

Everett Independent

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Wednesday, October 7, 2020

Diversity, Equity and Equal Employment Commission ready for first public meeting

Staff Report

The Diversity, Equity & Equal Employment Commission announced this week that plans are being finalized for the first public forum addressing police policies and practices in Everett, according to Chairman Bishop Robert Brown.

The Commission was formed in June of this year in the wake of a rise in police violence around the country aimed particularly toward people of color, as well as an increase of activity by white supremacists and other hate groups. The DeMaria Administration recognized how concerning this was to Everett residents, many of whom are people of color. In response, Mayor DeMaria appointed Bishop Brown of the Zion Church Ministries to chair and direct the Commission in its work to address inequities in policing as well as other City services and the recruitment, hiring, and training practices throughout the city.

The Commission's initial focus was a review of the Everett Police Department's policies regarding the use of force, training standards, and the process of reporting and maintaining data. This important focus, which would include a presentation to and input from the public, has been ongoing since July with the cooperation of the Everett Police Department. The Commission is in the final planning stages of a public forum in which it will present its initial findings. The public will be invited to provide input to address some of the challenges that may impact the relationship between the community and the Everett Police Department.

In addition to this crucial work, the Commission will also be reviewing the use of force, training standards, and the process of reporting and maintaining data. This important focus, which would include a presentation to and input from the public, has been ongoing since July with the cooperation of the Everett Police Department.



Integral Arts Everett founder Karyn Alzayer premiered the second annual Everett Art Walk this past Saturday, Oct. 3, in a unique format to help social distancing and also to be inspired by local artists outside in the fall air. The walk features numerous pieces placed in 21 of the City's parks and green spaces (top). Reproductions can be seen, and then accessed online via a cell phone. (Above), Alzayer is enjoying stop one on the tour, which runs through Nov. 6 and is accessible any time the parks are open.

Second annual Everett Community Art Walk brings art to local parks

Staff Report

Integral Arts Everett kicked off the second annual Everett Community Art Walk last weekend, but instead of placing local artist work in various businesses around the city, reproductions have been placed throughout the City's park system – a way to keep the event going for another year and keep people safe and inspired.

The Art Walk is a city-wide month-long art

scavenger hunt in which participants are invited to explore the city to find artwork hidden outdoors in 21 local parks and playgrounds. The exhibit will be on display from October 3 through November 6, and participants can view artwork at any time. Participation is suitable for all ages, free, and open to the public.

Explore the map online and take a socially-distanced walk to find artwork printed on weather-

proof signage. Use a cell phone to visit the website page for each piece to learn more about the artist and the piece. Participants are once again encouraged to explore our great city in search of all the artwork.

Karyn Alzayer, Founder and Board President of Integral Arts Everett, said of this year's Art Walk, "Last year we sent you to explore Everett's local businesses; this year we're sending you out to

See ART WALK Page 6

An Outrage

City denounces parking lot, super-spreader parties by Everett-based promoter

By Seth Daniel

Several City leaders are denouncing clandestine, late-night parties put on by an Everett-based Brazilian American promoter who has staged "parking lot parties" with hundreds of unmasked parties under the Baile Do Monstro (Monster Ball) tag for the last several weeks – including a few large parties in the Gateway Mall behind Costco in recent weeks.

The parties are pretty much geared towards the Brazilian community throughout Greater Boston and have been held in Everett and Revere in recent weeks. Videos on the Instagram page show hundreds of people behind the Costco with the Encore

Casino behind them dancing with an open bar and large DJ operation. There appears to be no social distancing measures on anyone's mind, let alone any COVID-19 protocols. Some of the literature in Portuguese proclaims, "COVID never kept me away."

With Everett's new case numbers inching up day-by-day, and the community seemingly stuck in the 'red' high-risk category – which prevents the City's businesses and organizations from moving to the state's next phase of re-opening – such parties have become an outrage to local leaders.

Mayor Carlo DeMaria said such things will not

See PARTIES Page 3

Positive participation

School Department reports good virtual attendance, focuses on those not logging in

By Seth Daniel

The vast majority of students in the Everett Public Schools are logging on and participating in this fall's virtual learning program, Supt. Priya Tahliliani told the School Committee on Monday, but she said all efforts are going towards connecting with the 11 percent of students that aren't as engaged.

Monday's attendance figures were the first analysis of the remote learning program this fall – a revamped program over last

spring's emergency effort that wasn't as successful and was challenging to teachers and students. The numbers reflected the first 12 days of school, and had some bright spots and areas for improvement, said Tahliliani.

For the entire district, 55 percent of students have 100 percent attendance, while another 17 percent had missed only one day. That meant 72 percent of the students were regularly engaged in

See SCHOOL Page 12

The Independent Newspaper Group

offices will be closed on Columbus Day, Monday, October 11, 2020

Sorry

We're Closed

Ad deadline is Friday Oct. 9th

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Figuring it out

Sasso forges ahead at the popular 8/10 Bar and Grille

By Cary Shuman

Everett native Richard Sasso said he had a life-long dream to open his own restaurant. He had previously owned a replacement window business, hair salon, and billiards parlor before taking the plunge into the restaurant industry.

"I always wanted to go into the restaurant business and do it in my hometown," said the 60-year-old Sasso.

That's why he speaks so proudly about being the "president and treasurer of 8/10 Bar and Grille Incorporated." He has owned and operated the popular Everett restaurant located

The familiar 8/10 Bar and Grille sign, pictured at the popular restaurant located at 8 Norwood St. in Everett.

at 8 Norwood Street for 14 years.

Customers have made 8/10 Bar and Grille one of the city's most popular restaurants, where diners enjoy such favorites as

chicken parmigiana ("A big seller," said Sasso), chicken marsala, steak tips, and pizza.

A lifelong Everett resident, Sasso knows many of the customers person-

ally from having grown up in the city. The 8/10 staff is also local and known for its congeniality and outstanding service.

Business was booming
Business was quite brisk at the 8/10 Bar and Grille early in 2020. There

See SASSO Page 2

TRASH NOTICE

Due to the Monday, Oct. 12th Columbus Day Holiday, Trash will be delayed by one day.

Capitol Waste Services, Inc.

1647 begins virtual school to home fundraiser to raise \$10,000

Last week, 1647, an organization that prepares educators to build authentic partnerships with families that are essential to student success, has begun its annual fundraiser with a generous match from an anonymous donor for donations up to \$5,000.

Community members and others interested in participating are encouraged to visit www.1647.org/ donate. Funds raised will benefit several districts,

including Everett, Chelsea and Revere.

Meeting this fundraising goal of \$10,000 will allow 1647 to train hundreds of teachers and staff at schools that serve high-need communities in Massachusetts. Those educators, in turn, will reach thousands of students and families who are engaged in remote and hybrid learning due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The educators are trained in strategies to partner with

families to enhance student success while addressing inequities in the education system that often marginalize families of color, immigrants, and other underserved communities. Contributions to this fundraiser will allow 1647 to provide financial assistance to schools and districts with over 25% of students designated as high need.

“With so many students learning from home with their families as their

guides, our work is more crucial than ever. Educators need tools and strategies to build relationships with families so that they can collaborate to ensure every student’s success. Families know their kids best and want them to succeed, so schools need to tap into that energy and expertise to fill some of the gaps created by remote learning. Teachers are working incredibly hard to reach their students and families and we want to

support them with training on strategies that work,” says Ann Walsh, Founding Director of 1647.

Educators are trained to build trusting relationships with students’ families through culturally responsive practices that address the implicit biases and structural barriers to educational equity. Teachers practice welcome calls, ongoing communication, and more effective family-teacher conferences

with 1647’s staff of family facilitators. The long-term vision is that all educators and families in Massachusetts will work in partnership to support student success, long after students and teachers have returned to their classrooms.

To learn more about the organization and how to participate in this year’s fundraiser, please visit: <http://www.1647families.org>.

Sasso // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

had been no nor’easters or blizzards and the regulars from Everett, coupled with an influx of Charlestown families, were taking advantage of the mild winter and filling the seats nightly at the 8/10.

