



The Christmas Tree in Everett Square beautifully decorated was brought to life last week with the annual holiday celebration in Everett Square.

# City of Everett Hosts Annual Tree Lighting

Special to the Independent

The City of Everett hosted the annual Tree Lighting event on Friday, Dec. 2, at Everett Square, in celebration of the holiday season.

Mayor Carlo DeMaria and family threw the switch and lit up the beautiful Christmas tree to spread holiday cheer with

the most wonderful celebration of the year.

The City spread holiday cheer with many fun and free activities including live performances, hay rides, train rides, holiday characters, face painting, balloon creations, food, giveaways and even a special visit from Santa and Mrs. Claus directly from the North Pole. They pa-

raded down Broadway, led by the Everett police and fire departments and Everett High School's award-winning band.

Also at the event, attendees were able to meet and take a photo with Santa and Mrs. Claus upstairs at the Parlin Library and partake in arts and crafts while waiting in line for their turn to see them.

"The Tree Lighting is always a fantastic opportunity for our community to come together to spread cheer and celebrate the holiday season," said Mayor DeMaria. "I'd like to thank all of the sponsors, participants, volunteers and everyone who attended for making this

See TREE LIGHTING Page 6



Minnie Mouse took Santa to the stage to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy Holiday Season.



The EHS Crimson Tide Marching Band led the way for Santa.



The combined Everett and Chelsea Girl Scout Troops sang Christmas carols. See Pages 6 and 7 for more photos.

# East Boston Neighborhood Health Center named National Quality Leader in Healthcare

Special to the Independent

East Boston Neighborhood Health Center (EBNHC) has been named a 2023 National Quality Leader by the Department of Health and Human Service's (HHS) Health Resources & Services Administration (HRSA) for their dedicated work in addressing gaps in health equity for underserved communities and building a strong foundation for equitable healthcare access and outcomes.

"I am incredibly proud

to announce our recognition as a National Quality Leader for providing exceptional care to our patients," said EBNHC President and CEO Greg Wilmot. "Our ability to achieve the highest standards of clinical quality while addressing our patients complex social, economic, and cultural needs is a testament to our team's diligence and commitment to the health and wellbeing of our diverse community, the majority of which are Latino/a/x."

Community Health

Quality Recognition (CHQR) badges recognize Health Center Program awardees who have made notable quality achievements in areas including Clinical Quality, Access, Equity, Information Technology, and, most recently, COVID-19 Public Health Emergency Response. This year, EBNHC's performance garnered recognition in the following categories, placing EBNHC in the elite top percentile of all

See EBNHC Page 3

# Plans for new soccer stadium in Everett fail to advance

By Cary Shuman

The plans for a new professional soccer stadium being built across Route 99 from Encore Boston Harbor are on hold for the immediate future.

The state Senate had advanced the proposal by inserting special language in a supplemental budget bill that would have detached the 43 acres for the stadium and waterfront park from the Designated Port Area (DPA). However, leadership in the House of Representatives did not include the special language necessary for the proposal in its version of the spending bill.

And just like that, Everett's hopes for a state-of-the-art 25,000-seat professional soccer stadium (that was to be the likely home of Bob Kraft's New England Revolution franchise) are dashed.

Sen. Sal DiDomenico, who has championed the stadium proposal in the Senate, expressed his disappointment with the decision by the House of Representatives.

"I'm disappointed this language wasn't included in the final bill," said DiDomenico. "We have worked so hard on this issue because as an environmental justice community we deserve something better than a polluted power plant on our waterfront. This is a transformational project and an economic catalyst for our area. I want to thank President Spilka and Chair Rodrigues for including it in the Senate version and

I am hopeful that we can find a resolution in the very near future."

Mayor Carlo DeMaria, whose vision resulted in the five-star Encore Boston Harbor locating in Everett and bringing thousands of jobs to area residents, issued a statement, saying he was not pleased with the roadblocking of the stadium project.

"I continue to maintain the position that a privately-funded professional soccer stadium, which would invest millions into an historic remediation effort of a defunct power plant, provide economic mobility opportunities for our Everett residents, advance the region's multi-modal transit network, and create much-needed access to the Mystic River would be the best use of that portion of Everett's waterfront," said DeMaria. "As the leader of an Environmental Justice community, plagued for decades by the detrimental health impacts created by giant industrial polluters, I am disappointed that the legislation has not advanced. I am going to continue to advocate to State leaders that a lower income, minority-majority community like Everett deserves the chance to explore such a transformational economic development opportunity.

"While I have stated this before, I feel the need to reiterate: the removal of the parcel from the DPA, which was the focus of the legislative amend-

See STADIUM Page 3

# Council, School Committee inauguration set for Jan. 5

City Clerk Sergio Cornelio will administer the oaths of office to members of the City Council and School Committee at an inauguration ceremony on Jan. 5 at 6:30 p.m. at the Saugus-Everett Elks.

Cornelio said a celebration will follow the ceremony.

The current City Council will hold its regularly scheduled meeting Monday at City Hall.

# EVERETT KIWANIANS MEET USS CONSTITUTION COMMANDER BILLIE J. FARRELL



Everett Kiwanis participated in the Medford Kiwanis Divisional Interclub event held on Monday November 27, 2023. Representatives from all seven Clubs from Division 12 were on hand. The keynote speaker was Commander Billie J. Farrell, the first female Commander of the USS Constitution. Commander Farrell discussed her historic journey from enrolling in the United States Naval Academy to becoming the first female Commander of "Old Ironsides." The Commander graciously answered questions from the audience and provided many interesting and little-known facts about the USS Constitution. Following the event, the Commander took photos with each Club. Pictured with Commander Farrell from left to right are: Distinguished Past President Roland Hughes, current President Fred Capone, Commander Farrell, Outstanding Distinguished Lt. Governor and Distinguished Past President John Mattuchio, Distinguished Past President and current Secretary Matthew Alphen and Distinguished Past President Pat Roberto.



## DiDomenico Foundation Toy Drive on December 7

Join the DiDomencio team for the Annual DiDomenico Foundation Toy Drive as we celebrate the holiday season and collect toys for children throughout our region. Residents from far and wide will come together at Santa's "pop up" toy factory at the Kowloon Restaurant on Route One North in Saugus, Massachusetts Thursday, December 7, 2023, from 6:30pm until 9:30pm.

The DiDomenico Foundation is an all-volunteer organiza-

tion and one of their primary missions is to distribute toys to children in homeless and domestic violence shelters, social service agencies, parish-es, and local schools.

"We are grateful for the tremendous support of our Foundation benefactors, members, and volunteers, who help make the holidays a little brighter for hundreds of children," said State Senator Sal DiDomenico. "With the help of so many friends and supporters, our toy drive grows each year, and that helps us do

our part to help families that have gone through a very tough year."

The Wong family, owners of Kowloon Restaurant, have once again generously offered to host this year's toy drive and provide a complimentary buffet and cash bar. The Foundation requests a new, unwrapped toy as a donation for admission. For more information, or if you would like to donate toys but will be unable to attend please call (617) 387-3327.



Some of the toys gathered during last year's drive.

## Crimson Tide Pop Warner 10-U team competes in consolation game today

The Everett Crimson Tide Pop Warner 10-U team will be in action Wednesday (10:30 a.m.) in the consolation bracket of the National Championships in Orlando.

Everett, who lost to Santa Margarita, (California) in the opener, will play Santa Cruz (Cal-

ifornia) in a Division 1 matchup.

Following today's game, the Everett players and coaches will visit SeaWorld for a specially planned Pop Warner party. The coaches and players will visit Universal Studios Thursday.

"The weather has been

beautiful here," Everett head coach Mel Fiore said Tuesday. "It was 85 degrees for our game Sunday. The kids are having a great time. We're staying at the DoubleTree Hotel at the entrance to Universal."

The team will return to Everett Saturday.

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### CITY IMPROVES CONVENIENCE WITH NEW PARKING KIOSKS

Mayor Carlo DeMaria is pleased to announce the City of Everett has recently installed new parking kiosks with improved language access and more payment methods throughout the City.

