





The overall goal this spring and summer – if the project is approved by the City's Conservation Com-

The genesis of the project comes from federal funding for the North American Wetlands Con-

Christoffersen said, if approved, they hope to begin removal of the invasive species this spring, and start planting new species in the summer and through next year.

"That's a lot of retirements for us in a short period of time," said the Chief. "We didn't start

"If anybody has been walking in Everett, espe-

Meanwhile, in Chelsea, their nip bottle ban has held up last year to an appeal at the Alcoholic Beverages Control Commission (ABCC) last summer. No appeal in Superior Court was ever filed to protest that ruling. Meanwhile, late last month, the Attorney General's Office approved the nip bottle ban in Falmouth — a further victory for the Chelsea ban, which was the first all-out ban of the sale of nips in the state. City officials there focused the ban on improving public health and public drinking, and early statistics show it has made a difference.

“The mayor doesn’t

By all accounts, things weren't looking great for Council President Wayne Matewsky last Friday following surgery in Florida. He had been in critical condition for days, and things weren't reversing fast.

Councilor Anthony DiPierro said Matewsky was doing better than expected and had improved significantly over last weekend. He was not expected to be able to return anytime soon, but now that has seemingly changed. Once back, it was expected he would have a long recovery and rehabilitation period in Boston. No one is sure when he'll return to the Council, but his health situation has certainly improved since last Friday.

SkyZone Everett's ex-

tended hours are in effect Monday through Friday, and stretch from 11 a.m. to 9 p.m.

teams applied for grants. Of these, MAPC and an advisory committee of lo-

For more information, visit [www.mapc.org/covid19-art](http://www.mapc.org/covid19-art). Reach out the

“Art has always had the power to help heal, especially during these trying times,” said Valletta. “Using the power of film and multimedia, GBAC looks forward to creating a piece dedicated to the communities hit hardest by the virus. Our goal is to encourage everyone to come together for this last push, allowing us all to come out on the other side safer, refreshed and renewed.”





## Boston Market // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

doing things. That, however, doesn't come without some feelings of loss for their old facility across the street that has become an institution for the critical food distribution infrastructure on the Everett/Chelsea line.

"It is bittersweet," he said. "It was a luxury to have the proximity and space and the rail siding for all those years. We're fortunate; we kept everyone employed during the pandemic. We've been able to keep things going with the odds against us and with most of the restaurants closed this past winter. We have now relocated to a state-of-the-art facility in Chelsea – really only about 500 feet from the old Terminal. The blessing here is it did drive us to get more efficient and we're now state-of-the-art with food safety. Once we get everything figured out and situated we'll be fine."

The Boston Market Terminal is a critical infrastructure piece for the regional food supply, and many don't realize the reach of the Terminal or the New England Produce Center nearby – and how essential it is and has been for so many years. Piazza said they have customers as far north as the Canadian Maritime Provinces and as far south as Connecticut – as well as everything in between.

They have customers



The new Community-Suffolk warehouse will house the former owners of the Boston Market Terminal, but on the Chelsea side of Market Street.

as small as the bodegas in Chelsea, and the corner stores in Everett, to the large supermarkets like Big Y in Western Massachusetts and Hannaford Supermarkets throughout New England – as well as the Stop & Shop companies too.

The Terminal operates mostly when residents of Everett and Chelsea are fast asleep, which is probably why so few realize the importance of the industry in the area. Piazza said they start up daily around midnight, getting everything in and out as fast as they can. By noon or 1 p.m., their day is completed and everyone goes home just as massive deliveries of wholesale fruits and vegetables fan out across the region and into Canada for restaurants,

supermarkets and retail stores.

Piazza said he is confident the old Terminal will be done first-class by The Davis Companies for last-mile or any other warehouse use. For them, the sadness of leaving the old place is replaced by the positivity of having a clean, new facility that will operate more efficiently and pinpointed – and just as the food industry begins to come out of the pandemic winter that shuttered so many Terminal customers.

"It was bittersweet for everybody," he said. "Many tenants were here a long time, and especially when you're over 50 you don't want to learn something new. But we're in a good place now and in a fantastic new facility."

## COVID-19 case numbers stay about the same from last week

By Seth Daniel

The numbers of COVID-19 cases in Everett has levelled off per week at between 100 and 130 each week.

This week there were 119 new cases reported, which was up slightly from 103 cases last week. Two weeks ago there were 122 cases, and that has pretty much been the trend for the last two months.

The most recent numbers are as follows:

- Tuesday, April 13 - 23
- Monday, April 12 – 7

- Sunday, April 11 – 19
- Saturday, April 10 – 14
- Friday, April 9 – 5
- Thursday, April 8 – 22
- Wednesday, April 7 – 23
- Tuesday, April 6 – 6

On Monday, Jan. 4, Everett moved its testing full-time indoors at the Samuel Gentile Recreation Center on Elm Street. Testing is done Monday to Thursday, 7 a.m. to 1 p.m., and then 2 p.m. to 7 p.m. On Friday and Saturdays, testing is done noon to 6 p.m. It was announced this

week that the Rec Center test site will remain open until June 30.

Additionally, there is also a 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.

## DiPierro makes case for safer streets

Staff Report

Since his tenure in office first began, Ward 3 City Councilor Anthony DiPierro has been pushing for traffic calming measures in the City of Everett.

In 2016, the state legislature passed the Municipal Modernization Act, giving cities and towns the authority to reduce speed limits to 25 MPH in thickly settled districts in the interest of public safety.

In a community as densely populated as Everett, the argument that the entire city is a thickly settled district could certainly be made. Earlier this year, neighboring Malden



Councilor Anthony DiPierro.

implemented a city-wide speed limit of 25 MPH and DiPierro is hoping to do the same.

Over the past couple of months, DiPierro has been working closely with Ser-

geant Joseph Gaff of the Everett Traffic Commission to implement the reduced speed limit.

"My goal here is to educate those that drive in and through our community that 30 MPH is simply too fast on most streets in a densely populated city like Everett and hopefully make our streets safer in doing so," he said. "Sergeant Gaff and I have been discussing how to effectively implement the measure without adversely affecting our residents and I look forward to his recommendations."

The measure is slated to be discussed at the April 21 meeting of the Everett Traffic Commission.

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# The COVID-19 Vaccine: Safe & Effective

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# Everett

## Independent

President: Stephen Quigley

Editor in Chief: Cary Shuman

## NUMB TO THE NUMBERS

With just about all of the states now reopening their economies, the conventional wisdom among most Americans is that the worst days of the coronavirus are behind us.

Yet the reality is that hundreds of Americans continue to die and tens of thousands more are contracting the disease each and every day.

This past Monday, April 12, for example, the New York Times -- which gets its data from Johns Hopkins University -- reported that 476 Americans died from the virus and that there were 72,286 new cases on that day. Admittedly, these numbers pale in comparison to the 3000 Americans who were dying and the 300,000 new cases that were being reported each day at the pandemic's height this past winter.

But even these lower daily figures still are huge, rivaling the numbers that were in evidence last spring and summer.

Yet despite the ongoing tragedies of friends and family members across the country who are succumbing to the pandemic, there has been a complacency developing among most Americans about the virus.

To be sure, all of us are suffering from virus fatigue, attributable to the quarantining, restrictions, and omnipresent fear of catching the disease.

In addition, with the vaccine rollout proceeding ahead of projections, most of us believe that the worst is behind us.

And while that may be true, we still have a rough road ahead. With the announcement earlier this week that the one-and-done Johnson & Johnson vaccine is linked to serious side-effects in a tiny number of recipients, the national vaccination program will be facing a slowdown.

More ominously, the so-called United Kingdom variant of the virus now is the dominant case-type in the U.S. -- and that variant has been shown to be 60% more contagious AND 67 percent more deadly.

Even more worrisome, the variants that have been attributable to Brazil and South Africa are thought to be more resistant to vaccine-efficacy AND have been shown to reinfect persons who previously had caught the disease.

The arithmetic is this: More Americans still are dying each and every week from the coronavirus than were killed on 9/11. Let that sink in for a moment.

For those of us who like to compare the fight against COVID-19 to a war, the proper analogy to WWII is this: We may have won the war in Europe (V-E Day was on May 8), but American troops still were fighting and dying in the Pacific in epic battles on Iwo Jima and Okinawa.

To paraphrase Winston Churchill, we are not at the end of this pandemic and, in view of the huge numbers we are seeing nationwide, we may not even be at the beginning of the end.

Although we may be at the end of the beginning, it is premature to let our guard (which is to say, our masks) down.

The reality that we all must acknowledge is this: We still have a long way to go before we can declare victory over COVID-19.

## Your opinions, please

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

# Everett

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# Independent Forum

## GUEST OP-ED

## Don't let pandemic delay advance care planning

By Catherine Duffy, NP, ACHPN

*Note: This article is published in observance of National Healthcare Decisions Day.*

Times of our lives may be forever defined as what happened "before the COVID-19 pandemic" and everything after that.

One thing that hasn't changed is the importance of having conversations with your family and health care professionals about your preferences for medical care if you were unable to speak for yourself.

In fact, the pandemic has only highlighted why it's so important. Patients and family members who had advance care planning discussions prior to the pandemic are prepared when faced with a serious illness or medical crisis. They're comfortable shar-

ing these discussions with healthcare professionals, as in, "IF mom gets COVID-19, and IF it is severe, she would/would not want X, Y, or Z."

Unfortunately, few families are that well prepared. Only one-third of U.S. adults have discussed or completed advance directive documents such as a health care proxy, power of attorney, or living will that help guide family members and health care professionals as to what kind of medical treatments you would or would not like to receive if you were unable to speak for yourself.

•Don't wait for a crisis

One of the biggest challenges I've seen during the pandemic is working with families who have not had any in-depth advance care planning discussions. Whether due to

COVID-19 or some other illness, their loved one's health suddenly was declining, and they had not been able to spend much time together because of the pandemic. Perhaps the patient lived in a facility with visitor restrictions or the patient limited visits out of infection concerns. The patient's decline SEEMED sudden to the family, who was not seeing it happen as they normally would over days, weeks, and months. It was hard for them to believe, and thus hard to think in that moment about the crucial need for advance care planning conversations.

Many older adults have vision, hearing, or cognitive deficits and in-depth conversations over the phone or video are difficult. And video chats are not the same as in-person

discussions. The conversation flow is different and there often are technical issues to overcome.

It is never too early to start thinking and talking about your wishes for care if your health status were to change. Choose a health care agent wisely who will be your voice when you cannot speak for yourself and have those important discussions about health care preferences before a crisis occurs.

The COVID-19 pandemic opened a lot of eyes about advance care planning. Giving guidance to your family and friends will help you get the care that you want. Your loved ones can feel confident they are voicing YOUR wishes, not their guesses!

*Catherine Duffy, NP, ACHPN, is a palliative care nurse practitioner at Care Dimensions.*

## GUEST OP-ED

## Mask wearing in America

put them on. The business owner has the freedom to require a mask. The airlines have the freedom to require masks. The religious assembly has the freedom to require you to wear a mask. People with whom you socialize may ask that you wear a mask. Of course, you are free to not patronize those businesses, forsake religious assembly and not hang out with certain people.

You are free to go maskless if you want to. However, you aren't free to be in someone else's face without a mask if they don't want you there without one. There are many places where you aren't allowed to smoke. There are some businesses that will not allow your pet. They have the freedom to refuse you service and you have the freedom to go somewhere else. This

is America.

We've all been to the funeral home around sick people. A dear friend of mine eulogized a funeral in late November. Two people were in attendance who had Covid-19. He caught the virus and was dead by mid-December. He spent his last two weeks of life isolated in intensive care. He meant well in trying to help out a family in their time of grief. It cost him his life. He had been very active and healthy.

