Everett Independent Newspaper Co.

Wednesday, February 10, 2021

Council passes Linkage Fee ordinance after years of discussion

By Seth Daniel

The City Council voted to enroll a Linkage Fee ordinance for residential and commercial properties after many years of discussion – and some rather intense negotiations over the last two weeks.

The Council voted 10-1 Monday night to enroll the Linkage Fee ordinance, with Councilor Gerly Adrien voting against. Linkage Fees are a surcharge on, in this case, commercial and residential development, and for Everett, the money collected would only be able to go to funding affordable housing projects.

The matter came before the Council after having hit the agenda two weeks ago, and many legislators seeing changes for the first time made by Mayor Carlo DeMaria. That put a road block in the discussion, with the mayor advocating for quick action. After a Committee meeting last week that went into detail, the matter was brought forward on Monday night again.

This time, Councilor Michael McLaughlin moved to amend the ordinance fee structure, along with Councilor Fred Capone amending some language in the ordinance.

"Several hundred thousand dollars were brought in to fund affordable housing on Monday night by the Council's actions and this compromise," said McLaughlin. "It will bring millions to the City going forward and will entice developers to want to build more affordable housing on their own as well. It was a win-win for the City and for developers. Developers I talked to seem very satisfied with the compromise plan and don't feel we're being unfair with them."

The compromise plan sets a \$2 per square foot Linkage Fee for all com-

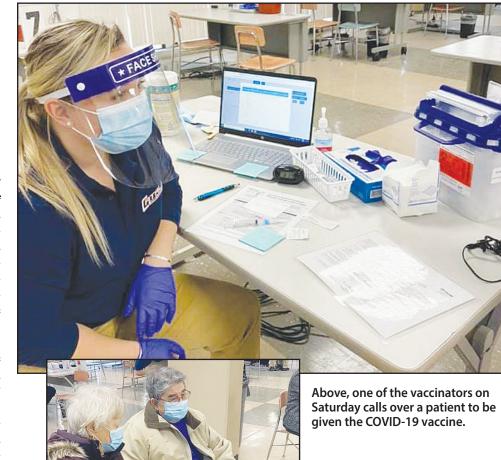
See COUNCIL Page 5



Due to the President's Day Holiday on Feb. 15th. Trash will be delayed by one day.

Capitol Waste Services, Inc.

NMLS# 410564 NCUA



Left, two senior citizens wait at Pope John to get the COVID-19 vaccine on Saturday morning as part of the Vaccine Clinic stood up by the City in short time. The effort vaccinated 513 Everett residents 75 years and older.

City's quick move to vaccinate senior citizens finds success

By Seth Daniel

When the state handed out disappointing news for vaccinating teachers, Everett turned that news into a major victory and movement toward getting immunity to COVID-19 for senior citizens in the community.

Approximately 513 senior citizens were vaccinated over the weekend at Pope John High School in a quick-moving vaccination clinic set up by Mayor Carlo DeMaria and his administration.

Contracting with Cataldo Ambulance, the City was able to establish its own phone bank system to make appointments, get transportation for those that needed it with Mystic Valley Elder Services and use more than 500 of the 800 doses allotted by the state – originally hoped to be for teachers in the Everett Public Schools.

"This is the first step to getting back to the new normal," said Mayor De-Maria.

"Thank you to City Staff and Cataldo EMS for spending your weekend assisting our residents. As the residents left, City staff made appointments for the second dose to ease the burden of our seniors. I look forward to continuing these clinics until all

of our residents have the opportunity to be vaccinated."

Communications Director Deanna Devaney said the doses were originally hoped to be used for the teachers in the school system, but when the state put the kibosh on that, the City was told they could vaccinate those 75 and over.

So, it was literally recreating the wheel over a few days.

There was no call center yet from the state to schedule appointments, so Devaney said the mayor put all hands on deck and City employees stood

See SENIORS Page 3

Housing Court moves quickly to change processes during COVID-19

By Seth Daniel

Facing what many believed would be a catastrophic situation with evictions and Housing Court proceedings due to COVID-19, the state's Housing Court reinvented its way of doing business last summer and fall and now - since re-opening for filings last October have a system that is more user-friendly and provides more protections for all

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parties.

It's even a system that has modernized the court in short order, and many of the changes could continue long after the pandemic, said Chief Justice Tim Sullivan.

"It really is incredible how COVID-19 protocols have forced us to do things differently, but also opened our eyes to some possibilities for the future," said Sullivan in a recent interview. "After

we get through this difficult time, we're already starting to talk about some things that are improving access...We've had to think differently and accommodate the litigant population in ways that before the pandemic were probably unthinkable. Some procedures may remain and may be implemented long-term."

Deputy Court Admin-

See HOUSING COURT Page 2

The Independent **Newspaper Group** Office will be Closed on Monday, Feb. 15th in observation of President's Day. We will reopen on Tuesday at 9 am. **Deadlines are** Friday, Feb. 12 at 4 p.m.

State of the City

DeMaria focuses on equity, finances, vaccination and environment

By Seth Daniel

One year ago, the Council Chambers were packed to an overflow level to welcome in the new City Council and hear Mayor Carlo DeMaria give his annual State of the City Address.

It seems like a time and place from another world a world without masks, distancing requirements or fear of sickness, job loss and hunger.

It was, though, just one short year ago, and on Thursday, Feb. 4, Mayor DeMaria hearkened back to those fine days as he delivered an online State of the City that detailed what was done to help COVID-19 in 2020 and looking forward to what 2021 could bring.

"There were over 200 people gathered in the Chambers - hugging, smiling, laughing," he said. "We celebrated and I had the privilege of informing our residents about the City's bold and innovative plans for 2020. Little did we know, two months later, that our City, our State, and our Country would be facing challenges unlike any others in our lifetime. The COVID-19 pandemic was unexpected, and unwelcomed."

In an online address that lasted 33 minutes, the mayor first detailed all that had been done by the City and by the community to help out with



Mayor Carlo DeMaria delivered his annual State of the City Address virtually on Thursday, Feb. 4. The speech was heavy on looking back at 2020, and also moving forward with initiatives for 2021 when, hopefully, the pandemic has subsided a bit.

COVID-19 and the effects that followed the sickness such as job loss, food insecurity and housing insecurity.

"The people of Everett have displayed their strength and resiliency," he said. "On behalf of Stacy and myself, from the bottom of our hearts, we would like to personally thank each and every one of you for every sacrifice you have made for the betterment of our City. I have never been more proud to be your Mayor."

That was followed with a moment of silence for the 67 lives that were officially lost to COVID-19

in the City of Everett. He highlighted the decision to close schools on March 12, long before any other community. He lifted up the first re-

See STATE OF THE CITY Page 7

Everett native Todd Angilly to sing at Kane's Donuts on Valentine's Day

Special tp the Independent

Love is in the air at Kane's Donuts as Boston Bruins National Anthem singer, Todd Angilly, an Everett native who has been singing all over Everett during the pandemic, will now be singing Valentine's Day-themed songs on the patio of Kane's Donuts' Route 1 location in Saugus the morning of Sunday, Feb. 14. Kane's is collecting donations

to benefit the local nonprofit Christopher's Haven—a home for children and families when cancer hits home—and the legacy donut shop has decided to match the total amount

Join Todd Angilly and spread the love this Valentine's Day at Kane's. He will appear at the Saugus location, 1575 Broadway, from 9-11 p.m. on Sunday, Feb. 14.



Everett native, and Boston Bruins National Anthem singer, Todd Angilly will be singing for charity at Kane's Donuts on Sunday, Feb. 14.

For the latest news in Everett that you need to know, check everettindependent.com

Who's Your Valentine? Love Line Messages on Page 6

Glenwood Cemetery improvements approved

Mayor Carlo DeMaria announced that the Everett City Council has approved an additional \$800,000 funding that will allow the City of Everett to make final improvements to Glenwood Cemetery.

Improvement plans include developing new grave space, renovating the driveway, redevelop the cemetery's entrance, upgrade the water system, and renovate the Civil War burial area. Reconstruction is scheduled to begin in the early Spring of 2021.

"It's important that we make these improvements to Glenwood Cemetery,' said Mayor DeMaria. "Although those who rest there have passed, they are still part of our community and I want to honor them by improving the conditions of the cemetery. Residents should be able to visit their loved ones in a location that has easy access and brings them peace."

Currently, the cemetery is at full capacity and there is no space available. Through this renovation project, 227 new precast concrete double depth lawn crypts will be created. The current cremation site is also at full capacity and has space for 44 niches. With the improvements, there will be a new cremation niche installed that will have space for 166 niches.

The driveway is currently deteriorating and will be undergoing renovations as well. The existing curbing will be removed and replaced along with a full depth of reconstruction of the driveway payment.

The cemetery entrance will be redeveloped to improve appearance and accessibility. The entrance driveway will be reconfigured and ADA sidewalks and ramps with be installed. New entry signs with lights will be added along Washington Avenue and the sign at the opposite end of Sargent Street will be relocated. There will also be a reflecting pool and recirculating fountain installed.

There is currently insufficient water supply coverage throughout the cemetery and the lack of water supply has made lawn maintenance not only difficult, but costly. The reconstruction will address this issue by installing a new water supply line and self-draining faucets. The new system will help the cemetery become more cost efficient.

The Civil War burial area will be renovated during the reconstruction as well. This area has been deteriorating over the years and will see improvements. There will be a new flagstone patio to anchor and support the Civil War cannon in addition to new loam and seeding will be planted.

The City of Everett has contracted BSC Group as the designer and construction administrator for the improvements. During the time of construction, BSC Group has affirmed that they will do their best to be respectful of those visiting loved ones at the cemetery and of any funeral services that may occur. The reconstruction project is anticipated to be completed in the Spring of

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- LEGAL NOTICE -**CITY OF EVERETT**



BOARD OF Licensing Commission 484 Broadway **Everett, Massachusetts 02149** (617) 944-0211

To Whom It May Concern: In response to Governor Baker's declaration of a public health

emergency and the related Emergency Executive Order dated March 12, 2020, the Everett Licensing Board 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 City's website. No in-person attendance of members of the public will be permitted, but every effort will be made to ensure that the public can adequately access the proceedings in real time, via technological means. In the event that we are unable to do so, despite best efforts, we will post on the city's website an audio or video recording, transcript, or other comprehensive record of proceedings as soon as possible after the 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 websites. 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.

For this meeting, members of the public who wish to watch, listen or provide comment during the meeting may do so in the

following manner: View on the City of Everett Facebook Page: https://www.face-

book.com/cityofeverettma/

Call in for question or comments:

Topic: Licensing Board Meeting 02/24 (Public Call In) Time: Feb 24, 2021 06:30 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting https://ci-everett-ma.zoom.us/j/91387528281

Meeting ID: 913 8752 8281

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Dial in

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Meeting ID: 913 8752 8281 Public Hearing Wednesday February 24, 2021 @ 6:30 PM

Whereas an application has been presented to the Everett License Commission by: Keshar LLC D/B/A Elm St Market, for a change of location from

178-180 Elm St, Everett to 172 Elm St, Everett. This is a temporary move during renovation at their current location. All interested parties may attend.