But then the COVID-19 pandemic struck and it hit Everett particularly hard.

“Business was really good until we hit the wall,” said Sasso. “We closed down on March 17 to make sure everybody was safe because we didn’t want to take any chances. We didn’t even do takeout at that point.”

The restaurant reopened in early June for takeout orders. When Gov. Charlie Baker announced the new social distancing and seating capacity guidelines for restaurants, Sasso enthusiastically welcomed the return of in-person diners.

“We open at 4 p.m. every day and we serve until there is nobody left to feed,” related Sasso. “If there’s people here, we stay open for them. If not, we close and come back the next day at 4.”

In addition to takeouts, the 8/10 partners with

businesses Uber Eats, DoorDash, and Grubhub on deliveries.

“A lot of our regular customers have come back, but a lot of them are doing takeout and delivery because they’re still a little nervous about things that are going on with the COVID.”

He is appreciative of the customers’ support during what has been a very challenging period for the restaurant industry.

“I want to thank the customers for being very loyal and very supportive and I just hope we can hang in there and get through the crisis,” said Sasso.

An Everett kid and former hockey star

Richard Sasso, 60, is the son of Joseph J. Sasso Jr. and Anna M. Sasso. “They’re my parents and nobody has been more supportive of myself and my brothers (James Sasso and Thomas Sasso) throughout our lives. My father is 88 and a retiring attorney who has been practicing law right up until this point. My mother is 85 and they have been very supportive through-

out this whole thing. My brother James has an insurance company. My brother Thomas has a furniture business.”

Like many kids growing up in Greater Boston in the early 1970s, Richard Sasso was inspired by the two-time Stanley Cup champion Boston Bruins and their electrifying defenseman, Bobby Orr.

Sasso was among the very first players to skate in what would become the Everett Youth Hockey program. He remembers such community leaders as Henry Schlager, Pat Carli, Ralph Werner, and Lester McLaughlin, and his father, Joseph Sasso, helping to lay the foundation to the Everett program.

Sasso took his prolific offensive skills and talent to Malden Catholic where he played four years of varsity hockey under coaches Charlie Driscoll and Bob Conceison, graduating in 1978. He went on to play two years of Division I hockey at Boston College. He skated alongside teammate Joey Mullen, one of the first American-born players to

star in the National Hockey League.

“It seems like a lifetime ago,” said Sasso, whose brothers also excelled in high school (Malden Catholic) and collegiate hockey.

“My brother Tommy was a tremendous hockey player at Babson College and won the nation’s top player award two years in a row,” said Richard. “He was drafted and signed by the Quebec Nordiques. My brother James played hockey at the University of Connecticut.”

Looking Toward A Bright Future

Things are returning to normal at the 8/10 Restaurant that Sasso worked so hard to build and develop a loyal following.

“We’re moving forward and excited about the future,” said Sasso. “We lost 21 seats [due to the current guidelines], but the City of Everett has gone above and beyond and given us the outdoor seating. They did a tremendous job with that boardwalk. We have another 15 seats outside, but that’s going to be ending because of the cold weather.”



Richard Sasso, owner of the 8/10 Restaurant on Norwood Street, is pictured in the boardwalk-style, outdoor seating area in front of his popular restaurant.

“I thank Mayor [Carlo] DeMaria and his entire staff for doing as much as they possibly could to help us businesses survive this crisis,” he lauded. “We’re

going to keep going until we can’t go anymore.”

And that’s good news for food connoisseurs everywhere.

SEND US YOUR NEWS

The Everett Independent encourages residents to submit birth and engagement announcements, news releases, business briefs, honor rolls, social news, sports stories, and photographs for publication. Items should be forwarded to our offices at **385 Broadway, Citizens Bank Building, Revere, MA 02151**. Items can also be faxed to 781-485-1403. The Independent also encourages readers to e-mail news releases to editor@everettindependent.com.

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

- LEGAL NOTICE - CITY OF EVERETT



Board of Licensing Commission
484 Broadway, Room 26
Everett, Massachusetts 02149
(617) 944-0211

To Whom It May Concern:

In response to Governor Baker's declaration of a public health emergency and the related Emergency Executive Order dated March 12, 2020, the Everett Licensing Board shall be meeting remotely until further notice. The audioconferencing application Zoom will be used for this purpose. An online link and telephone access number will be provided on all meeting agendas and also on the City's website. No in-person attendance of members of the public will be permitted, but every effort will be made to ensure that the public can adequately access the proceedings in real time, via technological means. In the event that we are unable to do so, despite best efforts, we will post on the city's website an audio or video recording, transcript, or other comprehensive record of proceedings as soon as possible after the meeting.

This application will permit the public to access and participate in future Board meetings and hearings. Instructions for joining meetings in this manner will be provided on the City and City Clerk's websites. We extend our thanks for your understanding and participation in this manner, which is intended to keep members of the Board and the public safe.

For this meeting, members of the public who wish to watch, listen or provide comment during the meeting may do so in the following manner:

View on the City of Everett Facebook Page: <https://www.facebook.com/cityofeverettma/>

Call in for question or comments:

Topic: Licensing Board Meeting

Time: Monday, October 19, 2020 @ 6:30 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://ci-everett-ma.zoom.us/j/91036946350>

Meeting ID: 972 3172 9400

One tap mobile +16465588656, 97231729400#

Public Hearing Monday October 19, 2020 6:30 PM

Whereas an application has been presented to the Everett License Commission by:

Jagota, LLC D/B/A Broadway Liquors, 20 Norwood St, presented an application for a Transfer of License, Management/Operating Agreement, Pledge of Inventory, and Pledge of License to Mario A. Perez.

All interested parties may attend.

Phil Antonelli - Chairman
October 7, 2020

- LEGAL NOTICE - CITY OF EVERETT



BOARD OF APPEALS
484 Broadway
Everett, Massachusetts 02149
(617) 381-7445

To Whom It May Concern:

This notice is to inform you that a public hearing will be held on Monday, October 19, 2020 at 7:00 PM in regards to an application for zoning relief. In response to Governor Baker's declaration of a public health emergency and the related Emergency Executive Order dated March 12, 2020, the Zoning Board of Appeals shall be meeting remotely until further notice. The audioconferencing application Zoom will be used for this purpose. An online link and telephone access number will be provided on all meeting agendas and also on the Board's website. This application will permit the public to access and participate in future Board meetings and hearings. Instructions for joining meetings in this manner will be provided on the City and City Clerk's website. In addition, Everett Community TV (ECTV) may provide coverage of these meetings. We extend our thanks for your understanding and participation in this manner, which is intended to keep members of the Board and the public safe.

Whereas a petition has been presented by:

Property Address: 43 Corey Street

Map/Parcel: C004-000038

Person Requesting: Sergio Cornelio

43 Corey Street

Everett, MA 02149

Reason for Denial:

Applicant seeks to alter and convert an existing two (2) family and change the use to a six (6) unit residential dwelling located within the Dwelling District on a 15,553-sf lot.

Permit was denied in accordance to the City of Everett Zoning Ordinance Appendix A as follows:

Zoning Ordinance:

1. Everett Zoning Ordinance APPENDIX A Section 4(a)1 limits a single or double semi-detached dwelling existing at the time of the first enactment of the Zoning Ordinance (1926) to convert to not more than a total of three (3) dwelling units. The applicant must seek relief in the form of a variance allowing the conversion of a double semi-detached dwelling to a six-unit dwelling.

2. Everett Zoning Ordinance APPENDIX A Section 17(A)2 requires two (2) parking spaces per dwelling unit. The proposed plan contains four (4) parking spaces requiring relief in the form of a variance for eight (8) parking spaces.

Mary Gerace – Chairman
Roberta Suppa - Clerk
Board of Appeals
September 30, 2020
October 7, 2020

- LEGAL NOTICE - CITY OF EVERETT



BOARD OF APPEALS
484 Broadway
Everett, Massachusetts 02149
(617) 381-7445

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Whereas a petition has been presented by:

Property Address: 94 Wyllis Ave.

