

Voting // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

seat,” he said. “Very few people are a fan of the system as it is.”

Ward 3 Councilor Anthony DiPierro and Ward 2 Councilor Stephanie Martins agreed with Councilor Matewsky.

“It’s disenfranchisement of the voters,” said Councilor DiPierro. “How you do in the ward doesn’t really count.”

If Councilor Matewsky gets his wish, then ward councilors would have to win over voters in their own wards. However, some councilors felt that a ward-specific vote could lead to a territorial mindset, where ward councilors only pay attention to issues in their wards and ignore issues affecting the city at large.

“I’m opposed to this and I’ve always been opposed to this,” said Councilor At-Large John Hanlon. “If something comes up, they didn’t vote for me so why should I get involved?”

Ward 1 Councilor Fred Capone cautioned that the charter change could engender a sort of tribalism, if a ward councilor feels compelled to vote on something that would benefit his ward but would hurt the city as a whole.

He mentioned that having Councilors representing wards was just a formality meant to ensure that every ward had representation in the council.

“We’re all technically councilors at large,” said Councilor Capone.

Councilor At-Large Peter Napolitano also voiced his opposition to changing the charter, which he himself had a hand in drafting. He argued that the charter had already gone before the voters and that he wasn’t prepared to change it.

“I’ve paid my dues and I’m not doing that again,” he said. “This is not something we can just change because we want to.”

In September, the Law-

yers for Civil Rights Boston sent a letter to the Council encouraging it to end the practice of citywide voting as it is considering a violation of the Voting Rights Act. The group has taken legal action against other Massachusetts communities with similar charters, and prevailed in court. The litigation director for the organization said in September it would behoove the City to move voluntarily to end the practice before litigation is filed to end it by court order – a process that cost one Massachusetts community more than \$1 million to fight.

The Council voted to postpone the issue for one month, allowing the City Solicitor and the City Clerk time to meet with outside counsel to determine if the charter change could be done by way of a Home Rule Petition or if it would need to be presented to the public for a vote.

City launches Food Policy Council to direct Community Food Plan

By Laura Plummer

The City of Everett has established a Food Policy Council as part of its plan to ensure that all Everett residents have access to healthy, affordable, and culturally appropriate foods – an initiative that passed the Council by default at the end of the last session.

The former City Council initially voted against creating this separate body on Nov. 25, 2019, but the item was passed by default due to a time restriction.

One role of the Food Policy Council will be the implementation of the Community Food Plan, which was created in June of 2018 by the City of Everett, the Metropolitan Area Planning Council (MAPC) and Everett Community Growers (ECG). The Plan was developed following a year-long Community Food Assessment in which research was conducted in four key areas: food security, school food, urban agriculture, and food industry workers.

The Community Food Plan lays out 13 broad goals to increase Everett’s access

to healthy foods. These include expanding nutrition education, developing urban gardens, supporting food industry workers, reducing food waste and improving school food options. All goals are accompanied by actionable steps that community leaders can take, with leads already being pursued on nearly all of these steps.

Emily Nink, the development coordinator for ECG, said that the Food Policy Council is vital for implementing the Community Food Plan. She hopes to assemble a Food Policy Council that represents Everett’s diversity.

“We have envisioned a representative [Food Policy] Council that elevates new voices and empowers residents to shape their city’s food system,” she told Independent.

The ECG has created documents that will govern the Food Policy Council, ensuring that its work is grounded in a commitment to health and racial equality. Members of the Food Policy Council, who will represent diverse interests within the community will be appointed by the mayor

and approved by the City Council.

In his midterm address on Jan. 6, Mayor Carlo DeMaria praised the formation of the Food Policy Council, which he said will supplement the work already being done on a citywide level to promote healthier living.

“The Food Policy Council will work both with department heads and private businesses to help create a healthier Everett,” he said, citing Everett’s high obesity rate, especially among children.

Mayor DeMaria had originally expressed disappointment that the Food Policy Council had not met with more support from the former City Council. Many cities throughout the U.S. have food policy councils meant to inform food policy and planning. Everett is taking its cues from cities across the country that have achieved public health successes through comprehensive food plans.

To read more about Everett’s Community Food Assessment and Plan, visit everettcommunitygrowers.com.

LimeBike ends bike-share relationship with Everett and other communities

By Seth Daniel

Despite the huge demand in Everett for the LimeBike dockless bike rental service, the company announced this week it wouldn’t be renewing its contract with the Metropolitan Area Planning Council (MAPC) – the regional planning agency that helped to propagate the service in Everett and many other surrounding communities.

MAPC said LimeBike communicated with them that they wouldn’t be extending the bike share contract, something the agency said it had sensed for several months.

“Lime has served the metro-Boston area with a No Cost Regional Bike Sharing System since April 2018 and, after much analysis and internal discussion of the past riding season, we have made the tough call not to renew our regional contract for 2020,” read a letter from the company to MAPC. “When Lime launched we were excited to partner on an innovative approach to mobility for metro-Boston residents. Our traditional bike and electric pedal-assist fleets were provided at

no cost to municipalities, while remaining affordable to users. The program enjoyed high ridership and delivered a new mode of shared transportation to tens of thousands of riders outside of the downtown core, helping them ease commutes and find more efficient and fun ways to get around.”

Mayor Carlo DeMaria said that LimeBike had provided more than 50,000 rides to 7,000 people in the last two years, and he was sad to see it go.

“We are thankful for the relationship we have had with Lime for the past two years with over 7,000 Everett residents taking over 50,000 rides in and around the City,” he said. “While we’re disappointed by Lime’s departure, the City of Everett will continue to support cycling and shared mobility through the Blue Bikes system, which launched last spring and through continued efforts to build safer streets for cycling and walking.”

Unlike many other communities, Everett also has a docked bike share system with BlueBikes, so the city is not left without an option for its residents to rent bikes. Many other commu-

nities do not have a second option, and Everett was the only community in the region that used both systems, LimeBike and BlueBike.

MAPC said it would be in talks with municipalities in the coming months about the future of bike sharing in their communities.

LimeBike said after looking at ridership numbers from the past year, they decided to pursue the electric scooter market instead of bikes.

“Lime remains fully committed to innovative mobility options and we are currently working with state leaders on Beacon Hill to legalize electric scooters,” read the letter from LimeBike. “Over the past year, Lime has focused on launching and growing our scooter fleets in the U.S., which have been very popular in cities across the globe. Our recent scooter pilot in Brookline proved that the same excitement exists here.”

Any Lime user with remaining funds in their Lime account can use that balance in any other active Lime market, or receive a refund by request through the company’s customer support channels.

Councilor Adrien hopes ‘Listening Tour’ report will help guide early policy

By Seth Daniel

Last week, Councilor Gerly Adrien submitted a full report from her Listening Tour that she embarked upon last fall, noting that the report is full of concerns directly from all people in Everett and she hopes the report will help guide priorities on the new Council.

Adrien embarked on a Listening Tour over the past year during her campaign and even after being elected – talking directly with people at several stops like Whittier Drive, Glendale Towers, at bus stops, on the streets and in school events.

“As anyone can see, I enjoy knocking on doors and talking to people,” she said. “I said after the election I didn’t want people to feel I would only come around and listen to them around election time...I started this tour and I wrote it all down and I loved it. There are so many comments and a lot of them have much in common.

“I’ve been running for three years, but I keep telling people there is better leadership,” she continued. “What we have is not what’s working. I’m going to keep saying that. I’ve heard people say I’m a rookie. One councilor told me to stop the Listening Tour. I’m just doing things people are not

used to.”

However, the Listening Tour took a new twist after a conversation with Mayor Carlo DeMaria in November. She said they had a different perception of an issue, and she thought that they should survey the residents. That’s when it clicked, and she decided her Tour would include an exhaustive survey to find out what residents are thinking.

Some of the top issues include housing and schools, she said.

“The schools in particular stuck out in that people wanted more programming for after school and summer and Special Education,” she said. I’d been thinking about after-school programs, but didn’t realize how much people wanted more of it. The housing was addressed in terms of affordable housing and the rising cost of housing here. We knew that would be an issue. Surprisingly, only one person mentioned the casino. That was a surprise to me.”

She said there were a lot of comments about City Hall, and she hopes to address the issues people have had there. She said many of the issues could be addressed by changes in ordinances, and she hopes the Council can work together to research what has worked well elsewhere.

Encore // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

customers on the gaming floor, and then get those orders filled at the Central Bar Area in the back of the house. Several bartenders there, who are not interfacing with the public, make the drinks and then the servers deliver the drinks to customers. The proposed computerized system would eliminate those bartender positions and implement a faster drink operation, Encore said.

Reports late last week suggested that using those automated systems would put 70 people out of work.

Encore Spokesman Richard Krauss said it was the furthest thing from the truth.

“It has been inaccurately reported that 70 positions have been eliminated and/or replaced by automated beverage dispensers,” he said.

“We are currently right sizing our business as we continue to make adjustments to our organization based both on customer feedback and how best to meet our business needs. Should any employee become displaced, we do everything we can to provide alternate job opportunities for them within our organization. Given the amount of related openings in other areas of the business, we cannot project the number of positions that will be impacted as a result of the automated beverage dispensers at this time.”

Krauss said the computerized dispensers would be four times faster than the current system, and they have had a number of customer complaints about drinks taking too long to arrive.

He said while some positions at the Central Bar Area might be phased out, that didn’t mean people are losing jobs at Encore. In fact, he said there several are bartender openings right now in the public-facing restaurants, which could be more lucrative due to larger tips from customers. The goal for anyone potentially displaced by the machines would be to place them in an open position as a bartender or some other need at the resort. He said that after such significant training and onboarding invested in each employee, the goal is never to have any of them be put out of a job involuntarily – as there are many opportunities still being filled in

Encore.

The entire scenario is part of a larger re-positioning by the casino announced by CEO Matt Maddox on an investor call last fall. Maddox indicated at that time the Boston resort casino had likely over-hired during the lead-up to opening, and that there would need to be corrections in the workforce.

That happened already with the greeter positions at Encore, a new feature that the company had not utilized at any of its other resorts. As it turns out, Krauss said, the positions were not necessary and that new feature didn’t work out.