The new solar-powered parking kiosks, which replaced all of the previous kiosks located throughout Everett, will continue to operate in Pay-by-Plate mode. Drivers will enter their license plate number into the kiosk, then pay for the amount of time they want using quarters or a credit or debit card, providing sufficient time to visit shops and restaurants.

In addition to these payment methods, the new kiosks offer contactless payment methods using a credit card, smartwatch or smartphone. Another feature the new kiosks offer is the option to change the language from English to either Spanish, Haitian Creole or Portuguese, which are the four most commonly spoken languages in Everett.

"The new parking kiosks are an upgrade that allows us to offer more convenient payment methods like contactless payment options, while maintaining the original ways to pay that most of us are familiar with," said Mayor DeMaria. "Another important addition that comes with the new parking kiosks is the option to

adjust the text on the display screen to one of the four most commonly spoken languages in our community making it much easier for all."

As a reminder, the City is not requiring payment of parking meters for up to two hours from Dec. 1, 2023 through Jan. 1, 2024, in support of local businesses during the holiday shopping season. Motorists parked for more than two hours will be subject to a ticket.

### 2023 LIVING LEGENDS GALA

On Dec. 10, the Museum of African American History on Joy St. will hold the 2023 Living Legends Gala and Award Ceremony at the Four Seasons, Boston. Actor and comedian Anthony Anderson will be hosting the event, and the 2023 awardees include:

- Clayton H.W. Turnbull, developer, Boston Business Leader, and CEO, The Waldwin Group
- Dr. Ruth J. Simmons, former president of Brown University and Smith College, now a Distinguished Presidential Fellow at Rice University and Advisor to the President of Harvard on HBCU Initiatives
- Melissa M. MacDonnell, President, Liberty Mutual Foundation, Vice President, Community Investments, Liberty Mutual Insurance Company

The 2023 Living Legends award recipients were chosen for their outstanding contributions to

civil and human rights on both a local and national scale. The event will also celebrate Boston's rich African American history and commemorate the long struggle for equality.

Sunday, December 10, 4:00 PM

- 4:00 PM: Photo Opportunity—media invited to interview Emcee Anthony Anderson, honorees, MAAH CEO, and Board Chair and capture video and still images on the "Red Carpet."
- 5:00 PM: Main reception
- 6:30 PM: Award ceremony
- 7:00 PM: Live auction

### COUNCIL AGING HOSTING MOVIE EVENT IN CELEBRATION OF HANUKKAH

Mayor Carlo DeMaria is pleased to announce the Council on Aging (COA) will be hosting a showing of the film "Eight Days of Hanukkah" on Tuesday, Dec. 12, at 12:15 p.m., at the Connolly Center (90 Chelsea St.).

Starring Inbar Lavi, Jake Epstein and David Kaye, an anonymous suitor sends Sara, an optometrist, a gift for each night of Hanukkah. On her journey to find her secret admirer, she learns that her one true love might be someone she never expected.

Refreshments will be served to all who attend.

For more information, please call 617-394-2270 to be connected to the Connolly Center.

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28	29	30	1	2	3

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4	5	6	7	8	9
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# MSO, Concord Prison Outreach distribute Thanksgiving meals



Middlesex Sheriff Peter J. Koutoujian and members of the Middlesex Sheriff's Office with some of the goods that were distributed on Saturday, November 18.

A collaboration between the Middlesex Sheriff's Office (MSO) and Concord Prison Outreach helped brighten Thanksgiving for the loved ones of 30 individuals currently incarcerated at the Middlesex Jail & House of Correction.

The MSO and Concord Prison Outreach worked to assemble and prepare Thanksgiving meal kits that were distributed by Sheriff Peter J. Koutoujian and members of the MSO team on Saturday, November 18. The effort was led by the MSO's Family Support Services Unit.

The meal kits included either a turkey or ham, stuffing and canned

goods donated by Concord Prison Outreach. In addition, the Middlesex Sheriff's Office provided homemade pumpkin pies cooked by kitchen staff and fresh eggs from the farming program.

"At the Middlesex Sheriff's Office we are committed to not only supporting those in our care, but their families as well," said Sheriff Koutoujian. "In the thanks we heard and the smiles we saw, we know that this work is making a positive difference in the lives of countless families."

This marked the second time this year that the MSO and Concord Prison Outreach partnered to

support families. In August, the MSO's Family Support Services Unit and Education Department collaborated with Concord Prison Outreach to distribute backpacks, books and museum passes to the children and younger siblings of individuals incarcerated in Billerica.

"I am grateful to our outstanding team and our partners at Concord Prison Outreach for their passion and dedication in bringing both these events to fruition," said Sheriff Koutoujian. "We look forward to continuing and growing these efforts in 2024, and beyond."

# Edwards appointed to the Special Commission on UHYC under the Healey Administration

The Office of Senator Edwards is pleased to announce her recent appointment by Senate President Spilka to the Special Commission on Unaccompanied Homeless Youth (UHYC), which has been reconvened under the Healey Administration.

The UHYC, established through Outside Section 208 of the Fiscal Year 2013 (FY13) Budget and reconstituted in 2014, aims to study and make recommendations concerning services for unaccompanied homeless youth. Its goal is to provide a comprehensive and effective response to the unique needs of this population. The Commission conducts its meetings both virtually and in person, convening quarterly.

A key initiative of the UHYC is the MA Youth Count, an annual state-wide survey that provides valuable data on young adults experiencing homelessness, helping to shape effective responses and policies. Additionally, the Commission is supported by the State wide Youth Advisory Council (YAC), comprising young adults with lived experience of homelessness, who provide insights and guidance on state level policies and programming.

"The reconvening of the UHYC is a critical step towards addressing the complex issue of youth homelessness in our state," said Senator Lydia Edwards (D East Boston). "I am honored to join this commission and am committed to working collaboratively to develop and implement effective strategies that will

provide essential support to unaccompanied homeless youth. This is not just a matter of policy it's about ensuring the well being and future of our young people."

Senator Edwards is eager to collaborate with the Commission, leveraging her experience and

insights to help advance the work of preventing and ending youth homelessness in Massachusetts. This issue is a priority for Senator Edwards, who is dedicated to ensuring that all young people have access to the support and resources they need to not only survive but thrive.

# EBNHC / CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

health centers nationwide:

2023 Health Center Quality Leader Silver Badge

2023 National Quality Leader for Maternal & Child Health Gold Badge

2023 National Quality Leader for HIV Care and Prevention Gold Badge

2023 Patient Centered Medical Home Recognition (PCMH)

2023 Advancing Health Information Technology for Quality

2023 COVID-19 Public Health Champion

2023 Addressing Social Risk Factors

"EBNHC's strategic investments in preventative health, including women's health, pediatric health, and behavioral health, have contributed to our team's ability to out-perform state and national community health benchmarks," said Dr. Jackie Fantes, Chief Medical Officer, EBNHC. "When health equity and clinical quality intersect, a healthcare landscape emerges where every individual, regardless of socio-economic background or demographic factors, receives high-quality care tailored to their unique needs."

Recent clinical lead-

ership appointments, including Dr. Karin Leschly as Chief Quality Officer and Dr. Sue Ghosh, Director of Women's Health Practice and Projects, demonstrate how EBNHC leads with intention in order to drive outcomes for communities and patients, resulting in a 2023 National Quality Leader Gold Badge in Maternal & Child Health, awarded to community health organizations for achieving high-quality performance in areas such as preventing low-birthweight infants and promoting early entry in prenatal care.

EBNHC has also earned a 2023 National Quality Leader Gold Badge in HIV care, with a 100% success rate for linking patients to care within 30 days of diagnosis. The center's success in receiving the Advancing Health Information Technology and Addressing Social Risk Factors badges is attributed to their innovative use of best-in-class medical record technology, telehealth services, and collaboration on addressing social risk factors. EBNHC was also in the top 10% of health centers providing COVID-19 vaccinations or testing to the

largest percentage of patients.