Map/Parcel: D0-06-0000772

Person Requesting: Mr. Sujan Kharel

94 Wyllis Ave.

Everett, MA 02149

To the said Board of Appeals, the owner/applicant owns an existing single-family house, built in June 1925, and would like in to convert it to a three-family (3) dwelling. The existing 8128 sf lot is located in a Dwelling District.

Permit was denied in accordance to the City of Everett Zoning Ordinance Appendix A as follows:

Reason for Denial:

• The floor area ratio of 0.95 is above what is allowed in the Dwelling District.

Zoning Ordinance:

Section 4 Dwelling Districts b) Dimensional Requirements 2 Lot Area line c which states

c. All other uses-----0.5 maximum floor area ratio (Ord. of 6-29-87; Ord. of 4-29-91 Ord. of 7/16/2002; Ord. of 11/13/2007)

Mary Gerace – Chairman
Roberta Suppa - Clerk
Board of Appeals
September 30, 2020
October 7, 2020

Parties // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1



One of the huge, clandestine Monster Ball (Baile Do Monstro) parties that brings in many from the Brazilian community to Everett for late-night parties with zero COVID-19 protocols. This party occurred last month apparently behind the Gateway Mall. The party featured a DJ, an open bar with alcohol and a gigantic dance area.

be tolerated in Everett, and the Monster Balls have not been reported to Everett Police because they are remote areas. He said they will begin patrolling with them in mind.

“Any and all gatherings that go against the guidelines set forth by the Governor are frowned upon and will not be tolerated in the City of Everett,” he said in a statement. “While we have not been made aware of these large gatherings due to the remote nature of them, the Everett Police will increase enforcement at locations where these parties can occur.”

School Committeeman Marcony Almeida Barros – a Brazilian American – said such gatherings don’t represent what most Brazilian Americans are doing during COVID-19, but those that are participating he said should be held accountable.

“I’ve heard about those parties and seen some social media posts,” he said. “I do not think their behavior represents the behavior of the Brazilian community in Everett and outside of the city. I believe many Brazilians and other immigrants and non-immigrants alike have been trying their best to follow protocols and guidance from the city and state to stop the spread of COVID-19. However, I’m disgusted by the actions of those who were part of those parties, especially the organizers. They should be held accountable by the authorities and punished to the fullest extent of the law for ‘playing’ not only with their lives but with those who live in their communities. And the authorities should continue to monitor their behavior.”

Councilor Stephanie Martins, another Brazilian American elected of-



A partier on top of the DJ booth during a Monster Ball party that looks to be behind the Northgate Mall in Revere early last month.

ficial, said she has also been troubled by these parking lot parties, as well as the many parties that take place in backyards and homes throughout her neighborhood on any given night.

“With these parties, there are real concerns not only in terms of COVID-19, but also with teen-age drug use during those big parties,” she said. “I have had several parents and members of the Brazilian community reach out and demand more enforcement and I have met with the police regarding this issue.

As for the house parties, there has been a real abuse with parties that are fully decorated, with live music, and no mask use. Parents often bring their children along and the children are at risk of getting infected during the parties and returning to school with the virus causing an even bigger issue.”

Councilor Michael McLaughlin – who represents the Gateway Mall area – said the City will never get back to the lower numbers needed to open things up if these parties persist.

However, he said he was also concerned about the fact the Everett Police were not aware of, or responding to, such events in the city.

“I believe this underscores a bigger issue and that is the management structure in our Police Department,” he said. “I believe we need to look at the leadership structure of all shifts in the Department to ensure supervision is consistent across the board. The City of Everett needs to be firm and consistent on letting these individuals know that they are being irresponsible and that the out of control behavior can’t and won’t be tolerated in our community going forward. I was shocked and truly disappointed in watching these videos.”

A promotional flier in Portuguese on the Monster Ball Instagram indicated there would be another large party in Revere behind the Northgate Mall on Saturday, Oct. 10. It was uncertain if that would go forward given the attention such gatherings have received in Everett.

Janine Balistreri announces her write-in candidacy for U.S. Representative, District 7

Janine (Adiletto) Balistreri announces that she is a write-in candidate for Tuesday, Nov 3, 2020 for U.S. Representative of MA, District 7, unenrolled.

Janine Balistreri, a lifetime Massachusetts resident. Born in Everett, MA, and raised in Everett and Medford. Mother of two daughters and grandmother of three grandchildren.

A graduate of Bunker Hill Community College with an Associate Degree in Liberal Arts and a Paralegal Certificate in law. Currently working on an Associate Degree in

Criminal Justice. A former United States Homeland security agent at TSA.

“It is my honor and privilege to be a Write-in candidate for District 7, I will work for you.”

“We the People need to remember that Freedom is not Free“ I think of myself as a Patriot and remember all the past Patriots.”

My priorities will be if elected, to work toward getting money and resources for district 7. To be a voice for the people.

I would be honored to be your U.S. Representative of MA, District 7.

Please Write-In Janine Balistreri on Tuesday,



Janine (Adiletto) Balistreri.

Nov 3, 2020

Thank you in advance.

Facebook: Janine Balistreri for Congress

Twitter: Janine Balistreri for Congress

Website: janineloves-boston.com

https://ballotpedia.org/Janine_Balistreri

Census 2020 likely to be extended to Oct. 31

By Seth Daniel

It’s going to come down to a decision of the U.S. Supreme Court, but City Clerk Sergio Cornelio said all signs seem to be pointing to a one-month extension of the Census 2020 effort – making it likely end on Oct. 31 instead of last week on Sept. 30.

Cornelio said it has been a topsy-turvy Census year that started out rocky even before COVID-19 hit – with the Supreme Court having to rule on the once-contentious Citizenship question that was proposed to be put on the questionnaire but ruled Unconstitutional at the first of the year. Now, the high court might look at the deadline issue, or it may choose not to look at it – meaning that the lower court decision of extending it to Oct. 31 will stand.

“This seems like the effort has been dragging on for years and not months,” said Cornelio of the uncertainty in this year’s Census. “We are keeping an eye on it, but we’re moving forward. Right now

it’s under and indefinite extension that would end on Oct. 31. We’re formulating a plan and have another idea of what we’ll do for another literature drop. We’re not spending any money just yet but we’re going forward with a plan and the community groups are really doing a good job...We’ve been advised to keep working until they tell us not to do so.”

The Census 2020 in Everett has been a tough sell during COVID-19, and an effort that started with a major push by the state and regional leaders in assistance of local leader Cornelio. However, grand plans to reach out and hit populations never counted previously to get the participation rate up from 10 years ago fell flat when COVID-19 prevented people from gathering. Numbers were very low for a time, but efforts in the last month have brought participation up to the levels of 2010 – about 60 percent. With an extra month though – and getting official enumerators out to school distri-

bution sites – Cornelio said he hopes they can get beyond the 2010 numbers and closer to what the true population of Everett is.

The Census numbers are directly tied to funding for schools, roads, sidewalks, hospitals and other community needs. Cornelio estimated that every person counted represents \$2,400 a year in federal funds – and on the flip side every person missed is a loss of the same amount.

That’s why he said they are enthusiastic about getting out and getting more people counted this month.


“The Census enumerators are all in a holding pattern now,” he said. “You’ll see an increase in the numbers, but many think it’s over because they were told it ended last week. I want to get this going quickly so we can do another robo-call to tell people we have time and then get our volunteers and community groups out there again pounding the pavement to get our numbers up.”

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Diversity/ CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

cial first step, the Commission is also engaged in the important work of increasing diversity throughout our City systems. The work of the Commission is long term and on-going. Commission members, with the support of the DeMaria Administration, said they are fully committed to achieving meaningful and sustainable change for the betterment of the community.

