

Everett Independent

Published by the Independent Newspaper Co.

Wednesday, January 6, 2021



New Council President Wayne Matewsky welcomed his mother, Marion, to the Council Chambers on Monday night, Jan. 4, to celebrate his first-ever election as Council President. He will chair his first meeting next week.

Matewsky chosen as new council president for 2021

Staff Report

The Everett City Council elected Councilor-at-Large Wayne Matewsky as the 2021 City Council President during their annual Organizational Meeting on Monday, January 4 – with some attending in person and some attending via Zoom.

“Honesty, respect, and fairness has always been what I strive to do in this chamber and in my life,”

said Matewsky. “I want to thank my colleagues who spoke and sponsored me tonight. I’m very grateful, [and] I appreciate your faith in me.”

The motion to nominate Matewsky as President was accompanied by words of praise from many of his fellow Council members, each of whom recognized his dedication to serving the people of Everett. His election to the position of Council President was unanimous-

ly affirmed by the body, with no opposition from fellow Councilors.

“I have known Wayne for many years and have always admired his work ethic and his deep connection that he has fostered with his constituents throughout the years,” said Mayor Carlo DeMaria. “I look forward to working closely with Council President Matewsky and want to congratulate him for his election to the position of Council President.”

President Matewsky has proudly served 40 years in public office, advocating for the Everett community. He has held numerous elected positions, including Common Councilor, Alderman-at-Large, and Massachusetts State Representative. Matewsky has been on the City Council as a Councilor-at-Large since 2015, but in all his years, he has never been the Council President until now.

CHA Everett hit with COVID, behavioral health surge

By Seth Daniel

The stress has returned to the Emergency Department at the CHA Everett Hospital this month, as the crew there struggle to keep up with the double whammy of COVID-19 patient increases and large numbers of behavioral/mental health needs also flooding the hospital – while at the same time struggling to have the right staffing in place at all times.

Dr. Melisa Lai-Becker, chief of the Emergency Department at CHA Everett, said the hospital is seeing a surge of patients

right now for COVID-19 complications, with 64 patients having been admitted and the ICU units full for the last two weeks. However, at the same time, they have been hit with a post-holiday surge of behavioral health and mental health needs coming to the hospital as so many people have seemingly reached their breaking points.

“There’s a lot of activity,” she said on Monday. “The hospital is very busy and we are also seeing a near parallel surge and near-crisis levels of mental health and the needs there. A lot of things are

boiling down to being able to work with the manpower available and working simultaneously with the vaccine rollout program.”

Cases of COVID-19 in Everett, Chelsea and Revere have surged over the past several weeks – with more than 400 per week in Everett over the last several weeks. That has led to many more people coming to the hospital for treatment, and right now the hospital is working hard to keep staffing levels up so they can treat all of the patients seeking treatment.

“The issue overall with our hospital is not a lack

of physical beds, but a question of whether or not we have enough nurses and employees to staff and care for patients,” she said. “We have been trying to hire up traveling nurses, but it’s very hard...It’s like a prize when you find the manpower.”

The COVID-19 surge and staffing concerns have been hit by an underreported issue of surging patient loads seeking treatment for mental health and behavioral health issues. Seemingly, many people are at the end of their rope

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The Taste of Freedom

Independence Day for Haitians in Everett a time for peace

By Seth Daniel

For many on the outside looking in, their Haitian neighbors in Everett might appear to be celebrating New Year’s Day like everyone else – with the exception of the large amounts of squash they’ve been hoarding for weeks, or the long New Year’s Eve night spent in the kitchen over a large pot of soup.

But for the large numbers of those in Everett who came from Haiti, or have a Haitian heritage, Jan. 1 is primarily Haitian Independence Day, and it’s something that is tied to visiting family and eating the “Soup of Freedom” – otherwise known as Soup Joumou, a labor-intensive delicacy made from traditional pumpkin squash, potatoes, carrots, beef and a number of other ingredients. So while they celebrate a new year and a new beginning with everyone around them, they also celebrate the freedom they won in 1804.

While COVID-19 curtailed the celebration a little bit this year, and eliminated some of the usual in-person traditions, the celebration of Haitian Independence Day has

been going strong in Everett for decades – many times with a lot of the city not even knowing the full story of what their Haitian neighbors are celebrating.

“Unless you have Haitians around you, you probably won’t know,” said Michelle Fenelon, who has grown up in Everett and works as a sports reporter. “My parents brought it to us from Haiti. I don’t think there is any Haitian that doesn’t always celebrate by eating soup on Jan. 1. My family taught us at a very young age about the importance of the soup. There are a lot of people that didn’t know about the soup until social media or unless family taught them at a young age. If you can taste freedom, that’s what it tastes like. Freedom tastes like

Soup Joumou.”

What can be lost in the celebration for some, said Rev. Myrlande Desrosiers of the Everett Haitian Community Center (EHCC), is that Independence Day for Haiti is the day they won their freedom. Unlike the United States or other countries, Haitians weren’t set free. They fought for and won their freedom, which is part of a celebration that brings great pride to those in Everett and in Haiti, she said. There is a dramatic difference, she said, from being let go, or forcing someone to let you go.

She said Soup Joumou is important to the tradition – and why it stands for freedom and peace – because Haitian slaves

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New goal

Supt. Tahiliani: Get kids to hybrid model sooner than later

By Seth Daniel

Supt. Priya Tahiliani said the new goal for having the Everett Public Schools in a full hybrid education model would be by the end of February in what would potentially be a slow rollout by grade level through the month.

At Monday’s School Committee meeting, Tahiliani addressed the issue of hybrid education once again, saying students needed to be in the buildings “sooner than later.”

“We are meeting on this with our Health Task Force and it would be our goal to by the end of February transition,” she said. “We would start transitioning some grades in by February and then transition everyone in by the end of February. We are hoping we don’t see a huge surge after the holidays...We know we need to make sure to get back sooner rather than later. I don’t know that we can continue to wait.”

She said the plan would be to start with grades K through 2 in early February, and then move to the substantially separate classroom students, and then to the higher grades. With each step they would stop to assess the cases and be on the lookout for



Supt. Priya Tahiliani.

spikes – noting that the numbers of cases within the 0-19 age category spiked in December to 250 total cases.

She added that they would use lessons learned with in-person learning at the Devens School, the Lafayette School and the e-Learning Centers. They would also work closely with their Task Force before moving ahead to new grade levels.

The hybrid model in Everett would have a portion of students attending school part of the week, with everyone taking one day off, and another portion remaining remote. The groups would switch off during the week, and any student that wanted to remain all-remote can still opt for that choice.

The EPS was originally

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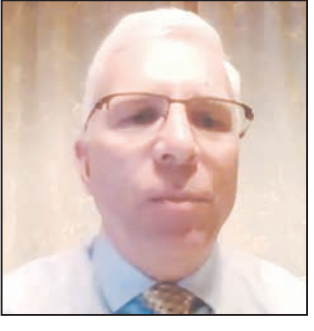
School Committee Chair says board will protect its autonomy

By Seth Daniel

School Committeeman Frank Parker received a unanimous vote, 8-0, to become the new chair of the School Committee, and former Chair Tom Abruzzese got a unanimous vote to be the vice chair – with both members essentially switching spots for 2021.

That, however, was fairly non-controversial, but Chair Parker quickly set the tone for 2021, saying the School Committee was going to defend its autonomy in what many on the Committee have felt is an attempted takeover by City Hall.

“We’ve heard over the last month that we at the School Committee are just another department,” he said. “We are not. We are far from just another department. We are not the Everett Public School Department. We are the Everett Public School District. We manage 10 buildings and are responsible for 7,200 kids and close to 900 employees. We represent 42 percent of the budget. With that comes autonomy – autonomy that’s been defined by the School Reform Act; autonomy that is spelled out in the Mass General



School Committeeman Frank Parker was chosen unanimously as the new chair of the School Committee on Monday night. In his speech, he emphasized that the Everett Public Schools will fight for autonomy, and they are not “just another City department.”

Laws. That far exceeds the three bullet points in the Charter. We will protect that autonomy and advocate for every dollar we think we deserve whether we think it’s local, state or federal.”

For most School Committees, such a statement would be a fact of life, but in Everett at this moment, the fight for control over the schools has been raging for two months – whether it be the make-up of the Committee or the finances of the public schools. All of it began when Mayor DeMaria suddenly filed a Charter

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Parker// CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Change last fall to become a voting member of the Committee, and that has been followed by an epic battle over a \$471,000 CARES Act reimbursement at all levels of local government.

Parker seemed to draw a line in the sand on Monday night after being voted in, calling on an agenda of four pillars – the last being autonomy.

“I think of this year looking at four pillars – that being equity, advocacy, accountability and autonomy,” he said.

Parker gained the role through a nomination from first-term Committeewoman Samantha Lambert.

“I wanted to put forth Frank as a candidate because he has a breadth of institutional and procedural knowledge while committing himself to continuous learning,” she said. “Over the first year on the School Committee for me, Frank has been an incred-

ible mentor on procedure and how to use procedure to let new voices be heard and to contribute effectively to our scholars and families...”

The night, however, was also punctuated with great praise for outgoing Chair Tom Abruzzese, who was also chosen as the new vice chair. Abruzzese had been chair for two years, getting chosen two years ago in a huge surprise vote on the night of Inauguration. He has led the district through the most challenging years in decades - overseeing the fallout from the former superintendent leaving abruptly and being charged criminally for alleged misconduct, conducting a superintendent search, choosing a new superintendent and then guiding the Committee through a 10-month pandemic.

“One word I could define Mr. Abruzzese with is leadership,” said School Committeeman Marcony

Almeida Barros in nominating Abruzzese for vice chair. “In his two years he has brought this Committee to not only a high level, but to an award winning level...His leadership in leading us through a very difficult transition from the previous superintendent to hiring in an honest and legal process the new superintendent we have now. He suffered many misinformation (campaigns) and lies and has stood up always to make sure this body was working hard to protect and bring our families we serve ahead of everything.”

Supt. Priya Tahiliani, who was an early favorite of Abruzzese when she interviewed for the job in 2019, said he had met every challenge decisively.

“He has led the School Committee through a very tumultuous period with both skill and decisiveness,” she said. “Under his leadership, the School Committee was awarded the All-State Award by the Massachusetts Association of School Committees and that’s no small accomplishment. He really has been instrumental in enduring the endless challenges and obstacles that have been posed over the past year, especially by the pandemic.”

Abruzzese said he was honored by the accolade, and was happy to serve as vice chair in 2021.

“This was a surprise, but not as much a surprise as two years ago when I became chairman,” he said. “I look on these positions and I’m one and Mr. Parker is one of nine people. Cynical people could look at it and say it’s the same old. I prefer to look at it as – over the past two years – if it’s not broken, let’s not fix it. Over the past two years we’ve had great things occur. The best is yet to come. I look forward to serving you. I appreciate it and am honored.”

Everett residential parking sticker program

Mayor Carlo DeMaria is pleased to announce that the 2021 Residential Parking Sticker Program is now underway. Vehicle owners must submit an online application in order to obtain their parking sticker for 2021.

After a resident has successfully submitted an online application, they will receive a confirmation email. Once the resident’s information is verified, they will receive an additional email to confirm that the order has been successfully processed. The parking sticker will then be mailed to the resident. Residents may apply for up to four stickers per online application. Information required to complete the application includes:

- Full Name
- Address
- Phone Number

- Email Address
- License Plate Number
- Name that Appears on the Registration

Resident stickers for 2021 must be obtained and displayed on the vehicle prior to March 1. As a courtesy, until February 2h, stickers may be obtained for free. The \$10 fee per sticker will be reinstated on March 1.

Please be advised that in order for a resident sticker to be approved, the vehicle must be registered to the City of Everett and be in good standing. If the vehicle has overdue parking tickets or unpaid excise tax, a sticker will not be issued.

For residents applying for a first-time sticker, those with new plates or vehicles, please visit City Hall, Room 13 to apply. Please bring your vehicle’s registration and

proof of address, such as a driver’s license or current utility bill, to obtain a parking sticker.

Residents of the Lower Broadway area must visit City Hall, Room 13 in order to renew the Lower Broadway sticker and visitor placard. Residents must bring the registration, proof of Lower Broadway area address, such as a driver’s license or current utility bill, and last year’s visitor placard to renew.

The online application for the Residential Parking Sticker Program can be found at <https://epay.cityhallsystems.com>. For questions regarding the program or the online application, please contact the Parking Clerk’s Office at 617-394-2295 or 617-394-2275.

Bread of Life receives \$25,000 grant from Eastern Bank Charitable Foundation

Bread of Life, a Malden-based based non-profit food distribution organization, is the recipient of a \$25,000 grant from the Eastern Bank Charitable Foundation. This grant is to assist Bread of Life with on-going COVID-19 relief efforts.