East Boston Neighborhood Health Center (EBNHC) is one of the nation's largest Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs) and the largest community-based primary care health system in Massachusetts, serving over 100,000 patients and recognized by the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) as a Health Center Quality Leader. For more than 50 years, EBNHC has offered access to comprehensive care for the underserved populations of Chelsea, East Boston, Revere, Winthrop, Everett and Boston's South End. EBNHC is dedicated to promoting and sustaining healthy communities, families, and individuals by providing accessible, person-centered, compassionate, and high-quality health care services, including primary care, 24/7 emergency care, behavioral health care, specialty care, and various other health and wellness programs, to all who live and work in our service area. For more information, please visit [www.ebnhc.org](http://www.ebnhc.org).

# Stadium / CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

ment, would not approve a stadium project on the site. It would simply allow a proposal to be put forward locally, at which

point a robust public engagement process would

commence," concluded DeMaria.

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## PUBLIC HEARING FOR A CITIZEN FREE PETITION REQUESTED BY THE VOTERS OF THE CITY OF EVERETT, IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 8-1 OF THE CITY OF EVERETT CHARTER

To all parties interested in the public hearing.

That the School Committee of the City of Everett is hereby requested to hold a Public Hearing on a Citizen Free Petition as signed by voters in accordance with section 8-1 of the Everett City Charter.

Be it hereby ordered:

- That the current School Committee take no action(s) regarding hiring or selecting a Superintendent (short- or long-term contract or commitment)
- That the current School Committee members honor the mandate of the voters of Everett and have the incoming School Committee members in January decide on the future Superintendent.

Hearing to be held with the Everett School Committee on  
**Monday, December 18, 2023, at 6:30 p.m. in the Everett High School Library, located at 100 Elm Street**



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# Everett Arts & Culture Events

## JOIN the Everett Cultural Council!

The Everett Cultural Council is a volunteer group that works to foster creativity, diversity and an arts and culture renaissance in the city of Everett. There are openings for new members. For more info, please email ECC Chairperson Martha Chason-Sokol [martha@mchason-sokol.com](mailto:martha@mchason-sokol.com).

# BE THE CHANGE!

Don't miss "Be The Change", the Sculpture exhibit is at Glendale Park until Dec. 14.



## Just Over the Bridge

**SMALL WORKS show all work less than 12"**  
**Dec. 9 & 10 from noon to 5pm**  
**StoveFactory Gallery**  
**523 Medford St. Charlestown**  
**FREE Lot parking at 511 Medford St.**



# Everett

## Independent

President: Stephen Quigley

Editor in Chief: Cary Shuman

### PEARL HARBOR WAS 82 YEARS AGO, BUT HAS LESSONS FOR US TODAY

It was 82 years ago this week that the nation of Japan launched its attack on the United States at the Pearl Harbor Naval base in Hawaii on December 7, 1941. The very next day, President Franklin D. Roosevelt convened a joint session of Congress in which he famously declared the attack, “A day that will live in infamy,” and asked Congress for a Declaration of War against Japan. Germany and Italy, allies of Japan who collectively were known as the Axis, then declared war on the U.S., setting the stage for World War II, the most destructive war in world history.

A total of 407,316 American soldiers made the Supreme Sacrifice (in addition to more than 10,000 members of the Merchant Marine) and another 671,278 were wounded in battlefronts stretching from Africa to the European continent to the jungle islands of the Pacific over the next three and one-half years before the German and Japanese war machines finally were subdued.

For more than two years prior to the attack, America had stayed out of the war that already had engulfed most of the rest of the world in the aftermath of the German invasion of Poland on September 1, 1939. By the time of the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor, Hitler’s Nazis had conquered all of continental Europe and much of Africa, while the Japanese had invaded almost all of Asia, save for the U.S. outposts in the Philippines and other small islands in the Pacific.

Americans clung to the belief that our isolation, separated from the rest of the world by two oceans, would keep us out of the war. Americans had no appetite for re-engaging in another conflict just 23 years removed from the memories of World War I that still were fresh in our nation’s psyche. But after Pearl Harbor, we no longer could keep our heads buried in the sand. Although the United State had re-instituted the draft some months prior to Pearl Harbor and had ramped up our military production capabilities, the suddenness of the Japanese sneak attack still came as a shock to every American.

Americans realized that thanks to the capabilities of modern armaments such as Japanese aircraft carriers and German U-boats, even the continental United States was not insulated from an attack by a foreign enemy. Citizens on the West Coast braced for a Japanese invasion in the aftermath of Pearl Harbor and curfews were instituted on the Eastern Seaboard.

Thanks to the countless number of documentaries and movies over the past 25 years that have told the stories of the brave Americans who fought in WWII, we are fortunate to have a living history of the sacrifices made by The Greatest Generation.

In 1941, the Axis of Evil was formed by Germany under Hitler, Italy under Mussolini, and Japan under Tojo. Eighty-two years later, we similarly are facing a new Axis of Evil: Putin in Russia, Xi in China, and Ayatollah Khomeini in Iran (including its terrorist proxies of Hamas, Hezbollah, and the Houthis), who are threatening the peace and security of democracies and freedom-loving people everywhere.

The lessons of Pearl Harbor are many, but chief among them is that freedom isn’t free. We always must be vigilant to recognize the forces of evil that seek to destroy our way of life. That is a lesson that is as true today as it was in 1941.

### HAPPY HANUKKAH

The eight-day observance of Hanukkah, also known as the Festival of Lights, starts this Thursday evening, December 7, and will culminate on Friday, December 15.

Hanukkah is observed for eight nights and days by lighting the candles of the Menorah, one on each day of the eight-day celebration. (The Menorah itself consists of nine candles, one of which typically stands above the rest and is used to light the other eight.)

Hanukkah commemorates the victory of the Maccabees in 166 BCE when the Maccabees liberated the Jewish people from the Greek-based rulers who essentially had outlawed the Jewish religion.

When the triumphant Maccabees captured the city of Jerusalem, they quickly entered the Holy Temple, tossing out the images of the Greek gods that had been installed there by the occupying rulers. When the Maccabees went to light the Menorah candles in the Temple, they thought they only had one day’s worth of oil. However, the candles remained lit for eight days -- hence the miracle of the Festival of Lights.

Hanukkah is a joyous occasion for Jews world-wide, marked by gatherings of friends and families and the playing of traditional games such as the dreidel and eating traditional -- and delicious! -- foods such as latkes. Needless to say, in the aftermath of the events of October 7, as well as the appalling subsequent increase in anti-semitic incidents in America and around the world, Hanukkah this year will have special meaning for Jews the world over.

We wish to take this opportunity to wish our friends and readers of the Jewish community a happy, healthy, and joyful Hanukkah season and we join them in solidarity against anti-semitism in all its forms.

# Independent Forum

## GUEST OP-ED

### Unlocking the potential of Everett

By Carlo DeMaria

Everett is a community with tremendous potential. Like many of my fellow residents, I have always known this about my beloved hometown.

There is a beautiful view from my office in City Hall. There are amazing sunsets that highlight the skyline. This view also highlights the obvious distinctions between Everett’s skyline that is still dotted with twentieth-century industrial tank farms in stark comparison to the gleaming glass buildings that have risen from development opportunities available in other communities.

I have been transparent for more than ten years in my advocacy to generate interest in new projects that will transform defunct, contaminated, blighted industrial eyesores that have served for too long as reminders about the historic limits on what others thought was possible in Everett.

There is the potential to locate a professional soccer stadium along the Everett waterfront on the site of a power plant that is in

the process of being fully decommissioned in 2024. It is a potential project because projects like this are a multi-phased effort. Legislation is needed to unlock this potential because the site currently is considered a Designated Port Area (DPA). This law was intended to prevent the overdevelopment of waterfront areas to the detriment of maritime industries. The law has served an important purpose in the Commonwealth. But it currently is preventing an environmental justice community from realizing the benefits of a project that will remediate a contaminated industrial site and transform the Everett waterfront with an environmentally sound, publicly-accessible use that will generate increased revenue to support critical needs in our community.

Is this a big proposal? Certainly is. Is it necessary? Absolutely. The Encore casino project proved that it takes a substantial development effort to clean up contaminated former industrial sites and transform them into modern revenue generating opportunities.