Phil Antonelli - Chairman February 10, 2021

Housing Court// CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

istrator Benjamin Adeyinka said a lot of changes that were made over the past few months will make things easier for landlords and tenants to access the Housing Court divisions. Though there was some early pushback, most everyone now agrees the changes have helped smooth out the process in the wake of the pandemic.

"There was some trepidation at first," he said. "However, through time people have commented that this is a good way to do business. People have adapted. If you think of individuals that have to take a bus or a train to get to a court house, this is a safer way...We're getting great feedback."

The courts in Massachusetts are perennially one of the most difficult to change their procedures, as they are time-honored, and legal matters are spelled out in state law. Changes can't happen without great discussion or contemplation - and great amounts of time. However, that all changed during the pandemic when courthouses could open, but life also had to move forward. A series of Standing Orders have helped to usher in new ways of adapting.

Chief Sullivan said the first change was actually made prior to the pandemic, when they made e-filing mandatory for some cases in January 2020.

"Little did we know we would depend on it so much and need to expand it," said Sullivan.

That was followed by creating a virtual clerk's counter online to assist tenants and landlords - a new system that sought to replicate the in-person process that has played out for generations inside the courthouse. Using Zoom, court employees were able to assist in any manner that they would in person in all divisions of "That's really been a

big help," said Sullivan.

Other changes included getting cell phones for all employees, including leadership and staff; implementing language interpretive services via Zoom; and relaxing filing requirements so cases could be submitted by e-mail and documents could be deposited in a drop box at the courthouse. In a work of major transparency, they also established a Dashboard online for all courts, including housing court, to see up-to-date statistics about evictions cases by zip code and courthouse. No statistics readily available existed prior to that Dashboard.

At the same time, they have collaborated in an unprecedented way with other stakeholders, such as community organizations that are on the ground in places like Everett and Chelsea. That has also included a cooperation between the three courts that can handle eviction cases, those being Housing Court, Superior Court and the District Courts a partnership which has maintained vigilance across the judicial landscape on housing matters.

"It's been quite an experience for everyone in the courts and in the litigant population as well," said Sullivan. "We're trying to encourage these changes as much as possible to increase access and remain user-friendly...It's really been a time of great work and enormous change in a short period of time. We're really now trying to help landlords and tenants get up to date on all these changes."

However, some of the most impactful changes have come from the Post Pandemic Planning Committee chaired by Housing Court Judge Fairlie Dalton, and including others such as Clerk Magistrates, Housing Specialists and other judges. They started their work in May to prepare for what COVID-19 might bring in terms of economic disruptions that could unlock a waterfall of eviction - known as Summary Process - cases coming into Housing Court.

One of the changes was to create a two-tiered trial date system. Instead of day one in Housing Court being your trial date, the court moved to a twotiered system to help mediate cases before actually going before a judge. If it cannot be mediated, day two becomes the trial date.

"Day one now becomes a status day and not a trial day and it allows litigants to sit down on Zoom with landlords and tenants and a housing specialist, which can help mediate their case if there's an opportunity," said Sullivan. "If there's a resolution, it's written out and signed electronically and approved by a judge. If there's no resolution, day two becomes a trial day and that happens within two weeks.'

Sullivan and Adeyinka said that has given both parties the opportunity to work cooperatively with Housing Specialists from the court, and to identify resources that can be applied to the situation. Many times, the first hearing can be a way to steer both parties to a local court partner that can help both to apply for the state RAFT rental assistance program - or other resources as well.

Overall, it's been a great change that has probably helped to head off many cases before they progressed too far, and helped both the landlord and tenant to find a fair

Another new piece has been the now-required Attestation Form mandated by the state Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD). If a landlord wants to file for non-payment of rent, this new form has to be delivered to the tenant before a case can be accepted at Housing Court.

"We cannot even enter a case if we don't have proof they delivered their Attestation Form," said Adeyinka.

Tooth loss or mobility

· Subdued behavior

Abnormal drooling

Dropping food out of

the mouth

· Swallowing Food Whole

Sullivan said, so far, they are down about 50 percent in case filings across all divisions, but they realize that is likely because of the moratorium on filings that was in place until October. They also realize there has been an uptick in filings since that time. Some areas have seen more filings than others, and places like Everett and Chelsea have seen fewer filings than other areas outside of Greater

Sullivan said there's no real way to tell why that has happened, but he did say that the further out one goes, the fewer resources that are available in the community to help curtail evictions. He pointed to the agreement by landlords in many Greater Boston communities to hold off on evictions if possible – to look for mediation, which he said they do see that in the court.

"I will say there seems to be a very healthy appetite by landlords and tenants to settle cases by agreement," he said. "The lion's share of cases coming in are being resolved by agreement."

The quick pivot by a traditionally slower moving institution like the courts is a testament to the staff. Sullivan said. He said he is immensely proud of how Housing Court staff have moved online and moved to be fair to everyone.

amazing much the work of our staff has been able to help people," he said. "I've learned a lot about people's ability to adapt in these circumstances. I'm very proud and uplifted by what our staff at every division has been able to do and has done so by maintaining impartiality.'

And as far as keeping some of the "silver linings" that have emerged in Housing Court during COVID-19, Sullivan said they are already beginning to talk about that as well.

"We've not gotten to a decision yet, but it's an initial conversation we're having now and when COVID lifts, we will probably have a more substantial conversation with our leadership," said Sul-

CITY OF EVERETT



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Dial in

Meeting ID: 913 8752 8281

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Phil Antonelli - Chairman

February 10, 2021

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In response to Governor Baker's declaration of a public health

View on the City of Everett Facebook Page:

https://ci-everett-ma.zoom.us/j/91387528281 Meeting ID: 913 8752 8281

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Public Hearing Wednesday February 24, 2021 @ 6:30 PM Wynn MA, LLC D/B/A Encore Boston Harbor - Drug Store, 1

Broadway, Everett, MA for a New License for an Off-Premise Wine and Malt Package Store License. All interested parties may attend.

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The Revere Journal | Winthrop Sun Transcript | The Chelsea Record Everett Independent | The Lynn Journal | East Boston Times Free Press Charlestown Patriot Bridge | Regional Review Born on October 30,

1735 in Braintree, Mas-

sachusetts (now Quincy,

Massachusetts) to John

Adams Sr. and Susanna

Boylston, John Adams

was the oldest of three

sons. His parents were

highly involved in their

community, his mother a

socialite from a leading

medical family in Brook-

line, MA, and his father a

deacon, farmer, lieutenant

in the militia, and town

selectman. The Adams

family could trace their

American lineage back to

1638, when John Adams's

great-great-grandfather,

Henry Adams, immigrat-

ed to Massachusetts from

countered some issues

with his education at a

young age, often skipping

classes as a result for his

disdain toward his teacher,

he changed his tune lat-

er on, attending Harvard

College in 1751 at the age

of 16. While pursuing an

education at Harvard, Ad-

ams became determined

to seek and attain honor

and respect. To further

this goal, he began study-

ing law at Harvard and

was admitted to the bar in

1759. Once admitted, he

continued studying and

even wrote political pub-

lications throughout Bos-

ton, ridiculing Colonial

His rise to national

prominence began with

his publications opposing

the Stamp Act of 1765,

which required a payment

of a direct tax by the col-

onies to Britain and was

imposed without any con-

sultation of the American

legislatures. Two years

later, setting aside his dis-

dain for British tyranny,

Adams defended the Brit-

ish soldiers responsible

for the Boston Massacre.

Although his personal in-

elites' thirst for power.

Although Adams en-

Essex, England.

The City of Everett and Everett **Public Libraries host Black History Month art contest**

Mayor Carlo DeMaria is pleased to announce that the City of Everett in collaboration with the Everett Public Libraries will be hosting an art contest during Black History Month. The contest is open to any Everett resident of the age 10 or older. All Everett residents/ students are encouraged to participate.

Submitted art must be related to Black history/ figures/authors/etc. The City will be providing prompts and inspiration on the City's official Facebook page (@cityofeverettma).

The winners will receive prizes. Winners will be chosen by the number of likes on each Facebook post of the art which will be uploaded in categories on Saturday, February 27, 2021 (@mayordemaria).

The categories are: Ages 10-13:

1st place: \$50 gift card 2nd place: \$35 gift card 3rd place: \$20 gift card Ages 14-18:

1st place: \$50 gift card 2nd place: \$35 gift card 3rd place: \$20 gift card Ages 19+:

1st place: \$50 gift card 2nd place: \$35 gift card

3rd place: \$20 gift card For those who are interested in participating, the eligibility requirements

- You must be aged 10+ to participate.
- You must be a resident of Everett or attend school in the City of Everett.
- All art must be your own original work.
- There is a limit of one entry per person. • Art must relate to the
- subject of Black History Month.

For submissions, the requirements are:

- Take a clear photo (front and back) of your artwork
- Every entry must have • Every entry must have
- a statement describing the • Every entry must have the following information
- on the reverse side of the artwork: • Your name, age, and
- e-mail address All artwork submission photos must be e-mailed to artcontest@ci.everett.

The submission deadline is Wednesday, February 24, 2021 by 4 p.m.

Wynn resorts announce pricing of public offering of common stock

ma.us

Wynn Resorts on Monday announced the pricing of its follow-on offering of 6,500,000 shares of its common stock in an underwritten public offering, which represents an increase of 1,000,000 shares of common stock in the previously announced size of the offering, at a price to the public of \$115 per

Wynn Resorts has also granted the underwriters a 30-day option to purchase up to an additional 975,000 shares of common stock. Wynn Resorts expects to use the net proceeds from the offering for general corporate purposes.

The offering is expected to close on February 11, 2021, subject to customary closing conditions.

Deutsche Bank Securities, Goldman Sachs & Co. LLC and BofA Securities are acting as joint lead book-running managers for the offering.

An effective shelf registration statement relating to these securities was previously filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "SEC") on November 6, 2019. The offering of these securities is being made only by means of a prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus. A final prospectus supplement describing the terms of the offering will be filed with the SEC. Before you invest, you should read the prospectus, the prospectus supplement and the documents incorporated by reference therein for more complete information about Wynn Resorts and the offering. You may get these documents for free by visiting the SEC's website at www.sec.gov. Alternatively, copies of the prospectus supplement and accompanying prospectus, when available, may be obtained from Deut-Bank Securities Inc., Prospectus Group, 60 Wall Street, New York, NY 10005, or by telephone at (800) 503-4611, or by email at prospectus. CPDG@db.com, Goldman Sachs & Co. LLC, Attention: Prospec-Department, 200 West Street, New York, NY 10282, or by phone at (866) 471-2526, or by email at prospectus-ny@ny.email.gs.com, or BofA Securities, Inc., Attention: Prospectus NC1-004-Department, 03-43, 200 North College

Street, 3rd floor, Charlotte

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HISTORIC FIGURES

More than a Name: John Adams



colonial America, but also holds the name for a school in Everett.

terests and national allegiance sided with the massacred citizens, he would not let such views stand in the way of affording these soldiers a fair trial.

