

FOCUS ON THE FALL

Supt. Tahiliani on DESE’s initial Back-to-School guidance

Staff Report

Last Friday marked the release of the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education’s (DESE) “Initial Fall Reopening Guidance” for school districts. In the coming days, Everett Public Schools (EPS) will delve into every facet of the plan and determine how it specifically impacts the Everett Public Schools, and how to utilize it to the fullest benefit of students and educators. It is important to note that this is a preliminary report, and that a fuller framework will be announced in July. There are, however, essential considerations that EPS wanted to share with every member of our community.

First of all, the district said it applauded DESE for the detailed planning this report reflected. The conclusions and guidance contained in the report are data-driven and the result of input from health experts, education experts and community stakeholders.

DESE’s top priority is to have students safely return to school in person, adhering to a strict set of safety guidelines and practices that meet the academic, social, and emotional needs of each and every student.

“COVID-19 has starkly illustrated that there is no replacement for in-person instruction. Opening buildings is the primary focus,” said Supt. Tahiliani.

But this does not signal that students are guaranteed to return to school buildings

in September, she said.

DESE is requiring districts to formally develop plans that account for three realities:

- A return to school for in-person teaching and learning.
- A combination of in-person and remote learning.
- The continuation of an all-remote learning model.

This has been how the EPS has formed all of its decisions in recent weeks, and the district said it looked forward to sharing the plans with the community and DESE in August.

When they do return to school, health and safety precautions that have been in place in recent months will be modified and refined for school settings. These include:

- Masks/face coverings, physical distancing, hand-washing, and cleaning frequently touched surfaces
- Masks/face coverings will be required for all students in Grade 2 and above and for all adults; they are recommended for students in Grade 1 and below.
- The establishment of a minimum physical distance of three feet.

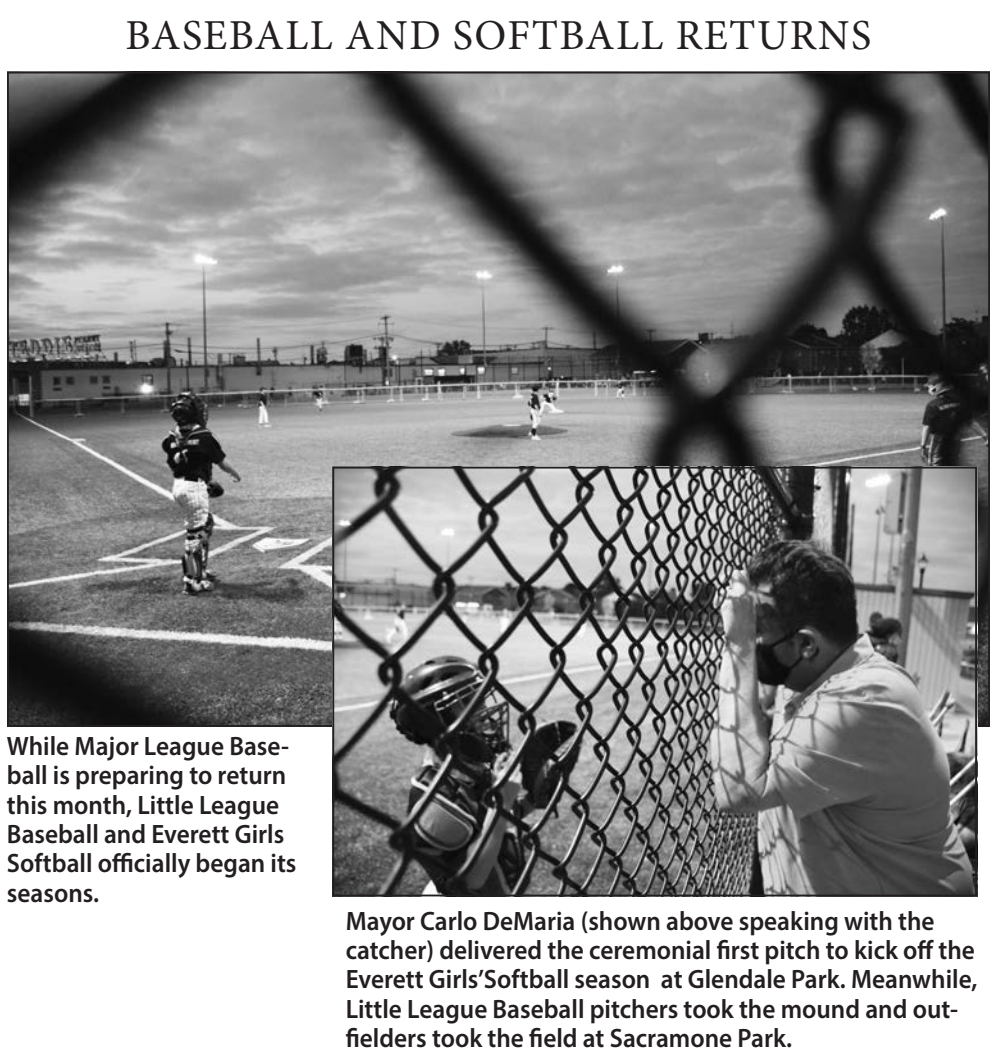
“COVID-19 will continue to require patience and understanding,” she said. “This report is a vital first step in pointing us toward the fall, but questions and uncertainties persist. This is not intended to address every concern. It is far better to focus on what the report does say, rather than lament what it does not. We will

continue to communicate with (families) throughout the summer as more information is made available at the state and local level.”

The district asked that families and students pay close attention to the surveys that will be shared, which will provide invaluable feedback as they prepare for the 2020-2021 school year.

EPS is prepared to immediately act on the exhaustive details of this initial report. Tahiliani said they are forming a Back-to-School Committee, which includes members who have the expertise to specifically address any and all facets of the plan, from health considerations to elemental logistical concerns.

“When this report landed in my inbox, I was filled with hope,” she said. “We might not be through this crisis, but there is no doubt that we are pushing ahead as a district, a community, and a Commonwealth. I take pleasure and pride in working with my colleagues on planning for the coming school year. We recognize the challenges brought on by Coronavirus, but we are undaunted. Our students need us. They need us under the ‘best’ of circumstances, and they especially need us now, at a time when national events require that we have genuine conversations about the most serious issues facing us. I look forward to sharing our plans at each and every step of the process.”



While Major League Baseball is preparing to return this month, Little League Baseball and Everett Girls Softball officially began its seasons.

Mayor Carlo DeMaria (shown above speaking with the catcher) delivered the ceremonial first pitch to kick off the Everett Girls’ Softball season at Glendale Park. Meanwhile, Little League Baseball pitchers took the mound and outfielders took the field at Sacramone Park.

Schools to work on new personnel policies

By Seth Daniel

Supt. Priya Tahiliani has met with several students who were upset over public inappropriate Tweets allegedly posted by an Everett High teacher in June following the murder of George Floyd in Minneapolis and the protests and vigils that followed across the country – including in Everett and Boston.

Those Tweets were detailed in a story in the Independent last month, and Tahiliani told students recently the district condemns the Tweets, is working on discipline for the incident, but most importantly, is working on clear policies that will allow termination of an employee that isn’t conforming to the value statements of the district.

The situation with the teacher, Robert LeGrow, was not covered under any such policy, and his speech was protected through his Constitutional rights and an unclear social media policy that Tahiliani said is being reformed.

“I share your frustration as you constructively and thoughtfully react to tragic national events as well as this specific incident here in Everett,” she wrote. “The

social media comments made by one of our teachers were insensitive, hostile, and failed to comprehend the driving forces behind the protests that were held in the wake of the murder of George Floyd.

“While we condemned these posts and are still in the process of imposing progressive consequences, I am aware that we have not implemented the particular consequence you seek,” she continued. “In our attempts to build a district we are all proud of, we cannot bypass or ignore the protections that are afforded to all individuals, be they as citizens of our country or, in this case, as a member of the school community.”

She said what can be done is “institute long term sustainable changes” that address the systemic and institutional racism that plague the nation and the school district. She said the district is working on long-term changes to put in place clear policies that ensure those working for Everett Public Schools with follow the core values of the district both professionally and privately.

“While we all retain our first amendment right, now

is the time to make both the statement and the policies that, in the future, ensure that our district reserves the right to terminate those who demonstrate views that are grossly unaligned with the values we know to be right and just,” she said. “I am neither frustrated nor intimidated by having these difficult dialogues.”

Supt. Tahiliani thanked the students for bringing the Tweets to the attention of the public, and pushing the public schools in Everett to have conversations about the subject.

“I am proud that the district is finally discussing these subjects publicly,” she said, noting that the district has been implementing a three-phased Elevating Equity for Everett plan. “I firmly believe that you, our young leaders, are the strong voice we need in advocating for change to denounce institutional racism. As a school district, I thank each and every one of you for being a positive change agent in this work. This conversation is just beginning, and this work is only at its initial stages. We have a long way to go, but I feel confident we will get there.”

Real Estate Transfers

BUYER 1	SELLER 1	ADDRESS	PRICE
Korol, Evan	Jagiello, James M	78 Bradford St	\$500,000
Sheppard, Krysten J	Dajci, Tony	148 Chestnut S	\$700,000
Bleecker, Alexandria	Souza, Adalberto	20 Elliott Rd	\$525,000
196-198 Main St LLC	L&N RT	198 Main St	\$1,300,000
L&Z Investments LLC	Bertone, Mario	256 Main St	\$860,000
Nzigiye, Yves	51 Rock Valley Ave LLC	51-53 Rock Valley Ave #3	\$420,000
Daliadakis, John	Toto Edward Est	28 Stuart St	\$639,900

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- LEGAL NOTICE - CITY OF EVERETT

PLANNING BOARD
484 BROADWAY
EVERETT, MA 02149

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE
Hearing on the following application:
178-180 Elm 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 virtual public hearing on Monday, July 20, 2020 at 7:00 PM online to be viewed on YouTube (Lhttps://www.youtube.com/channel/UCdwaOnTb-geJaekx02IH54Q, to consider the above-listed application in connection with the proposal to renovate and redevelop a current mixed-use building and reconstruct second-story then add third—floor to building within current building footprint. The upper two floors will each contain four (4) residential apartments as shown on the plans entitled “Mixed Use Building Residential Addition, 178 Elm St” were prepared by Kritikos Architects” being a parcel of land referenced by Assessor’s Department as NO-03-000042.

The application with narrative and the Site Plan were received on July 2, 2020 from Delory Law. The plans are entitled “Mixed Use Building Residential Addition, 178 Elm St” were prepared by Kritikos Architects, 14 Olsen Rd, Peabody MA 01960 and prepared for the owner Kaura LLC, 178 Elm St.

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 online at http://www.cityofeverett.com/449/Planning-Board or by request via email.

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 Shane.O’Brien@ci.everett.ma.us or 617-394-2334 before attending.

Frederick Cafasso, Chairman
July 8, 2020
July 15, 2020

- LEGAL NOTICE - CITY OF EVERETT

PLANNING BOARD
484 BROADWAY
EVERETT, MA 02149

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE
Hearing on the following application:
110 Tremont 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 virtual public hearing on Monday, July 20, 2020 at 7:00 PM online to be viewed on YouTube (Link: https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCdwaOnTb-geJaekx02IH54Q, to consider the above-listed application in connection with the proposal to redevelop a former industrial building into a 48-unit (two story structure) residential building as shown on plans entitled “110 Tremont St by Lafreniere Architects” (the “Site Plan”) on a parcel shown on the Site Plan, being a parcel of land referenced by Assessor’s Department as D0-04-000007.

