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Everett Independent

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Wednesday, January 29, 2025



Former City Councilor Richard Dell Isola, State Rep. Joe McGonagle, Ward 3 Councilor Anthony DiPierro, retiring Crimson Tide Pop Warner President Brian Dimond, State Sen. Sal DiDomenico, and Ward 6 Councilor Peter Pietrantonio.

CITY LEADERS HONOR RETIRING CRIMSON TIDE POP WARNER PRESIDENT BRIAN DIMOND

Last week, local leaders gathered and joined the Everett Crimson Tide Pop Warner football family to surprise and celebrate retiring President, Brian Dimond, for his 34 years of selfless service to Everett's

youth.

Having served as president of the Everett Eagles, Brian stepped up in 2012 to serve as the new organization's leader when the Eagles and Huskies merged to form one youth foot-

ball and cheerleading organization. While Brian's leadership will be missed, there are generations of Everett's youth that have benefited because of it.

School Comm. approves competency requirements for high school diploma

Special to the Independent

When Massachusetts voters approved the measure to eliminate MCAS testing on the November ballot, many school districts were left scrambling to put in place a new district competency requirement to replace the MCAS for students to graduate and receive a high school diploma.

At the meeting of the School

Committee on January 21, members voted 7-0 to approve the new competency requirements for students to earn their diplomas.

Dr. Margaret Adams, the Assistant Superintendent of Teaching, Learning, and Student Success, and Everett High School Vice-Principal Jim Murphy appeared before the

See DIPLOMA Page 7

Smith opts for further review of ordinance on limited animal testing

By Cary Shuman

After a 6-4 vote at the Jan. 13 Council meeting in favor of her amendment to allow limited animal testing in Everett, Councilor-at-Large Stephanie Smith said she would like to do more research on the issue before she

reintroduces the measure for a future vote.

The Council discussed the limited animal testing ordinance at its meeting Monday night. Prior to the discussion, residents and advocates of animal

See TESTING Page 12

Prime Time Photographer

Everett High student Jonathan Goes earns much praise for his superb camerawork

By Cary Shuman

If photography were a sport, Everett High School junior Jonathan Goes would be a five-star, national recruit.

A starting defensive lineman for the Everett High School football team last fall, Goes is gaining regional attention for the outstanding sports photographs he takes at Everett High

School basketball games.

In fact, Goes' exemplary work has resulted in a job offer from a local university to be its official photographer at men's basketball games.

"Salem State reached out to me and offered me a job in photography and videography for the men's basketball team," Goes said humbly.

For now, Goes is a sideline

star for the Crimson Tide's basketball team, whose coaches and players enjoy his stunning and vivid action shots of games.

Introduced to photography in the EHS studio program

Jonathan Goes said he became "very interested" in photography at Everett High School

See GOES Page 6



Rising photographer Jonathan Goes adjusts his Sony A9III camera for a photo at an Everett High boys basketball game.

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

Everett Independent

President: Stephen Quigley

Editor in Chief: Cary Shuman

Independent Forum

UPCOMING EVENTS AT EVERETT PUBLIC LIBRARIES

GLP-1 WEIGHT-LOSS DRUGS SHOULD BE MADE AFFORDABLE FOR ALL AMERICANS

The widespread acceptance of the so-called GLP-1 drugs, Zepbound by Eli Lilly and Wegovy by Novo Nordisk, for weight loss has created a game-changing dynamic for the overall health of the 72% of Americans who struggle with maintaining a healthy weight.

The U.S. presently ranks among the most obese nations in the world and the trend had been predicted to climb upwards. However, for the first time in decades, obesity rates among Americans declined in 2024, reversing decades of our unhealthy collective weight gain as a nation. (The average American male today weighs 30 pounds more than he did in 1960 and the average American female today weighs 26 pounds more than she did in 1960 -- and no, it's not because we are taller today than then.)

The principal reason for this welcome reversal has been the use of the GLP-1 drugs, which have been shown both to decrease a person's appetite (thereby preventing overeating) and to make sugary, salty, and high-fat foods less appealing.

These drugs initially were formulated to assist persons with diabetes to maintain control of their blood sugar levels. However, it soon became clear that the drugs had the "side-effect" of a reduction in patients' body-weight because the drugs reduced their cravings and overeating.

Yes, the GLP-1 drugs have side-effects -- patients who use them lose muscle mass -- but overall, the drugs have been nothing short of a miracle for persons who struggle with eating healthily. In addition, the drugs have shown promise both in combating a number of other addictive behaviors (including alcohol abuse and gambling) and having direct, positive effects on other health conditions such as cardiovascular disease (the drugs lower blood pressure, among other things).

Making these drugs affordable for all Americans (in addition to those who receive prescriptions for their diabetes treatment for whom insurance covers the cost) should be the proverbial no-brainer. Yes, the drugs are extremely expensive (about \$1500 per month without insurance), but those costs will come down as Eli Lilly ramps up production at its new drug-making facilities in the near-future. Further, the federal government can negotiate price reductions for those on Medicare.

But right now, these drugs, when used for weight control only, are available as a practical matter only to the very wealthy who can afford the high price tag. In addition to plain fairness, making these drugs affordable for everybody who needs them to reduce their weight by covering them under insurance will make our nation healthier, which not only is a laudable goal in itself, but also will reduce our health care costs (most of which are traceable to being overweight) in the years ahead.

In short, failing to make the GLP-1 drugs widely affordable and available to all Americans is the proverbial case of being penny-wise and pound-foolish (and yes, the pun is intended.)

WE'RE OVER THE HUMP

The winter season generally is measured in two ways. There's meteorological winter, the three months of December, January, and February. And then there is astronomical winter, which begins with the winter solstice on December 21 and ends with the spring solstice on March 21.

But however you want to think about "winter," the last week of January basically brings us over the proverbial hump for the 2025 winter season. December and January are in the rear view mirror with only the short month of February ahead. (If you prefer astronomical winter, we'll be very close to the mid-point between December 21-March 21 by the end of this week.)

Of course, as we all know, Ol' Man Winter doesn't always play by the rules -- or the calendar. The infamous Blizzard of '78 occurred in February, as did a number of other huge storms. The first week of March may bring out the colorful crocuses and snowdrops pushing through the ground in our garden, but just as often as not, they're peeking through a fresh few inches of snowfall.

But what is undeniable, however you prefer to measure the seasons, and regardless of what Ol' Man Winter has in store for us, the days are now getting noticeably longer. There will be 10 hours and five minutes of daylight on February 1, compared to just the nine hours and eight minutes that we had on December 21.

In addition, when we take our walks and go for our runs, the sun's warmth is becoming noticeably stronger every day. And even if we get some snow, it typically disappears much faster in February and March than in January thanks to the strength of the sun.

So yes, after our colder-than-normal January, as far as we are concerned, spring can't come soon enough!

This February, don't judge a book by its cover! Visit the Parlin or the Shute libraries and have a meet-cute with your new favorite book. Already wrapped and waiting are some wonderful reads - but you won't know what they are until you check them out and unwrap them! Feeling a little more daring? Fill out one of our "Blind Date with a Book" surveys and our librarians will match you with a book we think you'll fall in love with. It will come to you wrapped and with some special surprises generously provided by the Friends of the Everett Public Libraries. Available while supplies last!

Parlin Adult and Teens

Yarn Club Parlin Fireplace Room. Tuesday, February 4th 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!