“There are no band-aid solutions,” read a statement from the Commission. “The Commission was not formed as a short-term solution to an urgent problem. The members of the Commission are fully committed to ongoing conversation and sustainable solutions to the challenges caused by systemic racism, discrimination, and disenfranchisement. We look forward to continuing this work and to

receiving feedback from the community during our upcoming forum.”

The date and additional details of the Forum will be published soon.



RESEARCH PROGRAM



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*All participants will receive \$25 after completion of their visit. To complete the visit, participants must create an account, give consent, agree to share their electronic health records, answer health surveys, and have their measurements taken (height, weight, blood pressure, etc.), and give blood and urine samples, if asked.

All of Us and the All of Us logo are service marks of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

Everett Independent

President: Stephen Quigley

Editor in Chief: Cary Shuman

MAKE THE MOST OF THE LONG WEEKEND

The arrival of Columbus Day means that the fall season squarely is upon us, the time of year that has special meaning for all of us in New England, even amidst a pandemic.

With the weatherman forecasting a beautiful weekend with warm temperatures and sunny skies, we hope that as many of our readers as possible will be able to partake of the simple pleasures of a hike in the woods or a long drive to enjoy the crisp, clean air and the autumn colors.

We realize that for each and every one of our fellow Americans, this is a time of high anxiety on so many levels, and that we have been living this way for the past seven months -- with more to come.

But each of us must find a way to deal with the stressful times in which we find ourselves. From our experience, enjoying the great outdoors with our friends and family is the best prescription for de-stressing in any situation.

We urge all of our readers to make the most of the long weekend while we have the chance to do so before the colder weather of winter sets in.

Take a long walk, preferably a hike, whether along the shore, or in the mountains, or even as nearby as the Blue Hills. We promise that just being outside and taking in the natural world in the crisp air, away from the noise of our daily lives, will do wonders for our emotional and physical well-being.

TWTWTW X 100

In the 1960s there was a TV show, That Was The Week That Was (also known as TW3), that took a satirical look at that week's news events.

However, this past week's events have moved from the realm of farce to dangerousness, both on an individual and collective level, for all Americans.

We are speaking of two comments made by President Trump in the past seven days.

The first occurred in the presidential debate when Trump squarely was asked if he would denounce white supremacist groups.

Trump did not do so, and instead told these far-right, extremist, hate groups to "Stand back and stand by," a virtual clarion call for them to sow disruption before and after the election.

The second took place a few days later when Trump was about to be released from the hospital after his treatment for the coronavirus and he made this incredible statement via Twitter:

"Don't be afraid of covid. Don't let it dominate your life" -- thereby completely ignoring the 210,000 Americans who already have lost their lives because of COVID-19 (with another 200,000 deaths predicted by the end of this year), not to mention the large number of the White House staff who have contracted the disease.

In light of Trump's comments, we urge our readers to do two things:

First and foremost, always wear a mask and stay at least six feet apart from other people, even outdoors, to ensure the safety of yourself and others from COVID-19.

Second, be sure to register to vote. The deadline in Massachusetts is October 24 and is easily doable online (just type "Register to vote in Mass." into Google).

Each of us has the power to change the trajectory of America's future.

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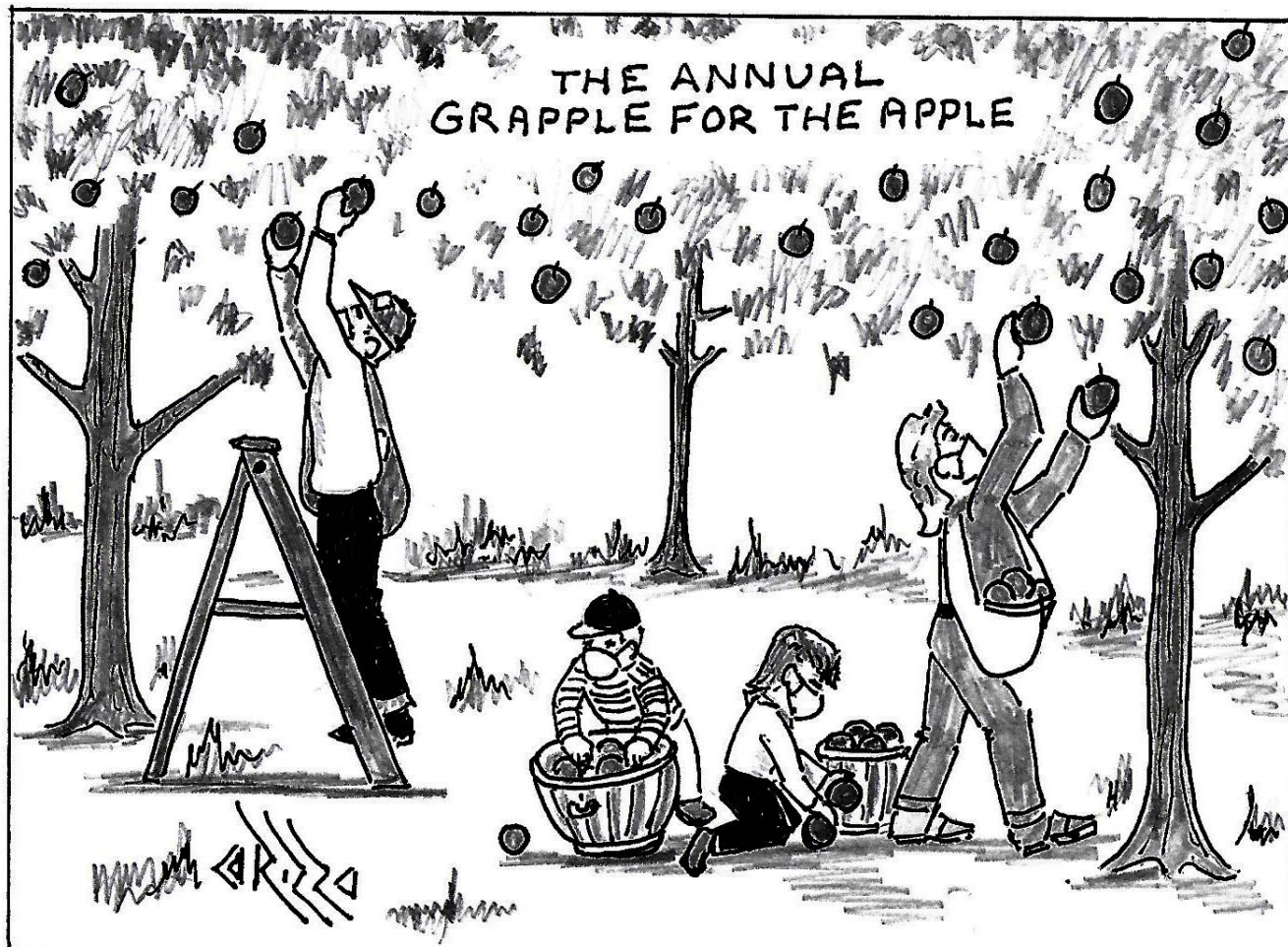
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Independent Forum



APPLE PICKING TIME, WILL MAKE YOU FEEL JUST FINE

GUEST OP-ED

Thank you to our first responders and healthcare workers. You are the true heroes.

By First Lady of Everett,
Mrs. Stacy DeMaria

In mid-March, the lives of many Americans drastically changed. In the blink of an eye, we were stuck inside of our homes, afraid of a deadly and novel disease that plagued our world, our country, our State, and our home – the City of Everett. At a time when most of us were afraid to venture outside to acquire the

necessities for ourselves and our families, our first responders and healthcare workers stepped up in a way that we could never have imagined. They displayed their unwavering commitment to our City and its residents by fearlessly putting themselves at risk while working long hours to ensure our community was safe. They showed us all who they truly are – heroes.

During this year's con-

densed Crimson Kids program, Carlo and I invited the children to join us in displaying our gratitude to the first responders and healthcare workers in our City. With the help of the children and City workers, we built and designed flower boxes for the Everett Police Department, Everett Fire Department, and Cambridge Health Alliance. Although this is a small token of gratitude, it exemplifies the princi-

ples that our City and our community believe in so strongly: unity, perseverance, and teamwork.