The application with narrative and the Site Plan were received on May 14, 2020. The plans are entitled “110 Tremont St” were prepared by Lafreniere Architects, 678 Massachusetts Ave, Cambridge MA 02139 and prepared for the owner 120 Tremont St LLC.

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 online at http://www.cityofeverett.com/449/Planning-Board or by request via email

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 Tony Sousa of the Department of Planning & Development at Tony.Sousa@ci.everett.ma.us or 617-394-2334 before attending.

Frederick Cafasso, Chairman
July 8, 2020
July 15, 2020

Wedding //

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

As the time came to start the ceremony, panic set in when they couldn’t find the minister. Soon, they found that the minister wasn’t coming due to a last-minute emergency.

Now, with the sun setting, their wedding was in crisis mode.

Wiens set out for the beach, and while in her wedding gown, began searching for anyone who might be able to marry them. Wiens’s mother also set out trying to find some stroke of luck.

She found the luck in Mayor DeMaria.

After explaining the situation to the mayor, they asked if he would step in and marry the couple so that the show could go on. DeMaria told her he would love to help, but he didn’t have the authority as mayor to marry anyone.

All was not lost, though, as Mayor DeMaria said he would call Gov. Charlie Baker and find out if there was any way he could get the temporary authority as Justice of the Peace.

As luck would have it, Gov. Baker answered and told DeMaria he could grant him special authori-

ty for the day to marry the couple. So, Gov. Baker did grant the permission and the bride, groom and the mayor headed over to the altar for the wedding.

The wedding took place as planned, an Gov. Baker even called the couple afterwards to congratulate them.

It was an unbelievable turn of events, and one that Mayor DeMaria said was an incredible experience – though absolutely unexpected.

On Tuesday afternoon, Kalliath and Wiens held a special luncheon in Mashpee to thank the mayor, and present him with a special gift.

It was a welcome turn of events, because the couple had already been forced to cancel their big wedding plans due to COVID-19. Instead, they had planned to have the smaller, sunset wedding on the beach. When that began to fall apart, they were distraught.

Now, all is well, and the happy couple tied the knot – with the help of Mayor DeMaria – and Kalliath is preparing to join Cape Cod Hospital.

Raise Up Massachusetts to launch ‘Invest in Our Recovery’ campaign

Staff Report

Warning that severe state budget cuts would only worsen the effects of the COVID-19 crisis and impair our economy’s recovery, the Raise Up Massachusetts coalition of community groups, faith-based organizations, and labor unions is launching the ‘Invest in Our Recovery’ campaign this week to advocate for increased state taxes on profitable corporations and their wealthy shareholders. During a series of local outdoor demonstrations across the state beginning on Wednesday, July 15, community, faith, and labor advocates will join educators, healthcare and human service workers, bus drivers, and other public-sector workers to call on Massa-

chusetts lawmakers to avoid devastating budget cuts, and instead invest in public services by asking profitable corporations and investors to pay their fair share. “Lawmakers have a choice: Massachusetts can let deep budget cuts drive us further into a recession that deepens racial and economic inequities, or we can invest in public services that improve public health, grow our economy, and reduce racial inequality,” said Beth Huang, Executive Director of the Massachusetts Voter Table and a member of the Raise Up Massachusetts Steering Committee. “Our legislators can and should raise significant new revenue from profitable corporations and their shareholders this year, avoid destructive budget cuts, and

instead, invest in healthcare, transportation, education, safety net programs, and other critical areas of the state budget that will drive an equitable recovery.” A list of planned local demonstrations is below: •BOSTON – Wednesday, July 15 at noon Outside the Bruce C. Bolling Municipal Building, Nubian Square (2300 Washington Street, Roxbury) •REVERE/EVERTT/CHELSEA/EAST BOSTON – Wednesday, July 15 at 6 p.m. Revere Beach Bandstand (88 Revere Beach Blvd., Revere) •LYNN/NORTH SHORE – Thursday, July 16 at noon Outside Lynn City Hall (3 City Hall Square, Lynn) The COVID-19 public health crisis and the cri-

sis of economic disruption created by the pandemic have increased the needs of working families across the state, even as the state budget faces a multi-billion-dollar deficit. Workers need access to paid sick time so that workers who feel sick or may have been exposed can stay home and avoid spreading the virus. Students across the state need more support to handle the trauma and learning loss caused by school closures, not less. Direct care workers on the frontlines of the COVID-19 response effort need wages and proper workplace protections that reflect the essential work they do. Children under the protection of the state, whose fragile lives are further disrupted by the pandemic, need added support and attention. Our public transportation systems need resources to run frequent service that allows for social distancing, and investments that will prevent traffic congestion from returning. Throughout the crisis we’re facing, many large corporations continue to generate enormous profits that flow to their extremely wealthy shareholders. According to an analysis by the Institute for Policy Studies, the 19 billionaires in Massachusetts saw their wealth increase by a total of \$17 billion during the first three months of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Raise Up Massachusetts is calling on legislators to adopt policies that ask profitable corporations and their wealthy shareholders to contribute more to our economic recovery:

•**Increase the Tax Rate on Corporate Profits** – Like most states, Massachusetts taxes corporate profits. Businesses that are turning a profit should be expected to contribute more to support the public goods on which their profits are based, especially during a public health and state fiscal crisis. *Raising the current rate of 8.0% to the pre-2009 rate of 9.5% could generate \$450 million to \$525 million annually from profitable businesses, even during a recession.*

•**Tax Profits Shifted Overseas by Increasing the Tax Rate on GILTI (Global Intangible Low Taxed Income)** – Many multinational corporations that do business in MA dodge taxes by using complex accounting schemes that make their MA-based profits appear to have been earned in offshore tax havens. This “income shifting” often places these profits beyond the reach of US tax authorities. Massachusetts should do the same as many other states and the federal government, and adopt a federal provision that identifies this shifted income and allows states

to tax a portion of it. *Could generate \$200 – \$400 million annually.*

•**Increase the Tax Rate that Investors Pay on Unearned Income** – Over the last several decades, Massachusetts has reduced the tax rate on most types of unearned income (income from investments and other forms of asset ownership, such as stocks, bonds, and dividend and interest income). Today, most unearned income is taxed at the same rate as earned income (income from wages and salaries). Unearned income goes overwhelmingly to corporate shareholders and other high-income individuals, who currently pay a smaller share of their income toward state and local taxes in MA than the rest of us do. These high-income investors should be expected to contribute more to support the public goods on which we all depend. *Each percentage point increase from the current rate of 5.0% could generate \$400 to \$500 million annually.*

With these revenue policies, the ‘Invest in Our Recovery’ campaign aims to avoid destructive budget cuts that would only add to the harm the COVID-19 pandemic has caused, and instead move forward with investments that improve public health, grow our economy, and tackle racial inequalities.

Strike // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

displeasure with contract negotiations, while putting a damper on folks needing to use The Ride.

“I’m out here showing support for all of us who drive for Veterans Transportation,” said Flavio Gomes on Monday evening. “There is a disagreement with health care insurance. It comes down to fairness. I’m out to show my support.”

Members of Teamsters Local 25 employed at Veterans Transportation, which provides paratransit for the MBTA THE RIDE voted unanimously to reject the company’s final contract offer and go on strike immediately last Sunday. A total of 350 essential workers who have worked throughout the COVID-19 pandemic are striking over the company’s demands for significant health insurance increases. These drivers have been on the job during the entire pandemic providing door-to-door transportation for people who cannot use public transit because of physical, cognitive or mental disabilities.

Teamsters Local 25 members are walking the



Drivers Mark Gendreau, Liz Warner and Susan Sutton in Everett on Monday.

picket lines outside Veterans Transportation 24 hours, 7 days per week.

“Veterans Transportation is a highly profitable company denying its own workers affordable health insurance during a global pandemic,” said Teamsters Local 25 President Sean M. O’Brien. “These men and women are essential workers who have put themselves and their families at risk providing essential services during this time. Our members at Veterans Transportation can be assured we will fight for them and will not rest until they receive a fair contract.”

In a statement on Monday, the MBTA said VTS is one of two providers of paratransit service provided to the MBTA. Because of the labor dispute and the strike, the MBTA said customers could expect delays and/or service interruption due to the lack of drivers.

“The MBTA is advising customers to only schedule essential trips because drivers are limited,” read the statement. “Customers are asked to consider alternative transport options, such as a local taxi, Uber, or Lyft. If a customer is having a medical emergency, please

contact 911. Customers have the option to cancel or rebook their trips by contacting The RIDE call center at 844-427-7433.

“The MBTA strongly urges Teamsters Local 25 and Veterans Transportation to continue negotiating,” continued the statement. “It is the MBTA’s hope that this situation resolves soon. The MBTA is committed to providing this essential service to our most at-risk, vulnerable customers.”

Many of the drivers on site Monday were part of VTS, but others had just transitioned from GLSS into the Local 25 and were showing support.

“Our spirits are high because we love what we do and support all the drivers,” said Mark Gendreau. “We love our jobs.”

Said Susan Sutton, “What we’re hoping for are equitable and fair pay and benefits for everyone. We all worked through the pandemic. We were here every day.”

VTS wasn’t immediately available for comment on the matter.

Teamsters Local 25 is New England’s largest Teamsters union with more than 12,000 members.



Councilor Michael McLaughlin on Air Force Road with Liz Warner at the picket lines Monday.

DiDomenico secures \$5 million in bond bill to fight food insecurity

Staff Report

Sen. Sal DiDomenico recently announced that his amendment providing \$5 million for the development of a common application for MassHealth enrollees to more easily access the federal Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) was included as part of the Senate’s General Governmental Bond Bill. DiDomenico has been longtime champion of food security in the Commonwealth and has been filing legislation for years to streamline the process for individuals and families applying for federal SNAP benefits.

“I am very pleased that my amendment was included as a key component of the General Governmental Bond Bill,” said Senator

DiDomenico. “As more individuals and families become unemployed and lose private health insurance, they will undoubtedly need both health care and nutritional benefits. This \$5M will go a long way towards making the common application I have been advocating for a reality and will play a crucial role in helping to connect people with the food resources they need.”

Senator DiDomenico is the lead sponsor of *An Act improving public health through a common application for core food, health and safety-net programs*, also known as the SNAP Gap bill. The SNAP Gap refers to the over 700,000 people who are MassHealth recipients and likely eligible for SNAP but are not receiving

nutritional benefits. MassHealth and SNAP, as well as many other safety-net programs, use separate application processes that ask for similar information. This duplicates efforts and creates more work for both the state and low-income consumers.

DiDomenico’s bill would create a common application portal to let low-income households apply for MassHealth and SNAP at the same time, thereby consolidating the application process and raising awareness of SNAP eligibility. This bill would help more low-income students access free school meals, increasing food access for over 100,000 Massachusetts elders, and help more families meet their basic needs.

House of Representatives passes bill to facilitate mosquito control amid reemergence of EEE

Representative Joe McGonagle joined Speaker DeLeo and their colleagues in the House of Representatives to pass legislation giving the Commonwealth the necessary tools to more effectively combat mosquitoes to curtail insect-borne illnesses such as Eastern Equine Encephalitis (EEE) and West Nile virus.