However, of the six greeter positions, at least four of them re-trained and are working in other positions at the resort, he said.

Councilor Michael McLaughlin, who represents Lower Broadway, said he was unhappy with the situation regarding hiring and layoffs at the resort. He said Encore should have known it would implement this kind of technology, and that he has been hearing about layoffs at the resort now for two months.

“The termination of position’s due to automated drink dispensers is a tragic leadership failure,” he said. “The Las Vegas team has been designing this building for seven years and failed to incorporate the basic technological advances in the design that would have avoided this completely. One position in my opinion is too many. These are real lives and families that will be impacted and that’s not okay in my eyes. When Wynn re-build the McDonald’s on Broadway in Everett, it was re-opened with the latest drink-dispensing technology but somehow Wynn Resorts missed this trend completely.”

He said he is calling on the MGC to reject Encore’s request to implement automatic drink dispensers, as he believes it will lead to Everett residents losing their jobs.

A lot of the employment data will become clearer this month, as a detailed annual report from the company is to be delivered to Mayor Carlo DeMaria this month as part of the Host Community Agreement (HCA). The HCA, under the permanent jobs category, states that

“There are so many cities that are more advanced than us and that have bigger problems than we do,” she said. “They have solved similar problems and maybe did it with very little money.”

With the raw data in hand, collected from a host of sources, Councilor Adrien said she fell back on her work experience preparing reports and action plans. That plan has been distributed to the public, Mayor DeMaria and the Council members. She said she hopes to follow up on it by putting the plan online, and give updates on the issues identified.

“I’m going to put it out every two weeks,” she said. “I want people to see where we are. I’ve even asked if I can have a standing appointment with the mayor every month to go over these priorities. I hope that can happen.”

She said the Listening Tour, now public, is in the hands of the Council, and she hopes the data will be used by everyone – not just her.

“At the end of the day, it’s not about me getting this information,” she said. “We need to work out these problems together. I don’t want to be the only councilor that people call. If we’re going to make a difference, we really need to work together.”

Wynn shall provide the City an annual report in January each year, starting in 2020. The report is to include full- and part-time employment levels by Wynn at the beginning of the reporting period (in this case the opening date, June 23) and the end. It is also to give figures for the numbers of Everett residents employed at the resort during the period. The City can also require additional information to be included in the annual report, if it wishes.

Krauss said the report is being worked on right now, and nearly completed. He said they are doing all they can to attract Everett residents to the open positions in the resort, and there are more than 80 positions open this week, according to listings on the website.

“As part of our host community agreement, we ensure qualified Everett residents receive priority when applying for jobs at Encore Boston Harbor,” he said. “When reviewing qualified candidates for any open position, Everett residents are prioritized. We also send a weekly newsletter with open positions to Chief of Staff at Everett City Hall and staff a satellite Encore Boston Harbor recruitment office in Everett City Hall.”

He said, though there are ebbs and flows in the workforce, Encore employs 610 Everett residents right now, which is 14 percent of its active workforce. The only other municipality with a higher percentage is Boston, which makes up 16 percent of the workforce.

Krauss said there are some, however, who have left because they were terminated. He said Encore does not talk specifically about such things, but did say they have a progressive discipline policy at the resort.

“Regarding involuntary terminations, we have a progressive discipline policy that applies to all employees with non-egregious employee relations matters,” he said. “The progressive discipline policy applies equally across all employees, regardless of residency.”

The MGC has not yet decided on whether or not it will let Encore use the computerized drink machines.

Council // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

from Italy.

A much different picture was painted on Monday night, when Councilors Gerly Adrien, Stephanie Martins and Jimmy Tri Le took their seats alongside Council veterans. Fully 45 percent of the new council is under the age of 40. Twenty-seven percent of the members are female, and 18 percent are immigrants. Languages now spoken on the board include Spanish, Portuguese and Vietnamese. Everett

immigrant communities now represented include Haitian, Vietnamese and Brazilian. Twenty-seven percent of members are non-white, with self-identified racial representation including Black, Asian and Latina.

In his midterm address on Jan. 6, Mayor Carlo De-Maria praised the diversity of the new City Council, saying he hopes that it will work with him to ensure that all Everett residents are counted in the upcoming

2020 U.S. Census regardless of their race, language or country of origin.

Diversity can take many forms including religion, ability, sexual orientation, education and income.

Interestingly, Boston also just seated its most diverse City Council since its establishment in 1910, including the first Latina and the first openly gay woman – making the changes in Everett also a regional trend.

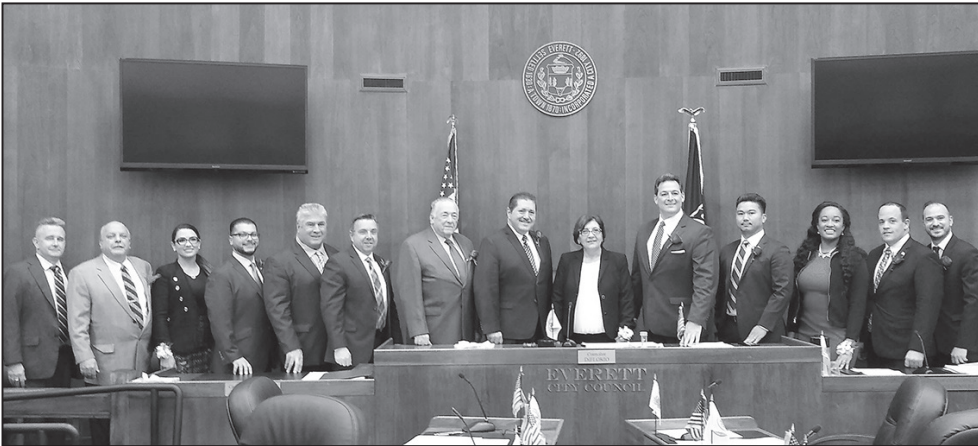


PHOTO BY LAURA PLUMMER

The new Everett City Council paused for a photo on Monday night before being seated for the first meeting of the year. The Council is younger and more diverse racially, ethnically and linguistically than ever before.

City ready to institute ‘virtual hearings’ for code violations, parking tickets

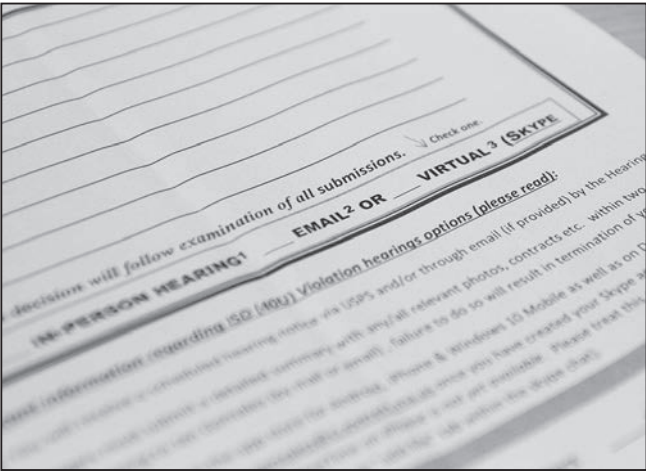
By Seth Daniel

One may not be able to beat City Hall, as the old adage goes, but at least one can now wage the war from within their living room.

By the end of this month – for those savvy to technology – the need to go to City Hall to fight parking tickets or code enforcement violations with a hearing officer will no longer be necessary. As outlined in his Midterm Address last week, Mayor Carlo De-Maria and his administration are ready to start ‘virtual appeal’ hearings via Skype, and later this year on FaceTime, this Tuesday, Jan. 21. A full online portal system for scheduling and holding the hearings will be available in February.

Everett is believed to be the first community in the area to offer virtual hearings for municipal government hearings.

“This new and innovative service will ease the



The City is now offering a new way to appeal a code enforcement or parking hearing – via Skype. The new hearings will be available starting on Jan. 21, and by next month will be able to be scheduled through an online calendar system.

burden of coming to City Hall to appeal a citation,” said Mayor DeMaria. “Many individuals struggle to physically come to City Hall. This new service will ensure due process is afforded to all.”

Code Enforcement (or 40U) Hearing Officer and Paralegal Jen Gonzalez said this is a way for the City to

make hearings more convenient to the public – whether they are in a different state and want to challenge a ticket, or whether they are tied up at work and cannot get to City Hall during business hours.

“The mayor is really wanting to bring the City forward and make it easier for people to do things here

online,” she said. “We can streamline everything and people don’t have to come here and look for parking or take a day off of work. It’s much easier.”

City IT Director Kevin Dorgan said the system is based on a web page that is still being developed, but is mostly done. Using Skype, hearings can be held face to face, but from a distance. An advantage is that these services like Skype also allow users to “drop” documents into the discussion. Any information required, like a contract, letter or photograph, can be presented in real time to the hearing officer during the hearing.

Hearing officers for parking and code enforcement will be able to take virtual appeal hearing appointments up to 48 hours in advance. At the moment, those wishing for a virtual appeal hearing must file their intention to appeal 21 days after receiving a violation. Once doing that, they can request by phone or

e-mail a virtual hearing.

Eventually, Dorgan said, they will have a full website up that uses a calendar. Residents wishing to appeal and simply go online at any time of day and reserve an open hearing date on the online calendar, giving information also like phone numbers and the Skype account number. Reminders will be sent out automatically from the City, and the hearing officer will call them at the appointed time using Skype.

That online calendar system is still being constructed and should be up and running in February.

Hearing officers will use tablets to conduct the hearings, and those appealing can use computers, tablets, or even phones. The hearings are expected, for the most part, to be about 15 minutes in length.

Gonzalez has been working with the City for 10 years at the City Solicitor’s Office, and has been running code violation

hearings for seven years. She said she has been using e-mail and the phone over the years to try to make things easier for those who cannot make it, but the virtual appeals would open up a whole new world of convenience.

“What the mayor wants and what code enforcement wants rather than a fine is to get these properties safe,” she said. “This is a convenient tool for everyone in helping get that done.”

Residents will be able to schedule hearing appointments through e-mail at parkinghearings@ci.everett.ma.us and ISDHearings@ci.everett.ma.us, or in person at the front desk in City Hall. A hearing can also be scheduled by calling 3-1-1.

