

# Everett Independent

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Wednesday, December 4, 2024

## CITY OF EVERETT, MASS BADGE SERVE UP THANKSGIVING DINNER FOR RESIDENTS



Shown above, residents enjoying the festivities at the annual Community Thanksgiving Complimentary Dinner. Shown below, volunteers worked hard to prepare food for the annual Community Thanksgiving Complimentary Dinner.



PHOTOS COURTESY Ciy OF EVERETT

From left: Senator Sal DiDomenico, Fire Chief Joseph Hickey, event organizer and Everett police officer Raoul Goncalves, Mayor Carlo DeMaria, Bishop Robert Brown, Police Chief Paul Strong, and Chelsea City Councilor Calvin Brown. See more photos on Page 6.

## Election Season Begins

Ward 1 Councilor Wayne Matewsky will run for councilor-at-large seat

By Cary Shuman

Ward 1 City Councilor Wayne Matewsky will reportedly be a candidate for a councilor-at-large seat in the 2025 municipal election.

Matewsky has told some of his many supporters that he will be running for one of the five at-large seats next fall.

“That’s my intention, to run at large. I won’t be running for the Ward 1 seat,” Matewsky said Tuesday.

Matewsky, 66, said his health has improved after suffering a serious attack in 2021 while visiting family in Florida.

Though he is best known in Ward 1 where it is said that “he knows every resident on a first-name basis,” Matewsky has also shown great strength across the city, having previously been elected as councilor-at-large (topping the ticket multiple times) as well as state representative (2013-14) when he emerged from a large field of candidates to claim one of Everett’s seats in the Legislature.

Matewsky has been



Ward 1 Councilor Wayne Matewsky.

very effective as the two-term councilor in Ward 1, which is the biggest district in the city and sets a solid foundation for a citywide run for office. He has been one of Everett’s strongest advocates for senior citizens throughout his storied political career.

In addition to signaling that the 2025 election season has begun in Everett, Matewsky’s decision will assuredly create a stir on the local political scene as candidates begin to take a serious look at the Ward 1 seat and launching their campaigns for office.

The five current councilors-at-large are Michael Marchese, John Hanlon, Stephanie Smith, Katy Rogers, and Guerline Alcy-Jabouin.

## Popular Everett Square store will reportedly close

By Cary Shuman

Everett Square Convenience, one of the busiest stores in the square, is reportedly going out of business.

A visit to the store this week revealed that the instant lottery tickets were dwindling, and it was learned that state lottery officials would be removing the draw game ticket machines this week. The stock in the beverage cases was low.

The store is a favorite among Lottery players, and it sold a \$1 million winning instant ticket in 2022.

Ward 1 Councilor

Wayne Matewsky, who is a close friend of the business owner, confirmed that the store will be closing

its doors. Matewsky said he is a regular customer, often purchasing newspapers there.

A drug store previously occupied the location for many years before Everett Square Convenience opened 20 years ago.

“I’m sorry to hear that the store will be closing,” said Matewsky. “The store has been a fixture in the neighborhood. The owner is a real gentleman and it’s a very friendly, family-run operation.”

Matewsky expects another business will be opening at the site, whose official address is 445 Broadway.

“It’s a great location because there’s a lot of foot traffic,” offered Matewsky.



Everett Convenience Mart is reportedly closing its doors after 20 years in business.

## DeMaria presents Citation to Derek O’Brien for providing life-saving assistance

Special to the Independent

Mayor Carlo DeMaria, along with Chief of Police Paul Strong, presented a citation to Everett resident Derek O’Brien at Everett City Hall for helping save a man’s life after a vehicle fell on him while he attempted to change a tire.

On October 7, a man was attempting to change a tire at Adams Furniture when the vehicle fell on him. O’Brien, who is a tow truck driver at Paul’s Towing, overheard the call on the scanner and immediately sprang into action to arrive on scene along with responding officers. He was able to assist by lifting the vehicle with his jack to free the man so

that officers could conduct CPR until paramedics arrived to stabilize the man and transport him for medical care.

“We are truly thankful for residents like Derek who are willing to jump into action to help others in a time of need,” said Mayor DeMaria. “Going above and beyond to provide assistance to someone who needs it is something that should be highlighted, so it was a pleasure to present this recognition on behalf of the City of Everett. I’d also like to highlight our Everett police officers and first responders for the work they constantly do every day to help others and protect our community.”



PHOTO COURTESY OF CITY OF EVERETT

Mayor Carlo DeMaria and Chief of Police Paul Strong presented a citation to Derek O’Brien on behalf of the City of Everett for helping save a man’s life after a vehicle fell on him while attempting to change a tire.

## DiDomenico secures key priorities in sweeping climate law

Special to the Independent

Senator Sal DiDomenico and his colleagues in the Legislature sent sweeping climate legislation to the Governor’s desk which will empower the state’s fight against climate change and accelerate progress towards the state’s goals of net zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2050.

Governor Healey signed S.2967, An Act Promoting a Clean Energy Grid, Advancing Equity, and Protecting Ratepayers, into law which reforms the siting and permitting of clean energy facilities, while responsibly reforming the gas distribution system. It vastly expands the electric vehicle (EV) charging net-

work, incentivizes innovative technologies such as battery storage, fusion energy, advanced metering and meter socket adapters, includes measures to protect residents from high energy costs, and equips state agencies with the mandate to fight climate change.

“I am proud that I secured language in the bill to reform our state’s energy siting and permitting procedures which will help provide communities in my district with more of a voice when energy projects are being sited in their neighborhoods while also accelerating the deployment of clean energy across our state,” said Senator Sal DiDomenico. “There is no doubt we are

in a climate crisis, and I am proud we have passed this bill which will keep Massachusetts as a leader in the fight against climate change. I want to thank Senate President Spilka, Senator Barrett, and all of my colleagues for working tirelessly to pass this transformational legislation.”

Together, the policies transform the future of energy generation, distribution, and consumption in Massachusetts. Major components of the legislation include:

Expediting siting and permitting. The bill consolidates reviews of clean energy siting and permitting, which will speed the pace of planning, constructing, and bringing

clean energy infrastructure online to support clean energy technologies such as solar, wind, and storage to create an electrified future and reduce emissions.

Large projects that require state, regional, and local permits will be consolidated into a single permit that requires action within 15 months. Small projects with multiple local permits will also be consolidated into a single permit and require action within 12 months. Each process is modeled on the work of a commission established by the Healey-Driscoll Administration that received extensive feedback from a diverse group of stakeholders.

# Everett Independent

President: Stephen Quigley

Editor in Chief: Cary Shuman

# Independent Forum

## LETTER to the Editor

### PROUD OF THE CHOICE

To the Editor:

When I saw the photo on your front page of Joseph Hickey being sworn in as Everett's Fire Chief

along with Police Chief Paul Strong, at his side, I had a feeling of pride.