“We are so thankful that the Eastern Bank Charitable Foundation reached out to assist Bread of Life during this challenging time,” said Gabriella Snyder Stelmack, Executive Director. “The Eastern Bank Charitable Foundation does good work to help families in our community and we appreciate their support. Bread

of Life is serving record numbers of families at our food pantries, evening meal program and grocery delivery program, and these funds will certainly help feed more families in need. We’re honored to have such a supportive partner as The Eastern Bank Charitable Foundation.”

Founded in 1980, Bread of Life is a one of the largest providers and distributors of food to at risk families in the communities north of Boston. Programs provided by Bread of Life include serving free evening meals four nights per week, and offering food pantry services to families

residing in 10 communities: Malden, Medford, Everett, Saugus, Stoneham, Wakefield, Melrose, Reading, North Reading, and Winchester. Bread of Life delivers food to senior citizens in public housing and to at-risk teens and homeless families sheltered in local motels. Bread of Life recently launched a Backpack Nutrition Program to provide backpacks of nutritious food to students in Everett.

For more information about Bread of Life and its COVID 19 response, visit: www.breadoflifemalden.org.

Developer purchases more land on Vine St.; has 350 units under review already

By Seth Daniel

A Boston developer who already has a transformative, 320-unit apartment building on Second and Vine Streets under review by the City has purchased additional land on the street.

According to Bldup.com, Block Properties purchased two other development parcels along Second and Vine this month for \$7.3 million. Last fall, they purchased the property with the apartment building proposal for \$5 million.

The current proposal on 2nd and Vine replaces and older warehouse building and is part of a complete transformation that has happened before and during COVID-19 on the Commercial Triangle area of the city. That comes only about one year after the City changed the zoning.

The company, owned by Jon Block of Block Properties, had a hearing on Dec. 7 at the Planning Board, but it was continued due to an advertising error until this month – when the Board will continue the review.

Last October 12, the Planning Board heard an initial review of the project from the development team where they reported a 320-unit, six-story apartment building with 450 parking spaces and 4,000 sq. ft. of ground floor retail. The project was reported to be an as-of-right



Renderings of the 320-unit building on 2nd and Vine Streets in the Commercial Triangle District brought by Block Properties. The project is under review at the Planning Board right now, but the developer this month acquired two more development lots on Vine Street for \$7.3 million.

project that would need no Zoning Board relief, a new trend in that district. They only need Site Plan Review from the Planning Board and an Inclusionary Zoning (Affordable Housing) certification.

“Our approach is to make our front door on Second Street,” said Tamara Ray, an architect on the team with Stantec. “We know that in the future that is going to be the main street in the area. The T will probably go down the middle of the street so that’s our front door. We’re still in a gritty district now...We know we’re in a transformative

district and we see our project as part of the transformation of the neighborhood.”

One unique part of the project is it is not a podium style development with parking on the first floors. Instead, they’ll have a hidden parking garage.

“Our project is not a podium project,” she said.

The design of the building includes the Planning Board’s preferred red brick on part of it, but also fibre cement and a lot of unique colors.

It was uncertain how the new property acquisition would fit into the existing development.

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City of Everett joins Nextdoor

Mayor Carlo DeMaria is pleased to announce that the City of Everett has joined a new social media network, Nextdoor.

Nextdoor is a trusted and secured social networking service tailored to the needs of local neighborhoods.

“I am excited that the City of Everett has joined Nextdoor,” said Mayor Carlo DeMaria. “It is a great opportunity for us to connect with the community and share news and updates. Nextdoor will also allow for people living in the same neighborhood to connect with one another virtually during these difficult times of

COVID-19. It has never been more important for our community to unite and be able to do so safely and easily.”

Nextdoor creates a safe and friendly environment for communities. It will help the City of Everett communicate to a specific neighborhood with a tailored message or to the entire community. Not only will this network allow residents to connect with one another, it will also allow them to connect with local businesses as well. All neighbors who join the City of Everett’s network will be verified into the secured environment.

To join the City of Ev-

erett’s Nextdoor community, please visit <https://nextdoor.com/agency/city-of-everett-1/> to sign up. Residents will need to provide their residential street address and email address and select “Join your neighborhood.”

Once your address is verified, it will detect if your neighborhood is already on Nextdoor and you will automatically be assigned to that neighborhood. Nextdoor may be accessed through a web browser or through a mobile app available for download on iPhone or Android.



THE CAPONE FAMILY HONORS DOROTHY MARTIN LONG

The Capone Family recently honored the late Dorothy Martin Long in recognition and appreciation of her advocacy on behalf of Housing Families GREAT Youth and Families Program in Malden. Housing Families assists children experiencing educational challenges created by housing instability to receive homework and tutoring help. Mrs. Long was a steadfast supporter of the Program. Dorothy volunteered as a tutor for over 16 years. She was well known in Everett for her community service, her boundless energy, and her commitment to helping others. Zachary Capone volunteered as a tutor for three years, while a student at Malden Catholic, and had the good fortune to know Dottie as a friend and mentor. “Dottie was one of the nicest people we have ever met,” said Fred and Michele Capone. “We can’t remember a time in Everett when she wasn’t serving on a committee or volunteering of her time. She was generous of her spirit and a great friend to Zach. We thought the best way for our family to honor Dottie was to donate to the GREAT Youth and Families Program in her memory. The Program provides much needed services to families in crisis and works diligently to help students achieve their individual academic goals through weekly tutoring. We miss Dottie and pray for her family. This is our way to thank her and pay it forward to help others.”

CASES OF COVID-19 CONTINUE TO STAY IN DOUBLE DIGITS DAY OVER DAY

The numbers of COVID-19 cases in Everett continued in a steady upward trend this week, reporting two days of nearly 100 cases per day.

The City reported 404 new cases over the New Year’s holiday, which was

an increase from 281 cases reported over Christmas. There had been more than 400 cases per week reported for most of December.

The most recent numbers are as follows:

- Tuesday, Jan. 5 - 39
- Monday, Jan. 4 - 37
- Sunday, Jan. 3 - 39
- Saturday, Jan. 2 - 23
- Friday, Jan. 1 - 46
- Thursday, Dec. 31 - 94

- Wednesday, Dec. 30 - 98
- Tuesday, Dec. 29 - 28

On Monday, Everett moved its testing full-time indoors at the Samuel Gentile Recreation Center on Elm Street. Testing is done Monday to Thursday, 7 a.m. to 1 p.m., and then 2 p.m. to 7 p.m. On Friday and Saturdays, testing is done noon to 6 p.m.

Freedom / CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

were not allowed to eat the soup by those that enslaved them in Colonial times. While the slaves brought the food from Africa and had to prepare the delicacy for slaveowners, they were strictly forbidden from eating it. Likewise, being enslaved, they were not permitted to move about freely and see family and elders. So it is, even today in Everett, on Jan. 1 the first thing Haitian people do is eat the soup and go around seeing elders to show them respect (known as Ti Jou Dla) – though this year that was largely done on Zoom or by phone.

“We try to keep it the same way and now more than ever,” she said. “It’s not just the food or the soup. It’s what it represents. It can be taken to a new level now...This is our 217th year of independence. Haitians might be poor and our country might be a mess, but the idea survives that we are the first Black Republic and that’s important. We were not emancipated and set free. We fought for our freedom and won it. History should inspire change or greatness and today’s fight for justice. It should be about doing right and moving upward and forward. This history should not make you feel nothingness. That is what Soup Joumou represents and that’s why we eat it on Jan. 1.”

All of those things come together on Jan. 1 – where Desrosiers said people wake up to the aroma, the activity and the excitement in the morning – with the soup just about to be finished and eaten all day long.

Desrosiers, who came to the US at the age of 15, is like others who celebrated Independence Day substantially in Haiti, and now also for many years as an adult in Everett. Guerline Alcy, who works at City Hall, said she came to the United States at age 11. She recalls that in Haiti that New Year’s Eve was the night Haitian children got a “free pass” to stay up late. It was a time they put on their Sunday best clothing in the Ti Jou Dla tradition and tailor/seamstress shops boomed as everyone wanted the best new clothes for Jan. 1. That

would be followed by going to Midnight Mass and returning home to eat the Soup Joumou.

“Everyone would drink Soup Joumou with friends and family and the kids would just walk around the neighborhood while the elders would pass out candy or money to the young kids,” she recalled. “It was really a time enjoyed by all. Now, I think every Haitian in the Diaspora does Soup Joumou on the 1st of January to keep our memories alive. It doesn’t stop there, the big celebration of the Independence win is celebrated on January 2nd where every household cooks a huge meal to celebrate. Of course it didn’t happen this year because of COVID-19, but I’m sure in Haiti, where more families live together, they did not scale back.”

City Councilor Gerly Adrien said her family always celebrated Independence Day in Everett like it was Christmas. There were always gifts, and people talked about their prayers and hopes for the new year. However, given she is the first Haitian American elected to office in Everett, it has also now taken on a new significance in the meaning of fighting for independence.

“My father always talked to us about coming to the US as a Black man and it is very different from being in Haiti,” she said. “In Haiti, you’re a regular person, but here you don’t feel as free. The soup was a reminder of where he came from and who his people are and what they fought for and won. Coming here, you can forget what you fought for. So, we always talked about that.”

For Adrien, being the first Haitian American office-holder in Everett, there is a significance attached to her that simply comes with the territory and is often celebrated and conveyed in that community on Independence Day, she said.

That even goes for her father.

“It makes me proud to be elected because my father never thought that could happen here,” she said. “In Haiti, my great grandfather was a senator. We didn’t think that could happen here. For me, it’s

great to be part of that history and tradition. Haitians are strong and we can fight and we can win.”

Fenelon said her tradition growing up in Everett has revolved around Haitians from several Parishes in Everett, Somerville and other locales celebrating Mass at the Cathedral of the Holy Cross in Boston – a similar ceremony as is traditionally held in Haiti and is also followed by a communal eating of Soup Joumou.

There at the Cathedral, the youth group she leads at her Parish will be asked to perform a dance, or do a reading, or some other task. Coming together, in recent years, has also meant more people outside of the Haitian community – especially young people – wanting to participate in the tradition with her.

When she was working as a reporter at ESPN in Connecticut some years ago, she recalled going out to church on New Year’s Eve and coming back to the studio with some Soup Joumou – which she shared with a grateful co-worker.

“I brought him soup and he was so thankful and happy to be a part of the tradition,” she said. “I see so many people who want to know more about it and learn about it...My favorite part is how friends and people from other cultures want to join in the tradition and celebrate with us.”

For Rev. Desrosiers, that sharing of the tradition is perfectly appropriate, and in a multi-cultural city like Everett, could be taken to a new level in celebrating freedom, peace and justice. It is, in fact, why she has come to call it “Freedom Food” or the “Food of Peace.”

“We can all understand in modern times what it meant for the slave,” she said. “They were suddenly free, so they went around to see people and they were eating the food that was forbidden. It was so good. It’s why I call it Freedom Food or Peace Food. It’s the most peaceful time of year for Haitians. In the Christian tradition and in Haiti, it’s also a time to make peace with enemies. It’s a time to start anew.”

Assistant City Clerk attracts lots of resumes, decision starts Saturday

By Seth Daniel

There are reportedly about 25 applications for the Assistant City Clerk job that became vacant when former Mayor David Ragucci retired from the position and will leave the job this month.

The decision comes down to the City Council, and reportedly the Committee on Legislative Affairs is set to meet on Saturday in an all-day marathon interview process of the candidates.

The job became high-profile last month when former Councilor Peter Napolitano announced his resignation from the City Council with the caveat that he

intended to apply for the soon-to-be vacated Clerk’s job. The Assistant City Clerk works under the City Clerk and handles day-to-day operations of licensing and other matters.

Apparently, Committee Chair Anthony DiPierro has called the meeting for Saturday, and each candidate would get approximately 20 minutes for an interview. Candidates are expected to be in person, but there will likely also be an online option for those that wish to remain remote.

After the interviews, the Committee is likely going to recommend finalists, and the City Council

could choose a new Assistant City Clerk as soon as Monday’s meeting.

However, Council President Wayne Matewsky has said at previous Council meetings he didn’t expect a full Council vote until February.

City Councilor Gerly Adrien has been very critical of the process to date, and has asked for an Ethics Commission ruling as to whether there were any violations in regards to Napolitano’s intentions to seek the job.

At the Dec. 30 meeting, she wanted clarification on how thoroughly the position had been advertised.

Resumes were accepted until 5 p.m. on Jan. 6.

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Everett

Independent

President: Stephen Quigley

Editor in Chief: Cary Shuman

EMISSIONS BILL IS A BIG STEP FOR THE ENVIRONMENT

The approval on Monday by both houses of the Massachusetts legislature of a bill that requires the state to reduce its carbon emissions by at least 85% below 1990 levels by 2050 represents a huge step toward the goal of mitigating the effects of climate change in our state.

Although the total carbon emissions emanating from Massachusetts obviously is only a small fraction of global emissions, the legislation provides a blueprint for other states and private industry to follow.

Some say that the ultimate goal of net-zero by 2050 is unattainable, but in our view, that is understating the reality of what is happening in the world today.