Harlem Tour Parlin Meeting Room, Wednesday, February 5th at 7:00 pm. Celebrate Black History Month with a tour of Harlem. African Americans have lived in New York City since its founding. But The Great Migration brought thousands to Harlem in the 1920s as they fled prejudice in the South and sought economic opportunity. With the Harlem Renaissance came such great names as Langston Hughes, Duke Ellington and Malcom X.

Connolly Center Book Group, Connolly Center Meeting Room. Thursday, February 6th at 12pm. In Sally Rooney's Normal People, Connell is popular and well liked in high school, while Marianne is a loner. A year later, studying at Trinity College in Dublin, Marianne has found her feet while Connell hangs at the sidelines,

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Everett Independent

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NEWS IN BRIEF

CITY OF EVERETT HOSTING LUNAR NEW YEAR CELEBRATION

Mayor Carlo DeMaria is pleased to announce that the City of Everett will host the second annual Lunar New Year Celebration on Saturday, Feb. 8 from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. at the Everett Recreation Center (47 Elm Street).

The City of Everett will be joining in celebrations across the world with a Lunar New Year Celebration for all to partake in with food and entertainment to ring in 2025. This year marks the beginning of the Year of the Snake, which is one of 12 animals in the Chinese zodiac. All are welcome to celebrate the Lunar New Year as a community.

Celebrated on the second new moon after the winter solstice, Lunar New Year marks the beginning of the new year in the traditional Chinese lunar-solar calendar. Although Lunar New Year is observed worldwide, it is commonly celebrated in China – along with many other countries in East Asia – with performances, dances, festivals, parades, music, and acrobatics.

For more information, please visit cityofeverett.com/events/lunar-new-year-2025.

CITY, EVERETT POLICE LAUNCH SEE SOMETHING, SAY SOMETHING NON-EMERGENCY REPORT SERVICE

Mayor Carlo DeMaria is pleased to announce that the



City of Everett, in collaboration with the Everett Police Department (EPD), has launched the See Something, Say Something incident reporting system for constituents to report non-emergency related issues to the Everett Police.

In an effort to increase accessibility to City services, constituents can now report concerns or issues such as noise complaints, property damage, litter or graffiti, wellness checks, and more to the Everett police by calling or texting 781-734-6677. Additionally, reports can be made online by visiting go.elerts.com/everett and filling out the form or by downloading the See Say app on smart phones and tablets. Before submitting a report, the constituent will be asked about the nature and location of the report, as well as have the option to include a photo or video. The system will be monitored 24 hours a day, seven days a week and reports may be made anonymously.

Constituents are encouraged to save the phone number to their contacts and bookmark the website link to fill out an online form. The phone num-

ber and website link will also be available on the Everett Police Department website everettpolicema.com.

CITY OF EVERETT REMINDS PUBLIC ABOUT ONLINE PORTAL FOR VITAL RECORDS REQUESTS

The Office of the City Clerk would like to remind the public that the City of Everett's online portal is available for vital records requests.

Through the portal, users will be able to request and pay online for certified copies of vital records, such as birth certificates, marriage certificates, and death certificates without having to visit the office in-person. Additionally, funeral homes can request and pay for burial permits.

To access the online portal, please visit everettma.permittium.com/rod. For any questions, please contact the Office of the City Clerk at 617-394-2225 or email CityClerk@ci.everett.ma.us.

- LEGAL NOTICE -
CITY OF EVERETT

ENROLLED ORDINANCE

PUBLISHED PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 1 SECTION 4.5 OF THE REVISED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF EVERETT AND IN COMPLIANCE WITH MASSACHUSETTS GENERAL LAWS Chapter 43, Section 23.
ENROLLED: 01/27/2025

DATE OF PROPOSED ORDAINMENT: 02/10/2025
CITY COUNCIL ...No. C0417-24

IN THE YEAR TWO THOUSAND AND TWENTY-FOUR AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 32 OF THE ZONING ORDINANCES: INCLUSIONARY ZONING

Councilor /s/ Stephanie Martins, Stephanie V. Smith, Holly D. Carcia, John F. Hanlon, Peter Pietrantonio and Robert J. Van Campen

Whereas: Changing demographics and development needs have increased the need for affordable housing production in the city; and

Whereas: The development of housing that is affordable to low and moderate income households should be encouraged; and

Whereas: The limited stock of affordable housing has accelerated displacement.

Now, therefore, by the authority granted to the City Council of the City of Everett, Massachusetts to make and amend ordinances:

Be it Ordained by the City Council of the City of Everett, Massachusetts that Appendix A, Section 32 of the Revised Ordinances of the City of Everett is hereby amended as follows:
A full copy of the proposed ordinance shall be located at the City Clerk's Office for public inspection. A full copy of the proposed ordinance may also be found on pages 17 thru 18 (PDF page numbers) of the agenda packet for the January 27, 2025 regular meeting of the City Council which can be found at the following link: <https://cityofeverett.com/wp-content/uploads/2025/01/01-27-2025-City-Council-Amended.pdf>.

This ordinance shall take effect upon passage by the City Council and subsequent approval by His Honor the Mayor.
A true copy attest

Sergio Cornelio, City Clerk
January 29, 2025

Real Estate Transfers

BUYER 1	SELLER 1	ADDRESS	PRICE
Zhou, Jeffrey	Rabbottino Mary Est	22 Belmont Park	\$795,000
Eclipse Capital LLC	First Landing Invs LLC	70-72 Dartmouth St	\$691,050
First Landing Invs LLC	Jacquet Yonel Est	70-72 Dartmouth St	\$635,000

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Pat Roberto,
REALTOR Broker/President

Everett Arts & Culture Events

CALL TO ARTISTS!

NEW YEAR
NEW ART!

To be displayed at City Hall!
Share your newest work! A show of recent art open to all levels. For more information Email EverettArtEntry@gmail.com

JOIN the
EVERETT CULTURAL COUNCIL

Join us as we create and support Everett's Arts & Cultural Community for ALL Everett residents
For more info, email:
EverettCulturalCouncil@ci.everett.ma.us

UNSYNKABLE FUN AWAITS! DIVE INTO TITANIC HISTORY

A voyage to Boston

41° 43'7" N 49° 56'9" W

TITANIC

THE ARTIFACT EXHIBITION

Exhibition now on display

TITANIC: The Artifact Exhibition has brought nearly 250 authentic artifacts from the wreck site of Titanic by RMS Titanic, Inc. to The Saunders Castle at Park Plaza in Boston, where they will remain on display until May 29, 2025. Presented by The Gold Group in Boston and viewed by more than 35 million people worldwide, TITANIC: The Artifact Exhibition is one of the highest attended in history and is coming to Boston for the first time. E/M Group and RMS Titanic, Inc., have curated an incredible collection of authentic Titanic artifacts that will allow guests to experience the real stories of Titanic passengers and crew. These items have been honorably conserved and presented to the public to help educate and tell the story of Titanic. Visitors can also explore meticulously re-created rooms, including the opulent Grand Staircase.

"Boston eagerly awaits our Exhibition, which continues to set record-breaking attendance figures," said Gautam Chandna, Director of Business Development at E/M Group. "The Exhibition's continued success, as demonstrated in city after city, speaks to its broad appeal and exceptional quality."

For decades, Titanic has had a hold on people immersing themselves in the real stories of heroism, love, fear, and impossible decisions in the face of the "unsinkable" ocean liner meeting its fate. It was a watershed moment in world history and has made an indelible mark on history.

Upon entering TITANIC:



A young historian examines a Boarding Pass used on the Titanic.