Appellants do not have to be present for the hearing, as a representative or property manager is sufficient. Residents must schedule appointment at least 48 hours in advance to secure a timeslot.

Eversource challenges students to showcase their energy smarts in annual contest

Eversource invites Massachusetts students to demonstrate their energy efficiency knowledge by entering its seventh annual Eversource Challenge.

The competition promotes energy conservation, energy efficiency and sustainability and is open to kindergarten to high school students in Eversource’s Massachusetts electric service territory. Deadline for registration is March 17, 2020. All entries must be received or postmarked by March 27, 2020.

“Year after year, our students continue to amaze us with their creativity and innovative energy efficiency ideas,” said Senior Vice President and Chief Customer Officer Penni Conner. “We are excited to kick

off our seventh contest and look forward to receiving and reviewing this year’s projects.”

Students in Grades K-8 are assigned grade-specific challenges and asked to submit entries in the form of a poster (Grades K-2), a limerick (Grade 3), an outdoor billboard (Grade 4), a narrative and an image of an energy-saving super-hero (Grade 5), a letter to parents (Grade 6), a news article (Grade 7), or public service announcement (Grade 8).

Students competing in Grades 9-12 will create a persuasive image that advocates for an energy topic. Options include a short poem (125 words or less) or a cartoon strip (12 cells or less) that addresses ener-

gy efficiency, a renewable energy source, or environmental concern.

Eversource Challenge finalists in all categories and grade levels will be honored at a special awards ceremony in early May, and winners will receive Amazon Gift Cards. All entries are judged on the use of accurate and scientific facts, creativity, readability, persuasiveness, originality, and appearance. Students’ submissions are judged against those from the same grade levels in their community.

For applications, guidelines and more information about the Eversource Challenge, visit www.eversourceinschool.com/challenge.

Easy // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

tained over the years they are no match to the life of experience that I have gained by being a dedicated educator and resident of this extraordinary city.

“(After reading the comments), I spent some time trying to decipher if Mr. Parker’s statement was based on ignorance, disrespect or just a futile attempt to diminish my 12 years of higher education accomplishments in the hopes of enhancing the qualifications of the appointed Superintendent,” he continued.

Easy, who did apply to be the superintendent of schools and was not given an interview, said in a conversation that he has moved on from that situation and looks to be a team player. He said he looks forward to new Supt. Priya Tahliliani starting her leadership

this summer, and hopes to work closely with her on the academy implementation and other matters in the school system.

However, he said he was not ready to move on from comments made that he felt disparaged a great deal of hard work he did to get his degree, especially comments made by Parker and others that he only had a doctorate in philosophy.

Easy said that is incorrect, and that he actually holds the highest academic degree of anyone in the Everett Public Schools.

He elaborated that a Ph.D., and even his Ph.D., is the abbreviation for Doctor of Philosophy, contrary to Parker’s interpretation of this degree being a Doctorate in Philosophy.

“My Doctor of Philosophy, like every Doctor of Philosophy degree, is a

terminal research degree, which means it is the highest academic degree one can receive at a college or university,” he said. “A Ph.D. is only awarded to people who have done advanced research into a particular subject or concentration area. In my case, my subject and concentration area was Education Leadership, not a minor in this subject area, as Mr. Parker stated in the article.”

Easy attended Penn State for his undergraduate degree, and also for his doctorate degree. He said he also possesses a Master’s in Education Administration, a Master’s of Business Management, and that he majored in communication with a minor in business management as an undergrad.

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Cao, Mengya	Core Group Realty LLC	27 Carter St #2	\$570,000
Shooster, Derek M	Core Group Realty LLC	27 Carter St #5	\$575,000
Medina, Cesar	Dacey, Kevin	44 Malden St	\$680,000
Martinez-Gonzalez, Javier	Magnarelli, Domenic	11-A Swan St	\$860,000
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DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING’S SPIRIT LIVES ON

When one considers that it has been almost 52 years since Dr. Martin Luther King was assassinated while he was standing on a balcony in a motel room in Memphis, where King was staying while supporting striking city trash collection workers, it is easy to understand why so many of our fellow Americans today have so little understanding of who he was and what he accomplished.

Every school child for the past generation knows well the story of Dr. Martin Luther King. But an elementary school textbook cannot truly convey the extent to which he brought about real change in our country. To anyone under the age of 50, Martin Luther King is just another historical figure.

But for those of us who can recall the 1960s, a time when racial segregation was lawful throughout half of our country and a stealthy racism prevailed throughout the other half, Martin Luther King stands out as one of the great leaders in American history, a man whose stirring words and perseverance to his cause changed forever the historical trajectory of race relations in America, a subject that some historians refer to as the Original Sin of the American experience.

However, as much as things have changed for the better in the past 52 years in terms of racial equality in our society, it also is clear that we still have a long way to go before it can be said, as Dr. King famously put it in his speech at the Lincoln Memorial in 1963: “I have a dream that my four little children will one day live in a nation where they will not be judged by the color of their skin, but by the content of their character.”

It is clear that there is a movement in our country that seeks to take away many of the hard-fought gains of the past six decades, and that there are some members of Congress, a majority of the Supreme Court, and a now a President who are happy to oblige in this endeavor.

The shootings and deaths of African-Americans while in police custody that have shocked all of us in the past few years are just the tip of the iceberg. Much more significant have been the judicial decisions that have stripped away key provisions of the Voting Rights Act, the disparate funding for education in urban areas compared to the wealthier suburbs, criminal laws that lead to disproportionate treatment and incarceration of minorities for drug-related offenses, and the voter ID laws and gerrymandering in many states that, in the words of a federal court in North Carolina, attain with surgical precision the goal of preventing people of color from being fairly represented in government at all levels.

“What would Dr. Martin Luther King do if he were alive today?” we often ask ourselves. We can’t say for sure, but we do know that although King accomplished much in his lifetime, he would be the first to understand that the work for which he gave his life still is far from done -- and we can only hope that his spirit and courage can continue to inspire this and future generations to bring about a world in which all persons, regardless of the color of their skin or national origin, are treated with fairness, dignity, and respect.

SEND US YOUR NEWS

The Everett Independent encourages residents to submit birth and engagement announcements, news releases, business briefs, honor rolls, social news, sports stories, and photographs for publication. Items should be forwarded to our offices at **385 Broadway, Citizens Bank Building, Revere, MA 02151**. Items can also be faxed to 781-485-1403. The Independent also encourages readers to e-mail news releases to editor@everettindependent.com.

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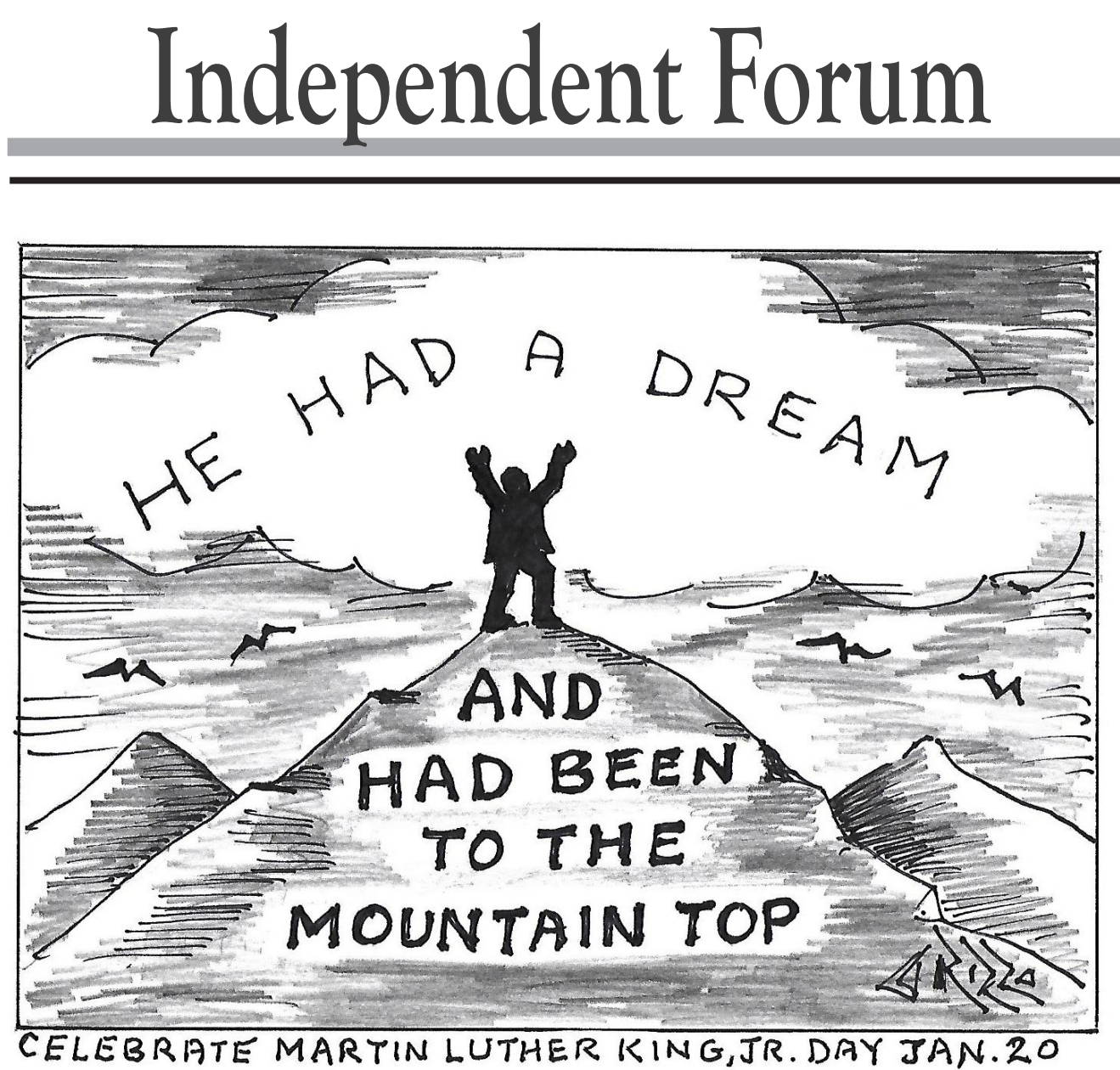
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GUEST OP-ED

Are you a time saver or a time waster?