Despite the best (or worst) efforts of the Trump administration to perpetuate the use of coal and other fossil fuels, renewable energy actually is cheaper than fossil fuels thanks to the advances in technology of wind and solar energy.

Most excitingly, the progress in the development of hydrogen fuel cells, which has been more than two decades in the making, finally is beginning to look like it will become a feasible source of energy within 10 years, making the goal of net-zero carbon emissions by 2050 more than just a dream.

We applaud the action by Gov. Charlie Baker and our legislature in bringing to fruition an environmental action plan that recognizes the pressing need to address the issue of climate change.

Although the pandemic rightly is in the forefront of government leaders' attention today, that problem will seem like a stroll in the park if we do not take immediate action to avert the looming climate catastrophe that threatens our planet's very existence.

IT WAS A GREAT RUN, PATS' FANS

The 2020 season for the New England Patriots came to a merciful close this past weekend. The woeful Pats finished with a 7-9 record, their first losing season since 2000, and missed the playoffs for the first time since 2008.

We have to admit that we feel badly for young Patriots' fans, those born after 1990, who have become accustomed to the dominance and excellence, year-after-year, by Bill Belichick's crew. This season has been the equivalent of having an ice bucket thrown over your head, a rude wake-up call to the reality of the ebb-and-flow of professional sports that the Patriots alone among all sports franchises in the modern era have managed to avoid for an unprecedented two decades.

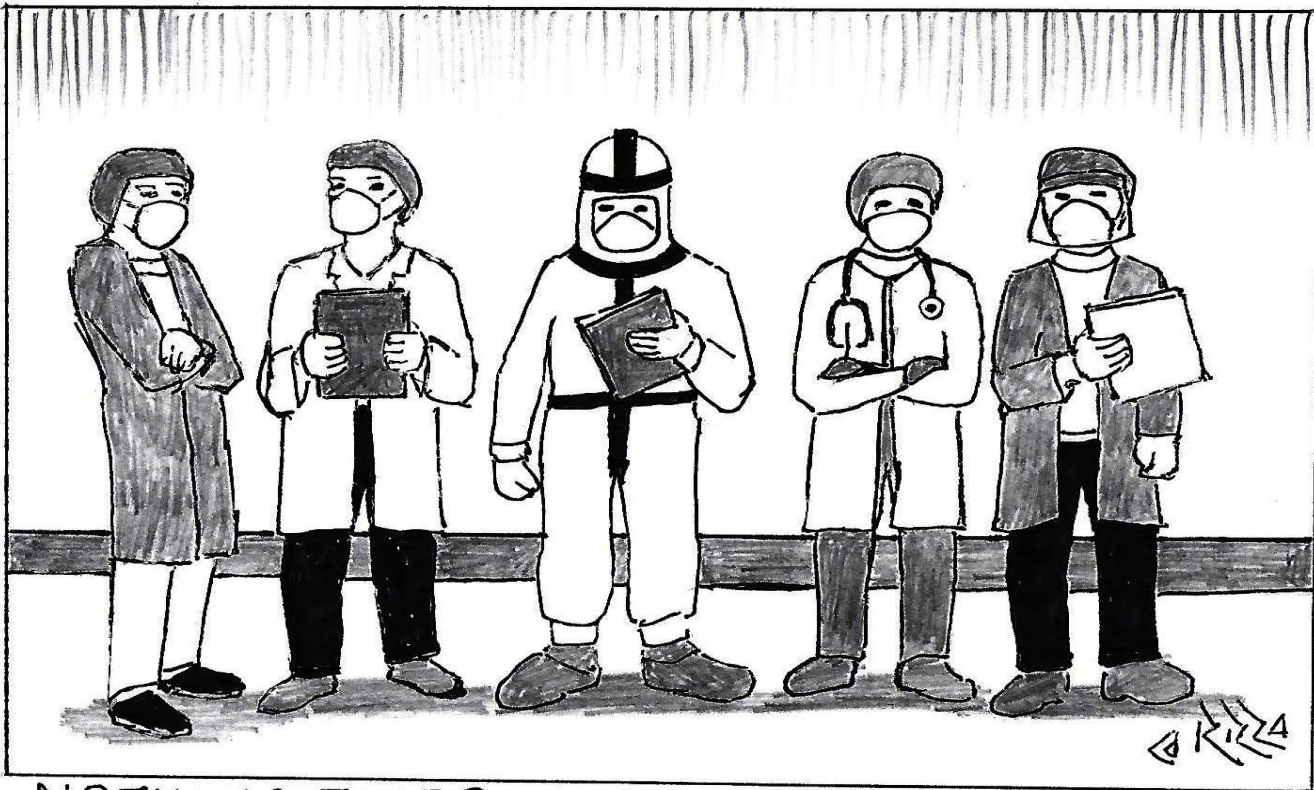
Admittedly, even for those of us who are long-time Pats' fans who can recall all of the decades of ignominy, from Braves Field to Fenway Park to Harvard Stadium and then to Schaefer Stadium, the relegation of the Patriots to the bottom tier of the NFL this season, in which Foxboro and Gillette Stadium no longer were the epicenter of the football universe, was jarring.

So let's be grateful for the two decades of fun that Bob Kraft and his team brought our way.

But as the proverb says, all things must come to an end -- and so they have for our Patriots.

It was a nice ride -- and those championship banners always will be there to remind us of the good times.

Independent Forum



NOTHING FINER THAN A FRONTLINER

GUEST OP-ED

First responders need vaccine now

By Senator Sal DiDomenico

One of the greatest bright spots of 2020 and now leading into this New Year has been the speedy development and subsequent rollout of the COVID-19 vaccine. For the first time in many months, we are finally able to see the light at the end of the tunnel, with the promise that someday soon we will all receive the inoculation needed to stay safe from this deadly virus that has ravaged our communities. Of course, the first phase of the rollout of the COVID-19 vaccine has rightfully been dedicated to reaching our healthcare workers and first responders; those on the front lines who have already risked so much to serve us in the midst of this public health crisis.

However, Phase 1 of this rollout is already off to a slow and rocky start. Perhaps most concerning is the fact that the goal of "Operation Warp Speed" on the national level was to get the COVID-19 vaccine to 20 million Americans by the end of the year, and yet just over two million Americans have been vaccinated thus far. At that rate, it has been estimated it would take the United States 10 years to vaccinate 80% of Americans. That is an unacceptable lack of leadership at the federal level, which undoubtedly has exacerbated the vaccine rollout issues we are already facing in the Commonwealth.

Here in Massachusetts, I am also deeply concerned about the lack of clarity, transparency, and communication on how and when vaccines will be administered to the priority populations that fall within Phase 1 of the vaccine rollout. Many members of our first responder community - especially our firefighters, paramedics, EMTs, and police officers - have indicated that they have received little to no information about when vaccines will be provided to emergency personnel or how it will be administered to them during the Phase 1 timeline. The current plan for administering the vaccine to public safety personnel is to give that responsibility to local boards of health, all of which have already been forced to take on extraordinary and overwhelming responsibilities throughout this public health emergency.

Many public safety officials and my legislative colleagues have raised concerns that this plan has led to confusion and delay around vaccine rollout. Vaccinating our public safety personnel will not be as simple as it is for hospital personnel or even long-term care facility residents. The disparate geographic nature of our public safety community is something we must plan for accordingly, not only to guarantee all first responders receive the vaccinations they need, but also to ensure they receive the

communication from public health officials that they deserve. Unfortunately, our Commonwealth's already overburdened local boards of health are structurally unprepared to execute this massive undertaking, especially without additional support and guidance at the state level. That is why I am joining with my colleagues in calling upon the Baker Administration to implement two key recommendations.

First, we must create a regionalized plan in consultation with the Department of Public Health and the Executive Office of Public Safety and Security on how to distribute and administer the vaccine to our public safety personnel. This plan should take into account how and when different regions will be able access vaccines and how the Baker Administration plans to prioritize each region and department. Our local boards of health cannot do this on their own, and the state must step up to ensure our public safety officials are not left behind. The second proposal is to deploy the 7000 of the 12000 professional firefighters around the Commonwealth who are also EMTs to administer the vaccine to their colleagues, including call and volunteer departments. This is a simple and effective solution that will help to more quickly distribute the COVID-19 vaccine to our men and women on the front lines.

I know that vaccine distribution and administration is a massive feat that will undoubtedly need to be reviewed and amended as rollout continues over the coming weeks and months. Under no circumstances do I believe this holdup has been deliberate by anyone on the state level; our Commonwealth is being asked to take on an extraordinary challenge without proper support and resources from the Oval Office. However, it is also clear that further action needs to be taken and these two proposals are a great place to start.

I am already encouraged to see that the Governor Baker plans to address many of our concerns this week and will release more information regarding vaccine distribution plans for first responders in light of these concerns. I think we all know that our first responders, including our men and women in uniform, have played a crucial role in Massachusetts' response to the COVID-19 pandemic and have risked and sacrificed so much for the greater good of our community. We owe it to them to ensure that our vaccine rollout is equitable, transparent, and effective. I stand with our public safety community and will continue to support any and all efforts to ensure that they are given every opportunity to access this vaccine as deserved.

Sal DiDomenico is State Senator of Middlesex and Suffolk Counties.

GUEST OP-ED

What six dollars can do

Dr. Glenn Mollette

When I was sixteen years old, I was invited to speak at a little country church in rural Denver Kentucky, not far from Paintsville.

The church had all but closed its doors but one man, Harold Rice, and his family wanted to see the church stay open and do well.

A church with few to almost no people typically does not attract too many interested ministers. I had spoken in my home church a few times and was a guest speaker in a few others. Mr. Rice asked if I would consider speaking at the church on the second and fourth Sunday afternoons at 2:00. I agreed,

and brought a message to maybe seven or eight people my first Sunday. The crowd consisted of Harold and his wife June Rice and their family. The church was an old building with a pump organ and a sign behind the pulpit that said, "Preach the Word."

I stayed with the little congregation called Liberty Baptist Church throughout high school. By the time I was seventeen Mr. Rice was talking to me about being the official pastor and about ordination. In time I would become the pastor and would be ordained. I was too young, too inexperienced and unskilled for such a responsibility but youth is adventurous and will try what those of us who

know better would never consider.

The church grew and we started having 20 to 30 people and often more. People literally received Christ, joined the church and were baptized. This was all amazing.

Even more amazing was Mr. Rice offered me a grand salary of \$60 a month to help buy my gasoline. The trip one way from home was over 30 miles so this was appreciated. He also presented me with paperwork for a perk. The church was going to put 10 percent or \$6 of my salary into the church denominational retirement plan, then known as The Annuity Board. It's called Guidestone today. He had me to complete a form so-

lidifying my agreement to this monthly contribution. I was about seventeen at this stage and had zero interest or thoughts about retirement. Six dollars a month kind of seemed like a joke.

I was with Liberty church a couple of years or more and about ten to twelve of those months Mr. Rice made that \$6 contribution to my retirement faithfully. Although, I never thought another day about it from the moment I signed those papers.

Seven or eight years ago I did wonder if that account even existed. I called up The Guidestone retirement people and with my Social Security

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Everett

Independent

Published by the Independent Newspaper Group

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LETTER to the Editor

WORKING TOGETHER, WE WILL ENSURE THAT 2021 IS A MUCH BETTER YEAR

To the Editor,

My family and I would like to extend to each of you a Happy and Healthy New Year greeting. We are glad that 2020 is over and like most families are optimistic that 2021 will be better. The New Year is an opportunity to envision the future, but it is also a time to reflect on the past. Like many, we have lost friends and family in 2020 to COVID 19 and other causes. Nevertheless, their spirit remains with us and they will never be forgotten. Our thoughts and prayers are with all those who have experienced similar loss.

I realize that many of you are tired: tired of not being able to visit friends and loved ones, celebrate holidays together, to give someone a needed hug, to attend in person school and work, and to enjoy your favorite places. Quite frankly, it has been a long, difficult, and exhausting year. That said, it was also a year that demonstrated our resilience and tenacity. As I reflected upon the year 2020, I was moved by how much we accomplished by working to-

gether and the countless examples of commitment to community.

One of the best things about Everett is that we care about one another. We always work together to find a way to help. I have seen this wonderful quality in so many amazing people throughout this past year firsthand - whether it is volunteering at food pantries, delivering meals to those in need, neighbors caring for other neighbors, individuals remaining in the home to care for homebound relatives, and the parents and grandparents working with their students at home. Everett is blessed with quality agencies and organizations dedicated to helping others. It has been a true team effort and I'm so proud of all the organizations, volunteers, and our residents. It is undeniable that these are trying times, but we will get through this together and will become a stronger community in the process. Working together, we will ensure that 2021 is a much better year and that Everett will be a better place to live and work. Let's all continue to do our part to help one another. Happy New Year to you all.

Stay positive and be safe.

Fred Capone
Councilor Ward 1

GUEST OP-ED

A Message for 2021 from the Everett DIEE Commission

By Everett DIEE Commissioners

The year 2021 has arrived.