I've spoken in churches and to groups where people would come up and shake my hand and then say, "Well, I've been sick, but I came anyway." They acted like they should have received a trophy for coming and contaminating everyone. In reality, their actions were inconsiderate of everyone else's

health.

State governments may remove mask mandates. However, keep in mind that business owners still have the right to require masks. Churches still have the right to require masks. You don't have to let anyone in your home without a mask if you choose.

We have freedom in America to make choices - all of us.

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

## LETTERS to the Editor

ter place to live, work and raise a family.

**Councilor-at-large  
Gerly Adrien**

## MAYORS URGE BAKER TO GIVE ALL ADULTS VACCINE IN 20 HARDEST-HIT COMMUNITIES

We, the undersigned mayors and municipal managers, respectfully urge Governor Baker immediately to allow all distributors of COVID-19 vaccines in the 20 most vulnerable communities in Massachusetts to offer them to all residents over 18 years of age -- or 16 in the case of Pfizer -- without any other restrictions related to age or medical condition.

Another strategy would be to make all household members immediately eligible for vaccination when any single member of that household is eligible.

Despite initial challenges, the system set up by the Commonwealth has helped us to achieve one of the highest rates of

vaccination in the country. We also appreciate that the Administration has specifically designated 20 cities and towns as being at higher risk of COVID, and deserving of additional resources, communication efforts, and vaccines.

Even with these efforts, we still face challenges achieving an equitable distribution of vaccines. Current estimates indicate 39% of white residents in the Commonwealth have received at least one dose per capita, while only 25% of Black and 18% of Latinx residents have done so.[1]

First dose vaccination rates in the 20 communities designated by the Baker Administration as most vulnerable are running, on average, 15% (for Black residents) and 24% points (for Latinx residents) behind the statewide average for white residents. Of course, we expect that similar trends exist in among low-income populations and populations of color in many of the other cities and towns in the Commonwealth, even beyond the 20 communities designated by the Administration.

Public health data indicates we may be headed into another surge, with higher case rates among younger people (16–39 years old), most of whom are not now eligible for vaccination under state guidelines and who represent a larger percentage of residents in the 20 municipalities. While younger people have been less likely to suffer serious complications or die from COVID, they are still at risk of serious illness and longer-term consequences. And they can transmit the disease to unvaccinated individuals.

Once again – as in all previous surges – infection rates are higher in vulnerable urban communities, where residents are poorer, receive lower pay, frequently face more exposure to conditions that lead to illness, and are more likely to be front line workers who are unable to work from home.

One way to counteract these trends would be to press for a faster and higher rate of vaccination in the 20 most vulnerable communities by making

See LETTERS Page 6





CITY OF

EVERETT

Mayor DeMaria

# WHERE CAN I GET VACCINATED IN/AROUND EVERETT?



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### 888 Broadway



\*Call Everett 311 or 617-394-2270 for weekly availability

**\*EVERETT RESIDENTS ONLY**

## State Vaccination Preregistration:

- Multiple locations around Massachusetts.
- <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/preregister-for-a-covid-19-vaccine-appointment>

## East Boston Neighborhood Health Center:

- Locations in Chelsea, Revere, East Boston, and the South End.
- <https://www.ebnhc.org/en/services/covid-19/covid-19-vaccine.html>

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- 185 Centre St. Malden, MA
- 215 Beach St. Malden, MA
- 430 Broadway Revere, MA

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- 1080 Eastern Ave. Malden, MA
- 575 Broadway Malden, MA

**To sign up:**

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**To sign up:**

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# The Thursday Fortnightly Club hosts fundraiser for Mystic Valley Elder Services' Emergency Closet

More than 75 members of The Thursday Fortnightly Club donated hundreds of needed items to Mystic Valley Elder Services' Emergency Closet and brought the items to the Brookline Bank in Medford Square. The donations were overwhelming and due to the generosity of The Thursday Fortnightly Club members, Mystic Valley Elder Services will be able to stock their Emergency Closet with the necessary items.

The Mystic Valley Elder Services' Emergency Closet provides its care managers who work with low-income older adults and adults living with disabilities a place to access new towels, new sheets, new blankets, toiletries, and large print puzzle books for their consumers who need them. Having these items in the agency immediately available can make a huge difference in someone's life and they depend solely on donations.

The Thursday Fortnightly Club has been supportive of the mission and making contributions to MVES for decades.

If you are interested in helping, you can contact the Mystic Valley Elder Services Development office at [development@mves.org](mailto:development@mves.org).



Judy Lonergan, Chairperson of the Thursday Fortnightly Club of Medford gives Dan O'Leary, CEO of Mystic Valley Elder Services, the checks and gift cards also collected from their St. Patrick's Day fundraiser.

Celebrating 100 years of service to the Medford Community, The Thursday Fortnightly Club is a philanthropic group whose mission is to provide philanthropic help to charities within our community. The women normally gather at five events during the year, with two of these events being their

major fundraisers. The women of the Thursday Fortnightly Club have been gathering and raising money since 1920. If you would like more information on the Thursday Fortnightly Club of Medford, you can visit their website at: [www.thursdayfortnightly.org](http://www.thursdayfortnightly.org).



Pictured from left to right: Mark from DPW; Joseph Caira, Brookline Bank and Mystic Valley Elder Services Board Member; Steve, DPW; Judy Lonergan, Chairperson of Thursday Fortnightly; volunteers Rosemary Ardagna, Bobbi Johansen, and Tina Caruso all from Thursday Fortnightly; Jenny Vanasse, Development Director and Dan O'Leary, CEO, both of Mystic Valley Elder Services.

## WynnBET partners with digital sports media publisher Minute Media

WynnBET, the premier casino and sports betting app from the global leader in luxury hospitality, Wynn Resorts, announces a multi-year content marketing and affiliate partnership with leading global technology and digital publishing platform, Minute Media, owner and operator of six global sports and culture brands including The Players' Tribune, FanSided, 90min, and The Big Lead. Under the deal, WynnBET will tap into Minute Media's diverse network of owned brands, media personalities, athlete influencers, and open technology platform to create story-driven content that introduces WynnBET to an average of 60 million monthly users in the United States.

"Minute Media creates and publishes high quality sports-related content, much of it to avoid local audiences, and we are excited about the opportunity to introduce WynnBET to them," said Craig Billings, President of Wynn Resorts. "We also look forward to leveraging our

partnership with Minute Media to jointly create compelling new content for distribution through our combined properties."

WynnBET will benefit from Minute Media's proprietary publishing and multi-channel distribution infrastructure that currently powers over a billion video streams each month. With hundreds of websites integrated into Minute Media's platform, including one for every major professional sports team, the companies will collaborate to produce targeted sports, entertainment, and lifestyle video and audio content that educates bettors using insight from WynnBET's expert bookmakers and explores larger sports industry trends, in-depth features, and team and athlete profiles. Further cross-promotional initiatives will include traditional ads, WynnBET odds integration, social media campaigns, and more.

"We're thrilled to be working with WynnBET on this partnership, which will leverage our proprietary technology,

robust video distribution, and athlete network to drive increased reach and awareness for their business," said Asaf Peled, Founder and CEO of Minute Media. "Together, we look to engage the rapidly growing sports betting audience and to provide them with a unique content experience that they won't get anywhere else."

Minute Media is the second partnership with a major media company for WynnBET, which in February 2021 became the official sports betting partner of Blue Wire Podcasts, an expansive sports audio network with over 140 original shows. The Blue Wire agreement includes the construction of an on-premises podcast studio at Wynn Las Vegas adjacent to its retail race and sportsbook that will host podcast personalities, star athlete guests, and live events.

Moelis & Company acted as exclusive financial advisor to WynnBET on the transaction.

For more information, visit [WynnBET.com](http://WynnBET.com).

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## Letters / CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

all residents immediately eligible for vaccinations if they are over 18 years of age (or 16 for Pfizer).

Since these communities also contain many inter-generational households and still face relatively high infection rates, another strategy would be to make all household members eligible for vaccination if any single member of the household qualifies. Getting as many people as possible vaccinated as soon as possible is imperative to protect our residents.

We recognize that all age groups are expected to be eligible on April 19. However, we also recognize that on that date, millions of residents from throughout the Commonwealth will become eligible, forcing the more vulnerable residents of high-impact communities to compete for a limited number of appointments even as the supply of vaccines grows. Giving the lower-income and more vulnerable residents of these 20 cities and towns a head start would help to ensure earlier access and a faster rate of vaccine

uptake in communities that have already suffered an unconscionable rate of illness and loss. Even after April 19, it will be important to focus efforts on vaccinating groups at higher risk of infection, including lower-income populations and people of color, not only in the 20 communities, but broadly throughout the Commonwealth.

Already more than 40 states across America have expanded vaccine eligibility to all residents over the age of 16 or those in specific locations. Our neighboring state of Rhode Island, which continues to implement age restrictions in most of the state, eliminated age restrictions in more vulnerable postal codes weeks ago. Massachusetts should do the same in the 20 cities and towns the Administration has already designed as the most severely at risk. We feel this would help to accomplish a key Administration goal, which we all share: to ensure that all residents of the Commonwealth, regardless of race, income, or resources, have an equal opportuni-

ty to get vaccinated at the soonest possible time.

SIGNED:

**Robert Sullivan,**  
**Thomas Ambrosino,**  
**Mayor of Brockton**  
**City Manager of Chelsea**

**Carlo DeMaria,**  
**Yvonne Spicer,**  
**Mayor of Everett**  
**Mayor of Framingham**

**James Fiorentini,**  
**Eileen Donoghue,**  
**Mayor of Haverhill**  
**City Manager, Lowell**

**Thomas McGee,**  
**Gary Christenson,**  
**Mayor of Lynn**  
**Mayor of Malden**

**Neil Perry,**  
**Brian Howard,**  
**Mayor of Methuen**  
**Town Manager, Randolph**

**Brian Arrigo,**  
**Joseph Curtatone,**  
**Mayor of Revere**  
**Mayor of Somerville**

**Marc Draisen,**  
**Executive Director,**  
**Metropolitan Area**  
**Planning Council**

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## LOCAL STUDENTS EARN ACADEMIC HONORS

### LOCAL STUDENTS NAMED TO THE DEAN’S LIST AT MCPHS UNIVERSITY

MCPHS University is pleased to announce the students who have been named to the Dean’s List for the Fall 2020 semester:

- \* Mackenzie Cavanaugh is a native of Everett, and is pursuing a Bachelor of Science in Health Sciences. Mackenzie will graduate from the Boston, Massachusetts campus in 2023.
- \* Vy Do is a native of Everett, and is pursuing a Bachelor of Science in Magnetic Resonance Imaging. Vy will graduate from the Boston, Massachusetts campus in 2021.
- \* Keily Perez Bonilla is a native of Everett, and is pursuing a Bachelor of Science in Nursing. Keily will graduate from the Boston, Massachusetts campus in 2023.
- \* Calvin Tran is a native of Everett, and is pursuing a Bachelor of Science in Pre dental-Dental Hygiene. Calvin will graduate from the Boston, Massachusetts campus in 2022.
- \* Sebastian Bernal is a native of Everett, and is pursuing a Bachelor of Science in Premedical and Health Studies. Sebastian will graduate from the Boston, Massachusetts campus in 2024.
- \* Huu Binh Nguyen is a native of Everett, and is pursuing a Doctor of Pharmacy. Huu Binh will

graduate from the Boston, Massachusetts campus in 2025.

- \* Eva Shkreta is a native of Everett, and is pursuing a Doctor of Pharmacy. Eva will graduate from the Boston, Massachusetts campus in 2025.
- \* Jacob Gebru is a native of Everett, and is pursuing a Bachelor of Science in Pharmaceutical Sciences. Jacob will graduate from the Boston, Massachusetts campus in 2021.