By Melissa Martin, Ph.D.

America, a nation of time-saving fanatics. American, a nation of time-wasting freaks.

In the days of old, consumers visited the butcher, the baker, the candlestick maker. They chatted, gossiped, and shared community news. Timeworn traditions turned into trends to save time as busyness bombarded us from sunrise to sunset because of progress.

And you can’t stop progress. The telegraph, the telephone, the cell phone. The radio, the television, the internet. Feet, horses, wagons. Bicycles, trains, automobiles. Planes, helicopters, rockets.

Hark! The modern mega supermarket was born. The concept of convenience touted as one-stop shopping. Coffee shops, fast-food eateries, and banks inside of grocery stores—you can also buy stamps, pay utility bills, or make your own meal at the salad bar. Enter online foodie shopping. Scan, pay, and bag your own groceries. New apps let customers skip the checkout line.

The more technology advances, the busier we become—hurry and scurry. Obsessed with saving time. We wolf down meals to move on to do more: gobble, gulp, guzzle. According to World Health Organization 2017, more than \$10 billion is spent worldwide each year on antacids. We eat stress and disrespect the

time allotted to daily living.

Extreme Time Cheaters was a reality TV show about people who go to ultimate lengths to optimize time. Washing dishes in the shower, ironing shirts with the underside of a fresh brewed coffee pot, shaving legs while in the pool. Won’t hair clog the pool filter?

Being more organized in order to find shoes, coats, gloves, backpacks, purses, and other items in the morning is smart and gets families out the door quicker. Using a roadmap is about efficiency—getting lost in suburbia makes you a late dinner guest.

You won’t catch me drinking coffee in the shower to save a minute or two—not my thing. However, I do own an undisclosed number of the same black socks. Why? Because the laundry monster eats one sock of the matching pair. So, I outsmart this sock-stealing fiend. Piling instead of filing can be a time waster for writers. Musing and rushing is counterproductive.

America, a nation of time-wasting freaks. Too much TV. Too much social media. Too much partying with mood-altering drugs. Zombified brains waste time and energy. Too much shopping—buying more and more dust-collecting stuff.

A 2016 study (download the report at www.pages.dscout.com) followed the device usage of 100, 000 people over a five day pe-

riod. By tracking taps, swipes, and clicks, participants made on their smartphones, researchers concluded that the average user touched their phone 2,617 times every day. Shazam! That’s over 2.42 hours of phone usage for the average user and most is spent on either Facebook or Google. Read more about the heavy users.

And guess what? We still only get 365 days per year, 12 months, and 168 hours per week. An hour still holds 60 minutes. And one minute is still 60 seconds. Time doesn’t change. The sun comes up and the sun goes down. Each morning you get 86,400 seconds.

“You may delay, but time will not.”—Benjamin Franklin

Why are humans so illogical? We try to pack more and more activities into the same amount of time. Employers overwork and overwhelm employees. Workers skip lunch, lose sleep, and give up family time. Parents overschedule kids with too many activities. Or over summer, while both parents work, they allow kids to lounge at home and binge on videogames and social media.

Time isn’t the problem. What people do with time is the problem. Setting too many goals in one year. Unrealistic expectations of achieving in a short period of time. Not saying no to another event or activity. Making the daily list too long. Worrying and dwelling on past mistakes gets

you nowhere. Fear of failure that keeps you stuck is a time stealer.

“Try to imagine a life without timekeeping. You probably can’t. You know the month, the year, the day of the week. There is a clock on your wall or the dashboard of your car. You have a schedule, a calendar, a time for dinner or a movie. Yet all around you, timekeeping is ignored. Birds are not late. A dog does not check its watch. Deer do not fret over passing birthdays. an alone measures time. Man alone chimes the hour. And, because of this, man alone suffers a paralyzing fear that no other creature endures. A fear of time running out,” surmises Mitch Albom in his 2012 book, *The Time Keeper*.

In reality, you can’t save, waste, or cheat time. You can only manage or not manage thoughts, feelings, actions, and reactions about daily, weekly, monthly, and yearly activities. Time is neither good or bad. Time is neutral. It’s what we do with our time that counts. And time is subjective because what matters to me may not matter to you. It’s impossible to control time. We can only control ourselves and our activities.

“Man wants to own his existence. But no one owns time.”—Mitch Albom

Melissa Martin, Ph.D., is an author, columnist, educator, and therapist. She lives in Ohio. Contact her at melissamcolumnist@gmail.com.

Councilor Adrien votes ‘no’ on first matter before Council

By Seth Daniel

Councilor Gerly Adrien was quick to reject a measure at the first Council meeting on Monday night that did not have enough supporting information, shocking everyone as she cast a ‘no’ vote on a routine grant from Exxon Mobil for the Everett Police.

“I didn’t approve it because I didn’t get any information about where it is going and what it was to

support,” she said after the meeting. “If no one has the information, I’m not approving it.”

The grant was a \$2,500 gift from Exxon Mobil Corporation, which has a terminal in Everett on Beacham Street. The grant is to support the Everett Police and goes into their donations account.

Adrien’s vote quickly sparked a lot of questions and assumptions about why the new councilor would re-

ject a routine, annual grant to the Everett Police.

She said that Councilor John Hanlon originally requested more information at Monday’s meeting, and she also got a text from a constituent about why Exxon was giving the City money.

Hanlon was very specific about wanting to know more about where the money was to go, and Adrien said she completely agreed with him. It was a question

she said she also intended to ask.

However, Hanlon was told there wasn’t much supporting information, and at the moment, no specifics were available.

While Hanlon let the matter go, Adrien said she isn’t going to make a habit of voting on something she knows nothing about.

“For me, I wanted more information and didn’t get it,” she said. “That’s all it was about.”

Your opinions, please

The Everett Independent welcomes letters to the editor. Our mailing address is 385 Broadway, Revere, MA 02151. Our fax number is 781-485-1403. Letters may also be e-mailed to editor@everettindependent.com. Letters must be signed.

We reserve the right to edit for length and content.

COUNCILOR AT-LARGE GERLY ADRIEN HOLDS A THANK YOU EVENT

PHOTOS BY KATY ROGERS

Councilor at-Large Gerly Adrien held a thank you party at Braza Bar and Grill on Saturday evening, Jan. 11, to show appreciation for friends, family, and colleagues who have helped her in her political journey. Councilor Adrien topped the ticket in the at-Large race after establishing a name for herself while running for state representative in the past.



Boston City Councilor Lydia Edwards expressed pride in Gerly Adrien's hard work. The Boston councilor had helped door knock in Everett during the campaign.



Councilor at Large Gerly Adrien thanked everyone for their hard work and help.



Dylan Philbin joined Councilor at-Large Gerly Adrien at her Thank You party on Saturday evening.



Councilor at-Large Gerly Adrien thanked her colleague, Councilor Stephanie Martins.



Councilor Gerly Adrien greeted School Committeewoman Samantha Lambert.



Councilor at-Large Gerly Adrien was joined by Councilor Mike McLaughlin.



Gregory Jasmin congratulated Councilor at-Large Gerly Adrien on her inauguration.



Councilor at-Large Gerly Adrien was joined by her mother, Marie Aubourg.



Councilor at-Large Gerly Adrien was joined by Michele Capone and Councilor Fred Capone.



Councilor at-Large Gerly Adrien was accompanied by her step mother, Marie Adrien, and father Jean Adrien.



Councilor at-Large Gerly Adrien was joined by Winger Danier.

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Councilor at-Large Gerly Adrien thanked Robin Babcock, School Committeewoman Dana Murray, and Guerline Alcy for their support.

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MAYOR DEMARIA DELIVERS PASSIONATE MIDTERM ADDRESS OUTLINING EVERETT’S FUTURE

The City of Everett held its Inauguration on Monday night, Jan. 6, at City Hall. Mayor Carlo DeMaria gave a Midterm State of the City address.



Pictured with his family at the Inaugural Ceremonies, DeMaria emphasized the importance of family during his daily endeavors.



Music // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

said. “My objective is to recognize art in the music. Art is heart. I am art. Art is in my heart. It’s my book, my paintings, my song and my knowledge.”

At this point in his career, Valente said he is penning catchy rock songs that have a meaning, such as one anti-bullying message he recently wrote for his fourth CD.

“This CD is didactic rock and it’s all my songs,” he said. “I want people to sing

it and dance to it, but more importantly, I want them to think about what these lyrics are telling them.”

Valente first came to Everett in 2016 as a tourist and really loved the City, as well as traveling to New York City and Miami during his time here. While here, he said he visits his family (his nephew attends Everett High School), but also becomes inspired by accessing and listing to American music. This year,

he returned as a tourist to visit again for three month – and has found great inspiration while being here.

He hopes that one day he can bring his band to Everett and Boston, and translate his songs and his book into English.

“This is my dream, to bring my whole band to American and play here,” he said. “This is what I really want to do.

MassDOT announces new online resources for statewide exit renumbering project

The Massachusetts Department of Transportation (MassDOT) is announcing new online resources on the project website for the Statewide Exit Renumbering Project, including an informational video on the project and an online meeting. Visit NewMassExits.com to access these new online tools, learn about the project, and ask the project team questions.

Additional public information

meetings have been scheduled for the opportunity to learn more about the project and ask the project team questions in person.

•Boston – Tuesday, Feb. 11, 6:30 p.m., MassDOT Transportation Board Room, second floor, 10 Park Plaza, Boston, MA 02116

More public information meetings in the spring and summer of 2020 will be announced as they are scheduled.

This project is converting all existing sequential exit numbers to a mile-post-based numbering system, per the Federal Highway Administration’s 2009 Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD). Construction, which is scheduled to begin in late summer 2020, will take place on route by-route basis starting in Western Massachusetts and moving eastward.