The removal of the DPA designation for this site does not remove a possible stadium project from the public processes of state and local permitting. Creating the possibility for this project opens up the potential for public discussions about the issues that are important to Everett, neighboring communities, and the Commonwealth. This project would have limited parking availability that can be leveraged to advance the investment in the critical expansion of public transit with additional bus rapid transit lanes, the extension of the Silver Line, and the pedestrian bridge across the Mystic River to connect with MBTA service at Assembly Row until Everett finally gets its own rail service. Creating a viable public transit system that our residents desperately deserve has been the focus of development in Everett.

It isn’t a secret how much I believe in Everett’s potential. The work we have done on the Northern Strand bike path and to increase access to clean and revitalized areas along the Mystic and

Malden Rivers is evidence of my support for publicly -accessible open space. It also is no secret that I support environmentally friendly projects that create union construction jobs and increase future employment options for Everett residents. The fact is that new development projects are needed to replace tax revenue that is being lost currently because of the dwindling days of a nearly defunct power plant. These are all important purposes that I know my fellow elected local and state leaders all support.

The time has come for the rest of the Commonwealth to realize what I have always known about Everett. We are a city of pride, progress, and possibilities. We need to rethink the laws that inhibit our ability to tear down the smoke stacks that still line our waterfront so we can deconstruct the limits on Everett’s potential.

*Carlo DeMaria currently serves as the Mayor of the City of Everett. He has served in this role since 2009.*

### UPCOMING EVENTS AT EVERETT PUBLIC LIBRARIES

#### Parlin Adult and Teens

Connolly Center Book Group, Connolly Center Meeting Room. Thursday, December 14th at 12pm. Hercule Poirot’s Christmas has Agatha Christie’s Belgian sleuth solving a murder case at Christmas. See Kathleen for copies on her twice monthly visits, or call the Parlin (617) 394 2300 or Shute (617) 394 2308 libraries.

#### Parlin Childrens

Lego Club. Parlin Children’s Room. Monday, December 11th from 3-5pm. Come to the Children’s Room after school on Mondays for some free-building lego fun. Open to all ages. Children under 6 years old must be accompanied by an adult. No registration required.

Storytime with Vera. Parlin Children’s Room. Tuesday, December 12th at 12pm. In English or Portuguese by request.

Visit the Parlin Library Children’s Room to attend! Suggested ages 2-6.

Crafts for Kids Parlin Children’s Room. Tuesday, December 12th at 3pm. Let’s make a Big Eyed Christmas Magnet. All kids ages 3 and up are welcome; please come and join the fun! Registration is required. Sign up online or at the Parlin Children’s desk.

Storytime and Singalong with Karen, Parlin Children’s Room. Wednesday, December 13th at 11am. Join us for a fun-filled morning of singing and storytelling with Karen! Suggested ages 0-6.

Mad Science Presents: Café Grossé. Parlin Children’s Room. Wednesday, December 13th at 3pm. Be a chef grossé! Create awful play food for Café Grossé wait staff to serve to those who dare

to dine. Our signature dish: Spaghetti and Eyeballs Grossé. You can be a server, host or customer; no restaurant experience required! Edible food snacks available at the end of the program. Registration is required, so sign up today!

Saturday Cinema Special! Parlin Meeting Room. Saturday, December 16th at 12 pm. Break out the popcorn! Come and watch Home Alone with your friends and family.

Origami Club. Parlin Fireplace Room. Saturday, December 16th at 12pm. Come and practice the ancient art of paper folding. All ages and skill levels are welcome!

**Shute Adult and Teens** Christmas Carol by Delvena Theatre, Shute Meeting Room. Thursday, December 14th at 5:30 PM. The Delvena Theatre

Company will present a dramatic reading of the Charles Dickens classic, A Christmas Carol. Watch in fascination as Marley comes back from the dead to help Scrooge amend his miserly ways here on earth and transform himself into a pleasant, giving old gentleman. With the help of three ghosts – the Ghost of Christmas Past, Ghost of Christmas Present and the Ghost of Christmas Future – the audience will be mesmerized as old Scrooge takes a long look at his life and reevaluates its path. Open to all ages and no registration required.

#### Shute Childrens

Storytime with Vera. Shute Children’s Room. Thursday, December 14th at 12pm. In English or Portuguese by request. Visit the Shute Library Children’s Room to attend! Suggested ages 2-6.

## Your opinions, please

The Everett Independent welcomes letters to the editor.

Our address is 385 Broadway, Revere, MA 02151.

Letters may also be e-mailed to editor@everettindependent.com.

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

The Everett Independent reserves the right to edit letters for space, accuracy and clarity. We regret that we cannot publish unsigned letters. Please include your street and telephone number with your submission. The Everett Independent publishes columns, viewpoints and letters to the editor as a forum for readers to express their opinions and to encourage debate. Please note that the opinions expressed are not necessarily those of The Everett Independent.

Text or attachments emailed to editor@everettindependent.com are preferred.

# Everett

## Independent

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EXCELLENCE IN THE EVERETT PUBLIC SCHOOLS

A huge ‘Thank You’ to Nick Nuzzo!

Webster custodian makes a generous donation

Representatives from the Everett Public Schools (EPS) and the City of Everett gathered at the Webster School on Friday, November 17, 2023, to extend their sincerest gratitude to custodian Nick Nuzzo for purchasing 10 Market Basket gift cards to deserving families for Thanksgiving.

“Mr. Nuzzo has been making an annual donation to our students for several years, and I couldn’t let this holiday season pass without properly thanking him,” said School Committee member Millie Cardello, a Webster grandparent who organized the event. “My thanks to the EPS and the City for joining me in recognizing this tremendous

act of kindness.”

Interim Superintendent William Hart presented a formal letter of thanks to Mr. Nuzzo, while Director of Veterans Affairs Antoine Coleman presented the 16-year EPS veteran with an official citation from the City of Everett. School Committee members Mike Mangan and Jeanne Cristiano also attended the special ceremony.

“You can’t beat the combination of community and compassion, and this thoughtful and helpful donation encapsulates both,” said Mr. Hart. “It was my privilege to join the School Committee and the city in recognizing and thanking Mr. Nuzzo.”



From left: School Committee Chairman Mike Mangan, Interim Superintendent William Hart, School Committee member Millie Cardello, Director of Veterans Affairs Antoine Coleman, custodian Nick Nuzzo, Webster School administrators Devon Abruzzese and Samantha Grant, School Committee member Jeanne Cristiano, and Webster School Principal Christopher Barrett.

The Thanksgiving Spirit

Zonta Club donates gift cards to the EPS



Thanks to the Zonta Club of Chelsea and the North Shore for donating six \$50 Market Basket gift cards to deserving EPS families at the Lafayette School and Madeline English School. Zonta Club member Pam Miller made the donation on Monday, November 20, 2023, at the Administration Building on Vine Street. From left: Lafayette Principal David Brady, Madeline English Principal Theresa Tringale, Ms. Miller, and Interim Superintendent William D. Hart.

From the Arts Department

Famous puppeteer dazzles kindergartners



Renowned puppeteer Leigh Baltzer performed for more than 70 kindergarten students at the Whittier School on Thursday, November 16, 2023. Ms. Baltzer performed imaginative and engaging renditions of “Owl Babies,” “Little Blue Truck,” and “Caps For Sale,” all featuring a variety of puppets and other visuals. Afterwards, Ms. Baltzer answered questions about the stories and her puppets. She also gave every student coloring pages with images of her puppets to take home.

Be The Change

EHS students immerse themselves in outdoor art exhibit

Jewish Arts Collaborative (JArts) Executive Director Laura Mandel led Everett High School students on a lively tour of the outdoor art exhibit, Be The Change, on Friday, November 17, 2023.

JArts brought the exhibit to Everett’s Glendale Park through a grant award to Art Lab Everett. Ms. Mandel guided EHS students through the exhibit and helped them analyze and interpret the meanings

of the sculptures, which included: “Free To Learn” by Ruth Kathryn Henry, “In Other Eyes” by Wen Hao Tien, “The Power of the Vote” by Dana Woolf, “Wishing Well” by Cicily Carew, and “Transcending Borders” by Julia Czeko. (Many students noted that “Transcending Borders” was their favorite piece.)