The Artifact Exhibition guests are drawn back in time to April 1912, when the Ship embarked on its first and final journey. Guests receive a replica boarding pass, assume the role of a passenger, and follow a journey through life on Titanic—from the Ship's construction to life on board, to the infamous sinking. Also covered is the contemporary effort to recover artifacts and conserve the wreck site for scientific analysis, historical preservation, and to ensure future generations can admire, contemplate, and learn from Titanic.

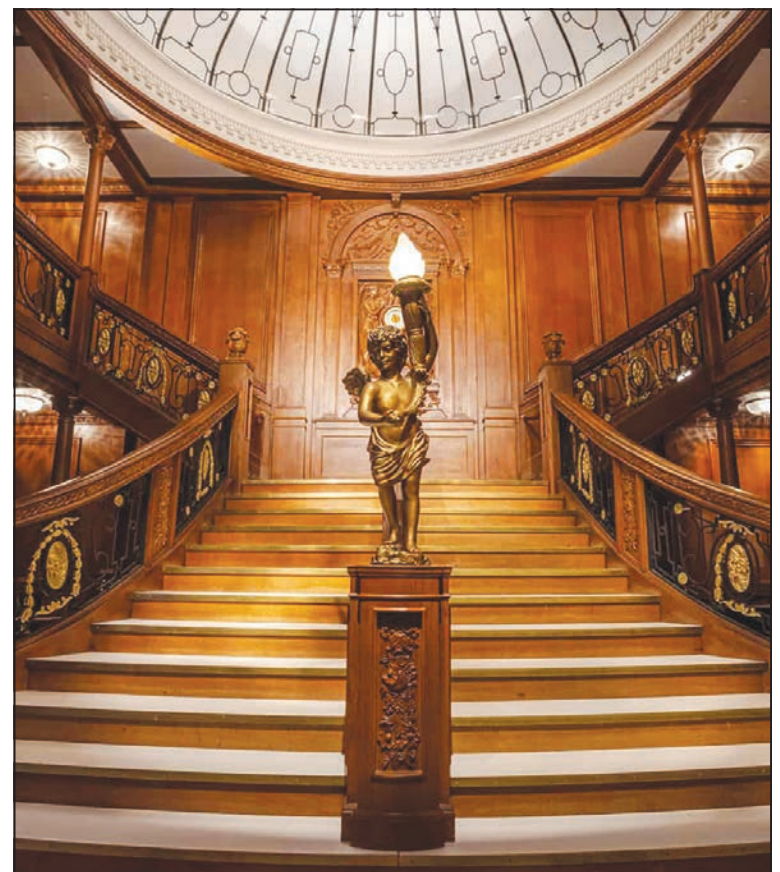
Located in the Back Bay, The Saunders Castle at Park Plaza is a former armory and is a designated National Historic Landmark. For tickets and more information, please visit <http://www.castleboston.com/>.

Tickets to the exhibition are now on sale www.titanicboston.com.

us, tickets start at \$39.50

Experiential Media Group, LLC (E/M Group), located in Atlanta, GA, is a world leader in the development and display of exhibitions that educate, entertain, and inspire audiences of all ages.

RMS Titanic, Inc.'s (RMST) mission is to preserve the legacy of Titanic's maiden voyage, subsequent sinking, and the memory of her passengers and crew through comprehensive educational programs, innovative exhibitions, research and recovery initiatives, wreck site imaging and analysis, and ongoing Titanic collaborations. RMST was granted salvor-in-possession rights to the wreck of Titanic and is the only company permitted by law to recover artifacts from the wreck site. RMST has recovered and conserved more than 5,500 artifacts since 1987 and is an affiliate of E/M Group.



The foyer.

TITANIC FACTS & TRIVIA

On Board Titanic

- The cost of an average first-class ticket on Titanic from Southampton to New York was \$450, although prices varied based on cabin size and amenities.

- A first-class suite cost \$2,500, or approximately \$73,000 in 2022.

- However, the most luxurious suites with a private promenade deck cost \$4,500 in 1912, or approximately \$131,400 in 2022.

- A third-class ticket on Titanic cost \$40, or approximately \$1,170 in 2022. Up to 10 people resided in each third-class room."

- First-class passengers had the luxury of paying for their leisure while on board: a ticket to the swimming pools cost 25¢, while a ticket for the squash court (as well as the services of a professional player) cost 50¢.

- Sixty cooks and assistants worked in Titanic's five kitchens. They ranged from soup and roast cooks to pastry and vegetable cooks. There was also a cook who prepared ko-

sher meals for the Jewish passengers.

- There were only two bathtubs for the more than 700 third-class passengers aboard the Ship.

- The forward part of the Boat Deck was a promenade space for first-class passengers and the rear part was for second-class passengers. Passengers from these classes thus had the best chance of getting into a lifeboat simply because they could get to them quickly and easily.

Disaster Strikes

- Even if all 20 lifeboats had been filled, there would only have been enough room to save 1,178 people.

- At first, most of the passengers did not believe that Titanic was really sinking, hence the low number of 28 aboard the first lifeboat even though it could have carried 65.

- Titanic was one of the first ships in distress to send out an "SOS" signal. The radio officer used "SOS" after using the

Trivia// CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4



Some surviving items and memorabilia from the Titanic on display at the exhibition.

traditional code of “CQD” followed by the Ship’s call letters.

- Dorothy Gibson, a 28-year-old silent screen actress, was an established movie star who, along with her mother, survived the sinking. Gibson would later star in *Saved from the Titanic*, a film released one month after the disaster. The costume that she wore in the film was the same dress, sweater, and coat that she wore on the night of the sinking.

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- Tennis player R. Norris Williams and his father, Charles, felt it was too cold to remain out on deck as the Ship went down so they went into the Gymnasium to ride the exercise bicycles.

- At the time of Titanic’s destruction, the water temperature was 28°F (-2°C). Most of those struggling in the water in their life jackets would have succumbed to hypothermia, while others may have had heart attacks.

The Aftermath

- Initial headlines of the Titanic disaster claimed all passengers survived and the Ship was being towed to land.

- No skeletons remain at the wreck site. Any bodies that were carried to the seabed with the wreck were consumed by fish and crustaceans. With the currents, and the difference in weight of the ship, it is unlikely that the remains of those who perished at the surface sank to the wreck site.

- In the 1898 novel *Futility*, written 14 years before the sailing and sinking of Titanic, author Morgan Robertson penned a fictitious tale about a ship named Titan that collides with an iceberg. Some of the uncanny similarities between the book and the Titanic disaster include:

- the month (April)
- the length of the ships (Titanic was 882.9 feet; Titan was 800 feet), and
- the number of passengers on board (Titanic had approximately 2,200; Titan had 2,000).



Visitors can sit and examine a manifest of all the passengers onboard the ship when it sank in 1912.

NOW OPEN

FIRST TIME EVER IN BOSTON

TITANIC

THE ARTIFACT EXHIBITION

TitanicBoston.us

The Saunders Castle at Park Plaza

130 Columbus Ave, Boston, MA

Goes // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

through the school's TV program, inspired by advisers Josh Del Gaizo and Joseph Camley.

"I picked up a camera, started taking some photos, and I fell in love with photography," said Goes.

High marks from Josh Del Gaizo

Everett High teacher Josh Del Gaizo describes Goes' photography skills as "next level."

"Jonny does a terrific job with his photography," lauded Del Gaizo. "He does all the little things that you ask of him. He's a joy to be around. He's very mature. He's just someone that you model after, a person you want other kids to emulate. He's an outstanding young man."

DelGaizo said that Goes is a participant in EHS TV studio's student-work program, one of seven students who get paid for their work by the City of Everett.