Joe Hickey and Paul Strong were students at the Webster School when I served as principal. In those days they called me

Mister. Now, I refer to Joe and Paul as Chief.

As young boys, I observed leadership qualities in both of them. They were very respectful as taught by their parents.

Everett should be very

proud of Chief Hickey and Chief Strong.

Respectfully submitted:  
**Edward F. Murray**  
Webster School  
Principal, Retired

## UPCOMING EVENTS AT EVERETT PUBLIC LIBRARIES

Everett Public Libraries offer a wide range of programs and activities for all ages this week. From creative workshops and storytimes for children to educational sessions and book clubs for adults and teens, there's something for everyone. Check out the full schedule of events at your local library.

### Parlin Adult and Teens

Yarn Club Parlin Fireplace Room. Tuesday, December 10th at 7pm. Come chit chat and stitch! Bring your crocheting, knitting, or any other yarn craft and sit and socialize with other members of the crafting community. Recommended for ages 14-109!

Puzzle Club Parlin Trustees Table. Wednesday, December 11th from 3-5pm. Piece together fun and friendship at the Parlin puzzle table! We'll have puzzles of all shapes and sizes to work on together. Recommended for ages 10 and up.

Connolly Center Book Group, Connolly Center Meeting Room. Thursday, December 12th at 12pm. Elena Ferrante's My Brilliant Friend, tells the story, through friendship, of a neighborhood, a city and a country in transition. See Kathleen for copies on her twice monthly visits, or call the Parlin (617) 394 2300 or Shute (617) 394 2308 libraries.

Resume Writing, Parlin Information Desk. Do you need help sprucing up an old resume or creating a

new one? Sign up for a thirty minute session at the Parlin. By appointment only. To register, please call or send email to Kathleen, 617-394-2300 or slipp@noblenet.org

Computer Basics 101, Parlin Information Desk. Not familiar with the computer? Learn the basics: how to start up and shut down a computer, perform mouse and keyboard functions, use applications, learn Microsoft Word, navigate the Internet, set up an email account, and more! By appointment only. To register, please call or send email to Kathleen, 617-394-2300 or slipp@noblenet.org.

### Parlin Childrens

Lego Club. Parlin Children's Room. Monday, December 9th from 3-5pm. Come to the Children's Room after school on Mondays for some free-building lego fun. Open to all ages. Children under 6 years old must be accompanied by an adult. No registration required.

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

Drama Class. Parlin Children's Room. Wednesday, December 11th at 3pm. Do you have a drama queen or king at home? Drama Class in the Parlin Children's Department is

the perfect opportunity for your child to put those acting skills to use with our drama coach! Suggested ages 6-14.

Crafternoon Parlin Craft Room. Thursday, December 12th at 3pm. Join us for a holiday themed craft project Suggested ages 3 and up.

Polar Express Bedtime Story Hour Parlin Childrens Room, Thursday December 12th at 6 PM. Join us for a very special bedtime story hour when we will read from the book, The Polar Express. Wear your PJ's and bring a favorite stuffed animal. Fill your tummy with hot cocoa and cookies and get ready to Believe in the magic of Christmas.

Friday Family Movies! Parlin Meeting Room. Friday, December 13th at 3 pm. Break out the popcorn! Come and watch The Santa Clause with your friends and family.

Fluency Fun Fridays! Parlin Children's Room. Friday, December 13th at 3pm. Level up your fluency game! Drop by the Children's Room for an afternoon of fun board games like Scrabble and Banagrams, word searches and crossword puzzles. Suggested ages 5-12.

La Noche Buena Parlin Meeting Room. Saturday, December 14th at 11:00 am. Esther Gomez and Karina Liendo take us to Colombia at Christmas on December 14th. On this magical night, a young Colombian girl gathers

with her family and grandmother to eat a traditional meal.

### Shute Adult and Teens

Manga and Graphic Novel Book Club, Wednesday, December 11th at 4 PM. Join our monthly teen book group at Shute Library, focused on graphic novels & manga! We will be discussing Shuna's Journey by Hayao Miyazaki. Enjoy refreshments from the Friends of the Everett Public Libraries. No registration is needed! For ages 14 to 18. We meet every second Wednesday at 4 PM unless otherwise noted on our calendar. Limited copies are available for borrowing at our circulation desk.

Resume Writing, Shute Adult Department. Book a one-on-one resume assistance appointment at the Shute Library and let a librarian help you craft a resume tailored to your strengths and aspirations. Sign up for a thirty minute session at both the Shute Library. By appointment only. Please email shuteinfo@noblenet.org or call 617-394-2308.

Computer Basics 101, Shute Adult Department. Tech Newbie? No Problem! Learn to power up, click around, type like a pro, explore the digital world, and even send your first email. Book your Friday adventure with technology today! By appointment only. Please email shuteinfo@noblenet.org or call 617-394-2308.

## NEWS BRIEFS

### COUNCIL ON AGING ANNOUNCES DECEMBER MOVIE EVENT, 'FEAST OF THE SEVEN FISHES'

Mayor Carlo DeMaria is pleased to announce the City of Everett's Council on Aging (COA) will be screening the film "Feast of the Seven Fishes" on Tuesday, Dec. 17 beginning at 12:15 p.m. at the Edward G. Connolly Center (90 Chelsea Street).

In celebration of the holiday season, all are welcome to watch this heartwarming comedy about a large Italian family on Christmas Eve as they prepare for the traditional Feast of the Seven Fishes. The family members reminisce on the past and seek love in the future.

This event is free for older adults over the age of 60. Hot cocoa and other delights will be served. For more information, please contact Cathi by dialing 617-394-2323.

### ABCC KICKS OFF 'OPERATION SAFE HOLIDAYS'

To ensure safety for ev-

eryone in Massachusetts during the holidays, the Alcoholic Beverages Control Commission (ABCC) will be conducting alcohol enforcement at local bars in Massachusetts cities and towns through New Year's Eve.

In doing so, the ABCC hopes to prevent accidents caused by impaired driving and other alcohol-related harm that often occurs at this time of year. The ABCC will work with municipal police departments and focus enforcement efforts at bars that have been identified as the last to sell alcohol to a convicted drunk driver and other high-risk locations.

"It is extremely important to deter bars from over-serving and prevent problems before they happen," said State Treasurer Deborah B. Goldberg, who oversees the ABCC. "We want to keep people safe and make sure everyone can enjoy the holidays with their family and friends, avoiding tragedies before they occur."

The program is run in conjunction with the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration's

(NHTSA) Impaired Driving Crackdown, from Thanksgiving Eve through New Year's Eve, and is funded through the Executive Office of Public Safety and Security - Highway Safety Division.

According to the NHTSA, from 2017 to 2021, 137 drivers involved in fatal crashes on Thanksgiving Eve (6 p.m. to 5:59 a.m.), also known as 'Blackout Wednesday,' were alcohol impaired. In 2021 alone, 36 drivers were in fatal crashes on that day. Also, from 2017 to 2021, young drivers ages 21-24 represented the largest percentage of drivers involved in deadly crashes. The message before Thanksgiving is simple - the NHTSA says to stop the blackout trend on Wednesday.