Ms. Mandel led a meaningful academic discourse with the students, who shared their emotions and

the memories the sculptures elicit. It made for a thought-provoking discussion on what was a picturesque fall afternoon.

JArts is a Boston-based organization devoted to connecting people through the power of arts and culture, while Ms. Mandel is an artist, social entrepreneur, and public art advocate. Thanks to JArts and the Everett Art Lab for creating this engaging opportunity for our students.



Everett High School student strolled through Everett’s Glendale Park for the Jewish Arts Collaborative’s outdoor art exhibit.

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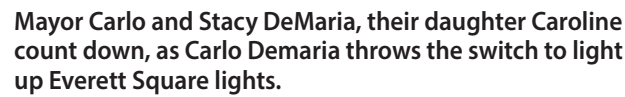
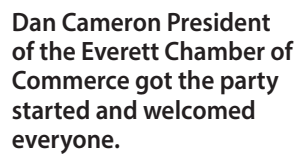
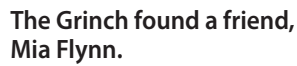
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If you would like to know about all of the upcoming events the City of Everett has planned, please visit [cityofeverett.com/calendar/category/events/list](http://cityofeverett.com/calendar/category/events/list). You can also follow the official social media pages on Facebook, Instagram and X (the platform formerly known as Twitter). Facebook: [/cityofeverettma](https://www.facebook.com/cityofeverettma) and [/mayorcarlodemaria](https://www.facebook.com/mayorcarlodemaria). Instagram: [@cityofeverettma](https://www.instagram.com/cityofeverettma) and [@mayorcarlodemaria](https://www.instagram.com/mayorcarlodemaria). X: [@City\\_EverettMA](https://twitter.com/City_EverettMA) and [@Mayor\\_DeMaria](https://twitter.com/Mayor_DeMaria). All are welcome to attend the many exciting events that are planned.



Santa is welcomed by kids of all ages to Everett Square.

A full-page photograph of a bronze statue of George Washington standing in a grand hall with large white columns. The statue is positioned in the center, looking forward. The hall has a high ceiling and large windows in the background, creating a bright, open atmosphere. The statue is on a pedestal with the name 'GEORGE WASHINGTON' inscribed on it. The columns are fluted and have papyrus capitals. The floor is made of large stone tiles. The overall scene is one of historical significance and grandeur.

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he doesn't know much about helping  
a kid get a student loan.**

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CITY OF EVERETT HOSTS ANNUAL TREE LIGHTING



Everett Chamber of Commerce with hot cider, Cheryl Smith, President Dan Cameron and Linda Maloney.



Everett City Council, Mike Marchese, John Hanlon, Stephanie Martins, and Michael Mangon.



Santa thanks EFD Crew of Engine 2 for a great ride down Broadway.



Everett Bank was part of the celebration, Carmella Vitale and Cary Lynch were having a great time meeting everyone.



Michael and Siena Haley with Frosty.



EHS Marching Band played a selection of holiday tunes.



The EHS Choir entertained with holiday selections.



Mrs. Claus treated everyone with a song.



Mini, Mickey and Pikachu welcome Mayor DeMaria, Stacy, Carlo and Caroline DeMaria to the tree lighting.



Mayor Carlo and Stacie DeMaria with members of Everett's Police and Fire Departments.



Carlo DeMaria

Mayor

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# Local veterans served special Thanksgiving luncheon by Northeast Metro Tech Culinary students

Superintendent David DiBarri is pleased to announce that Northeast Metro Tech Culinary students served a special Thanksgiving luncheon for local veterans.

On Tuesday, Nov. 21, Culinary students opened the Breakheart Inn to 58 veterans from the Town of Wakefield and Saugus Veterans group and the Veteran’s Administration. Culinary students have been providing lunch to veterans on Thanksgiving for over five years.

“Serving this lunch to our Veterans is the highlight of our year,” said Cu-

linary Department Head Elizabeth Beals Hender-son. “We consider it an exceptional honor to serve those that have served our country.”

The lunch menu includ-ed salad with balsamic vinaigrette, followed by a roasted turkey dinner with mashed potatoes, gravy, house-made cornbread stuffing, roasted butternut squash and house-made cranberry sauce. Dessert consisted of coffee and freshly baked pumpkin pie with whipped cream.

Beals said students were excited to serve and meet local veterans, and

that they especially en-joyed that two Northeast Metro Tech faculty, Mark Rooney and Jim Clark, were among the veterans that were served.

“This luncheon is very special to us because it is so important to show our appreciation to those who have served our country,” said Principal and Deputy Director Carla Scuzzarel-la, who also attended the luncheon to speak with veterans. “I am proud of our Culinary students for producing such a great meal, and for showing so much respect to those who have earned it.”



Northeast Metro Tech Culinary students served a special Thanksgiving luncheon to 58 local veterans at the school’s Breakheart Inn.

## EHS Roundup

### WINTER SPORTS SEASON KICKS INTO GEAR THIS WEEK

The winter sports season for Everett High athletes will get underway this coming week. Coach Jehu Cimea and his girls and boys indoor track and field teams will take part in this Saturday’s MSTCA Large School Winter Festival at the Reggie Lewis Center in Boston, the first of many invitational meets during the winter indoor season.

In addition, the Tide tracksters will take on all seven of their Greater Boston League (GBL) rivals (Lynn English, Lynn Classical, Chelsea, Everett, Medford, Malden, and Somerville) in three tri-meets and a dual meet starting next Friday (December 15) against Chelsea and Lynn Classical. All of the GBL meets will be held at the Reggie Lewis Center this season.

Coach Riley Dunn and the Everett High girls basketball team opens its season next Tuesday (De-

cember 12) at GBL rival Malden.

“We’re excited for another season,” said Dunn. “We have solid leadership in the senior and junior classes this year. I’m just really excited to work with this group. They are hungry and ready to work. Let’s get it!”

The seniors for the 2024 edition of the Lady Crimson Tide are Kaesta Sandy, Taisha Alexandre, Malaica Guillaume, Malica Guillaume, and Gleidy Tejada Sanchez; juniors are Emilia Maria-Babcock, Clarice Alexis, Sonia Flores, Manal Bouhou, and Gerniah Boyce; and the sophomores are Casey Martinez and Katerin Landaverde

Dunn and her crew have two upcoming scrimmages this week with Central Catholic today (Wednesday) and Stoneham on Friday.

The Lady Crimson Tide will face each of their seven GBL foes twice. Con-tests with non-league opponents Acton-Boxboro, Lowell (twice), New Mis-

sion, Lawrence, and Mar-blehead round out their 20-game schedule.

The Everett boys bas-ketball team also will get its season underway on Tuesday when the Crim-son Tide host GBL foe Malden at the EHS gym. The opening tip is set for 7:00. In addition to the 14 contests with their seven GBL rivals, the boys will face non-league oppo-nents Northampton, Cam-bridge Rindge and Latin, East Boston, and Sharon to complete their 18-game schedule.

The season-opening face-off for the Everett High hockey team, which is a co-op team with players from Revere and Malden, is set for next Wednesday (December 13) at 4:00 at Allied Veterans Rink. The Tide will meet GBL rivals Somerville, Medford, and Lynn (which is a combination of players from Lynn Clas-sical and Lynn English) twice each and will face a number of non-league op-ponents to complete their 20-game schedule.

## Metro Credit Union expands leadership team with two executive promotions

December 5, 2023 — Metro Credit Union, the largest state-chartered credit union in Massachu-setts, today announced that it has expanded its Senior Leadership Team to include VP Retail Ad-ministration Robert Eydenberg and SVP Senior Commercial Lender Kev-in Malone. Eydenberg and Malone will report directly to President and CEO Robert Cashman. In addition, Metro has promoted Melissa Breen, VP Risk & Compliance, Emily Featherstone, AVP Internal Communications, and Jacquelyn Keeley, VP Controller to officer roles.