The Dean’s List recognizes those students with a full-time course load who have achieved outstanding scholarship with a 3.5 GPA or higher for the academic term.

The mission of MCPHS University is to prepare graduates to advance health and serve communities worldwide through excellence, innovation, and collaboration in teaching, practice, scholarship, and research. Founded in 1823, MCPHS University is the oldest institution of higher education in the City of Boston. In addition to the original Boston campus, the University has campuses in Worcester, Massachusetts, and Manchester, New Hampshire, as well as robust online learning options. The University currently offers more than 100 unique baccalaureate, masters, and doctoral degree programs and certificates covering a variety of health-related fields and professions.

### LOCAL STUDENTS RECEIVE HONORS AT MYSTIC VALLEY REGIONAL CHARTER SCHOOL

Mystic Valley Regional Charter School recently released its third quarter Honor Roll for the 2020-2021 academic year. All in all 325 MVRCS students in grades 7-12 achieved either High Honor Roll or Honor Roll Recognition. Some 27 young 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-.

Honor Roll Students from Everett

High Honor Roll

Grade 12: Crystal Truong.

Grade 10: Sofia Blandino, Amira Hardy.

Grade 9: Niamh Stewart.

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

Grade 7: Brady Capa, Rihanna Closeil, Mohammed Daoud, Alessandro Lau, Zion Presume.

Honor Roll

Grade 12: Janae Green.

Grade 11: Darnelle Felisier, Uyen Nguyen, Ayman Ramzy.

Grade 9: Eva Boudreau, Esther Souza, Eva Truong.

Grade 8: Lucas Freitas, Laila Graham, Keira

Michenzie, Hannah Mugheta.

Grade 7: Elijah De Tore.

### CAROLINE KARAKEY MAKES DEAN’S LIST AT CONNECTICUT COLLEGE

The following student has been named to the Connecticut College dean’s list for the 2020 fall semester:

Caroline Karakey of Everett , 2023, Dean’s High Honors, Undeclared

About Connecticut College

Founded in 1911, Connecticut College is a highly selective private liberal arts college of 1,800 students located on a 750-acre arboretum campus in New London, overlooking Long Island Sound and the Thames River. The College’s mission is to educate students to put the liberal arts into action as citizens of a global society. Through an innovative four-year program, Connections, students integrate every aspect of their experience—from classes to majors to internships to activities to jobs on campus and abroad—into a meaningful pathway that allows them to synthesize different perspectives, solve complex problems, and contribute to the public good. For more information, see [www.conncoll.edu](http://www.conncoll.edu) or find us on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and LinkedIn.

### ERIN BESSLER NAMED TO DEAN’S LIST AT QUINNIPIAC UNIVERSITY

The following local student was named to the dean’s list for the Fall 2020 semester at Quinnipiac University:

Erin Bessler

To qualify for the dean’s list, students must earn a grade point average of at least 3.5 with no grade lower than C. Full-time students must complete at least 14 credits in a semester, with at least 12 credits that have been graded on a letter grade basis to be eligible. Part-time students must complete at least six credits during a semester.

Quinnipiac is a private, coeducational, nonsectarian institution located 90 minutes north of New York City and two hours from Boston. The university enrolls 7,000 full-time undergraduate and 3,000 graduate and part-time students in 110 degree programs through its Schools of Business, Communications, Education, Engineering, Health Sciences, Law, Medicine, Nursing and the College of Arts and Sciences. Quinnipiac is recognized by U.S. News & World Report and Princeton Review’s “The Best 385 Colleges.” The Chronicle of Higher Education has named Quinnipiac among the Great Colleges to Work For(r). For more information, please visit [qu.edu](http://qu.edu). Connect with Quinnipiac

on Facebook at [facebook.com/quinnipiacunews](https://facebook.com/quinnipiacunews) and follow Quinnipiac on Twitter @QuinnipiacU.

### ISAIAH LIKELY NAMED TO THE DEAN’S LIST AT COASTAL CAROLINA UNIVERSITY

More than 2,300 undergraduate students at Coastal Carolina University were named to the Dean’s List for the Fall 2020 semester, including Isaiah Likely a Recreation and Sport Management major from Everett.

Coastal Carolina University is a dynamic, public comprehensive liberal arts institution located in Conway, just minutes from the resort area of Myrtle Beach, S.C.

Coastal Carolina University offers baccalaureate degrees in 94 major fields of study. Among CCU’s graduate-level programs are 27 master’s degrees, two educational specialist degrees, and the doctorates in education and in marine science: coastal and marine systems science. The most popular undergraduate majors are marine science, management, exercise and sport science, communication and psychology. CCU boasts a growing array of internship, research and international opportunities for students, as well as numerous online programs.

## Just-A-Start partners with Cambridge Savings Charitable Foundation to prevent evictions

New rental assistance and affordable housing funding supports families in Metro North cities and towns: Chelsea, Revere, Everett, and Malden

Just-A-Start, a Cambridge-based community development corporation, has partnered with Cambridge Savings Charitable Foundation, the charitable arm of Cambridge Savings Bank (CSB), to support local families with emergency rental assistance and affordable housing. Cambridge Savings Charitable Foundation extended a total of \$90,000 in grants to Just-A-Start; \$50,000 was given in June 2020, and an additional \$40,000 was provided in December 2020, to assist families in Chelsea, Revere, Everett, and Malden with urgent, flexible funding to stabilize their housing.

“As the economic fallout of the pandemic continues, so many community members who have lost income are struggling to pay rent and hold on to their housing,” said Carl Nagy-Koechlin, Executive Director at Just-A-Start. “We’re proud to have doubled the number of households Just-A-Start has assisted since 2019, and we expect the need for services to increase dramatically throughout the coming months. These funds from Cambridge Savings Charitable Foundation have allowed us to quickly and flexibly provide more security and relief to these families.”

Eviction moratoriums defer rental payments for tenants but do not forgive the overall balances, so many households remain on the edge of stability with their past-due amounts growing. Meanwhile, many con-

tractual sources of rental assistance cannot be accessed unless an eviction proceeding is underway, currently leaving families with fewer sources of financial support.

“As a long-time partner of Just-A-Start, we have always believed in the exceptional work they do in the community to support housing accessibility,” said Wayne Patenaude, President and CEO at CSB. “Their efforts to assist the day-to-day living needs of families and to keep them in their homes during the pandemic has been so critical. It is our mission to allocate funds that support our local communities and help keep this important work going through our Charitable Foundation.”

Just-A-Start mediates in housing courts across the Metro North, and the availability of rental assistance is a crucial addition to mediation that can assist both the tenant and the landlord. These flexible, philanthropic funds have already made the difference for households at risk, helping them to avoid eviction and stay in their homes.

In one circumstance, rental assistance helped a family avoid relocating to an emergency shelter in a different town, ensuring that their daughter could finish her senior year at her high school. In another case, a tenant was about to serve as a kidney donor for a family member and if her housing had become destabilized, the hospital would have refused her as an eligible donor. Through mediation and rental assistance, now both families can maintain stable homes as they weather the pandemic.

Tenants in Chelsea, Revere, Everett, and Malden in need of rental assistance may call Just-A-Start at 617-494-0444 to explore available options for support.

About Just-A-Start

Just-A-Start is a community development corporation dedicated to promoting equity by creating access to stable housing and building pathways to economic opportunity. Just-A-Start builds and preserves affordable housing, offers education and workforce training, and provides housing resources and services to people with low- to moderate-incomes in Cambridge and nearby communities. Now in its 52nd year, Just-A-Start serves approximately 3,000 individuals and families annually. For more information, please visit [www.justastart.org](http://www.justastart.org).


About Cambridge Savings Bank

Cambridge Savings Bank is a full-service banking institution with over \$5 billion in assets. As a mutual bank, CSB is committed to improving the quality of life of our employees, customers and the communities we serve. One of the oldest and largest community banks in Massachusetts, Cambridge Savings Bank offers a full line of individual and business banking services across a robust Massachusetts-based branch network and through digital banking solutions for commercial, small business and consumer customers. To learn more about how we can meet your needs, visit us at [cambridgesavings.com](http://cambridgesavings.com), or better yet, come meet us to help you make the most out of your banking relationship.



SL – Extension

Alternatives Analysis



Office of Transportation Planning

Silver Line Extension Alternatives Analysis Virtual Public Meeting

DATE:  
Tuesday, April 27, 2021 - 6:00 PM

LOCATION:  
Virtual Public Meeting (Zoom)

PRE-REGISTER USING THIS LINK  
[MBTA.COM/SLXMEETING](https://mbta.com/slxmeeting)

PROJECT WEBSITE  
[MBTA.com/SLX](https://mbta.com/slx)

Help us determine the future of the Silver Line!

The Silver Line Extension (SLX) Alternatives Analysis is a study to determine the feasibility, benefits, and cost of extending Silver Line service to Everett and the surrounding communities.

**What’s the purpose of this meeting?**

The purpose of this meeting is to present an overview of the project, what we have found so far, and to gather input from the community.


**How can I contribute?**

Opportunities to provide input at the meeting will include: a discussion of the project need, goals, and objectives; the findings so far; and what alignments should be considered connecting Chelsea with Everett, Somerville, Cambridge, and/or downtown Boston. We will seek feedback via online polls during the meeting, and through an online feedback form, available on the project website in the weeks before and after the meeting.

Please pre-register for this meeting using the link. After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting. A recording of the meeting will also be posted for those who are unable to attend. You can also email questions to [SLX@MBTA.com](mailto:SLX@MBTA.com).

To learn more about the SLX Alternatives Analysis, please visit [MBTA.com/SLX](https://mbta.com/slx)

Building a better T.



ACCOMMODATIONS

The public meeting is accessible to people with disabilities and those with limited proficiency in English. Accessibility accommodations and language services will be provided free of charge, upon request, as available. Such services include documents in alternate formats, translated documents, closed captioning, and interpreters. For more information or to request a reasonable accommodation and/or language services, please email [SLX@MBTA.com](mailto:SLX@MBTA.com) or call (617) 651-1363 by April 16.



‘New Light: Encounters and Connections’ highlights MFA’s collection

Spanning cultures and geographies, and sometimes millennia too, “New Light: Encounters and Connections” presents more than 50 works of art from across the MFA’s collection, many of which are on view for the first time. The exhibition is organized into 21 conversations—in each, a contemporary piece that has recently joined the collection is juxtaposed with one or two objects acquired earlier in the Museum’s history.

The contemporary pieces include work by emerging as well as local or Boston-born artists—among them Dana C. Chandler, Jr., Eben Haines, Stephen Hamilton, Tomashi Jackson, Lavaughan Jenkins and Alison Croney Moses. The objects in conversation with these recent additions range from a carving of a princess from ancient Egypt to experimental miniature vases made by French ceramicist Auguste Delaherche. Placed in dialogue, these objects



IMAGE COURTESY OF THE ARTIST.  
Joseph Lewis as Eze Nri (2018), Stephen Hamilton.

old and new invite visitors to explore an array of subjects. A portrait by Stephen Hamilton featuring weaving and dyeing techniques learned in Nigeria engages 20th-century textiles from southwestern Nigeria and Gee’s Bend, Alabama in a meditation on ancestral heritage, while encounters elsewhere address childcare, queer communities and Native resistance, among other topics. Together, these conversations reveal

the potential of every addition to the collection to spark unexpected connections and new narratives.

“New Light: Encounters and Connections” is generously supported by the Callaghan Family Fund for Contemporary Exhibitions. Additional support from the Barbara Jane Anderson Fund, The Bruce and Laura Monrad Fund for Exhibitions, and the Diane Krane Family and Jonathan and Gina Krane Family Fund.