From the bottom of my heart, I want to thank our fearless first responders and healthcare workers. I am grateful for your dedication and your sacrifice to our City.

Stacy DeMaria is the wife of Everett Mayor Carlo DeMaria.

GUEST OP-ED

Something needs to be done about evictions

By Shane Fowler

Hundreds of thousands of Massachusetts residents are at risk of displacement and homelessness if evictions are allowed to continue unabated without any protections from the legislature. Massachusetts has deployed various strategies to mitigate the harms from the COVID-19 pandemic, but its most effective strategy, a state-wide moratorium on housing evictions, is set to expire on October 17. Last week, Governor Charlie Baker announced his unwillingness to extend the moratorium; in doing so, the Governor removed the crutch keeping the system upright. With evictions set to resume, the housing crisis that loomed over the state is now here. The next great public health crisis has arrived, and Massachusetts is unprepared.

Recent predictions suggest that 21 percent of renter-households in Massachusetts, representing close to half a million people, could be at risk of eviction by the end of the year. Employment disruptions and lost income due to the pandemic have stymied renters' ability to keep up on payments. According to tabulations of the Census Bureau's Household Pulse Survey, 15 percent of Massachusetts renters, representing 348,000 people in 151,000 households, were behind on

rent. Notably, due to persistent housing discrimination, Black and Latinx households are disproportionately affected.

An avalanche of evictions will overwhelm our legal system. The Boston Bar Association reported in 2019 that tenants are unrepresented in 91.3 percent of eviction cases. Anecdotally, at the Harvard Legal Aid Bureau, the second largest legal aid provider in Boston, we only have the capacity for about 60 individual housing cases at once. As a result, the bulk of tenants facing eviction will be forced to represent themselves. The inequities of this arrangement become blindly apparent when pro-se defendants are forced to litigate against institutional landlord lawyers.

Further, housing courts will be expected to juggle an unprecedented amount of cases in unprecedented circumstances after the moratorium expires. Considering valid safety concerns, housing courts will need to rely on virtual hearings and trials at the expense of low-income tenants that may not have the requisite technology. The issues highlighted raise due process concerns, a core principle of our legal system, and likely will lead to miscarriages of housing justice.

Housing is a human right, but when we tolerate anything less there

are societal consequences. Housing instability increases public costs. For example, a 2018 study found that unstable housing among families with children will cost the U.S. \$111 billion in avoidable health and education expenditures over the next 10 years. Housing instability is deeply intertwined with many social, economic, and health issues. It negatively affects an individual's ability to maintain a job, acquire a quality education, or routinely secure food. Housing instability leads to overcrowding and homelessness.

Overcrowded housing is closely-related to elevated COVID-19 rates in communities. Homelessness is not only a moral tragedy, but also impacts the availability of healthcare resources, magnifies a community's reliance on police, and harms business and tourist attractions, particularly downtown. If we do nothing in this moment, we negligently contribute to our country's housing injustice.

For all these reasons, the Commonwealth needs to pass the Housing Stability Act. The Housing Stability Act – Bill H.4874 - offers a systemic solution to prevent the ensuing flood of evictions. The Act guarantees housing stability during the COVID-19 crisis by banning evictions due to nonpayment

of rent for any tenant unable to pay directly or indirectly because of the COVID-19 crisis. The eviction ban covers rent due at the start of the COVID-19 state of emergency through 12 months after the state of emergency has ended. The Act also protects homeowners and small landlords by banning foreclosures due to missed mortgage payments throughout the same period.

Finally, the Act establishes an Oversight and Advisory Board of members from the hardest hit communities to make recommendations on how the COVID-19 Housing Stability and Recovery fund is administered.

The positive effects of the Housing Stability Act are obvious: more protections for tenants and homeowners; less homelessness for adults and children; finally, less pain and despair in the Commonwealth. The novel coronavirus has upended our way of life. But we should not let it uproot folks from their homes. To stop the imminent housing crisis, please act by calling your legislator in the Massachusetts State House and urge them to vote yes for Bill H.4878.

Shane Fowler is a third year law student at Harvard Law School. He is the Housing Co-Chair of the Harvard Legal Aid Bureau.

Everett man re-sentenced to 30 years for conspiring with ISIS

Staff Report

An Everett man was re-sentenced Sept. 29 in Boston Federal Court to 30 years in prison for conspiring to murder U.S. citizens, including police officers, on behalf of the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria (ISIS) in 2015.

David Daoud Wright, a/k/a Dawud Sharif Abdul Khaliq, a/k/a Dawud Sharif Abdul Khaliq, 31, of Everett, was re-sentenced by U.S. Senior District Court Judge Douglas P. Woodlock to 30 years in prison and a lifetime of supervised release.

In December 2017, Wright was sentenced to 28 years in prison after a federal jury convicted him of conspiracy to provide material support to ISIS, conspiracy to commit acts of terrorism transcending national boundaries, conspiracy to obstruct justice and obstruction of justice. In August 2019, the First Circuit Court of Appeals vacated count one (conspiracy to provide material support to ISIS) and affirmed the other counts. The case was remanded to the district court for re-sentencing, which took place last week.

“Mr. Wright is a home-grown terrorist who plotted to kill innocent Americans on behalf of ISIS, including specifically targeting police officers,” said United States Attorney Andrew E. Lelling. “He radicalized himself and others, pledged allegiance to a terrorist organization, and conspired with his now-deceased uncle to kill police officers with a combat knife. This case is a reminder of the persistent terrorism threat to our citizens and law enforcement officers.”

Said Joseph R. Bonavolonta, Special Agent in Charge of the FBI Boston Division, “ISIS soldier David Wright betrayed his country and forfeited his freedom when he conspired with others to attack and murder innocent civilians and police officers in support of a sworn, barbaric enemy of the United States. This sentence ensures they remain worlds apart. Identifying and disrupting terrorist plots, both foreign and domestic, is the FBI’s top priority, and the round-the-clock teamwork of our partners within our Massachusetts Joint Terrorism Task Force saved innocent lives, and kept Wright’s endgame of martyrdom out of reach.”

Beginning in at least February 2015, Wright began discussing ISIS’ call to kill non-believers in the United States with his uncle, Usaamah Abdullah Rahim, and co-defendant Nicholas Alexander Rovinski. Specifically, Wright created a “martyrdom” operation cell in Massachusetts. In April 2015, Wright created a Twitter page for the “Lions of America” and published a document entitled, Internal Conquest, on the internet in which Wright called on Muslims living in the United States to kill their fellow citizens.

Wright also plotted with Rahim and Rovinski to behead U.S. citizens at the direction of ISIS, and identified a New York woman as the first beheading target. Rahim purchased three knives for this plot. In addition, Wright’s ISIS cell was in direct communication with ISIS recruiter and attack facilitator, Junaid Hussain, who provided Rahim with an encrypted document containing details about the intended victim. In August 2015, Hussain was killed in an airstrike in Raqqa, Syria.

In preparation for their attack, Wright conducted extensive research on weapons, knives, machetes, bombing making components and methods to subdue their victims. Wright also conducted research on “what tranquilizer put humans to sleep instantly” and “how to start a secret militia in the United States.”

On June 2, 2015, Wright caused a terrorist attack in Massachusetts and caused his uncle, Rahim, to be killed. Rahim was shot and killed after he attacked law enforcement officers with a large fighting knife in a Roslindale parking lot. Two hours before Rahim attacked the police, Wright directed and encouraged Rahim to pursue martyrdom by attacking the “boys in blue.” Within minutes of learning of his uncle’s death from a family member, Wright deleted data from his laptop computer by restoring it to factory settings and deleted call logs on his cell phone that showed that he had spoken to Rahim that morning. Wright also instructed Rahim to destroy his electronic devices before attacking the police officers.

The case was prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney B. Stephanie Siegmann, Chief of Lelling’s National Security Unit prosecuted the case.