An Act to mitigate arbovirus in the commonwealth permits the State Reclamation and Mosquito Control Board to engage in mosquito prevention, management and eradication in any area of the Commonwealth upon

a determination by the Department of Public Health that an elevated risk of arbovirus exists.

“Most years when we are combating mosquito-borne illness, we are not also combating a global pandemic,” said McGonagle. “Massachusetts has done a great job containing COVID-19 cases, so it would be heartbreaking to see us fall victim to a different disease. I am confident with this legislation that we can contain EEE and West Nile, so we can focus on treating and developing a vaccine for COVID-19.”

Under the bill, the Board must provide 48-hour notice of any mosquito control activities to the public, local and regional boards and commissions and others and creates a process for municipalities to opt-out of these activities if they have a DPH-approved plan.

The bill also establishes a task force to study mosquito control efforts in Massachusetts.

An Act to mitigate arbovirus in the commonwealth now moves back to the Senate.

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Everett Independent

City officials offer parking options on Ferry Beachway

VTA AGENT FEARS

Encore gam to grow, tho

School Committee moves to look into more restrictive student residency

Council calls for action to city's residents

LET'S PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION

Five proposals

THE CRASH

Example Page
Sticky Note represented
by Black box

Everett Independent

President: Stephen Quigley

Editor in Chief: Cary Shuman

WHEN DID THE U.S. GO FROM FIRST TO WORST?

For those of us of the Baby Boom generation, it was unquestionable that the United States was "the best" country in the world.

Despite the war in Vietnam, Watergate, recessions, 9/11, and other setbacks, America continued to be a global leader in just about every aspect of world affairs.

Basically, there was the U.S. -- and then there was everybody else.

American exceptionalism was taken for granted (even if in truth we often were not all that exceptional).

However, the coronavirus has pulled back the curtain and exposed us for what we have become -- a nation that ranks among the worst by many metrics. Compared to our supposed peers in Western Europe and Asia, our response to the pandemic has been pathetic. COVID-19 death rates per capita in Western Europe are only a 10th of the death rate in the U.S. And while theirs are falling, ours is rising.

Consider these additional facts:

How can it be that we have 4% of the world's population, but we have 25% of the deaths from COVID-19?

How can it be that four months into the pandemic, we still do not have enough PPE (personal protective equipment) for our hospital and other front line workers?

How can it be that some of our states have more new cases of COVID-19 than entire countries?

How can it be that not only is the amount of our testing still woefully inadequate, but that our labs are so backed up that it is taking 5-7 days to get results -- which all but makes the testing useless because results need to be made available within 24-48 hours?

COVID-19 has revealed us to be the equivalent of a so-called Third World country.

To put it simply, we have devolved from being a global leader to that of a global laggard with the result that thousands of Americans are getting sick and dying and our economy remains in tatters -- and with no end in sight.

NAME CHANGE WAS A LONG TIME COMING

The decision this week by the Washington Redskins to change its team name was long, long, LONG overdue.

The term "redskin" is -- and always has been -- a racist reference to Native Americans.

For anyone who doubts that notion, just think about all of the western movies that have permeated our culture for almost 100 years. When the hero would say something like, "Let's kill all of those thievin' redskins," (or something similar), the use of the term "redskin" was meant to dehumanize Native Americans.

It certainly was not a complimentary term.

We should point out that the obnoxious and arrogant owner of the Washington football team for years has ridiculed any suggestion that he change the team's name.

It finally was the force of economics, not a sudden surge of altruism, that prompted the team's about-face. When various team sponsors -- who themselves became motivated to do so only in light of recent events -- threatened to remove their millions of dollars of revenue, that finally is what got the team ownership's attention.

So we're happy to see that yet another vestige of America's racist past is falling. There still is a lot more to do, but changing the name of Washington's football team is yet another step in the right direction as we acknowledge and renounce our racist and genocidal past.

To quote the Sam Cooke song:

It's been a long, a long time coming

But I know a change's gonna come, oh, yes, it will

Everett Independent

Published by the Independent Newspaper Group

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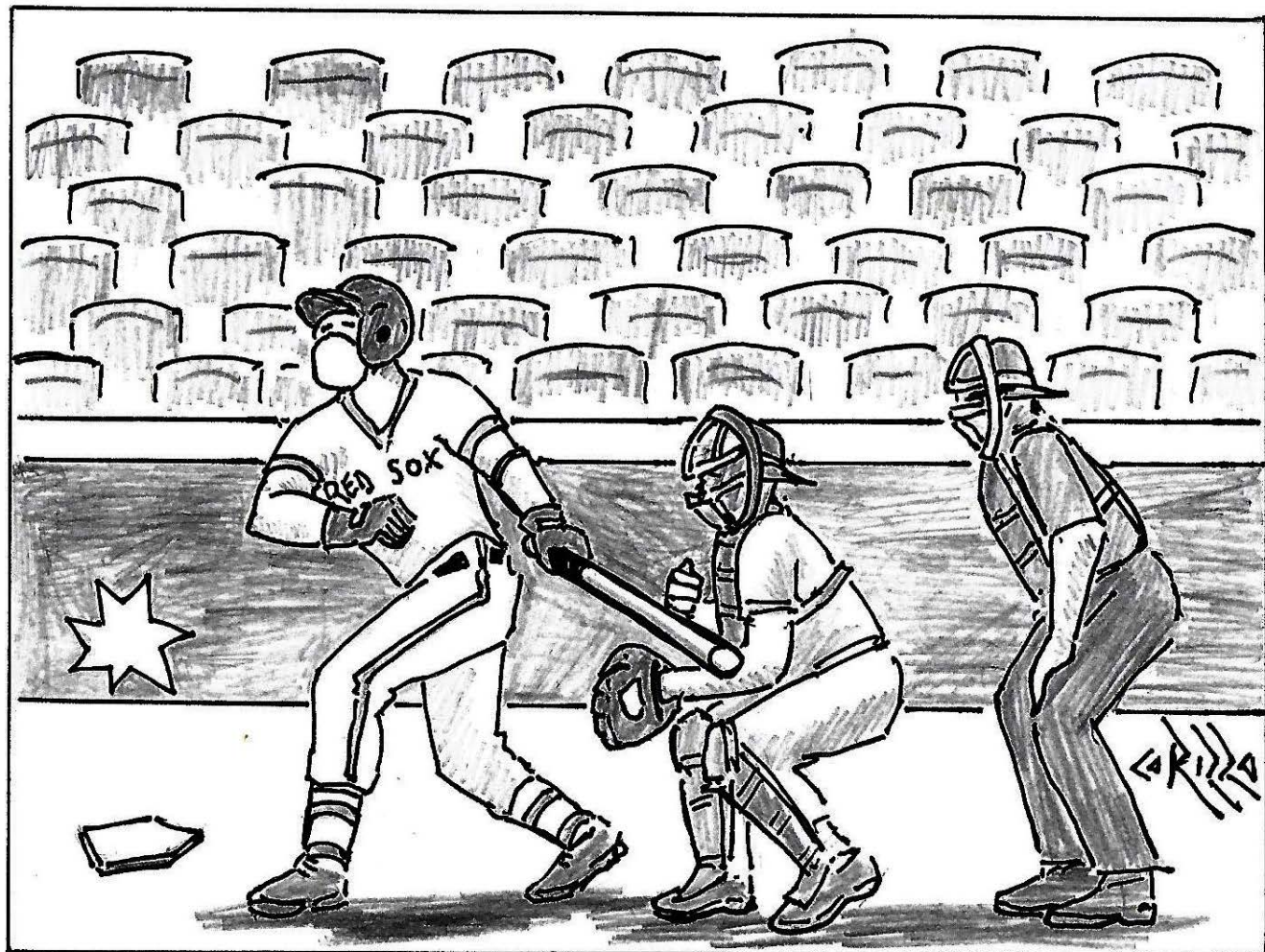
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Independent Forum



LOOKING FORWARD TO GETTING BACK

GUEST OP-ED

What to consider before adopting a pet

By Susan Marie

As word grew that people were going to have to shelter-in-place for an unspecified length of time, animal shelters began to empty. Thousands of people realized that they may be lonely during this time of social-distancing from family and friends. In some situations, parents came to the conclusion that their children needed a happy diversion and agreed to add a furkid to their family. Whatever the reason, shelters began to empty and animal lovers, like myself, were thrilled. However, families are seeking guidance on what dog might be right for them. Those who have already added a dog to their family are concerned with how to keep their new pet happy. Below are some points to consider, as you ponder which animal to bring home and what to do once they step their excited paws through your threshold.

1. The coronavirus pandemic will not last forever,

but adopting your "forever friend" is a lifetime commitment of unconditional love. The first thing to consider is your family's lifestyle. Are you looking for a dog that is high energy that will join the kids in playful romps in the yard and long runs? Or are you looking for a less active dog who enjoys binge watching TV while you are on Zoom meetings and the kids are in online classes? Do you want your dog to be happy with a leisurely walk after dinner and easy, quiet fun in the home or yard? A senior citizen might consider a smaller senior pup who enjoys cuddling on the sofa and healthy snacks. It is important to keep in mind your pup's breed, size and temperament when considering what your home and lifestyle can reasonably accommodate. Though the adoption process itself may differ slightly during COVID-19, please feel free to contact your local shelter and rescue organization and they will gladly help you choose the "forever

friend" that is best for your home and family.

2. Consider preparing for the pandemic as you would to prepare for a disaster, like hurricane season. Compile a first aid kit and an emergency kit and for your pet that includes at least two weeks of food and treats, medications, medical records, veterinarian(s) contact information. Also be sure to have all necessary everyday supplies, such as collars, leashes, harnesses and disposable bags. Make sure your dog has ID tags and is microchipped with your current contact information as well as that of an emergency contact outside the area.

3. How much time will you be able to spend with your dog during and after the pandemic? More time spent at home together while you work from home is a great opportunity to bond with your furkid and also increases your availability to train. For some behavioral concerns, including separation anxiety, please contact a profes-

sional trainer who may offer online classes. When you return to work, keep in mind who will look after your pup during the day. You may decide to take your pup to doggy day care or hire a professional pet sitter to visit your home in the morning and afternoon for bathroom breaks and exercise.

4. If adopting is something that you may not be able to commit to at this time, please consider fostering a dog. Contact your local shelter or rescue organization to see if they have a foster plan that better suits your family's lifestyle. Keep in mind adopting a pet into your family is a lifetime commitment that will change both of your lives "forever."

For over fifteen years, Susan Marie has been spreading the word about puppy love through her national weekly radio show, *The Doggy Diva Show*. Susan is also the author of the award-winning *Miss Olive children's book trilogy The Doggy Diva Diaries*.