After a year of overwhelming frustration, sadness, and injustice, we have another opportunity to work to, as our forefathers said, "establish justice and ensure domestic tranquility."

The Diversity, Equity, Inclusion & Equal Employment (DIEE) Commission is moving into 2021 humbled and inspired by the lessons of the painful truths we faced in 2020, with a vision to shine more light on issues of diversity, inclusion, & equity, and with hope for a year in which we will all come together and work for the common good.

Op-Ed / CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

number they told me in a few seconds that the account did indeed exist and my balance was \$31,000. Shocked would not describe how I felt. I almost had to pick myself off the floor. If Mr. Rice had made as many as 12 contributions the total invested would have been \$72. Now, years later I was looking at over \$31,000. Since that day of first inquiring that little \$6 account now has over \$46,000 and still growing.

The point of all this is save some money when you can. Start as young as possible but even if you are old put something away every month. If you can save hundreds every month that is wonderful, please do. However, don't

ever underestimate the growth potential of saving a little bit of money every month, even if it's just \$6. And yes, every time I look at that account, I remember Mr. Rice and the good people of Liberty Baptist Church who not only encouraged me then but are still encouraging me today with just \$6.

Glenn Mollette is the publisher of Newburgh Press, Liberty Torch and various other publishing imprints; a national columnist – American Issues and Common Sense opinions, analysis, stories and features appear each week in over 500 newspapers, websites and blogs across the United States.

USCIS announces potential end to Haitian Family Reunification Parole program

By Seth Daniel

Advocates for the Haitian community in Everett are denouncing a potential end to the Haitian Family Reunification Parole program that was announced by the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Service (USCIS) at the end of December.

The notice formally published on Dec. 28, and USCIS will accept public comments for 60 days. These changes will terminate the HFRP and another program for Filipino WWII veterans when those formal instruction changes are finalized.

USCIS is terminating these two categorical parole programs to be consistent with Executive Order (E.O.) 13767, Border Security and Immigration Enforcement Improvements and to better ensure that parole is used only on a case-by-case basis, consistent with sections of the Immigration and Nationality Act (INA), and without using pre-set criteria.

Parole is a mechanism

that allows aliens to temporarily enter or remain in the United States, including those who are otherwise inadmissible. Categorical parole refers to programs designed to consider parole for entire groups of aliens based on pre-set criteria. Under both categorical parole programs, aliens with approved family-based immigrant petitions have been authorized to enter the United States and are eligible to apply for employment authorization while waiting for their Green Card to become available.

Rev. Myrlande Desrosiers of the Everett Haitian Community Center (EHCC) said they completely oppose the change, and she called on the state delegation to act quickly to stop the change.

"Immigrants are battling various struggles of systemic inequities exacerbated by COVID-19's devastating economic impacts," she said. "The Everett Haitian Commu-

nity Center denounces the non-stop disproportionate attack on Haitian immigrants. The proposed policy to end Haitian Family Reunification Parole will have devastating effects on alien individuals and families."

She said it is important for immigrants from Haiti to be able to come to the US when awaiting a Green Card as the situation can be dangerous.

"The situation in Haiti...is not encouraging to travel as we face this pandemic," she said. "Further, the climate of opposition, political turmoil and number of kidnapping cases make it unsafe for aliens with approved family-based immigrant petitions. We believe that the Massachusetts Delegation must act now to deter this unfair decision."

The change is in keeping with the agency's August 2019 announcement, USCIS made the announcement and requested public comments on the revisions.

"Parole is to be used on a case-by-case basis for urgent humanitarian reasons or significant public benefit. With the termination of these categorical programs, any new applicants will be considered for parole consistent with the criteria that apply to any other alien seeking parole," said USCIS Deputy Director for Policy Joseph Edlow. "USCIS is committed to exercising this limited authority in a manner that preserves the integrity of our immigration system."

USCIS will process all pending cases under these programs to completion, and all new applications that are postmarked on or before the effective date of the new form instructions. USCIS will publish the effective date of this change as soon as timelines are finalized and could be as early as February 2021. Current parolees will maintain their current period of parole until it expires, unless it is otherwise terminated.

School // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

supposed to transition to hybrid education in November, but that hit a snag when cases and positivity rates continued to climb in the fall. At this point, cases are rising very fast in Everett, and the positivity rate in Everett is above 10 percent.

The budget to go to the hybrid model is quite expensive, Tahiliani said,

and would require \$5.1 million in "must haves" to make the program work.

One of the largest expenditures for any potential hybrid education program is the hiring of long-term substitute teachers at a price of \$1.3 million to cover for teachers that have opted not to return to the classroom this year.

Another \$1.6 million would be required for transportation costs as there would be far more buses needed this year to accommodate social distancing on the buses.

Committee woman Dana Murray, who is a teacher in Boston, said she has returned to a hybrid classroom, and she applauds the move because

kids need to be in the classroom – though there are risks and many things to consider.

"I'm glad we're not talking about bringing back students and staff immediately after the holiday," she said. "It's getting to the point where enough is enough."

- LEGAL NOTICE - CITY OF EVERETT



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

To Whom It May Concern:

his notice is to inform you that a public hearing will be held on Tuesday, January 19, 2021 at 7:00 PM in regards to an application for zoning relief. In response to Governor Baker's declaration of a public health emergency and the related Emergency Executive Order dated March 12, 2020, the Zoning Board of Appeals shall be meeting remotely until further notice. The audioconferencing application Zoom will be used for this purpose. An online link and telephone access number will be provided on all meeting agendas and also on the Board's website. This application will permit the public to access and participate in future Board meetings and hearings. Instructions for joining meetings in this manner will be provided on the City and City Clerk's website. In addition, Everett Community TV (ECTV) may provide coverage of these meetings. We extend our thanks for your understanding and participation in this manner, which is intended to keep members of the Board and the public safe.

Whereas a petition has been presented by:
Property Address: 20 Pleasant Street
Map/Parcel: C0-05-000063
Person Requesting:
Ms. Claudia Kasper
20 Pleasant Street
Everett, MA 02149

To the said Board of Appeals, the applicant seeks to convert the existing 2 family residence built approximately in 1894 into a 3-family residence.

Permit was denied in accordance to the City of Everett Zoning Ordinance Appendix A as follows:
Reason for Denial:

- The FAR (floor area ratio) for the proposed use is .71.
- The proposed parking spaces in the rear yard are not the proper size being 8.5' x 18'
- The driveway is only 17.8' wide

Zoning Ordinance:
Section 4 Dwelling Districts (b) Dimensional Requirements line C. All other uses-----0.5 maximum floor area ratio (Ord. of 6-29-87; Ord. of 4-29-91 Ord. of 7/16/2002; Ord. of 11/13/2007)

Section 17 Off-Street Parking paragraph I which states the following:
Each required car space shall be not less than 9 feet in width and 18 feet in length exclusive of drives and maneuvering space, and the total area of any parking facility for more than five (5) cars shall average two hundred seventy-five (275) square feet per car. No driveways or curb cuts shall exceed thirty (30) feet in width. (Ord. 01-046/2001).

Mary Gerace – Chairman
Roberta Suppa - Clerk
Board of Appeals

December 30, 2020
January 6, 2021 0

- LEGAL NOTICE - CITY OF EVERETT



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

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Whereas a petition has been presented by:
Property Address: 340 Main Street
Map/Parcel: D0-04-000113
Person Requesting:
Mr. Andrew LaFuente
340 Main Street
Everett, MA 02149

Applicant seeks a building permit convert the existing single family residential building into a two (2) family residential building.

Reason for Denial:

- The building is question is in a Business District and two (2) family residential uses are not permitted with the grant of a Special permit.
- No plot plan was submitted to indicate the two (2) required parking spaced

Zoning Ordinance:
Section 3 General Requirements paragraph P which states the following:
P. Up to three (3) dwelling units shall be prohibited except by the grant of a Special Permit by the Zoning board of Appeals in the Business, Business Limited, Industrial and Industrial Limited Districts. (Ord. of 4-29-91)

Section 17 Off-Street Parking: Paragraph A which states the following:
A. Off-street parking facilities shall be provided in accordance with the requirements as outlined below. Where the Term "gross square feet" is used, it shall mean the total occupiable floor area measured within the exterior walls of the building. (Original Ord. Of 2-26-1965, 6-29-87)

1. One- and two-family dwellings 2 spaces per dwelling unit.

Mary Gerace – Chairman
Roberta Suppa - Clerk
Board of Appeals

December 30, 2020
January 6, 2021 0



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Orange Appeal

At Syracuse, Del Gaizo teamed with two future NFL Hall of Famers

By Cary Shuman

John Del Gaizo of Everett can truly say he had a remarkable and memorable college football career.

A highly regarded 6-foot-2-inch end coming out of Revere High School, Del Gaizo made his collegiate debut in his sophomore year at Syracuse University after playing for the freshman team (Freshmen were not eligible for the varsity at that time).

And what a year the Orangemen's 1966 season was. With his twin brother, Jim, as the starting Syracuse quarterback, John Del Gaizo lined up at the tight end position on what was an awesome offensive line.

Though John's brother, a southpaw who eventually played for the NFL's undefeated 1972 Miami Dolphins, was an accurate passer with a golden arm, Syracuse Coach Ben Schwartzwalder focused the offensive attack on the running game.

The halfback on that team was three-time All-American Floyd Little, who went on to become an NFL Hall of Fame running back for the Denver Broncos. The fullback was All-American Larry Csonka, who went on to become an NFL Hall of Fame fullback with the Miami Dolphins – and a teammate of Jim Del Gaizo for the only undefeated team in NFL history.

Many say the Little-Csonka tandem was the greatest backfield in the history of college football, though Army's Doc Blanchard and Glenn Davis are in that conversation. Del Gaizo has vivid memories of his days playing in front of 45,000 fans outdoors at Archbold Stadium in Syracuse, long before the days of the Carrier Dome. He has fond memories of Floyd Little, who

died on Jan. 1 at the age of 78.

"Floyd was a really good, terrific guy," said John Del Gaizo. "He was a very tough back, just a great all-around ballplayer. He treated all the new kids on the team so respectfully and gave them encouragement. He didn't act like a superstar. He was so down-to-earth. I believe he got married while he was a student there."

A rugged blocker and tough pass catcher with great hands, John Del Gaizo was out in front of many of the runs by Little and Csonka, a valuable part of Schwartzwalder's rotation of "messenger" tight ends.

"I blocked for Little and Csonka that entire season," recalled Del Gaizo. "Floyd was a senior [and a Heisman Trophy candidate] and Larry was a junior. It was fun to be around those guys. It's funny for me to say that I blocked for guys like that, but I really did."

Del Gaizo said Syracuse had been known for its immense rushing attack for years. Both NFL great Jim Brown and Heisman Trophy winner Ernie Davis were past running backs at Syracuse, having worn the famous jersey No. 44 before Floyd Little.

"When people looked at Syracuse and the way they could run the football, the line play there was unbelievable – I never saw run blocking like that in my life, the way the coaches trained us to block against teams with six linemen across the board whose defenses were designed to stop the run," said Del Gaizo. "Teams would scheme up to stop the run because that's all Syracuse did, but teams just couldn't stop us."

Another Syracuse player from that 1966 team was

Tom Coughlin, the Syracuse wingback. Coughlin became a coach in college football and in the NFL, leading the New York Giants to a Super Bowl victory over the New England Patriots, spoiling New England's undefeated season.

"Tom was a wingback and my brother threw some passes to him," said John.

The Orangemen won eight games in a row during the 1966 season to finish 8-2, qualifying for a trip to the Gator Bowl.

But wanting to be part of a pass-oriented attack, the DelGaizo twins took their superb talents south, transferring to the University of Tampa where they played their junior and senior seasons for Coach Fran Curci.

"I caught a lot of passes from my brother as a tight end," said Del Gaizo, who had 65 pass receptions in his two seasons at Tampa. "My brother spread the ball around quite a bit, a lot of passes to his wide receivers. It was more fun playing at Tampa than Syracuse, I'll put it that way. I think we made the right decision to transfer to Tampa. I don't regret for one minute leaving Syracuse. Certainly for my brother, it was the only way that he was going to develop and play in the National Football League."

