

Everett Independent

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Wednesday, April 10, 2024

THE APRIL 2024 ECLIPSE



NANCY MARTEL PHOTO

The path of the eclipse overhead this past Monday, April 8.

Administration responds to Martins' request on update of Encore host agreement renegotiations

By Cary Shuman

Mayor Carlo DeMaria has responded to Councilor Stephanie Martins' request for an update on the renegotiation process for the Encore Boston Harbor host agreement.

Martins had asked for the update at previous meetings, including the addition a public safety component to the agreement.

Town Clerk Sergio Cornelio read the response from Mayor DeMaria at Monday night's Council meeting.

"Please be advised that my team and I have met with the representatives from Encore on four occa-

sions since Feb. 12, 2024," wrote DeMaria. "These meetings are in addition to the ongoing dialogue that members of my administration and I have had with representatives from Encore in between actual meetings. These meetings are also in addition to the internal discussions that I conduct on this matter."

DeMaria, who was scheduled to meet with Encore representatives this week, also said he has conveyed to Encore "the City Council's request that a new public safety facility be included as part of these negotiations."

See COUNCIL Page 4

City launches sensory-friendly open gym initiative

Special to the Independent

Mayor Carlo DeMaria is pleased to announce the City of Everett's Youth Development and Enrichment Department has launched Sensory-Friendly Open Gym hours at the Recreation Center.

The new program will offer a welcoming and inclusive open gym that is suitable to youth ages 5 to 18 with sensory friendly and adaptive programming needs. During the program, the gym will feature dim lighting, low noise, sensory-friendly equipment, low sensory space and designated break areas. A guardian for each participant is required for this program.

The Youth Development and Enrichment Department and the Everett Youth Commission recently met at the Recreation Center to plan and review upcoming programming for Everett youth.

"We are thrilled to launch our new sensory-friendly open gym ini-

tiative at the Recreation Center, providing a welcoming space for all members of our community to enjoy physical activity and social interaction," said Director of Youth Development and Enrichment John Russolillo. "This program represents our department's commitment to fostering inclusivity and ensuring that everyone feels valued and supported in our recreational offerings."

"All of the members of the youth commission are delighted that we are taking the steps necessary to be more inclusive for the youth in our community," said Everett Youth Commission Chairperson Holly Garcia. "There is a need for this project and we are looking forward to welcoming those who will utilize this new program."

The sensory-friendly open gym hours will take place on Mondays and Fridays, from 5 p.m. to 6:30 p.m., at the Everett Recreation Center (47 Elm Street). The program will



The Youth Development and Enrichment Department and the Everett Youth Commission recently met at the Recreation Center to plan and review upcoming programming for Everett youth. From left: Assistant Director of Youth Substance Abuse Prevention Eric Mazzeo, Assistant Director of Recreation Mike DiPietro, Everett Youth Commission Chairperson Holly Garcia, and Director of Youth Development and Enrichment John Russolillo.

run from April 8 to June 7. Registration is required to participate. To register, please visit EverettRecandEnrich.com and navigate to the programs tab to learn more.

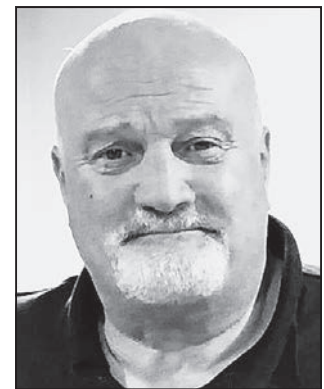
APPRECIATION

EHS sports great Stephen Anzalone, 70

By Cary Shuman

The local sports community is mourning the loss of Stephen "Steve" Anzalone, one of Everett High School's greatest athletes of all time, who died on April 2, 2024, at the age of 70.

Mr. Anzalone was a standout in football, basketball, and baseball during his career for the Crimson Tide. He was especially known for his excellence on the football field for head coach Moody Sarno's teams and helped lead Everett



past Chelsea in the annual Thanksgiving game between the two former GBL rivals. Mr. Anzalone was highly recruited by

See ANZALONE Page 5

City offices closed Monday, as Everett Observes Patriots' Day

Trash will not be picked up on Monday; will be delayed for the rest of the week

Special to the Independent

City offices will be closed to the public on Monday, April 15, as Everett observes the Patriots' Day holiday. City offices will re-open on Tuesday, April 16, and City Hall will have extended hours of operation (8 a.m. to 7:30 p.m.).

Observed on the third Monday in April, Patriots' Day is a holiday that is observed in six states including Massachusetts. The day commemorates the battles of Concord, Lexington and Menotomy (now Arlington), which were some of the first battles of the Revolutionary War.

Monday's observance

will delay trash and recycling pickup by one day. Please place your trash and recycling bins neatly on the sidewalk on the day after your regularly scheduled pickup for this week only.

If you have any questions, please call our Constituent Services Department by dialing 311 or 617-394-2270.

TRASH DELAY

Due to the Patriot's Day Holiday on Monday April 15, 2024, Trash will be delayed by one day

Capitol Waste Services, Inc.

EVERETT KIWANIS DONATES TO EVELYN'S LITTLE PUBLIC LIBRARIES NETWORK



The Everett Kiwanis recently donated \$1,000 to Evelyn Gayhart to establish a new little public library in the City of Everett. Evelyn established her first public library over four years ago. Since then, she has created three more. With the Kiwanis donation, Evelyn will create a fifth little public library in Everett. The intent is to locate it in Glendale Park near the high school. Good luck Evelyn and keep up the great work! Presenting the Kiwanis donation was President Fred Capone, accompanied by members of the Board of Directors and many Club members.

Our office will be closed in observance of the Patriots' Day holiday on Monday, April 15

Ad deadline for next issue is Friday, April 12.

CELEBRATING READ ACROSS AMERICA



COURTESY PHOTO

Former Councilman Al Lattanzi read to Mrs. Servideo's first grade class during Read Across America week. Miss Colameta, Mrs. Servideo and all of the 1st grade students at the Madeline English School would like to give a big shout out to Mr. Lattanzi for reading *One Fish, Two Fish, Blue Fish* by Dr. Seuss. Mrs. Servideo's first grade students are eagerly waiting for his return.

City to host Spring Bash Youth Dance

Mayor Carlo DeMaria is pleased to announce the City of Everett Youth Development and Enrichment Department, in collaboration with the Everett Youth Commission, will host the Spring Bash Youth Dance on Friday, May 10, from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m., at the Everett Recreation Center (47 Elm Street).

Youth in grades four through six from across Everett are welcome to participate in an evening of fun with music, dancing and games. Participants will have the chance to groove to the latest tunes, showcase their dance moves, and mingle with

friends and classmates. The DJ will keep the dance floor alive with a vibrant mix of music that caters to all tastes and styles.

In addition to the dance floor excitement, there will be a variety of entertaining activities to enjoy throughout the evening. From photo booths to interactive games, there's something for everyone at this event.

Parents can rest assured knowing that this event is not only a fun time for kids but also contributes to a worthy cause. All proceeds from the event will benefit Everett Youth Development initiatives. By attending the Spring

Bash, families are actively supporting the growth and development of youth programs in Everett and helping ensure that Everett youth have access to valuable resources and opportunities for success.

Please register in advance for this event by visiting cityofeverett.com/events/spring-bash-2024 and scrolling down to the "Register Now" section. Admission for the event is \$5. For more information, please contact Director of Youth Development and Enrichment John Russolillo at John.Russolillo@ci.everett.ma.us or call 617-294-0475.

McGonagle, Mass. House passes bill to remove outdated and offensive terms in general laws, changes Mass. Rehabilitation Commission's name to 'Massability'

Special to the Independent

Rep. Joe McGonagle, along with his colleagues in the Massachusetts House of Representatives passed two bills that update the Massachusetts General Laws by removing out-of-date and offensive terms related to persons with disabilities, and by renaming the Massachusetts Rehabilitation Commission (MRC) as MassAbility.

"As lawmakers, we know that words matter," said Speaker of the House Ronald J. Mariano (D-Quincy). "This legislation is our latest effort to ensure that our state laws do not use antiquated words that carry negative connotations, words that also serve as a reminder of past injustices. I would like to thank Chairman Livingstone and the entire Joint Committee of Children, Families, and Persons with Disabilities, as well as Governor Healey and the bill sponsors, for their work on this important legislation."

"In 2024, we as legislators in Massachusetts should absolutely be the ones leading the way in inclusivity and ridding our laws of outdated terms," said McGonagle. "This bill is a relatively small act that will make a difference for so many in the Commonwealth. I'm very proud of the my colleagues for choosing to make this bill a priority."

"The name 'MassAbility' will help to reduce stig-

ma and better reflect the strengths and capabilities of the people we serve," said Governor Maura Healey. "We're grateful to Speaker Mariano and the House for advancing this critical legislation."

An Act relative to individuals with intellectual or developmental disabilities removes out-of-date and offensive language from the Massachusetts General Laws when referencing people with disabilities. The language in the bill removes all variations of outdated terms such as "handicapped," "disabled," and "retarded." The bill replaces these terms with current terminology such as "person with a disability" and "person with an intellectual disability." Additionally, the term "autistic" is replaced with "autism" in reference to Autism Awareness Month. Originally filed by Governor Healey, the House also passed legislation to rename the Massachusetts Rehabilitation Commission to MassAbility and to update the outdated terms included in its enabling statute.

General laws, we make a legislative statement that Massachusetts is a place for all."

Having passed the House of Representatives, the bills now go to the Senate for their consideration.

Statements of Support:

The Arc of Massachusetts:

"The Arc of Massachu-

setts is grateful for the passage of the Archaic Language Bill. This legislation has been a priority to The Arc and we appreciate the efforts made by the sponsors of the bill and our legislative champions at the MA State House. Thank you to the past and present Chairs and members of the Joint Committee on Children, Families and Persons with Disabilities. Special recognition to the self-advocates who led the way and never gave up. Words hold power! The language people use is important and influences thoughts and attitudes about people and their capabilities. The use of inappropriate language in society and in our Massachusetts General Law perpetuates negative stereotypes about people with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD). This legislation will not just create legal change but also social change. The Arc strongly supports the passage of this bill as a sign that Massachusetts is listening and will support people with IDD by using thoughtful and positive language in the laws."

Barbara L'Italien, Executive Director of the Disability Law Center:

"Removing archaic language in legislation plays an important role in reducing social stigma and ensuring that state agencies and courts view people with disabilities as entitled to full, equal, and integrated lives in the community."