"Jonny has had an eye for the art of photography for a while,



Shown are some of the photographs taken by Jonathan Goes at the City Classic at Emmanuel College.

long before meeting with us," said Del Gaizo. "I have had the pleasure of knowing him since he was in middle school because my wife [Andrea Del Gaizo] was his teacher at the Whittier School. He approached me at the beginning of his sophomore year and said, 'I'm involved in football, but when the season ends, I'd like to see some of the

things you do and how I can get involved.'"

Fast forward to the 2024 football season ("He's a pretty good player," said Del Gaizo) and Goes has taken on a larger role in the EHS TV studio program. "He's just very good at this craft. He has an eye for it, and you can see it's a passion of his," said Del Gaizo. "I think he's that good at photography that we've talked about him pursuing it in college. I think photography could really take him places. This is something he loves, and he's always looking to improve his skills."

Assessing his future career prospects

A very good student, Jonathan Goes has begun setting the educational foundation for a career as a professional photographer.

"I'll start looking at colleges in the summer," said Goes, noting that the New England School of Photography could be a leading option. "I'm excited about the future. Certainly, becoming a professional photographer is one of my goals, so that will influence my choice of a college."

Jonathan is the son of Alexander Goes, a painter, and Vanessa Goes, a real estate agent. He is a role model to his two younger brothers, Nicholas Goes, a fourth-grade student, and Joshua Goes, a second-grade student.

"I've taken photos for my mom's real estate business," said Goes proudly.

Goes has also been the official photographer at social functions, including a recent quinceañera, which is a celebration of a 15-year-old girl's birthday celebration. It wouldn't be surprising to see Goes receiving some event bookings from classmates and their families.



It's Loveline Season at the Everett Independent

DEADLINE TO SUBMIT FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 7TH

Email your photos to PROMO@REVEREJOURNAL.COM
Please include names with your photo.

PHOTOS RECEIVED WITHOUT INFO WILL NOT BE PUBLISHED

Photos on your phone? Just scan here and attach the photo to the email that is generated!

PHOTOS PUBLISHED **WEDS. FEB. 12th**

Library // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

shy and uncertain. Each must confront how far they are willing to go to save the other. (Amazon) See Kathleen for copies on her twice monthly visits, or call the Parlin (617) 394 2300 or Shute (617) 394 2308 libraries.

Silent Reads Society Parlin Meeting Room. Saturday, February 8th, from 12-2pm. Join the Silent Reads Society, a unique book club where we enjoy quiet reading. Settle into a cozy space with a book, or choose one from our selections, and enjoy an hour or two of uninterrupted reading alongside fellow book lovers. No pressure, no discussions - perfect for those seeking a peaceful escape or motivation to turn the next page. Cozy vibes and snacks will be provided by the Friends of the Everett Public Libraries. All are welcome!

Drop-In Tech Help Parlin Information Desk. Wednesdays and Fridays from 4-5pm. Do you have questions about how to use your personal laptop, tablet, or phone? Bring it to the library and stop by our Drop-In Tech Help to meet with a volunteer for assistance.

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

Share the love this month at the Everett Public Libraries. Leave a sweet note for our I Love the Library display and get a sweet treat! Running from February 1st through the 14th.

Study Buddies, Parlin Children's Room. Monday through Friday from 3-5pm. Need homework help? Come to the Parlin Library and study with the Study Buddies, our free after-school program offering tutoring and academic support for students in grades K-8. Friendly tutors are here to guide you through tricky assignments, help you prepare for tests, and build confidence in every subject.

Lego Club. Parlin Children's Room. Monday, February 3rd 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 Singalong with Karen, Parlin Children's Room. Wednesday, February 5th 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, Wednesday February 5th 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.

Story Time Adventures with Mrs. McAuliffe Parlin Craft Room. Thursday February 6th at 11am. Join Mrs. McAuliffe for our enchanting Story Time! You will be whisked away on magical adventures through the pages of your favorite books. Bring a friend or make a new one in our circle of friends.

Crafternoon Parlin Children's Room. Thursday, February 6th at 3pm. Drop by the

children's room and make a fun Valentine's peel and stick craft. Suggested for ages 3 and up. While supplies.

Story Time Adventures with Mrs. McAuliffe Parlin Craft Room. Thursday, February 6th at 11am. Join Mrs. McAuliffe for our enchanting Story Time. Recommended for ages 0-3

Story Time Adventures with Mrs. McAuliffe Parlin Craft Room. Friday February 7th at 11am. Join Mrs. McAuliffe for our enchanting Story Time. Recommended for ages 0-3

Shute Adult and Teens
Embroidery Club, Shute Meeting Room. Thursday, February 6th at 7 PM. Join us at our Embroidery Club! Whether you're a seasoned stitcher or just starting out, this program invites you to bring your own embroidery projects and enjoy a relaxed, supportive environment. Extra basic supplies, including hoops, needles, and a selection of threads, will be provided to help you with your current work. For ages 18 and up. Registration is not required. All skill levels are welcome. This program is generously funded by the Friends of the

Everett Public Libraries. We look forward to stitching with you!

Drop-In Tech Help Shute Circulation Desk. Tuesdays and Thursdays from 4-5pm. Do you have questions about how to use your personal laptop, tablet, or phone? Bring it to the library and stop by our Drop-In Tech Help to meet with a volunteer for assistance.

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.

Diploma // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

School Committee to explain the new local competency requirement and the process to earn a diploma.

Students must pass a competency determination in certain studies that will replace the MCAS. Students also must complete the usual required course work over four years to earn a diploma. The new competency requirements will go into effect immediately and be used for those graduating with the class of 2025. These new requirements also will be available to the students who have not yet received their high school diplomas, but are actively working towards meeting their requirements for a high school diploma.

A competency determination must be shown in the fields of study of algebra, English, science, biology, physics, and English Language Arts.

Graduation requirements will require the student to have passed four years of English, two years of social studies, four years of math, three years of social science, four years of physical education and one year of health.

Superintendent William Hart noted that there has been little guidance from the State Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) on this topic, but he promised, "A return to basics."

In other actions, the committee was told by Superintendent Hart that for the foreseeable future, there will not be any class field trips until the national nursing staffing shortfall is resolved. According to Hart, many local school districts are facing a similar dilemma because of the lack of school nurses for hospitals, programs, and schools. He noted that the

nurse staffing is presently down 50% in Everett schools and that a field trip of 40 students takes one nurse away from use in a local school building with a student population of 600 to 900 students. Hart stressed that to have field trips with the current shortage of nurses in the Everett schools, as well as in hospitals and other emergency facilities, would "not be safe."

In other business, the committee voted unanimously to accept the following donations:

-- \$2,000 from the Joseph J. Pagans Memorial Scholarship Fund;

-- New toys from the State Senator Sal DiDomenico Foundation; and

-- A \$700 grant from the Computer Science Teachers Association to Everett High School.

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Sports

EVERETT HIGH SCHOOL BOYS WIN 58-51 OVER CHELSEA

In a game that featured lead changes, some hot shooting and cold spells, and fiery defense on both sides, Everett inched away in the final minutes to secure a 58-51 Greater Boston League victory over Chelsea Thursday night at Chelsea High. The Red

Devils ran out to an 18-10 first quarter lead when Moe Osman erupted for 14 of his game-high 28 points on the night, but an ice-cold second period ended with Everett up 22-21 setting up a tight second half battle. Everett was paced by Geordiell

Lura Morales 18 points, with eight of those coming in the crucial fourth period, and Jaiden Alsaindor, who scored 16 points. The win improved the Crimson Tide's record to 7-7 while Chelsea dropped to 3-7.