Adams solidified his personal stance on the Colonies' opposition to British rule when he was chosen as one of four delegates from Massachusetts to the First Continental Congress in 1774. Adams was selected to a Grand Committee of 23 members, tasked with drafting a letter of grievances to King George III regarding the Intolerable Acts. During the Second Continental Congress, Adams, now the leader of the Massachusetts delegation, took the stance that independence from Britain was inevitable and that such a declaration of Colonial intentions should be made as soon as possible. As such, Adams organized the Committee of Five, consisting of himself, Thomas Jefferson, Benjamin Franklin, Robert Livingston, and Roger Sherman, to draft the Declaration of Independence. Adams was regarded as the busiest man of the Congress, sitting on 90 separate committees and

chairing 25 of them. independence from British rule now achieved, Adams pivoted his focus toward maintaining positive relationships, particularly economic relationships, abroad. He was named the United States Commissioner to France in 1777, the Ambassador to the Dutch Republic in 1781, and the Ambassador to Great Britain in 1785. Upon his return to the United States, Adams was elected as Vice President in 1789, garnering 34 Electoral College votes to George Washington's 69. Adams became very involved in matters in front of the Senate, casting 29 tie-breaking votes, which is the most cast by a Vice-President in U.S. history. Unsatisfied by the powers bestowed upon him as Vice President, Adams ran for President in 1796 under the Federalist Party, running against the Republican Thomas Jefferson. Adams emerged victorious in the hotly

contested election, receiving 71 electoral votes to Jefferson's 68. Adams's presidency was dominated by conflicts abroad. The British and French were at war with one another, resulting from the French Revolution. Fearing an attack by the French, Adams increased American defenses and attempted to resolve any threat of war with France peacefully. When what became known as the XYZ Affair failed to bring about peace, the French and the U.S. became entangled in an undeclared naval war known as the Quasi-War from 1798-1800. With his own party becoming split over his dealings with France, Adams had lost too much key support to win re-election to the presidency in 1800, losing

to Jefferson. Although still involved with political affairs as an advisor and friend, Adams spent the last years of his life at his home in Quincy, Massachusetts with his family. On July 4, 1826, on the 50th anniversary of the adoption of the Declaration of Independence, John Adams passed away in his home. His body resides in a crypt at the United First Parish Church in Quincy, alongside his wife, Abigail, his son and future-President, John Quincy-Adams, and his son's wife, Louisa Ad-

John Adams, one of the Founding Fathers of our nation, left behind an incredible legacy. He is a Founding Father of the United States. He is hailed as the "father of the American Navy" due to his leadership on naval defense against the French He established the Library of Congress in 1800. He was the first President to live in the President's Mansion, now known as the White House. He authored the Massachusetts State Constitution in 1780 His most famous publication, Thoughts on Government, published in 1776, criticized all forms of monarchical governance and serves as the baseline for American government today, advocating for a separation of powers between the Executive, Legislative, and Judicial branches, as well as calling for the establishment of a bicameral legislature in order to best represent the interests of

Our Adams School here in Everett is one of the countless memorials throughout our nation honoring this American

all American people.

Seniors / CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

up an appointment phone bank on dime.

"Really, the mayor adapted and conquered here," said Devaney. "He was able to take employees from all departments and put them on a phone bank. Everyone stepped up and got these seniors registered and it really worked very well.'

In addition to taking phone calls, the phone bank also began pro-actively calling those over 75 in congregate settings and getting them registered and securing transportation if need be. "We used our networks

even making phone calls to every person over 75 and in a congregate setting – to get the word out," she said. "We were registering people up to Sunday morning.' The clinic took place at

Pope John from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturday, and they were able to get earlier appointments on Sunday to beat the snowstorm that hit later in the day. Councilor John Hanlon

said he observed the effort and gave it high praise during Monday's Council meeting. worked "It very

smoothly," he said. "The line moved so fast you wouldn't believe there were so many people there. The City did a good job on that."

The effort also earned praise from Councilors

Michael McLaughlin too

among others.

Devaney said they will ture is to continue doing continue to do similar clinics as time goes on.

"Our plan in the fu-

these clinics with Cataldo as long as the vaccine is available," she said. "The mayor's goal is to give every resident the opportunity to get vaccinated in 2021."





\$50 minimum deposit required to open any checking account. Fees may reduce earnings. Other fees may apply, see schedule of fees for details. Gift is awarded when account is opened. Please note, in the event the value of the free gift exceeds \$10, the bank is required to report the gift value on form 1099-INT. The recipient is responsible for all applicable taxes. Bank rules and regulations apply. Ask a representative for details

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Everett Independent

President: Stephen Quigley

Editor in Chief: Cary Shuman

WINTRY BLAST IS NOT SO HARD TO TAKE

The polar vortex once again has spun out of control, as it has done often in recent years. Instead of remaining in a tightly-wrapped circular motion around the Arctic, the vortex has been weakened by record-high temperatures in the Arctic in recent years because of climate change, thereby loosening the vortex's centrifugal force and allowing waves of cold air to drift from the Arctic to the continental United States.

We have to admit however, that the cold air has been refreshing. We're not suggesting that we want the sort of cold that is gripping the midwest with below-zero temperatures and -50 wind chills, but what is winter without a little spell of cold weather?

We think all would agree that Sunday's snowstorm, with those huge flakes of snow floating down upon us, was wondrous. Catching them in your mouth (as we did while out for a run before the Super Bowl) was something to be appreciated by all of the senses. Sure, milder winters are easy on our heating bills and

we don't have to worry about freezing pipes, slippery roads, and all of the other difficulties that come with

But it is precisely the harshness of winter that makes us appreciate summer all the more. It won't be long before the lazy, hazy, crazy days of summer are here and these days of sub-freezing weather will barely be a memory.

TB SETTLED THE GOAT **QUESTION**

Yes Pats' fans, it was bittersweet to watch the duo of Tom Brady and Rob Gronkowski lead the Tampa Bay Buccaneers to a Super Bowl championship.

On the other hand, no Pats' fan should be deluded into thinking that if the Pats' management had kept #12, New England fans would be celebrating with a victory parade this week.

Tampa Bay started the season with far more talent on its offense than the Patriots and then went out and added Rob Gronkowski, Leonard Fournette, and Antonio Brown -- all of whom not so coincidentally scored the Tampa Bay touchdowns.

But analysis aside, the game captured the imagination of fans -- and even non-fans --across the country because of the matchup between the greatest QB of all time, now at the age of 43, vs. the up-and-comer, 25 year-old Patrick Mahomes, from Kansas City.

In addition, en route to the big game, Brady had vanquished two other GOAT wannabes, Drew Brees and Aaron Rodgers, while another GOAT pretender, Ben Roethlisberger over in the AFC, had fizzled out.

The Brady-Mahomes matchup was a classic, madefor-TV, duel-for-the-ages.

But in the end, it was #12 who stood tall and confident in the pocket, firing lasers to his receivers, while Mahomes was scrambling around haphazardly and making costly mistakes.

New England fans were fortunate to have had the joy of watching Tom Brady perform his magic for 19 seasons, including six championships in nine Super Bowl

It was a run of excellence that will not be repeated, either here or anywhere else -- because there is only one GOAT.

Everett

Independent

Published by the Independent Newspaper Group

DIRECTORY

Advertising & Marketing

Director of Marketing

Debra DiGregorio deb@reverejournal.com

Assistant Marketing Director

Maureen DiBella

Senior Sales Associates Kathleen Bright Sioux Gerow

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Business

Accounts Executive Judy Russi

Editorial

Page Design, Copy Editing Scott Yates Kane DiMasso-Scott

Reporting Staff Seth Daniel

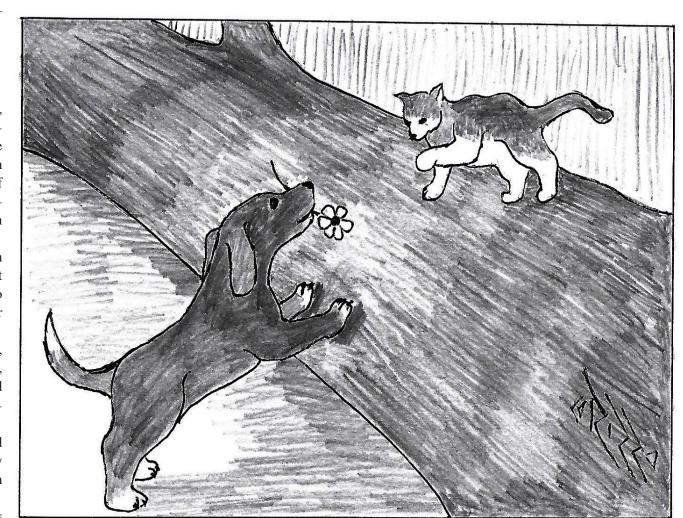
(seth@reverejournal.com) Cary Shuman (cary@lynnjournal.com)

Printer

GateHouse Media

PHONE: 781-485-0588 • Fax: 781-485-1403 E-Mail: editor@everettindependent.com

Independent Forum



HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY

DiDomenico files bill to provide universal school meals

Special to the Independent

Senator Sal DiDomenico has once again joined forces with anti-hunger organization Project Bread in sponsoring new legislation to provide free school meals to all children in the Commonwealth. SD519/ HD1161, An Act relative to universal school meals, would allow every student who wants or needs a school breakfast or lunch to receive it-at no cost to their family and with no requirement to sign up or provide income or other information. Just as no student is required to pay fees at public schools when they enter the classroom, there would be no financial barrier in the school cafeteria

Senator DiDomenico partnered with State Representative Andy Vargas, his former co-sponsor of Breakfast After the Bell legislation, in filing this legislation to provide universal schools meals. Last week, the legislative duo joined with Project Bread and the Feed Kids Campaign- a state-level legislative campaign comprised of the most influential and dedicated anti-hunger partners in the state- to officially launch the campaign, announce their newly filed bill, and emphasize the need for this critical legislation.

"Even before COVID-19 pandemic, too many in our Commonwealth were struggling to meet their most basic needs. Today, the COVID crisis has shed a stark light on the state of hunger in Massachusetts, especially for kids, with twenty percent of households with children being food insecure. That is unconscionable," said DiDomenico. "We have a moral responsibility to take immediate action to end childhood hunger in Massachusetts, and we simply cannot do so without providing universal school meals to every child, free of charge."