ATTENTION WATER USER: HYDRANT FLUSHING TUESDAY, OCT. 6, 2020 – FRIDAY, NOV. 13TH, 2020

The Water Department will be flushing water mains throughout the City beginning October 6th through November 13th 2020. The purpose of flushing is to remove sediment build up in the mains and to verify the safe operation of hydrants and valves. Hydrant flushing may result in temporary discoloration of the water, caused by small particles that dislodge during the flushing as well, temporary reduction in pressure.

Discolored water will be temporary and is not harmful. However, the discolored water might stain your laundry, especially white materials.

Therefore, please avoid doing laundry during the noted flushing period.

Prior to washing clothes, including times after the hours stated in this notice, please check the cold water for possible discoloration. If water is discolored, let the cold water run for a few minutes until water becomes clear. If it does not clear at that time, try again later. Unfortunately, the City cannot fully guarantee the safety of doing laundry and/or the possibility of discoloration even during the evenings and other times of the day as the water system has been disturbed. Therefore, please check your water carefully prior to doing laundry and inspect the laundry before drying it.

Hydrant flushing will be performed between the hours of 8 A.M. and 8 P.M. Monday through Friday. The Water Department appreciates your patience as we work to improve the quality of the drinking water. If you would like additional information, please call the Water Department at 617-394-2327.

“ADOPT A SENIOR” HOLIDAY PROGRAM

The Holiday Season is a time for reflecting, celebration and giving. This year is no different. Mayor Carlo DeMaria and The Council on Aging are launching the “Adopt a Senior Program.” Many seniors are alone on holidays and more this year feeling isolated during the current health crisis. This program is designed to add some comfort and joy into our senior’s lives.

We are requesting donations of, toiletries, sundries, socks (white only, crew or ankle) soaps, hand lotions, sanitizers, a house coat/dress, gloves and hats. All items MUST be new and in its

original packaging. Donations will be accepted at The Connolly Center (REAR DOOR ONLY) Thursdays and Fridays from 9am until 12 noon, beginning Thursday October 29 through Friday November 27, 2020. These items will be distributed anonymously to seniors in need. Hopefully we can spread some joy into the life of a senior. We thank you in advance. If you have any questions please call us at The Connolly Center, 617.394.2323 or 617.394.2260.... Please ask for Margaret.

MYSTIC VALLEY ELDER SERVICES RECOMMENDS SIMPLE STEPS TO AVOID FALLS

One in four Americans aged 65+ falls each year, according to the National Council on Aging. Every 11 seconds, an older adult is treated in the emergency room for a fall; every 19 minutes, an older adult dies from a fall. Falls are the leading cause of fatal injury and the most common cause of nonfatal trauma-related hospital and nursing home admissions among older adults.

Although falls are prevalent in older adults, there could be many ways to help your loved one continue to live safely in their own home.

Falls and accidents seldom “just happen.” Usually there are at least several contributing factors that lead to a fall. The danger in some of these factors can be eliminated or reduced by taking simple steps recommended by Mystic Valley Elder Services to make an elder’s home safer. Read more to find out a room-by-room breakdown of some of these steps:

Bathrooms: Place a rubber mat or rubber safety strips in the tub or shower. Install sturdy grab bars in the tub/shower area to provide support. Have a night light available to use after dark and in the middle of the night.

Bedrooms: Use night lights or bedside, remote-controlled light switches. Place the telephone in an area easy to get to and keep the cord out of walking pathways. Consider a cordless telephone.

Stairs and hallways: Put light switches conveniently at both the top and bottom of stairs. Make sure carpeting is not loose or buckling and use non-skid treads on stairs. Both sides of each stairway should have sturdy handrails running their entire lengths. Avoid waxing hardwood floors that could create a slippery surface.

Living areas: Secure and place electrical/telephone cords out of walk-

ing pathways. Remove throw rugs that might slide or attach non-skid strips to rug backings. Furniture should be arranged to allow for unobstructed walkways. It is important to keep floors clear of clutter.

Other tips to prevent falls:

- You should also be aware of clothing and behavior that can help create a safer environment. You should wear well-fitted, flat, rubber-soled shoes to prevent slipping.
- Do not walk or climb stairs with arms loaded—always leave a hand free for balance.
- Slowly get out of bed and slowly rise from sitting to avoid dizziness.
- Make sure to have your vision tested regularly and keeps your glasses clean.
- Be aware of any medications you are taking that could cause difficulty with balance.
- You should be discussing the falls with your primary care physician to see if there is a medical condition that needs attention.

The dangerous situation created by a fall is frequently compounded by the inability to call for help. Personal emergency response systems should be installed whenever someone appears to be at risk of falling. The systems provide 24-hour access to emergency help, giving both the elder and family members some sense of security.

For more information on services provided by Mystic Valley elder Services, please call (781) 324-7705 or visit www.mves.org.

WELCOME TO HOFSTRA UNIVERSITY!

Hofstra University is excited to welcome the newest members of the Pride. We look forward to seeing how they will make a positive impact in their communities as HU World Changers!

Victoria Chaparro of Everett

Christian Vernet of Everett

Hofstra University is a nationally ranked and recognized private university in Hempstead, N.Y. that is the only school to ever host three consecutive presidential debates (2008, 2012 and 2016). Our campus is a leafy oasis just a quick train ride away from New York City and all its cultural, recreational and professional opportunities. We offer small classes and personal attention, with the resources, technology and facilities of a large university. Students can choose from more than 165 undergraduate program options and 175 graduate program

options in the liberal arts and sciences, education, health professions and human services, the Peter S. Kalikow School of Government, Public Policy and International Affairs, the Fred DeMatteis School of Engineering and Applied Science, the Frank G. Zarb School of Business, the Lawrence Herbert School of Communication, the Maurice A. Deane School of Law, the Hofstra Northwell School of Nursing and Physician Assistant Studies, and the Donald and Barbara Zucker School of Medicine at Hofstra/Northwell. Hofstra University is a dynamic community of 11,000 students from around the world who are dedicated to civic engagement, academic excellence and becoming leaders in their communities and their careers.

EVERETT RESIDENT GRADUATES STONEHILL COLLEGE

Damir Durakovic, of Everett, graduated with the Class of 2020 during a virtual Commencement Ceremony this summer at Stonehill College.

Initially scheduled for Sunday, May 17 with a traditional in-person format but knocked off course by COVID-19, Stonehill’s 69th Commencement finally took place on Saturday, August 8 making history as the College’s first virtual Commencement and the first ever held in August. Another big change this year was the presentation of candidates for master’s degrees.

Live-streamed from Stonehill’s McCarthy Auditorium in the Thomas and Donna May School of Arts & Sciences building the ceremony addressed 630 undergraduates, 13 graduates, their families, and a wider audience of Stonehill faculty, staff, alumni, and friends.

In prerecorded remarks, Commencement speaker New England Patriots star Matthew Slater drew on his career as a three-time Super Bowl Champion to hail the Class of 2020 for their ability to endure, persevere and thrive in the face of adversity.

Stonehill is a Catholic college located near Boston on a beautiful 384-acre campus in Easton, Massachusetts. With a student-faculty ratio of 12:1, the College engages over 2,500 students in 80+ rigorous academic programs in the liberal arts, sciences, and pre-professional fields. The Stonehill community helps students to develop the knowledge, skills, and character to meet their professional goals and to live lives of purpose and integrity.

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BUYER 1	SELLER 1	ADDRESS	PRICE
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Jones, Stephanie M	Sheehan, Daniel M	9 Emery St	\$482,000
Aaap Property LLC	Buccelli, John P	32 Francis St	\$830,000
Desimone, Gino	Desimone FT	21-R Prescott St	\$440,000
Spring Street Group LLC	138 Spring Street LLC	138 Spring St	\$2,000,000
Kalda, Caitlin	Urias Investments LLC	22 Stevenson Ave #1	\$390,000

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Art Walk/ CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

explore Everett’s Parks and green spaces. With Everett so profoundly affected by Covid-19, we couldn’t safely send people to business and indoor locations, but we can still celebrate local art and artists as long as we do so safely.”