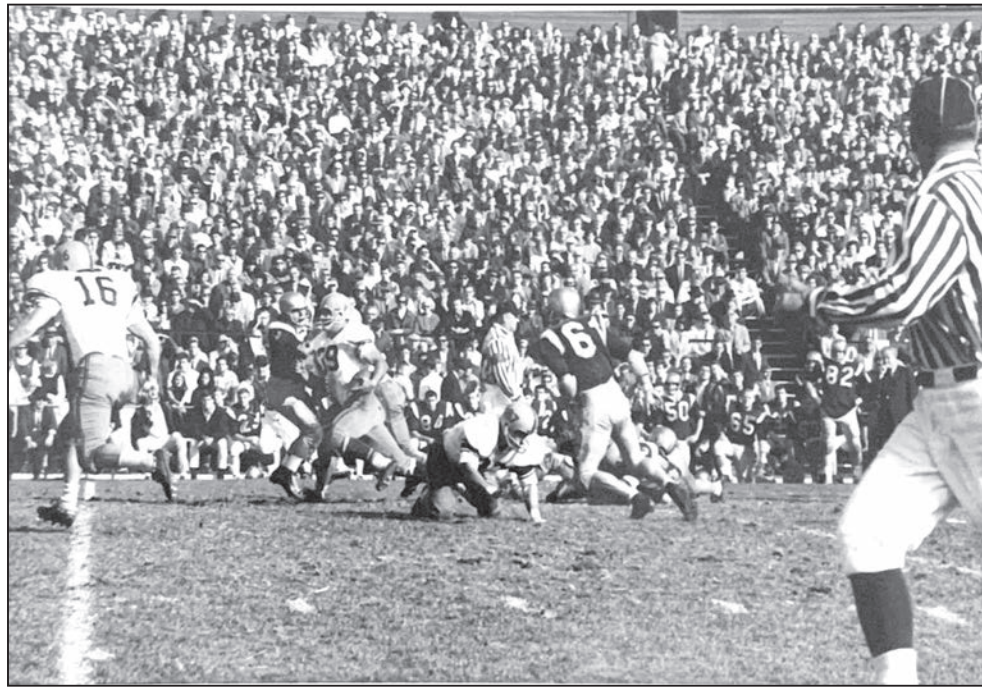
Despite multiple offers for NFL tryouts, John Del Gaizo returned home from college to the Boston area with his wife.

"We bought a house in Everett and I've been here ever since," said John.

His sons, Jonathan Del Gaizo and Josh Del Gaizo both excelled in the Everett High School football program. Jonathan was a captain for a Tank Agnetta-coached Everett High team. Josh was a captain for a John DiBiaso-coached team and helped Everett win Super Bowls in 2001



John Del Gaizo (87) lines up at the tight end position for the Syracuse University football team in a game against the Naval Academy. Situated in the I-formation in the Syracuse backfield are All-American running backs and future NFL Hall of Famers Larry Csonka (39) and Floyd Little (44).



Syracuse tight end John Del Gaizo (87) is pictured after making a block for fullback Larry Csonka in the Orangemen's 1966 game at Boston College.

and 2002. Josh is now recognized as the "Voice of the Crimson Tide" for his stellar work behind the microphone at Everett High home games.

"Those were great times, going to the playoffs and the Super Bowls," said John. "Those were tremendous years. The game at home against St. John's Prep was unbelievable. The next year they played Brockton – it was below zero, I've never seen a colder day in my life, and they beat Brockton, 34-7."

In Revere, twins John Del Gaizo ("My brother is nine minutes older than I am," said John) and Jim Del Gaizo are football legends. The 1964 season remains one of the greatest in Revere High history, capped by a memorable 8-0 victory over an equally powerful Winthrop team on Thanksgiving. In that game, Jim connected with John for a two-point conversion pass in front of 10,000 fans. With rain in the Thanksgiving forecast, Revere officials had

postponed the game until Saturday, thus allowing football fans from other communities to attend the Revere-Winthrop showdown.

If there were a Revere High Hall of Fame, John Del Gaizo and Jim Del Gaizo would be first-ballot shoo-ins.

And for their incredible seasons at Syracuse and Tampa, the two brothers have memories that have lasted a lifetime.

CHA // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

and seeking help from the hospital as their last hope. Lai-Becker said they are seeing patients who are experiencing issues because of the disruption in life from COVID, who have social needs, who feel isolated, who have lost employment, who have lost income, who have housing insecurity, who have food insecurity, who have drug use issues or who might have relapsed due to a substance use disorder. Many times, too, that is exacerbated by the people also having COVID-19, or perhaps only about one or two degrees removed from someone with the virus.

She said the Emergency Department can handle a total maximum of 42 patients at one time. On a recent day, maybe 19 of them were for behavioral health.

"The situation in Everett is quite similar to Cambridge Hospital and not that different from really most every Emergency Department in the state," she said. "It's a back-up due to many months of the challenges related to

COVID-19, the switch to tele-health and tele-psych visits."

That situation has many divergent paths that spider web off from it like a set of hiking trails in a National Park. At one time, CHA Everett only had to worry about COVID-19, as if that wasn't enough. Now, the mental health effects of 10 long months of the virus wreaking havoc on lives has created an additional issue to account for.

One path branching out from that problem is that the patients for behavioral health many times cannot be placed with a roommate, and require extra staffing to advocate and supervise them. Once they are admitted, they have to have a one-person room and that leaves fewer rooms for patients with COVID.

"Some have a high enough level of acuity, even without COVID-19, they should not be placed with a roommate," she said. "That can drain available bed capacity...It's exacerbating the challenges of an already stressed situation that exists."

As a result, it creates another trail in the network, and that is one where patients have to wait longer in the Emergency Department. In fact, many ER's are becoming holding areas for those looking for a bed – whether at the hospital or at another facility. At CHA Everett, Lai-Becker said they have always kept wait times to a minimum for those being admitted, but now it is taking a little longer – though it is nowhere near the wait times happening at some of the larger Boston hospitals.

"You may not get in at 1 a.m., but instead 7 a.m.," she said. "Maybe that happens with a little more frequency for us."

Yet another divergent path is the situation at the Boston hospitals, which apparently is much more crowded than in the spring. Last spring, many of the larger Boston hospitals were able to provide CHA Everett a "pop-off valve" to give extra capacity when they became inundated. That was true of surrounding hospitals like Winchester Hospital and

others, she said. No longer is there a "pop-off valve" available in Everett, and in fact some of the larger hospitals are looking to the CHA network for capacity.

"Everything that was concentrated here in the spring is all over now," she said. "It's not just here anymore...It was concentrated at CHA Everett and in hot spot communities of Chelsea, Everett and Revere. Not anymore...It's not Southern California here by any stretch, but it is very hard. We're all feeling it. You add in behavioral health challenges and we are all in this together in every hospital feeling this stress and strain."

WAITING FOR AFTER CHRISTMAS

The end of the year holiday time has carried a nervous energy with it, as those in the hospital wait to see if the surge that came after Thanksgiving will double-up, or ease up.

Dr. Lai-Becker said the large numbers of cases coming to the hospital right now are part of the post-Thanksgiving and early Christmas spread of the virus. Now, they all wonder what awaits them in the new year.

"Globally, we are girding our loins for what's about to happen downstream in the next three or four weeks," she said. "It's a lot of the same things that have been dreaded in other cities and states – and that's also the case here."

Already, CHA Everett has begun going back

to twice-daily calls within their hospital, and once-daily calls within the network and with other Boston hospitals. Much of what they're doing is trying to "balance the load," or make sure that only one or two facilities don't become overrun while others have capacity.

She said people are working really hard right now, coordinating and putting in long hours to make sure situations don't arise like in California where life or death care decisions are being made in the hospital. That is known as Crisis Standards of Care operations, and it's something that the hospital came a hair away from having to use last spring. The work now is to keep that from actually happening this winter.

"I want to give assurance that CHA is working really hard to work in our own system and with all our colleagues and partners," she said. "Everyone is pulling together and everyone is working hard to make sure we create as many resources as we can...We're fortunate we're not Southern California and we don't have to enact Crisis Standards of Care. We talked about that in April and May and everyone is working really hard to keep that from happening here."

VACCINE PROGRAM
The COVID-19 vaccine program is moving very quickly and successfully at CHA Everett and in the

CHA network, Lai-Becker said.

They have moved through their Group 1A and 1B priority staffers already with a first dose, and have opened up to Category 2 and 3. They have received shipments and are using both the Pfizer and Moderna vaccines.

As of Dec. 31, they have had 2,361 CHA employees get the vaccine.

"That is fantastic because we are looking at about 4,400 of direct care CHA employees to be vaccinated," she said.

They hope to have the staff vaccinated by the end of the month.

WE'RE HIRING!!

Lai-Becker said they are hiring in a number of different positions and staffing is at a critical level. She said they need people in medical positions like nurses and the Psychiatry Department, but also people without medical backgrounds who could be advocates and "patient watchers."

"We may not need someone who has previous health care experience as much as we're looking for compassionate people who are caring and able to be there," she said. "One thing we need is we need help in terms of people who can be patient safety watchers and patient advocates."

She encouraged everyone to check the hospital's website for positions that are available.

"We are hiring," she said.

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MAYOR CARLO DEMARIA

YEAR IN REVIEW



CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS

- Complete renovation of Wehner, Rossetti, Meadows and Appleton St. Parks
- Central Fire Station renovation
- Canoe and kayak launch built @ Rivergreen
- North Creek flood mitigation construction completed
- Market Culvert repair underway
- Micro-milling and asphalt paving of Corey St. & Victoria St. lots

TRANSPORTATION

- Installed PM bus lane and state's first bus lane rotary @ Sweetser Circle
- Added 2 additional miles of dedicated bus lanes
- Installed 20 new bike racks on Broadway
- 3 new bus stops with raised boarding platforms
- 350 potholes filled
- 2.5 miles of streets repaved
- 15,000 linear feet of sidewalk replaced

CITY SERVICES

- 25 miles of sewer pipe cleaned
- 145 new trees planted, 120 stumps removed
- 2839 street lights upgraded to LED
- 343 decorative LED lights installed
- 1890 linear feet of water main replaced
- 76 lead water services replaced
- 4 raised crosswalks completed and installed

COVID-19 RESPONSE

- 120,000 meals delivered to homebound residents
- Over 1 million pounds of food acquired and distributed
- 47,000 residents served through 311
- 60,000+ masks distributed
- \$1.5 million slated to be disbursed for rental and mortgage relief

OBITUARIES

Franklin Foley, Jr.

Retired Everett Teacher

Franklin J. Foley, Jr. of Everett, entered into eternal rest at home surrounded by his loving family on Tuesday, December 29. He was 82 years old.

Born in South Bend, Indiana, Frank lived in Everett for most of his life. He retired from the Everett School System where he worked as a classroom teacher and driving school teacher. Frank also taught driver's education for Pleasant Auto School. Not wanting to hang around, Frank drove a bus for Greyhound Bus Company for many years. He was affectionately known to all as "Papa."

The beloved husband for over 56 years of the late Frances M. (Wyrocki), he was the son of the late Thelma (Jarboe) and Franklin J. Foley, dear and devoted father of Kathleen Peach and her husband, David of Everett, MaryAnn Covelle and her husband, Christopher of Georgetown, Franklin J. Foley, III and his wife, Mary of Marlborough, Susan McNamara and her husband, Patrick of Stoneham, Michael E. Foley of Tewksbury, Laura Govostes and her husband, Christopher of Everett and



Peter Foley and his wife, Justine of Upton; brother of John Pat Foley of Peabody, Michael Foley and Gerald Foley of Everett, Philip Foley of Hull, Sharon Murphy of Stoneham, Daniel Foley of Saugus and the late Frances Gudjonsson and the loving Papa of 16 grandchildren.

For the safety and well-being for those they love a graveside service was held in the Woodlawn Cemetery, Everett on Monday, Jan. 4. In lieu of flowers, contributions in Franklin's memory to the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society, 70 Walnut St., Ste 301, Wellesley, MA 02481 would be sincerely appreciated. Arrangements by the Cafasso & Sons Funeral Home, Everett.

Beatrice Ryan

She filled many lives with her endless warmth and kindness

Beatrice M. Ryan of Revere passed away peacefully on January 2 at the age of 98.

Formerly of the Boston's West End, she lived in Revere for many years with her devoted husband Thomas Ryan and much-loved sister Anna Bifulco.

Bea filled the lives of so many with her endless warmth and kindness. She never had children of her own yet was always surrounded by those that adored her as a mother and grandmother figure: family of Leonard and his wife, Carol Doucette of Plymouth, Godson Paul and his wife, Kathy Doucette of North Andover and their children and grandchildren, the late Robert and his wife, Elaine Doucette of Saugus and their children and grandchildren and her Goddaughter, Joanne Shaughnessy and her husband ,David Algiers and their children. She was predeceased by her dear sisters: Anna Bifulco, Connie Bertuccini, Rose Mastacusa and Lucy Tavano and brothers, Harry and John LaSpina. She was a favorite aunt to loving nieces and nephews



and a fun-loving cousin. Bea was a loyal friend and neighbor to so many.

Due to the current spike in COVID-19, the guidelines issued by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and local officials, Funeral Services will be privately held for the immediate family under the direction of Paul Buonfiglio & Sons - Bruno Funeral Home, 128 Revere Street, REVERE, MA 02151. She will be laid to rest at Woodlawn Cemetery with her late husband, Thomas and sister Anna, side by side forever.

A Memorial service will be announced at a later date. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to 501 St. Jude Place • Memphis, TN 38105 or www.stjude.org. For guest book, please visit: www.buonfiglio.com.

Barbara Carmella Graf

Whidden Memorial Hospital retiree

Barbara Carmella (Falzone) Graf of Everett entered into eternal rest, unexpectedly, on December 30 in the CHA-Everett Hospital. She was 83 years old.