New stamp celebrates Americans love of Coffee

The U.S. Postal Service celebrates America’s love of coffee this month with the issuance of four new stamps. Whether milky, dark as night, sweetened, flavored or highly concentrated, many coffee drinks have one thing in common — they begin with espresso.

This booklet of 20 stamps features four unique designs illustrating popular espresso drinks — espresso, cappuccino, caffè latte and caffè mocha. It may be purchased at usps.com.

Capturing the inviting atmosphere of an early 20th-century café, artist Terry Allen created each digital illustration with the style of 1920s and 1930s advertising posters in mind.

The names of the espresso drinks appear in art deco-inspired lettering above or below each enticing cup.

Art director Greg Breeding designed the stamps with original artwork by Allen.

Espresso drinking in the United States is at an all-time high. With the growing popularity of artisanal coffee shops, extensive research on the roasting and brewing process, and continued innovation in machinery



to make the perfect cup, specialty coffee is better than it has ever been.

When it comes to espresso, most Americans rely on a barista working at a coffeehouse to carefully craft their specialty drink, but at-home espresso machines are also growing in popularity. Whether

a routine part of getting going in the morning or a reason to gather socially at a local café, drinking beverages made with espresso has become increasingly trendy.

Customers may purchase stamps and other philatelic products through the Postal Store at usps.com/shopstamps, by calling 844-737-7826, by mail through USA Philatelic, or at Post Office locations nationwide.

The Postal Service receives no tax dollars for operating expenses and relies on the sale of postage, products and services to fund its operations.

AIR FORCE ROAD  
WATER MAIN REPLACED

Recently, the City of Everett’s Water Department completed the installation of 950ft of 12 inch water main on Air Force Road. These improvements will not only increase water quality, but it will also increase redundancy in the area. The project was completed only by members of the City of Everett’s Water Department.



Above and below are photos of the City of Everett’s Water Department completing the installation of 950ft of 12 inch water main on Air Force Road.

Virtual public hearing on fare evasion regulations April 15

The MBTA will conduct a virtual public hearing on April 15 to hear feedback from riders and stakeholders regarding proposed Fare Evasion Regulations 703 CMR 5.00 to decrease fine levels associated with fare evasion on the MBTA.

As a part of the Fare Transformation project, the MBTA is moving to all-door boarding to make bus, Green Line, and Mattapan Line trolley services faster and more reliable. A key component of this move to all-door boarding is a shift to a fare verification system in which riders carry and present proof that they have paid to use the system. The

Transportation Bond Bill, adopted in January 2021, gave the MBTA the authority to build a team to verify fares and issue fare evasion citations. The Bill also called for the MBTA to set fare citation fine levels through a regulatory, rather than statutory, process. The MBTA has proposed decreasing fine levels from their current minimum of \$100 for a first offense to \$50. Riders and community members can review the proposed regulations (703 CMR 5.00) on the MBTA website.

As a part of the regulatory process, the MBTA will hold a virtual public hearing on April 15

at 6 PM to hear feedback from riders and stakeholders on the proposed regulations. Testimony may be presented orally at the public hearing or in writing. While the MBTA encourages all interested parties to submit testimony in advance of the hearing, written comments will be accepted until 5 PM on Friday, April 30. Written comments must be submitted by email or postal mail to the following address. Email is strongly preferred.

Email: fareregulations@mbta.com  
Postal Mail: Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority  
Attn: Rachel Morse

Office of the General Counsel  
10 Park Plaza, Room 3510  
Boston, MA 02116

Public Hearing Details:  
Thursday, April 15, at 6 PM

For help registering for these virtual public meetings, please call the MBTA Community Engagement team at 857-366-1871.

Any questions can be emailed to fareregulations@mbta.com. The public can learn more about getting involved in the Fare Transformation project by visiting [www.mbta.com/fares/fare-transformation/get-involved](http://www.mbta.com/fares/fare-transformation/get-involved).

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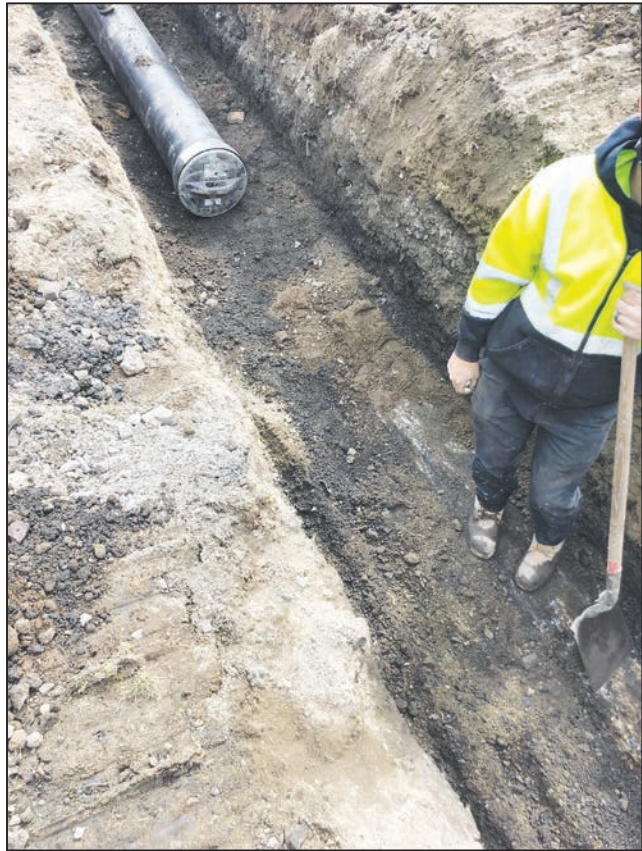
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CITY OF EVERETT  
CELEBRATES NATIONAL  
PUBLIC SAFETY  
TELECOMMUNICATIONS WEEK

Mayor DeMaria proudly celebrated National Public Safety Telecommunications Week to recognize the hard work and diligence of those who serve the City of Everett. The City of Everett provided a meal to each shift at the Everett Emergency Communications Center to express the City's appreciation. "I am grateful for our Emergency Communications Center," said Mayor DeMaria. "Our 911 dispatchers are truly dedicated to helping the community and it is a privilege to recognize for their service." Thank you to Everett's dispatchers for your commitment to safety in our community!



### 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](mailto:editor@everettindependent.com).

The Everett Independent assumes no financial responsibility for typographical errors in advertisements, but will reprint that part of the advertisement in which the error occurs. Advertisers will please notify the management immediately of any errors that may occur.

EHS HOCKEY TEAM HONORS THEIR SENIORS  
AT ALLIED VETERANS MEMORIAL RINK.

Last Tuesday evening the Crimson Tide hockey program honored their 4 senior captains and their families that supported them throughout the 4 years as a member of the team at Everett High School.



Senior Captain Brenden Currie with his parents, Kim and Brian.



Senior Captain Kaleigh Snook with her parents, Tina Oliveri and Chris Snook.



Senior Captain Max Brown with his parents, Darlene and Mike.



Senior Captain Aaron Hickey with his parents, Nina and Drew.

Area child in need of life-saving transplant

With the cost of a life-saving transplant often exceeding \$800,000, most transplant families are unable to shoulder that financial burden. The Children's Organ Transplant Association (COTA) is a national 501(c)3 charity dedicated to organizing and guiding communities in raising funds for transplant-related expenses. In Newburyport, volunteers are raising funds for COTA in honor of transplant patients like local child, Heeth Atanasoff.

Heeth is the son of Molly and Todd Atanasoff. Born in 2012, Heeth was diagnosed with Aplastic Anemia. The

transplant team at Tufts Medical Center in Boston, recommends a life-saving bone marrow transplant. Newburyport volunteers are raising \$100,000 for COTA to assist with transplant-related expenses.

Volunteers are needed for this COTA community campaign. Individuals and groups interested in more information should contact Community Coordinator Kerry Marshall at 978.609.0866 or [kerrymarshall48@gmail.com](mailto:kerrymarshall48@gmail.com).

COTA helps transplant families avoid financial devastation. Transplant procedure costs range from

\$100,000 to more than \$800,000. Once the transplant is complete, families face significant transplant-related expenses, including medication; transportation to and from the transplant center; lodging; and expenses while parents are out of work and often living with the hospitalized child far from home. These out-of-pocket expenses add up to tens of thousands of dollars annually for transplant families with lifetime totals often exceeding \$1,000,000. In cases where a shortfall exists, COTA helps bridge the financial gap.

Heeth's family has asked for assistance from the Children's Organ Transplant Association. One hundred percent of all funds raised for COTA in honor of patients assist with transplant-related expenses.

Contributions may be sent to the Children's Organ Transplant Association, 2501 West COTA Drive, Bloomington, Indiana, 47403. Checks should be made payable to COTA, with "In Honor of Heeths Hope" written on the memo line. Secure credit card gifts are accepted online at [www.COTAforHeethsHope.com](http://www.COTAforHeethsHope.com).

# THE RULES OF GRAVITY WERE MADE TO BE BROKEN

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NEWS FROM AROUND THE REGION

STUDENTS GO BACK TO SCHOOL

CHELSEA - Little Rebecca Guerra Ulloa pressed her face to the school bus as it rounded the corner and pulled into the parking lot of the Mary C. Burke Complex last week just around 8:30 a.m.

Anxious teachers – many of whom had not been back to their classrooms for more than a year since school shutdown for COVID-19 in 2020 – waited for their students coming off the bus.

Ulloa had never actually been to a Chelsea school – having transferred in last year after COVID closed the schools. Though she had about a year of Chelsea schooling under her belt, she had never been in a Chelsea school.

She had never met her teacher, either, except on Zoom.

And so as the bus stopped, the first grader recognized her teacher and when the doors opened, she sprinted as fast as she could to give her teacher a fist bump and revel in the excitement of really meeting and really going to school.

Monday signified the first day that students in special education classes or sub-separate classrooms, who amounted to the first students to return to the schools since last year, came back to school.

They will be going five days a week, with all the protocols and testing procedures in place.

Barring any major setbacks, on April 12, in-person learning will expand to Grades 1-4 at the ELC, Berkowitz, Hooks, Kelly and Sokolowski Schools – plus the grades 5-6 Caminos a the Kelly. It amount to the rollout of a re-opening plan that no one thought would ever happen this year, even as recently as late January.

Last week, the School Committee approved a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) signed

by the Teacher’s Union and the Superintendent.

Supt. Almi Abeyta was at the Berkowitz School Monday morning, and welcomed back students and teachers coming in for their first day.

“Welcome back to in-person teaching to many of our educators,” she wrote in a letter later in the day. “It has been just over a year since we have delivered instruction in-person to our students in the Chelsea Public Schools. It was so nice to see so many teachers and students face-to-face this morning. We saw many smiles underneath the masks, toe bumps, and beautiful teacher-student first moments in-person.”

GOVERNOR TOURS VACCINATION SITE

CHELSEA - Gov. Charlie Baker was the most recent elected official to tour the La Colaborativa/ East Boston Neighborhood Health Center (EB-NHC) vaccination site recently, where he held his COVID press briefing and announced a mobile vaccination program for Chelsea.

Gov. Baker toured the 6th Street Food Pantry with Health Secretary Marylou Sudders and other elected officials before coming to the vaccination site on Broadway to see the operations and give the weekly press briefing.

There, he announced that due to the partnership with the federal FEMA program at the Hynes Convention Center mass vaccination site – announced last week – they would be able to stand up mobile units that would come to Chelsea, Revere, Boston, Fall River and New Bedford.