### PUBLIC INVITED TO USS CONSTITUTION'S ANNUAL TREE LIGHTING CEREMONY

The public is invited to attend USS Constitution's annual Tree Lighting Ceremony on Friday, Dec. 6, starting at 3 p.m.

This free event will feature a visit and photo

opportunities with Santa Claus, complimentary hot chocolate and cookies, holiday music, ship tours, and remarks from the ship's commanding officer.

Boarding of USS Constitution will begin at 3:00 p.m., and the event will conclude at 6:00 p.m.

Guests can witness the ship's gun firing during evening colors, a ceremony marking the lowering of the American flag at sunset, scheduled for 4:11 p.m.

The tree-lighting ceremony will commence at 4:30 p.m., photos with Santa Claus will be available immediately afterward.

USS Constitution is open for free public visitation Wednesday through Sunday, from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

As the world's oldest commissioned warship afloat and America's Ship of State, USS Constitution played a vital role in the Barbary Wars and the War of 1812, safeguarding American sea lanes from 1797 to 1855.

See NEWS BRIEFS Page 3

# Everett Independent

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## SCHIAVO CLUB HOSTS ITS ANNUAL COMMUNITY THANKSGIVING DINNER

Cary Shuman Photos

The Schiavo Club hosted its annual Community Thanksgiving Dinner in its function hall on Tileston Street.

The many guests enjoyed a delicious meal consisting of roast turkey (with gravy), mashed potatoes, green beans, cranberry sauce, stuffing, and sweet Hawaiian rolls, followed by apple pie for dessert.

Joseph Rescigno, who has been the president of the non-profit organization for ten years, said the dinner has been held annually for 30 years.

"We're very happy with the excellent turnout," said Rescigno. "Everyone is having a great time."

The Schiavo Club has launched its annual Toy Drive for the children of

Everett. The Club also makes a \$1,000 donation toward Immaculate Conception of Everett.

A lifelong resident, Recigno attended Parlin Junior High and Everett High School. He is a retired UPS employee.

President Rescigno and member Joseph McGonagle, state representative for Everett, walked to each table to personally greet all the guests.

It was a wonderful afternoon of food, fun, and conversation as the Schiavo Club - who will celebrate its 80th anniversary in 2026 - proudly sponsored another great event for Everett residents.

The Schiavo Club is named in honor of U.S. Marine Carmen A. Schiavo, who was killed in action during World War II.



The members of the Schiavo Club are pictured at the annual Community Thanksgiving Dinner at the non-profit organization's headquarters on Tileston Street. Front row, from left, are Dennis Dibiase, Paul Smith, President Joseph Rescigno, Ed Hinchey, and Angelo Ravesi. Back row, from left, are Jack Doherty, Andy Ferreira, Mike Crosby, Stephen Simonelli, Kenneth Jones, Secretary Kevin Cronin, Luigi Puccilli, and Rep. Joseph McGonagle.



Schiavo Club President Joseph Rescigno (third from left) thanks volunteers (from left) Dottie Doucette, Rosie Prestera, Tracy O'Connor, Diane Ginepra, and Karen Dunn, who assisted at the Club's annual Community Thanksgiving Dinner.



Front row, from left, Natalie Freeman, Carole Savinsky, and Dottie Martin. Back row, from left, are Elvie Wright, John Aquino, Ann Marie Stanfield, Joseph Rescigno, and Rep. Joseph Monagle.



Front row, from left, are Michael Listorti, Joanne Gricus, Angela Laft, and Angelo Iuliano. Back row, from left, are Al Porcaro, Robert Porcaro, Janet Porcaro, Joseph Rescigno, Pam Malvilio, and Rep. Joseph McGonagle.



Schiavo Club President Joseph Rescigno (third from right) and family, from left, Katie Buonopane, Alex Buonopane, Wally Maciejowski, Al Buonopane, Rose Buonopane, and Tom Buonopane.

### News Briefs //

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

#### FREE TECH ASSISTANCE OFFERED AT THE CONNOLLY CENTER

The Council on Aging has partnered with Mystic Valley Elder Services to offer free open tech hours EVERETT, MA - Mayor Carlo DeMarea is pleased to announce the City of Everett's Council on Aging (COA) has partnered with Mystic Valley Elder Services (MVES) to offer their Technology Access Program (TAP) every Thursday in December from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. at the Edward G. Connolly Center (90 Chelsea Street).

Residents who need assistance with navigating electronics such as a cell-phone, tablet, or laptop can receive free assistance from instructors who will help guide and educate attendees on how to utilize their devices. In addition to electronic device assistance, attendees will have the opportunity to receive help with completing an online application or paying a bill online.

This service will be offered at the Connolly Center during the following dates and times:

- Thursday, December 5 from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m.
- Thursday, December 12 from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m.
- Thursday, December 19 from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m.

• Thursday, December 26 from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. please contact the Council on Aging by dialing 617-394-2270 to be connected to the Connolly Center. For more information about the free tech hours,

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**MUST BE PAID IN ADVANCE**

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4	5	6	7	8	9	10	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
18	19	20	21	22	23	24	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
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**'Tis the Season for Everett Christmas Kids**

Share your photo to be included in this year's SPECIAL PAGES

**BY THURS. DEC. 19**

Email your photos to [PROMO@REVEREJOURNAL.COM](mailto:PROMO@REVEREJOURNAL.COM)

Please include names with your photo.

**PHOTOS RECEIVED WITHOUT INFO WILL NOT BE PUBLISHED**

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**PHOTOS PUBLISHED TUESDAY DEC. 24th CHRISTMAS EVE**

# EVERETT SERVES HUNDREDS OF MEALS AT ANNUAL THANKSGIVING COMPLIMENTARY DINNER

PHOTOS COURTESY THE CITY OF EVERETT

The Mass Badge Foundation, in partnership with the City of Everett, Everett Police Department, and Zion Church Ministries, hosted the 13th annual Community Thanksgiving Complimentary Dinner on Monday, Nov. 25 at the Edward G. Connolly Center.

Everett's first responders, residents, city employees, members of the Zion Church Ministries, elected officials, and so many more prepared and served a complimentary Thanksgiving dinner with all the fixings to all who attended the event. The Connolly Center was

filled with attendees participating in the festivities, which brought hundreds together to enjoy a warm meal and community togetherness.

"This event gets bigger and better each year and it really warms my heart to see so many residents gathering together with holiday cheer, great food, and community spirit," said Mayor Carlo DeMaria. "I would like to thank each and every one of the volunteers for their commitment and dedication to making sure our residents were given the best experience possible."



Mayor Carlo DeMaria alongside his mother, Rosa, who volunteers every year to serve food to attendees.