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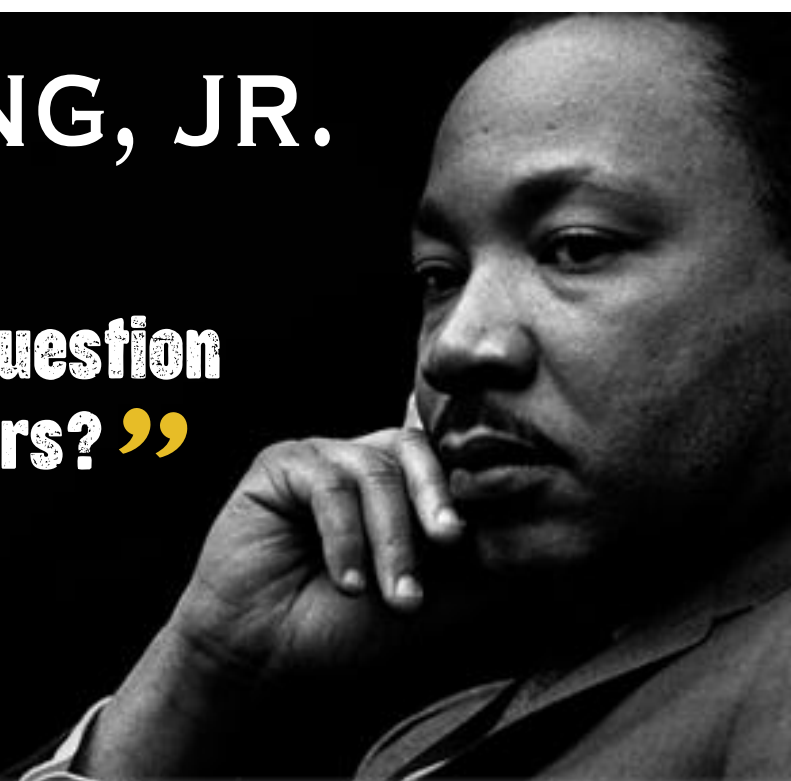
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“Life’s most persistent and urgent question is, “What are we doing for others?”

Martin Luther King Jr.



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Everett’s Independent Voice



John Hanlon
Everett City Councilor



Fred Capone
Ward 1 City Councilor

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— MLK, Jr.



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— Martin Luther King, Jr.

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— Martin Luther King Jr.



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Mayor

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the entire City Government



Former Everett resident donates \$400,000 to everett libraries

Mayor Carlo DeMaria’s administration announced it has received a \$400,000 donation in honor of former Everett Resident, Kathleen Donnelly, who passed away in 2018.

Mayor DeMaria stated, “I am continuously amazed at the generosity of the people of Everett. But there are a few Everett residents that are exceptional and Kay was one of them. I am extremely grateful for this generous donation of \$400,000 to Everett Public Libraries.”

On November 12, 2018,

Donnelly passed away in her home. She was raised in Everett and attended her schooling in the city. She is a graduate of Everett High School, class of 1954. Donnelly never owned a television and found comfort in the many books on her bookshelves and the New York Times, which she read religiously. Before she passed, she wanted this donation to made in her memory. The donation will be split evenly between the two libraries, with \$200,000 going to the Parlin Library and the other

half to the Shute Library.

“A free public library is one of the most important roles we have in government,” said Mayor DeMaria. “It provides a quiet, safe, warm place to learn and to grow. With 10 siblings I am sure Kay took advantage of that quiet space. Today we are forever grateful for Kay’s wonderful gift. My hope is that Kay’s generosity will inspire another generation to the love of learning that was so much of Kay’s life.”



The Donnelly Family presented Mayor Carlo DeMaria with a \$400,000 donation to the Everett Public Libraries recently in memory of Kathleen ‘Kay’ Donnelly.

Keverian students complete stormwater project

As a community surrounded by water, the City of Everett has a unique opportunity to highlight the importance of preventing stormwater pollution from reaching our rivers and streams.

Mayor Carlo DeMaria said, “I want to thank the Mystic River Watershed, Exelon and the Everett Public schools for raising awareness of our beautiful waterfront and educating our kids on the importance of our local environment. Stormwater is the leading cause of pollution in our rivers and streams and finding a solution is critical to enhancing our quality of life.”

The Mystic River Watershed Association (MyRWA) recently completed an interactive science and design program with Keverian School fifth graders, led by Education Program Manager Marian Miller. Students in Ms. Simmons-Ononeme’s class developed ways to catch stormwater pollution.

“The greatest benefit of this project was working with the Mystic River Wa-

ter Association and providing my students with a hands-on real life issue that they could work to create a solution for,” said Ms. Ononeme. “Students were introduced to a career opportunity that they have never thought about before.”

“We want to educate and inspire our future stewards,” added Miller. “Far too often when I go into the classroom youth do not know about the local river that sits in their backyard. With our programs we introduce students to the watershed, help them understand it, think critically about issues facing it and explore possible solutions.”

The five-day course concluded on Monday, as the students showcased their designs to a group of distinguished guests that included MyRWA Stormwater Project Manager Catherine Peidmonti, Exelon Generation Communications Manager Mark Rodgers, and Everett’s Executive Director of Public Works and Engineering, Gregory St. Louis.

The MyRWA’s education programs are funded in part

by a substantial grant from Exelon Generation. The Everett Public Schools hope to expand this program to middle-school classrooms throughout the district.

“I am consistently impressed with the achievements of Everett students in STEM programs and I am pleased that Exelon Generation is supporting the Mystic River Watershed Association to bring their hands-on, interactive STEM program into classrooms like this one, across the watershed,” said Exelon Generation Northeast Region General Manager Archie Gleason. “This program not only educates students, it provides them with an opportunity to become stewards of the environment right in their own communities.”

MyRWA was founded in 1972 with a mission to protect and restore the Mystic River, its tributaries and watershed lands for the benefit of present and future generations and to celebrate the value, importance and great beauty of these natural resources. The Mystic River Watershed is



Superintendent Janice Gauthier and students.

a network of streams, rivers, and lakes, all draining into the Mystic River. The watershed has been an integral part in the development of the 21 Greater Boston communities it connects.

The Keverian students embraced the coursework, working in teams to design

and build devices that will keep pollutants out of our water. They received valuable feedback from Ms. Peidmonti and Mr. St. Louis, two experts in solutions related to stormwater and drainage.

“Ms. Simmons-Ononeme’s students applied

the engineering design skills they gained earlier in the year to an authentic local challenge,” said EPS Science Director Ann Ritchie. “Being given the time and resources to test their own ideas makes them engineers in their own right.”

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NEWS FROM AROUND THE REGION

GARCIA TO HEAD SCHOOL COMMITTEE

CHELSEA - The energetic District 7 representative was nominated by the outgoing Chairperson, District 2 representative Jeanette Velez.

“I’m honored to be here and I want to wish everyone a happy new year,” Garcia said during brief remarks before taking the center seat in the City Council chambers.

Garcia taking over the chair wasn’t the only noticeable change during the meeting.

All nine members of the School Committee were sworn in by City Clerk Jeanette Citron White, including new member Roberto Jimenez-Rivera, who takes over the At-Large seat that was held by departing member Frank DePatto.

It was also the first official meeting with Supt. Almudena ‘Almi’ Abeyta taking over the reins from Mary Bourque. Abeyta had been working in the district since September with the title of superintendent-elect alongside Bourque.

“I am honored to be your superintendent,” said Abeyta. “I have listened and learned from you for five months now. There is so much happening in the Chelsea schools.”

While the selection of the chairperson went off without a hitch, it was a closer race for vice-chair, as longtime Committeewoman Rosemarie Carlisle bested District 3 representative Marisol Santiago 5-4 on the second go-round of voting.

Carlisle was nominated by District 5 representative Henry Wilson, and Santiago by Rivera.

During the first round of voting, Carlisle voted present, while Santiago cast a vote for herself, resulting in a 4-4-1 deadlock. On the second round of voting, Carlisle cast the deciding vote for herself.

“I didn’t realize I could vote for myself,” Carlisle said.

In other votes, Jimenez was selected as the School Committee’s representative to the City Council, and Wilson was selected as the representative to the Shore Educational Collaborative.

With the procedural business taken care of, the business portion of the first Committee meeting of the year was dispensed of quickly.

Assistant Superintendent Sarah Kent presented the district’s latest enrollment report. Of particular note, she said, is that the district’s mobility rate, which tracks the number of students entering and leaving the district since the beginning of the school year, is down from where it was last year, a good sign for the district. That rate is 12.2 percent, or 765 students who have transferred in or out, since Oct. 1. Kent said that number is down a point and a half from last year at this time.

The School Committee also approved accepting \$130,000 from the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education for the Teacher Diversification Pilot Program. The program is designed to support local school district efforts to strengthen and diversify the workforce by enhancing existing teacher recruitment and retention programs.

AVELLANEDA ELECTED COUNCIL PRESIDENT

CHELSEA - The City Council is heading into 2020 with a new president.

At last week’s organizational meeting, the council voted 6-5 to elect At-Large Councillor Roy Avellaneda

as the new president over fellow At-Large Councillor Damali Vidot, who has led the body for the past two years.

The vote came following the swearing in of the 2020-21 City Council, which includes three new members -- District 1 Councillor Todd Taylor, District 2 Councillor Melinda Vega Maldonado, and District 3 Councillor Naomi Zabat.

Avellaneda’s ascension followed a deadlocked vote in subcommittee to select a new president in December that saw Vidot and District 8 Councillor Calvin Brown deadlocked at five votes each, with At-Large Councillor Leo Robinson voting present.

Monday night, Robinson threw his support behind Avellaneda, who was nominated by Brown. Rounding out the six votes needed to prevail were the three newly elected councillors, Taylor, Zabat, and Maldonado. Vidot was nominated by District 4 Councillor Enio Lopez and also supported by Councillors Giovanni Recupero, Judith Garcia, and Yamir Rodriguez.

Garcia was unanimously selected to serve as vice president, as was Robinson to serve as the Council’s representative to the School Committee.

“2020 will be an important year ... as we look to tackle issues in addition to our regularly scheduled mandates,” Avellaneda said in his address following the vote. “We will, of course, have the approval of the Capital Improvement Project, the city budget, and the tax rate. Our next meeting alone, we will have legislation and orders to provide funding for first time homeowners, a redesign plan for downtown Broadway, and new zoning regulations to reshape our work.