“Our collaboration with the feds gives us the chance to create a hub and spoke model which means a portion of the vaccine we get from that central hub can be distributed to mobile vaccination units

in nearby communities and pop-up clinics with a focus on vaccine equity,” he said. “Starting next week we’ll be working with local communities to launch mobile vaccination clinics in Chelsea, Revere, Boston, Fall River and New Bedford...These cities were selected based on the CDC’s special mobility index and their proximity to the Hynes. The effort will ramp up but we’ll be able to do 500 vaccines per day in these communities.”

As part of that program, which began this week in Chelsea, the mobile units would pick up the vaccine at the Hynes and then come to Chelsea and set up in a park or parking lot for easy access.

That program is expected to last about eight weeks.

Sec. Sudders announced that Chelsea would get \$150,000 as part of the BEST Value grant program that is awarding \$4.7 million statewide. That money will be used however Chelsea deems it necessary, though it must be used for programming that would further the vaccination efforts.

Meanwhile, she also announced that the 20 COVID equity communities – including Chelsea – will see more than 200 grass-roots organizers hitting the streets to spread awareness and information about vaccination.

“Starting next week more than 200 bi-lingual, locally-hired community organizers will hold 83 outreach events in all 20 of out equity communities,” said Sudders. “There will be door-to-door outreach and business walks. It’s like a political campaign that’s vaccine canvassing. We’ll also support phone banking efforts to help with vaccine registrations.”

EBNHC CEO Manny Lopes indicated that the Chelsea vaccination site would now be able to open seven days a week, and some of the sites operated

THANK YOU, EASTER BUNNY



The Easter Bunny presents Kevin Guarado with a nice Easter basket on Thursday, April 1, at La Colaborativa’s Easter Distribution. The Easter Bunny set up just ahead of the food lines and children were allowed to visit him and get one Easter basket – giving kids who have been through so much a reason to smile. The event was organized by Councilor Melinda Vega Maldonado and School Committee Chair Kelly Garcia, along with many volunteers, and mirrored a similar large event form Christmas.

by EBNHC would also be open 12 hours a day – all furthering the mission of helping people on their vaccine journey.

“Today I’m happy to announce we will expand our efforts at this Chelsea location and at all our locations,” he said. “We will begin operating seven days a week and at some locations 12 hours a day. Although we’re acting as fast as we can, I’d like to take this opportunity to preach patience. Everyone has their own vaccine journey. For some, it will take time and especially in communities like Chelsea where distrust is widespread. Vaccinations in Chelsea isn’t just about ‘yes’ and ‘no,’ it’s about facts, feelings, frustration, family, finances and of course, about fair. Addressing these barriers is what we have in front of us.”

La Colaborativa Director Gladys Vega used the opportunity to call for young people in Chelsea and the Latino community to get vaccinated and protect loved ones.

“I ask those between the ages of 20 and 35 to please make a decision on vaccinating,” she said. “We’ve been doing door knocking and that’s been our biggest challenge – convincing individuals that are 35 and under. They don’t believe in the vaccination, but they believe in parties and having gatherings. I urge you to make that choice and if you’re not able to make that choice, make it for the family member – the grandmother that wants to give you a hug. Do it for the sake of others. This is not a joke. You’ve seen the numbers. You’ve seen how many families have lost loved ones...Don’t be afraid of the vaccination; be afraid of COVID-19 that has taken so many lives away from us.”

•CHELSEA GETTING SHORTED BY THE FEDS

Gov. Baker and others

also touched on the news over the last three weeks with Chelsea getting much less than expected in the federal Rescue Plan last month – much less than more affluent communities, in fact.

He thanked Sen. Sal DiDomenico for his advocacy on the matter, and reiterated they had directed \$100 million to Chelsea and three other communities to try to make up for the shortfall that got past the federal delegation.

“Just this month we worked with local leaders to make sure Chelsea got the funds it deserved from the federal relief package,” said the governor. “As many know, the federal bill passed had restrictions that severely limited dollars that would have gone to some communities hardest hit by COVID, including Chelsea and Everett – both of which are in Sen. Sal DiDomenico’s district.

“So it probably shouldn’t come as a surprise that the first person I heard from at the state level after having conversations with folks at the federal level was Sen. DiDomenico,” he continued. “We very much appreciate the relationship and also the head’s up on that issue.”

Vega said the governor visiting was a dream come true, and thanked him for his quick action on the federal shorting of the City.

“It’s a dream come true to have the governor here; it’s incredible we have his whole team here,” she said. “It’s also incredible he responded to the call for funding. For me I was extremely appalled we didn’t get much funding two weeks ago and when we called the governor’s office and organized – he responded to our call...People kept saying we wouldn’t hear from the governor’s office for about a month, but you responded in days...It’s an

incredible day for Chelsea. It’s hopeful because we now have resources to work with.”

PRESSLEY VOLUNTEERS AT FOOD BANK

EAST BOSTON - As a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, as many as 25 million adults and 10 million children may not always have access to nutritious food.

The newly adopted “American Rescue Plan” is providing millions of dollars nationwide to food distribution sites that have been on the front lines combating hunger throughout the pandemic.

One of these sites, the East Boston Community Soup Kitchen (EBCSK), was forced to shift gears, and reinvent itself in the age of COVID and social distancing.

Since the start of the pandemic, EBCSK stopped serving in-person meals on Tuesdays at Our Saviour’s Lutheran Church and became a busy food distribution site for the homeless and those in need of a hot meal on Mondays and Tuesdays.

With generous support through community donations, Boston Resiliency Fund grants and now aid from the American Rescue Plan, EBCSK has been able to continue its mission in Eastie.

Last Tuesday afternoon U.S. Congresswoman Ayanna Pressley visited EBCSK to talk to volunteers and see first hand the impact the American Rescue Plan is having on a local level.

Pressley spent the afternoon not only talking with volunteers but being a volunteer herself. Pressley rolled up her sleeves and got to work helping EBCSK package meals for distribution as well as loading prepared meals that would be deprived around Eastie.

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# RMV implementing grace period for certain expired inspection stickers

Due to the nationwide system outage of motor vehicle inspection services by its vendor Applus Technologies (Applus) impacting inspection stations and motor vehicle owners, the Massachusetts Registry of Motor Vehicles (RMV) is allowing a grace period for specific motor vehicle inspection requirements outlined below. The RMV is working in close partnership with the Executive Office of Public Safety and Security (EOPSS), the Massachusetts Chiefs of Police Association (MCOA), the Massachusetts State Police (MSP) and other stakeholders to mitigate the impacts of the outage.

The RMV continues to urge Applus to safely and swiftly restore services and provide additional information on the extent of the outage’s impact, which began on Tuesday, March 30. The three-phase process required to return the MA Vehicle Check program to full service that is secure and

safe has been in progress. These phases are 1) Remediation (completed), 2) Restoration and System Testing (current phase), and 3) Go-Live and Post-Go-Live Support. The restoration phase, which is the current phase, involves a deliberate and methodical resetting of Applus Technologies’ IT environment and will take some time to restore the safety and emissions stations to testing capabilities fully. Based on recent conversations, inspections were not performed Monday, April 5, Tuesday, April 6, Wednesday, April 7, Thursday, April 8, or Friday, April 9.

“The RMV shares the frustrations and disappointment with the tremendous inconvenience Applus’s outage is causing and recognizes the significant impacts on customers and business owners across the Commonwealth,” said Acting Registrar of Motor Vehicles Colleen Ogilvie. “The RMV remains committed

to its efforts to ensure Applus makes Massachusetts a priority in quickly and safely returning the inspection program to operation.”

The RMV is allowing a grace period for certain expired motor vehicle inspections. The RMV has advised law enforcement that compliance with the safety/emissions inspection requirement has not been possible since March 30, in

light of the outage caused by the malware attack against Applus.

- Motor vehicles with expired inspection stickers from March 2021 (“3” sticker on windshield) should be granted until April 30, 2021, to obtain an inspection.
- Vehicles newly purchased or registered on or after Tuesday, March 23, 2021, should be granted until April 30, 2021, to obtain an inspection. Newly

purchased vehicles must typically be inspected within seven (7) days of registration.

- Customers who recently had an inspection rejection and are in the 60-day free retest window will be afforded one extra day for each day Applus’s system remains unavailable but should plan to facilitate their inspection as soon as possible once the system is restored and stations are online.

The RMV is taking these and other steps to mitigate the impacts of Applus’s outage. Additionally, the RMV, in partnership with the Department of Environmental Protection, has formally notified Applus that it is in breach of its contract and is exploring all possible remedial measures pursuant to the terms of the contract as Applus works to restore service as expeditiously as possible.

## MBTA Extends Five-day Flex Pass on mTicket

The MBTA this week announced updates to current fare pilots that include an extension of the Five-day Flex Pass on mTicket, as well as upcoming fare change proposals that include improvements to the Youth Pass and converting all Outer Express Bus Routes to Inner Express Bus fares. These changes help to improve reduced fare programs and simplify complex fares for both customers and operations.

“We’re pleased to temporarily extend the availability of the Five-day Flex Pass, which has been a popular fare option for our Commuter Rail riders as travel patterns have adjusted and evolved during the pandemic,” said MBTA General Manager Steve Poftak. “We’re also excited about our upcoming fare proposals that make improvements to the Youth Pass and Express Bus Route fares. If approved by the FMCB next month, these proposals – converting all Outer Express Bus Routes to the lower Inner Express Bus fare, and providing Youth Pass users with reduced fares on Commuter Rail, Express Bus, and ferries – will allow the MBTA to continue to meet the needs of riders through incremental fare improvements that matter now more than ever as we enter the ‘new normal’.”

Fare Pilot Updates

MBTA staff announced that the Five-day Flex Pass will be extended, the Lynn Zone 1A Fare Pilot will end on June 30, as previously planned, and Quincy Center Station’s Zone 1A fare designation will end June 30:

- Five-day Flex Pass: An attractive option for riders with in-person work schedules limited by the pandemic, the Five-day Flex Pass has continued to serve Commuter Rail riders with over 5,600 passes sold through March 2021. The Five-day Flex Pass will continue to be available on mTicket for 90 days following the end of the Commonwealth’s state of emergency.
- Lynn Zone 1A Fare Pilot: Zone 1A fares were piloted in Lynn to relieve crowding on nearby buses and improve social distancing and safety during the COVID-19 pandemic. Based on ridership data and surveys of Lynn riders, it was found that the Lynn Zone 1A Fare Pilot has not reduced crowding on nearby bus routes. As a result, this fare pilot will end June 30, as previously announced with Lynn Station returning to a Zone 2 fare beginning July 1.
- Quincy Center Zone 1A mitigation: Zone 1A fares were temporarily accepted at Quincy Center Station in order to mitigate Red Line service impacts during both the

closure of Wollaston Station and North Quincy Garage Development construction. Wollaston was reopened in August 2019, surface parking currently provides sufficient access to North Quincy, and the North Quincy Garage is anticipated to open later in 2021. As a result, Quincy Center Station’s Zone 1A fare designation will end June 30, 2021, with Quincy Center returning to a Zone 1 fare beginning July 1.

Proposed Fare Changes

MBTA Fare Transformation staff today presented two fare change proposals to be voted on by the Fiscal and Management Control Board (FMCB) on May 10, 2021, that aim to benefit nearly 2,200 current Youth Pass participants (about 4,600 pre-pandemic) and to simplify Express Bus fares:

- The Youth Pass Program is a partnership between the MBTA and participating cities and towns that offers young adults with low incomes roughly 50-percent reduced one-way fares or \$30 monthly LinkPasses on the bus and subway. MBTA staff have proposed that the Youth Pass also be valid for reduced fares on Commuter Rail, Express Bus, and ferries. Youth Pass holders are already able to purchase half-price Commuter Rail tickets through a reduced fare pilot that

ends on June 30. This proposed fare change, if approved by the FMCB, would make the Youth Pass Commuter Rail pilot a permanent policy and also provide reduced Express Bus and ferry fares effective July 1, 2021.