“Our employees and their leadership and guid-ance are essential to maxi-mizing Metro’s impact on member service and the communities we serve,” said Robert Cashman, President and CEO of Metro Credit Union. “Our newest senior team mem-bers and officers bring many years of experience and leadership in the fi-nancial services industry – we celebrate their ac-complishments and look forward to their continued contributions and suc-cess.”

**Senior Leadership Team**  
Robert Eydenberg, VP Retail Administration — Eydenberg joined Metro in 2006, previously serving as AVP Contact Center Manager and VP Contact Center. Today, he oversees all of Metro’s 19 retail branches and the Mem-ber Service Center, and is committed to the de-velopment and retention of member relationships to achieve objectives related to business growth, new account sales, mem-ber service, and retention. Prior to Metro, Eydenberg held various management positions at Eastern Bank.

Kevin Malone, SVP Se-

nior Commercial Lender — Malone joined Metro in 2019 and is responsi-ble for providing Metro’s commercial members with innovative financial solu-tions that build long term relationships and improve the communities Metro serves. He brings over 35 years of financial services experience including in as-set-based lending, acquisi-tion finance, commercial and industrial finance, as well as credit underwrit-ing, risk review, and asset recovery. Prior to joining Metro, Malone served as Executive Vice President at Blue Hills Bank, Mar-ket President at TD Bank, as well as a number of other senior positions in financial services.

**Officer Promotions**  
Melissa Breen, VP Risk & Compliance — Breen oversees risk management activities and areas of reg-ulatory compliance. Since joining Metro in 2007, Breen has held many dif-ferent positions across the Credit Union in Metro’s branches and back office departments, and most re-cently as AVP Risk Man-ager. In October, she com-pleted the requirements to be certified as a CUCE (Credit Union Compli-ance Expert).

Emily (Lospennato) Featherstone, AVP In-ternal Communications — Featherstone joined Metro in 2020 as Public Relations Specialist and most recently served as Communications Direc-tor, overseeing both in-ternal and external com-munications. In her new role as part of the HR leadership team, she will continue to expand upon Metro’s internal commu-nications strategy. Previ-ously, Featherstone held positions at Boston law school New England Law and public relations agen-

cy V2 Communications.

Jacquelyn Keeley, VP Controller — Keeley is a Certified Public Account-ant (CPA) and oversees the financial close process, and monthly and quarter-ly internal and regulator-y reporting duties. She joined Metro in 2021 as AVP Assistant Controller Accounting and previous-ly was Audit Supervisor and Assurance Manag-er at top-ranked national accounting and advisory firm Marcum LLP.

Metro Credit Union is the largest state-chartered credit union in Massachu-setts, with \$3 billion in as-sets. Metro provides a full range of financial products to close to 200,000 mem-bers in Barnstable, Bristol, Essex, Franklin, Hamp-den, Hampshire, Middle-sex, Norfolk, Plymouth, Suffolk, and Worcester counties in Massachusetts, and Cheshire, Hillsbor-ough, and Rockingham counties in New Hamp-shire. Metro is the credit union of choice for em-ployees at over 1,200 companies through its Metro@work program.

Founded in 1926, Met-ro currently operates 19 branch offices in Bos-ton, Burlington, Chelsea, Dorchester, Framingham, Lawrence, Lynn, Med-ford, Melrose, Newton, Peabody, Reading, Sa-lem, Tewksbury, and West Roxbury. Metro is also a Juntos Avanzamos (“To-gether We Advance”) designated credit union, an honor given to finan-cial institutions for their commitment to serving and empowering Hispanic and immigrant consumers. Metro was recently named among the most charitable companies in Massachu-setts by the Boston Busi-ness Journal. Learn more at MetroCU.org.

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10:01 Laura Mandel, Ruth Henry, Cicely Carew

11:19 Laura Mandel, Ruth Henry, Cicely Carew,  
Wen Hao Tien, Julia Csekö

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## ENCORE BOSTON HARBOR PACKS A MILLION MEALS ON THEIR SEMI-ANNUAL CHARITY EVENT

Encore Boston Harbor’s bi-annual charitable initiative, “Feed the Funnel,” took place last Wednesday and Thursday as team Encore Boston Harbor worked to achieve its goal of packing one million meals this year for local families in need, in partnership with nonprofit organization The Pack Shack.

During Encore Boston Harbor’s “packing parties,” 2,000 employees, vendors, partners, friends, and family worked together to assemble as many meals as possible for local distribution. In August, Encore Boston Harbor packed just over 450,000 meals at its bi-annual Feed The Funnel event, and last week, Encore Boston Harbor was able to complete the packing of the remainder of those 1 million meals. The meals were donated to area food banks.

Encore Boston Harbor president Jenny Holaday celebrated alongside volunteers with a toast, cake, confetti cannons, music, and more.



Over 2,000 employees, vendors, partners, friends, and family worked together to assemble as many meals as possible for local distribution.



Boston Red Sox’s Wally the Green Monster and Tessie the Green Monster helped with the event.

## DOC implements no cost phone calls

The Massachusetts Department of Correction (DOC) implemented no cost phone calls across its 14 correctional facilities to provide equitable access to sustained communication between incarcerated individuals and their loved ones. The move results from legislation signed by Governor Maura Healey requiring calls be made available free of charge for individuals in state and county prisons. The Healey-Driscoll Administration supported this initiative in recognition that maintaining a connection between incarcerated individuals and their families is vital to enhancing rehabilitation, reducing recidivism, and improving community safety.

Beginning December 1, 2023, all calls from the standard facility wall phone will use the same call procedures outlined in the Department’s Telephone Access and Use

Policy. However, phone calls will no longer incur any charge. Previously, the incarcerated individual or the person receiving the call would pay the fee. Under the change, there is no cap on the number of calls.

“The Massachusetts Department of Correction recognizes the importance of incarcerated individuals maintaining bonds with their loved ones. No cost calls will alleviate the financial burden and remove barriers for an individual in MA DOC custody to stay connected with their outside support system. Strong family support helps to advance the rehabilitative process, reduces recidivism, and contributes to successful reentry upon release,” said DOC Commissioner Carol Mici.

To raise awareness about this change, DOC provided the population with written notification,

posted signage in all residential units, and uploaded a message to each person’s department-issued educational tablet.

In anticipation of increased demand and call volume within each housing unit, DOC has proactively engaged the phone vendor, Securus Technologies, to identify locations across the agency that may benefit from additional wall phones. DOC is also exploring ways to facilitate additional access, including the ability to make calls through tablets. In addition, the Department provides other opportunities for incarcerated individuals to stay connected with loved ones through in-person visits, letters, and electronic messaging.

The Department has published an FAQ to provide families and loved ones with more information about the implementation of the no cost call initiative.

## LEGAL NOTICE

### LEGAL NOTICE



#### REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS AND QUALIFICATIONS

The City of Everett, acting through its Department of Planning & Development, seeks a professional firm or team to provide Grant Administration Services for the implementation of CDBG program activities funded by a FY 22-23 Massachusetts CDBG (MCDBG) grant from the Executive Office of Housing and Livable Communities (EOHLC). The approved grant activities include:

- \* Everett Housing Rehabilitation Program (12 units),
  - \* Five social service activities: Housing Families, Bread of Life, Mystic Valley Elder Services, For Kids Only and Justice Resource Institute (JRI)
  - \* Acquisition of 25 Garvey Street
- The city seeks the services of a Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program Manager and a Housing Rehabilitation Specialist to assist in the administration and implementation of the grant. Firms, teams, or individuals may submit qualifications and proposal packages in response to this RFPQ.

Respondents may submit proposals to provide the services of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program Manager or a Housing Rehabilitation Specialist or all requested services. Proposals including all services are preferred but that does not preclude any proposal having one or two services from being awarded. Firms/individuals must submit 3 copies (one original + 2 copies) of the complete proposal package to: Ms. Allison Jenkins, Chief Procurement Officer, Everett City Hall, 484 Broadway, Room 14, Everett, Massachusetts 02149. Responses to the RFP/Q

must be received no later than Tuesday, December 19, 2023, 1:00pm at the address listed above. The City reserves the right to reject any or all proposals should it be deemed to be in the best interest of the City of Everett to do so. Funding for the CDBG Program activities is provided by a FY 22-23 Massachusetts Community Development Block Grant Program Mini-Entitlement award. All pertinent federal and state statutes apply. The city encourages Section 3, minority, and women-owned business participation.