Right now, 1 in 5 Massachusetts families with kids is hungry, and 27 percent of children experiencing food insecurity in Massachusetts are not eligible for free or reduced-price school meals. However, as a result of flexibilities granted in response to the pandemic, every student in Massachusetts currently has access to free school meals. The barrier presented by cost and paperwork was temporarily removed at the federal level because this crisis put a spotlight on the need to ensure the right to the most basic of necessities—food—for all kids. Consequently, for the past 10 months, thousands more Massachusetts children and teens have been able to get free breakfast and lunch at hundreds of meal sites across the Commonwealth.

Despite this important step forward, without state-level legislation in place, there is a possibility that barriers to school meals will return once the waivers expire post-pandemic. To keep school meals accessible for all students, Senator DiDomenico, Representative Vargas, and the Feed Kids Coalition joined forces seeking a bold solution to end childhood hunger by

ensuring that every student receives the nutrition they need while they are in school.

"Our priority in Massachusetts, must be to feed our kids, full stop, and School Meals for All will do that," says Erin McAleer, CEO of Project Bread. "Now more than ever, we need to be intentional about meeting the basic needs of students. We've seen during the pandemic that it's possible to expand access to school meals for the benefit of all children. Every child and every community is better off when all students are nourished and ready to learn. Massachusetts has the opportunity right now, to invest in the health and future of our kids, and to lead the nation in providing School Meals for All. It's a necessary step to solving hunger perma-

nently." This is the first legislative session this bill has been filed. More information about the bill and the Feed Kids Campaign can be found at the FeedKids-

SEND US YOUR NEWS

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

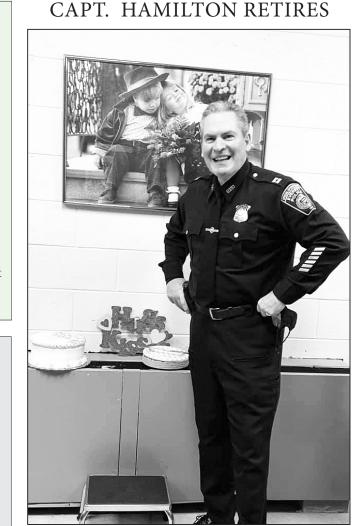
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Your opinions, please

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editor@everettindependent.com.

Letters must be signed. We reserve the right to edit for length and content.



Capt. Paul Hamilton retired late last month after a 37year career in policing. Hamilton joined the Everett Police in 2004, transferring from the Boston Municipal Police Department. He rose through the ranks at the EPD to the rank of Captain. His most recent assignment was in charge of Support Services. Hamilton comes from a long line of

police officers who were all proud of their service.

News in Brief

MCU TO MERGE WITH GLOUCESTER **MUNICIPAL** CREDIT UNION

Metro Credit Union (MCU), Massachusetts' state-chartered credit union, today announced that it will merge with Gloucester Municipal Credit Union, founded in Gloucester, Mass in 1941, on February 26. Metro, which recently surpassed \$2.3 billion in assets, will absorb GM-CU's nearly 500 members and \$2.3 million in assets. Metro's newest members will have access to an expanded line of products and services as well as its 14 branch locations.

"I'm thrilled to welcome members of the Gloucester community to the Metro family," said Robert Cashman, CEO and president. "I encourage both existing members of GMCU and others who are or were previously employed by the city of Gloucester to take advantage of the many opportunities Metro has to offer our members."

When considering a merger, GMCU turned to Metro due to its strong reputation, digital and technological advancement, and obvious commitment to its more than 220,000 members.

"Metro will offer our members additional benefits and opportunities that we have not been able to provide, including digital access, mortgages, home equity loans, and more," said Lawrence Ingersoll, board president, Glouces-Municipal Credit Union. "We are particularly grateful to partner with a credit union that we know will treat our members with compassion and care and offer them the security and trust they de-

For more information about Metro Credit Union, please visit metrocu.org or connect with us on Linke-

MVES OFFERS SAFETY TIPS WHEN WALKING IN SNOWY AND ICY **CONDITIONS**

Each winter, slip and fall accidents cause serious injuries. Even when surfaces do not look especially icy or slippery, it is very possible that a thin sheet of transparent ice or "Black Ice" is covering your pathway putting you at risk. When you approach a footpath or roadway that appears to be covered with ice or snow, always use extreme caution. Many slips and falls happen in places people regard as safe and secure, typically outside their front door, on the doorstep, on the path or while getting out of the car.

With the winter weather upon us, Mystic Valley Elder Services' Safety Committee advises these 10 tips to make sure you are staying safe when walking around in snowy and icy conditions.

- Walk slowly and carefully. Wear boots or other slip-resistant footwear.
- Use special care when getting in and out of vehicles. Use the vehicle for support if you need to do
- Watch for slippery floors when you enter any building or home.
- · Avoid walking with your hands in your pockets; this can reduce your ability to catch yourself if you lose your balance. · Watch out for black
- Tap your foot on po-
- tentially slick areas to see if the areas are slippery. • Walk as flat-footed as
- possible in very icy areas.
- Avoid uneven surfaces if possible. Avoid steps or curbs with ice on them.

 Report any untreated surfaces to your town, property owner, or work's maintenance department to help keep you safe.

• Remember: Ice and snow mean, "take it slow!"

If you are interested in knowing more about Mystic Valley Elder Services' programs, please visit us here or call us at 781-324-

MBTA SERVICE PLANNING TEAM **HOSTS VIRTUAL PUBLIC MEETINGS** The MBTA Service

Planning team will be hosting virtual public meetings on Wednesday, February 17, and Wednesday, February 24, from 6-8 p.m. to share the temporary schedule changes that will go into effect in March and April of 2021. The MBTA is imple-

menting service changes in response to the low ridership caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. Changes on the bus network and subway system will begin on March 14. This will reduce frequency on some bus and subways lines and eliminate, shorten, or combine various bus routes. The Commuter Rail will also undergo additional scheduling changes, starting April 5.

During the virtual public meetings, the team will share information as to why the route changes are necessary and offer insight into the service planning process. They will also share specific information about the service changes and impacted routes.

Attendees are welcomed to ask questions and provide feedback regarding the service changes that will go into effect. For more information and to learn how to join the meetings, please visit www.mbta.com/servicechanges.

The City of Everett partners with MAPC for digital access and equity plan

ter of public health," said

Mayor Carlo DeMaria is pleased to announce that the City of Everett has partnered with the Metropolitan Area Planning Council (MAPC) to address the digital divide in the community. Together, the City and

MAPC are working to develop a Digital Access and Equity Plan to enhance the digital capacity throughout the City. "I want to ensure that

the entire Everett community has digital access," said Mayor DeMaria. "By partnering with MAPC, the City of Everett will be able to address the digital divide in the community. I look forward to seeing the results of the assessment and developing an action plan for next steps." City Councilor Steph-

anie Martins, Superintendent Priya Tahiliani, and members of the Administration met with MAPC to discuss the beginning steps in developing the Digital Access and Equity Plan. Factors that will influence the plan include access to affordable, high speed, and reliable interputing devices, and digital

net, availability of comliteracy. "The internet is where we communicate, access important information, pay our bills, check the news, receive our education, and much more these

days. Access to quality

internet service is a mat-

Councilor Martins. "Having a connection that is inferior, congested, and constantly disrupted creates a digital divide when compared to other wealthier communities and leaves our residents behind. For the past two months, I have challenged our providers to step up the delivery of their services to our residents. I want to thank Mayor Carlo DeMaria and the Depart of Communications for supporting the efforts to mitigate Everett's Digital Divide by retaining the MAPC to develop a Digital Access and Equity Plan. I am extreme-

ly excited to be a part of this work, along with the Department of Communications, Everett Public Schools, and community partners, and look forward to the next steps which will include an extensive

needs assessment." "I thank the City for including the EPS in its discussions and planning surrounding this critical issue," said Superintendent Tahiliani. "Everett is taking a comprehensive and ambitious approach to digital access and equity, as evidenced by the fantastic decision to partner with the Metropolitan Area Planning Council. The district looks forward

to seeing this partnership

develop a strong and sus-

tainable plan that will ben-

and inclusive community

efit our students for many years into the future."

Through the Federal Economic Development Administration Disaster Mitigation and Recovery Grant, MAPC will begin the process to address the challenges of internet access in Everett. The City of Everett looks forward to unveiling a clear strategy around providing fast, reliable, and affordable internet service to its residents and businesses. According to MACP,

"Everett is set to become a leader within the Commonwealth by developing a plan that is scaled to fit the capacity of municipal staff while leveraging a strong resource network of local, state, and federal resources that cross the public, private, educational, and nonprofit sectors." The next step is to cre-

ate a working group to determine needs and issues throughout the community. Everett Haitian Community Center, La Communidad, Cambridge Health Alliance in partnership with Teens in Everett Against Substance Abuse, Eliot Family Resource Center, and our local state leaders, State Senator Sal DiDomenico and State Representative Joe Mc-

ed to participate.

Summer 2021.

Advertising Rates, Gonagle, have been invit-Call MAPC anticipates the Digital Access and Equity 617-884-2416 Plan to be completed by

Council/ CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

mercial projects over 15,000 sq. ft. - both in the queue and coming in the future. The residential portion was what caused the most wiggle-power. As part of the new fee compromise, all projects that have received Board approval, but not a building permit (which is the cutoff) will pay \$500 per unit, unless their project includes 15 percent affordable housing units. If there is 15 percent, the \$500 fee is waived. The transition fee would have to be paid within five years. For projects coming after the ordinance is ordained, which is expected at the Feb. 22 Council meeting, the residential fee would be \$1,000 per unit and developers would have seven years to pay the full fee.

That would apply even to small projects like the conversion of a one-family to a two-family. Such a conversion, which is quite common now in Everett, would result in a \$1,000 payment under the new fee structure.

McLaughlin said there were approximately 3,000 units in the queue that would be affected by the \$500 per unit transition fee. The transition fee for

projects in the queue was a major concern earlier on when Mayor Carlo De-Maria's plan surfaced two weeks ago and it contained fees that would be assessed on many projects currently.

On Monday, Councilor Rosa DiFlorio said it was hard to agree with putting fees on those that have already gone through the Zoning Board and Planning Board process. She did, however, agree to the compromise.

"The Committee did not make a recommendation and that's because there was a lot that we didn't agree with," she said. "We agree with establishing a Linkage Fee, but we didn't

agree with the retroactive

part. That wasn't fair."

The new fee structure compromise from Mc-Laughlin passed 9-2, with Adrien and Councilor Michael Marchese voting against.

Councilor Fred Capone moved to amend the ordinance to put the power to administer the program with the City Council and not Inspectional Services (ISD). Capone said he felt that's a power that should remain with an elected body, and not be delegated to a City Department.