- MBTA staff also proposed converting all Outer Express Bus Routes (\$5.25 per trip) to Inner Bus fares (\$4.25 per trip) effective July 1. Maintaining a separate fare for a small number of Outer Express Bus Routes has become unnecessarily complicated for riders and bus operators. Due to service changes as a result of the pandemic, the MBTA is currently operating only a single Outer Express route (352/354), which is most recently serving about 100 Outer Express rides per day. The route also serves an Inner Express stop and requires a complicated procedure to avoid overcharging customers. As a result, if approved by the FMCB in May, the MBTA has proposed converting fares for Express Route 352/354 as well as any future Express Bus Routes to the Inner Express fare of \$4.25 beginning July 1.

The public is able to comment on these proposed changes at [mbta.com/2021FareChanges](https://mbta.com/2021FareChanges). The Title VI analysis will be shared with FMCB and posted to [mbta.com](https://mbta.com) by April 26.

## OBITUARIES

### Norma Davis

She had an unbreakable faith and devotion to God and her life purpose was giving back to those in need

Norma (Sasso) Davis, a lifelong resident of Revere, passed away surrounded by her loving family on April 10 at the age of 89.

Born in Revere on November 8, 1931 to the late Peter and Sophie (DeMatteis), she was the beloved wife of the late Richard Davis, devoted mother of Elaine Moschella of Revere, Stephen Davis and his wife, Denise of Ohio and Nancy Maniscalco and her husband, John of Revere. She was the cherished grandmother of nine, adored great grandmother of four, dear sister of Robert Sasso, Edward Sasso, and Elaine Marino, all of Revere, and was preceded in death by Lucy Savastano, Thelma Manz, and Jean Sasso. She is also survived by many loving nieces and nephews.

Norma had a passion for cooking since a very young age and was her happiest when serving her famous recipes to her family and friends. In addition to cooking, some of Norma’s pleasures included traveling, playing scrabble and cards with friends, watching Jeopardy, volunteering at the historical society, and playing in a bocce league. Norma took pride in making everyone feel welcome in her home. She adored caring for not only her own grandchildren, but many of their friends who adopted her as their grandmother as well. Norma had an unbreakable faith and devotion to God. Giving back to those



in need was Norma’s life purpose. Her generosity is well known by anyone who has met her and she held a special place in her heart for the many foundations she contributed to.

A visitation will be held at the Paul Buonfiglio & Sons-Bruno Funeral Home 128 Revere St., Revere today, Wednesday, April 14 from 4 to 8 p.m. We ask that you make your visit brief to allow others to pay their respects. Relatives and friends are kindly invited to a Funeral Mass at St. Anthony’s Church in Revere on Thursday at 10 a.m. (Everyone meet directly at church). Masks and social distancing are required at church and the funeral home. Interment will be in Woodlawn Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made in Norma’s name to the Reid Landry Garrant Foundation, RLG Foundation in care of Paula Garrant, 20 Berry St, Unit 2110, North Andover, MA 01845 or at [reidsrebels.com](https://reidsrebels.com). For guest book please visit [www.buonfiglio.com](https://www.buonfiglio.com).

Staff Report

On April 2, members of the Massachusetts Coalition for Occupational Safety and Health’s (MassCOSH) Health Technical Committee had a letter to the editor published in the Clinical Infectious Diseases journal that rebutted findings of a study published by the journal that played a role in the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) changing its social distancing guidelines in public schools from 6 feet to 3 feet. The guidelines are being adopted by districts nationwide.

The letter questions the methods conducted in the journal article, Effective-

ness of three versus six feet of physical distancing for controlling spread of COVID-19 among primary and secondary students and staff: A retrospective, statewide cohort study. Authors of that article only looked at the written plans for distancing, not the actual implementation of those plans. They excluded all schools that were remote during the study period, which were most of the major cities in Massachusetts. They did include schools that were open just 5 percent of the time, which may have been much more influential on COVID-19 risk than their written distancing plans.

The Department of El-

ementary and Secondary Education in Massachusetts (DESE) has used this flawed study to require that schools open for full, in-person learning across the Commonwealth. The result is classrooms filled to a much higher capacity than what may be safe. Last week, even before students returned to the classroom at higher numbers, Massachusetts saw the most COVID-19 cases in schools yet, a combined 1,045 infections between students and staff.

“It is critical that decisions about the return to in-person learning be based in science,” said Jodi Sugarman-Brozan, MassCOSH

Executive Director. “Unfortunately, a problematic study riddled with flaws, conducted right here in Massachusetts, has led to what is likely a dangerously high number of students returning to classrooms across the country at a time when cases are on the rise.”

The return to full-in person learning in the Commonwealth comes shortly on the heels of a DESE decision to remove all capacity limits on school buses in Massachusetts. To justify this decision, DESE claims that two things make social distancing unnecessary: the effectiveness of masks and the high ventilation rates on a school bus. Neither the CDC nor any other leading public or occupational health experts support DESE’s position that masks or ventilation make social distancing unnecessary. Bus drivers have already been hit hard by the pandemic. In Boston, two active school bus drivers and a bus manager died of COVID-19 in April 2020. A recent study of COVID-19 deaths among Massachusetts workers found that, from March to July of last year, transportation workers lost their lives to COVID-19 at twice the rate of the average worker.

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I may reach my goals. You who gives  
me the divine grace to forgive and for-  
get the evil done unto me and which is  
with me at every moment in my life. I  
want in this short dialogue to reassure  
you one more time I do not ever want  
to be separated from you, no matter  
how grand the worldly possessions  
may be, my desire to be with you and  
my brothers in perpetual glory will not  
be lessened. (One should say this  
prayer 3 days the divine shall be grant-  
ed.) Publications must be promised.  
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G.E.

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Zion Church - Everett

News and Notes

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Mystic Side Congregational Church

News and Notes

Mystic Side Congrega-  
tional Church is located  
in Everett, on Malden-Ev-  
erett border, at 422 Main  
Street. We offer a warm,  
inviting atmosphere, and  
all are welcome. Our Sun-  
day Church service starts  
at 10:30 a.m. and Commu-  
nion is offered on the first  
Sunday of each month. A  
very pleasant coffee hour

Grace Anglican Episcopal Church

News and Notes

Grace Anglican Episco-  
pal Church is open and wel-  
coming to all.  
There are 3 services on  
Sundays: 10 a.m. English, 1  
p.m. South Sudanese (Din-  
ka) and 3 p.m. Haitian Cre-  
ole.  
Come all and let us walk  
together in this season of

Immaculate Conception Parish

News and Notes

Our Parish Staff: Father  
Joseph Chacha Marwa,  
S.M.A. Administrator;  
Father Ernest Egbedike,  
S.M.A. Parochial Vicar;  
Secretary Barbara Can-  
non  
Weekly Mass Schedule  
at Immaculate Conception  
is as follows:  
Saturday (Sunday Vig-  
il) 4 p.m., Sunday a.m.,  
9 a.m. (Family Mass), 11  
a.m., and 5:30 p.m.  
12:15 p.m. Spanish  
Community  
4 p.m. Haitian Commu-  
nity  
Masses are being held in  
the Chapel.  
Eucharistic Adoration  
of the Blessed Sacrament:  
Adoration of the Blessed  
Sacrament is held every  
Thursday from 7:45 a.m.  
to 6:30 p.m. in the Chapel.  
Each Thursdays' adoration

will conclude the Benedic-  
tion of the Most Blessed  
Sacrament at 6:30 p.m.  
All are invited to spend  
a few moments with Our  
Blessed Lord  
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Book and Buy a Book and  
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ble and see what we have.  
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News and Notes

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Zoom.  
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work at it with all your  
heart, as working for the  
Lord, not for human mas-  
ters,” Colossians 3:23  
“In Pursuit of Spiritual  
Excellence”  
Righteousness, Godli-

Church at the Well Everett

News and Notes

Church at the Well Ev-  
erett is a new church for  
Everett that will begin  
meeting in 2021. Check  
us out on Facebook at  
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weekly devotions and up-  
dates, visit us at www.for-

Glendale United Methodist Church

News and Notes

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odist Church is open to all  
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of your dedication in the  
mail in that is on the Pas-  
tor's door. Please contact  
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questions.  
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But We Can, 8:00 7:30 –  
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BRIEFS

JOHNSON & JOHNSON VACCINE ON HOLD

In response to today’s recommendation from the FDA and CDC to pause J&J vaccines due to an extremely rare condition reported in six individuals nationwide, the Massachusetts Department of Public Health has directed all providers to immediately pause administration of the J&J vaccine until federal health experts investigate this matter.

This action is being taken out of an abundance of caution as the FDA and CDC review these six cases, none of which are known to be linked to Massachusetts. The FDA has reported over 6.8 million doses of J&J have been administered nationwide. Individuals who have received a J&J vac-

cine should contact their physician if they have concerns.

•The FDA has reported that as of April 12, 6.8m+ doses of the J&J vaccine have been administered in the U.S. CDC & FDA are reviewing data involving 6 reported U.S. cases of a rare and severe type of blood clot in individuals after receiving the vaccine. Right now, these conditions appear to be extremely rare.

•As of April 12, 181,034 doses of J&J have been administered in Massachusetts.

•CDC will convene a meeting of the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) on Wednesday to further review these cases and assess their potential significance. FDA will review that analysis as it also in-

vestigates these

•Individuals that have appointments scheduled for a J&J vaccine that have questions about their upcoming appointment should contact the provider they booked with directly.

•Individuals are encouraged to contact their physician if they have received the J&J vaccine and have concerns.

TESTING SITE CHANGE

The Norwood St. Parking Lot COVID-19 testing site will NOT be available this week. Residents can still get tested at the Samuel Gentile Rec. Center on 71 Elm St. daily Mon.-Thurs. (7 AM-7 PM; 1 hour break 1-2 PM), Fri. & Sat (12-6 PM). The City apologizes for the inconvenience.

State officials announce federal funding through eviction diversion initiative

State officials have announced that more than \$400 million in new federal funding from the Consolidated Appropriations Act is now available through the Administration’s Eviction Diversion Initiative (EDI).

First launched in October 2020, EDI consists of a comprehensive set of resources that serves individuals, families and landlords in crisis with financial aid, free and low-cost legal aid and community mediation to keep people in their homes. With a focus on preserving housing stability, the Baker-Polito Administration has distributed approximately \$80 million in state rental assistance to more than 18,000 households since the beginning of the State of Emergency.

As a result of extensive coordination detailed below, these efforts have contributed to the mitigation of the anticipated crisis in evictions. Information tracked by the Massachusetts Trial Court shows a total of 626 executions issued in residential eviction cases from October 18, 2020 through March 28, 2021 for cases filed after the state moratorium. This represents a reduction of nearly 85 percent compared to the number of executions issued in residential eviction cases during the same span of time one year prior (3,807).

The infusion of more than \$400 million in federal resources, which is expected to be supplemented by hundreds of millions in additional dollars through the American Rescue Plan Act, allows the Commonwealth to provide longer-term relief to low-income renters and landlords in crisis, while implementing system efficiencies and processes for the future. This additional funding, and the flexibility created by federal regulations, enables the Commonwealth to expand aid to more households, provide deeper and longer-term assistance to households, and help households with utility payments. The Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) has been investing heavily in and working closely with regional administering agencies (RAAs) and the Rental Assistance Processing (RAP) Center to incorporate the new Federal Emergency Rental Assistance Program (ERAP) funding into existing delivery service models for the Residential Assistance for Families in Transition (RAFT) and Emergency Rental and Mortgage Assistance (ERMA) programs.