BOB MARRA PHOTOS



Geordiell Lura Morales (22) surveys the floor as he considers whether to pass or drive to the basket.



Jamill Nelson (13) and Chelsea's Brouk Ephrem (24) are face to face as Ephrem holds on to a contested rebound.



Jevaun Berberena (1) looks to pass in front of Chelsea's Brouk Ephrem (24).



Geordiell Lura Morales (22) fights to put a shot up in front of Chelsea's Brouk Ephrem (24).

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Everett's Jaiden Alsaindor (15) and Chelsea's Roify Otainez (3) dive for a loose ball.



Geordiell Lura Morales (22) gets some space from Chelsea's B Ephrem (24) as he puts up a shot.

EHS Roundup

EHS BOYS BITE BULLDOGS, THEN BURN RED DEVILS

The Everett High boys basketball team put it all together at both ends of the floor this past week to post a pair of victories at Greater Boston League (GBL) rivals Lynn English and

Chelsea.

Last Tuesday the Crimson Tide trekked to Lynn and came home with a solid 75-68 victory over the Bulldogs. English had defeated the Crimson Tide in their first meeting earlier this season, but coach Gerry Boyce's crew turned the tables on the Bulldogs (who had en-

tered the contest tied for first place in the GBL with Lynn Classical with a 6-1 league record) in the rematch. The win catapulted the Tide into a tie with English for second place in the GBL, leaving both teams just one game behind Classical

See ROUNDUP Page 10



Tyson Chhun (3) looks for a passing lane as he is guarded by a pair of Chelsea defenders.

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Roundup // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9

in the loss column.

Everett displayed a balanced scoring attack with four players reaching double figures, led by

Tyson Chhun, who hit for 20 points. "Tyson turned in an outstanding effort," said Boyce. "His ability to find the basket when we needed it most was crucial to our success."

Jevaun Berberena showcased his skill set impressively, finishing with 17 points and six rebounds, providing both scoring and solid defense. Geordiell Luna turned in another standout performance, contrib-

uting 11 points, as did Jayden Alsaindor, who also struck for 11 points.

Boyce cited a number of other Tide players who made substantial contributions to the winning effort. "Throughout the game, our players demonstrated impressive teamwork," said Boyce. "Henrique Pinto made a valuable contribution with six points, showcasing his ability to find scoring opportunities. Cristian Vasquez played a crucial role not just in scoring, but also in facilitating the game, as he recorded five

rebounds alongside six assists, helping to keep the offense flowing.

"From the bench, Jamil Nelson stepped up significantly, contributing six points and securing seven rebounds, demonstrating the strength of our bench and its impact on the game's outcome," added Boyce.

"While many people focus primarily on offense and scoring, I want to highlight that we finally played 32 minutes of tenacious defense throughout the game," Boyce continued. "This commitment to defense has always been our primary objective, and seeing it come to fruition was gratifying. Our defensive effort was key in maintaining our lead and ultimately securing the win."

Two nights later Boyce and his crew made the short trip across the Parkway to Chelsea and returned with a 58-51 victory.

Luna led the Tide with an outstanding performance, scoring 18 points and providing a strong presence on both ends of the court. Alsaindor also made significant contributions, adding 16 points. Additionally, Nelson contributed an impactful 12 points off the bench, showcasing the Everett's depth and teamwork.

"This matchup was crucial for us," said Boyce, whose team now stands at .500 with a 7-7 record entering the final quarter of the season. The win also boosted the Tide's record to 6-2 in the GBL, tied with Lynn English for second place and just one game behind Lynn Classical in the race for the GBL crown.

"Our players showed remarkable resilience and discipline throughout the game," Boyce continued. "One of the key takeaways from this game was our focused defensive effort, especially at the start and the finish. The team was evidently committed to maintaining a disciplined defense, which helped control the pace of the game and ultimately secured our victory. I am incredibly proud of everyone's hard work and determination on the court. We will continue to build



Christian Vasquez (5) gets a pass away between the defense of Chelsea's Roify Otainez (3) and M Vareuzo (1), during the recent game against Chelsea.

on this momentum as we move forward in the season."

Prior to the two wins, Boyce and his crew traveled to Emmanuel College last Sunday afternoon to take on St. Mary's of Lynn, the powerhouse Catholic school that is one of the few undefeated boys teams in the state and ranked #1 in Division 3, and came up on the short end of a 63-54 decision.

Alsaindor led the Tide with 13 points. Vasquez added 12 points, and Luna reached double figures with 10 points.

"Overall, we struggled to find our rhythm," said Boyce. "As a defensive team first, we did not maintain the discipline that is crucial for our success in that area. While we did show some moments of intensity in the second half, it's clear we need to keep our pressure consistent throughout the entire game. Our goal is to play a full 32 minutes of Everett basketball, demonstrating our discipline and energy."

Boyce and his crew were scheduled to host Lynn Classical last night (Tuesday) in a showdown for first place in the GBL. They will make the short trip to Malden tomorrow evening (Thursday) for a 6:00 contest and then will entertain non-league opponent Brookline this Saturday for a 5:30 opening tip.

EHS GIRLS HOOP WORKING TO IMPROVE

Although the Everett High girls basketball team has come up short in its recent contests, EHS head coach Riley Dunn has been pleased with her team's efforts to improve.

In a recent 42-28 loss to Malden, Clarice Alexis hit for 12 points, grabbed seven rebounds, and made five steals.

Clarice also struck for double figures with 15 points, and played tenacious defense, in a 51-32 loss to Lynn English last Tuesday. Nicole Damaceno worked hard underneath and pulled down 11 rebounds and went 2-for-2 from the line. Casey Martinez and Julianna Rivera chipped in with two steals each on the defensive side.

"The girls fought really hard until the final buzzer," said Dunn. "You can't teach that type of effort. We're continuing to build every game. We just need to just put it together and play four quarters together. We're looking forward to getting better every single day."

Dunn and her crew were scheduled to face Chelsea last night (Tuesday) and will host Somerville tomorrow (Thursday) at 6:30, Brookline this Saturday afternoon at 4:00, and Malden next Tuesday at 6:30.

Everett Independent

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2025

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MBTA announces planned service outage scheduled to June

The Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority (MBTA) announced its planned construction schedule for the first half of 2025. Thanks to the great success of the 2024 Track Improvement Program, the MBTA now has more track meeting the state of good repair standards than in previous years, ensuring compliance with all applicable safety and performance requirements. Building on this progress, the MBTA will continue proactive track maintenance to prevent slow zones recurring. In 2025, the focus will shift to upgrading other critical infrastructure, including signal systems, improving accessibility across the network, and more.

“As Governor Maura Healey put it during the State of the Commonwealth speech, ‘People need transportation and public transit they can rely on,’ and the infrastructure investments by the MBTA in 2024 and planned in 2025 set the foundation for consistently reliable service,” said Transportation Secretary and CEO Monica Tibbits Nutt. “Infrastructure work is being done strategically to minimize the disruption for MBTA customers and to optimize the time work zones are in place. I am proud of the MBTA workforce and leadership team for getting so much done during planned service outages.”