NEWS IN BRIEF

REGISTRY OF MOTOR VEHICLES CAUTIONS PUBLIC TO BEWARE OF DECEPTIVE AND MIMIC WEBSITES

The Massachusetts Registry of Motor Vehicles (RMV) is reminding customers to use only Mass.Gov/RMV for information or to perform many transactions, including when trying to renew a license or registration. While there has been no sharp increase in reports of deceptive and mimic websites to the RMV, this is a busy time of year for customer transactions so the RMV is issuing this reminder to the public about sites which have been created to mislead customers into thinking they have reached the official RMV website.

"We urge everyone to be vigilant when performing transactions or providing information online for RMV-related services. Customers should avoid using any unofficial third-party websites claiming to assist with RMV services, and inform their relatives and friends about this as well," said Registrar of Motor Vehicles Colleen Ogilvie. "On our official website Mass.Gov/RMV, customers can look up how much specific services cost and see which services are available to them at no charge."

To ensure you are accessing the official RMV site, please remember the following:

- In Massachusetts, we use the term "Registry of Motor Vehicles" and "RMV," so log-off if the site references the "DMV" or the "Department of Motor Vehicles."

- At Mass.Gov/RMV, you will never be charged to check your license, registration or title status.

- At Mass.Gov/RMV, you will never be charged to access Registry forms and information.

- At Mass.Gov/RMV, you will never be charged to change your address on file.

The Registry actively posts online about this topic including on X @MassRMV, and a warning regarding third party websites remains featured in the RMV's Driver's Manual.

Reports of fraudulent websites can be directed to the Attorney General's Office at <http://www.mass.gov/ago/consumer-resources/consumer-assistance/consumer-complaint.html> and the Federal Trade Commission: <https://www.ftc.gov/>.

In addition, customers should beware of text messages or emails which claim to be from MassDOT or the RMV, as these communications often are dangerous phishing scams and not official MassDOT or RMV sources. These fraudulent texts and emails may include links, which do not lead to official MassDOT or RMV websites, and customers

should not follow the links nor reply to these messages with personal information.

Customers with additional questions about how to identify and avoid scams can contact the Office of Consumer Affairs and Business Regulation by calling the Consumer Hotline at (617) 973-8787, or toll-free in Massachusetts at (888) 283-3757.

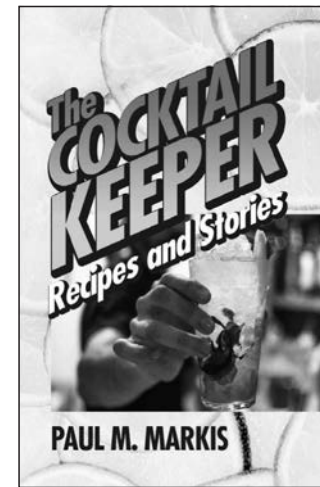
For the latest Registry updates and information, follow the RMV on X @MassRMV.

LOCAL AUTHOR PAUL M MARKIS HOSTS BOOK SIGNING EVENT

Join local author Paul M Markis for a book signing event on Saturday, April 13th, from 11 am to 1 pm at the Winthrop Book Depot located at 11 Somerset Street, Winthrop, MA.

Markis, a resident of Winthrop for the past 20 years, was raised in East Boston. Many may remember him from his 25-year tenure as a bartender at Jeveli's Restaurant.

Attendees are encouraged to bring their own copy of Markis's book, "The Cocktail Keeper: Recipes and Stories," or purchase one at the event to receive a personalized handwritten message from the author.



"The Cocktail Keeper" is a collection of recipes, stories, anecdotes, and more, aimed at entertaining the reader. The book provides insights into successful bartending techniques, along with recipes for unique cocktails explained in simple terms. Markis also shares humorous stories from his forty years in the hospitality industry.

The 134-page paperback, priced at \$15.00 (eBook \$10.00), features a variety of cocktail recipes, famous toasts, medicinal cures, cocktail-making techniques, quips, fun facts, trivia, and real-life

STUDENT GOVERNMENT DAY AT THE STATE HOUSE



Rep. McGonagle at student government day at the State House last week. Everett students who participated were Everette Pineda Chacon and Sarah Tiberii.

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Chelsea Council meeting addresses temporary shelter at former Soldiers' Home

By Adam Swift

Chelsea City Councilors raised questions and concerns about the use of the former Chelsea Soldiers' Home as a temporary shelter for migrants at a special meeting with state officials last Thursday.

The use of the vacant Quigley Building was announced by Governor Maura Healey on Monday, March 25 as part of efforts to handle the overflow of migrants into the state over the past year. City officials were first notified of the plan the day before the announcement.

It is expected that the shelter will be open for six to 12 months, according to the governor's staff, and will serve 100 families, the first of which should be in place later this month.

Thursday night, officials from the Healey administration outlined how the migrant influx has multiplied exponentially over the past two years, as well as how the state plans to operate the temporary shelter.

It was also announced that Chelsea nonprofit La Colaborativa will be the service provider for the families at the shelter.

Council President Norieliz De Jesus, who works for La Colaborativa, recused herself from the discussion after outlining the timeline and efforts the council made once being informed of the temporary shelter plan.

"In my capacity as council president, although this shelter falls outside my district line, I have diligently pushed for transparency within our community," De Jesus said. "There were definitely challenges that we confronted with communication. We got a very short timeframe to be fully briefed for the public questions that came about."

De Jesus noted that the council and city administration met quickly to meet with the governor's staff about the plan, as well as to reach out to the neighborhood around the Old Soldiers' Home.

"The reality is we are all confronting a crisis that is beyond our city and our state," she said.

De Jesus stressed that the special meeting did not pertain to the determination of the establishment of the shelter.

"This property falls under state jurisdiction, therefore we have no control over it and this decision has already been made by the governor," said De Jesus. "Tonight's focus is on comprehending the procedural, logistical, and operational aspects of this site so that our families in Chelsea have a clear understanding of what to expect as this moves forward."

General Scott Rice, the state's emergency assistance director, gave an overview of the migrant influx that has seen as many as 1,000 families come into the state per month in recent months.

As the state met its shelter capacity, it started contracting with underutilized hotels throughout the state as supplemental shelters.

"In October and November, we could clearly see the number of shelters and providers, and the cost to manage the whole, they just became insurmountable, and that's when we decided to implement a policy of a cap at 7,500 families in the system,"

said Rice.

With families continuing to come into the state, it got to the point where the state had to establish overflow sites. The Chelsea site will join overflow sites that have already opened in Quincy and Cambridge, Rice said.

The goal of the overflow sites, and the emergency shelter system as a whole, is to get people into stable housing, help them find employment, and become part of the community, Rice said.

There are currently supplemental shelters, mainly the hotels, in about 90 communities in the state. In November, Rice said the state hit the capacity of 7,500 families, with over 700 currently on the shelter waitlist.

The goal of the overflow sites, such as the one at the Old Soldier's Home, is to provide safe shelter and services for the most vulnerable on the waitlist. That includes those who are either pregnant or just gave birth, and those with major medical issues.

The families are vetted by state staff, according to Alicia Rebello-Pradas, the governor's chief of staff for legislative affairs.

Rebello-Pradas also ran through what a typical day would be like for the migrants at the Chelsea overflow site, as well as the services that will be provided by La Colaborativa and others. She said the shelter will provide services 24/7, and that there will be security on site at all times.

La Colaborativa will oversee the staffing and day-to-day needs of the families, including providing three meals per day, case management focused on stable housing and employment, school enrollment, and transportation from the shelter from the Family Welcome Centers and to necessary medical and immigration appointments. There will also be basic necessities such as diapers, formula, and hygiene items provided.

Additional services will include legal assistance for work authorization and on-site health screenings.

"The goal is to transition families from this site to other locations," said Rebello-Pradas. "Hopeful-

ly, that is stable housing, though some may enter the emergency assistance shelter system and be referred to other locations."

Jon Santiago, the state's veterans' services director, said there have been concerns expressed by veterans at the nearby domiciliary campus and the new veterans' home about security and transportation. He said there will be more conversations with the veterans about those concerns and that the state is committed to making sure they feel safe and secure.

When questioning from the council opened up, Councilor-at-Large Leo Robinson, who lives near the Old Soldiers' Home, expressed some of his frustrations and those of his neighborhood.

"First of all, where is the respect to the local public officials," said Robinson. "I received a call on Sunday evening that the governor would be making an announcement on Monday regarding placing families at the Soldiers' Home hospital. Why were we not notified by the governor or her staff?"

"This did not happen overnight; we should have been involved in the process."

Robinson also wanted to know if the temporary shelter would impact the schedule of the proposed Pennrose development of the domiciliary campus, as well as the impact on parking in the neighborhood.

He said the state should also have been on hand to answer more questions about the impact on public services and educational costs to the city. Robinson also raised some issues about the building itself, which was discontinued two years ago, and how it was going to be occupied.

The councilor also wanted to know if the facility had adequate bathroom and kitchen facilities for the proposed use.

"With respect to the Pennrose Development, this should not impact that at all," said Santiago, with an anticipated groundbreaking at the end of 2024 or beginning of 2025.

Officials noted that there are also fire alarm and safety updates being made to

the old Quigley building itself to ensure safety, and that there will be an occupancy permit from the state. In addition, they also said there would be adequate bathroom facilities, and that culturally appropriate food would be brought into the site for the three meals per day that will be provided at the shelter.

District 2 Councilor Melinda Vega asked if Massachusetts families would potentially be taken off the shelter waitlist and housed in Chelsea, as well. Rebello-Pradas said Massachusetts families would be eligible for shelter at the site.

Councilor-at-Large Roberto Jimenez-Rivera asked if there was an idea of what the demographics of those using the shelter might be so that providers might be better equipped to know what languages would be used when providing assistance.

The state officials noted that the vast majority of new arrivals to the state are Haitian.

District 7 Councilor Manuel Teshe reiterated the city should have been notified earlier, but he added that he applauded the governor for being able to take the initiative and help vulnerable families.

Teshe did ask if there was contact with the Chelsea school department about its current capacity to take in students.

"We have to make sure that wherever they go, that public education is prepared to take them," said Teshe.

District 1 Councilor Todd Taylor asked about the procedure for the migrants receiving work permits, which he said

he believed was a federal procedure and not done through the state.

The state officials noted that there have been nearly 4,000 work permits that have been filed through the services it has provided, with about 3,000 having received their work permits.

"I just want to make a general comment regarding this specific site at the Chelsea Soldiers' Home," said Taylor. "It is a site that is here that is probably a lot better than a lot of other sites that probably could have been used. I just want to reiterate Councilor Robinson's initial thing about - I didn't receive a phone call, I got phone calls from my colleagues, so I think there is room for improvement on that."