His revision passed 7-3. Meanwhile, Councilor Gerly Adrien focused in on the history of the Linkage process, which goes back many years and includes a commissioned study done for the City in 2019. That process actually started in 2016 when the City got approval by Home Rule Petition from the State Legislature to create a Linkage Fee. However, in those five years, a local ordinance could never get accomplished. The 2019 study sought to get things moving, but again the matter stalled out until just recently - when the City, badly in need of revenues due to COVID-19 losses, began to hustle in order to collect some significant money from projects com-

The 2019 study had not been widely discussed, and Adrien was able to learn from Attorney Jonathan Silverstein, a consulting attorney for the City, about the recommendations in the report.

The report cited Linkage Fees in Boston of \$11 per sq. ft.; in Somerville of \$12.46 per sq. ft.; and in Barnstable of \$9 per square foot. The recommendation in Everett to remain competitive was around \$4-\$8 per square foot.

The current proposal came in at \$2 per sq. ft. for commercial properties.

Some developers were not entirely happy with the process of hitting those that were already in the process of starting construction but were still waiting on a building permit.

John Tocco, who is about to begin work on The 600 on Broadway, said he agrees with Linkage Fees in Everett, but felt it put developers in a tough spot to require them after Board approvals.

"Construction is risky and banks and investors look for certainty," he said. "What happens when the rules get changed this late in the game when a project is still under review, but approvals have been achieved and a groundbreaking has happened, is that certainty the City should provide is eliminated. It begs a lot of new questions from bankers and lenders."

The long-stewing ordinance could be ordained and become law if voted in at the Feb. 22 Council meeting, and then signed by Mayor Carlo DeMaria.

Massive Ferry/Elm Street reconstruction project inching closer to a start date

ing down the pipeline.

By Seth Daniel The multi-year full

reconstruction of Ferry Street and Elm Street is nearing a start date, according to project managers, with the City Council approving on Monday night some 300 easements needed to start the project.

The easements are mostly five-year temporary easements along the route that will serve for temporary access to accommodate work crews and equipment. Some 13 easements will be permanent and used for sidewalks, said Project Manager Kristopher Surette.

The Council voted to appropriate \$2 million for the easements, all of which is covered by a federal and state grant for the project. City CFO Eric Demas said it is a very significant project and would cost more than \$30 million. The only piece that the

City would end up paying for is some water line work that isn't available for reimbursement. Surette said the project

is in line to be advertised on March 6, and work could begin in late summer to fall. It is expected at the most to be a fiveyear project, but could be shorter. Already, the gas line and water line work has been completed. Surette said abutters

For

fied to be paid for the land, but he said already three of the 13 have donated the land to help the project along. Significant work on the easements was done

getting a permanent ease-

ment agreement are quali-

by City Solicitor Colleen Mejia as well, Surette

Residents along the route can expect to have two or three days of disruption in front of their

properties as the project goes along. There is a chance they could lose parking for that short period of time or have their driveways blocked off.

There will be strict rules about digging up the street once the project is completed, Surette said, since it is a federal project.

"You will not have a trench dug down the middle of Ferry Street for many, many years after this is done," he said.



of school every year because of oral health problems, and students who have experienced recent oral health pain are 4 times more likely to have lower grades and GPAs.

Reports show that American students miss over 51 million hours



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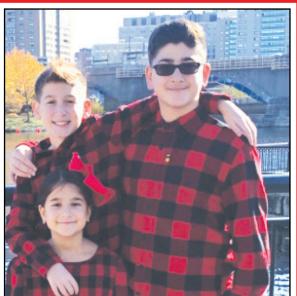
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Happy Valentine's Day



Thank you for filling our lives with Love! Happy Valentines Way kids. Love, Mom & Wad Oxox



To my sunny Valentine's. Even when it's cloudy you make it shine! XOX Nana



Happy Valentine's Mamie! You are the best! Love, Mandy & Miranda xox



Happy Valentines Way Gabriella & Anthony! Auntie loves you



Gulianna and Mario, mommy loves her little sweeties! Happy Valentines Way



Happy Valentine's Way to my Mommy! I love you with all of my ears!



Happy Valentines Way Nani, Abuelito and Abuelita Love your Little Luna xo



Happy Valentine's Way Angelica and Nana Cheryla Grifoni



Happy Valentine's Nana & papa LOVE you, Elijah



Happy Valentine's Way Jimmy-pa, Monno & Monna love Charlotte



Roses are red. These glasses are too, Who said a cat can't have more style than you? Happy Valentine's Pay!



Hugs & Kisses and Sweet
Valentine wishes xoxo Olivia

sponders, such as the police, fire, EMS and 9-1-1 dispatchers. He also noted medical workers, front-line workers, educators and volunteers that staffed the food pantries such as the Connolly Center and Grace Food Pantry.

Providing food and services was also a major part of 2020, and the mayor said the City and local organizations distributed more than 1.2 million pounds of food in 2020. As well, those that were homebound received approximately 120,000 meals delivered to their doors.

Then, after talking about all the ways that Zoom filled in the gaps for regular, in-person meetings, he said it was time to move forward in 2021.

"Needless to say – most of us are ready to ZOOM

into 2021," he said. The first and longest part of his platform for 2021 revolved around equity and the new Diversity and Equity Advisory Board which has been in place since the mayor declared racism a public health cri-

sis last summer. Right now, he said the Board is in the process of reviewing the Everett Police Department's use-offorce policy – and listening candidly and confidentially to the experiences of people of color with the Everett Police.

"Once they share their findings and recommendations with the Administration, I promise to work diligently to address any issue that that will help our residents feel safe and included," he said.

He added that members of his Administration have been meeting every other week with the Everett Safe and Welcoming Coalition, and the City has also expanded its language access at City Hall with a contracted interpretation service called Lionbridge – which is also being used in

the Everett Public Schools. "As Mayor, I will continue to embrace the diversity that exists in our great community," he said. "There is no tolerance for racism in our City, and you have my word that my Administration will constantly strive toward ensuring equity and equality for people of all backgrounds, heritages, sexual orientations, genders, creeds and economic statuses. Our City must be

one in which every resident is able to peacefully share and exchange ideas, one where we can respect and celebrate our differences, and one where we are united in making sure that Everett is a place that we are all proud to call our home."

Finance was also a big subject in the address, and while many municipalities suffered financially during the pandemic, the mayor said Everett has done well. New construction projects continue to roll in, and revenues aren't down as much as many feared. He said Everett continues to be a community that many in the region and nation look to for innovative ideas.

He touched on the affordable housing project now emerging at the former St. Therese's Church site on upper Broadway.

He said one of the things that will need to be considered moving forward is looking at familiar places differently than in the past such as the Commercial Triangle and other areas that are attractive to developers right now but historically have been considered inferior properties by resi-

"Moving forward in Everett means looking differently at areas of the City and having the ability to see the places we all know in a new way - in a different way," he said. "We have made significant progress in the revitalization of the Commercial Triangle Area, the area encompassing Revere Beach Parkway and Second Street in Everett."

That led to the unveiling of a new initiative to increase the footprint of the Urban Renewal Plan in Everett. He said the current plan will add the Lower Broadway Master Plan, the Commercial Triangle, the GE Parcel and Everett Stadium. That was a new and interesting initiative.

"We have big goals, aggressive goals, but I'm confident they can be accomplished," he said calling on the City Council to work together with him to move forward in 2021 on such things.

Development talk quickly morphed into amenities and protecting the environment, and he said developing the City can also mean improving the environment.

He highlighted the new kayak ramp at RiverGreen,

the restoration of North/ South Creek, and the expansion of the Northern Strand Community Path. He highlighted 20 new BlueBike Stations, and the advancement of the Mystic River Pedestrian Bridge that would unlock an uninterrupted path from Nahant to downtown Boston and Cambridge. At the same time, he highlighted the continued progress on public transportation, including the new Silver Line expansion study that kicked off this week.

He said strong public transit is a must to grow the

"Mobility remains the key to sustained economic development and enhanced quality of life for our residents," he said.

Finally, he said that 2021 will be about - more than anything - making sure the vaccine for COVID-19 arrives in Everett and is distributed to anyone that wants it.

"I am proud that the vaccine has arrived in Everett and that our first responders have been vaccinated," he said. "Over the next year, I will work to ensure that our entire community has the opportunity to be vaccinated."

Winding down his Address, he referred to some silver linings that have come out of COVID-19. For his family, that has meant being under the same roof again and spending more quality time together. For the mayor's family, he said that has meant gathering nightly around the dining room table to play the Uno card game.

Now, however, he said it's time to move into 2021 and continue the progress that the City left off with in March 2020 when all things normal came to a

"It's now time to focus on 2021," he said. "We will continue to make strides towards bettering our community in all aspects - with transportation, capital improvements, and our infrastructure. The pandemic required the City to shift gears and adapt to a global crisis however, we are ready to pick up where we left off and continue to move Everett forward."

The full online State of the City Address is available on the City's Facebook page and on its website.



last September.



Mayor DeMaria thanked the Cardello Family for their work in standing up the Grace Food Pantry and keeping things running throughout the toughest times in 2020.



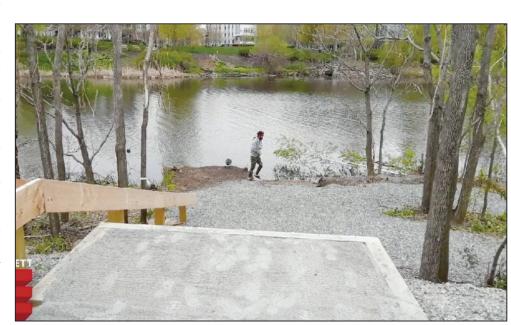
Mayor DeMaria thanked police, fire, EMS and 9-1-1 dispatchers in his Address.



Like no other time, medical professionals were lifted up during 2020, with workers from CHA Everett pictured here during the Parade and Luncheon staged for them last



Mayor DeMaria welcoming a new police officer to the ranks, highlighting the work of the first-responders during



The new Kayak boat launch is shown here, being rolled out last summer at RiverGreen. The mayor said he cannot wait to have an official opening when it's safe.

Keep Hour Name in the News

As the cold winter months bear down and the COVID-19 pandemic rages on, let us get your message out to our thousands of readers of **The**

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Volunteers at the Connolly Center helped the City provide more than one million pounds

of food to needy residents.

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position.

to Chelsea.

And now after seven

years of commendable

and widely acclaimed

service in the key role in

the Walsh Administra-

tion, O'Flaherty is leav-

ing and will be returning

"It was an incredible

opportunity to serve the

City of Boston and to

continue my public ser-

vice," said O'Flaherty.

"When I got there, it felt

like an overwhelming

task. We have to manage

over 60 attorneys, parale-

gals, and staff. It's a very

diverse law practice, with

many qualified attorneys

working on schools, on

the Boston Police and

Boston Fire, and all the

and commissions, as well

as the Boston City Coun-

If it sounds like a gar-

gantuan operation, it is.