“This is also a year in which we address potential changes to our city charter, as we are mandated to do as far as our 10 year review.”

Avellaneda said one of his goals over the coming year is to improve the usefulness and legitimacy of the Council’s subcommittees.

Following the meeting, Vidot said she was not upset about losing the Council presidency, but did have concerns about the direction of Avellaneda and the new leadership.

“I’m excited about the start of a new year with a new City Council, but I was disappointed in the leadership change,” said Vidot. “It is a reminder of behaviors that I do not believe reflects us as a Council or a city and that are demeaning to city, staff, and residents.” Vidot and Avellaneda butted heads several times over the years when Vidot was president, including Avellaneda being ruled out of order in 2018 over charges he raised about Vidot’s campaign finances.

However, Vidot said she will do her best to work with the new leadership and continue to figure out how to move Chelsea in the right direction.

During the meeting, Robinson, City Manager Thomas Ambrosino, and State Rep. Daniel Ryan also delivered remarks to the Council and the audience.

Robinson, the longest-serving councillor, spoke of the progress made in Chelsea over the past decade, including the building of new hotels and the new FBI Boston headquarters as well as the city meeting its financial obligations with the Council working together.

However, Robinson noted that he feels the Council has lost some perspective over the past few years and has failed to work as cohesively as it did earlier in the

decade.

“Our success over the next decade will not be about any one of us as individuals ... we need to collaborate on a single, pro-Chelsea agenda,” Robinson said.

Ambrosino and Ryan both praised the elected officials for stepping up to the plate and serving during contentious political times.

“It’s important for the city to have good people taking part in local government,” said Ambrosino. “This city has real important work to do in the next two years.”

EASTIE LOSES TWO GREAT MEN

EAST BOSTON - It was a tough few days for East Boston as two great men that brought smiles to thousands of faces over the years passed away.

First Eastie said goodbye to Salvatore “Smiley” Mattera who died on Tuesday, Dec. 31.

Smiley was a longtime supporter of Eastie’s Pop Warner program as a volunteer, assistant coach and all around champion of the program.

Mattera, who lived on Havre Street, was also a fixture year after year at Eastie Pride Day. Every year during the neighborhood event, Smiley was always busy cooking hundreds of hot dogs for the hungry masses at the event held at Piers Park.

“Smiley was the best,” said Eastie Pride Day founder and former City Councilor Sal LaMattina. “I never had to call him to ask him to volunteer because he was one of the people we could always count on. He was one of the best guys around and was always willing to help anyone who needed it. He was a dear friend, and will be missed by all who knew and loved him.”

Smiley was also present at numerous other neighborhood celebrations like the District A-7 Halloween Party on Paris Street around the block from his home. It would bring Smiley great joy to hand out candy to all the kids in the neighborhood during the annual event.

Smiley was also known for his dry sense of humor and could bring a smile to anyone’s face by simply making an observation or a quick joke about certain situations.

“I’m so sad to hear of Smiley’s passing,” said Celeste Myers. “He was a gentleman and a true community caretaker. My most sincere sympathy to the family. Rest in peace Smiley.”

Then on Friday, Jan. 3 the community lost Peter Felt who died suddenly at Mass. General Hospital.

Mr. Felt brought joy to children, adults and seniors alike each and every Christmas season playing Santa Clause during Eastie’s tree lighting ceremonies, caroling events and special holiday luncheons and dinners.

Although Mr. Felt grew up in Revere and lived in Winthrop, he was committed to numerous organizations here in Eastie as a volunteer. He would play Santa for the Chamber of Commerce, the Kiwanis and, a few weeks before Christmas, play Santa for dozens of children and adults with special needs at an annual dinner at Spinelli’s.

Mr. Felt wouldn’t hesitate to lend a helping hand, listen to a story or share a story with you.

“The life God has given me has grown my family far beyond people that are blood,” said Jose Ruggiero III. “The impact (Peter Felt) had is endless. I was blessed to know you and love

ANNUAL CHOIR FESTIVAL IN EAST BOSTON



Seven local choirs performed in the St. Joseph – St. Lazarus Parish sixth Annual Choir Festival including the East Boston Central Catholic School who sung “One Moment in Time.”

you. You’re always with us Peter Felt.”

Mr. Felt was also an advocate for those struggling with addiction. At the time of his passing he had 44 years of sobriety under his belt.

“Thank you, Peter Felt for always having your hand out and always willing to help another who was sick and suffering,” said Ann Marie. “They don’t make them like you anymore. You will be so missed.”

YMCA’S CARLOS FUENTES PROMOTED TO YOUTH AND FAMILY PROGRAM DIRECTOR

EAST BOSTON - The East Boston YMCA announced that Carlos Fuentes has been promoted to Youth and Family Program Director. Fuentes was the Teen Program Director at the East Boston YMCA where he oversaw relationships with the surrounding middle and high schools and manages the academic credit recovery programs, as well as teen nights.

His portfolio will now include overseeing Teen Programs, Youth Sports, Child Watch, Family Engagement and oversight of the Ashley Street Teaching Kitchen.

“We are excited to see what Carlos does in his new role,” said East Boston YMCA Executive Director Joe Gaeta. “He has grown here at the East Boston ‘Y’ and we have seen him evolve into a community leader. The ‘Y’ will now be able to focus more energy on engaging more youth and families through fun, educational and healthy activities.”

Gaeta said Fuentes has grown the Y’s teen programs, sports programs and more recently the Y’s family engagement programs.

“Through strong community building and partnerships Carlos is seen in our community and our Y as a bridge builder for inclusivity and teamwork,” said Gaeta. “In his new role he will be able to create new and exciting oppor-

tunities for our youth and families in East Boston.”

Fuentes holds a BS in Social Work from Wheelock College and is an eight-year YMCA professional whose portfolio has greatly expanded as his career has evolved over time.

Raised in Chelsea, residents, classmates, and childhood friends remember Fuentes as the personable and multi-talented member of the Jordan Boys and Girls Club (JBGC), the hard-working and helpful student at Chelsea High School (Class of 2009), or the diligent staff member at the Chelsea Collaborative where he worked with administrators Gladys Vega and Roseann Bongiovanni before joining the East Boston YMCA team.

Fuentes is part of the LGBT community, and he is often sought out for advice by people who consider him an inspiration and a source of support.

This past summer Fuentes was the keynote speaker at the annual Massport LGBTQ flag-raising ceremony at Piers Park.

“I felt very alone in my community,” said Fuentes at the time. “Yes, there were many Latinos in my community and in my school but I felt like I didn’t belong because being gay was not common in my community. Today, our LGBT community is growing especially at the ‘Y’. At the ‘Y’ we have made a commitment of inclusion. We work to ensure that everyone, regardless of age, gender, cultural background, income, race or sexual orientation has the same opportunity to reach his or her full potential with dignity. “For All” is a simple but powerful phrase. However without it the Y’s mission is incomplete. Our commitment to inclusion creates better communities, a better country and a better world.”

James Morton, YMCA of Greater Boston president and CEO, recently lauded Fuentes who is part of a caring, dedicated staff that has made the ‘Y’ a true community resource in Eastie.

“Carlos’ story is truly an inspiration to all,” said

Morton. “When people join the Y, they are seeking to improve themselves, but in actuality they are also part of creating a better community. The Y helps teens with job training, academic support, and college prep help.”

NEW OFFICIALS TAKE OATH OF OFFICE

LYNN - The City of Lynn held its Inauguration Ceremony at the Lynn Memorial Auditorium in City Hall.

The Honorable Justice Garrett J. McManus administered the oaths of office to the members of the City Council and the School Committee.

The four councillors-at-large receiving their oaths for a two-year term were Buzzy Barton, Brian Field, Hong Net and Brian LaPierre. The seven ward councillors receiving their oaths were Wayne Lozzi (Ward 1), Richard Starbald (Ward 2), Darren Cyr (Ward 3), Richard Colucci (Ward 4), Dianna Chakoutis (Ward 5), Fred Hogan (Ward 6), and Jay Walsh (Ward 7).

Also receiving their oaths were six members of the School Committee, Brian Castellanos, Donna Coppola, John Ford, Lorraine Gately, Jared Nicholson, and Michael Satterwhite.

Cyr, president of the City Council, was the master of the ceremonies for the program. The Lynn English High School Marine Corps Junior ROTC made the official Presentation of the Colors.

Colucci, dean of the City Council, led the Pledge of Allegiance. Reginal Douyon sang the ‘National Anthem.’

Pastor Kurt Lange delivered the invocation. The Lynn Public Schools All-City Band performed Salute to America, Fanfare, and Salute to America during the program.

Mayor Thomas M. McGee delivered the mayoral remarks.

The many guests enjoyed a collation following the Inauguration Program.

LIBRARY NEWS

Babytime Parlin Memorial Library

Come to the Parlin Memorial Library at 11 a.m. on Wednesday, January 22, for our monthly Babytime. This program is ideal for children up to 24 months, and focuses on songs, movement, action rhymes, and simple stories. No registration required.

Spontaneous Storytimes Parlin Memorial Library

Saturday, January 25 Drop by the Parlin Li-

brary from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. for a spontaneous story. Pick a story from our pile of the newest books, find a librarian, and participate in personal story hour! Or join in on someone else’s chosen pick. We’ll be reading books all morning!

Adult Craft Parlin Memorial Library

Saturday, January 25 Get Crafty! If you missed it before the Holidays, you have a second chance to make a yarn dog, or finish the one you started. Make one for a friend, or make it

Family Storytime Parlin Memorial Library

Monday, January 27 Come to the Parlin Library at 11 a.m. on Monday morning to read books, sing songs, explore movements, and more. For toddlers and preschoolers (and their grown-ups.) No registration required.

OBITUARIES

Margaret Blake

Retired Everett educator and school administrator

Margaret “Peggy” Blake, 85, of Bradenton, FL, passed away at home surrounded by her loving family on Jan. 8.

Born in Everett, to Joseph and Betty (Kelly) Lynch, Peggy enjoyed a long and prestigious career as an educator/administrator for the Everett Public School district. During her 38 year tenure in Everett, she occupied positions as a teacher, reading specialist, principal, and Title 1 director. She was an innovator of reading programs, and a member of the prestigious Oxford Round Table in England.