Barbara was born in Everett and she loved spending time with her children and grandchildren most of all. Family was everything to her and she was everything and more to them. Some of Barbara's favorite things to do besides spending time with family, were traveling to the beaches of Florida, Aruba and Revere. She also enjoyed reading, cooking, crocheting and monthly luncheons with her two sisters. Barbara retired from 31 years employment at the Whidden Memorial Hospital, maintaining many long lasting friendships. Barbara is the light that will continue to shine through her loving daughters, sons, grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

She was the loving daughter of the late Ruth Marie (Blood) and Leo Natale Falzone; beloved wife of Paul H. Graf, Jr. for over 56 years; cherished mother of Anne Marie (Arsenault) Hassey and her husband, Richard, John Arsenault, Linda Ruth (Arsenault) Meucci and her late husband, Mi-

chael Meucci and Mark Michel, Vincent Costa and his wife, Kim, Michael Costa and Rhonda Cardoos. Barbara is also survived by her pride and joy loving grandchildren: Michael Anthony Meucci, Jason Hassey, Courtney (Hassey) Aseltine and her husband, Richie, Amanda Egli and her husband, Adam, Nicholas Arsenault and his wife, Ashley, Shawn Arsenault, Christopher Meucci and his wife, Crystal, Samantha Costa, Michael Costa, Emily Costa and Gabbie Costa. She also leaves many loving great-grandchildren, sisters, Theresa Falzone, Laura Dunn and her husband, Stephen, brothers, Charlie Falzone and his wife, Millie, and the late John Falzone and his surviving wife, Marilyn, sister-in-law, Jean Ruotolo and late brother-in-law, Louis Ruotolo.

Funeral arrangements were by the Cafasso & Sons Funeral Home, 65 Clark St. (Corner of Main St.) Everett. A Mass at Our Lady of Grace Church, 59 Nichols St., Everett-Chelsea was followed by private burial. Contributions in Barbara's memory to Decibelsfoundation.org would be sincerely appreciated.

John Giuffre

Of Beachmont Revere

John N. Giuffre of Beachmont Revere passed away at the age of 70 on January 3.

Born in Boston on May 6, 1950 to the late John J. Giuffre and Helen (Cullen), he was the beloved brother of Peter Giuffre and his wife, Jeanie and Cynthia LaBonte and her husband, Richard, all of Revere; adored uncle of Renee LaBonte and Juliette LaBonte of Melbourne FL and Peter John Giuffre and Nicholas Giuffre of Revere and cherished godfather to Lawrence Guarino III. He was the dear friend of Lawrence Guarino and his wife, Lauren of Peabody and is also survived by many loving cousins.

A Visitation will be held at the Paul Buonfiglio & Sons-Bruno Funeral Home, 128 Revere St, Revere on Friday, January 8 from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. followed by a Prayer Ser-



vice at 11 a.m. Strict capacity limits are enforced, please make your visit brief to allow others to visit (names, phone numbers, and temperatures will be taken upon entrance). Relatives and friends are kindly invited. Interment Holy Cross Cemetery. In lieu of flowers donations may be made in John's name to The Foundation of the MEEI, 243 Charles St, Development Office, Boston, MA 02114 or at masseyeandear.org/online-donation-form. For guest book please visit www.buonfiglio.com.

Anthony James Diaz

His magnetic personality won the hearts of everyone he met

Anthony James Diaz of Revere was taken from us too soon at the age of 29. He passed away unexpectedly on January 1.

Anthony was the youngest son of Gail Scimone and Jimmy Diaz Sr. of Revere, the beloved brother of Jimmy Diaz Jr., Christina "Bags" Bagnera and Tanya Bagnera; cherished grandson of Gloria Zagarella, Richard and Angela Diaz, Karen Scimone and the late Elaine Riley, and Joe "Red" Scimone; adored nephew of Joni Scimone and Lee Scimone, Lisa Diaz Edwards and Chris Cavanaugh, Phillip Douglas and Shirley Duddy, Richie Diaz, Jodi Scimone and Patty Lewis Pepi; dear cousin to Ronnie Particelli, Stephanie Particelli and Davey Goodrich, Nicole and William Dunn, Lauren Diaz, Kristina Diaz and Bobby Pelosi, Tori Pepi and Richie Diaz Jr.

Anthony was a graduate of The Northeast Metropolitan Tech, Class of 2009 - Automotive Technology. He worked for Sears Automotive and for the Department of Revenue. After graduating the Academy in 2015, Anthony began his career with the Suffolk County Sheriff's Department. Most recently, Anthony was selected for a special assignment to work in the department's Automotive Division and brought his expertise and work experience and was able to follow his passion and help others.

Anthony was a kind, thoughtful and a generous soul. He worked hard and played hard. His favorite thing to do was to spend time with the people he loved. His family and friends meant the world to him. He and his brother, sister and his cousins were all best friends. They did everything together and always had a great time. He was sincere, funny,



caring and quick to share his honest opinion. He loved to travel, loved to ride his motorcycle, loved to set goals and make a plan. His magnetic personality won the hearts of everyone he met. Anthony had a unique way of making everyone feel special, loved and protected. He loved a good joke and was a prankster. He had a caring way to make the darkest situations brighter. His outlook and perspective on life was positive and inspiring to all who knew him. He had an exceptional way of looking at life and seeing endless possibilities. His spirit was infectious and an inspiration to all he crossed paths with.

Anthony was an incredible soul with so much light and love to share with the world. We are grateful and will cherish the time we had with him here on earth and vow to always celebrate his life.

A Funeral Mass will be celebrated at the Immaculate Conception Church 133 Beach St, Revere on Saturday, January 9, at 12 noon (Everyone to meet directly at church) capacity limits will be enforced. Masks and social distancing are required, and names and temperatures will be taken upon entrance to church. For guest book, please visit www.buonfiglio.com.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, 501 St. Jude PL, Memphis, TN 38105-9959.

CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

Tobin Bridge January 2021 temporary lane closures

Starting this week, the Mystic/Tobin Bridge will have full overnight closures southbound to accommodate construction.

•FULL SOUTHBOUND LANE CLOSURES: During the weeks of Monday, Jan. 4, and Monday, Jan. 11, there will be weekday overnight closures of Route 1 southbound where it passes through the Chelsea Viaduct portion of the

combined Tobin Bridge/Chelsea Curves Rehabilitation Project. The closures will begin each day at 9 p.m. and end at 5 a.m.

The detour route for these closures will be that southbound traffic will exit Route 1 at Carter Street, travel on Carter Street to Everett Avenue, turn left onto Everett Avenue, and turn right onto the Everett Avenue on-ramp to rejoin the highway.

OBITUARIES

Effective Jan. 1, 2021

All obituaries and death notices

will be at a cost of

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DEADLINES: For classified line ads, deadlines are Monday by 4 p.m. Call 781-485-0588 or fax the ad to 781-485-1403

REVERE- Great second floor 3 BR unit. Updated, separate utilities, off street parking. No dogs/cats. Near City Hall/Bus/Train. Call 617-755-9251. \$2,200/month 1/6

REVERE - 2 rm apartment, kitchen & bath Close to Blue line Parking Space No Utilities included \$1,500/mo Available Now Call 781-286-6617 12/30, 1/7, 1/14, 1/21

LEGAL NOTICE

LEGAL NOTICE
NOTICE OF INITIAL SITE INVESTIGATION AND TIER II CLASSIFICATION
Hendersonville Substation No. 593
3 Charlton Street, Everett, Massachusetts
Release Tracking Number: 3-36055
A release of oil and/or hazardous materials has occurred at this location, which is a disposal site as defined by M.G.L. c. 21E, § 2 and the Massachusetts Contingency Plan, 310 CMR 40.0000. To evaluate the release, a Phase I Initial Site Investigation was performed pursuant to 310 CMR 40.0480. As a result of this investigation, the site has been classified as Tier II pursuant to 310 CMR 40.0500. On or about December 21, 2020, the Massachusetts Electric Company filed a Tier II Classification Submittal with the Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP). To obtain more information on this disposal site, please contact Brian F. Klingler, PG, LSP, Coneco Engineers & Scientists, Incorporated, 4 First Street, Bridgewater, Massachusetts, 02324, (508) 697-3191.

The Tier II Classification Submittal and the disposal site file can be reviewed at the MassDEP Northeast Regional Office, 205B Lowell Street, Wilmington, Massachusetts, 01887, (978) 694-3200. Additional public involvement opportunities are available under 310 CMR 40.1403(9) and 310 CMR 40.1404.

LEGAL NOTICE
COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
LAND COURT
DEPARTMENT OF THE TRIAL COURT
20 SM 001931
ORDER OF NOTICE TO:
Marcos Edmundo M. Oliveira; Helen Marie F. Oliveira
And to all persons entitled to the benefit of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act: 50 U.S.C. c. 50 § 3901 (et seq): Real Time Resolutions, Inc. claiming to have an interest in a Mortgage covering real property in Everett, numbered 63 Dean St, given by Helen Marie F. Oliveira And Marcos Edmundo M. Oliveira to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as Mort-

gagee, as nominee for People's Mortgage Corporation, dated September 14, 2005, and recorded at Middlesex County (Southern District) Registry of Deeds in Book 46089, Page 587, and now held by the plaintiff by assignment, has/ have filed with this court a complaint for determination of Defendant's/ Defendants' Servicemembers status. If you now are, or recently have been, in the active military service of the United States of America, then you may be entitled to the benefits of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act. If you object to a foreclosure of the above-mentioned property on that basis, then you or your attorney must file a written appearance and answer in this court at Three Pemberton Square, Boston, MA 02108 on or before February 01, 2021 or you may lose the opportunity to challenge the foreclosure on the grounds of noncompliance with the Act. Witness, GORDON H. PIPER, Chief Justice of said Court on December 15, 2020. Attest: Deborah J. Patterson Recorder 1/6/21 EV

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 face-

book page, "Zion Church Ministries."

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

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**

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.

Glendale Christian Lighthouse Church

News and Notes

Sunday 10:30 AM Worship service.

Wednesday hour of Power, worship, prayer and Bible Study, via Zoom.

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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.for-

everett.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 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
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NEWS FROM AROUND THE REGION

AVELLANEDA REMAINS COUNCIL PRESIDENT

CHELSEA - Council President Roy Avellaneda received a unanimous, 6-0, vote to likely serve a second term as Council President, that coming during an organizational meeting of the Council on Dec. 21.

Councilor Damali Vidot voted ‘present,’ as did Avellaneda – which is customary in Chelsea for the candidate not to vote for themselves. Absent were Councilors Giovanni Recupero, Melinda Vega-Maldonado and Enio Lopez. Still, Avellaneda received the required six votes, which propelled him to a likely second term. The official vote will take place on Jan. 4 at the first Council meeting of the year.

“I know all of us when we pulled papers last year back in May 2019, and we had what we thought was an agenda and a platform and were elected in Nov. 2019 – none of us expected to experience what this community, this country and this world went through,” he said. “Of course, all of those plans, ideas and agenda got shifted aside and COVID-19 response was front and center. All of that, this City had to adapt and struggle with the community that, more than many, got hit hard.”

He also praised the City Manager, public safety officials, Council staffers and many other City employees for keeping things together and serving in one of the most difficult times in the City’s modern history. He also praised the City’s IT Department and Chelsea Cable for being able to pivot and, nearly seamlessly, hold hybrid online meetings that allowed the City Council to move forward in a normal fashion.

“At the City Council we had to adopt to meeting in a much different way,” he said. “The ability to Facetime has been available for a while but until this year I never used it. I never warmed up to it, but I used it this year and I know many of my other colleagues have done it...I read with satisfaction how other cities have struggled to accommodate their colleagues so they could safely meet from their homes. They didn’t have the infrastructure and technology. I know it wasn’t easy and I remember that beginning where we had to figure it out. You MacGyver-ed it with Ricky of Chelsea Cable and it was to our benefit and our constituents’ benefit...”

Councillor Calvin Brown said Avellaneda stood up when the chips were down last year, and he is glad that he will be president again.

“I want to thank the president of this City Council for really standing up in 2020,” said Brown. “I’m sure when he was elected president, he didn’t realize we were going to get hit with a pandemic that would last his entire term. Roy Avellaneda has dedicated himself to being on the front lines...He helped us and supported us and at times he was the only one here. I know it took a lot of his personal time. I’m glad we re-elected him as Council President in 2021 as well.”

Councillor Vidot, who did not vote for Avellaneda, still gave him accolades for keeping the meetings going and keeping everyone in the loop.

“As the immediate past president...I feel spoiled to have had Paul Casino by my side and we were able to meet in person,” she said. “It was just a lot smoother and I recognize how much work it took for you to be able to chair

these meetings remotely, reading your orders when Paul couldn’t come in. I think it’s absolutely commendable. I have an autoimmune disorder and cannot come in because I am vulnerable. I want to thank everyone for making sure I could still attend these meetings and kept me in the loop as much as possible...It has not been an easy year.”