Bishop Robert Brown and City Councilor Stephanie Martins.



Mayor Carlo DeMaria alongside attendees at the annual Community Thanksgiving Complimentary Dinner.



Bishop Robert Brown alongside Everett resident Doris.



Police Chief Paul Strong and Bishop Robert Brown.



From left: City of Everett Director of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Cathy Draine, Mayor Carlo DeMaria, and Ailey Draine.




From left: Linda Dall, Mayor Carlo DeMaria, and Sandy Schiappa.



The Connolly Center was filled with attendees for the annual Community Thanksgiving Complimentary Dinner.



**Carlo DeMaria**  
*Mayor*




*You're Invited...*

**City of Everett's Annual Christmas Tree Lighting**

**FRIDAY, DECEMBER 6, 2024**  
**5:00PM - 8:00PM**  
**EVERETT SQUARE**

For more information, please visit  
[cityofeverett.com/events/tree-lighting-2024](http://cityofeverett.com/events/tree-lighting-2024)



SCAN ME



A team of employees from Target volunteered at the annual Community Thanksgiving Complimentary Dinner.

## Holiday cheer is here!

4 Month CD Special

# 4.51%<sup>\*</sup>

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# EVERETT SERVES HUNDREDS OF MEALS AT ANNUAL THANKSGIVING COMPLIMENTARY DINNER

PHOTOS COURTESY THE CITY OF EVERETT



Volunteers served attendees throughout the event.



Fire Chief Joseph Hickey and Police Chief Paul Strong alongside firefighters and police officers.



The Mass Badge, in partnership with the City of Everett, Everett Police Department, and Zion Church Ministries, hosted the 13th annual Community Thanksgiving Complimentary Dinner at the Edward G. Connolly Center.

# Bus Route Changes



The first phase of MBTA's Bus Network Redesign starts December 15, 2024.

## Bus Network Redesign: Phase 1 Changes

Beginning **December 15, 2024**



**Frequent Bus Route**  
Every 15 minutes or better,  
5 AM to 1 AM  
(Sundays may start as late as 6 AM)

### Future Route

- Route 86
- Route 104
- Route 109
- Route 110
- Route 116

### Discontinued Route Segment

- Route 86
- Route 104
- Route 117

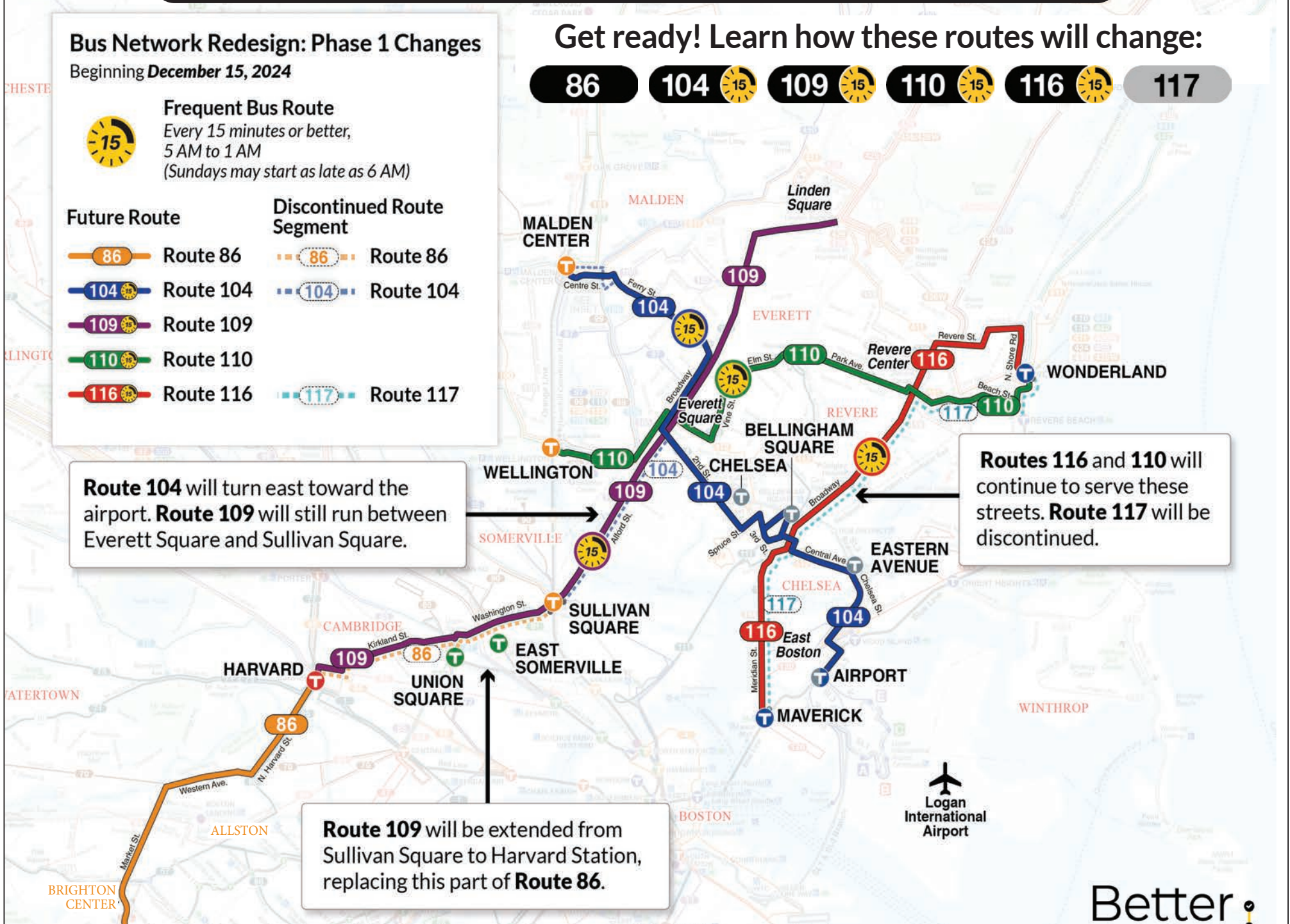
Get ready! Learn how these routes will change:

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**Route 104** will turn east toward the airport. **Route 109** will still run between Everett Square and Sullivan Square.

**Route 109** will be extended from Sullivan Square to Harvard Station, replacing this part of **Route 86**.

**Routes 116 and 110** will continue to serve these streets. **Route 117** will be discontinued.



Learn More at [MBTA.com/BNRPhase1](https://www.mbta.com/BNRPhase1)  
Sign up for T-Alerts at [MBTA.com/SignUp](https://www.mbta.com/SignUp)

**Better Bus Project**  
Making transit better together

# Learn about the launch of phase 1 of bus network redesign at local T stations

Special to the Independent

The MBTA's Bus Network Redesign is a major initiative aimed at improving bus service reliability, frequency, and connectivity throughout the region. The initiative's first phase will go live on December 15. Phase 1 will launch four new Frequent Bus Routes by increasing service on Route 86, Route 104, Route 109, Route 110, and Route 116/117 in Chelsea, Everett, Revere, Malden, Somerville, Cambridge, Allston, Brighton, and East Boston.