LETTER to the Editor

THEY DESERVE OUR SUPPORT

Dear Editor,

On Monday morning I stood on the picket line with the employees of Veterans Transportation in Everett. It is absolutely a shame that yet more blue-collar workers like the drivers of Teamsters Joint Council 10 - namely Veterans Transportation - need to find them on the picket line as of Sunday evening. These individuals and countless others are the men and women whom I have done my

best my entire life to stand up for and fight side-by-side with. These men and women absolutely should be considered essential employees and treated with respect and appreciation. They daily move the individuals that need the assistance the most - our seniors and disabled individuals - across the state of Massachusetts. We all know a family member or neighbor who has benefitted from the ride program offered by the MBTA. We should all share in the opportunity to stand up for those drivers and let

them know that we appreciate the assistance that they have given others. These individuals continue to work throughout the pandemic never thinking about their needs but always thinking about how they can better serve their customers and the needs of others first. They are the men and women who get our loved ones and neighbors to doctor's appointments, shopping for food and other needs and from point A to point B. They are always available when called on and truly showed that throughout the

pandemic. It is unfair for them to now be treated this way. I proudly stand with them and I call on the owner to do the right thing by the people that do the right thing by our family members, neighbors and communities. One more hour of these drivers not being behind the wheel is one more hour that our most valuable residents can't count on them.

Michael J. McLaughlin
Candidate For State Representative

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Looking at the Police:

In Everett, police officers look like police officers

By Seth Daniel

(This is the third part of an occasional series on the practices of the Everett Police to help clarify what does and does not happen on the local police department, framed under the national discussion about policing strategies and potential reforms.)

An interaction with the police – whether in Everett or any other municipality – can be influenced by the way the officers look when they arrive; what they wear and what they don’t wear can create tension between the public and the police before one word is exchanged.

Nationally, there has been much discussion about the militarization of police departments – the guns that are carried and available, the military-style

equipment provided be the federal government and the body armor sometimes wore by officers.

In some places, police can look more like soldiers headed into battle as opposed to law officers keeping the peace.

It isn’t the case in Everett, according to Chief Steve Mazzie, and that’s by design.

“Our officers look like traditional police officers,” he said. “They wear the usual Class B uniform, and they have Class A uniforms for parades or formal occasions. We have the traditional police look because we think it’s important. We want the officers to be seen and to have a known presence...Our goal is not to scare people. We want a presence, but we don’t want to scare people. We want to wear something that lets people know where to go if

they need help.”

One difference, though, is Chief Mazzie requires all officers to wear Body Armor to protect them for life-safety. As chief, there are many opinions on the body armor, and some officers like it while others don’t. Mazzie said he feels it is a good idea, and mandates it in the department.

“One thing you’ll see is we have pushed and have mandated officers to wear body armor,” he said. “We paid for it through a grant program. Unfortunately, officers are still getting shot and killed in America at a high rate. Body armor can save you, but not if you don’t wear it. Several chiefs in America have different philosophies. If I want my officers to go home safe, I want them to wear it.”

The body armor can look different – particularly if it’s worn outside the uni-

form. One misconception in the look of Everett officers can be the carrier for the body armor. Because officers have much more than a gun and a club these days, the body armor carrier helps them to store equipment and not develop back problems in the long run – almost like a backpack.

Sometimes that can look intimidating, but Chief Mazzie said it is for long-term health.

“Many of the officers like the carrier,” he said. “A lot of officers develop back problems, and the carrier disperses the equipment better and keeps the weight centered. In the old days they may have had handcuffs, a gun, a club and maybe a radio. Officers now carry on them Narcan, gloves, CPR equipment, a Taser, handcuffs, a radio, a flashlight, a knife, a baton and more.”

NO MILITARY EQUIPMENT IN FIVE YEARS

As opposed to neighboring cities like Revere – who have participated extensively in federal military surplus programs – Everett Police have not taken part in that now-controversial program.

One of the major calls from the public in Everett and across the nation is to de-militarize the police – meaning that officers shouldn’t look like soldiers and shouldn’t have weapons and vehicles that are made for war zones. A federal program introduced about 20 years ago allowed police departments to get free military surplus vehicles. They only had to gain local approval and come get it. Nearby Revere stocked its police department to the hilt with military weap-

ons and vehicles, but Chief Mazzie said it wasn’t their style.

“It’s a different philosophy of policing,” he said. “It’s not my philosophy.”

He said they have taken things from the program in the past, but not for many years.

“We have been a participant of the program, but we have not taken any inventory or equipment from them in five years, I’m told,” he said.

The last things that were procured were optical gear binoculars and some old M-4 rifles with a wooden stock to be used for the Police Honor Guard.

“We have no combat weapons,” he said. “We took the rifles for the honor guard and they do look great on those formal occasions.”

McGonagle joins colleagues bolstering commitment to children and families

Staff Report

Rep. Joe McGonagle joined Speaker DeLeo and his colleagues in the Massachusetts House of Representatives in passing An Act relative to accountability for vulnerable children and families, which strengthens the laws ensuring the safety and well-being of the Commonwealth’s youngest and most at-risk residents.

Building on the House of Representative’s steadfast commitment to those served by the Department of Children and Families (DCF), this legislation addresses the needs of vulnerable children and families that have also been amplified by the COVID-19 public health crisis and further illuminated through the lens of racial equity. Specifically, this legislation strengthens DCF policies and operations, develops a tool to retain and recruit foster families, holds DCF accountable for timely, accurate and relevant reports, and clarifies communication by the Child Advocate to the Legislature and state officeholders. The legislation compels data to analyze the impacts of remote learning on all children during the COVID-19 crisis with a focus on understanding the disparate educational impacts on children served by DCF. Additionally, the bill calls for a public service campaign to increase awareness of child abuse and neglect.

“We’ve seen the system

fail, and each failure is an avoidable tragedy,” said McGonagle. “With this bill, we are proving that the children and their wellbeing will always come first. Additionally, we have to support foster families for giving these kids loving homes. I especially want to thank my good friend Rep. Denise Garlick for her advocacy on this issue.”

The legislation addresses the needs of at-risk children and families through five major initiatives:

Measuring the Impact of COVID-19. The public health pandemic has exacerbated concerns regarding all children across the Commonwealth, particularly those served by DCF. Since the declaration of the state of emergency on March 10th, reports of abuse and neglect have alarmingly decreased 51%, while home removals have dropped 60% over the same period of time.

In order to best understand the effects of the state of emergency related to COVID-19, this legislation requires DCF to report on various aspects of the child welfare and education system during the state of emergency. Specifically, the bill requires:

- DCF to report monthly to the Legislature on changes in child abuse and neglect cases;
- DCF to implement a public information campaign to improve awareness of child abuse and neglect during the public health crisis;

sis;

- DCF to report on efforts to support the foster care system;
- DCF to analyze the effect on virtual and video technology on services during COVID-19;
- Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) to work with DCF to provide an analysis of active remote learning participation rates during the COVID-19 crisis, including participation rates of children with open DCF cases; and
- DESE to coordinate with DCF to develop a statewide plan to ensure effective and ongoing engagement relative to remote learning, including guidance and best practices for engaging the most vulnerable and at-risk students and families.

Quality Improvement. The House of Representatives remains committed to ensuring accountability related to critical incidents that result in a fatality or near fatality, while also reviewing those critical incidents that are highlighted by systemic weaknesses.

This bill installs certain safeguards, including requirements for DCF to review the case transfer policy to improve protocols for complex cases, and create a managerial review in reunification decisions. It also requires social services programs to communicate more promptly with social workers conducting client and collateral checks.

Foster Parents’ Bill of Rights. Concerns of uncertainty regarding the rights of foster parents and the responsibilities of DCF related to training and processes have been intensified by COVID-19. This bill requires DCF to create a Foster Parents’ Bill of Rights outlining the relationship between the department and foster parents. A clear articulation of the rights of foster parents and the responsibilities of DCF will increase confidence and trust and is designed to retain and recruit foster families.

Strengthening the Integrity of the Office of the Child Advocate. The Office of the Child Advocate is statutorily required to ensure the highest quality of services and supports are

provided to safeguard the health, safety, and well-being of all children receiving services across the Commonwealth. This bill requires the Child Advocate to report any findings of critical incident reports that result in the death of a child due to a reasonable belief that a state agency failed in its duty to protect a child, jointly and simultaneously, to the governor, attorney general, speaker of the house, and senate president before the agency in question.

Data Reporting Initiative. In response to serious events and concerns about children in DCF care, the Legislature has historically directed DCF to complete various reporting require-

ments; however, the agency has been unable to fulfill its statutory requirements to complete all reports. This bill updates and streamlines DCF reporting requirements to ensure the delivery of timely and relevant data in both a comprehensive annual report and robust quarterly reports. In addition, DCF is required to detail actions it has taken to provide culturally competent services to children and families and report on transition planning, fair hearings, reports made to the Ombudsman, and a detailed accounting of services provided through contracted agencies.

The bill now moves to the Senate.

CHA restarts clinic appointments, elective procedures and surgeries

Staff Report

Cambridge Health Alliance (CHA), an academic community health system serving Cambridge, Somerville, and Boston’s metro-north region, has resumed non-urgent “elective” surgeries, procedures and clinic visits following the state’s lifting of restrictions due to COVID-19.

Since the pandemic started, CHA has seen thousands of patients for all kinds of care, in person and through telehealth visits. With CHA now able to reopen services, it is prioritizing preventive care, pediatric visits, immunizations and urgent procedures that may have been previously delayed.

When patients make an in-person visit, it might be at a different site than their normal care center. Patients are asked to double-check

before they come in.

CHA Telehealth (phone and video visits) are another way patients can get safe and timely access to care. Patients can schedule a Telehealth visit through their CHA Care Center or specialty clinic. CHA has a [user guide for patients](#) on how to access video visits using MyChart, the CHA patient portal.

“As the area returns to the new normal, everyone at CHA is committed to keeping our patients, staff, visitors and communities safe,” said CHA CEO Asaad Sayah, MD. “CHA implemented a robust set of new policies, procedures and facility enhancements to prevent the spread of COVID-19 while continuing to care for patients.”

Patients and visitors will see new plexiglass dividers, hand sanitizer stations, social distancing markers on the floors and fewer chairs

in waiting areas. New signage is also in place which include ‘please do not sit here’ cards on chairs, and ‘keep right’ signs directing foot traffic.

Everyone entering a CHA site is screened for COVID-19 symptoms and must wear a mask. Their temperature will be taken and must be under 100° F to enter for an appointment. Everyone is also asked if they have a sore throat, shortness of breath, cough, diarrhea, muscle aches or a loss of smell.

CHA is urging all patients to not delay their health care, especially if they have chronic illness like heart disease, diabetes, mental health needs or other conditions. Call your CHA doctor’s office and set up a visit. In an emergency, dial 911 or visit your closest emergency department. We are here to help.

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Luigi's // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

garage in the store, but the City nixed that idea.

So, he called his wife off her job with Converse Shoe and they decided to go into business with a store.

“My dad wanted to work for himself,” said Franco. “He saw an opportunity here. He went to City Hall and wanted to open a mechanic shop. They told him he could absolutely not do that because it was residential. He said, “Forget it, I’m opening up an Italian store then.” We were the second Italian store in Everett. The first was Imperial Grocery and my father felt if they could do it, he could do it. We started with penny candy. My mother and father didn’t know how to speak English even...We then brought in groceries. Then my mother decided to put an oven in the basement and she started selling pizza.

“How much was a slice, ma?” Franco asked with a smile.

“It was 25 cents a slice,” said Angelina with a smile.

Franco said his father would sell a lot of cigarettes, but didn’t know what people were asking for. When people would ask for ‘Marlboro,’ he would point to every cigarette pack on the shelf until they nodded and said, “Yes, that one!”

Unfortunately, Agostino died young and he left Angelina and Franco to care for the store – which was always busy with high school and grade school students back in the day. The store was named ‘Luigi,’ Franco said, because Italians customarily would name the business after their first-born. In this case, that was Luigi.