In other election news, Councillor Judith Garcia was elected to a second vice president term as well, getting a unanimous 7-0 vote.

The School Committee representative was not voted, but it will be taken up on Jan. 4 and filled at that time.

The new voting order drawn – as tradition dictates – for 2021 will be:

Vidot, Avellaneda, Recupero, Garcia, Vega-Maldonado, Leo Robinson, Yamir Rodriguez, Todd Taylor, Lopez, Brown and Naomi Zabot.

The new order of seating for 2021 – chosen as tradition dictates on Dec. 21 – is the following:

(Left side) Vega-Maldonado, Rodriguez, Robinson, Zabot and Garcia.

(Right side) Recupero, Vidot, Brown, Lopez and Taylor.

RENOVATIONS CONTINUE AT GARDEN CEMETERY

CHELSEA - The historic renovation program for the Garden Cemetery in Chelsea continues on this winter with restoration crews now working on restoring and setting the old tombstones in the cemetery – a key part of Phase 3.

The Garden Cemetery is an historic property, designed by Frederick Law Olmstead, but has fallen on tough times over the last decade or more. About

HELPING THE NEEDY



Volunteer Edith Sabala helped organize toys and gifts for families at the Chelsea Salvation Army Center on Chestnut Street last Tuesday, Dec. 22. The Center had a huge toy drive this year and was able to help 2,600 children and families have a merrier Christmas.

one year ago, the City’s Planning Department unveiled a multi-phase project to fully restore the cemetery, and now Phase 3 is underway. The current phase includes restoring some of the older stones, and also building a retaining wall.

“We’re planning to fully fund this and we have at least three more years of work there to do,” said City Manager Tom Ambrosino.

The project has been headed up by Planner Karl Allen.

Recently, preservationists restored the stone of Capt. Olsen, who was lost at sea in 1862.

Meanwhile, the hard work in this part of the project is finding all of the broken pieces for many of the stones, and then getting them re-assembled. Most are broken, and many of the pieces are scattered about the cemetery. The contractor uses a previously completed inventory of the monuments and grave markers to locate, sort, and assess each one, before beginning the careful restoration of each feature.

Right now, the contractor is seeking to continue

monument restoration throughout the winter.

DINNER PROGRAM IS A SUCCESS

EAST BOSTON - Back in February before COVID, the Shah Family Foundation (SFF) partnered with the Salesian Boys & Girls Club to revamp the club’s kitchen.

The SFF outfitted the Boys & Girls Club’s kitchen on Byron Street with Welbilt ovens that can not only reheat, but cook and steam fresh foods. At the time, the Boys & Girls Club served more than 130 meals at the club each day the new kitchen allowed the Salesian to prepare hot, freshly cooked meals.

An added bonus was the meals were being prepared daily by Cunard’s Executive Chef and former Boys & Girls member Anthony Pino.

However, the pandemic cut down the Salesian afterschool and annual summer camp enrollment numbers in order to safely practice social distancing.

While the Boys & Girls Club may not be serving 130 meals in house as the pandemic continues, they are still able to feed all

club members thanks to a recent Boston Resiliency Fund grant.

The Boys & Girls Club received the grant from the Boston Resiliency Fund to run a ten-week dinner program for club members and their families to enjoy at home.

A hot nutritious delicious meal is prepared by Pino on Wednesday evening to help families prevent food insecurity.

“Since the Club was closed for the holidays, bags of food were provided so families would not be without a meal last Wednesday evening along with extras to help families prepare for their holiday meal,” said Salesian Executive Director Michael Triant. “The food packages were made available with funds provided from the Boston Resiliency Grant. We are sincerely grateful to the Boston Resiliency fund for their hard work and generosity in providing needed resources for the children and families in our community during this very challenging time.”

Triant said Pino was a Club kid and staff member while attending Savio

See REGION Page 11

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Baker signs police reform legislation on Dec. 31; Chief Mazzie has concerns

By Seth Daniel

After months and months of controversy at the State House, Gov. Charlie Baker on Dec. 31 signed “An Act Relative to Justice, Equity and Accountability in Law Enforcement in the Commonwealth,” a controversial piece of legislation that creates a mandatory certification process for police officers, increases accountability and transparency in law enforcement and gives police departments a greater ability to hire or promote only qualified applicants.

The bill reached an apex of consternation last year for lawmakers as many found themselves between strong voices for police reform in the wake of the murder of George Floyd in Minnesota, and also strong voices for the support of the vast amount of police officers that do the right thing day in and day out. It was a balancing act that took debate to a heated level from every angle before the bill entered into a conference committee in the fall and went quiet. However, in December, the bill came out in a compromise piece that, after some back and forth with the governor, came out in final form and was signed just before the calendar turned over from 2020 on New Year’s Eve.

“This bill is the product of bipartisan cooperation and thanks to the Black and Latino Caucus’ leadership on the hugely important issue of law enforcement accountability, Massachusetts will have one of the best laws in the nation,” said Governor Charlie Baker. “Police officers have enormously difficult jobs and we are grateful they put their lives on the line every time they go to work. Thanks to final negotiations on this bill, police officers will have a system they can trust and our communities will be safer for it.”

Said former Speaker Bob DeLeo, “I am proud that the House lived up to its vow of listening to folks with lived experience in enacting one of the most comprehensive approaches to police reform in the United States since the tragic murder of George Floyd,” said former House Speaker Robert A. DeLeo. “My unyielding

gratitude to Speaker Mariano and Chairs Cronin, Michlewitz and González for their persistent effort to improve our law enforcement system. I am confident that the House of Representatives will build on this achievement in the time ahead and am humbled that legislation which promotes fairness and equality are part of the House’s legacy.”

SOME CONCERNS FROM POLICE

For police advocates, such as Everett Chief Steve Mazzie and Chelsea Chief Brian Kyes (who is also the president of the Massachusetts Major Cities Chiefs of Police organization), there are some things that are of concern, and things to wait and see about.

Chief Mazzie has had family policing the streets of Everett since 1926, and he said over those years policing has become more transparent, professional and accountable. He said it has also become more complex, but most officers already demand excellence from others and support raising the bar. However, the new bill has him worried that more officers will retire, and fewer young people will want to be police officers.

“With the hasty passing of the police reform bill I am concerned that not only will those that supported it not get the desired results that they are looking for, but also I fear that public safety may suffer in the long run,” he said. “We have already begun to see quality seasoned professionals retire and I am concerned that our applicant pool will shrink as those previously interested in policing will turn to other professions that are not only less dangerous, but also ones in which they feel supported as well as not second-guessed on everything they do.”

He said he also worries that veteran officers at the same time won’t engage criminals as they once did for fear of getting vilified by “anti-police segments of society.”

“When you combine the two - a poor applicant pool and a work force that questions their role - we run the risk of seeing urban crime increases as well as increases in roadway fatalities,” he said. “The bottom line is if there’s limit-

ed police engagement then I believe we are going to see increased harms in our cities and towns and that could be a direct result of the passing of this legislation. We have to wait and see the composition of the new...Commission and how they are going to operate. If they are perceived as anti-police, that could be a game changer.”

Kyes said after the process played out later in the year, he and the Chiefs organization felt it was a good piece of legislation that in the long run will improve policing.

“There’s no real concern,” he said. “It’s an incredibly complex piece of legislation. There are some new chapters and sections created in the law. There is a new Commission created, the POST, or Peace Officer Standards and Training...In the meantime, there will be a lot of work to get the POST Commission running. It will be challenging to get that going...There are a lot of moving parts to get this up and running, but in the long run it will definitely be worth it. It will take time to work out the kinks, but will it overall enhance the professionalism of law enforcement in our state – I think the answer is that, yes, it will.”

The POST has been a note of controversy for Kyes and the Chiefs over the past several months, mostly due to the composition of the Commission being primarily civilians that would oversee conduct of policing. The nine-member POST in the final bill is made up of three members of law enforcement (one police chief, one union representative and one minority law enforcement officer). The other six are civilians and must be an attorney, a member of the Mass Commission Against Discrimination (MCAD), a social worker, a retired Superior Court judge, and appointees by the governor or Attorney General.

“They’ll all be professional people and will be there for the right reasons,” he said.

He said one unfortunate outcome from the police perspective is the idea that many put forth that chokeholds – which is what killed Floyd – needed to be outlawed, and gave the impression officers in

Massachusetts use them. He said no one is trained to use chokeholds in Massachusetts for decades, and though they are now made illegal in the bill, no one used utilized them before.

“It’s never been a tactic utilized here,” he said. “It’s unfortunate that some think that they’re used in policing as a tactic. It’s absolutely never trained or allowed in Massachusetts. Now it is codified into law though and it is very specific.”

STATE SUPPORT

Locally, Everett’s state delegation has been divided on the bill.

State Sen. Sal DiDomenico did vote in favor of the bill and supports the signed version.

“This legislation is a product of both thorough debate and compromise, and I am confident that the product of this process is a bill that will go a long way towards modernizing law enforcement standards and addressing racial justice reforms,” said Senator DiDomenico. “My office heard from an unprecedented number of constituents on this issue, demanding justice and long-overdue reforms. My team and I listened to each and every person who contacted us about this legislation, and I am grateful to everyone who weighed in and urged the Legislature to deliver a fair and just bill. I want to thank my colleagues in the Senate and House, especially Senators Chang-Diaz and Brownsberger and Representatives Cronin and González on the conference committee, for their meticulous work to produce a bill that brings us one step further along on the path to racial justice and equity.”

Meanwhile, State Rep. Joe McGonagle has routinely voted against every aspect of the Police Reform Bill going back to last summer – even voting against amendments in the summer to outlaw chokeholds. He stood staunchly by those votes to the end, voting against the bill last month.

He, nor his office, did not wish to comment on the bill over the last six months, and did not return e-mails this week about thoughts on the new law signed by Baker.

The law did have the

support of the Massachusetts Chiefs of Police Association, and the Massachusetts Association of Minority Law Enforcement Officers (MAM-LEO).

State Rep. Carlos Gonzalez, a key negotiator on the bill, of Springfield, said the new law marks a time for healing between police and minority communities.

“Today begins to address decades of demands to bring reform and accountability to law enforcement institutions,” said González, chair of the Black & Latino Caucus. “Today will go down in history as a necessary step to begin the healing process between the police and the Black and Latino communities. Building consensus is not always easy, but Massachusetts has always had Patriots ready to take the first steps on national issues. Governor Baker, Senate President Spilka, Speaker DeLeo, the Black and Latino Caucus and the thousands who took to the streets are our modern day Patriots.”

THE NUTS AND BOLTS OF THE LAW

This legislation will, for the first time, create a mandatory certification process for police officers through the POST Commission. The Commission, through a majority civilian board, will certify officers and create processes for decertification, suspension of certification, or reprimand in the event of certain misconduct. The nine-member commission will be responsible for investigating and adjudicating claims of misconduct, maintaining databases of training, certification, employment, and internal affairs records for all officers, and certifying law enforcement agencies. By creating a central entity to oversee officer certification, the Commission will ensure that those officers’ training and misconduct records are available both to the Commission and to those officers’ current and future employers, improving accountability.

Governor Baker amended the bill to strengthen its due process protections for law enforcement, added police labor representation on the Commission, and strengthened the bill’s facial recognition

provisions ensuring law enforcement agencies can continue to access these potentially lifesaving tools responsibly.

The new law identifies the general circumstances under which police officers can use physical force, and specifically bans the use of chokeholds and prohibits firing into a fleeing vehicle unless doing so is both necessary to prevent imminent harm and proportionate to that risk of harm. The bill also generally precludes officers from using rubber pellets, chemical weapons, or canine units against a crowd. Violations of any of these provisions may provide grounds for an officer to have their certification suspended or revoked.

The bill places strict limits on the use of so-called “no-knock” warrants, requiring such warrants to be issued by a judge and only in situations where an officer’s safety would be at risk if they announced their presence and only where there are no children or adults over the age of 65 in the home. The legislation provides for an exception when those children or older adults are themselves at risk of harm. In addition, the bill requires law enforcement to seek a court order when conducting a facial recognition search except in emergency situations.

The legislation includes key provisions of the State Police reform legislation the Administration filed in January that provide new tools to improve accountability and discipline within the Department and to enhance diversity in the Department’s recruitment and promotional practices. Those key provisions include establishing a State Police cadet program, enhancing the Colonel’s ability to address and correct misconduct, updating rules governing promotions of uniformed members to officer positions, removing the requirement that the Governor look exclusively within the State Police when appointing a colonel, and creating a new criminal offense for police officers who knowingly receive payment for a fraudulent claim of hours worked.

Region // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 10

Prep and Johnson & Wales University.

“He’s brought his amazing talent back home and our kids are the winners,” he said.

Pino said he will go to the club each Wednesday before heading to his regular shop at the Cunard at 4 p.m. Pino will prepare all the food for the day and Salesian staff will simply use the new kitchen equipment provided by the SFF to reheat and distribute the meals to Club members so they can enjoy the food at home.