Taylor said what happens with the lack of communication is that not everyone has all the correct information about the situation and that it makes people nervous.

"You can understand why some of the residents, especially in that neighborhood, are nervous about this," said Taylor. "That being said, we have a significant problem here overall, and it seems like you guys are working hard to address it. My major concerns aren't with what is going to be done here right now, because we can do all of these things and make it work right now, but what are we going to do when the faucet is running, and people come, and there are only so many places that we have."

"We have a limited number of resources," he added. "It is all well and good, and I think all of us here want to help families ... but we also

want to be proactive about this problem"

Taylor asked what the state officials what they were doing to put pressure on the federal government so that there would not be a constant influx of people that would, at some point, break the bank.

At the end of the special meeting, Robinson, as the senior member of the council, was acting as chair so Taylor could speak. He denied a request to allow La Colaborativa to make a presentation, pointing out that the presentation was not on the agenda for the meeting and would have violated the open meeting law.

Jimenez-Rivera said it should have been up to the full council, not just Robinson as the acting chair, as to whether the meeting should have continued with a presentation from La Colaborativa.

"I think the big piece is that (Robinson) made a determination that this was not compliant with the agenda, and then Councilor Teshe disagreed and then I disagreed," said Jimenez-Rivera. "My understanding was that we were having a conversation about it."

Jimenez-Rivera said it would have been helpful for the council to get more information from La Colaborativa about its planned operation. Since the council did not know the organization was not going to be the services operator prior to the meeting, they were not given a seat at the table with the state officials. If it had been known, Jimenez-Rivera said the council could easily have made room for at least one representative from La Colaborativa to address questions and concerns.

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Everett Independent

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Editor in Chief: Cary Shuman

A FREAKY FRIDAY.....

Did you feel the earthquake Friday morning?

We were sitting in our recliner in our home when the whole house started shaking and the chair started moving rapidly back and forth. We live on the coast, so at first we thought it might be a change of direction or increase in the velocity of the wind, which can cause our house to creak and the windows to rattle a bit.

But we saw no change in the ripples on the water, so we then thought that perhaps a big truck was on the roadway. But there was no truck. Those two thoughts came in rapid succession within about five seconds, so as the shaking of our chair continued, our next, panicked thought was, "It's an earthquake!"

Five seconds later -- about 10 seconds in total -- the shaking and rattling stopped.

We immediately looked out our windows to see if the water was receding from the shoreline, thinking that if it were an off-shore quake, under the ocean, there might be a tsunami. (Of course, there wasn't.)

We then went on the internet to search for "Boston earthquake," and there were a bunch of posts on X and other social media confirming that there had indeed been an earthquake.

The earthquake's center was in New Jersey, where the seismographic recording was a 4.8. The effect in our area was considerably less.

Although there was no damage reported from the quake (even at its epicenter in New Jersey), we have to admit we were shaken to our core. Our otherwise calm Friday morning had been upended by the most random event we could have imagined -- an earthquake. It made us realize how fragile our existence is and how at a moment's notice, our world can be upended.

It also made us empathize with those who are the victims of a major earthquake and for a few seconds, we understood the sheer terror that one feels amidst an event such as that.

We realize that some might say, "It is what it is," but we have a better one: "Everything is good....until it isn't."

.....AND A MANIC MONDAY

We had not intended to view the eclipse, so despite the hype, we had not purchased special eclipse eyewear. We figured we'd focus on what was happening around us -- the birds and other animals, the shadows, the suddenly-cooler air -- rather than on the interplay between the moon and the sun.

But a neighbor drove up as we were standing outside our home and mentioned that he had an extra pair of eclipse eyewear, which he offered to us. So we took it and got a chance to view the eclipse safely -- and we are so glad we did.

Watching that black moon disc slide over the glowing sun (to about 92% of totality here in the Boston area) was indeed a spectacle that was jaw-dropping. Although the news was filled with reports of traffic jams and millions of people traveling to watch the event in places where the eclipse was 100%, viewing the actual eclipse itself brought about a sense of calm and serenity that we can't describe. It was as if our brains were hypnotized in some way by a celestial, supernatural event.

All of us take the sun and the moon for granted each and every day. But Monday's eclipse created a sense of wonderment that never will be forgotten by those who viewed it.

STATE BUDGET WOES: HERE WE GO AGAIN

With state revenue falling off a cliff and almost \$1 billion being spent (on an annualized basis) to house, feed, and care for immigrants who have made their way to Massachusetts from the southern border (and with no end in sight), the outlook is bleak for our state's finances.

Gov. Maura Healy last week announced a hiring freeze for state employees. In addition, the governor's \$58 billion budget proposal's allocation for local aid, particularly for education assistance, is falling far short of the needs of many cities and towns who are dealing with the influx of new migrant students.

For those of us who have been around for a while, we are well-familiar with the ups and downs of the state budget cycle. The down cycles seem to hit their trough every 12 years or so. The last downturn occurred during the Great Recession of 2008-09, but the state avoided a down-cycle during the pandemic thanks to the massive federal spending that occurred during COVID and its aftermath.

However, the unrestricted COVID funding stream has run dry and state budgets now have to deal with the new reality of less aid from the federal government amidst a time of falling revenue and increased spending.

Hopefully, with federal infrastructure spending coming on-line and unemployment still at record lows, we'll get by with a little bit of belt-tightening -- and we'll avoid the starvation-diet mode that marked previous state budget troughs.

Independent Forum

House leadership to propose \$555 Million in record investment for the MBTA

Special to the Independent

As part of its budget proposal for Fiscal Year 2025 (FY25), the House Committee on Ways and Means will propose a record investment of \$555 million for the Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority (MBTA), as well as \$184 million for the Regional Transit Authorities that serve commuters across Massachusetts. The House Committee on Ways and Means will release its full FY25 budget proposal tomorrow, April 10.

"Ensuring that the Commonwealth is equipped with a safe and reliable public transportation system is critical for the prosperity of our residents and communities, and will be vital in our future efforts to grow the economy. That's why the House is proposing a record investment in the MBTA, an investment that will allow the new leadership at the T to meet the immense challenges that they face head on," said House Speaker Ronald J. Mariano (D-Quin-

cy). "Given the workforce recruitment and training challenges that have plagued the MBTA, I am particularly proud of the House's proposal to establish an MBTA Academy that would help to bolster their workforce development efforts. I want to thank Chairman Michlewitz for working diligently to craft a proposal that provides the MBTA with the support that they desperately need."

"Having a well-run transit system is critical to the success of the Commonwealth. This record amount of funding shows the House's commitment to improving our transportation infrastructure in every area of the Commonwealth," said House Committee on Ways and Means Chair Representative Aaron Michlewitz (D-Boston). "I want to thank Speaker Mariano and Chair Straus for their hard work and determination on this issue and I look forward to renewing our commitment to adequate-

ly funding the MBTA, our Regional Transit Agencies, and all other sectors of our transportation needs."

The proposed funding represents the largest investment in the MBTA by the House of Representatives in an annual budget, representing a 41 percent increase from FY24. The investments rely on the General Fund and funds generated by the Fair Share ballot initiative that voters approved in November of 2022, which established a surtax of 4 percent on annual income above \$1 million.

The House's proposed transportation investments for FY25 include:

- \$314 million operating transfer to the MBTA
- \$184 million to support operations and transit improvements at the state's 15 Regional Transit Authorities
- \$75 million for MBTA capital investments in physical infrastructure
- \$65 million for projects that address safety

concerns at the MBTA related to the findings of the Federal Transit Administration's Safety Management Inspection initiated in April 2022

- \$40 million to create an MBTA Academy to support recruiting and training efforts, and establish a pipeline for a skilled workforce across departments

- \$35 million to create a Resilient Rides program to support climate adaptation and climate readiness capital improvement projects in the stations are rails located in the most climate-vulnerable areas of the system

- \$20 million for reduced MBTA fares for riders with low incomes
- \$5 million for grants for ferry services

The FY25 budget proposal will be released by the House Committee on Ways and Means tomorrow, April 10, and up for debate by the Massachusetts House of Representatives starting Wednesday, April 24.

Third annual G.I.R.L.S. Day set for April 27

Special to the Independent

Mayor Carlo DeMaria is pleased to announce the City of Everett has partnered with Alliance Security, Everett Fire Department, Everett Police Department, Massachusetts State Police, State Police Association for Massachusetts, and Tufts

University Department of Public Safety to host the third annual G.I.R.L.S. Day on Saturday, April 27 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Everett Recreation Center (47 Elm Street).

G.I.R.L.S. stands for Grit, Intelligence, Resilience, Leadership and Strength. Through this event, youth girls from

ages 5 to 14 will be empowered to explore careers in public safety, which have been traditionally male-dominated. Young women will participate in activities like obstacle courses, mock crime scene investigations, visits to the fire house, physical exercises with state police, finger printing and so much

more.

Residents are encouraged to register an interested participant between the ages of 5 through 14 by visiting cityofeverett.com/events/girls-day-2024 and scrolling down to the "Register Now" section. Check-in begins at 9 a.m.

Council // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Martins thanked the administration for the update. "This an important matter that we want to be on top of to make sure that we negotiate the best terms for our City," said Martins, adding that she

favors the construction of a combined police/fire substation as part of the new agreement.

In an interview following the meeting, Martins said she would not only like to see the payment

(estimated at \$26 million per year) to Everett from the current Encore host agreement increase, "but also what it's being used for."

"We heard in a previous meeting that the Fire Department made 700 trips to the casino in a 12-month period. We have police that are constantly responding to incidents, so we need more [funding]," said Martins. "I also think there should be more voices involved in the [rene-

gotiation] process. Right now, it's just the Administration at the table. We should be talking to more partners in the community, especially to our small businesses and public safety officials."

The matter was referred to the Council's Government Operations Subcommittee.

The Council voted unanimously to refer the matter to the Council's Government Operations Subcommittee.



Ward 1 Councilor Wayne Matewsky (left) presents a Citation on behalf of the City Council to retired Fire Capt. Gerry O'Hearn on his 34 years of service and his invention of the Gerry Pipe to help fight fires in electric vehicles. Also pictured are City Council President Robert Van Campen and Provisional Fire Chief Joseph Hickey.



City Councilors Peter Pietrantino, Holly Garcia, and Guerline Alcy Jabouin are pictured at Monday night's meeting.

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.

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Council postpones vote on EHS roof repairs to its April 22 meeting

By Cary Shuman

The City Council voted by an 8-3 margin to postpone the key vote on an \$11.4 million appropriation for roof repairs at the old Everett High School building to its April 22 meeting.