Integral Arts asks all Art Walk participants to please wear a mask and stay at

least six feet away from anyone who is not part of your household. Those who would prefer to see the art without venturing out can still explore the artwork

virtually by visiting www.integralartseverett.org/artwalk-2020.html where printable maps of art locations can also be found. See Integral Arts Ev-

erett’s website at www.integralartseverett.org or contact us at integralartseverett@gmail.com for more information.

The Everett Communi-

ty Art Walk is supported in part by a grant from the Everett Cultural Council, a local agency which is supported by the Mass Cultural Council, a state agency.



Karyn Alzayer’s ‘Watchful Eye.’



Stop #12 is simply put – on a telephone pole next to the Northern Strand Bike Path.



Karen McCune Barca with ‘Three Sisters.’



Thank You !

To all of our firefighters and first responders for a job well done.

Sacro Companies

Sacro Plaza

Whitney Lorenti House

Glendale Court



Lou Lim painted ‘Red Crested Cardinal’



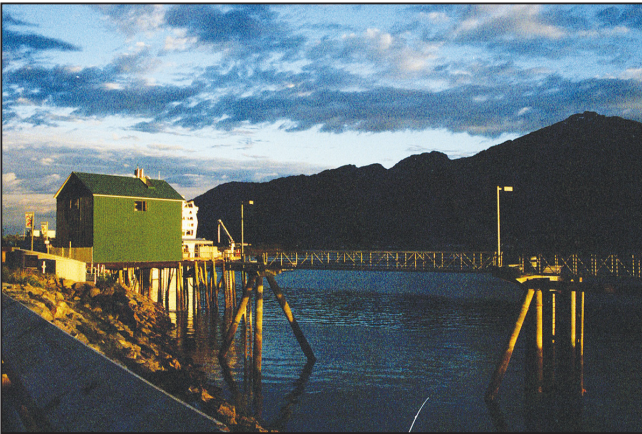
Stop #7 is at the community garden on Tremont Street.



Stop #4 on the tour is near the baseball field.



‘Echo Lake’ by Dani Marie.



Tina Oliveri’s ‘Juneau, Alaska at Sunset.’



‘Covid 19’ by Martha Chason-Sokol.



Carey Glenn Smith’s piece ‘Synthesis1 (puzzle piece).’



Jay Lazo Portillo with ‘Staying Safe.’



At the RiverGreen Street Hockey rink, one will find Stop #8.



‘Roots in the Ether’ by Joanna Garren.

Encore Boston Harbor workers join IBEW Local 103 in 95 percent approval vote

Staff Report

Some 127 technical and maintenance workers at Encore Boston Harbor have voted to become members of one of Boston’s notable labor unions, IBEW Local 103.

Some of the job titles at the casino that participated in the vote include slot machine technicians, A/V technicians, electricians and Fire Control Center dispatchers. The vote was 95 percent in favor of forming the union.

“We have seen the real difference the union makes in the lives of working families,” said John Gentile, an electrician at Encore Boston Harbor, who is among the workers that voted to join IBEW Local 103 through a mail-in ballot process overseen by the National Labor Relations Board. “Local 103 helped ensure that the workers who built this casino had family-sustaining wages and great benefits, and we know that union membership will give us the opportunity to ensure we enjoy the same. I couldn’t be happier to of-

ficially be a union member and to know Local 103 has our backs.”

The votes were cast through the course of August and were made official recently, once the window for any challenges to the outcome closed.

“IBEW Local 103 is thrilled to welcome the employees of Encore Boston Harbor to our union family and to continue improving the lives of workers at Encore Boston Harbor, and across the region,” said Lou Antonellis, Business Manager/Financial Secretary of Dorchester-based IBEW Local 103. “We also commend Encore Boston Harbor for allowing these workers a free and fair election process. Management did not interfere with workers exercising their democratic right to choose a union for a better life, and that sends a great message to the public about the kind of employer that Encore Boston Harbor is and plans to be. We look forward to productive negotiations that will help win key improvements for

the workforce, and that will ensure these workers have all the tools and training they need to provide guests with the best, and safest experience when they frequent the casino.”

The vast majority of the workers participating in the election will be members of IBEW Local 103. A limited number of workers will become members of other specialty Trade Unions. However, all of the workers will negotiate together under one contract, and as part of one bargaining unit within the casino.

Workers will gain access to a range of training opportunities, courses, and professional advancement opportunities available through the unions, and will soon enjoy the benefits of a union contract.

Encore Boston Harbor reopened its doors on June 12 after closing in April due to statewide COVID-19 restrictions. While shuttered, the casino implemented several new policies, including

new social distancing rules and plexiglass dividers, to reduce the ability of the virus to spread indoors. As part of Massachusetts’ Phase 3 reopening plan, casinos such as Encore were permitted to reopen if they adhered to specific guidelines detailed by the Massachusetts Gaming Commission.

IBEW Local 103’s recruitment efforts in recent years have not only expanded to include more full-time workforces like the recently organized group at Encore Boston Harbor, but have also been centered on increasing representation for women, people of color, and veterans within the Local. Under the leadership of Antonellis, the union recruited its most diverse apprenticeship classes ever over the last three consecutive years, and has continued to expand the number of minority-owned contractors that are signatory to the union.



IBEW Local 103 members from left to right: Rob Van Horn, steward; Rich Antonellis, business agent; Chris Sheehan, steward; Renee Dozier, electrician.

DeMaria and Matewsky join forces to support Charter change

Staff Report

Mayor Carlo DeMaria and City Councilor Wayne Matewsky have teamed up to propose a change of the City Charter that would affect which seats Everett residents could vote for.

Presently, for City Council and School Committee elections, the Charter allows residents to vote for both at-large seats as well as all ward seats across the City. The proposed change of the City Charter would have no effect on how at-large seats are voted on, but would alter how ward seats are voted on by limiting each ward seat to be elected by residents living in that specific ward.

If the proposed change were to pass, an Everett resident living in Ward 1 would still be able to vote

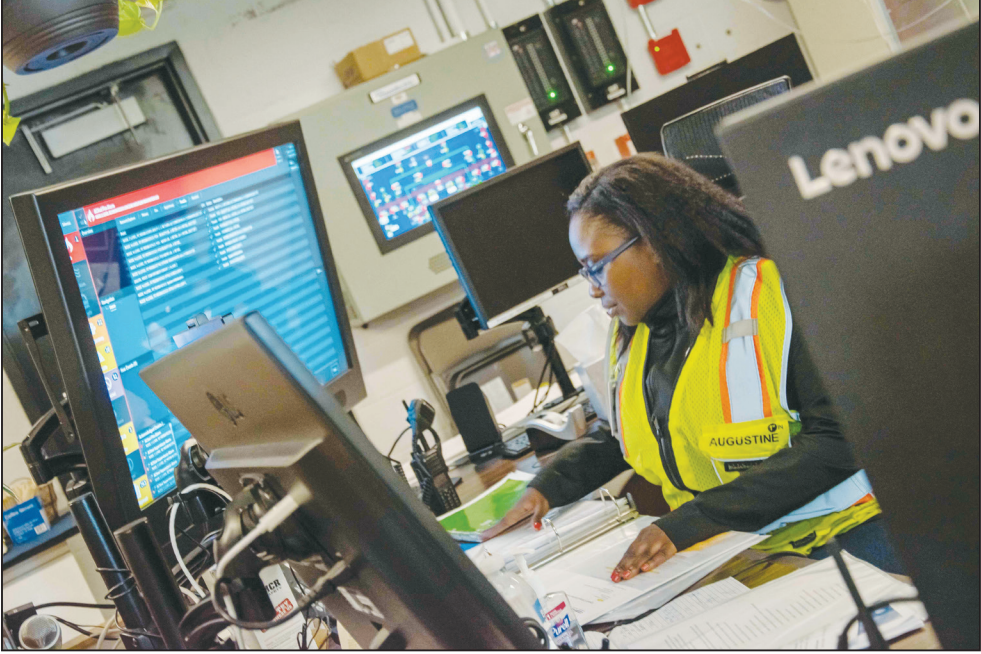
for the 5 at-large members of the City Council and the 3 at-large members of the School Committee; however, this resident would be limited to voting only for the Ward 1 seat for the City Council and the Ward 1 seat for the School Committee.