12/6/23  
EV

## OBITUARIES

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NEWS FROM AROUND THE REGION

CITY RECEIVES GRANT FOR MILL CREEK

CHELSEA - The city recently received a federal grant that will help pay for the restoration of Mill Creek.

The \$428,000 grant from the National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Association (NOAA) was secured under the leadership of the Chelsea City Council in conjunction with the city’s housing and community development department, GreenRoots, the Mystic River Watershed Association, and the Nature Conservancy.

“We have been prioritizing the restoration of Mill Creek because it is a degraded habitat,” said Director of Community and Housing Development Alex Train. “Because it is a degraded habitat, the partnership is seeking to restore the creek as well as restore public access to the waterfront.”

Train thanked the federal delegation of Senators Markey and Warren and Congresswoman Pressley for helping to secure the major federal construction grant through NOAA.

The grant will be used for the first phase of construction for the project, which consists of the removal of the Slade’s Mill Dam in the creek. The city previously secured \$800,000 for the design and engineering of the entire project, Train said.

“The goal is to fully or partially remove the dam to restore tidal flow in the creek to improve water quality and to prevent invasive species while providing educational opportunities and engaging with residents on the importance of Mill Creek,” said Train. “This is going to occur in tandem with our efforts to design a new park at 88 Clinton St. as well as a riverwalk which are being designed in parallel with the restoration efforts.”

The timeline for the dam removal is likely 18 to 24 months due to the federal and state permitting processes, Train said.

“The second phase of the project will entail the stabilization of eroding coastline, a removal of invasive species, and installation of a new waterfront boardwalk,” said Train.

Currently, the city’s plans envision a boardwalk beginning on Broadway adjacent to 1005 Broadway and continuing to 88 Clinton St. with the opportunity to eventually extend the boardwalk to the Chelsea Housing Authority property, Train said.

Train said the city is seeking construction funds for the additional phases of the project.

NEW GENEVA STREET PROJECT PROPOSED AT GSCA MEETING

EAST BOSTON - At its monthly meeting, the Gove Street Citizens Association (GSCA) reviewed plans for a proposal that would bring multiple units to 12 Geneva Street.

The project, presented by Attorney Richard Lynds, proposes constructing a new four-story building comprised of four units intended for homeownership.

Regarding the makeup of the units, there would be one two-bedroom, which is an accessible unit, along with three three-bedroom units. Additionally, the square footage of these units ranges from a little over 1,050 square feet to 1,231 square feet.

In speaking about the bedrooms, Lynds said, “We’re trying to gear those toward — as we do more regularly here in this community — the larger-sized bedroom counts so that we’re not essentially developing something that really caters to a more transient population.”

“This is something that at least allows for a good-sized unit, could be used for starting families or larger households,” he added.

In terms of the zoning relief sought in conjunction with this project, several variances are needed under current zoning. These variances relate to minimum lot width, the side and rear yard, floor area ratio, height, open space, and parking.

However, Lynds noted during the presentation that the neighborhood could get new zoning through the Boston Planning and Development Agency’s (BPDA) neighborhood planning initiative PLAN: East Boston.

This means that some of the aspects of the project that require a variance under current zoning could actually end up complying with the proposed zoning through PLAN: East Boston.

Other aspects of the project include the proposal containing zero parking spaces and plans for a roof deck exclusive to the fourth unit.

When a discussion about the proposal opened up, the first concern brought up by an attendee was the parking.

“There’s proposed on this 11 bedrooms. Historically, what we’ve seen, there’s about one car per bedroom for people who are buying at these price levels, and I don’t necessarily think the neighborhood can really accommodate those 11 extra cars,” said the attendee.

Lynds responded, explaining that parking options on the lower level were explored and, at best, two or three parking spaces could be included.

“While I understand the comment about the parking, we do feel that we explored both options, and the use of the space for an accessible unit we feel makes a lot more sense overall and aligns pretty much where the city is going with new developments,” said Lynds

“We’re going to take a chance in asking for the relief for the parking on this one,” he added.

Another attendee asked about the state of zoning. In part, Lynds described the state of zoning as being in limbo.

“The way it works right now is, I need to appeal the determination of inspectional services based upon the current zoning because we filed for this permit before any zoning change is going to happen. However, it’s important that we overlay where the zoning is going because that is the guidance that the Boston Planning and Development Agency will give to the zoning board,” he said.

“We technically still require relief, but it is consistent with or largely consistent with the direction for new zoning for the area.”

As the discussion continued, an attendee complimented the proposal, and there was a conversation about the rear setback as it relates to the neighborhood context.

Concerning the next steps, since this was the first presentation of the project to the GSCA, it would need to be presented again for a vote to be held. The GSCA is not scheduled to meet in December but will reconvene on January 22.

**DISABILITIES COMM. HEARS OF THE NEED FOR AFTER-SCHOOL PROGRAMS**

REVERE - The Revere Commission on Disabilities held its regular monthly meeting on Tuesday, November 14, via Zoom. Chair Ralph DeCicco, vice-chair Pauline Perno, and fellow members Jason Barone-Cichocki, Robert Brown, and Mario Grimanis were on hand for the meeting.

The guest speaker for the meeting was Deborah Kneeland-Keegan, the long-time director of the For Kids Only (FKO) After-School program, who made a presentation to the members about FKO’s Youth in Motion program and what FKO offers for

MASS BADGE THANKSGIVING

terie



Shown above, Kitchen crew, Joe Inter-nicola with Mayor-Elect Patrick Keefe, Director of Parks and Recreation Mike Hinojosa and some of the many volunteers during the Mass Badge Thanksgiving Dinner. Shown inset, Marie Voto, Al Doucette, Judy D'Ambrosio, and Beverly Forgione.

children with disabilities.

Kneeland-Keegan, a former special education teacher whose career began in the 1970s, said she recognized that there was a need for after-school programs for children and opened her non-profit company in 1984, which is now observing its 40th anniversary.

Since beginning in Winthrop, FKO has expanded to other communities, including Chelsea, Revere, Everett, and Peabody. FKO is open year-round and until 6 p.m. on school days. FKO has been serving Revere since 1998 and was selected by United Way-Mass Bay to receive a grant to build its facility on Broadway, which initially was known as Youth in Motion, and has expanded into social and emotional learning work.

Kneeland-Keegan said the program in Revere is licensed to serve 140 children in grades K-5 and is working with the city to expand its programs to include middle school-age children. The programs offered at FKO, which is under contact with the Mass. Dept. of Early Education and Care, presently include inclusion specialists and one-on-one for students who need specialized care, including those who have disabilities or severe behavioral problems. She said that FKO partners with local schools, inclusion specialists, and social workers, among others, to achieve success for every child. She also noted that the program “does not use ‘time-outs’, which is a punitive approach to change, and instead we use a more-positive behavioral approach to learning. FKO is committed to inclusion as a philosophy, the belief system that every child is engaged and celebrated and to promote the attitude that ‘we all count and we all belong’.

“Youth with inclusion support show increased engagement in learning and improved behavior and relationship with their peers,” Kneeland-Keegan added.

She noted that there has been a tremendous change in the needs of children who have been impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. She also said that FKO designs individualized plans to accommodate each child, similar to an Individualized Education Plan (IEP) in the school system. Subsidies are available for those who need it. In addition, the FKO staff is multilingual and the FKO facility is fully-accessible.

Grimanis noted the great need for programs for middle school-age children, a sentiment with which Keegan fully-agreed.

“This is a critical need. Many students who have been with us for five years do not want to leave,” said Keegan, “but we do not have any place for them.”

DeCicco noted that he had been in favor of the Wonderland site for the new high school principally because it would have been able to accommodate programs in the school such as FKO’s. However, the new high school that is being proposed by some at a location other than Wonderland will be “squished-in” and will not be able to handle the programs that are needed to address the needs of today’s youth.