All of the legal represen-

tation for New England's

largest city was under

tion, including more than

1,200 litigation cases per

There are close to

20,000 employees work-

ing for the city "so it was

a very large law practice

difficult to manage, but

I quickly, with the help

of some very public ser-

vants, figured out what

the role of the job was,"

"Being with the Mayor,

my legislative colleague

and friend, throughout

all of that, it was a great

honor working to fufill a

lot of what he wanted to

accomplish as Mayor,"

said O'Flaherty. "I've

said O'Flaherty.

O'Flaherty's

year.

cil," said O'Flaherty.

departments

jurisdic-

different

The Everett Independent • Wednesday, February 10, 2021 Phone: 617-387-9600 Fax: 781-485-1403

NEWS FROM AROUND THE REGION

been by his side almost since Day 1, and we'll be leaving around the same time." Walsh has been nominated by President Joe Biden for the Cabinet po-

CHELSEA - When his friend and colleague in the House of Representatives, Martin Walsh, sition of U.S. Labor Secthe newly elected mayor retary. O'Flaherty was of Boston, asked him to asked by the Mayor to be corporation counsel serve with him in Washfor the city of Boston, ington, D.C. in the Office then-State Rep. Eugene of the Secretary of Labor. O'Flaherty accepted the "Maybe if I were 20 new job and the considerable challenge of the

years younger, I would have taken advantage of that opportunity, but at this point in my life, it will be too disruptive to both myself, my wife (Patricia), and my inlaws," said O'Flaherty.

"While I was very honored to be asked to serve in the Office of the Secretary of Labor and continue working with Mayor Walsh in his new role, I had to very emotionally decline the offer.

"I'm very proud of what he has accomplished as Mayor and now to be in President Biden's Cabinet - but it would be too disruptive personally to me, my family, my friends, and our network that we have here, to leave here and go down to Washington," said O'Flaherty.

Chelsea's former state representative

Gene O'Flaherty was elected state representative for Chelsea and Charlestown in November, 1996, and took office in January, 1997. O'Flaherty and Walsh, who represented Dorchester, both started together as freshman legislators.

"Both of our districts had Boston, so we had mutual legislative interests at first and we quickly became friends because, like me, both his parents were from Ireland and both my parents were both from Ireland as well, so we had a lot in common and we hit it off," said O'Flaherty.

years. When Walsh was Gene at Chelsea events

elected Mayor of Boston in 2013 and took office in 2014, he met for dinner with O'Flaherty and asked him to join his administration as corporation counsel.

O'Flaherty accepted the offer. He stepped down from his state representative seat and gave up his private law practice.

Many accomplishments that bettered the city

Over the course of Walsh and O'Flaherty's seven years together in Boston city government, there were many accomplishments.

Until COVID-19 arrived, the economy for the City of Boston was booming. The innovative Seaport District, now a national model, was developed during the administration.

New fire stations, police stations, and libraries were built in the city. There was new infrastructure and huge economic growth.

Returning to law practice

A graduate of Suffolk University and the Massachusetts School of Law, Gene O'Flaherty will be returning to private law practice, including government relations. He has been practicing law since

As he comes back to the city where residents overwhelmingly ported him in elections, O'Flaherty says he's excited to back in Chelsea.

"It's good to be home," he said.

Said Councilor-at-Large Leo Robinson, "It's great to have Gene returning to our city and being a big part of our community. He was an excellent, hard-working state representative who did so much for our city when he served in that position. I know he was also a tremendous asset They served in the to the Walsh Administra-House of Representa- tive in an important role. tives together for 17 I look forward to seeing



FUNDING FOR CAMP FIRE NORTH SHORE

Camp Fire North Shore received a donation from Camp Lions and the Lynn Lions Club for \$50,000.00 for capital improvements. Eastern Bank Charitable Foundation also donated \$25,000.00 as well as the Gerondelis Foundation who will donate a \$100,000.00 over a three year period. This total donation amounts to \$175,000.00 for the initial improvements. Camp Fire Executive Director Laurie Hamill was so excited to begin the overdue renovations to the camp located on Cain Road. She continued to explain, "Thank you to these amazing benefactors; we can move forward on the first phase of the project to allow us to serve more North Shore youth and allows us to offer year round programs." The future improvement program will provide a safe and inclusive curriculum helping young people to become "caring and confident leaders". Pictured, the \$50,000 check presented to Camp Fire North Shore - (L-R) Richard Alfonsi, John Baker, Sean Crowley, Camp Fire Executive Director Laurie Hamill and Camp Fire Board Members Steve Antonakes, Lynn Councilor-at-Large Brian Field, and Matthew Lamothe.

and I wish him well in his law practice."

SCHOOLS' OUTREACH PROGRAM THRIVES

CHELSEA - On one day last summer, Supt. Almi Abeyta, members of the School Committee and her staff hit a pivot point.

emergency After schooling had wrapped up, video graduation had transpired, racial issues in the district had surfaced and many were simply coming up from survival mode after months treading water – it was time to think about school again.

The first thing to figure out was how in the world would the Chelsea Public Schools (CPS) engage with parents and students in a pandemic. With enhistorically gagement challenging in Chelsea, adding a pandemic to the mix made seem insurmountable.

But incrementally, and with building a foundation, the district not only figured out how to engage, but also ended up launching a long-term plan for co-design of the district with parents, students, community members and business leaders.

Last Thursday, The Rennie Center for Education Research and Policy highlighted the district for one of three key pillars of success in state school districts - that being shared voices and shared leadership.

"The one silver lining in all of COVID, it's the family and community engagement we've been able to do during this time," said Supt. Almi Abeyta during a panel discussion last Thursday.

Center Director Chad d'Entremont said they are pushing the idea of shared leadership in school districts, going a step beyond just collaborating. He said it could come with elevating student voices, having student-led conferences, School Committee seats for students with full voting privileges, or changing other formal structures.

He said the Harvard School of Education's Design Lab has innovated in creating Children's Cabinets, which Chelsea Public Schools has adopted this year in the midst of its ambitious co-design plan. The Cabinets create a table for those working with youth – including departments, agencies, businesses, civic leaders and non-profits.

"They come together to develop a collective vision and system of supports for youth development and growth," he said. "CPS has taken such an approach to this. Along with establishing the Children's Cabinet, they have also launched the co-design pilot to include families in every step of the district's plan to improve learning."

In doing so, they've established nine teams to look at everything from discipline practices to remote learning to improving School Site Councils to changing the demographics of the teaching staff.

"Chelsea is a largely immigrant with a high LatinX population and a predominately white teaching staff," he said. "One goal is to shift racial power dynamics in the community."

In the panel discussion, Abeyta said you have to lay a foundation before attempting such a move. As a new superintendent last year, her entry plan called for new and better engagement with families.

"That kind of led me to say one pillar will be family and community engagement as I start a superintendency," she said. "Building on that, the community and the teachers were so hungry to engage families. We hadn't made the effort because we were so busy with everything else.

Then COVID presented this silver lining and you can't let the crisis go to waste. We were thinking that we were in remote learning and we didn't know how long we would be there. We had to engage our families somehow. They aren't coming to the schools and we have to engage students and make sure attendance rates

good." That's when they decided to do trust visits last summer.

Though simple, they were effective in creating a personal bond. Teachers and administrators scoured the community and had visits or conferences on sidewalks and porches of the homes around the city. Some parents actually came to the school for the upper grades and talked with teachers in large tents

That activity was built into the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Chelsea Teachers Association. The understanding was in the 10 days of professional development training, some of those days would be reserved for outreach and trust visits.

outside.

"We thought about having parent/teacher conferences out front, but we don't really call those parent/teacher conferences," she said. "Instead we called them trust visits. The trust visits happened on the sidewalk. We also bought big tents and put them outside so teachers could meet with

See REGION Page 9

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Council approves CARES Act grant money, DPA study money

By Seth Daniel

The financial good news from Christmas Eve hit the City coffers on Monday night, as the City Council voted to approve an additional \$3.1 million in federal CARES Act funding that was announced on Christmas

The approval represented one of three key grants procured by the Administration and approved on Monday night by the Council.

None was as hard fought as the \$3.188 million in CARES Act money, according to Mayor Carlo DeMaria. The mayor relayed at his State of the City Address on Feb. 4 - and previously in an announcement on Christmas Eve – that the state had rejected Everett in its request to get an additional

disbursement of CARES Act monies last fall. After a full-court press by DeMaria and his Administration, Gov. Charlie Baker finally announced in December that Everett would, in fact, receive the \$3.118 million. The money has been

earmarked for homeowner stabilization and rental assistance. The Council approved the grant by an 11-0 vote. Additional federal money is expected to be delivered this spring to the City as well from the December Stimulus funding bill that passed Congress.

The second grant came from the Mass Gaming Commission (MGC) planning study grant of \$100,000 to begin a close look at the Mystic River Designated Port Area (DPA) uses. The City is angling to reclaim part of the waterfront in the Mystic DPA, which sits along the waterfront and across from the Encore Boston Harbor casino. Both the casino, the City and other entities would like to see the DPA be modified for other water-dependent uses, such as a Cruise Ship Terminal and a Harbor-Walk – perhaps even more traditional items like a hotel as well.

The planning process is expected to begin sometime later this year.

The final grant was a \$375,000 construction grant to get the Northern Strand Community Trail Extension project going.

That grant was the key to unlocking further financing to build out the path from West Street to the Mystic River - with the hopes that one day the Mystic River Pedestrian Bridge would be constructed and fully connect the path from Nahant to downtown Boston. Construction on the extension is to begin once the winter

•GEORGE LANE NAMED ISD DIREC-TOR

Facili-Long-time ties Maintenance Chief George Lane was voted in unanimously as the next director of the Inspectional Services Department (ISD). Lane has been around the Department for some time, and has led an innovative, in-house building crew that has renovated public spaces and buildings around the city for several years.

Now, he has been elevated to director of the entire department, filling the vacancy left when Jim Soper passed away suddenly last year.

but it's even better to be respected and liked," said Council President Wayne Matewsky. "That's what I hear from everyone I talk to about Mr. Lane. Mr. Soper did great things and Mr. Lane will have big shoes to fill, but I'm confident he'll do a great job."

•SCHOOL COMMIT-TEE SALARY ADJUST-**MENT**

The City Council voted 10-1 on Monday night to make an upward adjustment to the Everett School Committee salary and institute annual cost of living increases.

per year with Cost of Living Adjustments of 2.5 percent per year. In 2026, the salary will move to \$15,000 per year along with the adjustments. Councilor Rosa DiFlo-

Starting in 2022, the sal-

ary will move to \$12,500

"It's nice to be liked, rio explained that the in-

crease is not a raise, but rather fixing an issue from the past. Apparently, when the Council increased its salary a few years ago, it was supposed to also increase for the School Committee. That did not happen though.