“He got all the credit,” laughed Franco. “He worked here for two months and then left, but he got the name still.”

One of the great specialties of the store became their cold cuts, olives and bread. In the old days, those things weren’t readily available in heavily-Irish Greater Boston, so they would venture regularly to New York City.

“We would drive two or three times a month to the Bronx to get cold cuts like the dry sausage, the prosciutto and the ham,” he said. “New York was where Italian imports were from. That’s how we started it. Then we got into the bread, going to Terranova Bakery



Franco Acierno gives a hug to his mother, Angelina, after receiving a citation from Councilor Michael McLaughlin commemorating the close of Luigi's after 45 years.

in the Bronx.”

The store was open 7 a.m. to 9 p.m. most every day, and they could never have a Sunday dinner or a holiday without a neighbor venturing by to see if they would open the store so they could get something – one of the trappings of living above your workplace.

“On Sundays, we could never have a good dinner,” said Franco. “Everyone would always come by and need something.”

Inside the store, on the wall were memories of people and events that had come and go – a wall they call ‘The Shrine.’

“These are customers and friends – gone but never forgotten,” said Franco.

It’s also the place former employee Eric Navarrete signed his name after graduating Everett High a few years ago and heading off to the U.S. Marines. Navarrete came in wanting to



Councilor Michael McLaughlin and his girlfriend, Patti Frati (not pictured), surprised Angelina Acierno with flowers on Monday afternoon.

work behind the counter as a young man, but Angelina had that space pretty well reserved. Instead, he learned everything from the family – how to drive, how to slice cold cuts, how to paint and just about everything in between.

On Monday, he also returned – more a member of the family than a former employee. That was the case for Angelica Santonastaso, who was also a part-time worker there when she was a kid as well.

Her mother, Tina Santonastaso, said she has already missed the store, something that was a daily part of her life for decades.

“I was here every day; I only live four houses down,” she said. “I miss her already. This is the last one left like this. It’s a great story.”

City Councilor Michael McLaughlin said he spent his entire childhood in



Angelina Acierno keeps watch over her former store as Eric Navarrete slices the Sopressata one last time. He worked for the store – a rare employee outside the family – for five years.



Former employees Eric Navarrete and Angelica Santonastaso with store operator Angelina Acierno.



Under the watchful eye of his mother, Angelina, Franco cuts some slices of their special Sopressata for one last time.



The Shrine, as family calls it, was where customers had their pictures put up – gone but not forgotten.



The cheese grater in the back of the store was one of the first items used in the original store and still works to this day.



Franco Acierno points out how the store was laid out in 1975, compared to how it was in the end. Behind him is the menu of Italian specialties.

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Sports

Local football star, Marcus Romboli heads to central Michigan

By Michelle Fenelon, Special to the Independent

When Marcus Romboli lined up against now former Milton quarterback Jake Wilcox in the Super Bowl, his life came full circle.

Six years prior, Romboli and Wilcox played together on the Crimson Tide Pop Warner team – one of the most-dominant and arguably, the most-talented pop warner team to win a National Championship. Led by Mike Sainristil, who is a receiver at Michigan and Lewis Cine, who is a projected starter for the Georgia Bulldogs, that year the A-team secured the National championship after a 17-0 season – a season where no one was able to score on them until the playoffs.

Now, Romboli will ship off to play for Central Michigan after rejecting

every Ivy League School offer.

“He said ‘mom, I gave you straight A’s – I’m going to (Central Michigan),” his mother and Everett City Hall employee, Andrea Romboli recalled.

The facilities, coaching staff, and legendary coach Jim McElwain, who transformed the program after a dismal one-win season in 2018, impressed the Rombolis.

“I was worried about him going to Central Michigan until I met the coaching staff,” Romboli said.

The 245-pound, 6’3” Defensive End refers to himself as an “Everett kid,” but his road to one of the top up-and-coming programs in the Mid-American Conference weaved in and out of the confinements of the city.

After one year on the Everett varsity team, Romboli



Marcus Romboli, who is attending Central Michigan University on a football scholarship, with his mother, Andrea Romboli – an employee at Everett City Hall.

transferred to Malden Catholic before he reclassified to play at Deerfield Academy. There, Romboli developed into one of the most-feared defensive players in prep football. Modeling his game after Jacksonville Jaguars defensive end Yannick Ngakoue, Romboli used his hands and his quickness to beat offensive linemen off the line.

He learned the ins and outs of O-linemen after having to play the position in his first year at Deerfield. “It was pretty tough [to switch positions],” Romboli said. But Romboli stuck with it, and played on both sides of the ball his senior year.

After 14 days of quarantining, Romboli will leave Everett to begin training camp at Central Michigan, leaving behind his greatest motivator – his mother, Andrea.

It was Andrea’s father, John, who first put a football in Romboli’s hand when he was just six years old. He always heard the stories about the long lineage of family members who played football: His grandfather holds the record for the longest punt in Everett High history at 76 yards, his great grandfather Louis played, his great uncle Al excelled on the football field and his great uncle Rudy played for the Boston Yanks.

Hearing the stories were important. “I felt like I needed to play [football],” Romboli said. “Now, I play it because I want to.”

His dream isn’t just to dominated in college – it’s to follow in his great uncle, Rudy’s, footsteps and play in the NFL.

“It’s the only dream,” Romboli said.

EVERETT LITTLE LEAGUE IN FULL STRIDE

By Cary Shuman

The Everett Little League season is proceeding smoothly with eight teams competing at Sacramone Park.

The four Minor League teams are playing their games on Mondays and Fridays while the four Major League teams are playing on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays.

“It’s been awesome. Everybody is following [coronavirus] guidelines and protocols. The games have been really competitive and it’s been really fun,” said ELL President Oscar Vega.

Vega said players are not required to wear face masks in the field, but they

may do so. All volunteers are required to wear masks. The one umpire for each game is stationed behind the pitcher’s mound.

Vega said the fields at Sacramone Park are in excellent condition.

“Mayor Carlo DeMaria did a great job and the city has been terrific in the upkeep of the fields,” said Vega.

The Majors will have a 12-game schedule and playoffs. The Minors will have a nine-game schedule and playoffs.

Vega said he was expecting to have the concession stand, under the supervision of Concessionaire George Castiello, ready to open at the park this week.



The Minor League Astros, with coaches Mike Bruno, Marc Harr, and Bryan Christie, pictured before taking the field for their game Friday night at Sacramone Park.



Anthony Perdomenico assists his son, Blue Jays catcher Nico Kuda, with his shin guards, before the Jays-Astros Minor League game Friday night at Sacramone Park.



Everett Little League President Oscar Vega (center) with Vice President Tony Lombardo (left) and T-Ball Director Marc Harr (right).



Minor League Astros coach Bryan Christie instructs his players before the game.



The Minor League Astros’ battery of starting pitcher Jacob Christie and catcher Natalia Negron.



Everett Little League President Oscar Vega and his son, Santino Vega, pictured Friday night at Sacramone Park.



Everett Little League Concessionaire and Past President George Castiello and Everett Little League President Oscar Vega.

NEWS FROM AROUND THE REGION

MGC SEES NEED FOR BEACHAM ST. IMPROVEMENTS

CHELSEA - The City and the Massachusetts Gaming Commission (MGC) can agree on one thing – that Beacham Street needs significant monies to improve the path to the Encore Boston Harbor casino for guests and employees.

The Beacham Street corridor is one of the only connections from Chelsea to the casino, and it is also a major freight corridor for the region’s food supply from the New England Produce Market, and the MGC voted on June 25 to award \$1.5 million to Chelsea to assist in building out their re-construction of Beacham.

The City applied for two grants from the MGC’s mitigation funds, which was rare for one project to request significant funds for mitigation. Nevertheless, the MGC’s review board felt Beacham was very important.

They awarded \$500,000 from the Specific Impact Program based on a Casino Traffic Study the City conducted showing more traffic after the casino opened. Then the City also got a \$1 million grant from the Transportation Construction Program.

“We’re indescribably excited and pleased with the Gaming Commission’s decision,” said Planner Alex Train. “This is a benefit to the community as well. By getting this Mass Gaming grant, we can finance the project independently and allows the City to finance other capital projects. It relieves an immense financial burden on us given the current fiscal condition.”

The project has been in the works for some time, and is just about ready to go to construction. Train said it has been fully engineered and designed. It has also been permitted and the City plans to release it for bids this month.

“This project will allow the corridor to further its use as a freight corridor, but also it will allow it to become more of a pedestrian and bicycle corridor,” he said.

The project is a full reconstruction of the area, including new drainage with double the capacity for flood absorption. They will rehabilitate the sewer and water piping, and do a full-depth reconstruction of the roadway.

There will also be a shared use path installed for pedestrians and cyclists and landscaping installed along the corridor to “green up” the area.

The City has already received federal grant money for the project, and some state money as well. Everett is in the midst of planning their section of the project as well, which will allow for the entire Beacham Street stretch between Chelsea and Everett to be one, matching, contiguous reconstruction.

The corridor has not been seriously improved, Train said, since it was built in the 1960s.

MURAL ON FIFTH STREET PLANNED

CHELSEA - Active members of the community and the arts community in Chelsea are being sought to plan and design a massive mural on Fifth Street to be painted by highly-regarded muralist David Fichter.

The Chelsea Cultural Council has approved funding provided by the State Gaming Commission to engage the highly regarded muralist David Fichter to create an 80-foot mural for the Fifth Street side of 466 Broadway.

Over the next five months

the design will be developed with input from members of the community, and Downtown Coordinator Mimi Graney is recruiting members of the community for a Steering Committee. Fichter will paint the design on aluminum panels in his studio over the winter and the Chelsea Heritage Mural will be installed in late May/early June 2021.

“David has a distinctive, realistic style that features the people, architecture and other details reflective of the mural location,” said Graney. “For over 30 years he has created murals and mosaics, taking him all over the United States and internationally, including Nicaragua, Armenia, and Georgia. You likely have seen some of his work in high profile locations like the Alewife T station.

“What’s exciting about working with David is that his approach is to collaborate closely with the community in the development of the design,” she continued. “Working with residents of all ages, he’s completed more than 200 permanent murals that have become beloved local landmarks that communicate the story of each neighborhood.”

Over a series of virtual meetings members of the Steering Committee will be working progressively to define the mural’s theme, identify specific elements to include in the mural, source reference images for his illustration, and reach out to other members of the community for gather their input.

Art skills are not required, Graney said.

“We’re looking for folks who are reflective of the city and who are ready to contribute their ideas and insights on the people, history and architecture of Chelsea,” she said.

The Steering Committee will be most active through the design development phase with four meetings held between July to November. The decision-making and design process will be sequential so they are seeking a consistent group through these four meetings to build on the ideas and to keep the project moving forward.

LDCC TO HOLD VIRTUAL GATHERING

LYNN - The continued response to COVID-19 has compelled the Lynn Democratic City Committee (LDCC) to cancel its annual, in-person cookout held at the Lynn Museum. Instead, the LDCC will host a virtual gathering via the Zoom platform.

“United We Win: The LDCC Cook-IN”, a virtual event where attendees will hear from Democratic candidates running in September’s primary, our local Democratic officials, and entertainment from Democratic friends in our community will be held on Monday, July 20 from 7-9PM.