Keegan then added that support in the Revere community is needed in order to expand FKO’s reach to accommodate children in middle school.

TOWN CONTINUES WEBSITE IMPROVEMENTS

WINTHROP - The town is continuing to make upgrades to its website, even as there have been improvements over the past year, according to the Town Council President.

At last week’s meeting, Council President Jim Let-

fielded a question about town information regarding trash pick up and other updates that were posted on Winthrop discussion boards, but were not found on the town website. One resident noted that citizens could get confused if information was posted in the discussion groups but was hard to find on the official town website.

“As far as policy goes, I think the council’s internal policy is that everything should be on the town website,” said Letterie. “There are people that will copy and paste stuff like that ... and there’s not much we can do about that. Anything concerning late pick-up days or holiday pick-up or leaf pick-up should be, and I believe it is ... on the town website.”

Town Manager Tony Marino said information on trash and leaf pickup schedules should be on the public works department page of the town’s website.

“Nothing should go out on social media without it being on the town website,” said Letterie.

While there have been improvements to the town’s website, Letterie said there is still work to do and it has not gone unnoticed by the town manager and the council.

“It will continue to be worked on,” Letterie said.

In other business, the council opened and continued the tax classification hearing for Fiscal Year 2024.

“We are still awaiting more information,” said Letterie. “I have asked and the town manager has asked to get more definitive information on certain questions, so we are waiting for numbers. We needed to open the public hearing tonight and we will continue the public hearing.”

The public hearing was continued to the council’s meeting next week on Tuesday, Dec. 5

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CHURCH News

Mystic Side Congregational Church

News and Notes

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

and socializing follow our services. Parking is available in our lot next to the church on Wyllis Ave. (one way off Main Street). We look forward to welcoming you this Sunday.

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

Glendale United Methodist Church

News and Notes

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

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

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

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

NA Meetings – Mon.

Zion Church - Everett

News and Notes

Bishop Robert G. Brown and Zion Church Ministries invites you to join us every Sunday at our 10:00 a.m. Worship Service for a time of worship, praise and preaching, at 757 Broadway, Everett, MA. You can also join

Zion Church Ministries via livestream on Facebook and YouTube.

For more information, they can be reached online at [zionchurchministries.com](http://zionchurchministries.com) or via email at [office@zionchurchministries.com](mailto:office@zionchurchministries.com).

Immaculate Conception Parish

News and Notes

Our Parish Staff: Rev. Joseph Chacha Marwa, S.M.A. Administrator, Rev. Gustavo Buccilli S.M.A Parochial Vicar, Barbara Canon Secretary, Parish Secretary.

Weekly Mass Schedule

ate the Immaculate Conception Parish is as follows:

1: Monday-Saturday at 7:00a.m. in the Chapel.

2: Saturday at 4:00p.m. (Sunday Vigil) and at 7:30p.m. Vietnamese Mass Upper Church.

3: Sunday at 7:00a.m. and 10:00a.m. English Masses. At 12:00p.m. Spanish Mass and 4:00p.m. Haitian Creole Mass.

4: Confessions are on Saturdays from 3:00-3:45

at the Confession Boots in the Chapel, and at 11:15 a.m. 12:00p.m. in Spanish.

5: Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament at the Chapel on Thursday from 7:30 a.m.-6:00 p.m.

Bring a Book buy a Book a new Fundraiser Program at the back of the Church. All books are a dollar. Any money collected goes to our Stain Glass Fund. You are most invited to make a donation for this course. Most welcome to worship with us on Sunday and weekdays. Thank You.

**Immaculate Conception Parish**  
489, Broadway,  
Everett MA 02149 Phone  
Call 6173895660

Glendale Christian Lighthouse Church

News and Notes

Sunday 10:30 a.m. Worship service.

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

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

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

Church at the Well Everett

News and Notes

Church at the Well Everett is a new church for Everett. Check us out on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/churchforeverett](http://www.facebook.com/churchforeverett) to view weekly devotions and updates, visit us at [www.foreverett.church](http://www.foreverett.church)

to sign up for our newsletter and see how we can help you, or connect with the Everett Community Aid Network at [www.ev-erettcan.com](http://www.ev-erettcan.com) to request any additional help.

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Grace Anglican Episcopal Church

News and Notes

Grace Anglican Episcopal Church is open and welcoming to all.

There are two services on Sundays: 10 a.m. English, 1 p.m. South Sudanese Dinka

Come all and let us walk together in this season of hope, renewal and new beginnings.

**Grace Anglican Episcopal Church**  
67 Norwood Street,  
Everett, MA  
Church Phone  
617-387-7526 or  
617-389-5765

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FRESH AND LOCAL

Pie for breakfast

By Penny & Ed Cherubino

“A Yankee is someone who eats pie for breakfast.” That’s an old New England saying popularized by Robert Frost and used as a punchline by E.B. White. That would make many Americans “Yankees” on the day after Thanksgiving. We bet a few of you had a bit of pie with or for breakfast on Thanksgiving weekend.

History of Pie for Breakfast

Writing for the Library of Congress, Jennifer Harbster noted, “The A-Z of Food and Drink (2002) suggests that the word pie (pye) first appeared in English in the early fourteenth century, and by the middle of the century, it became commonplace. In 1378, Richard II issued an ordinance controlling pie prices in London.” At this time, many pies were encased in a non-edible crust called a coffin, a word that initially just meant casing.

Many people who settled in New England came from Old England, which

was then and is now a pie culture. This area of the country has been called the “pie belt.”

What Is a Pie?

Wikipedia says, “A pie is a baked dish which is usually made of a pastry dough casing that contains a filling of various sweet or savoury ingredients.” That definition is broad enough to allow us to indulge in many pie versions for breakfast, including crostatas, flans, pizzas, calzones, or Jamaican Patties.

Looking at a recent list of the most popular pies in the United Kingdom, we found many pie forms. We agree! Our love for pies goes beyond what most people think of as pie.

Holdovers from earlier times are items like the Cornish Pasty, which today has Protected Designation of Origin (PDO) and Protected Geographical Indication (PGI) status. This handheld pie can only be made in Cornwall, and ingredients are limited to beef, potato, rutabaga, onion, salt, and pepper.

Other handheld traditions include pork, meat, and mince pies. And even sausage rolls would make excellent breakfast items.

Open-faced custard pies are also high on the UK favorites list. We haven’t had an open-faced cheese and onion pie, a British comfort food classic. However, we love eggy pies like Quiche Lorraine for breakfast.

Potato-topped pies, popular in the UK and here, include Shepherd and Cottage pies, often made from leftovers. The Brits have taken that one step beyond with their fish pies made from a selection of the best fish they can find at the market, a creamy sauce, and a blanket of golden mashed potatoes. If there were leftovers from that one, it would be gobbled up for breakfast.

Our Pie Traditions

Another special occasion when we might have pie for breakfast is the day after our birthdays. When she was a youngster, a neighbor baked a



This was breakfast for one of us the day after Thanksgiving!

lemon meringue pie for Penny for her birthday every year. In honor of this delightful baker, we often seek out lemon meringue when her birthday arrives.

Last year, Penny presented Ed with a blueberry pie for his birthday instead of a cake. It was such a hit that we’ve added that to our pie traditions.

Penny’s Great Aunt used to add a French Canadian Tourtière to any holiday meal. This tradition has slipped off our menus in the last few years, but now we may make them purely for their breakfast appeal.

The final pie-for-breakfast confession that many of you may have to make

is scoffing down a slice of leftover pizza pie on your way out the door the morning after a gathering of friends. Come on, admit it. You’ve done it!

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The North Shore Philharmonic Orchestra will return to St. Anthony’s Church for the annual Robert A. Marra Memorial “Sounds of Christmas” concert on Sunday, December 17 at 4 p.m. Admission to the concert is free in exchange for a generous donation of non-perishable food to benefit the Revere Food Pantry. This year’s concert is principally sponsored by Bocchino Insurance, East Boston Neighborhood Health Center, MassPort, Xfinity, Astound Broadband, and Action Emergency Services.



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