Councilors Guerline Alcy Jabouin, Peter Pietrantonio and Michael Marchese voted against the postponement of the vote.

The issue is time sensitive as Mayor Carlo DeMaria has told the Council that the City will not be able to renew its insurance policy for the building if the repairs are not done by January, 2025, when the current policy expires.

Councilor-at-Large Guerline Alcy Jabouin was upset by the delay in the vote.

“I just want to know why we’re dragging this piece,” said Alcy Jabouin. “We’ve asked to view [the building]. We were not allowed to view it. We’ve had enough time to do all the stuff that the Council’s requesting. I just want to know what the real deal is. What is the issue? Could someone please tell us what the issue is? People are anxious and they don’t know what’s going on. It’s not fair to the people at the building [Webster School Extension pre-K students, parents, and staff, health and wellness center patrons, and Broadway Boxing Club members], the community, and it’s not fair to us.”

In what was a breakout performance for Councilor Peter Pietrantonio at the meeting (Pietrantonio also questioned the lack of advertising for posi-

tions on the Charter Review Committee and the inconsistency of the City’s payment process for Verizon bills), he said emphatically, “Dead against postponing this. Let’s vote on it. The Administration had enough time to get all the facts and information that we asked for.”

Concluding his remarks, Pietrantonio added, “Let’s not postpone this anymore. Let’s take a stand. I didn’t come on this Council to be pushed around.”

Councilor-at-Large Michael Marchese said he agreed with Pietrantonio’s declaration. “We can’t keep kicking the ball around. I’m all in favor for voting for it tonight.”

Councilor Anthony DiPierro said he had “legitimate questions regarding the tax implications of

an expenditure like this.”

“Until Mr. [Eric] Demas [Chief Financial Officer] can present me with those numbers, I’m not voting yes or no,” said DiPierro.

Councilor Holly Garcia asked that a tour be scheduled at the old Pope John High School in addition to the tours that have taken place at the old Everett High School building.

Councilor-at-Large Stephanie Smith said that she was very impressed with “what the Facilities Maintenance has done with the old Everett High School building.”

“They’ve prolonged how long we can use the building,” credited Smith. “But I’d like to [ask my fellow councilors] to reach out to Facilities. Don’t wait [for a tour]. If you want to see the building, call up Facilities. They’re very accommodating to

me. I call them all the time. Don’t wait around. It’s on us to do our homework, to get in the buildings. We have to reach out proactively if you want something done.”

Alcy Jabouin and Pietrantonio disagreed with Smith’s comments about certain councilors not scheduling personal tours. “We did ask to see it, and we were told that we can’t see what we needed to see,” said Alcy Jabouin.

Pietrantonio said he did take a tour “and we wanted to get up to the third and fourth floors and we were told, ‘no.’”

“So, we did our diligence to meet them, to get in the building – we were told we couldn’t go to the third and fourth floors the first time. We told them we wanted to get in to Pope John High School. They’re not letting us in,”

said Pietrantonio.

Agreeing with Pietrantonio’s version of events, Councilor-at-Large Katy Rogers said she toured the old Everett High School building. “We did do our due diligence. And we did show up, and we were not allowed access to the upper floors of the old high school,” said Rogers, adding that she wants to know how the entire building is going to be used in the future.

The stage is now set for an April 22 vote on the \$1.4 million appropriation for repairs to the old Everett High School building. The impact of that vote will be felt citywide, but especially in the school district as overcrowding has been an issue at local schools.

Anzalone // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

major college football programs and decided to stay local and attend Division 1 Boston College in Chestnut Hill.

At 6-feet, 2 inches tall, strong and athletic, Mr. Anzalone was known as a rugged middle linebacker and tight end, a powerful tackler and agile defender for the EHS football team. He was the starting center and leading rebounder for the basketball team, defending and boxing out opposing centers underneath the boards when the Greater Boston League was a superpower in the late 1960s and early 1970s.

“Steve was one of the nicest, toughest guys with whom I grew up in Woodlawn,” said Councilor-at-Large Michael Marchese, who was an EHS football teammate. “I’m proud to be his friend. He was a great guy and a superb Everett man and athlete.”

Marchese, who was a sophomore on the EHS football team when Steve Anzalone was the senior captain, remembered competing against him in practice.

“It was clear that Steve had the ability to play Division 1 college football,” said Marchese, who played football at UNH. “The first time I lined up against him in practice I was wearing one of those old leather helmets. Steve came off the line and hit

me 30 feet backwards. When I got home, I told my father, ‘I want to play basketball,’ and my father said, ‘Son, you go down there and play football.’”

“Steve was one of the toughest men I ever met in my life,” added Marchese. “He was invincible. His passing breaks my heart.”

John DiBioso, Everett High’s legendary, former head football coach, was a sophomore when Steve Anzalone was the football captain.

“He was a great guy,” said DiBioso. “And he always supported Everett High football. We actually gave Steve a championship ring after one of our Super Bowls. He was very supportive from my first year on. He was nice to all our players. He was just a great, great man.”

Off the playing field, Steve Anzalone was known as a “gentle giant,” a member of the EHS Class of 1971 who was widely respected and admired by his classmates and friends who knew they were in the company of a generational student-athlete.

“When Steve Anzalone walked down the hallway, you got out of his way,” said City Councilor Peter Pietrantonio, who was a freshman when Steve was a senior at EHS. “But I have to say he was a complete gentleman. He was the biggest, toughest guy you ever want to know,

but a gentleman at heart. He was one of the best to ever play for Everett High.”

“Stephen was a gentleman and brought a lot of honor to the City of Everett,” said City Councilor Wayne Matewsky. “I saw him play many times and he was a great one. We in Everett extend our sincerest condolences to his family. He left a lasting impact on our athletic program and our community.”

Mr. Anzalone’s sons, Jason and Steve, carried on the family’s legacy of excellence in their careers at Weymouth High School and later in the Northeastern University football program. In fact, son

Steve Anzalone was an All-American and a captain of Northeastern’s first Atlantic-10 championship team. He was inducted into the Weymouth High School Hall of Fame in 2023, an esteemed honor that brought much joy and

pride to his father. Steve has served as a football coach himself, passing on the positive qualities and competitive instincts of his father to his own players.

Jason was a star running back at Weymouth High

before his matriculation at Northeastern.

The Everett High football team will pay tribute to Mr. Stephen Anzalone’s life and career at its first home game in the 2024 season.

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 - Banking, Finance, Business, Accounting, or related field
- + Financial Need

School/community activities and volunteer services may also be considered.

Eligibility Requirements

- + High School Seniors who have applied to an accredited 2- or 4-year college.
- + Applicants must have resided in one of the following communities for the past four consecutive years:

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4th Anniversary Remembrance

Nicholas and Rosemarie Guerriero

September 27, 1933 - April 19, 2020
April 15, 1939 - April 9, 2020

*Take my hand,
O Blessed Mother.
Hold me firmly
lest I fall.
I grow nervous
while walking and
Humbly on
thee call.*

*Guide me over every
crossing,
Watch me when I'm on
the stairs.
Let me know that you're
beside me.
Listen to my fervent*

*prayers.
Bring me to
my destination,
Safely along
the way.
Bless my every
undertaking,
And my duties
for that day.*

*And when evening creeps
upon me,
I'll never fear to be alone.
Once again, O Blessed
Mother,
Take my hand and lead
me home.*

We love and miss you!
Anthony, Diana and Nicholas

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

WHEN:
THURSDAY
APRIL 25, 2024
5:00PM

WHERE:
COUNCIL CHAMBERS
EVERETT CITY HALL
3RD FLOOR

THE CITY OF EVERETT WILL BE HOSTING A PUBLIC HEARING TO DISCUSS A PROPOSED ORDINANCE TO BAN THE USE OF SINGLE SERVING RETAIL ALCOHOL SALES (NIPS).

ALL ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND AND EXPRESS THEIR OPINIONS.

DAVID AND JOCEANE LAZZAROTTO RECEIVE CITATION FROM CITY

Obolari Studio Photos

Ward 2 Councilor Stephanie Martins presents a citation on behalf of the Everett City Council to David Lazzarotto and his wife Joceane in celebration of the first anniversary of Peace on Tax.

The business is located at 571 Broadway and provides tax and accounting services.



Ward 2 Councilor Stephanie Martins presents the citation.



From left to right: Edirson Paiva Jr. representing the Brazilian Times Newspaper, Joceane Lazzarotto, David Lazzarotto, Comedian Dudu Alegria, City Councilor Stephanie Martins.

EHS Roundup

EHS SOFTBALL TEAM OVERWHELMS CHELSEA

The Everett High softball team opened its season with a runaway 29-0 victory at Greater Boston League (GBL) foe Chelsea last Wednesday.

Lady Crimson Tide hurler Peyton Warren tossed a no-hitter over the five-inning span (the game was called after five frames because of the mercy rule), fanning eight Lady Red Devil opponents and walking three.

Everett began the barrage from the outset, scoring 14 runs in the first inning of the 2024 season. Their run production came as follows: Freshman Olivia Dresser singled, Jayla Davila walked, and Gianna Masucci walked, with Dresser and Davila scoring on passed balls. Alexa Uga reached second base on an overthrow, allowing Masucci to score. Ashley Seward doubled, knocking in Uga. With one out, Bryanna Mason doubled into right field, bringing in Seward. Arabella Cvitkusic singled. Alessandra Foster earned first on an HBP (courtesy runner Cassidy Rivera) and both base runners advanced on a passed ball. After Dresser drew a walk, Davila was hit by a pitch to score Cvitkusic. With two outs, Uga walked, scoring Rivera. Ashley Seward singled, knocking in two runs. With runners on second and third, Warren belted a home run. Mason reached first on an error and advanced to second. Cvitkusic then tripled, knocking in Mason.

Warren began her season in strong fashion, striking out the first two batters looking. The next Chelsea batter drew a walk, but Foster gunned her down at second on an attempted steal to end the inning.

Everett added three more markers in the second. Foster drew a walk (Rivera courtesy runner) and Dresser socked a homerun to left. With one out, Masucci walked, Uga singled, Seward walked to load the bases, and Warren was hit by a pitch to force in Masucci.

The Lady Tide added four more in the third, the key hits coming on RBI base hits by Seward and Warren and a two-RBI double by Mason.

In the fourth, Everett grew its lead with a seven-run outburst, the big blow coming from Stephany DeSouza (a two-RBI double) and freshman Mia Allen, who socked a grand

slam that scored teammates Chloe Salvi (who had singled), Uga (base on balls), and Warren (HBP).