- Maverick
- Airport
- Sullivan Square
- Harvard

Staff will assist riders by answering questions and helping them navigate their routes, stops, and schedules as well as distributing materials available in 12 languages. MBTA teams will be at locations generally Monday through Friday from 7:30 to 9:30 AM and 3:30 to 5:30 PM with additional timeslots to be determined. Interpreters will be available at many stations.

### Many Phase 1 Materials Are Available

The MBTA's December outreach builds on engagement in November to bring awareness and information to riders at key bus stops impacted by the improvements. More than 25

tabling and station events provided answers to thousands of rider questions and shared resources in multiple languages. Schedules for specific bus routes impacted by these changes are now available online as a PDF at [mbta.com](http://mbta.com) on the Phase 1 Service webpage.

In addition, the MBTA has developed a number of community and individual resources to assist riders in navigating these changes, including rider booklets and flyers.

The Phase 1 Rider Booklet is available in English, Spanish, Portuguese, Haitian Creole, Arabic, Simplified Chinese, Russian, Italian, Vietnamese, and Khmer. The graphic booklet describes why and how routes are changing and improving. It includes easy-to-read route maps and schedules.

Through December 20, MBTA staff will be available at many bus stops along the routes that will be experiencing changes and at the following stations:

- Malden Center
- Wonderland

## Real Estate Transfers

BUYER 1	SELLER 1	ADDRESS	PRICE
Better Breathing Envi Inc	Central Ave Realty LLC	18 Central Ave	\$1,500,000
Aryal, Hari B	Ashworth, Patrice	29 Rock Valley Ave	\$650,000
Cioffi, Robert J	Prestia, Sandra	368 Main St	\$360,000
Melo, Hansel	Valenzuela, Gladys	66 Harvard St	\$1,485,000

# ERA MILLENNIUM

617-389-1101 • 617-784-7500 • [ERAMILLENNIUM@AOL.COM](mailto:ERAMILLENNIUM@AOL.COM)  
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## Climate // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Expedited permitting is paired with enhanced community review via new offices created by the bill, including the Office of Environmental Justice and Equity, the Office of Public Participation at the Energy Facilities Siting Board, and the Division of Siting and Permitting at the Department of Energy Resources. Each office will be charged with engaging with and providing resources to communities and applicants to ensure a thorough, equitable and community-centered review.

To help protect residents from bearing the cost of building new infrastructure, when possible, the state will require the Energy Facilities Siting Board to first consider maximizing the efficiency of current infrastructure through the use of innovative technologies such as advanced transmission technologies or grid-enhancing technologies before approving new construction. An online clean energy infrastructure dashboard will also be created to promote transparency and public accountability in real time.

Protecting residents from high costs. By pairing lower rates for low- and middle-income consumers with cost-saving infrastructure changes, the legislation protects Massachusetts residents from paying more for electricity.

The bill incentivizes gas companies to pursue the expansion of climate- and cost-friendly networked heat pump systems and geothermal heating, modeled on successful pilots already underway in Framingham and Lowell. It does this by directing the Department of Public Utilities (DPU) to consider greenhouse gas impacts when it weighs a petition by a gas company to expand its territory, reigning in a mandate that historically offered preferential treatment to natural gas infrastructure over other methods of heating. The legislation also saves residents money by considering climate-friendly alternatives to leak-prone pipes instead of automatically replacing them with new natural gas pipes.

To ensure gas workers are protected as reforms to gas distribution system are undertaken, the bill establishes a special legislative commission to study the impacts of the energy transition and decarbonization on the current fossil fuel workforce. The bill further directs utility providers to offer lower rates to eligible low-income and moderate-income utility consumers.

Building out electric vehicle infrastructure. Expanding electric vehicle (EV) use and making it easier to charge a vehicle is crucial to reducing emissions, so this legislation expands the availability of charging stations. Along with making pole-mounted charger installation easier on streets and in parking lots, the bill centralizes statewide coordination of charger installation via the Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Coordinating Council (EVICC). The EVICC will also be responsible for identifying sites for a statewide network of fast charging hubs along Massachusetts highways and

major roadways, as well as forecasting EV charging demand and determining its impact on the electric distribution grid over the next ten years. It further removes EV charger installation restrictions for residents who own parcels within condominiums, homeowner associations, and historic districts, and authorizes condo boards to install EV chargers on community parcels.

The legislation extends the MOR-EV program through 2027, giving residents more opportunities to qualify for a \$3,500 to \$6,000 rebate for the purchase of qualifying new or used electric vehicles. It also makes it easier for cities and towns to procure electric school vehicles—including electric school buses—and EV charging equipment for municipalities. The bill also seeks to dispel misinformation about electric vehicle and electric battery storage safety risks by requiring state guidance on the public health, safety, and environmental impacts of these technologies.

Fusion Energy and Battery Storage. The legislation makes Massachusetts the first state in the nation to add fusion energy to the list of Renewable Energy Portfolio Standard (RPS) Class I renewable energy generating sources, positioning the Commonwealth to be in a strategically beneficial position as fusion energy becomes commercially viable. Additionally, it sets a 5,000 MW energy storage procurement to back up intermittent clean energy resources such as solar and wind. It also authorizes DOER to coordinate with other New England states to consider competitive solicitations for long-term clean energy generation, including existing nuclear generation, for the benefit of the Commonwealth and the region.

Offshore Wind. To support the growing offshore wind industry that will provide clean power and new jobs, the legislation allows future offshore wind contracts to be set for terms of 15 to 30 years instead of the previous 20 year maximum. It also directs the Massachusetts Department of Energy Resources (DOER) to review the effectiveness of existing solicitations in contributing to state emissions requirements and to ensuring high labor standards in clean energy, including offshore wind, clean energy generation, and storage procurements.

It further requires DOER, in consultation with DPU and the Massachusetts Clean Energy Center (MassCEC), to issue guidance on long-term power purchase agreements (PPAs) between offshore wind developers and municipalities, including approved aggregation plans. The bill also expands existing tax credits for offshore wind facility employers, who now only need 50 full-time employees to be eligible for tax credits and refundable credits for capital investment.

Advanced Metering Infrastructure. As demand on the electrical grid increases with the adoption of electric vehicles and heat pumps, advanced metering infrastructure (AMI)—including smart

meters, communications networks and data management systems—will enable efficient grid management and improved resiliency.

This legislation supports the rollout of these crucial technologies by requiring the utilities deploying them to create a centralized data repository to provide access to detailed AMI customer data, subject to customer approval. It also authorizes DPU to provide cost recovery for necessary expenses incurred by utilities in AMI implementation. It further maintains consumer protections by establishing an opt-out option for electric customers.