“Though current circumstances prevent us from being together in person this year, we hope that this virtual event will be the kickoff to a strong, coordinated effort that will lead to the election of Vice President Joe Biden as the 46th President of the United States this November, as well as victories in the US Senate, US House, and our state legislature,” said Lynn Democratic City Committee chair Agnes Ricko.

Senator Ed Markey and Congressman Joe Kennedy, both running for the US Senate, have confirmed that they’ll be participating, as will Congressman Seth Moulton, Jamie Zahlaway Belsito, and Angus

NEW POLICE CHIEF IN REVERE



McQuilken running in the Sixth Congressional District, and Governor’s Councilor Terry Kennedy and Helina Fontes running in the Sixth Governor’s Council District.

Senator Brendan Crigh-ton, Representatives Lori Ehrlich, Dan Cahill, and Peter Capano, Register of Deeds John O’Brien, Essex County Sheriff Kevin Copping, and Register of Probate Pamela Casey O’Brien have also confirmed that they will be joining the July 20th event.

The program will also include a keynote address from Boston City Councilor Lydia Edwards focused on how Democrats respond to and combat racial and social injustice. Councilor Edwards is a member of the Democratic State Committee from the First Suffolk and Middlesex District and was first elected to the Boston City Council representing East Boston and Charlestown in 2017.

The committee is very pleased that LDCC Outreach Co-Chair Julio Bare, Carolyn Cole, Sunil Gulab, Ana Masacote, and Ebony White will be sharing music, dance, and poetry promoting justice throughout the event.

All interested Democrats and friends are invited to join, and if so inclined, are asked to consider a donation to My Brother’s Table as we have done in past years. Contributions can be made online or via US Mail. If mailed, please make the check payable to “My Brother’s Table” and send to Gerry McCaul, LDCC Treasurer, 723 Boston St, Lynn, MA 01905. If online, please note “LDCC” in the additional comments box.

You can RSVP to Agnes Ricko by calling 781-599-9347 or by visiting the “United We Win: Lynn Democratic City Committee Cook-IN” Facebook page.

EHCA HOLDS MEETING ON PROJECTS

EAST BOSTON - At the end of June the Eagle Hill Civic Association (EHCA) board held its first ‘virtual’ meeting on ZOOM in order to once again begin informing the community of development projects and other issues happening in the neighborhood.

At the virtual monthly meeting, EHCA members received information on four development projects from Attorneys Jeff Drago and Richard Lynds.

The first project at 231 Saratoga St., Drago proposed a renovation project to change the occupancy of the existing residential dwelling from three to four rental units.

Drago explained to the group that the fourth unit will be a garden level apartment and the height of the building would remain unchanged.

The existing tenants in the three units would remain during renovation and the new garden level would be available to a potential new tenant.

Drago said prior to the COVID pandemic he and the owner met with abutters and the only concerns expressed were over the lack of parking and the disruption that current tenants may experience during construction.

Drago said the next project at 226-228 Princeton St. calls for renovating the existing 5 unit residential home and adding three units with five parking spaces. The plan calls for building an additional story to the three story home while keeping the mansard roof.

Drago explained there would be no change to the building’s footprint and the side and rear yard will remain the same.

The proposal also called for additional landscaping in the backyard.

Some at the meeting expressed disapproval of the extensive renovations. Others argued if EHCA members voted in favor of changing a three story home into a four story home it would open a Pandora’s Box and future developers might want to do the same thus changing the character of Eagle Hill.

EHCA member Charlie Lograsso said the renovations were not historically appropriate and would destroy the character of the Victorian building. He urged the developer to change the design and come back to the group.

The next project at 141 Falcon St. was pitched by Lynds and called for renovating the existing home in order to maintain and preserve the existing structure while changing the oc-



Numerous law enforcement officials attended the swearing-in of new Revere Police Chief David Callahan last week at City Hall, including Saugus Police Chief Michael Ricciardelli (top left), Massachusetts State Police Troop A Commander Matthew Gravini and Executive Officer Captain Nunzio Orlando (top right), and Troopers Joseph MacFarlane and Carlo Mastromattei (left).

cupancy from two to three residential condo units.

The project also called for building a rear addition and dormers to create a mix of one, two and three-bedroom units that would range in size from 1,025 - 1,100 square feet.

EHCA members approved the proposal because it does not destroy the elegant Victorian home. However, Lograsso, who advocates for historic preservation on Eagle Hill, wanted to see the developer add a little more original detail to the design.

The final project, again proposed by Lynds, was at an old industrial warehouse at 98-100 Condor St.

There, Lynds’s client plans to renovate the building in order to maintain and preserve the existing historical structure while changing occupancy from a commercial warehouse and manufacturing plant to 39 residential rental units with parking for 15 vehicles.

Lynds said there would also be onsite bike storage as well as other building amenities like a fitness center and common room.

Lynds said units are intended to accommodate the city’s compact living policy and five of the 39 units would be set aside as affordable housing units under the BPDA’s inclusionary policy.

Lynds said the property has an area for open space but no waterfront access because his client does not own the lot behind the proposal that runs along the Chelsea Creek.

EHCA members liked the plans, especially the proposed green roof but made a request for more affordable housing units and pick-up spots for Uber/Lyft.

EDWARDS CALLS FOR THE COUNCIL TO HAVE MORE BUDGETARY POWERS

EAST BOSTON - Historically Boston has followed a ‘Strong-Mayor’ form of government as opposed to a ‘Weak Mayor’ system practiced by small or mid-sized cities and towns across the country.

In the Strong Mayor system Mayor Martin Walsh is given almost total administrative authority and a clear, wide range of political independence, with the power to appoint and dismiss department heads without council approval and little or no public input.

Under this system Walsh, like Boston mayor’s before him, prepares and administers the city budget,

although the council often must approve that budget, and has veto power over council votes.

This differs from a weak-mayor system where the mayor has no formal authority outside the council, cannot directly appoint or remove officials, and lacks veto power over council votes.

This week, City Councilor Lydia Edwards filed a proposed amendment to Boston’s city charter that would give the Boston City Council budgetary powers equal to those of the Mayors.

The historic proposal was filed under a provision in state law that allows local elected officials to propose amendments to city charters which have never been used before.

“I’ve spent a lot of time over the past few weeks thinking about how to answer the calls for systemic change and investment in our future,” said Edwards. “An annual up or down vote alone on the mayor’s budget cannot bring about the long term change that is needed and that people are calling for. That change will not come from any one vote or annual budget. It’s time to break the wheel of Boston’s budget making process. This will take time, research, negotiations, and sustained conversations about what we want to invest in as a city. Until we change the budget process, we don’t have an opportunity to have those conversations in a meaningful way.”

According to Edwards the proposed amendment specifically targets the budgetary powers of the City and is separate from the complete charter reform the councilor proposed earlier this year. “Boston can move forward on specific reforms to our budgetary process even as we pursue a democratic process to examine the entire charter,” said Edwards. “That process will require much more organizing and eventually candidates will have to run for an opportunity to write the charter. I am still committed to writing a clear, accessible, complete charter but right now people are asking for direct impact and influence on our budget. We can give them that power by modernizing and democratizing the budgetary process and expanding participatory budgeting, which would give residents greater control over portions of the budget.”

Under Massachusetts General Laws, a member of the city council may sug-

Wildlife Takeover?

Well, maybe not, but animals are becoming more visible

By Seth Daniel

It seems the squirrels aren’t afraid anymore. And the possums come out in the daytime, coyotes roam the streets and turkeys journey from one side of Everett to the other. Though it’s up for debate just why, wildlife experts agree that COVID-19 – especially during the lockdown periods in March and April – have changed the habits of animals living in the wild in urban areas like Everett. Animal Control Officer Stacia Gorgone said furry creatures in Everett certainly had the run of the city during the lockdown, and now that things are opening slowly, they are still much more active than pre-COVID times. Yet, at the same time, part of this phenomenon of “wildlife taking over” is due to people being around more often as well. It all adds up to a wild world, indeed. “Animals really are taking back their Earth,” said Gorgone. “They took back Everett too. I guess if Everett is going to be taken over, I’d rather it be by the furry animals.” Gorgone said the phe-

nomenon is real in Everett, and all over the world. She pointed to the cleaner waters in Venice where dolphins are coming into the canals for the first time ever. She said local beaches are cleaner and attracting more sea creatures. In Everett, she said animal deaths and injuries were down to zero and continue to be, which is very rare during the wildlife breeding season in the spring. “With COVID-19, we were all at home,” she said. “There were no cars on the streets. I would drive around and see the turkeys go from one side of the city to the other. They are definitely taking over. I think it is a good thing, but people are scared of the coyotes. That’s always been a huge concern in Everett, but they are coyotes being coyotes. On the coyote problem, I don’t agree with the experts. We’re in the city and not the woods. However, all the other wildlife had a new found enjoyment because we were inside and there were no cars. They just roamed the city and it was fun to see.” Marion Larson, of the state Division of Fisheries and Wildlife, said there were a lot of wildlife that

were out and using the roads because there were no cars – which was different. However, she said they believe most of the phenomenon is just the fact that people were home and seeing animals for the first time. “We have had people think because they see more wildlife, they are taking over,” said Larson. “That’s not what’s happening. What’s happening is the wildlife were there all along. The people who have been very busy at work, going to school are now at home. They have been spending more time in their yards and walking around the neighborhoods at times when they usually aren’t. They’re seeing these wild animals for the first time and not realizing they were there all along.” She said they have gotten a lot more calls in the last several months asking what to do about the wildlife – whether they can be trapped or sent away. “We generally tell people to leave them alone,” she said. “We’re certainly getting more calls and it’s because people are spending more time right around their home. Animals aren’t taking over or flocking into the city.” Larson said wildlife typ-



PHOTO BY MARION LARSON/MASSWILDLIFE

Wildlife taking over? A possum suddenly living in the donut hole of a garden hose is pictured here recently at a Massachusetts home. All over the state – and in Everett too – the phenomenon of wildlife being more visible during COVID-19 lockdowns has been noted.

ically try to avoid humans, and even coyotes don’t seek out human contact or conflict with pets – a major concern in Everett. She said a lot of it has to do with trash and with more people at home more often, or you put pet food outside, or you feed birds outside, you also attract skunks, coyotes and all the animals that like to eat what people eat...If you limit the food source, they’ll still be around, but they won’t be likely to linger.” Gorgone said there is a new problem popping up in Everett, and that is the people who are trying to get rid of the newfound wildlife now that things are opening up. She said one person had someone trap squirrels on a hot roof last week, torturing the animals for three hours before attending to the cages. Another person had raccoons trapped and wanted to remove them – that after the person cut down the tree the raccoons were living in. All of that points to a much bigger problem, she said, of exterminators coming into the city to remove wildlife that people are just discovering now that they’re home more. “There’s a lot of good from the wildlife,” she said. “People don’t realize possums are our squirrels. They don’t carry rabies and they eat ticks and other pests. We want them. I am preparing something for the Council about exterminators that are now coming in. That shouldn’t be allowed. It’s a state law that allows it, but I think Everett needs a more strict ordinance to prevent that. That will be coming up.” Larson said another good part of the wildlife discoveries is to learn about the animals with children or other adults. Many of their habits and ways are in full view now, and can be interesting to learn about. She said anyone who wants to know more information on any of the animals can find details on their website at www.mass.gov/learn-about-wildlife.