“I’m incredibly proud of and thankful to our entire workforce and our industry partners that delivered unprecedented work in 2024 to improve and deliver more reliable trips across our system, ultimately giving back our riders’ precious time in their days. We couldn’t have done that without the leadership of the Healey-Driscoll Administration and the Legislature, which has continued to reinvest in public transportation. I also must thank the public for their patience and for continuing to ride the T as we perform vital work that allows us to keep the system running safely and reliably as we build for the future,” said MBTA General Manager and CEO

Phillip Eng. “In 2025, the T is committed to proactive maintenance and repairs, including completing critical signal upgrades, which will allow us to deliver the level of service our riders expect and need. With a never-ending focus on the public we serve, we will continue to improve how we efficiently and effectively perform work to minimize disruptions and deliver meaningful results, building out a best-in-class system for the Commonwealth.”

Key initiatives slated for 2025 include:

Signal Modernization

The MBTA will focus on the \$285 million project to modernize its signal system across the Red and Orange lines with the goal of reducing congestion and delays and providing operational flexibilities. The new upgraded signal system will allow for more frequent service, improved scheduling, and enhanced safety. By upgrading its signals, the MBTA expects to significantly increase operational efficiency, reducing wait times and improving scheduling reliability for all riders.

Annual Programmed Maintenance

As part of its long-term sustainability plan, the MBTA will carry out annual programmed maintenance across its system, addressing routine needs and ensuring that all infrastructure remains in peak operating condition. This maintenance will include inspections, adjustments, and repairs to keep the system safe and running smoothly throughout the year.

Green Line Train Protection System (GLTPS)

The MBTA we begin implementing an added layer of safety to the Green Line. The GLTPS system will use safety monitoring equipment to transmit data to the train as it moves along the tracks. Using onboard alerts and communications, the system will notify the operator when another vehicle is detected, when the vehicle is speeding, and can automatically stop the train at stop signals. This safety system can also improve travel times by reducing

unplanned stops.

Bridge Work Along Commuter Rail Lines

In collaboration with MassDOT, the MBTA will focus on completing essential bridge work along various Commuter Rail lines.

The MBTA will also continue regular bridge, tunnel, and station inspections and routine maintenance throughout the year.

Accessibility Enhancements

The MBTA is dedicated to ensuring that its services are accessible to all riders, including those with disabilities. Planned improvements in the second half of 2025 will include upgrades to station entrances, platforms, and elevators, as well as enhancements to communication systems to provide real-time updates to riders with hearing or visual impairments. There will be a large focus on improving accessibility on the Green Line. This will include the installation of elevators at Symphony Station to ensure that all passengers, including those with mobility challenges, can access the platform and board trains with ease. The MBTA is also looking forward to enhancing Ruggles Station along the Orange Line, which includes making a fully accessible Columbus Avenue entrance.

Anticipated 2025 Service Outage Plans:

Most of this work throughout the year will be targeted to weekends and evenings to minimize disruptions to weekday commuters, though there will be some longer outages planned to accommodate more complex projects. The MBTA is finalizing alternate service options, such as accessible shuttle buses, amplified service on other modes, and Commuter Rail options. Details will be shared as they are confirmed and ahead of the outages. Riders should also note that the tentative construction plan and dates are subject to change pending weather and other factors.

Notable planned service outages between January – June 2025 include:

- On the Red Line:
 - Ashmont to JFK/UMass
 - April 1 - April 9
 - For proactive rail maintenance.
- On the Orange Line:
 - North Station to Oak Grove
 - May 10 – May 18
 - To support MassDOT’s Maffa Way/Mystic Avenue Bridge construction project.
- North Station to Forest Hills
 - June 21 – June 29, 2025
 - For signal upgrade work.
- On the Blue Line:
 - Bowdoin to Airport
 - June 7 - June 15
 - For infrastructure work.
- On the Commuter Rail:
 - On the Haverhill and Newburyport/Rockport Line
 - Oak Grove to North Station / Swampscott to North Station
 - February 1 – February 2
 - February 15 – February 16
 - March 8 – March 9
 - March 22 – March 23
 - April 5 – April 6
 - April 24 – April 27
 - To support MassDOT’s Maffa Way/Mystic Avenue Bridge construction project and MBTA signal work.
 - Additional weekend con-

struction work can be anticipated on the Lowell, Franklin, Worcester, Needham, and Fitchburg Line. Please note that these dates are subject to change.

The MBTA will host public open houses online and in-person to provide an overview of major projects. These will also serve as way for the community to ask questions or share comments and feedback. Meeting dates and locations will be posted at mbta.com/events.

The MBTA will provide regular updates on work progress and potential service disruptions through various channels, including in-station signage, social media, T-Alerts, and online at mbta.com. Any changes to project or open house schedules will be communicated.

Riders can find updates on service changes via signage, announcements, and by subscribing to text and email alerts at mbta.com/alerts. Transit Ambassadors, Fare Engagement Representatives, and staff will be on-site for assistance.



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Tests // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

rights appeared during the public speaking portion of the meeting to voice their opinion for a total ban of animal testing, a message that Councilor-at-Large Katy Rogers had delivered vigorously at the Jan 13 meeting.

Smith had reasoned that opening the city to the construction of life science centers would create highly skilled jobs for Everett residents and additional tax revenues for the city. But Smith basically put the issue on hold for now, “though not to say that I won’t reintroduce it again at a point in the future, maybe further along in the Davis Company’s journey.”

“I will continue to take feedback from my colleagues about wanting to understand more about what the developers [Davis Company] are putting in [Everett] and what the [Mayor DeMaria] Administration’s stance on it is,” said Smith after the

meeting. “So, I will work with the Administration and Davis to get some more information and reintroduce it [the ordinance] when we have additional information.”

Smith said her colleagues may have been influenced by the concerns of animal advocates who apparently flooded Council members with emails since the last meeting.

“I asked Davis Company not to come [to Monday’s meeting] because I didn’t want anyone’s voice influenced by them – which may have been a mistake on my part,” offered Smith candidly. “But I also wasn’t trying to overpower my colleagues with scientific evidence, either, because I agree there’s alternative methods [to live animal testing] which I support, but I also know that our neighboring communities support animal testing, and I would like to make sure that we

get some of these revenues from the tax bases that they’re getting. So, I was looking at this issue in the interest of the taxpayers.”

Rogers thanks her colleagues for their support on the issue

Councilor-at-Large Katy Rogers, who went head-to-head with Smith on the issue at the Jan. 13 meeting, respectfully refrained from calling the decision “a victory” for her side over Smith’s perspective, but she did say she was pleased by the Council’s action on the issue.

“I am grateful to my colleagues on the City Council for taking the time to carefully consider the implications of introducing animal testing in Everett,” said Rogers. “Pursuing animal testing would raise significant ethical, scientific, and financial concerns that are not aligned with the resources available in our city.

“Since our last meeting, I had the opportunity to speak with MatTek, a Massachusetts-based company specializing in growing human organ tissue models for research. They have been offering ethical and more accurate replacements for over forty years, and they are only one of many local companies advancing animal testing alternatives.

“Science is not lagging in the effort to reduce animal testing; it is the responsibility of government—including the Everett City Council—to set the standard.”

Van Campen give his reasons his for change in stance on the issue

Ward 5 Councilor Robert Van Campen delivered an impressive speech offering his reasons for deciding to change his vote from the Jan. 13 meeting. Van Campen made it clear that he had researched the issue extensively in the two weeks since the last meeting.

Calling live animal testing “a challenging issue for a variety of reasons, Van Campen said, “We’re balancing ethical concerns as every one of us are animal lovers, versus what we think is right for the city in terms of development and economic opportunity.”

Van Campen said he had received much feedback (“320 emails”) on the issue from people “outside of Everett and inside of Everett.”