The Chelsea fourth saw Everett play some nice defense behind Warren, with Dresser making two outs on pop-ups at shortstop (to where she had moved from second), and Salvi, who was playing at second, fielding a ground ball and making the throw to Mason at first.

"Chelsea is a very young team, but they did their best," said EHS head coach Stacy Schiavo. "This was our first time playing in a game and we had to make the adjustment of hitting off a machine to slower pitching. We made the plays when runners did get on and Peyton on the mound and Alessandra Foster behind the plate both did an amazing job."

Schiavo and her crew were scheduled to take on Lynn Classical yesterday (Tuesday) in a game that had been moved from Monday because of the eclipse. It will be an early-season showdown between two of the top teams in the GBL.

They will play at Lynn English today (Wednesday) and at non-league foe O'Bryant on Friday. They will host Somerville on Monday and Revere next Wednesday during the holiday week, with both of those contests slated to start at 10:00 AM at Glendale.

GIRLS TENNIS TOPS SAUGUS

The Everett High girls tennis team earned a hard-fought 3-2 victory over non-league rival Saugus this past Friday.

"It was an all-around team win," said EHS head coach Courtney Meninger. "We had a lot of girls step up and play spots they haven't played before."

Yasmine Laabadla, playing at first singles, lost a heartbreaker in three sets, 6-2, 4-6, 2-6. Simran Tang, playing at second singles, fought hard in her first set, falling short in a tie-breaker.

At first doubles, the tandem of Nga Ho and Rose-na Pun, who were playing together for the first time, came up with a big win, 6-2, 7-5. Likewise, the second doubles duo of Alanna O'Brien and Kirsty Hall, who also were playing together for the first time, came up with another huge win in three sets 6-0, 3-6, 6-3.

With the match deadlocked at 2-2, the outcome came down to the third singles match, but it was the Lady Crimson Tide's Tracy Pham, who was making her singles debut, who won the match in three sets, 2-6, 6-4, 7-5.

"This was a big win for our team," said EHS head coach Courtney Meninger. "We hope that we can carry that momentum in our matches in the coming week."

The Lady Crimson Tide are scheduled to travel to Medford today (Wednesday) and will host Revere tomorrow (Thursday). They will entertain Malden next Tuesday and trek to Somerville next Wednesday.

BOYS VOLLEYBALL SPLITS TWO MATCHES

The Everett High boys volleyball team split its two matches this past week, dropping a hard-

fought 3-2 decision to Greater Boston League (GBL) foe Chelsea last Wednesday, but rebounding with 3-1 triumph over non-league opponent Pioneer Charter on Thursday.

"We expected Chelsea to be strong, especially in their front court," said EHS head coach Michael Fineran. "Both of our programs have improved so much in the three years since we started our teams and the talent in every league match is apparent."

"We have a talented group, but we have to earn everything, against every opponent. I thought we made too many mental errors, but then again, it is very early in the season and there were more positives to take away than there were negatives," Fineran continued.

The Tide fought back in the first set from deficits of 15-10 and 24-20. Senior assistant captain Mark Pierre had two of his three aces in the set. Junior captain Henrique Franca also had four kills, two digs, and two aces that tied the game at 24-24. Sophomore libero Christian Ramirez aced the next two serves to win the set 27-25.

The second set was tied 9-9, 17-17, and 21-21 with Everett serving, but Chelsea took the point and served for the next three points. Franca added three kills and five service points. Senior middle Kaleb Miranda had two of his team-high eight blocks. Junior Steve Flores and Harvard-bound Nischal Tamang added steady defense and timely kills.

After dropping the third set 25-19, Everett came out strong to start the fourth set, with junior Matheus Queiroz serving the team to a 7-1 lead, and Franca serving six to build a 15-3 advantage. Junior Jefferson Umana tallied two of his seven kills, and sophomore setter Noel Lopez served out the set to push the match to a fifth-game tiebreaker.

Miranda had two blocks and a kill, and Umana, Tamang, and Flores also earned kills, but Everett missed three serves, and in a tight race to 15 points, that was too much to overcome, as the Tide fell by a score of 15-10.

The next day's contest with Pioneer started off more smoothly, thanks to four serves from Pierre and nine in a row from Queiroz to boost the Tide into a 17-6 lead. Franca had three kills and two aces and Miranda had three kills and a block, as Everett cruised to 25-11 victory.

"I warned the team before the second set that the rest of the game would be much harder and that was apparent right at the start," said Fineran. "We found ourselves chasing them by a point or two for most of the set, despite four kills from Franca, who finished the afternoon with 13 kills, and two kills and three aces from junior Bryan Soares."

Senior captain Hyan Soares also added his second block in the set. "Hyan is such an important player for us," noted Fineran. "Like Henrique, he is a three-year starter. He does so many things right, and he just makes good things happen on the court."

However, Everett hit six serves out, and lost the set by five. The third set was

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Sports

MEET YOUR EVERETT HIGH 2024 BOYS AND GIRLS TENNIS TEAMS



The 2024 EHS Crimson Tide Boys Varsity Tennis Team under the direction of Greg Bluestein (not pictured).



The Crimson Tide Seniors, from row: Nilabhro Pal, Sushant Shrestha and Cristin Peder. Back row: Tam Tran, Eric Vo, Emerson Pineda Chacoir and Genorie Ponce Lemus.



The seniors of the Tide's Girls Tennis Team, Simian Tamany, Rosena Pun, Alanna O'Brien, Captain Rebecca Hickey, Kirtsey Hall and Captain Yasmine Laabadala.



Coach Courtney Meninger with her EHS Senior Captains, Rebecca Hickey and Yasmine Laabadala.



Head Coach for the Crimson Tide Girls Tennis Team Courtney Meninger with the 2024 EHS Crimson Tide Varsity Tennis Team.

Roundup / CONTINUED FROM PAGE 6

just as close, but Queiroz powered the Tide with five kills and two aces to tie the game at 14, and Ramirez served six in a row to give Everett a 24-21 lead on the way to a 25-23 win.

In the decisive fourth set, Queiroz had five more kills, Flores had a kill and a block, Franca and Miranda had three kills each, and Ramirez had a run of eight serves. Still, Pioneer battled the whole way, before the Tide prevailed, 25-22.

"So we definitely have a long way to go this season and we have a lot we can improve on," said Fineran. "But we've shown the ability to come back against any team, and we are getting contributions from all of our players. Every game is going to be tough, but so are we."

Fineran and his crew are set to host GBL foe Lynn English today (Wednesday) and will trek to GBL rival Revere next Wednesday.

son-opener against Greater Boston League (GBL) rival Chelsea last week by a score of 14-4, will host GBL foe Lynn English this afternoon (Wednesday) at Glendale Park. The Tide took on Lynn Classical yesterday (Tuesday) in a contest that was moved from Monday because of the eclipse. They will trek to GBL opponents Somerville next Monday and Revere next Wednesday.

Greg Bluestein's EHS boys tennis team hosts Medford today (Wednesday). They will trek to Revere tomorrow (Thursday) and to Malden on Monday before returning home to entertain Somerville next Wednesday.

The girls lacrosse team will play at Revere tomorrow (Thursday) and at Lowell on Friday. They will host Somerville next Thursday.

EHS BASEBALL TEAM HOSTS ENGLISH TODAY

Coach Malik Love's Everett High baseball team, which won its sea-

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Carlo DeMaria
Mayor

G.I.R.L.S. DAY

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NEWS FROM AROUND THE REGION

CITY MANAGER UPDATES COMMUNITY ON FIRST 90 DAYS IN OFFICE

CHELSEA - City Manager Fidel Maltez has placed an emphasis on communicating with residents since he took office in January. Earlier this week, Maltez recorded the latest in his series of public outreach videos to air on Chelsea Community TV. The text of his latest video, which focuses on his first 90 days as city manager, is below:

Hello residents of Chelsea. Welcome to Our Community. My name is Fidel Maltez and I am humbled to serve as your City Manager. It is with immense gratitude and a sense of purpose that I stand before you today, marking 90 days since assuming the role of City Manager of our beloved community.

These past three months have been a whirlwind of activity; a period of

profound connection, learning, and inspiration. I have had the privilege of meeting with countless residents, engaging with our vibrant community-based organizations, immersing myself in the heartbeat of our schools, and sharing moments of reflection in places of prayer. Chelsea is a tapestry of diverse stories, bound together by resilience,

compassion, and an unwavering spirit. Our city is special, and it is special because of you, because of us, who call Chelsea home. Our strength lies in our people, in their willingness to stand together, to support one another, and to embrace the challenges and triumphs that come our way.

Recent events of violence in our city have shaken us to our core. Let me be clear: our administration, alongside the Chelsea Police Department, is unwavering in our commitment to addressing these acts of violence. Public safety is our top priority. We will leave no stone unturned in our efforts to investigate every instance of violence, and we will bring those responsible to justice. But we cannot do this alone. We need each and every one of you to stand with us in this fight. Our police chief and I will be hosting monthly conversations on public safety in various neighborhoods across our city. These conversations are not just about dialogue; they are about action. We want to engage with you one-on-one, to listen to your concerns, and to assure you that we will be tough on crime and tough on violence. We need the involvement of every member of our community, especially parents. If

you see something troubling, do not hesitate to contact the City Manager's office or the Chelsea Police Department. We

will investigate it thoroughly.

We need your eyes, your ears, and your voices to help us combat violence in our community.

We will be holding a peace rally and prayer vigil on April 27 at 1:00 PM on the City Hall lawn. I urge you to join us. Let us stand as a united front, showing that Chelsea will not tolerate violence in our streets. This vigil is just the beginning. Throughout the summer, we will host several more events like this, because Chelsea is strongest when we come together to tackle our challenges head-on.

Today, I also announce the launch of a transformative initiative: the Chelsea Electricity Choice program. We understand the heavy burden of electricity costs on our residents. Fluctuating prices and predatory tactics of third-party energy suppliers have placed undue strain on our households. Many of our residents have to make the difficult choice between paying for electricity or meeting their basic needs. Chelsea Electricity Choice, is a program designed to empower our residents, protect them from predatory practices, and provide much-needed stability in energy costs. This initiative comes at a crucial time, offering relief and security to those who need it most.

Chelsea Electricity Choice provides three options. Chelsea Basic, the cornerstone of this initiative, provides electricity at a significantly reduced rate of 12.42 ¢/kWh, compared to Eversource's current residential price of 17.216 ¢/kWh. This means tangible savings of over \$18 per month for the average residential customer, a difference that can make a meaningful impact on household budgets.

