as one of the most well-known and respected coaches in state history, retiring in 2010 after 36 seasons at age 86. He was inducted into the Malden HS Tornado Hall of Fame in 2011 by his former standout player and the coach who succeeded him at MHS, Paul Finn, who led the Tornados from 1973-1998. Rest in peace, Coach Tighe, from the thousands whose lives you touched.