These changes will help companies and individuals use their devices more efficiently and provide real-time data to the grid, allowing for greater flexibility. The legislation also allows customers to install EV chargers or heat pumps without triggering the need for expensive electrical upgrades by authorizing the installation of meter socket adapters to effectively manage increased load.

Solar Energy. This bill establishes new policies to facilitate the deployment of solar energy through updates to historic district laws, providing policy recommendations through a solar canopy working group, and requiring DPU to explore expanding access to net crediting. It also expands affordability and access for low-income customers in the Solar Massachusetts Renewable Target (SMART) program and authorizes the transfer of SMART solar credits to customers in any electric utility territory.

Decarbonizing buildings. Because buildings across the state continue to be a major source of greenhouse gas emissions, this legislation advances efforts to decarbonize them. It authorizes condo association boards to install energy efficiency devices and EV chargers in common areas and increases the efficiency of heat pumps by allowing installers to use the most up-to-date refrigerants.

Supporting lean technology and innovation. To ensure that the next generation of technology is built in Massachusetts, the legislation will expand support to the state's innovators. The legislation does this by expanding the purview of MassCEC to include carbon removal, embodied carbon reduction, and nuclear power. MassCEC is also directed to promote carbon removal and embodied carbon activities, and study opportunities for future carbon removal.

Leading by example. The legislation directs the state to analyze its own climate impacts and how state infrastructure can be more climate friendly. It directs the Division of Capital Asset Management and Maintenance (DCAMM) to evaluate the climate impacts of state buildings and seek options for emissions reductions, and directs Massport to prioritize reducing emissions while pursuing commerce and growth. It also expands the mission of the Board of Building Regulations and Standards to include reducing emissions and embodied carbon.

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## FRESH AND LOCAL

## Cooking and mental health

by Penny &amp; Ed Cherubino

Researchers and doctors are slowly looking to food to improve mental, emotional, and brain health. Recently, we've read reports on the benefits of cooking as a therapy for depression, anxiety, and post-traumatic stress disorder.

Research points to ways cooking can improve executive and cognitive function in those with mild cognitive impairment. Other studies promote cooking for patients with obstructive pulmonary disease, cardiovascular disease, traumatic brain injury, and stroke.

**Benefits of Cooking**

It's often suggested that you keep learning to improve your brain health. You might learn a new language, practice meditation, yoga, or tai chi, play word games, volunteer, or become physically and socially more active. Research has shown that cooking can be added to this list. For us, cooking and learning about food, wine, and food culture are a focus for our lifetime



PHOTO BY YUNUS TUG

**Cooking is good for your mental health and brain health. Cooking with others increases the benefits.**

learning goals.

Food and Wine magazine quoted Hillary Ammon, Psy.D., a clinical psychologist at the Center for Anxiety & Women's Emotional Wellness. "Cooking can serve both purpose and pleasure, Ammon says. "It is a hobby that can provide a sense of purpose — nourishing your body or cooking for

others — and a sense of pleasure, in that it brings you joy or satisfaction," she explained. "When we consider some of the basic tenets of treating depression in therapy, we are often looking to ensure people have both purposeful and pleasurable activities in their lives."

**Cooking Therapy**

Other findings show that the steps you take in cooking, such as planning what to cook, following a recipe, and being creative, improve your executive function capacity. Initial research on the topic has led to programs of "Cooking Therapy."

There are many versions of cooking therapy, which

is a new approach. Ammon explained that it can involve a patient cooking with their therapist. While cooking, the therapist can lead a relaxed discussion of the patient's mental health issues.

**Side Benefits**

One side benefit of cooking is improved nutrition. When you shop for good ingredients, choose recipes that will improve your health conditions, and cook the food yourself, you make a big step towards eating what's good for you.

As more links between your brain health and microbiome are proven, cooking at home will enable you to add more fiber, fermented foods, and foods rich in Omega-3 fatty acids and antioxidants to your menus. Even learning what these are is a benefit.

Cooking can be a form of self-expression and a creative outlet for many. It can also promote mindfulness, enhance self-esteem, and promote self-care. Cooking with and for others is an excellent form of socialization. People have

always bonded through food. For those who have always cooked, teaching and supporting those who could benefit from learning to cook can be mutually beneficial.

Today, physicians are happy to refer patients with specific health conditions to registered dietitians who can provide food guidelines as a control factor. We were recently prescribed the MIND Diet as one that would be great for our brains. It combines the Mediterranean and DASH diets and is recommended for seniors as a preventative measure against cognitive loss.

Since it is always a good idea to check in with your primary care physician before you make any lifestyle changes, make an appointment and ask for guidance on how you might use this new research on the value of cooking and cooking therapy to help manage any brain-related issues you would like to discuss.

*Do you have a question or topic for Fresh & Local? Email Penny@BostonZest.com with your suggestion.*

## Sen. DiDomenico secures \$10 million for district in sweeping economic development bill

Special to the Independent

Governor Healey recently signed a sweeping economic development bill into law, authorizing a nearly \$4 billion infusion into the Commonwealth's economy while making wide-ranging policy changes to make Massachusetts more competitive. Senator DiDomenico secured \$10 million in funding for local projects throughout the district, in addition to the inclusion of language that will allow for the construction of a professional soccer stadium and waterfront park in Everett. These investments will be an economic catalyst for businesses and residents across these communities and beyond.

Senator DiDomenico's local funding secured:

- Funding for the design, permitting, and community engagement efforts in creating resilience along our waterfronts
- Funding for capital projects to promote green space access, environmental programming and climate resiliency
- Funding for public safety facilities
- Funding for the planning, design and construction of public infrastructure projects
- Funding for increased access to our public waterfront areas

The bold investments in H.5100, An Act relative to strengthening Massachusetts' economic leadership, will stimulate new and proven industries, support workforce development and talent retention, and modernize economic growth strategies.

Provisions of the bill will support small businesses, communities, and cultural development, ensuring that businesses Main Streets across the Commonwealth benefit from the economic boost.

"I am proud to share that I have secured \$10 million in the Economic Development bill for projects throughout my district that will spur our local economy, promote climate resilience in our cities, improve public infrastructure, and expand our green spaces," said Senator Sal DiDomenico. "This bill also makes meaningful investments in life sciences, climatetech, and small businesses that will have far reaching benefits for our residents and set our state up for success long into the future. In addition, I am proud to have secured language that will allow our much-anticipated soccer stadium to go forward. I want to thank Senate President Spilka and members of the conference committee for crafting such a significant piece of legislation for our state."

**Bond Authorizations**

The legislation includes a total of \$3.96 billion in capital authorizations for leading Massachusetts industries including life sciences and climatetech.

Climatetech investments. The bill provides \$400 million in capital resources to the MassCEC (Massachusetts Clean Energy Center) to utilize over the next ten years, with \$200 million authorized to support innovation and deployment of climatetech technologies and \$200 million to support the offshore wind industry.