The two other options, Chelsea Standard and Chelsea 100% Green provide electricity sourced from renewable sources at competitive rates, further contributing towards a greener, more sustainable future. The City has partnered with Direct Energy to ensure the stability and reliability of these prices until June 2026. This contrasts starkly with Eversource's Basic Service, where prices are subject to change every six months, perpetuating uncertainty and financial strain for our residents.

Participation in Chelsea Electricity Choice is straightforward and accessible. For most customers, no action is required to benefit from this program. Automatic enrollment will commence in June, with notifications and detailed information mailed to eligible residents in mid-April. Opting out of the program is entirely within your rights, should you choose to do so. Whether at the outset or at any point thereafter, you have the freedom to opt out with no penalty or fee, ensur-

CHELSEA RESIDENTS OBSERVE THE STATIONS OF THE CROSS



PHOTOS BY DEREK KOUYOUMJIAN

Jesus carries his Cross to Golgotha.



Followers of Jesus keep pace behind him as he carries his Cross to the site of his execution.



The mother of Jesus watches as he carries his Cross to the site of his execution.

ing that you retain control over your energy choices.

Our Administration is thrilled to announce the launch of the City's

comprehensive master plan: Chelsea Pa'Lante, Chelsea Onward. Chelsea Pa'Lante is more than just a plan; it's a commitment to forward motion, upward mobility, and progress. It embodies the spirit of our community, the resilience of our people, and the determination to create a future that leaves no one behind. Chelsea Pa'Lante is a call to action, a declaration that we will not rest on our laurels, nor will we be content with past successes.

Instead, we will continue to evolve, to innovate, and to improve as a

Community. At the heart of Chelsea Pa'Lante is our unwavering dedication to incorporating the voices of our residents in every decision we make. Too often, community plans are crafted behind closed doors, with little input from those who will be most affected by the outcomes. But not here, not in Chelsea. Our plan will be centered on the community, ensuring that every voice is heard, every perspective considered, and every idea valued. Chelsea Pa'Lante will seek to address the pressing issues that affect our daily lives.

From housing shortages to traffic congestion, from lack of parking, to

providing economic opportunities for all residents. We will tackle these challenges with creativity, with innovation, and with a deep commitment to equity and inclusivity.

Chelsea Pa'Lante is about laying the foundation for a future that is brighter and more prosperous for generations to come. It is about building a city where everyone has the opportunity to thrive, where every voice is heard, and where every dream is within reach. Over the next 30 days, our Administration will work with our City Council to bring Chelsea Pa'Lante, Chelsea Onward into reality.

As I reflect on these past 90 days, I am filled with hope and optimism for the future of Chelsea. Despite the obstacles we may face, I am confident that together, as a unified community, we will overcome them. As we look ahead to the next 100 days of this Administration, we will carry the lessons learned, we will continue to listen, to learn, and to lift each other up. We will be bold in our aspirations, strong in our commitment, and compassionate in our actions. See you next time on Our Community. Thank you and May god bless the City of Chelsea.

TREE EASTIE IS HITTING MILESTONES

EAST BOSTON - Tree Eastie, a local non-profit organization that plants and maintains trees while educating people about their benefits, has hit a major milestone and has even bigger plans for the remainder of the year and beyond.

Bill Masterson, Tree Eastie's Founder, revealed to the East Boston Times that coming out of 2023, the organization had planted its 300th tree.

"While a lot of those were street trees and park trees, we also had a program where we planted yard trees for people," said Masterson.

The significance of this milestone cannot be understated, considering the organization's mission to increase the neighbor-

hood's tree canopy, which is the lowest in the City of Boston.

Now, with 300 trees under their belts, Masterson and his team of volunteers are ready to do even more for the neighborhood.

"All things are going well. We came out of last year in a great position and are poised to really hit the ground running in 2024 with a few different events and a few different priorities," said Masterson.

As for Tree Eastie's plans, Masterson explained that the organization has been talking with the city about what to do after the non-profit has filled almost every empty tree well in the neighborhood.

Masterson says that not only has the city given Tree Eastie the greenlight to plant in any park, but the organization is now waiting on federal funding from the Inflation Reduction Act, which will be earmarked for planting trees on private property.

"The biggest tree canopy loss in the city over the past five years has been on private property — primarily because of all the development that's taking place," said Masterson.

With this funding, Tree Eastie will be able to plant trees in people's backyards, church grounds, businesses, and more this spring.

"Any place that is not a public parcel, we're going to be able to plant trees," said Masterson. He also called the private yard planting a key focus and said Tree Eastie aims to plant 100 yard trees this year.

Another focal point for Tree Eastie this year involves building on last year's work when the organization cut new tree pits along Meridian Street and planted new trees, which cost a lot of money.

However, Masterson explained that the city has a deal with its contractor: if they cut the sidewalk, they plant the street trees.

"On one hand, it sounds like it kind of puts Tree Eastie out of business on the street tree front, but the great news is that the city has said, hey, if you can identify neighbors, residents, abutters that want a street tree planted in front of their house, you give us their information, and they're okay to be able to do that, and we'll get trees planted on the street sidewalks in front of their house," said Masterson.

Now, Tree Eastie volunteers, through connections and door-to-door outreach, have identified more than 100 locations to plant sidewalk trees.

Moreover, Masterson called the non-profit's biggest victory the contact with large property owners in the neighborhood, like the East Boston Community Development Corporation, Neighborhood of Affordable Housing and East Boston Neighborhood Health Center.

Through these contacts, Tree Eastie has been given the go-ahead to plant trees — where eligible — in front of the properties owned by these organizations.

"I'd love to be able to give those organizations props for stepping up to the plate, allowing us to be able to do that," said Masterson.

Masterson explained that essentially, Tree Eastie hands over a list of locations in front of these properties where they have approval from the organizations, and the city goes out, marks them, and eventually will plant the trees.

"Amazingly enough, we started this about a month ago. After about two weeks, I sent the list into the city of about 40 different locations where we had approval to plant sidewalk trees, and the next week, the city was out marking the sidewalks, and those trees will be planted within the next say six weeks or so," said

Real Estate Transfers

BUYER 1	SELLER 1	ADDRESS	PRICE
Alphonse, Guy	Taylor, Scott	20 Derne St	\$650,000
23-25 Shirley Street LLC	Coppola, Dawn	23 Shirley St	\$362,500

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 www.ERAmillennium.com
 Pat Roberto, REALTOR Broker/President

MBTA announces service information for the 2024 Boston Marathon

Special to the Journal

The MBTA today announced service information on Monday, April 15, the day of the 2024 Boston Marathon. Every year, the MBTA prepares for the Boston Marathon across all departments in many ways. It supports the annual event with increased service to accommodate spectators and runners, acknowledges the crucial role of public transit during this celebratory time, and expresses sincere appreciation for its ridership and dedicated workforce.

Behind the scenes, a dedicated team of MBTA leaders from various departments, including operations, track, signals, and safety, will be monitoring the system throughout the day, ready to troubleshoot any unforeseen issues that may arise. The MBTA's Security team will have representatives in the Unified Coordination Center, located at the Massachusetts Emergency Manage-

ment Agency's headquarters in Framingham, which serves as the central hub for public safety operations on race day. The Transit Police Department will also continue to monitor the system with robust support available as needed. Additional staff and Transit Ambassadors will be strategically positioned throughout the system to assist with passenger flow and answer any questions or concerns from riders.

Riders are encouraged to hold handrails and use care and caution while traversing stairs and escalators due to anticipated crowding and high ridership. Additional porters will also proactively identify and address cleaning needs throughout the system, from sweeping floors and disposing of trash to maintaining restrooms and replenishing supplies.

MBTA Service Information for the 2024 Boston Marathon:

For the first time ever, the Route 1 bus will oper-

ate with increased Saturday service from 9 AM to 9 PM with buses arriving as frequently as every 5 minutes (the Route 1 typically operates every 9-15 minutes on Saturdays) – the Route 1 travels across both sides of the Marathon route, making it an easy way for spectators to traverse the Marathon to cheer on runners. The Framingham/Worcester Commuter Rail Line will also offer additional inbound and outbound trips to accommodate anticipated increases in ridership.

To find the best Marathon viewing location on the T, riders are encouraged to visit the MBTA's Boston Marathon Guide at mbta.com/Marathon, which highlights MBTA stations closest to the Marathon route and includes other helpful information on purchasing fares, parking, and more.

Station Closures:

- For public safety reasons, Copley Station is closed for the entire day

on April 15. Riders are instead encouraged to use Arlington Station (serving all Green Line branches), Prudential Station (Green Line E branch), Hynes Convention Center Station (Green Line B, C, and D branches), or Back Bay Station on the Orange Line.

- From approximately 10 AM to 6 PM, above-ground Green Line stops at South Street (B branch), Kent Street (C branch), and St. Mary's Street (C branch) will be closed.

- In the interest of public safety, the MBTA may adjust service or temporarily close additional stations near the finish line.

Service Information:

- The Green, Red, Orange, Blue, and Silver lines will operate a regular weekday schedule on April 15 with additional service before and after the race.

- Buses will operate a Saturday schedule on April 15 with some routes detoured to accommodate the Marathon and other festivities. Route 1 will operate an increased Saturday schedule from 9 AM to 9 PM on Marathon Monday with buses arriving approximately every five minutes.

- o Riders are encouraged to subscribe to T-Alerts for more information on bus route diversions. Visit mbta.com/Marathon for a complete list of changes.

- All Commuter Rail lines will operate a regular weekday schedule on

April 15. There will be a special Marathon Monday schedule in effect on the Framingham/Worcester Commuter Rail Line offering four additional inbound and five additional outbound trips with more information on mbta.com soon.

- All ferry and RIDE paratransit services will operate a regular weekday schedule. The RIDE may be detoured to accommodate the Marathon and related events.

- Bicycles are prohibited onboard all MBTA subway vehicles (including folding bicycles) for the entire day on April 15. Additionally, bikes and scooters (including folding ones) will not be allowed on board Framingham/Worcester Commuter Rail Line trains starting at 5 PM on Sunday, April 14 (the first inbound train impacted is No. 2512 and the first outbound train impacted is No. 2513) through end of service on April 15 due to anticipated extra Marathon ridership. Backpacks, coolers, cans, bottles, and large items are not permitted at the Marathon.

Paying Fares:

- On the Commuter Rail, the MBTA recommends purchasing the \$10 Holiday Weekend Pass, which will be available for passengers to travel all weekend from Saturday, April 13, through Monday, April 15. The \$10 Holiday Weekend Pass is valid for all Commuter Rail lines and zones with unlimited

hop-on and hop-off travel. Passengers should note that Holiday Weekend Passes are not valid on subway or bus.