“The ongoing public health crisis and the economic consequences created by COVID-19 have made the importance of stable, affordable housing a clear and vital component of our strategy to keep households safe and healthy,” said Gov. Charlie Baker. “This major infusion of resources enables us to extend and strengthen our Eviction Diversion Initiative, which supports both tenants and landlords in crisis to keep more families safely housed. With more than \$400 million available, we are pleased this funding will enable us to respond to the immense need for support right now, and make long-term investments in our homelessness prevention programs.”

Funding Highlights in-

clude:

•Income eligibility – households making up to 80 percent of Area Median Income (AMI) will be eligible for funding (RAFT has an eligibility threshold of 50 percent of AMI).

•Longer-term assistance – households may be eligible for up to 12 months of rental arrears (plus an extra three months of stipends for future rent if funding allows and need is demonstrated), as well as overdue utilities arrears up to \$1,500. All rent and utility arrears must have been accrued after March 13, 2020. Currently, RAFT and ERMA can provide up to \$10,000 per household for rental arrears or stipends.

•Prioritization of funds for those most at risk, including those making less than 50 percent AMI and those unemployed for 90 days or more.

In addition, DHCD, in partnership with MassHousing and the Massachusetts Housing Partnership (MHP), will launch a new program to allow qualified owners of income-restricted units, as well as Local Housing Authorities, to apply for help directly on behalf of all of their income-eligible residents with past-due rent. The Subsidized Housing Emergency Rental Assistance (SHERA) program will expedite relief for possibly tens of thousands of eligible tenants in need, while also allowing administering agencies to concentrate on applications from non-subsidized tenants in need of assistance.

Federal resources will also be made available to families who are eligible for Emergency Assistance (EA) Shelter, by coupling ERAP rental assistance benefits with the existing HomeBASE benefit and housing services. This will help those who owe arrears and are at risk of becoming unhoused, and also those who are exiting EA shelter and transitioning into permanent housing. The Administration is also pursuing two pilot initiatives: the first will allow municipalities to provide targeted outreach and hands-on ERAP application support to communities with demonstrated need and hard-to-reach populations, and the second provides targeted outreach strategies to small landlords about the availability of ERAP and other state financial assistance programs.

Over the last nine months, DHCD and partners have worked to reduce paperwork, streamline the application process, implement technology upgrades, and provide better language access. To increase capacity, DHCD and regional agencies hired more than 200 new staff and created the new Rental Assistance Processing (RAP) Center to lend added support with increased applications across the state. DHCD is also working to expand access and awareness with a public information campaign and targeted outreach to vulnerable communities.

To address this immense increase in demand due to COVID-19, DHCD worked with administering agencies to transform the RAFT program from a narrow, homelessness prevention program into a comprehensive disaster relief program to stabilize renters and landlords. The

RAFT program was more targeted in its aid, requiring a court summons or other evidence that a household was facing an unstable situation, and was limited to \$4,000 to address a short-term crisis. In past years, with an annual budget of roughly \$20 million, RAFT served between five and six thousand households. During this crisis the state has already distributed about \$80 million to more than 18,000 households, more than tripling its annual output.

In February 2021 alone, the state served a record 5,463 households, spending \$21.1 million through the RAFT program to keep them in their homes. By comparison, in February 2020, the month before the start of the public health emergency, the state issued \$1.5 million in RAFT funds. February of 2021 represents approximately a 1,300-percent increase in assistance over February of 2020. During the first three weeks of March, the state distributed \$23.6 million in RAFT payments to 7,445 households, putting the Commonwealth on track for another record month. Payments from those three weeks alone represent more than the entire annual RAFT budget in any fiscal year before the current fiscal year.

In addition, DHCD continues to see fewer families enter and stay in the family shelter system compared to the previous year. Family shelter caseload in February 2021 was down approximately 20 percent compared to February 2020. Similar trends can be seen in the HomeBASE program, with new participants since October down between 30 and 60 percent each month compared to the preceding year. Moreover, while there was an initial increase in post-moratorium eviction filings in November and December, new weekly eviction filings for non-payment of rent have declined and have remained consistently below pre-pandemic levels in Calendar Year 2021. Additionally, this week, the Centers for Disease Control extended its eviction moratorium through June 30.

The EDI effort combines financial assistance with resources for renters and landlords to avoid an eviction. The COVID Eviction Legal Help Project (CELHP), a partnership with the Massachusetts Legal Assistance Corporation, Massachusetts Law Reform Institute, and the Volunteers Lawyers Project, provides free legal assistance to low-income households facing an eviction, and free or low-cost assistance for low-income homeowners who live in a home with rental units. Agencies have hired nearly 130 direct service staff to increase capacity, and more than 200 lawyers have been recruited to volunteer their time and expertise. To date, more than 1,000 cases have been opened at legal aid organizations under this partnership. Additionally, with the Massachusetts Office of Public Collaboration, professional, confidential mediation services are available across the Commonwealth for tenants and landlords to solve lease or other housing issues outside of the court process.

Real Estate Transfers

BUYER 1	SELLER 1	ADDRESS	PRICE
Tran, Thinh H	Kyllonen, Diane E	18 Luke Rd	\$560,000
Calligos, Orlando	Asare, Patrick	100 Lynn St	\$430,000
Lizzotte, Jonathan M	Sullivan, Duane G	11 Mason St #2	\$450,000
Pedrosa, Maria	Mui, Jim	39 Parlin St #401	\$355,000
Bank Of America NA	Staffieri, Louis	15 Russell Pl	\$382,000
Denby-Wood, William	Delrosario, David	27 Shute St	\$594,900

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NEWS IN BRIEF

TEMPORARY DAYTIME LANE CLOSURES ON ROUTE 16 EASTBOUND (REVERE BEACH PARKWAY)

Closures will begin on Monday April 12, and are scheduled to continue through Friday, April 23

Work will take place weekly, Monday through Friday, from 7:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

The Massachusetts Department of Transportation (MassDOT) is announcing that it will be implementing temporary daytime lane closures on a section of Route 16 eastbound, between the intersections of Vine Street and Everett Avenue, in Everett. The lane closures will begin on Monday April 12, 2021, and are scheduled to continue through Friday, April 23, 2021. The closures will take place weekly, Monday through Friday, from 7:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., and are needed to allow crews to safely and effectively conduct drainage structure and drainage line cleaning operations.

Standard traffic management operations will be in place including Variable Message Signs and police details, as needed. Message boards have been placed in advance of next week’s scheduled work.

The schedule for this work is weather dependent and subject to change without notice.

Drivers who are traveling through the area should reduce speed and use caution.

Appropriate signage, law enforcement details, and advanced message boards will be in place to guide drivers through the work area.

HUD ALLOCATE FUNDS FOR AFFORDABLE HOUSING

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) announced the allocation of more than \$16.9 million to Massachusetts through the nation’s Housing Trust Fund (HTF) for affordable housing, this funding is part of \$689,565,492.92 being allocated nationally. The Housing Trust Fund was launched in 2008 as an affordable housing production program that complements existing federal, state, and local efforts to increase and preserve the supply of decent, safe, and sanitary affordable housing for low- and extremely low-income households, including families experiencing homelessness.

“This past year has reminded us just how important it is to have access to safe and stable housing. But too many Americans are struggling to keep or find an affordable home,” said Secretary Marcia L. Fudge “We are excited to announce this historic funding al-

location, which will enable states to expand and preserve affordable housing for our neighbors who need our support the most.”

The Housing Trust Fund is capitalized through the contributions made by Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac. This year’s allocation is a significant increase in funding from last year’s allocation of \$322,564,267.66. This program is specifically focused on housing for some of our most vulnerable populations. HUD annually allocates HTF funds by formula. A state must use at least 80 percent of each annual grant for rental housing; up to 10 percent for homeownership; and up to 10 percent for the grantee’s reasonable administrative and planning costs. HTF funds may be used for the production or preservation of affordable housing through the acquisition, new construction, reconstruction, and/or rehabilitation of non-luxury housing with suitable amenities. All HTF-assisted units will be required to have a minimum affordability period of 30 years. The Housing Trust Fund has supported the construction or rehabilitation of 775 rental units nationally since the first were allocated in 2017. There are currently 480 additional projects under construction. This year’s funding is expected to produce more than 5,400 additional affordable units.

NATIONAL GRID REMINDS CUSTOMERS TO CALL 8-1-1 BEFORE DIGGING

April is designated as National Safe Digging Month, and National Grid urges anyone who is planning on digging to call 811 to prevent serious personal injury, property damage and service interruptions caused by accidentally digging into electric, gas, telephone, water, sewer or cable facilities.

Nationally every nine minutes, an underground utility line is damaged because someone didn’t contact 811 before digging. Knowing where underground utility lines are buried before you dig will help protect you and your family from injury. With more people staying home and relying on their utilities to work and communicate, inconvenient outages are important to avoid.

“This year, it’s critically important to call 811 before you start digging to ensure all utility lines are marked. Even when digging only a few inches or taking on a small outdoor project, the risk of striking an underground utility is high,” said Mark Prewitt, VP Gas Pipeline Safety and Compliance. “This is a big responsibility that we all need to take a small part in. By spreading the

word to call 811 we can decrease damages, service interruptions, and injury—or even save a life.”

Striking a single underground utility line can cause injury, repair costs, fines, and inconvenient outages. Every digging project, no matter how large or small, warrants contacting 811. Whether you’re planting a tree or shrub, or installing a deck or pool, every job requires a call to 811 to know what’s below before digging.

The depth of utility lines can vary for several reasons, such as erosion, previous digging projects and uneven surfaces. Utility lines need to be properly marked because even when digging only a few inches or digging in a location that’s previously been marked, the risk of striking an underground utility line still exists. A call to 811 is the best safeguard and the first line of defense to preventing strikes on underground utility lines.

A quick phone call to 811 several days before digging connects callers to their local one call center, which notifies the appropriate utility companies of their intent to dig. Professional locators then arrive at the digging site to mark the approximate locations of underground lines with flags, spray paint or both. The service is easy to use and free of charge.

State laws mandate that 811 must be contacted a few days in advance of beginning projects that require excavation. Failure to call 811 may be punishable by fines, which in some states can be as high as \$1,000 for a first offense and \$10,000 for subsequent offenses.

National Grid works closely with local fire and police departments and, with their strong support, people are calling before they dig. Calling 811 can potentially avoid an incident that requires police and fire response.

PRESSLEY, WARREN APPLAUD CDC’S DECLARATION OF RACISM

Congresswoman Ayanna Pressley and Sen. Elizabeth Warren released a statement last week applauding the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention’s (CDC) commitment to address centuries of structural racism and discrimination in the U.S. public health system.

In February, the lawmakers reintroduced the Anti-Racism in Public Health Act, a bicameral bill to declare structural racism a public health crisis and confront its public health impacts by creating a National Center for Anti-Racism and a Law Enforcement Violence Prevention Program within the CDC.

“The COVID-19 pandemic, which has led to over 500,000 deaths and tens of millions infected, has made it impossible to ignore the legacy of structural racism and how it has created deep disparities in health outcomes for Black, Brown, AAPI, and Indigenous communities. Black and Brown people are nearly three times more likely than white people to contract COVID-19 and one to two times more likely to die from the disease.

“As the sponsors of the

Anti-Racism in Public Health Act, we welcome the actions by the CDC to acknowledge racism as a serious public health threat and to invest in health equity measures to combat these challenges. In addition to the threat of COVID-19, people of color are also disproportionately affected by chronic health conditions such as diabetes, asthma, hepatitis, and hypertension; infant mortality; maternal mortality and morbidity; and police brutality—not to mention the lasting impacts racism has on mental health for Black and Brown communities.

“We will continue pushing in Congress to pass this important legislation, and look forward to working with the CDC to tackle these challenges and ensure health equity across this nation. This is a great step in the right direction, but we must now fight to confront these forces head on so that Black and Brown communities no longer disproportionately suffer from systemic racism and inequality in our health system and beyond.”