Peggy is survived by the love of her life and adoring husband of 63 years, Laurence “Steve” Blake. She was a passionate and proud mother of four: Steven Blake (Educator) of Tewksbury, Anita Furrow (Educator) of Bradenton, FL, Michelle Michaud (RN) of Ellenton, FL, and Jennifer Blake (Educator) of Bradenton, FL. She also leaves ten grandchildren and eleven great-grand-



children, all adored. She was one of twelve children raised in Everett of whom only two remain: Louise Drucker of Virginia and Dr. James Lynch of Maryland. She also leaves numerous nieces and nephews.

Peggy was renowned for her many acts of kindness. In her honor, the family has chosen to follow her example by championing the education of a special caregiver. Contributions to this worthy aim can be made to “Cassandra’s Cause” on gofundme.com. Brown & Sons Funeral Homes & Crematory 43RD Street Chapel is in charge of arrangements. Condolences may be made to www.brownandsonsfuneral.com

Joseph DiBattista, Sr.

Founder of Jay Brian Transport

Joseph W. DiBattista, Sr. of Everett passed away peacefully surrounded by his family, on Jan. 7.

Joseph served his country for six years in the U.S Air Force while proudly earning his degree from Bentley College. He founded Jay Brian Transport, where he later had the joy of working side by side with his son before retirement. He will be dearly missed by all who knew him.

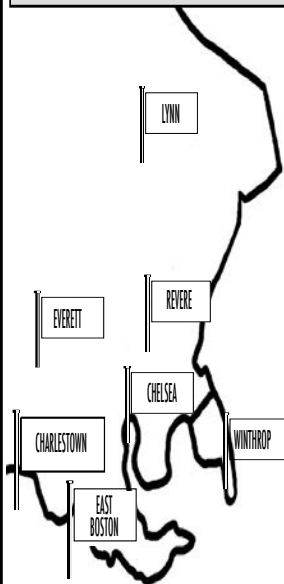
He was the beloved husband of the late Gail (Gianatassio) of Everett, son of the late Eugene and Pierina DiBattista, devoted father to Jodi Barron and her husband, Scott of Salem, NH, Jill McGrail and her husband, Chris of Merrimac and Jay DiBattista and his wife, Meredith of Westwood; loving grandfather of 10 grandchildren: Talan, Drue, Logan, Brady, Samantha, Nathan, Will, Ben, Hattie and Rhett and four great-grandchildren: Harlow, Addison, Raegan and Willow. He is also



survived by his brother, Thomas DiBattista and several nieces, nephews and extended family. Funeral arrangements were by the Salvatore Rocco & Sons Funeral Home, 331 Main Street, Everett. Interment was in Puritan Lawn Memorial Park, Peabody. In lieu of flowers, expressions of sympathy may be made in Joseph’s memory to the Kaplan Family Hospice House, 78 Liberty Street, Danvers, MA 01923.

For more information: 1-877-71-ROCCO or roccofuneralhomes.com.

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SEEKING
MISSING
PERSON

Searching for Marie Madeleine Murphy (original surname Carré and married to William Frew at one time). Marie arrived in Winthrop, MA in 1952. She was born Dec 17th, 1927, originally from La Tranche-sur-Mer, France and lived at 26 Cutler St., Winthrop in 1952-53. If you have any information about her whereabouts or that of her children, please contact me at: robert_frew@yahoo.com

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CHURCH News

Immaculate Conception Parish

News and Notes

Our Parish Staff: Father Joseph Chacha Marwa, S.M.A. Administrator;

Father Ernest Egbedike, S.M.A. Parochial Vicar;

Secretary Barbara Cannon

Weekly Mass Schedule at Immaculate Conception is as follows:

Saturday (Sunday Vigil) 4:00 p.m., Sunday 7:00 a.m., 9:00 a.m. (Family Mass), 11:00 a.m., and 5:30

p.m.
12:15 p.m. Spanish Community

4:00 p.m. Haitian Community

Masses are being held in the Chapel.

Eucharistic Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament: Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament is held every Thursday from 7:45 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. in the Chapel. Each Thursdays' adoration

will conclude the Benediction of the Most Blessed Sacrament at 6:30 p.m. All are invited to spend a few moments with Our Blessed Lord

Bring a Book-Buy a Book - We have a new Fundraiser Program in the back of the Church. It's called Bring a Book-Buy a Book. All books are a dollar and any money collected will go towards our Stain

Glass Fund. Brink a Book and Buy a Book and make a donation. Our selections are great and varied. Please stop by the table and see what we have. Thank you

Immaculate Conception Parish

489 Broadway
Everett, Mass 02149
Phone 617-389-5660

Mystic Side
Congregational
Church

News and Notes

Mystic Side Congregational Church is located in Everett, on Malden-Everett border, at 422 Main Street. We offer a warm, inviting atmosphere, and all are welcome. Our Sunday Church service starts at 10:30 a.m. and Communion is offered on the first Sunday of each month. A very pleasant coffee hour and socializing follow our services. Parking is available in our lot next to the church on Wyllis Ave. (one way off Main Street). We look forward to welcoming you this Sunday.

Grace Episcopal Church

News and Notes

Grace Anglican Episcopal Church is open & welcoming to all.

There are 3 services on Sundays: 10am English, 1pm South Sudanese (Dinka) and 3pm Haitian Creole. We have Sunday

school during each service in the Children's Room. Coffee Hour starts after the 10am service in the Parish Hall (entrance on 11 Liberty St.)

Come all and let us walk together in this season of

hope, renewal and new beginnings.

Grace Anglican
Episcopal Church
67 Norwood Street,
Everett, MA
Phone 617-387-7526
or 508-243-8487

Glendale Christian Lighthouse Church

News and Notes

Adult Sunday School at 9:30 AM. Teaching about Holiness .

Sunday 10:30 AM Worship service.

Wednesday hour of Power, worship, prayer and Bible Study. We are studying about God, come join us.

Come join us in prayer every Friday at 6 am.

Saturday, 12-3, Women's Fellowship. Join our sisters in worship, fellowship and prayer.
“Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters,” Colossians 3:23
“In Pursuit of Spiritual Excellence”
Righteousness, Godli-

ness, Faith, Love, Truth
• Domingo 9:30 am Escuela Dominical de Adultos. (en inglés)

Servicio de Alabanza y Adoracion a las 10 am (en inglés)

• Miercoles Hora de Poder, Oración, alabanza y Estudio de la Palabra de Dios a las 7 pm (en inglés)

• Ven unete a nosotros para orar todos los viernes a las 6 am

• Domingo Servicio de alabanza y adoracion a las 4pm (Servicio en español)

Mayores informes de los servicios en español (617) 306-3518

“No temas, porque yo estoy contigo; no desmayes, porque yo soy tu Dios que

te esfuerzo; siempre te ayudaré, siempre te sustentaré con la diestra de mi justicia.”

Isaias 41:10
“En busca de la excelencia espiritual

Rectitud, Divinidad, Fe, Amor, Verdad”

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OBITUARIES

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Foundation opens first-ever Brazilian Youth Center in Everett

On Saturday, January 11, Share Your Love Foundation – a non-profit organization created to help families in Brazil – and organizer Debora Dantas opened the first-ever Brazilian Youth Center located on Malden Street in Everett.

The new youth center, based in Everett because

of the large population of Brazilians within the community, was assembled to support children of Brazilian immigrants. Its goal is to provide youth with life skills, career exploration, college prep, mentorship, social-emotional learning and to become volunteers in local programs.

Mayor Carlo DeMaria

said, “Our diversity is what makes our community so rich. As the most diverse community in the Commonwealth, it’s important to have a safe space for Brazilian youth in Everett to gather. With the opening of the Office of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion, I’m looking forward to working closely with Share Your Love Foundation.”

Mayor DeMaria presented Dantas with a proclamation, declaring January 11th, 2020 as Share Your Love Day, highlighting the great work of the foundation.



Share Your Love Foundation organizer Debora Dantas poses for a picture with City Councilor Stephanie Martins, School Committee Member Marcony Almeida Barros and Michelle Fenelon from the Communications Department, who on behalf of Mayor Carlo DeMaria presented Dantas with a Proclamation.

CITY OF EVERETT BRIEFS

Council on Aging
Mayor Carlo DeMaria and The Council on Aging have planned the annual senior Valentine’s Party for Thursday February 13, 2020 at the Connolly Center. The event will begin at 12 p.m. The event will consist of a Chinese Food Luncheon and Dinner Show featuring comedian Johnny Pizzi and Boston’s own “Sinatra” Joe Chiarenza. Tickets are \$15 and will be available for purchase in the COA office beginning January 20. Tables of 8 and 10 are also available. Please join us for this exciting event and bring your sweetie. For additional information please call Dale at 617.394.2323

Celebrate Carnivale/ Mardi Gras at The Connolly Center
Join Mayor Carlo DeMaria and the Council on Aging in celebrating Carnivale at The Connolly Center on Tuesday February 25. This traditional celebration allows us to let our hair down as we prepare for the Lenten Season. Our special event, limited to 25 seniors, will feature a mask making class with our own Margaret Cornelio. Following the class, you will enjoy special treats that are synonymous with Carnivale and Mardi Gras. There is a nominal fee to participate in this event. Please sign up with Margaret or Dale in The COA Office or call us at 617.394.2323.

Seniors on The Road 2020
Mayor Carlo DeMaria’s Council on Aging has been working diligently to choose and offer trips and outings for seniors to enjoy in 2020. Our first trip that will be offered is a trip to Foxwoods Casino and Resort on Tuesday March 10th. Our luxury Silver Fox Motor Coach will meet us for a 7:30 a.m. departure at the Spring Street parking lot, where there is ample parking. In Route you will enjoy a game of Bingo. When we arrive at our destination, you will be greeted by a friendly staff member that will present you with a Foxwoods “Casino Comp” Package worth over \$25. Reservations can be made with checks made payable to the City of Everett are being accepted in the Council on Aging Office at The Connolly Center. For additional information please call Dale at 617.394.2323.