Metro News // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8

NORTHEASTERN NURSING STUDENTS HELPING AT CITY HALL

REVERE - Revere City Hall resumed in-person operations on June 29 with the help of nursing students from Northeastern University. Revere’s Public Health Nurse, Carol Donovan, works with Northeastern each year to bring nursing students into Revere schools to help those students earn more public health experience. With closures due to COVID-19, Carol enlisted the help of those students to safely reopen various municipal services. The students are stationed at City Hall, the American Legion building and the Recreation Center. They greet residents as they enter the building, complete a symptom check and ask about potential exposures within the past two weeks. Residents are asked to provide their names and phone numbers for the purpose of contact tracing. “I knew I needed their help and that they wanted public health experience, so this was the perfect opportunity. They are a fantastic group of students, and we are so grateful for their flexibility and for their willingness to go above and beyond to help Revere,” Carol Donovan said. Beyond basic screening procedures, the student nurses created posters in English, Portuguese, and Spanish to better spread awareness about safety precautions. Nursing student Jessica Marroquin added: “Our role is to educate residents and city employees to do their part in protecting themselves and the people around them. We do this by making sure we get the message out to as many visitors and employees as we can.” As for the Parks and Recreation Department, the nursing students have provided the youth summer employees with training and tips for maintaining social distancing and best practices. They are working diligently to inform as many Revere residents as possible in order to slow

then spread. “Revere needs assistance in opening up safely, and we are here to do that. Carol Donovan has been instrumental in getting this done. It has been great for the nursing students to get out into the public and to hear firsthand the concerns that many residents currently have,” said Kathleen Tracy, RNC, DNP, clinical instructor for Northeastern.

SEEKING TO FORM A HRC

WINTHROP - At a meeting on July 7, Council President Phil Boncore announced Winthrop would be forming a Human Rights Commission (HRC). Town Manager Austin Faison is in the process of drafting a mission statement and is immediately seeking community members to serve on the committee. The role of an HRC is to educate communities on inclusion and diversity, provide resources on civil and human rights, ensure that all residents have easy access to government services, and support arts and culture. It also handles complaints of discrimination and is empowered to intervene before they turn into costly lawsuits. Many local towns and cities have already established human rights commissions, including Beverly, Belmont, Boston, Brookline, Cambridge, Chelsea, Danvers, Malden, Medford, Salem, Somerville and Wakefield. Revere is also considering creating one. The idea of an HRC in Winthrop was first discussed as early as 2018. A group of concerned residents pressed the council to create an official committee dedicated to diversity and inclusion. Despite emails, calls, op-eds and social media posts pushing for its development, it was never brought to a vote. Residents renewed their discussions about a possible HRC following the death of George Floyd, buoyed by the growing public support for the Black Lives Matter movement and the presence of a number of new councilors. “The community seems to have a desire for [it],”

said Town Manager Faison in an interview with the Transcript published June 22. “I think that would be a useful step, to begin learning about and embracing all of the cultures that are represented within the community and the region.” In the week prior to the council meeting, the Transcript ran two community letters in support of an HRC. “Such a committee would help deal with any form of alleged discrimination,” wrote Donna Segreti Reilly. “I trust that the council would create an HRC and appoint qualified members to oversee it.” “It is not enough to be a silent bystander in this fight for equality and inclusion; we must take action,” echoed Reverend Terri Bracy. “The establishment of an [HRC] would be a good first step.” During the public comment period of the meeting, several residents called in to praise the council’s decision. The matter was moved to the Committee on Appointments, Commissions, and Committees.

3 ORGANIZATIONS RECEIVE GRANTS

WINTHROP - During a virtual awards ceremony on ZOOM, three Winthrop nonprofits received grant money totaling \$11,500 to support free summer beach events as part of Save the Harbor/Save the Bay and the Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) annual Better Beaches grant program. In the past grant money allowed organizations like theFriends of Winthrop Beach, Winthrop Chamber of Commerce, and Friends of Belle Isle Marsh to hold larger events that drew many to the country’s first public beach during the summer months. However, the COVID-19 pandemic has put the brakes on larger gatherings as people continue to practice social distancing. Save the Harbor/Save the Bay’s Executive Director Chris Mancini said this year’s grants will support efforts to keep the region’s public beaches safe and open this summer. The Friends of Winthrop Beach and Friends of Belle

Isle Marsh both received \$5,000.00 while the Winthrop Chamber of Commerce received \$1,500.00 in grant money. The funds will go towards supporting free, re-imagined, beach events and programs when the Covid-19 pandemic has passed and public programming can safely resume. “As the nation continues to wrestle with the challenges of both the Covid-19 pandemic and the consequences of systemic racism, safe and accessible blue and green spaces like the region’s public beaches from Nahant to Nantasket are more important than ever” said Mancini. “In these uncertain times, you can be sure that Save the Harbor/Save the Bay will continue to support our partners in the region’s waterfront neighborhoods and beachfront communities, as we work together to keep these spectacular urban nat-

ural resources safe, open and welcoming to all.” According to Save the Harbor/Save the Bay’s Director of Strategy & Communications Bruce Berman, in the coming weeks his group will host a “virtual charette” to begin to “re-imagine beach programs” in light of the public health crises we are all facing together. Each year Save the Harbor/Save the Bay’s Better Beaches grant program funds a host of activities along Winthrop’s shoreline during the summer months. In total, more than \$200,000 was awarded in Better Beaches Program grants. These grants will allow 39 organizations in nine communities to fund free events on the region’s public beaches from Nahant to Nantasket in 2020. DCR Commissioner Jim Montgomery took part in the ZOOM ceremony and

applauded the power of the Better Beaches Program partnership with DCR, which has invested more than \$1 million dollars in free beach programs since it began in 2007. “The Baker/Polito Administration has made it a priority to support great partnerships like this, that encourage people to get and enjoy the outdoors in a safe and responsible way” said Montgomery. “With Covid-19, our beaches and parks are even more important for people’s mental and physical health. It is a great partnership. I look forward to seeing you all on your beach, hopefully very soon.” Funds to support the Better Beaches Program come from DCR, JetBlue and the proceeds of the Harpoon Shamrock Splash fundraiser.

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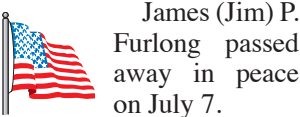
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OBITUARIES

James Furlong

Gillette retiree



James (Jim) P. Furlong passed away in peace on July 7.

Born in Medford on June 10, 1939, Jim attended St. Joseph's Parochial Grammar School and Matignon High School in Medford. Jim attended Northeastern University earning a Bachelor of Science degree with a major in accounting and economics. After college, Jim enlisted in the military serving for two years in the Army Signal Corps. During his military service, Jim served in Seoul, S. Korea, and in Arizona.

Following his honorable discharge from the service, Jim had the good fortune to work for The Gillette Company where he worked for 37 years in various capacities.

Jim joined the company as an internal auditor,



then advanced to positions within the finance, employee benefit, human resource and community affairs departments. Jim enjoyed his time at Gillette and developed close ties to a number of terrific people.

Jim loved the theatre and was an avid movie buff, particularly of film noir. He was also a voracious and lifelong reader.

He was a devoted uncle to his nephew, James Alberetti and his wife, Maria and a beloved great uncle to his great nieces, Ava and Tess Alberetti. He is also survived by many loving cousins and friends.

At Jim's request, all services will be private. Jim will be buried alongside his sister, Ann Elizabeth (Furlong) Alberetti and his parents, Irene (Gillespie) and James Furlong in the family plot at Holy Cross Cemetery in Malden. For guest book, please visit www.buonfiglio.com

Paul Parisi

Trucking industry and Everett Public School retire and Civil War re-enactor

Paul F. Parisi, 69, passed away peacefully on July 7 surrounded by his wife and children after a valiant battle with Glioblastoma.

He was born March 7, 1951 in Everett to Attorney Michael and Concetta (Tricomi) Parisi.

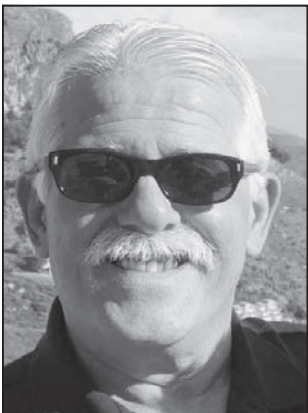
Paul was a graduate of Everett High School and Northeastern University. He was a football standout, known for holding rushing records and on the All Scholastic team.

Paul worked in the trucking industry and the Everett Public Schools, retiring to New Hampshire in 2015.

Paul loved spending time with his children, grandchildren, nieces and nephews, especially in the White Mountains of New Hampshire, cooking, fishing, hunting, camping and being in nature. His dog, Marlow, always by his side, was his furry companion for 11 years.

Paul and his wife, Judy enjoyed traveling and Civil War reenactments, spending time with the 28th Massachusetts and 17th Virginia, where they re-enacted from the hallowed grounds of Gettysburg, the 150th anniversary of Pickett's Charge. They also travelled to the historic communities all across New England.

Paul was very proud of the small role he had in the 2003 movie, "Gods & General" in which he ran across the field at Fredericksburg carrying the Irish Brigade Flag.



Paul leaves his loving wife, Judy (Fitzpatrick) Parisi, his mother, Concetta (Tricomi) Parisi and his four children: Jodi (John) Montalbano, Paul (Tamara) Parisi, Michael (Kristina) Parisi and Nichole (Keith) O'Donnell, and his 10 grandchildren: John, Ava, Ella, Max, Jack, Michael, Kyle, Victoria, Marygrace, and Evelyn. He also leaves his four sisters: Elizabeth (Thomas) Burke, Mary (Roger) LeBlanc, Carol (Allen) Panarese and Lillian (Paul) Doughty, his sister in law, Joan Fitzpatrick and brothers in law, Jack (Minna) Fitzpatrick, Daniel Fitzpatrick and many loving nieces, nephews and cousins.

Funeral services will be private in New Hampshire due to Covid 19 and a Celebration of Life will be held at a later date. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made in Paul's memory to the First Congregational Church of Ossipee, 50 Route 16B, Center Ossipee, NH 03814.

James Cribbins

Life member of Everett Elks



James D. Cribbins of Middleton, formerly of Everett, died on June 7.

James graduated from Everett High School in 1961. He was a US Army Veteran and retiree of Market Forge. He also worked at Kappy's in Medford and was a life member of the Everett Elks.

The beloved husband of Cynthia "Cindy" A. (Dunn), he was the loving father of James D. Cribbins Jr. and his wife, Kate; son of the late John and Frances Cribbins; loving brother of George Cribbins, John Cribbins and his wife, Lauren, all of Everett and the late Maryellen Jarvis and proud Papa of two grandchildren: Chase and Cameran. He is also survived by



many loving nieces, nephews and cousins.

In light of the COVID-19, all funeral services will be private. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Our Lady of Grace Building & Maintenance Fund, 194 Nichols Street, Everett, MA 02149. Arrangements are by Salvatore Rocco & Sons Funeral Home: www.roccofuneralhomes.com

Mary Whalen

NE Tel & Tel retiree

Mary C. (Quealy) Whalen, 89, a lifelong Everett resident, entered into eternal rest at home on July 7 surrounded by her loving family.

Born in Everett, Mary retired from the New England Telephone Company where she worked as a telephone operator, searching out 411 telephone numbers.