She said this was simply correcting that error.

Councilor Michael Marchese voted against it. •MOMENTS OF SI-**LENCE**

At least eight people commanded a Moment of Silence at the Council on Monday night, with several of them dying recently of COVID-19 related complications.

Chief among those recalled on Monday was Lena Parker, who worked in the Everett Public Schools and was the mother of School Committee Chair Frank Parker.

Region // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8

families before school and have a physical connection even with masks and social distancing."

After having the visits and giving away books, art supplies, discussing wi-fi issues and providing hot spots if necessary, students, families and teachers felt ready for school – and empowered to reach out to school leaders if there were issues.

That ended up being the foundation and pre-cursor for the evolution of co-design, which was a long-term goal for the district that many didn't think would happen in the midst of COVID. However, it did and it has accelerated.

"We set the foundation and there was just this eagerness and thirst," said Abeyta. "Then we started to co-design. It evolved. That's what I love about this is it evolved and there is so much ownership across the district. The educators doing this with our families have created such a beautiful partnership."

NEW DEVELOPMENT PITCHED FOR **MAVERICK STREET** EAST BOSTON

Zoning Attorney Jeff Drago pitched his client's plans for 28 units of housing on Maverick Street along the Mary Ellen Welch Greenway. At a Friends of the

Mary Ellen Greenway Council meeting last Thursday, Drago said his client, City Realty, has purchased the parcels at 167-169 Maverick St. that once housed the Saints and Angels Ceramic Store and wants to renovate the existing three-story brick structure and erect a five-story addition for a total of 28 housing units with 11 parking spaces at the ground level. "Those of you who

are familiar with those parcels know it was the former Saints and Angels Ceramic Store and the adjacent three unit brick building to the left," said Drago. "So we're proposing to combine those

parcels and raze the small one story commercial structure because it really is not in the best of shape." Drago said his client wanted to meet with the Greenway Council be-

cause of the project's

close proximity with the

"We've met Gove Street Citizens Association members for an initial meeting and now the Greenway Council," said Drago. "This is going to go through the Article 80 Small Project Review process just because of the size of the proposal and we will also have to meet with the Parks Department because we're abutting the Greenway as well. This is really the early stages of the project and we wanted to talk to folks early on. We have had a pre-file meeting with the city, but we have not officially filed anything with the BPDA

During his presentation Drago pointed to the recently city-approved project at 173-177 Maverick St., which he said has a similar height as City Realty's proposal. With flooding a con-

tinuing problem on the Greenway due to rain runoff Drago said City Realty has come up with a plan to eliminate rain runoff from the proposed building onto the Green-"All of the rainwater

and all of the rain runoff from the building will be stored in a holding tank," said Drago. "Rain water would be collected from the building, go into this holding tank that is under the surface parking in the rear of the proposed building, and then the excess rainwater will be slowly distributed and reintroduced into the storm water system. Right now there isn't anything like this so all of the rainwater goes down downspouts and eventually makes its way down into the Greenway adding to the existing flooding problems. But as part of this project we'll be harvesting and mitigating all of our rainwater." Due to the projects

close proximity to the Greenway City Realty, a shadow study was conducted and concluded the worst time for shadowing is the winter with the building casting little shadow impact onto the Greenway during the other three seasons. Greenway Council

member Karen Maddelena said her major concern was having only 11

proposed parking spaces "If you could consider having more parking

spaces that would be great," she said.

Drago said the project hopes to take advantage of the city's Compact Living Program so the proposal is limited on how many off-street parking spaces can be included.

"If you are part of this compact living program you are limited to how much parking you can actually have," said Drago. In order to qualify a project for this program, Drago said the proposal has to be walking distance to a train station.

"It is designed to encourage those folks moving here to use other modes of transportation," said Drago. "The developer has to make space available for bike parking--space would otherwise be used for off-street parking. So if you are going to take part in the compact living program you actually are prohibited from having more parking. Now, this is something we wanted to see what people's thoughts were. Obviously, this could evolve over time but if we were to add more parking we would have to remove this project from the compact living program."

SUMP PUMPS FAIL, CAUSING **GREENWAY FLOODING** EAST BOSTON

Members of the Friends of the Mary Ellen Welch (MEW) Greenway reported that two sump pumps that were installed years ago to curb flooding on a section of the Greenway have failed. The failure of the pumps has caused recent flooding on the stretch of the MEW Greenway between the Maverick Street Bridge and Marginal Street after heavy "Both of them failed," said MEW Greenway

member Karen Maddale-Reading from a letter city officials sent to the

group, Maddalena said the Parks Department has ordered the new pumps and is working to fix the problem. Maddalena added the work should take about four to

city's budget last year to

six weeks. 4-COLOR The sump pump fail-Call or Email Your Rep Today! ures came after the Walsh Administration priated \$400,000 in the Reading on a Screen?? Click on Your Rep's name to start sending them an email!

protect the MEW Greenway from sea level rise. A few years back the city purchased a deployable flood wall that can be used to keep storm surge waters from the Harbor from entering the low-lying greenway. However, MEW Gre-

enway member Patricia D'Amore said the latest flooding is not related to sea level rise concerns.

"This flooding has nothing to do with sea level rise....it's the rain," said D'Amore. "Sea level rise is going to be a problem but this other flooding problem is much more immediate. Every time we have a heavy rainstorm we have flooding."

D'Amore said years ago the city identified silted drain pipes as the culprit for rain water flooding. The city corrected the issue and added the sump pumps as an added level of protection but D'Amore expressed her frustration. "It's one thing after

another with the city," she said. "As far as this flooding is concerned, we just can't seem to get it resolved. Every single rainstorm is a problem."

LESS THAN ANTICIPATED

EVICTIONS

of the efforts of Mayor Brian Arrigo and well-executed rental assistance and mortgage assistance programs through a partnership with the Metro Housing agency, Revere had fewer evictions than other communities in the state during the COVID-19 health crisis in 2020.

It's a piece of good news in what has been a huge worry for elected officials and advocates over the past several months, with many worrying that joblessness as a result of the pandemic could lead to massive numbers of people without homes. So far, that hasn't come true in the official stats, to relief of everyone.

In Housing Court, to begin an eviction process one must file a Summary Process Eviction for non-payment of rent. It is a standard process for most landlords and tenants, but the process has frozen until last fall when Housing Court opened back up for evictions in October. Worcester led the state

with 874 filings as of Jan. 1 for all of 2020. Springfield had 711. Fall River had 604 and Brockton had 315. Lynn had 286. All were well above Revere's numbers (154). Chelsea had 129. Mayor Brian Arrigo

ber of eviction filings to "a rental assistance program and a mortgage assistance program that's been really helpful."

Arrigo has coordinated the administration's efforts on rental assistance with Valentina Moreno, the city's housing stability officer.

"She has done amazing work in terms of getting residents and tenants connected with our program," lauded Arrigo. "That rental assistance program was done as a partnership with Metro Housing and we've worked with them to be able to provide assistance to residents. The way that assistance works is that the rent goes directly to the landlord.

"Essentially, the landlord is forgiving the rent because we're paying it on the tenants' behalf, and the deal is that if the landlord takes that, they cannot evict that tenant," explained Arrigo.

Arrigo said people on all sides of the issue appear to be pleased with the results.

"It's worked out really well," added Arrigo. "The landlords are happy because they're getting rent. People who are paying rent are happy because their rent is getting paid. And we're happy because people aren't getting evicted."



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LOCAL STUDENTS EARN ACADEMIC HONORS

EVERETT STUDENTS RECEIVE HONORS AT MYSTIC VALLEY REGIONAL CHARTER SCHOOL

Mystic Valley Regional Charter School recently released its second quarter Honor Roll for the 2020-2021 academic year. All in all 327 MVRCS students in grades 7-12 achieved either High Honor Roll or Honor Roll Recognition. Twenty nine men and women hailing from Everett were part of the list. To be on the Honor Roll a student needs to finish the quarter with no grade lower than a B-, to be on the High Honor Roll a student needs to finish the quarter with no grade

lower than an A-. Since its inception in 1998, Mystic Valley Regional Charter School has educated students from the communities of Everett, Malden, Medford, Melrose, Stoneham and Wakefield. The school has nearly 1,600 students in grades K-12 and strives tirelessly to deliver a world-class education characterized by a well-mannered, disciplined and structured academic climate. Located in Malden, MVCRS has an extensive character education program as well for students in all grades, incorporating core values and fundamentals ideals of American Culture

embodied in the Declaration of Independence and United States Constitution. MVRCS is proud to be the lone public school in Greater Boston to offer a 5-day in-person learning option.

Honor Roll Students from Everett

High Honor Roll

Grade 12: Janae Green, Rachel Silva.

Grade 8: Lily Van Campen, Kevin Capa, Vy Nguyen, Lucas Santos, Victor De Souza.

Grade 7: Brady Capa, Rihanna Closeil, Elijah DeTore.

Honor Roll

Grade 12: Aidan Casey, Bryant Nguyen, Crystal Truong.

Grade 11: Brandon Paris. Grade 10: Sofia Blandi-

no, Amira Harda. Grade 9: Eva Bou-

dreau, Joshua DeSouza,

Ava Green, Esther Souza, Eva Truong. Grade 8: Laila Graham, Emerson Lyons, Corey Meady, Keira Michenzie,

Hannah Mulugheta. Grade 7: Mohammed Daoud, Olivia Laidlaw,

Zion Presume.

LOCAL STUDENTS NAMED TO HOLY CROSS' DEAN'S LIST

WORCESTER, MA (02/05/2021)-- A total of 1,453 students were named to College of the Holy Cross' Dean's List

for outstanding academic achievement during the fall semester of the 2020-21 academic year. The following local students made the list:

Julianna Lopez-Picardi of Everett, a member of the Class of 2021, majoring in History

Angelo Carbone of Everett, a member of the Class of 2022, majoring in Political Science

Dennis Ryan of Everett, a member of the Class of 2023, majoring in Unde-Ralph Carbone of Ever-

ett, a member of the Class of 2024, majoring in Undeclared To qualify for the

Dean's List, students must pass four or more letter-graded courses with no failing grades during the semester and earn a GPA of 3.5 or higher.

About Holy Cross

The College of the Holy Cross, in Worcester, Mass., is among the nation's leading liberal arts institutions. A highly selective, four-year, exclusively undergraduate college of 3,100 students, Holy Cross is renowned for offering a rigorous, personalized education in the Jesuit, Catholic tradition. Since its founding in 1843, Holy Cross has made a positive impact in society by graduating students who distinguish themselves as thoughtful leaders in business, professional and civic life.

LOCAL RESIDENTS **RECEIVE ACADEMIC HONORS**

Northeastern University is pleased to recognize those students who distinguish themselves academically during the course of the school year. The following students were recently named to the University's dean's list for the Fall semester, which ended in December 2020.