“I grew up going to and working at the Salesian in high school and college,” said Pino. “It’s pretty cool being back in the building a few hours a week and seeing the smiles on the kids faces again.”

COVID RATE SHOWS DECREASE

EAST BOSTON - Last week the cumulative COVID-19 positive test rate in Eastie as well as

the weekly positive test rate decreased for the first time in weeks.

According to the latest data released by the Boston Public Health Commission (BPHC), Eastie residents testing positive for COVID last week decreased 43.5 and the weekly positive test rate dropped 19.5 percent.

Of the 29,855 Eastie residents tested for COVID, 16.7 percent overall were found to be positive for the virus, a 43.5 percent increase from the 29.6 percent reported two Fridays ago.

Last week 2,406 Eastie residents were tested and 10.3 percent were positive--a 19.5 percent decrease from the 12.8 that tested positive two Fridays ago.

Citywide 34,463 residents were tested and 7 percent were COVID positive--a 4 percent decrease from the 7.3 percent testing positive two weeks ago.

At his daily press briefing last week, Mayor Mar-

tin Walsh noted that on Tuesday, December 29, the City of Boston surpassed 1,000 deaths from COVID. He said that every number represents a person, with family and friends who are grieving their loss and missing them every day.

“My prayers are with everyone who has lost a loved one or continues to suffer from this terrible virus,” said Walsh.

He acknowledged residents are all tired of living with the virus, and that it’s tempting to let one’s guard down but the virus is still with us, and will be in 2021.

“In Boston, we remain concerned about an increase in COVID activity following the holidays,” said Walsh. “Our hospital numbers are higher than we’d like them to be. We have more people hospitalized right now due to COVID than we’ve had since early June. We all have a role to play in protecting each other, especially our most vulnera-

ble, and helping to prevent further loss. That means staying vigilant -- and continuing to follow the public health guidance.”

Walsh said the city and public health officials continue to encourage everyone to get tested -- especially if you were traveling during the holidays.

“There are more than 30 testing sites in the City of Boston, including mobile testing sites which are free and open to all, regardless of symptoms,” said Walsh. “To learn more about these, or any of our testing sites, go to boston.gov/coronavirus or call 3-1-1.”

Walsh added that the city continues to be in communication with healthcare partners as the federal and state governments work on distribution of the COVID vaccine.

“This week, Boston EMT’s began getting vaccinated,” said Walsh. “Since day one of this crisis, they have been on the frontlines, risking their

own health for the health and wellbeing of all Boston residents. Our EMS providers have encountered more than 3,500 COVID-positive patients in Boston.”

He also said that vaccine distribution to long-term care facilities across Boston, like the Don Ori-one Nursing Home, began this week and this will help protect Boston’s most vulnerable people, in the city’s most vulnerable settings.

You can visit the State’s website at Mass.gov to see the full schedule of when vaccines will be available.

“I encourage everyone to get the vaccine, when your time comes,” said Walsh. “It’s safe, it’s free, and it’s the best way you can protect yourself and those around you. It’s how we can help get life back to normal sooner -- and get back to doing all the things and seeing the people we love.”

Eastie’s infection rate rose by 6.1 percent according to the data re-

leased by the BPHC last Friday. Eastie’s COVID infection rate went from 1,040.5 cases per 10,000 residents to 1,104.9 cases per 10,000 residents. The citywide average is 593.5 cases per 10,000 residents.

An additional 302 Eastie residents contracted the virus and there are now 5,185 confirmed cases, up from the 4,883 reported two weeks ago.

The statistics released by the BPHC as part of its weekly COVID19 report breaks down the number of cases and infection rates in each neighborhood. It also breaks down the number of cases by age, gender and race.

Citywide positive cases of coronavirus increased 11.9 percent percent last week and went from 37,366 cases to 41,847/confirmed cases in a week. Thirty-two more Boston residents died from the virus and there are now 1,020 total deaths in the city from COVID.

EVERETT’ HISTORICAL PROPERTIES

The Green House: Oldest home in Everett remains standing strong

(The following is a weekly feature in the Independent based on the City’s 2018 Historic Property Survey done to note the many little-known historically significant properties within the city.)

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION:

This house is reportedly the oldest surviving house in Everett and is believed to date to the early 18th century. The gambrel-roofed 1 ½-story dwelling has a central hall plan with large end brick chimneys. Presently it is sheathed in wood shingles and the roof is asphalt shingled. The house is set with its gambrel end close to the street and its façade oriented to the southeast. Other than the survival of the gambrel roof and chimneys, the house has been extensively altered and retains little integrity. A c.1890 photo (see attached) shows that at that time the house had a five-bay façade with 2/2 windows flanking a Greek Revival-style entrance. In the 20th century the fenestration pattern was altered with two individual windows on either side of the door replaced by large picture windows. The entrance is capped by a shallow door hood. Other windows contain modern 1/1 sash. A small single-story addition projects from the north end.

This is one of the few, if not the only, early gam-



An historic picture of the Green House in the 1920s.



The Jonathan Green House on Ferry Street is the oldest surviving home in Everett – dating back to the 1700s.

breel-roofed houses remaining in Everett. Other examples which once existed but are no longer extant included the Carington-Paine House on Main Street and the Old Lynde House on Bow Street (Hengen 1983).

Though altered, the Green house merits further investigation and research. Dendrochronology could establish a construction date if enough suitable timbers could be accessed for testing, and a title search could establish a complete ownership history.

HISTORICAL NARRATIVE

Ferry Street is an early road that was laid out before 1800 and was originally known as the County Road to Winnisimmet. Prior to 1870 when Everett was incorporated, this property was located in South Malden which was set off as a separate parish from Malden in

1737. The house is known locally as the Jonathan Green House. Although the basis of the attribution of this house to Jonathan Green has not been established, an Ensign Jonathan Green (1680-1744) of Malden did marry in 1715, and one could speculate that the house was constructed around that time. Jonathan was one of at least seven sons of Samuel and Mary Martha (Cook) Green, all born in Malden. In 1715, Jonathan married in Malden Lydia Bucknam (1695-1775), also born in Malden. Ens. Jonathan and Lydia had at least nine children between 1718 and 1730. Their eldest, Lydia died as an infant a few weeks after her birth in Malden in November 1718. However, it does not seem that they remained long in Malden, moving to Stoneham by at least the time of the birth of their second child, Capt. Jona-

than Green (1719-1795). Jonathan Green’s house in Stoneham on Green Street (now Perkins Street) is provisionally dated to ca. 1720. Today the Green House at 63 Perkins Street is considered one of the oldest houses in Stoneham. All of their other children were also born in Stoneham, where many of them are buried, together with their parents, in Stoneham’s Old Burying Ground.

Of Ensign Jonathan, William Stevens writes (p. 29) in his History of Stoneham (1891): “During the first century of the town, hardly any family exerted a wider influence or furnished more leading citizens than the Greens . . . Jonathan Green came from Malden in the early part of the eighteenth, century. From then until now (1891) the old homestead has been occupied in each generation by a Jonathan Green.” Captain Jonathan Green (1719-1795), Jona-

than’s son, was a delegate to the Concord convention of 1786, and to Boston in 1788 to ratify the constitution. Historian Stevens called Captain Green “the most active man in Stoneham in public affairs.” He was Stoneham town clerk and treasurer from 1748 to 1769.

According to the 1842 map which Dudley Bailey includes in his 1893 Everett Souvenir, the house was owned or occupied by J. Parker in 1842. The 1875 Beers Atlas shows the owner/occupant to be E.S. Mills. The 1889 directory shows a John Norton living on Ferry Street. John Norton (c.1817-?) immigrated from Ireland. His two sons, John Norton, Jr. (1851-1926) and William Norton (1852-1933) were both house carpenters.

The 1896 Walker map indicates that the Everett house was then owned by W. Norton. At the time of the 1900 Census it was

rented to Cornelius Kelly, a 40-year old painter, who lived here with his wife Margaret and 12-year old son, Arthur. Mrs. Eunice Taylor rented the house from about 1914 to 1922. Directories list her as a liniment manufacturer and she likely made her liniments in a rear outbuilding (no longer extant). In 1920 Mrs. Taylor, who was African American and born in New York, was 83 years old and living here with her 22-year old grandson Albert Seymour and three other young people, Henry, Kellop and Lottie Morris.

In the 1920s and early 1930s William Norton lived here with his niece Mary McNamara. Directories list Norton as a rubber worker (1924) and carpenter (1930). Mary McNamara worked in the rubber shop in Malden. The 1930 Census shows them both living here – Norton was then 78 and McNamara was 57. Norton died on November 11, 1933; Mary McNamara lived here several more years. At her death ownership passed to William Shea who was living here at the time of the 1940 Census. He was then 43 and worked as a machinist. The property was purchased by George and Catherine Brock in 1949 (Page 7503, Page 274). It has had several owners since that time.

Everett Car Service, Inc. and other area companies receive state grants

Special to the Independent

MassDevelopment has awarded 85 grants totaling \$4,465,619 from the Taxi and Livery Business Support Grant Program to support 104 small businesses operating in the taxi and livery industries and two taxi and livery industry associations including five

area businesses. The first round of the Taxi and Livery Business Support Grant Program offers taxi and livery operators financial assistance to secure products or services that will aid in improving their competitiveness and enhancing safety capabilities in the rapidly evolving market of for-hire transportation.

The grants will fund expenses including dispatch systems or other equipment, technology-enabled ride-hailing systems, safety enhancements, workforce training programs, and business consultant services, and will help industry associations fund aggregated improvements that will have a collective

impact on the taxi and livery industries in Massachusetts. The Taxi and Livery Business Support Grant Program is funded by MassDevelopment’s allocation from the Commonwealth’s Transportation Infrastructure Enhancement Trust Fund.

“I’m pleased we can target this necessary sup-

port for the taxi and livery industries which make up an important component of the Commonwealth’s comprehensive transportation network,” said Housing and Economic Development Secretary Michael Kennealy. “These grants will support the competitiveness of the taxi and livery industries by helping them make critical adjustments to operate with the health and safety of both their workers and customers in mind.”

Infrastructure Enhancement Trust Fund is supporting the Taxi/Livery Partnership Grant Program, launched and administered by the Metropolitan Area Planning Council (MAPC) in fall 2020, which is an operational subsidy program enabling municipalities, municipal entities, regional transit authorities, health and human service providers, and applicable nonprofits to expand transportation service capacity through contracts with licensed taxi or livery businesses. In response to COVID-19, in April 2020 MAPC launched an early version of this program, the Urgent COVID-19 Taxicab, Livery, and Hackney Partnership Grant Program, to facilitate urgent transportation and delivery needs for vulnerable populations during the pandemic; in November 2020, MassDevelopment and MAPC awarded \$1,003,978 through the program to 25 cities and towns, municipal agencies, regional transit authorities, and health and human services transportation providers.

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The Commonwealth’s Transportation Infrastructure Enhancement Trust Fund was created by An Act Regulating Transportation Network Companies, which Gov. Charles Baker signed into law in August 2016 and is supported by a 20-cent assessment on every transportation network company ride in Massachusetts. One-quarter of the Fund is being designated to MassDevelopment to provide financial assistance to small businesses operating in the taxicab, livery, or hackney industries.

In August 2020, MassDevelopment announced it is using up to two-thirds of its allotment from the Transportation Infrastructure Enhancement Trust Fund to support the Taxi and Livery Business Support Grant Program, and opened a competitive solicitation for the first round of funding. Small businesses operating in the taxi, livery, and hackney industries could apply for grants of up to \$50,000, while taxi and livery industry associations could apply for grants of up to \$1 million, and could direct up to \$200,000 of such awards toward the purchase of marketing materials that promote the taxi and livery industries.

The remaining one-third of MassDevelopment’s allotment from the Trans-

portation Infrastructure Enhancement Trust Fund is supporting the Taxi/Livery Partnership Grant Program, launched and administered by the Metropolitan Area Planning Council (MAPC) in fall 2020, which is an operational subsidy program enabling municipalities, municipal entities, regional transit authorities, health and human service providers, and applicable nonprofits to expand transportation service capacity through contracts with licensed taxi or livery businesses. In response to COVID-19, in April 2020 MAPC launched an early version of this program, the Urgent COVID-19 Taxicab, Livery, and Hackney Partnership Grant Program, to facilitate urgent transportation and delivery needs for vulnerable populations during the pandemic; in November 2020, MassDevelopment and MAPC awarded \$1,003,978 through the program to 25 cities and towns, municipal agencies, regional transit authorities, and health and human services transportation providers.

The following businesses and organizations in the area received funding from the Taxi and Livery Business Support Grant Program:

- The Transportation Alliance, Inc., Statewide – \$1 million
- New England Livery Association, Inc., Statewide – \$1 million
- Boston Domestic Limo, Chelsea – \$20,308
- DPV Transportation Inc., Everett – \$10,000
- Everett Car Service, Inc., Everett – \$50,000
- One Transportation Group, LLC, Revere – \$35,000
- PJM Executive Car Service, Winthrop – \$23,000