“I’ve spent the last couple of weeks educating myself on this issue, both the pros and the cons, and every time I gave this issue some consideration, I always came back to one of the pillars as to why I got re-engaged in the City Council: to make sure that development in the city is responsible and reasonable.”

“I credit Councilor Smith for advancing this issue, but I would have much preferred this issue be presented as part of the Innovation Zoning District process, so we could have had much more public engagement, much more public discussion, much more public notice. Unfortunately, we didn’t. That would have given the community more of a voice on this issue.”

Van Campen said he discovered in his review of the issue that animal testing has served a useful benefit in society.

“But the science today is indicating that animal testing is less effective than some of the

modern methods: computational models, cellular analysis. This is the wave of the future and both the state and federal government are heading in that direction as well.

“I’ve given this issue more consideration than any issue that has come before us, and I just don’t think the time is right to amend the ban without greater engagement, greater public involvement, and maybe a more robust process.”

Pietrantonio listens to the wishes of Everett residents

Ward 6 Councilor Peter Pietrantonio said the Davis Company “started all this when they made a statement to a councilor that they were going to bring animal testing at that site.”

“They went at it the wrong way, unfortunately, and they started a war,” said Pietrantonio.

Adding that “when I took this job [as city councilor], I promised myself I would do what the citizens would want. Here are the citizens and they don’t want it.”

Affirming the far-reaching fervor and interest in the issue of live animal testing, Pietrantonio indicated that “I got 646 emails from people I don’t even know – from Sudbury, from Lincoln. But I care about the people right here [Everett].

“Councilor Smith has a very good point. We do need tax revenue in this city. There’s no doubt about that. Do we want more apartments? No, we want businesses. And, unfortunately, this is the business we don’t want,” said Pietrantonio.

Marchese seeks conference with Davis, DeMaria Administration on matter

Councilor-at-Large Michael Marchese bemoaned “the lack of information that’s [been] provided us through the Davis Company and our own Administration” on the issue.

“I [want] people to explain what they’re going to do and how they’re going to do it,” said Marchese. “No one’s ever come before us and did a presentation to tell us what they’re going to do. Are they [Davis Company] coming here to open a testing lab, or are they not?”

“I’d like to hear a presentation by Davis and also hear what the Administration is looking for,” concluded Marchese.

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LOCAL STUDENTS IN THE NEWS

LOCAL STUDENTS RECEIVE COLLABORATION RECOGNITION AWARD

Recipients of the Collaboration Recognition Award are selected by their peers for exemplifying superior skills in collaboration by sharing ideas and useful information, communicating in a professional manner, and cooperating in a way to ensure success. Collaboration is a main objective of the Lasell University mission statement. A key feature of this program is a peer-nomination process at the end of the semester. This intentional experience in collaboration builds on the Core Curriculum learning outcome of Teamwork, which is recognized by the National Association of Colleges & Employers (NACE).

The following local students were recognized by Lasell University in the Fall of 2024 for the Collaboration Recognition Award:

Xiomara Perez Puerta of Everett majoring in Entrepreneurship

Dawens Germain of Everett majoring in Biochemistry

SALEM STATE UNIVERSITY ANNOUNCES DEAN'S LIST

Salem State University is proud to announce that 40 students living in Everett made the Dean's List for the Fall 2024 semester.

Please find the full list below. Students listed twice made the Dean's List in two academic areas.

Everett: Felson Andre, Sonique Bando, Camden Burton, Yakelin Caceres, William Charbonnier, Frances Chataigne, Vickianna Cheridor, Carl Durham, Alexa Faysal, Jocelyne Gutierrez, Zakary Hubbard, Gabrielle Hyppolite, Christopher Jean Mary, Jada Jones, Latisha Joujoute, Marck-Hens Jules, Tram Lau, Justin Lemken, Rosemary Lemus Tejada, Alexandria Lim, Wilma Lucien, Thang Ly, Jeffrey Mendez, Rutza Michel, Martin Opara, Nicholas Palermo, Luka Papa, Isabella Perez, Renatha Poggere da Costa, Tutsirai Puwai, Maria Rocha Moraes, Cole Savage, Sukh-

dev Singh, Angel Spraggins, Cyan Tobin Tobin, Woodjanna Tondreau, Angel Torres, Oscar Valle, Roger Vasquez, Anna White.

LASELL UNIVERSITY STUDENTS NAMED TO DEAN'S LIST

The following local students were named to Lasell University's Fall 2024 Dean's List:

Giovanni Salvador of Everett

Leah Figueiredo of Everett
Domenic Catino of Everett

To be named to the Dean's List, Lasell students must complete at least 12 credits as a full-time student and achieve a semester GPA of 3.5 or higher.

DAVID OF EVERETT MAKES DEAN'S LIST

Curry College congratulates Tyler David of Everett, who was named to the Fall 2024 Dean's List.

Curry College, founded in Boston in 1879, is a private, co-educational, liberal arts-based institution located on 131 acres in Milton, Massachusetts. The College extends its educational programs to a continuing education branch campus in Plymouth. Visit us on the web at www.curry.edu

SNHU ANNOUNCES DEAN'S LIST

It is with great pleasure that Southern New Hampshire University (SNHU) congratulates the following students on being named to the Fall 2024 Dean's List. The fall terms run from September to December.

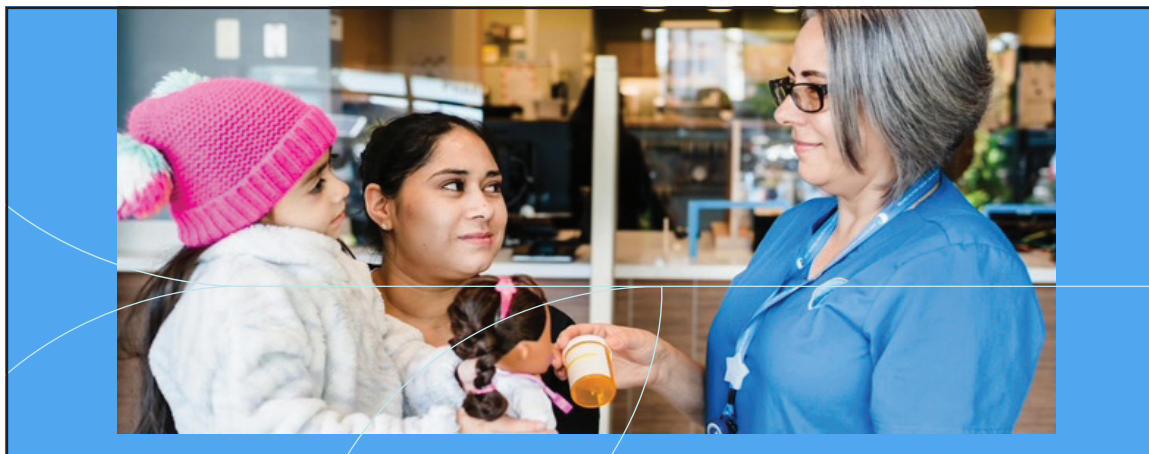
Full-time undergraduate students who have earned a minimum grade-point average of 3.500 to 3.699 for the reporting term are named to the Dean's List. Full-time status is achieved by earning 12 credits over each 16-week term or paired 8-week terms grouped in fall, winter/spring, and summer.