She was the beloved wife of the late John R. "Jack" for over 59 years, dear and devoted mother of Michael J. Whalen of Marlborough, Mary Margaret Erickson and her husband, Barry of Everett, Elizabeth A. Whalen of Wakefield and Clare E. Maggio and her husband, Anthony of Salem, NH; sister of Ellen Philbin of Malden and the late Alan Quealy and his surviving wife, Ann of Stoneham, William Quealy and his surviving wife, Marsha of Middleton, John Quealy and his surviving wife, Theresa of New York, G. Ann Quealy and Patricia Breau; loving grandmother of Kristin Erickson, Katelyn Ferguson and her husband, Jared, Christopher Erickson, Courtney Erickson, Cameron Erickson, Riesa



Maggio, Michael Maggio and Laurelle Farrell and her husband, Jon and loving great-grandmother of Sinead Erickson, Callie Ferguson and Amelia Farrell. Mary is also survived by her devoted caregivers, Kristin Newberry and Joann Wilichoski.

As a result of the ongoing and ever developing crisis in the world and with genuine concern for the people who they love, Mary's services will be private. In lieu of flowers, contributions in Mary's memory to The Home for Little Wanderers, 10 Guest St., Boston, MA 02135, would be sincerely appreciated. Arrangements are by the Cafasso & Sons Funeral Home, Everett.

MSO announces seven new asymptomatic COVID-19 cases

Staff Report

The Middlesex Sheriff's Office announced last week seven individuals, including six Work Release and Community Work Program participants residing in a minimum security building, physically separated from the facility's main housing structure, have tested positive for COVID-19. All six minimum security cases are currently suspected to be as a result of community-based contacts outside the Middlesex Jail & House of Correction.

The seventh individual entered the facility having previously tested positive in the community.

Each of the individuals remains asymptomatic and all seven have been placed in medical isolation to be monitored. These are the first positive tests involving any incarcerated individuals at the Middlesex Jail & House of Correction since mid-May.

"While the incredible efforts of our staff to mitigate the impact of COVID-19 resulted in six straight weeks without a positive test, we were always cognizant the virus could return – most likely as a result of a community contact or through a new arrestee," said Middlesex Sheriff Peter J. Koutoujian. "With a constant flow of new admittances – nearly 750 since March 1 – it was never a matter of if we'd see more cases, but when – and we have been prepared to respond immediately."

On Tuesday morning,

the MSO received the initial positive result on a COVID test that had proactively been administered to an individual as part of his preparation for potential parole. The individual, who participated in the office's Work Release program, was immediately placed in medical isolation, per protocol, and all non-essential movement in and out the building was temporarily suspended. In consultation with our infectious diseases expert 28 additional individuals living in the building were tested, with five positive results and 23 negatives.

Individuals participating in Work Release, are eligible to leave the facility to take part in employment activities at community-based jobsites and are monitored by GPS while outside the facility. Those involved in the Community Work Program take part in both onsite and offsite painting, cleanup, beautification and other projects under the direct supervision of a correction officer.

The MSO has notified employers associated with the Work Release program of the results.

"Working with our infectious diseases specialist we will continue to maintain our high level of vigilance and preparation," said Sheriff Koutoujian. "As we have throughout this pandemic, we remain committed to ensuring the health and safety of all those who live in, work at and visit the Middlesex Jail & House of Correction."

To place a memoriam in the Everett Independent, please call 617-387-9600

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CHURCH News

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.

**Mystic Side
Congregational Church
422 Main Street
Everett, MA**

Grace Anglican Episcopal Church

News and Notes

Grace Anglican Episcopal Church is open and welcoming to all.

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

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
Church Phone
617-387-7526 or
617-389-5765**

Church at the Well Everett

News and Notes

Church at the Well Everett is a new church for Everett that will begin meeting in 2021. Check us out on Facebook at www.facebook.com/churchforeverett to view weekly devotions and updates,

visit us at www.foreverett.church to sign up for our newsletter and see how we can help you, or connect with the Everett Community Aid Network at www.everettcan.com to request any additional help.

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

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• 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.”

Isaia 41:10

“En busca de la excelencia espiritual

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**Rev. Larry Russi, Sr.
Pastor
pastorlarry@
thelighthousechurch701.net**

Glendale United Methodist Church

News and Notes

Glendale United Methodist Church is open to all and we welcome people of all faiths, race, nationalities and sexual preference. No one is ever turned away. If you are looking for a new home church, we would like you to check us out and let us know what we can do to make church a better fit in your life.

Bible Study: Consider joining us for Bible study on Sunday. We meet in the Church Parlor off the Chapel from 9:30 to 10:00 a.m.

Sponsor the bulletin! For a \$5 donation, you can dedicate the Sunday bulletin to recognize family, friends, or special occasions. There is a sign-up sheet in the Pastor’s study. Feel free to choose your particular week and leave a copy of your dedication in the mail in that is on the Pastor’s door. Please contact the Pastor if you have any questions.

Boy Scout Troop 814: Meet in Cooper Hall on Tuesday evenings from 6-9 p.m. Cub Pack 11 meets on Saturday mornings.

NA Meetings – Mon. Bring Your Own Book 7:30

– 9:30 p.m.; Thurs. I Can’t But We Can, 8:00 7:30 – 9:30 p.m.

AA Meeting – Saturday evenings from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.

Pastor’s Office Hours: Saturdays 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Other times by appointment.

Bread of Life Donations – This outreach is being done to honor the United Methodist Women’s Group, who for so many years were our outreach source. Please bring any food item(s) to church and place in the box located on the altar.

**We are on the Internet
<http://www.glendaleumc-everett.org>
Glendale United
Methodist Church
Pastor David Jackson
392 Ferry Street (across
from Glendale Towers)**

**Please enter the church
by the driveway on
Walnut Street
617-387-2916**

**PastorDavidJack-
son58@gmail.com**

**Pastor’s Office Hours:
Saturdays 10 AM to 2 PM.**

**Other times by
appointment.**

Zion Church - Everett

News and Notes

Senior Pastor Bishop Robert G. Brown will be hosting Virtual Masses to bring the people together, spiritually while they can’t physically. Their virtual sanctuaries can be accessed

via their facebook page, “Zion Church Ministries.”

For more information, they can be reached online at zionchurchministries.com or via email at office@zionchurchministries.com

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
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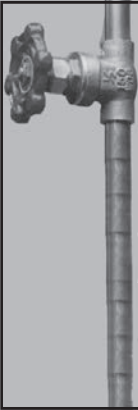
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Encore // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

“Other than telling a handful of people to push their mask up to cover their nose, there really weren’t any issues,” said Spokesman Eric Kraus. “People enjoyed the experience. Some guests actually enjoyed the Plexiglas barrier being up better than the way it used to be. People were great and they enjoyed themselves.”

That was the object of the preparations for the opening all last week, with Encore taking several pages from their sister resorts in Macau and Las Vegas – which have already reopened. They submitted a very detailed opening plan with the help of consultants from Johns Hopkins and Georgetown in May, but it has been refined over and



Servers and wait staff have sanitizer stations all over the restaurants and have protocols for sanitizing numerous times during the dining experience.

over again in the weeks since.

Things are certainly different, and it’s not the Encore of last summer, but it’s slowly returning.

They have lost nearly 50 percent of their gaming stations, going from 4,540 stations to 2,449 at opening. There are no Craps, Roulette or poker games, and of the lost gaming stations, that includes 1,000 slot machines closed due to social distancing. All of the card game tables have extensive Plexiglas barriers between



A new thermal camera detects body temperature as people walk through the entrance of Encore. Anyone with an elevated temperature will be further screened at the door.



Ready to open the resort were Doormen Rafik Chaib of East Boston, and Robert Traynham of Boston. The resort opened at 9 a.m. on Sunday, July 12.

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Michelle McMahon, a table dealer, demonstrates how they will deal Blackjack under the new regulations.

the dealer and the players, and players are no longer allowed to touch the cards.

“We flip the cards for them now and that’s for the safety of the guest and our employees,” said Gullbrants. “We followed the regulations to a ‘T’ with the barriers. It wasn’t hard, but it was expensive. We did it in house, but it cost hundreds of thousands of dollars and some blood, sweat and tears.”

Gullbrants said the cards are disposed of immediately if a guest touches them, and they are disposed of every night as part of their plan anyhow.

The Poker Room has been repurposed to have more Blackjack, Video Poker and Dynasty Games. Additionally, Gullbrants said they are working on a prototype with a plastics maker to help them be able to maybe get Poker safely up and running, if the MGC approves of it.

“We hope they will approve it in the next couple of weeks as we prove we can safely deal the current games,” he said.



Though the casino opened only one year ago, on June 23, 2019, it has now had two grand openings in a year’s time.



Villory Rijker was happy to be back working at the front desk of the hotel this week, albeit behind Plexiglas barriers.



President Brian Gullbrants explains the precautions that are being taken for indoor dining at restaurants like Rare Steakhouse. Innovations include a new “mask coaster” for guests to put their masks on when eating.



Though the HarborWalk never officially closed, the grounds crew has been hard at work restoring all of the plantings and flowers on the grounds to what has been expected at Encore.

There is now only one entrance – at the waterfront side of the building, and only one exit as well. Anyone walking in the entrance will be scanned with a thermal imaging camera, which detects an elevated body temperature – or fever. Anyone showing an elevated temperature will be further screened. Masks are required at all times, and the hotel is actually only being used minimally.

The hotel tower is only open to guests Thursday to Sunday, and closed Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday.

day. That is simply because demand isn’t yet back.

“That type of demand is gone in the short term,” he said. “When it returns, we’ll introduce the 24/7 operations. However, there isn’t enough demand to fill the hotel Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday here.”

Restaurants are perhaps the trickiest situation as they strive to institute greater and greater protections, while still giving everyone a top-notch experience. At this point, those open include Rare Steakhouse, Red 8, Fratelli, Mystique, On Deck Burger Bar, Encore Cantina, Lucky Dogs (new hot dog cart), Garden Cocktail Lounge, Bru, and Dunkin’ Donuts.

Gullbrants said a great deal of thought has been put into the dining experience, and detailed the protocols. Diners who prefer not to have a menu can call up the offerings with their cell phone using a QR Code. Then, when they enter the restaurant, they will sanitize, and everything will be cleaned and disinfected before they sit down. The silverware is rolled up and the glass is brought straight from the kitchen to ensure it’s sanitized. There is even a “mask coaster” that people can place their masks on while dining – a tweak developed in Macau after they opened in March.

There is also no bar seating, but they are taking advantage of the ample outdoor patio spaces.

“We spread out every restaurant, but we’re probably a little over 50 percent of capacity,” he said. “That varies, but every restaurant has eliminated seats for safety. If it’s busy, this will be as busy as it will ever be ... We feel the long-term implications of health and safety are paramount and supersede everything. If we’re not safe, we have no business.”

Gullbrants said after spending months at home with his family – like most everyone else – he believes people are ready to come out and have fun in a safe environment.

“The last thing I want to do is open a casino with no amenities,” he said. “It might be fun to play at the casino a little bit, but you want to have drinks and a Chinese Restaurant, Rare and a great dining experience...I think the customers are starving for that experience. I can tell you sitting in my home with my family for weeks and months on end; it was time to get back. We developed a plan that allows us to deliver that experience in a safe manner. I think we’ve achieved that.”