February Senior Social
Please join the Council on Aging for the monthly Senior Social on Wednesday, February 19, beginning at 11:45 a.m. at The Connolly Center. A catered meal of salad, pasta, chicken noelle, roasted potatoes, broccoli, dessert and coffee will be served. You will once again enjoy the songs of Ray Cavicchio. Tickets are available for purchase Monday February 3, at the Council on Aging. For more information please don’t hesitate to call us at 617.394.2323.

TO PLACE YOUR LEGAL AD CALL
781-485-0588

- LEGAL NOTICE - CITY OF EVERETT



EVERETT PLANNING BOARD PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

Hearing on the following application:
Site Plan - 166-172 School St/4-6 Norwood St
Site Plan Review

In accordance with the provisions of M.G.L Chapter 40A, Section 19 of the Everett Zoning Ordinance, the Everett Planning Board will conduct a public hearing on Monday, January 27, 2020 at 7:00 PM in the Speaker George Keverian Room, Third floor, City Hall, 484 Broadway, Everett, MA 02149 to consider the above-listed applications in connection with the proposal to create twenty-three (23) hotel rooms in an existing structure as shown on plans entitled “Redevelopment of 166-72 School St, A Hotel & Restaurant Proposal, 166-72 School Street, Everett, MA 02149” (the “Site Plan”) on a parcel shown on the Site Plan, being a parcel of land referenced by Assessor’s Department as C0-04-000008.

The application with narrative and the Site Plan were received on December 18, 2019. The plans are entitled “Redevelopment of 166-72 School St, A Hotel & Restaurant Proposal, 166-72 School Street, Everett, MA 02149” were prepared by Peter Quinn of Peter Quinn Architects LLC located at 259 Elm St, ST 301, Somerville MA 02144 and prepared for TRS C.B. Trust. The application was prepared by Atty. David W. Carr dated December 18, 2019.

A copy of the application and plans are on file and available in the Office of the City Clerk and the Department of Planning and Development, both located at City Hall, 484 Broadway, Everett, MA 02149 and can be inspected during regular City Hall business hours.

All persons interested or wishing to be heard on the proposal should appear at the time and place designated above. As items may be continued to later dates, please contact Shane O’Brien of the Department of Planning & Development at 617-944-0236 before attending.

Frederick Cafasso, Chairman
January 15, 2020
January 22, 2020

- LEGAL NOTICE - CITY OF EVERETT



BOARD OF APPEALS
484 Broadway
Everett, Massachusetts
02149
(617) 381-7445

To Whom It May Concern:
This notice is to inform you that a public hearing will beheld on Monday, February 3, 2020 at 7:00 PM, Everett City Hall, 3rd Floor George Keverian Hearing Room. All interested parties may attend and opinions will be heard regarding the following petition. Whereas a petition has been presented by:
Property Address:
983 Broadway
Map/Lot: AO-01-000147
Person Requesting:
REX-E, LLC
29 Mackenzie Lane
Wakefield, MA 01880

To the said Board of Appeals, The owner/applicant propose4s to raze the existing structure and reconstruct a new nine (9) unit t here (3) story residential structure. The corner lot is located within the Business District with an area of 5000 sf
Reason for Denial:
Permit was denied in accordance to the City of Everett Zoning Ordinance Appendix A as follows:
Violations:
1. Appendix A Section 6(b)(4) - Front Yard - Requires residential development to have a ten (10) foot front yard setback minimum of which no less than five (5) feet shall be used for landscaping. The current proposal provides for a zero front yard setback.
2. Appendix A Section 6(b)(8) - Corner Lot -Requires a 7' setback when residential use (Estes St). The proposed plan includes a setback of 0'.
3. Appendix A section (17) - Off Street Parking: Requires 2 spaces for each dwelling unit. The proposed plan includes 9 parking spaces requiring relief of 9 spaces.
The applicant must seek relief in the form of a variance from the Board of Appeals.
Mary Gerace - Chairman
Roberta Suppa - Clerk
Board of Appeals

January 15, 2020
January 22, 2020

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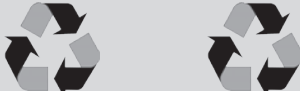
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Sports

EHS BASKETBALL HOST HOOP WORKSHOP

Members of the Everett High School girls and boys basketball teams, and their coaches, mentored youth during a basketball workshop on Saturday morning, Jan. 11. Elementary age kids had the opportunity to learn basketball basics and get a feel for the sport in a low-pressure atmosphere with their peers. Additional basketball workshops will take place on January 18, 25, and February 1.



EHS basketball player, Omar Quilter, demonstrated defensive exercises under the guidance of Coach Stanley Chamblain.



Marvin Jones practiced exercises during the basketball workshop at Everett High School.



Brady Stackpole gets down low with the ball.



Coach Stanley Chamblain introduced the young boys to the Everett High School basketball team.



Omarian Ayala practiced his dribbling.



Adrian Volquez enjoyed the basketball workshop in Everett on Saturday morning.

EHS SPORTS ROUNDUP

EHS girls roll, now stand at 7-0

The Everett High girls basketball remained perfect on the season, improving to 7-0 overall and 3-0 in the Greater Boston League, with a dominating 70-28 victory over GBL rival Malden last Tuesday.

Ten Lady Crimson Tide reached the scoring column, led by Andrea Manley with 16 points and Maya Kirnon with 15. Carolanne Cardinale also reached double figures with 10 points, all of which Carolanne scored in the first period.

Jane Odiari hit for six points, followed by Sara Thompson and Ariel Charles with five points apiece, Veronica Bento and Maddie Dureas with four points each, Gianna Martin with three, and Stephanie Suavita with two points.

“We came out aggressively on defense and moved the ball around on

offense,” said EHS head coach Tammy Turner, whose squad sprinted to a 31-8 advantage in the opening period. “We were executing at both ends of the floor. I felt that we were clicking for the first time this season.”

The victory not only maintains the Everett girls’ perfect record, but places them in the driver’s seat for a GBL title. The Lady Crimson Tide officially are the defending GBL champs, having won the GBL crown in 2017 before the GBL disbanded and joined the Northeastern Conference for the 2018 and 2019 seasons.

Everett has defeated GBL foes Revere, Medford, and Malden, with only Somerville left on their GBL docket. Turner and her crew were set to take on Somerville last night (Tuesday).

They will play at Arling-

ton Catholic on Friday and then make the long trek to Salem on Monday at 5 p.m.

Boys track team defeats Medford

The Everett High boys indoor track & field team earned its first victory of the season with an exciting 48-38 victory over Medford in a meet that was decided by 0.8 of a second in the final event, the 4 x 400 relay.

Everett held the edge in the nine individual events, winning five outright and splitting one, the tie coming in the high jump in which Everett’s Mac Shillingford and his Medford rival both leapt 5’-6.”

Other first-place finishers for Everett were: Justin King, who won the 50 hurdles in 9.0; Brendon Previlon, who captured the 300 dash in 41.4; Ryan Vu, who outran the field in the 600 in 1:46.3; Frank Calascibetta, who took the 1,000 in

3:35.1; and Mario Sheard, who out-threw the field in the shot-put with a toss of 39’-11.”

Second-place finishers for Everett who added three points to the Crimson Tide’s side of the scoresheet were: Clarence Jules in the 50 dash in 6.6; Jose Lemus in the mile in 5:53.8; and Arthur Rosa in the two-mile in 12:04.4.

Adding crucial points in a close meet with third-place performances were: Brandon Ho in the 50 dash in 7.2; Samuel Desir-Mafouana in the mile in 6:12.8; Vu in the high jump with a leap of 6’-0’; and Mario Portillo with a shot-put throw of 30’-9.25”.

However, with Everett leading 43-38, Medford still had a chance to tie with a victory in the final event, the 4 x 400 relay, with the Crimson Tide quartet of junior Brendon Previlon and senior captains Ryan Vu, Eduardo Chaparro, and Mac Shillingford representing Everett.

“The boys ran a tactical race, not letting Medford take a leg and staying right with them for Mac to take the baton,” said EHS head coach Juhu Cimea. “Mac then ran an amazing anchor leg to give the boys their first win of the season.

“Overall, it was a great win for the boys,” Cimea

added. “In the field event, senior Mario Sheard is having a great season so far, being undefeated in the shot-put.”

The boys’ next meet was set for yesterday (Tuesday) against Malden.

EHS girls come close in meet with Medford

The Everett High girls indoor track & field team put up a spirited battle against Medford last week, but came up just short in a meet that was not decided until the final event, the 4 x 400 relay.

Everett trailed by a single point, 38-37, entering the relay thanks to a number of outstanding performances by the Lady Crimson Tide.

Everett swept the shot-put, led by Kira Gray with a toss of 27’-5.” Ann Laurie Pierre took second with a throw of 25’-9.5 and Alyssa Hurley grabbed third with a distance of 22’-9.5.”

Lyanne Murphy won the 50 hurdles in 10.6; Lucia Seide sped to victory in the 50 dash in 7.35; Victoria Chaparro captured the 300 dash in 48.1; and Eduardo Bernardo took the high jump with a leap of 4’-2.”

Second-place finishes were recorded by Laki-sha Kirnon in the hurdles in 11.1 and Leslye Rojas-Rupel in the mile in 7:08. Adding single points

with third-place efforts were Jessica Santos in the 50 dash in 7.6 and Rejean Guillaume in the 300.

“Captain Lucia Seide ran her first dual meet of the season to take the win in the dash,” said EHS head coach Juhu Cimea. “Senior captain Victoria Chaparro easily took the win in her specialty, the 300.

“We also had a great day from the hurdlers with senior hurdles captain Lyanne Murphy getting her first win of the season as she looks to be one of the top hurdlers in the GBL,” added Cimea. “Fellow hurdler, sophomore Lakisha Kirnon, came in second with a great performance. In the field events, our girls’ shot-putters are having a great season so far, with senior Kira Gray being undefeated.”

The girls’ next meet was set for yesterday (Tuesday) against Malden.

EHS hockey wins two contests

The Everett High hockey team improved to 6-3 on the season with a pair of wins this past week, defeating Minuteman Regional, 5-4, and O’Bryant High, 8-3.

The Crimson Tide are scheduled to play at Somerville this evening (Wednesday) and then will host Rockport Saturday at Allied Veterans Rink at 4 p.m.

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