Steven Valdivieso Lemus of Everett

Bettie Pyram of Everett

Alejandra Gonzalez of Everett

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Healey signs cat declaw ban into law

On January 9, Governor Maura Healey signed An Act Prohibiting Inhumane Feline Declawing (S.2552) into law. The law bans cat declawing in Massachusetts, except in rare situations of medical necessity, such as a cancer in the nail bed or other conditions that jeopardize the cat's health. Cat declawing is an invasive surgical operation that is akin to amputating the last knuckle of a human finger. Declawing can cause lifelong medical issues for cats, including permanent disability, nerve damage,

chronic back pain, and lameness.

"This law will protect countless cats in the Commonwealth from a painful and unnecessary surgical procedure that is typically performed for human convenience rather than the cat's well-being," said Animal Legal Defense Fund Senior Legislative Affairs Manager Stephanie Harris. "Massachusetts joins other states that have effective declaw bans, alongside the many local laws that have been passed in cities of all sizes. We hope to build on this

momentum in 2025 as we continue to advocate for cat declaw bills nationwide, including in neighboring Rhode Island."

"As a leader in animal protection, Rhode Island should follow the precedent already set in our state and ban cruel and unnecessary cat declawing. Our humane state already prohibits landlords from requiring tenants' cats to be declawed, and passing this bill is the next logical step," said Rep. William O'Brien (D-Dist. 54). "It's time for Rhode Island to join Massachusetts, New York, and Mary-

land in protecting cats from this unnecessary cruelty."

"Declawing is an abhorrent practice that most veterinarians view as inhumane, but it is also a procedure that is widely misunderstood and requested by owners," said Sen. Mark Montigny (D-Second Bristol and Plymouth). "By passing this law, veterinarians will no longer have to weigh the choice knowing that if they don't provide the procedure an owner is likely to just look for someone who will. This is another step in my commitment to protect ani-

mals in the Commonwealth."

"Cats' claws are integral to their natural behaviors, including stretching and playing," said Senate bill sponsor Sen. Melissa Murray (D-Dist. 24). "Declawing is an amputation surgery with serious and often life-long consequences. Declawed cats often become fear biters and carpet wetters, putting them at greater risk for surrender or abandonment; many suffer from crippling arthritis

See CATS Page 15

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For 3 Months
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Cats // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 14

in old age. Declawing has no place in our society. I appreciate my colleagues' support for the Declaw Bill in 2025."

The declaw bill passed on the last day of the two-year legislative session, capping off a successful session for animals in Massachusetts that included the passage of laws protecting wild animals used in circuses, dogs entrusted to daycare or boarding facilities, puppies and kittens too young to be separated from their mothers, as well as human and animal victims trapped in violent situations using coercive control.

Declawing can cause many adverse behavioral effects in cats because it removes their ability to use their claws to scratch, stretch, and mark territory. Issues with litterbox use and inappropriate marking are common in declawed cats, and some declawed cats resort to biting — which can lead to infection in humans — to defend themselves because they no longer can with their claws. All of these behavioral issues

can make it more likely for cats to be surrendered to shelters. There are many humane alternatives to control scratching behavior, including regular nail trims, scratching posts, and behavioral training.

In June 2024, the Animal Legal Defense Legislative Fund released poll results revealing 70 percent of veterinary professionals oppose cat declawing. The poll also found that half of the veterinarians interviewed reported that their practice does not perform any declawing procedures due to policy or no veterinarians willing to perform the procedure.

Besides Massachusetts, currently New York and Maryland have banned the procedure, as well as jurisdictions including Los Angeles, San Francisco, Pittsburgh, Madison, West Hollywood, Austin, Denver, Beverly Hills, Berkeley, and Washington, D.C. Virginia has also banned the procedure with limited exemptions.

CHURCH News

Glendale Christian Lighthouse Church

News and Notes

Sunday 10:30 a.m. Worship service.

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

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

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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.com

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.

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.

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.

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.

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

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FRESH AND LOCAL

Snip. snip...

By Penny & Ed Cherubino

As we enjoy more foods from other cultures, we adopt the techniques and utensils used to make or enjoy them. One of the latest trends is the adoption of scissors, which are used in Korean homes and restaurants.

Our Scissor Collection

We find scissors safer and more sensible for specific kitchen tasks. We keep four different types in the kitchen. The most used is a pair of inexpensive kitchen scissors that stay in our dish drainer. (We use them so often that we don't bother to put them away.) These cut open food packages, snip herbs or

scallions, and complete other jobs that require a way to separate and clean the blades after use.

We have heavy-duty poultry shears for jobs like spatchcocking chicken or cutting the fins, head, and tail off whole fish. Again, these come apart for cleaning but can cut through bones, so be careful!

Our Korean scissors, with their longer blades and serrated edges, are great for cooking. If you've enjoyed Korean barbecue, you may have seen them paired with tongs to turn and cut meat or whole kimchi into bite-size pieces. These scissors also make trimming excess fat off poultry and meat easier.

This set is also used for

chopped salads and cutting leafy greens for sautéing or sandwiches.

Since we don't believe that cutting noodles is bad luck, we also use these to cut very long noodles to make them easier to eat.

We recently watched a video from a small taverna in Greece where the cook tossed a whole blanched octopus in a hot pan, cut it, and tossed it with scissors until he had perfectly grilled bite-size bits for service.

Finally, we have first responder trauma shears for the jobs where these shine. Designed to cut off clothes and bandages in emergencies, these can be sterilized or cleaned in your dishwasher.



We use four types of scissors in our kitchen. Top to bottom, they are Korean scissors, heavy-duty poultry shears, utility scissors, and first-responder trauma shears.

We use these to cut through plastic containers and packaging. They are inexpensive and very good at cutting flatbreads or pizza. We keep an extra pair in our picnic kit.

Experiment with Scissors

You may find different uses for scissors than we have. If you don't have a set, we suggest you try something like our utility scissors first. How a tool feels in your hand is a significant factor in how much you like it, so be sure the pair you buy is comfortable. Consider how they would work for a big job, like separating two pounds of chicken wings into drumsticks and flats.

Your kitchen scissors should be extremely sharp and have easy-to-grip, non-slip handles. While you may not want blades as long as those in our Korean example, a longer blade can be helpful for some tasks.

Finally, ease of cleaning is

vital to preventing cross-contamination and food-borne illnesses. We prefer sets with removable blades for cleaning or dishwasher-safe materials.

Some shears offer little extras like a screw cap or bottle opener built in. Some trauma shears have a carabiner built into the handle and can hang from an apron.

Think about how and what type of meals you cook and choose the best option for your kitchen. You probably don't need heavy-duty poultry shears if you don't work with whole chickens or fish. If grilling and Korean food are not your thing, skip that pair. But we recommend a basic pair of kitchen scissors, and every home should have trauma shears for food or for other emergencies.

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



Carlo DeMaria
Mayor

Attention Landlords!

Are you looking to fill a vacant unit?

The City of Everett is hosting Housing Families Inc. to provide a training session for landlords in the Everett area on the benefits of the HomeBASE program and how to get involved.

During this training, Housing Families will share a general overview of the HomeBASE program with a focus on:

The benefits and expectations of participating landlords.

How the program provides financial support to tenants.

How housing agencies like Housing Families supports tenants and landlords through case management.



Everett City Hall
484 Broadway,
3rd Floor, Keverian Room
Everett, MA 02149



Monday
February 3, 2025



From
4:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.



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WHEREAS a Complaint for
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in the Middlesex County Supe-

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WHEREIN the Plaintiff seeks a
declaratory judgment to clear
a cloud on title and foreclose
a certain Mortgage dated May
6, 2004 and recorded in the
Middlesex County Registry
of Deeds at Book 42722 at
Page 193
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written pleading to be filed
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