It also establishes a new tax credit to invest in climatetech companies. A new program housed at MassCEC will develop and expand employment opportunities in climatetech and promote climatetech-related economic development by supporting and stimulating research, development, innovation, manufacturing, deployment and commercialization in the climatetech

sector. The credit will be subject to a \$30 million annual cap.

Life sciences. This legislation authorizes \$500 million over ten years for the Life Sciences Breakthrough Fund to reauthorize the Commonwealth's life sciences initiative.

Known as Life Sciences 3.0, the reauthorization adds health equity, biosecurity, digital health, and artificial intelligence to the mission of the Life Sciences Center. The bill increases the annual tax credit authorization for the life sciences industry from \$30 million to \$40 million.

Additional authorizations include:

- \$400 million for the MassWorks Infrastructure Program to support public infrastructure projects and create jobs;
- \$150 million for library construction projects;
- \$103 million for artificial intelligence in systems across the state;
- \$100 million for infrastructure improvements in rural communities;
- \$21 million for resilience in agriculture and fishing; and
- \$40 million for food science innovations, including \$10 million to support the state's nascent alternative protein industry.

**Policy Changes**

Numerous policy changes in the legislation targeted at growing the Massachusetts economy include:

Support for small businesses. The bill restructures two quasi-state agencies that are designed to be the gateway for access to state resources, the Massachusetts Growth Capital Corporation (MGCC) and Massachusetts Development Finance Agency (MassDevelopment).

The legislation also authorizes a five-year pilot program for the Commonwealth to assist small businesses in acquiring surety bonds. Large capital projects, whether public or private, often require retention of a surety bond by the contractor as financial security. Historically,

economically and socially disadvantaged businesses often cannot acquire these bonds because of a lack of credit history or collateral. This program creates a self-sustaining state assistance program to open doors for more of these businesses.

Educator diversity. It allows the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) to develop an alternative certification process for teachers who may face challenges passing the educator certification exam but can otherwise demonstrate their competence as teachers. The change will help Massachusetts diversify the K-12 educator workforce.

Live theater tax credit. It launches a new tax credit of up to \$7 million annually to support local live theater productions. The credit will help Massachusetts artists working towards Broadway or off-Broadway launch a national tour.

Craft beer at farmers markets. The legislation updates the law to allow for locally produced craft beer to be sold at farmers markets, like wine and cider currently.

Ticketing transparency. It requires ticket sellers to clearly disclose the actual ticket price when listing tickets online and bans automated ticket purchasing software, otherwise known as bots. Bots drive up prices in the secondary market by creating artificial scarcity when fans try to purchase tickets from the artist or venue.

Professional soccer stadium and environmental cleanup in Everett. It allows for the construction of a professional soccer stadium and waterfront park on a parcel of land in Everett by removing the parcel's classification as a designated port area. The change is expected to have positive environmental and economic impacts in surrounding communities as well as improve public transit connectivity.

Public funding for the construction of the stadium is not allowed, and funding for public infra-

structure improvements associated with the stadium would require matching private funds. The language also requires community mitigation agreements with the cities of Everett and Boston.

Strengthening local and regional public health systems. It overhauls the state's fragmented public health system to ensure strong public health protections for all residents regardless of race, income, or zip code.

Honoring Mayor Menino. The bill renames the Boston Convention and Exhibition Center the Thomas Michael Menino Convention and Exhibition Center.

Pathway for foreign-trained physicians. It creates a pathway in Massachusetts for physicians previously authorized to practice medicine outside the United States to practice in an underserved region of the Commonwealth.

Nurse licensure compact. It includes a provision to admit Massachusetts in the national nurse licensure compact, which will help alleviate the critical workforce challenges facing the health care sector.

Civil service reforms. This legislation modernizes Massachusetts civil service laws to give communities more options in filling vacancies while giving qualified job seek-

ers more opportunities to find a match.

Data centers tax credit. It creates a new tax credit to attract investment in qualified data centers.

Childcare as campaign expense. It removes current limitations on political candidates using campaign funds for childcare services that occur because of campaign activities.

FAFSA. The bill requires each school district to notify students prior to graduating from high school of the availability of FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) and to provide students with information on financial aid options.

Liquor license equity. It removes an archaic requirement that a restaurant liquor license holder be a United States citizen, thereby creating a pathway for other qualified immigrants.

Project labor agreements. It authorizes public agencies and municipalities to enter into project labor agreements for public works contracts when such an agreement is in the best interest of the public agency or municipality.

Sustainability for farmers. Finally, the bill allows farmers to diversify how they use their farms, including using land for agritourism and selling goods made from produce they have grown themselves.

## OBITUARIES

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## CHURCH News

### Glendale Christian Lighthouse Church

News and Notes

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**Glendale Christian Lighthouse Church**  
701 Broadway, Everett, Massachusetts 02149  
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Rev. Larry Russi, Sr.  
Pastor  
pastorlarry@thelighthousechurch701.net

### Church at the Well Everett

News and Notes

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

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

### Glendale United Methodist Church

News and Notes

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

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

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

Boy Scout Troop 814: Meet in Cooper Hall on 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 You Tube.

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

### Immaculate Conception Parish

News and Notes

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

Weekly Mass Schedule 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

### 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

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<b>Walgreens</b> .....	<b>317 Ferry St.</b>	<b>Everett House of Pizza</b> .....	<b>722 Broadway</b>
<b>Apt. Building</b> .....	<b>381 Ferry St.</b>	<b>Eastern Bank</b> .....	<b>738 Broadway</b>
<b>Everett Public Schools</b> .....	<b>121 Vine St.</b>	<b>Shute Memorial Library</b> .....	<b>781 Broadway</b>
<b>Parkway Heights Tower</b> .....	<b>201 Chelsea St.</b>	<b>Vitoria Bakery</b> .....	<b>798 Broadway</b>
<b>7-Eleven</b> .....	<b>188 Chelsea St.</b>	<b>Little Mania Restaurant</b> .....	<b>876 Broadway</b>
<b>Star Convenience</b> .....	<b>178 Chelsea St.</b>	<b>Broadway Market</b> .....	<b>880 Broadway</b>
<b>Everett Pizza</b> .....	<b>176 Chelsea St.</b>	<b>Jalapeño's Restaurant</b> .....	<b>882 Broadway</b>
<b>Edward Connolly Center</b> .....	<b>90 Chelsea St.</b>	<b>Dunkin'</b> .....	<b>891 Broadway</b>
<b>Super J.C. Market</b> .....	<b>66 Chelsea St.</b>	<b>Rte. 99 Smoke Shop</b> .....	<b>893 Broadway</b>
<b>Park Plaza Condos</b> .....	<b>30 Chelsea St.</b>	<b>Everett Villa</b> .....	<b>66 Main St.</b>
<b>Express Market</b> .....	<b>318 Broadway</b>	<b>Everett Variety</b> .....	<b>80 Main St.</b>
<b>Eagle Bank</b> .....	<b>350 Broadway</b>	<b>Neighborhood Market</b> .....	<b>115 Main St.</b>
<b>High End Smoke Shop</b> .....	<b>378 Broadway</b>	<b>Continental Bakery</b> .....	<b>119 Main St.</b>
<b>Parlin Memorial Library</b> .....	<b>410 Broadway</b>	<b>Mass Bay Credit Union</b> .....	<b>183 Main St.</b>
<b>Walgreens</b> .....	<b>417 Broadway</b>	<b>Regina's Liquor</b> .....	<b>203 Main St.</b>
<b>Everett Bank</b> .....	<b>419 Broadway</b>	<b>7-Eleven</b> .....	<b>280 Main St.</b>
<b>The Square Deli</b> .....	<b>421 Broadway</b>	<b>Food Mart</b> .....	<b>400 Main St.</b>
<b>Smoke Shop</b> .....	<b>423 Broadway</b>	<b>True Value</b> .....	<b>403 Main St.</b>
<b>Everett Square Market</b> .....	<b>445 Broadway</b>	<b>Nana's Pizza</b> .....	<b>416 Main St.</b>
<b>Chrisillas Deli</b> .....	<b>447 Broadway</b>	<b>Apt. Building</b> .....	<b>120 Wyllis Ave.</b>