To achieve the dean's

list distinction, students must carry a full program of at least four courses, have a quality point average of 3.5 or greater out of a possible 4.0 and carry no single grade lower than a C-during the course of their college career. Each student receives a letter of commendation and congratulation from their college dean. In addition to achiev-

ing distinction through the dean's list, these students are members of the University Honors Program, which offers high caliber students the chance to further hone their studies and interests, live in special interest residential communities, participate in enriched, interdisciplinary courses, and engage in research and creative endeavors, service, and global experiences. Invitation into the University Honors Program is highly competitive and students must maintain a high GPA to maintain membership. * Everett resident

Christan Berlus, majoring in pharmacy

* Everett resident Haoming Zhu, majoring in architecture

* Everett resident Adrian Velasquez, majoring in business administration

About Northeastern

Founded in 1898, Northeastern is a global research university and the recognized leader in experience-powered lifelong learning. Our world-renowned experiential approach empowers our students, faculty, alumni, and partners to create impact far beyond the confines of discipline, degree, and campus.

Our locations-in Boston; the Massachusetts communities of Burlington and Nahant; Charlotte, North Carolina; London; the San Francisco Bay Area; Seattle; Toronto; and Vancouver-are nodes in our growing global university system. Through this network, we expand opportunities for flexible, student-centered learning and collaborative, solu-

tions-focused research. Northeastern's comprehensive array undergraduate graduate programs-in on-campus, online, and hybrid formats-lead to degrees through the doctorate in nine colleges and schools. Among these, we offer more than 140 multidisciplinary majors and

degrees designed to prepare students for purposeful lives and careers.

CRAFTS NAMED TO FALL 2020 **DEAN'S LIST AT** SAINT MICHAEL'S COLLEGE

Named to the Dean's List at Saint Michael's College for the Fall 2020 semester was Molly Crafts, a senior music / education studies major from Everett and a graduate of Pope John XXIII High School.

About Saint Michael's

College Saint Michael's College, founded in the great Catholic intellectual tradition, which also recognizes the principles of social justice and compassion, is a selective, fully residential Catholic college in Vermont's beautiful Green Mountains. Our closely connected community delivers internationally-respected liberal arts and graduate education near Burlington, one of the country's best college towns. To prepare for fulfilling careers and meaningful lives, young adults here grow intellectually, socially, and morally, learning to be responsible for themselves, each other and their world.

OBITUARIES

James Conti

Retired Everett Police Officer

resident, entered into eternal rest on Monday, February 1 in the Cambridge Health Alliance-Everett Hospital after a brief illness. He was 95 years old. Born in East Boston,

James V. Conti,

a lifelong Everett

he was a police officer for the City of Everett retiring after many years of faithful service protecting and serving the Everett community. He was a US Army veteran of WWII and a very skilled carpenter working in many homes and businesses in and around the Everett

Jim was a life member of the Saugus-Everett Lodge of Elks, #642, the Disabled American Veterans and the American Legion.

The beloved husband of the late Maureen C (Crafts), he was the dear and devoted father of James R. Conti and Carol Ann Stevenson of Everett and Michael Conti and his wife, Kathryn of An-

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dover; brother of the late Joseph Conti, Marguerite Lepore and Robert Conti and his surviving wife, Lillian of Revere; loving grandfather of Katie and Nicholas Conti of Andover and Marnie Stevenson of Lowell. In lieu of flowers, con-

tributions in James' memory to any veterans' charitable organization would be sincerely appreciated. Due to the current restrictions placed on all of us because of COVID-19, services will be held privately for the immediate family. Arrangements are by the Cafasso & Sons Funeral Home, Everett.

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

Commonwealth of Massachusetts releases updated notice to quit requirement and resources for landlords

Commonwealth of Massachusetts has put new requirements in place for landlords regarding the issuance of notices to quit. The notice to quit is a legal document that formally notifies the tenant that the tenancy will be terminated on a specific date. Effective December 31, 2020 through the end of the COVID-19 state of emergency, landlords must do the following:

1. Together with the notice to quit itself, provide tenants with a completed copy of the Notice to Quit Attestation Form. This form has been developed by the Executive Office of Housing and Economic Development (EOHED) and is available at https://www.mass. gov/doc/landlord-attestation-and-tenant-notice-form-and-translations/download.

2. Submit a copy of the notice to quit to EOHED at https://www.mass.gov/ forms/massachusetts-notice-to-quit-form-submis-

The Attestation From is now a requirement that was developed by the Massachusetts Legislature and it was signed into

law by Governor Baker on December 31, 2020. On the Attestation Form, the landlord must answer three questions:

1. Has the tenant declared that they are covered under the Center for Disease Control and Prevention's order "Temporary Halt in Residential Evictions to Prevent the Further Spread of COVID-19"?

2. Is the unit a "covered dwelling" as defined in the federal Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act ("CARES Act")?

3. Are there existing agreements between the tenant and landlord related to the repayment of overdue rent?

If the answer to any of the above questions is "yes," special restrictions may apply to eviction of the tenant. By completing and submitting the Attestation Form, landlords can help ensure that their eviction actions are in compliance with state and federal law. The Massachusetts

Housing Court and District Court have issued updated orders telling landlords what they need to do to start an eviction action by filing a summary process complaint effective January 25, 2021. Under these orders:

• The courts will not accept a summary process filing for nonpayment of rent without an Affidavit of Compliance confirming that the tenants were given the required Attestation Form. The landlord must

sign this form "under the penalties of perjury." This means that false statements may be subject to criminal penalties, including fines or imprisonment. • The courts will rely on

the Affidavit of Compliance to determine whether to accept a summary process filing. Landlords may be

asked to provide the court or the tenant evidence of delivery of the Attestation

There are additional resources available for landlords. Landlords who own less than 2- units of housing may apply directly for the state's assistance programs (RAFT/ERMA) on behalf of their tenants. It is very important landlords coordinate with tenants before they apply for RAFT/ERMA. Landlords must obtain and submit a signed tenant consent form before applying for assistance. New free or low-cost legal assistance is now available for income-eligible owner-occupants of homes with

rental units. Com-Massachusetts munity Mediation Centers are offering free precourt mediation between landlords and tenants for COVID-19 related lease disputes in addition to the summary process cases referred through the courts. To find your local Community Mediation Center across the state check out www.resolutionma.org/ housing.

More information on resources available through the Eviction Diversion Initiative is available at www.mass.gov/ CovidHousingHelp. Additionally, further information regarding this topic, including instructions for completing the Attestation Form and links to applicable law and regulation, is available at www.mass. gov/noticetoquit.

OBITUARIES

Effective Jan. 1, 2021 All obituaries and death notices

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Includes photo. No word Limit. Please send to

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All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act of 1968, which makes it illegal to advertise any preference, limitation or discrimi nation based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status (number of children and or pregnancy), national origin, ancestry, age, marital status, or any inten tion to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination.

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CHURCH News

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 Cre-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

Each Thursdays' adoration

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

S.M.A. Parochial Vicar; Secretary Barbara Can-

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

12:15 p.m. Spanish Community

Mass), 11:00 a.m., and

5:30 p.m.

4:00 p.m. Haitian Com-

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.

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

Book - We have a new Fundraiser Program in the back of the Church. It's called Bring a Book-Buy a Book. All books are a dollar and any money collected will go towards our Stain Glass Fund. Brink a Book and Buy a Book and make a donation. Our selections are great and varied. Please stop by the table and see what we have Thank you

Immaculate Conception Parish 489 Broadway

Everett, Mass 02149 Phone 617-389-5660

Glendale Christian Lighthouse Church

News and Notes

Sunday 10:30 AM Worship service.

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

"Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters," Colossians 3:23

Zoom.

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ness, Faith, Love, Truth **GLENDALE CHRISTIAN LIGHTHOUSE CHURCH 701 BROADWAY** EVERETT. **MASSACHUSETTS** 02149 617-387-7458 Rev. Larry Russi, Sr. **Pastor** pastorlarry@ thelighthousechurch701.net

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 www.everettcan.com to request any additional

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 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 auestions. 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 Pastor's Office Hours:

Saturdays 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Other times by appoint-

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

We are on the Internet

http://www.glendaleumc-everett.org **Glendale United Methodist Church Pastor David Jackson** 392 Ferry Street (across from Glendale Towers) Please enter the church by the driveway on Walnut Street 617-387-2916 PastorDavid.Jackson58@gmail.com **Pastor's Office Hours:** Saturdays 10 AM to 2 PM. Other times by appointment.

Everett's Professional Service Directory

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EAST BOSTON NEIGHBORHOOD HEALTH CENTER HOLDS COVID-19 VACCINE CLINIC FOR PATIENTS AT NEIGHBORHOOD PACE LOCATION

Last Thursday area residents took advantage of the vaccination clinic hosted by EBNHC at the Revere PACE site on Garofalo Street. Residents who meet the state criteria can currently be vaccinated. All are encouraged to make appointments and come down and receive the vaccine.



Rita Krassnoff receives her first dose of the vaccine.



Volunteers administering were (left to right) John Benecchi, DMD, Adrienne Maguire RN and School Nurse in Revere, Lauren Buck, Public Health Director for the City of Revere, and Revere resident Kathy Savage, NP for Element Care SCO program.



Gloria Torre, 93, gets ready to receive her first dose of the Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine



Revere's Paul Saintil receives the first dose of the Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine.





Mariela Cardona receives her first shot of the COVID-19 vaccine with her son.



Revere School Committee member Michael was on hand during the event.

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Revere's Louis Krassnoff receives his vaccine.

Cases of COVID-19 show dramatic drop in February

The numbers of COVID-19 cases in Everett backed off in a major way last week after the major post-holiday surge seemed to be firmly in the rearview mirror, going down from the 600 range a week in January to less than 200 this past week.

This week, there were 136 cases throughout the week, which was down from more than 200 last week. It showed a continued steady decline and brought case numbers back into last summer's lower case numbers. It comes as most all hospital

employees at CHA Everett, most first responders in Everett and an initial round of 75-plus year olds have been vaccinated.

The most recent numbers are as follows:

- •Tuesday, Feb. 9 9 •Monday, Feb. 8 - 8
- •Monday, Feb. 8 − 8 •Sunday, Feb. 7 − 31
- •Saturday, Feb. 6 27
- •Friday, Feb. 5 20
- •Thursday, Feb. 4 − 11 •Wednesday, Feb. 3 − 7
- •Tuesday, Feb. 2 23 On Monday, Jan. 4, Ev

On Monday, Jan. 4, Everett moved its testing fulltime 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.

Additionally, there is a new testing resource for Everett residents only via the Mass General COVID-19 testing van. The van is located every Thursday at the Norwood Street Parking Lot in Everett Square. The hours are from 8 a.m. to noon and proof of Everett residency is required. Updates on the van are posted on the Kraft Community Health website.