- For subway and bus travel for those that do not already have a monthly pass, the MBTA recommends loading at least \$5 on a CharlieCard on Marathon Monday, which is enough fare for a round trip on the subway.

- For those traveling to the Boston area, a 7-day pass might be the most useful – the MBTA's 7-day passes are \$22.50 and provide unlimited travel for a week from the date of purchase on the subway, buses, Commuter Rail Zone 1A, and Charlestown and East Boston ferries.

- For more information on paying fares, visit mbta.com/fares and mbta.com/Marathon.

Parking Information:

- Riders planning to park in an MBTA garage or lot on April 15 should allow additional travel time and note that some garages and lots may fill very quickly due to heavy parking demand.

- More information is available at mbta.com/Parking.

For more information, visit mbta.com/Marathon or connect with the T on X (the site formerly known as Twitter) @MBTA and @MBTA_CR, Facebook /TheMBTA, Instagram @theMBTA, Threads @thembta, or TikTok @thembta.

NSMT's expanded 2024 musical season to include an encore performance of 'Jersey Boys' and an extended 3-week run of 'Disney's Frozen!'

Special to the Independent

Bill Hanney's award-winning North Shore Music Theatre (NSMT) is set to return for an expanded season of exceptional musical entertainment for North Shore audiences. The season includes an Encore Production of "Jersey Boys", an extended premiere production of Disney's "Frozen", and the 35th Anniversary Production of "A Christmas Carol". The box office is open, and all tickets and discount packages are available to purchase online at www.nsm.org, by phone (978) 232-7200 or at the Box Office located at 54 Dunham Road in Beverly, MA.

"I'm very excited to be working with the North Shore Music Theatre team to create an extra-long season for our audiences this year. We are working hard to surpass their high expectations and give them a full season of original productions unlike any they have ever seen," said Bill Hanney, NSMT's owner and producer. "With the recent news about many theatres struggling to bounce back from the pandemic, I recognize how fortunate we are to have audiences returning in pre-pandemic numbers and a steady subscription base who continue to believe that we are their home for entertainment."

North Shore Music Theatre's 2024 Musical Season begins early with a special encore of the smash hit 2019 production of "Jersey Boys" playing May 7 thru May 19. Winner of the 2006 Tony® Award for "Best Musical," "Jersey Boys" is the compelling story of Frankie Valli and the Four Seasons featuring the legendary top ten hits Sherry, Big Girls Don't Cry, Walk Like A Man, Can't Take My Eyes Off You and December, 1963 (Oh What A Night). "Jersey Boys" is presented through special arrangement with Theatrical Rights Worldwide.

From June 4 thru June 16, audiences can celebrate life, love laughter and tradition, with the 60th

anniversary production of "Fiddler on the Roof", the story of milkman Tevye's search for husbands for his daughters to uphold his family's religious and cultural traditions in their small pre-revolutionary Russian village. The classic Tony® and Oscar®-winning musical with a book by Joseph Stein, music by Jerry Bock, and lyrics by Sheldon Harnick features the classic songs "Tradition," "If I Were a Rich Man," "Sunrise, Sunset" and "Matchmaker, Matchmaker." "Fiddler on the Roof" is presented through special arrangement with Music Theatre International.

When the heat is on in July, family audiences will melt for the New England regional premiere of Disney's "Frozen" playing a special extended 3-week run from July 9 thru July 28. This Broadway musical, based on the 2013 Academy Award-winning animated film following the story of royal sisters Elsa and Anna, who are torn apart by Elsa's mysterious icy powers. Disney's "Frozen", the worldwide sensation, with a book by Jennifer Lee and music and lyrics by double Emmy®, Grammy®, Oscar®, and Tony® Award-Winners Kristen Anderson-Lopez & Robert Lopez, features the hit songs "Let It Go" and "Do You Want To Build A Snowman." North Shore Music Theatre's immersive production of Disney's "Frozen" will feature newly re-imagined staging & musical numbers, along with original sets and costumes being designed and created just for this production. Disney's "Frozen" is presented through special arrangement with Music Theatre International.


The summer ends with an uproarious production of "Tootsie" playing from August 13 thru August 25. "Tootsie" is the laugh-out-loud love letter to the theatre telling the story of Michael Dorsey, a talented but difficult actor who struggles to find work until one show-stopping act of desperation lands him the role of a lifetime. Featuring a hilarious Tony®

Award-winning book by Robert Horn Book and an outrageously clever score by David Yazbeck, "Tootsie" is a joyful show so packed with punchlines, it should be called a "joke-box" musical. "Tootsie" is presented through special arrangement with Music Theatre International.


The NSMT stage will rock this fall when the Tony® Award-winning "Million Dollar Quartet" plays from September 24 thru October 6. Set on December 4, 1956, an extraordinary twist of fate brings Johnny Cash, Jerry Lee Lewis, Carl Perkins, and Elvis Presley together at Sun Records in Memphis for one of the greatest jam sessions ever. Audiences will relive the golden era of rock 'n' roll with hit songs including "Blue Suede Shoes," "Fever," "Walk the Line," "Sixteen Tons," "Who Do You Love?," "Great Balls of Fire," "Hound Dog," and more. "Million Dollar Quartet" is presented through special arrangement with Theatrical Rights Worldwide.

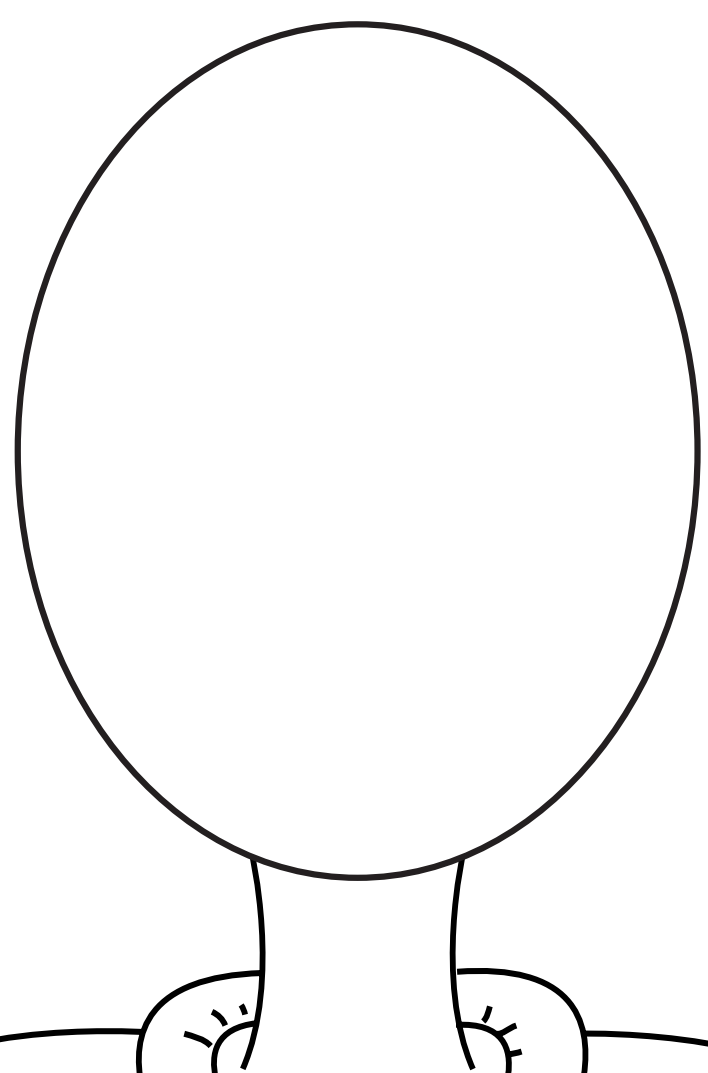
"Titanic" The Musical sets sail on stage for what is sure to be the theatrical event of the fall from October 29 thru November 10. The stirring and unforgettable account of the first and last days of the "ship of dreams" is an epic musical featuring the real stories of people aboard the most legendary ship in the world - from the Third-Class immigrants dreaming of a better tomorrow to the First-Class passengers living a life of privilege. "Titanic" The Musical won five 1997 Tony® Awards, including Best Musical, features music & lyrics by Maury Yeston, and a book by Peter Stone. "Titanic" The Musical is produced thru special arrangement with Concord Theatricals.

All tickets, discount packages, and gift cards & e-Certificates are available to purchase online (www.nsm.org), by phone (978) 232-7200 or at the North Shore Music Theatre Box Office located at 54 Dunham Road in Beverly, MA.



Mom's The Word!





This is my mother - Mother's name _____

Drawn By - Your name _____

Phone # _____

City _____

Draw Your Mom

- Complete the picture by creating a picture of your mother
- Pens, pencils, markers or crayons, use colors

Email your photo to
promo@reverejournal.com

Please include the publication in the email or text

Deadline for entries will be Friday, May 3rd.

Entries will be published with in the May 8th issue

CITY PAWS

Dog Dates

By Penny & Ed Cherubino

April is an excellent time to make plans for the warm season ahead. We suggest you pull out your calendar and add the note "Dog Day!" to a few of your upcoming days off. Consider these as com-

mitments to give your pals adventures that will make them quiver with excitement from nose to tail.

For time off from work that includes travel, list what you must do to take your pal with you or arrange for care while you're away.

Finally, if you have a sociable group of dog-walking friends, ask if anyone would like to share your adventure. Our anxious little Poppy is often happy outside if she has dogs she knows nearby.

Some adventures could be serendipitous. We all

routinely plan average days around our dog's needs, routines, likes, and dislikes. We ask ourselves, "Where am I going today? Can the dog come with me?" Occasionally, on a beautiful day, ask yourself, "Do I have time today for a longer walk to a dog park or a day trip to a favorite spot?"

Local Adventures

If time off allows for a day trip, create a doggie bucket list of what you might do, weather permitting.

The state has a webpage covering places and times to enjoy state facilities with your dog. An internet search for "Dogs in DCR Parks" will find that information. Unfortunately, state beaches begin dog restrictions on April 1st. However, you'll find other places along the shore open to families with dogs.

Another fantastic resource for places to take your dog is the Trustees of Reservations. Visit their website (<https://thetrustees.org/>) and search for "dogs allowed." Our re-

sults included 77 properties where you could bring your dog. Each place's "rules and regulations" tell you if dogs are allowed on or off leashes.

We plan to visit the Trustees deCordova Sculpture Park with friends this year. While the museum's interior is closed for renovations, the grounds welcome visitors with dogs. You may have to make a timed reservation; you can do that on the park's website.