# Congrats, Linda Fragione on 24 years of service

Special to the Independent

Mayor Carlo DeMaria recently congratulated Linda Fragione on her 24 years of service to the City of Everett.

Fragione has served as an administrative assistant for many departments over the years, including the Purchasing Department, Facilities Maintenance Department, City Clerk's Office, Collector's Office, and the ECTV/Communications Department where she has worked for the last 12 years. Her role was crucial to ensuring her team had everything they need to get the job done.

"We are grateful for all of her work throughout the years and wish her all the best, and I know she looks forward to spending time with her grandchildren, which if you know Linda, she loves more than anything," said Mayor DeMaria. "Please join me in congratulating Linda on her retirement and wishing her all the best."



City employees gathered in the Keverian Room at City Hall to celebrate and express their best wishes to Linda Fragione on her retirement. PHOTOS COURTESY OF THE CITY OF EVERETT



Mayor Carlo DeMaria presented a citation and flowers to Linda Fragione in recognition of her 24 years of service to the City of Everett.



Commemorative items that were given to Linda Fragione by City staff in recognition of her retirement.

## ZONTA CLUB NEWS & NOTES

Courtesy Photo

The Zonta Club of Chelsea and North Shore mem-

bers recently delivered Market Basket gift cards to the local school districts of Chelsea, Everett, Win-

throp, Revere and Saugus. These gift cards will be distributed to needy families this Holiday Season.



Zonta member Pam Miller is delivering the Market Basket gift cards to Everett Schools Superintendent, William Hart.

## MVES offers free assistance at 'Tech Café'

Special to the Independent

Trouble Using Your Cell Phone, Tablet or Laptop? MVES Can Help!

Need assistance with your iPad, tablet, cell phone, or laptop? Trying to figure out how to fill out an online application or pay an e-bill? Join the Technology Access Program of Mystic Valley Elder Services (MVES) for free open tech hours at Everett Council on Aging.

The MVES Tech Café will be held every Thursday in December (Dec. 5, 12, 19 and 26), 3-5 p.m., at the Connolly Center, 90 Chelsea St. Whatever your technology problem is, MVES is here to help! Whether you're having trouble accomplishing something online, struggling with email, or having an issue with your phone or other device, bring your issue and your device to the MVES Tech

Café. Experienced, trained team members will be ready to assist you.

The Technology Access Program (TAP) at Mystic Valley Elder Services strives to increase digital literacy and accessibility in aging adults through 1-on-1 tech education, guided courses, troubleshooting events, guidance on affordable internet services, and device distribution. TAP is just one of the home- and community-based care and resources that MVES offers to older adults, people with disabilities, and their caregivers. A nonprofit established in 1975, MVES serves Everett and 10 other Greater Boston communities.

For more about TAP, or about other services and programs offered by Mystic Valley Elder Services, please visit [www.mves.org](http://www.mves.org) or call 781-324-7705. Volunteers needed!

Interested in helping to bridge the tech divide? MVES needs more volunteers! Tech expertise is not required, just a comfort level with basic computer and internet practices. Bilingual and multilingual volunteers welcomed. To submit a Volunteer Application or learn more, visit [www.mves.org](http://www.mves.org) or call 781-324-7705

## Encore hosts Winter Market Holiday Sale

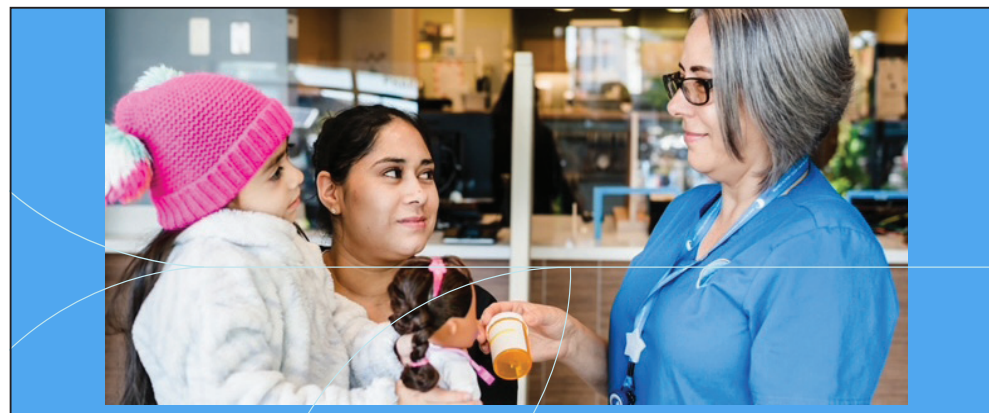
Encore Boston Harbor will hold a special Winter Market Holiday Sale on Wednesday, December 4, and Thursday, December 5, from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. in the B1 Encore Self-Parking Garage.

The sale will feature a wide selection of premium

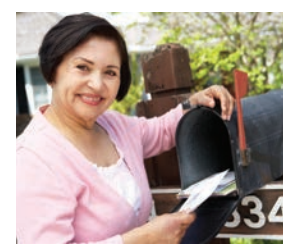
resort merchandise, gifts, and items from top brands such as Tiffany & Co., Apple, Bose, Tumi, and Cuisinart. Shoppers can find cookware, Boston sports team apparel, houseware, electronics, and holiday gifts, with prices ranging from \$1 to \$20.

All proceeds from the sale will benefit the Wynn Resorts Foundation's Community Grant Fund, which supports local causes and communities.

Encore Boston Harbor is located at 1 Broadway, Everett.



## Pick up your prescriptions – or get them delivered!



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