RED CROSS AIMING TO MAKE MORE THAN 600 HOMES SAFER BY MAY 8

The American Red Cross of Massachusetts is on a mission to make more than 600 homes across the state safer between now and May 8.

Volunteers will meet with residents by appointment – either virtually or socially-distanced outside their homes – to share crucial fire safety information, help create an escape plan, and practice a two-minute drill. This information is free and available to anyone who makes an appointment. In some communities, the Red Cross is working with partner fire departments to offer free smoke alarm installations when it becomes safe to do so.

“Home fires remain the most frequent disaster during COVID-19, yet most of us don’t realize we have just two minutes to safely escape,” said Holly Grant, CEO of the Red Cross of Massachusetts. “We’re still spending more time than ever inside during the pandemic, so it’s critical that we help our neighbors protect themselves from these everyday disasters.”

This effort comes as part of a larger national push to educate 100,000 people about home fire safety in high-risk communities. Here in Massachusetts, focus cities include Worcester, Brockton and Quincy, although individuals in any city or town (owner or renter) may participate.

To sign up for free home fire safety education, please visit [SoundTheAlarm.org/Massachusetts](http://SoundTheAlarm.org/Massachusetts). The Red Cross is also looking for additional volunteers to train as home fire safety educators and offer this training in their own community.

The Red Cross of Massachusetts is grateful for the support of our sponsors, National Grid and Harvard Pilgrim. This effort would not be possible without the support of the focus cities, with special thanks to Mayor Joseph Petty of Worcester, Mayor Robert Sullivan of Brockton and the Quincy, Worcester and Brock-

ton fire departments and emergency management teams.

PRESSLEY AND CLARK SECURE COBRA SUBSIDIES

Massachusetts Congresswomen Ayanna Pressley and Katherine Clark, and some of their colleagues, applauded the U.S. Department of Labor’s recently-released guidance confirming that striking workers are eligible for COBRA subsidies under the American Rescue Plan, a victory for striking workers nationwide.

The expanded guidance, which marks a major reversal from the 2009 American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, comes after Pressley, Courtney McGovern and Clark sent a letter to Treasury Secretary Janet Yellen, IRS Commissioner Charles Rettig, and Labor Secretary Marty Walsh, requesting that any guidance issued to implement the American Rescue Plan clarify that workers exercising their right to strike under the National Labor Relations Act are covered by the COBRA subsidies.

The American Rescue Plan does not explicitly address the issue of striking workers, but the letter requested that any guidance issued regarding eligibility of workers

to receive subsidized COBRA coverage explicitly clarify that these workers are eligible in order to ensure that striking workers are not unintentionally harmed. This decision will prevent striking workers from having to pay the extremely high cost of COBRA out of pocket, lose their providers, or become disconnected from their providers during expensive and complicated treatments in the middle of a pandemic.

“I’m glad we were able to secure these subsidies for workers in Massachusetts and across the country exercising their right to organize and collectively bargain,” Rep. Pressley said. “Health care is a human right. And when workers choose to withhold their labor to demand and secure safer working conditions, better wages or better benefits, that choice shouldn’t come at the expense of their health care.”

“This is an important victory for workers,” said Rep. Clark. “This guidance ensures that workers exercising their legal right to organize can receive the COBRA subsidies they need to maintain their health care coverage during the global pandemic. I applaud the Biden Administration for this important step to protect our workers’ rights.”

LEGAL NOTICE

LEGAL NOTICE

MORTGAGEE NOTICE OF SALE OF REAL ESTATE  
40 Everett Street, Everett MA 02149  
By virtue and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in a certain mortgage given by Edison Delarosa to Red Balloon Capital, LLC, a Massachusetts Limited Liability Company, of 40 Everett Street, Middlesex County, Everett, Massachusetts, which mortgage is dated October 9, 2020, and recorded with Middlesex South County Registry of Deeds in Book 75858, Page 426, of which mortgage the undersigned is the present holder for breach of the conditions of said mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing the same will be sold at public auction at 12:00 PM on the 7th day of May, 2021, on the mortgaged premises hereinafter referred to all and singular the premises described in said mortgage, to wit: A certain parcel of land in Everett, Massachusetts, depicted as Lot B and part of Lot 49 on a plan of land dated February 20, 2006 by Medford Engineering and Survey, Thomas M. Killion, PLS., consisting of 7,475 square feet of land, more or less, recorded herewith, being the land held by Grantors pursuant to a deed dated December 30, 1998 and recorded in Middlesex South District Registry of Deeds in Book 29877, Page 554, and a deed dated December 30, 1998 and recorded in Middlesex South District Registry of Deeds in Book 29877, Page 555 bounded and described as follows: Commencing at the most Northeasterly point of land of owner's unknown, thence running in a Westerly direction fifty (50) feet by Lot A; thence running in a Southerly direction two hundred thirteen and one-half (213.5) feet by land now or formerly of Yves & Gertha Pressoir and land now or formerly of Donna M. Sacco; thence running in an Easterly direction by Prescott Street, ten (10) feet; thence running in a Northerly direction eighty (80)

feet by land depicted as the remainder of Lot 49, thence running in an Easterly direction forty (40) feet by said Lot 49, on a line parallel with Prescott Street; running in a Northerly direction by land now or formerly of David A. and Julie P. D'Agostino and by land now or formerly of Frank S. and Rose Ann Trischitta one hundred thirty-three and one-half (133.5) feet to the point of beginning. With a right of way ten (10) feet wide and about seventy-seven (77) feet long along the west part of Lot A, with the right and privilege to pass and re-pass over said right of way on Lot A to Everett Street.  
40 Everett Street, Everett, MA 02149 - Parcel ID: D0-04-000178  
The Mortgaged Premises will be conveyed subject to and with the benefit of any and all easements, rights and restrictions of record insofar as the same are now in force and applicable.  
The Mortgaged Premises will be sold subject as set forth above and subject to all outstanding tax titles, municipal or other public taxes, water and sewer charges, assessments, liens or claims in the nature of liens if any, and encumbrances of record created prior to the Mortgage, including covenants, conditions restrictions, reservations, easements, liens for assessments, options, powers of attorney, limitations on title, all leases and tenancies having priority over the Mortgage, to tenancies or occupations by persons on the Mortgages Premises now and at the time of said auction which tenancies and occupation are subject to the Mortgage, to rights or claims in personal property installed by tenants or former tenants now located on the Mortgaged Premises, and also to all laws and ordinances including, but not limited to, all building and zoning laws and ordinances, if any of the foregoing there be.  
Terms of Sale: Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000) will be required to be paid by bank or certified check (subject to collection) at the time and place of sale as earnest

money The balance is to be paid by bank or certified check (subject to collection) within 30 days thereafter provided such days is on which the Middlesex South County Registry of Deeds is open for Business, and if not, then on the next day on which said Registry is open for business. Time is of the essence. The successful bidder shall be required to sign a Memorandum of Sale containing the above terms at Auction Sale. In the event that the successful bidder at the foreclosure sale shall default in purchasing the Mortgaged Premises according to the terms of this Notice of Sale and/or the terms of the Memorandum of Sale executed at the time of the foreclosure, the Mortgagee reserves the right to sell the Mortgaged Premises by Foreclosure Deed to the second highest bidder provided that the second highest bidder shall deposit with the Mortgagee's attorneys, INDEGLIA LUTRARIO the amount of the required deposit as set forth herein within three (3) business days after its receipt of written notice of the default of the previous highest bidder and title shall be conveyed to said second highest bidder within twenty (20) days of its delivery of the required deposit to the Mortgagee's attorneys. The Mortgagee reserves the right to postpone the sale to a later time and date by public proclamation at the time and date appointed for the sale and to further postpone the sale at any adjourned sale date by public proclamation at the time and date appointed for the adjourned sale date. Purchaser shall be responsible for costs of documentary stamps. Other terms, if any, to be announced at the time and place of sale.  
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# Pressley / CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

close and personal so that I can go back to Washington and tell the story not only of the need, but how impactful these Federal investments have been.”

Pressley said the city, state, and federal delegations have been working together to address the need.

“We just can’t take our foot off the gas here,” said Pressley. “We have to continue to make these investments because being able to feed your family is the most basic need.”

Praising Cardillo and her team of volunteers, Pressley said, “What an incredible demonstration of grace at the Everett Grace Food Pantry. There is community here. There is acceptance here. There

is dignity here. Because so many people feel shame about being hungry and that is a shame that anyone would feel that way. My hat goes off to Irene, the first responders, the Everett Police, and the Everett City Council members. There is something very special happening here.”

Cardillo thanked Pressley for volunteering in Everett and bringing awareness to the issue of food insecurity.

“By Congresswoman Pressley coming to Everett today to personally work on the line and really view the needs of our residents and how people have been affected by this pandemic, it’s good that she’s bringing more awareness to and the issue is being

more highlighted,” said Cardillo. “And as you can see by the lines, food insecurities do not know any boundaries.”

Cardillo said the effort at the Grace Food Pantry continues seven days a week and includes satellite pantries.

The Grace Food Pantry director and lifelong Everett resident also credited Everett Mayor Carlo DeMaria, Police Chief Steven Mazzie, Sgt. Robert Hall, all police officers, facility maintenance personnel, teachers and city leaders for making the food distribution “a true community effort.”

“It takes a village and we have a village of people in Everett that do all this work,” said Cardillo.



Congresswoman Ayanna Pressley speaks with Everett Police Sgt. Robert Hall, brother of Food Pantry Managing Director Irene Cardillo, at the food distribution site Saturday in Everett.



Everett Grace Food Pantry Founder Rich DelRossi and Congresswoman Ayanna Pressley.



Everett Grace Food Pantry Co-Director Phyllis Barone, Congresswoman Ayanna Pressley, Everett Grace Food Pantry Managing Director Irene Cardillo, and her granddaughter, McKenna Diamond.



Everett City Councilor Rosa DiFlorio, Lajla Lamadzema, and Asima Memic.



Congresswoman Ayanna Pressley is pictured at the Grace Food Pantry food distribution site Saturday in Everett.

## ZONTA CLUB OF CHELSEA AND NORTH SHORE SCHOLARSHIP DONATIONS



Members of the Zonta Club of Chelsea and North Shore recently delivered scholarship checks to local High Schools in Everett, Winthrop, Revere, Saugus and Chelsea. We are so pleased to continue awarding these scholarships to deserving young woman excelling in mathematics and science studies who are graduating from local High Schools. We are proud to be able to support the high school's scholarship programs and we wish the recipients all the best in their future endeavors. Pictured (left to right) Everett High School Principal Erick Naumann, Zonta member Barbara Lawlor, Zonta member Mary Jane O'Neill, and Linda Maloney, Principal's Office Clerk.

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Do you need to schedule a telemedicine appointment with your primary care provider? Did you miss an appointment that needs to be rescheduled? If so, call 617-569-5800 to schedule a telemedicine appointment. This is especially important if you have a chronic or a behavioral health condition. You should be treated if needed, especially during this public health crisis. We're here to keep you healthy!

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As one of the last American children to contract polio, Jeffrey Galpin grew up in a world of iron lungs and body casts, alone with his imagination. His story would be dramatic enough if it was just about his battle with this dreaded disease.

But Jeffrey Galpin did more than survive polio. He went on to a list of achievements in medical research—including being the principal investigator in applying the first gene therapy for HIV/AIDS.

Dr. Galpin actually credits his own incurable condition for giving him the focus that made him so passionate in his research. His story leaves us with two of the most contagious messages we know: Don't give up, and remember to give back. If Dr. Galpin's story inspires just one more person to make a difference, then its telling here has been well worth while.

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