Wagons and Strollers Expand Possibilities

If your dog is older, unable to walk as far as you want, or has a medical issue that could curtail your plans, consider a pet stroller or wagon.

are suitable for larger dogs. Today, you can choose collapsible ones that are easy to store. You can also use these for shopping, picnics, concerts, or other times when you need to tote stuff.

are dozens of pet strollers available for smaller dogs. As we planned our seasonal adventures, we

realized that sometimes we left Poppy behind because part of the route would cause her anxiety and make her unhappy.

discovered a great compromise with a stroller that, like a wagon, doubles as a shopping cart. Strollee is a company that sells a transformer frame with available accessories that we can use for a dog and storage, for two dogs, or for shopping alone.

the years, we've come to appreciate the advantages of having a canine ambassador at the end of a leash. You meet many more people and become more engaged in the local community. Students and visitors to Boston often visit with Poppy. We've enjoyed interesting conversations with people we might never have met without our little ambassador.

Do you have a question or topic for City Paws? Send an email to Penny@BostonZest.com with your request.



This year, we'll allow Poppy to enjoy the security of her little den on wheels and bring her on more adventures.

Region / CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8

Masterson.

Masterson also praised city officials, such as Tree Warden Max Ford-Diamond, who he said has been incredible to work with, and Director of Urban Forestry Todd Mistor, who he said has been a great ally.

Further, Masterson spoke about some plans he has worked on with Mistor that are coming soon. Specifically, Tree Eastie is slated to plant 12 trees with the city at Noyes Park on April 5th.

While all this work is exciting for the organization, Masterson emphasized the importance of educating others about why work like this is essential and why someone might want a tree themselves.

For example, the organization is handing out thousands of pieces of literature so that people can learn more about tree benefits, such as reducing heat island effects and pollution, and how they can get their own trees.

"There's a lot of people that still just don't understand why I would ever want to have a tree in my yard or on my front sidewalk," said Masterson.

If you are interested in getting a tree of your own, visit <https://www.treeeastie.org/get-a-tree>, which lays out directions to order a street or yard tree.

Further, to learn more about Tree Eastie or donate to the organization, visit <https://www.treeeastie.org/>.

"I'm passionate about

the work that the volunteers are doing and the impact that we're making on the community," said Masterson.

OVERLOOK RIDGE LOOKS TOWARD COMPLETION OF DEVELOPMENT

REVERE - The developers of the Overlook Ridge development in Malden and Revere are seeking a zoning change to their district that will allow the development of the last two parcels on the Revere side of the project.

Last year, developer Veris Residential was before the council seeking a change in the Overlook Ridge zoning district that would eliminate the need to build a hotel on one of the two remaining parcels on the site. Veris also sought parking relief for the remaining residential site on the property.

After going through a public hearing process last year, Veris was back before the city council last week. The developer is still seeking the elimination of the hotel requirement for the parcel near Salem Street, but is no longer seeking the parking relief for the planned 310 residential units on the other side of the development.

"Right now, the way this ordinance is written, we have a condition that we must build a hotel and we can have an accessory use of retail," said Marshall Tycher of Veris Residential at last week's

council meeting. "This amendment we are seeking tonight is to remove the hotel as a condition. We'd like to build retail here."

Tycher said Overlook Ridge, which will have over 4,000 residents once the final residential units go up, has no neighborhood services. He said the 10,000 square feet of retail space could be used for a neighborhood market, small restaurant, and other local services.

"This is our opportunity to build retail," said Tycher. "We don't think a hotel is viable."

On the larger residential parcel, Tycher said Veris is no longer seeking parking relief and will have the two parking spaces per unit required under the district zoning.

That property is zoned for 370 units, but Veris is proposing only 310 units, with 15 percent being offered at affordable housing rates.

Tycher also addressed several other concerns that were raised last year, including a shuttle service for the entire Overlook Ridge development that was stopped during the Covid pandemic. He said the service is fully operational again.

Planning and Community Development Director Tom Skwierawski said the city supports the zoning ordinance change.

"I understand the importance of bringing in hotel tax revenue to the city, and I will strongly advocate for those areas

in which it seems appropriate," he said. "But this isn't one of those areas. There is a real need for neighborhood amenities such as restaurant and retail; we need to see more of that in North Revere, and we've heard that from residents."

Skwierawski also praised the inclusion of the affordable housing component of the project.

"This is the most aggressive support for affordability that we have seen from a private sector partner that is not having the project subsidized through state or federal dollars," he said.

Councillor-at-Large Anthony Zambato said he was initially hesitant about eliminating the hotel requirement, but noted that since the original zoning was approved, the city has seen a number of hotels built in other areas.

The council's zoning subcommittee will take up the proposed ordinance change at its April 8 meeting before it comes back to the full council for a final vote.

COUNCIL DISCUSSES CLIMATE RESILIENCY ISSUES

WINTHROP - With another big storm predicted to hit the coast at the end of the week, several town councilors took a step back to look at longer-term climate measures for Winthrop at Tuesday night's meeting.

Some of the issues discussed included the possibility of hiring an assistant town manager who would also handle planning and grant opportunities for the town, as well as looking at ways to expedite funding for climate resiliency design and flood mitigation efforts. Councilors also discussed the possibility of establishing a climate resiliency committee.

"Our town planner has left in budget season, so it has been a little difficult managing the grants that

(former planner Rachel Kelly) has done, but we are getting a job description for the town planner out on the streets," said Town Manager Tony Marino. "I hope to move that eventually into an ATM (assistant town manager) role, but given the restrictions of the budget, that is not going to happen this year, so we will have a town planner."

Precinct 6 Councilor John DaRos discussed a number of the efforts and planning the town is currently undertaking to address climate and flooding concerns. He was also one of several councilors who suggested Marino take a closer look at tying the town planner position into an assistant town manager role.

"I think everybody can tell that we are doing the best we can to address the immediate needs to respond," said DaRos. "Still, a month ago, the town council meeting with the room full of people from areas where it floods all the time really stays with all of us, so we are committed to this action."

DaRos said several residents from his precinct urged him to raise the flooding and climate issues to the town manager and the council.

"The costs are real, especially the financial toll it is taking from repairs and rising insurance rates, as well as the mental health tolls from the damage, stress, and anxiety these residents, as well as the DPW and public safety experience in addressing them."

Climate change requires that the town has an action plan to protect the community, communicate what the plan is to the public, and execute and implement that plan, DaRos said.

During the recent 40th anniversary meeting of the Friends of Belle Isle Marsh, DaRos said he and several other councilors heard how climate change is rapidly impacting the marsh and the communi-

ties of Winthrop, Revere, and East Boston.

DaRos highlighted some of the work the town is currently undertaking to address climate resiliency, including survey and engineering work for the Tilestone, Girdlestone, and Pico Avenue neighborhoods and applied for a \$650,000 federal grant to complete the engineering work for those areas. He asked Marino if there was anything the town could do to fast track those federal dollars, but the town manager replied that the issue is still in committee at the federal level.

The town has received a state grant for a feasibility and possible design work for the Morton Street area that will most likely result in some sort of living levee to help keep water out of the area, DaRos said.

The councilor also noted that several local communities have climate resiliency plans as well as either committees or citizens' advisory groups dedicated to climate resiliency issues. DaRos said he would like to see a further discussion at the council level about establishing a citizens' advisory committee on climate.

"I would envision that this climate advisory committee would be comprised of members of our community with professional expertise and experience in planning and implementing effective climate action," DaRos said.

Councilors Suzanne Swope and John Munson both expressed some support for establishing an assistant town manager position that would provide support for locating and managing grant opportunities.

Munson said he also liked the idea of a climate resiliency advisory committee, provided it was something that would help the town administration rather than putting more on its plate.

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**. The Independent also encourages readers to e-mail news releases to 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.

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.

Bring Your Own Book 7:30 – 9:30 p.m.; Thurs. I Can't But We Can, 8:00 7:30 – 9:30 p.m.

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

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

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

We are on the Internet
<http://www.glendaleumc-everett.org>
Glendale United Methodist Church
Pastor David Jackson
392 Ferry Street (across from Glendale Towers)
Please enter the church by the driveway on Walnut Street
617-387-2916
PastorDavidJackson58@gmail.com
Pastor's Office Hours:
Saturdays 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Other times by appointment.

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 or via email at 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 at 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. Excellence" 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

"In Pursuit of Spiritual

Righteousness, Godliness, Faith, Love, Truth
Glendale Christian Lighthouse Church
701 Broadway, Everett, Massachusetts 02149
617-387-7458
Rev. Larry Russi, Sr.
Pastor
pastorlarry@thelighthousechurch701.net

Church at the Well Everett

News and Notes

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

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

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 sea-

son 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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A LOOK AT EXCELLENCE IN THE EVERETT PUBLIC SCHOOLS

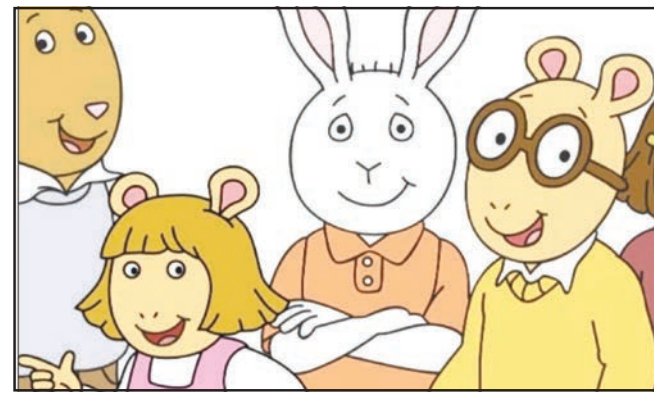
At the Madeline English School

Celebrating World Down Syndrome Day; Book Character Day

The Madeline English School celebrated World Down Syndrome Day by rocking crazy socks (photo below) and reading "You Are Enough," a book about inclusion inspired by a little girl named Sofia with Down syndrome. In addition, third-grade teacher Molly O'Neill shared an image of her uncle who has Down syndrome and talked about

the joy he has brought to her family. World Down Syndrome Day (March 21) is a global awareness day that has been officially observed by the United Nations since 2012.

Photo right, is an eighth grader and the fifth-grade teaching team who, as you can clearly see, fully embraced the spirit of Book Character Day!



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Earth Day Cleanup

Saturday, April 20, 2024
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Gateway Park | Glenwood Cemetery
 (1 Mystic View Rd.) | (Washington Ave.)

Join us as we celebrate Earth Day by planting trees at Gateway Park and beautifying Glenwood Cemetery!

Afterwards, enjoy a participant barbecue at Gateway Park at 12 p.m. with music and fun for all.

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cityofeverett.com/events/earth-day-2024

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