“This current structure is flawed. Individuals should not have a say in which member of each body represents another ward in the City. By changing this system, it simply promotes equity and fairness throughout the entire City,” said Mayor Carlo DeMaria. “Currently, it is entirely possible that a candidate for a ward seat could receive drastically fewer votes than their opponent in their respective ward, yet still win the election

by doing better elsewhere. That is not equitable nor is it fair. The residents of the ward should have the most powerful voice for who is elected as their ward representative.”

If the City Council passes the proposed Home Rule Petition with a two-thirds supermajority vote, the proposed charter change will then be sent to the State delegation for passage. Once passed by both the House of Representatives and the Senate, the Bill will go to the Governor for his signature for enactment.

“This form of government will allow the fairest representation throughout our community. Allowing those who live in specific wards to select their representative is only just,” said Councilor Matewsky.



Everett’s Augustine Monexant, Fire Control Center command.

COVID-19 has changed everything.

Connect with our readers of *The Revere Journal*,
The Winthrop Sun Transcript, *The East Boston Times Free Press*,
Chelsea Record, *Everett Independent*, and *Lynn Journal* who are looking
for options in light of the current crisis in our Septemer editions:

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NEWS FROM AROUND THE REGION

CHELSEA STILL IN RED ZONE

CHELSEA - When much of the rest of the state moved on to the next phase of Gov. Charlie Baker’s re-opening plan on Oct. 5, Chelsea and other ‘red’ or ‘high-risk’ communities were left behind – and as City Manager Tom Ambrosino has said concerns him, perhaps unfairly.

Want to try on a pair of pants at the boutique?

One will be able to sa-shay into some tight-fittin’ jeans at a store in Malden, but not Chelsea.

Looking to have a big indoor or outdoor concert?

Go to Melrose and one can hear the music, but not in Chelsea.

Those and many other things would still not be allowed in the City on Oct. 5 despite having case numbers relatively under control, averaging about six new cases a day recently and even registering zero cases this Monday. Add that the Census numbers being used to calculate the rates are likely far too low and it makes for what seems to be an unfair situation for undercounted, dense urban areas in a system that seems to favor the wealthier suburbs.

Last week, Gov. Baker announced that effective Monday, October 5, lower risk communities will be permitted to move into Step II of Phase III of the Commonwealth’s reopening plan. All other communities will remain in Phase III, Step I. Gov. Baker also issued a revised gatherings order on Tuesday, and will issue industry-specific guidance and protocols for a range of Phase I, II, and III businesses will also be updated.

On May 18, the Baker-Polito Administration released a four-phased plan to reopen the economy based on sustained improvements in public health data.

Last month, the Administration began releasing data on the average daily COVID cases per 100,000 residents, average percent positivity, and total case counts, for all 351 Massachusetts

cities and towns.

Lower risk communities are defined as cities and towns that have not been a “red” community in any of the last three weekly Department of Public Health (DPH) weekly reports.

Effective October 5, a limited number of sectors will be eligible to reopen, with restrictions, in Step II of Phase III for lower risk communities only:

- Indoor performance venues will be permitted to open with 50% capacity with a maximum of 250 people.
- Outdoor performance venue capacity will increase to 50% with a max of 250 people.
- For arcades and indoor and outdoor recreation businesses, additional Step II activities like trampolines, obstacle courses, roller rinks and laser tag will also be permitted to open and capacity will increase to 50%.
- Fitting rooms will be permitted to open in all types of retail stores.
- Gyms, museums, libraries and driving and flight schools will also be permitted to increase their capacity to 50%.

Revised Gatherings Order:

- The limit for indoor gatherings remains at a maximum of 25 people for all communities.
- Outdoor gatherings at private residences and in private backyards will remain at a maximum of 50 people for all communities.
- Outdoor gatherings at event venues and in public settings will have a limit of 50 people in Step I communities, and a limit of 100 people in lower risk, Step II communities.

CHELSEA ROTARY HELPS OBTAIN SERVICE DOG

CHELSEA - When Angelica Bachour looked for a solution to help her son, Gabriel, to learn socializing skills and other coping mechanisms, she was often brought to tears when running into so many roadblocks.

In a recent online Rotary Club meeting, Bachour

was brought to tears once again – but this time tears of joy as Gabriel, 9, was all smiles in announcing that through the efforts of Chelsea Rotary, he had been matched with a service dog specially trained to help kids with Autism.

“I have good news,” said Gabriel to the Zoom audience of Chelsea and Marblehead Rotarians. “I got matched and the dog’s name is Casey. She’s a black Lab and was born in January 2019.”

Gabriel is a Chelsea Public School fourth grader and his mother said she began to feel that he was delayed in his early years. However, that wasn’t confirmed until he attended the Early Learning Center (ELC) and a very astute teacher agreed. Gabriel was able to get services for Autism very early and it has helped him tremendously in being able to go to school and excel.

However, Angelica said he has always struggled with making friends, anxiety and disagreeing peacefully with others.

“He had a lot of anxiety and couldn’t deal with people when they disagreed with him; he was so frustrated,” she said. “That’s when I said I needed to look into getting a dog to help Gabriel. I was so heartbroken because I realized anything I do is just not enough. That’s when we started looking for options to support him. We didn’t want just any dog because I was afraid of a dog attacking him. I was able to get him on a list and they agreed a service dog could help support him in all the areas he needed strength in and the areas a therapist couldn’t help him with. The beginning of relationships are so hard for him.”

That’s where the Chelsea Rotary stepped in and was able to help raise money and do advocacy to get Gabriel his service dog. Working with the NEADS Social Dog Program, they were able to raise the money to help pay for the service dog once he was approved by NEAD.

MURALISTS EXCITED TO BRIGHTEN UP THE FALL SEASON IN CHELSEA



HOLA TO YOU TOO! Muralist Yenny Hernandez puts the finishing touches on her mural 'Hola Mi Gente' on Second Street last Friday afternoon, Sept. 25. It is just one of many painted murals and wheat paste murals going up all over the downtown area this month.

Artist coordinators Carolyn Lewenberg and Amanda Hill putting up the bird-themed wheat paste mural on Fifth Street in Bellingham Square.



NEAD is one of the oldest service dog organizations in the country and provide specially trained dogs for a variety of tasks – helping those that are disabled, have hearing loss, veterans, and for those with Autism. They match about 50 people per year with service dogs, said Katy Ostroff. The dogs are trained over about 18 months for their tasks, with a lot of that training being done by prisoners in a jail setting – which is a win-win for the organization and the incarcerated, she said. She said they have been trained in all kinds of environments as well by other trainers, including stressful places like subways and City streets.

In Gabriel’s case, Casey will be able to help him with confidence, understanding body language and social queues and keeping calm – among other things.

She said after an interview in February, they

felt Gabriel would benefit greatly from a dog, and they were able to find a match. Next up is a 10-day training on the campus of NEAD to get both accustomed to one another.

Chelsea Rotary President Todd Taylor said it was a great way to help locally in a time when many feel like they are helpless.

“It’s great to be able to help someone locally who needs it and so something meaningful in this age of COVID-19 when so many of us feel helpless and challenged to get out and fulfill our Rotary mission,” he said.

ARTIST TAKES PART IN PAINTING UTILITY BOXES

EAST BOSTON - On October 2, the Downtown Boston Business Improvement District (BID) unveiled “Tasteful Boston,” an outdoor public art installation in which a dozen region-

al artists transform 12 BID-area utility boxes into striking works of art that celebrate iconic elements of the city’s storied culinary history.

One of those artists is East Boston’s Stephanie Martinez whose proposal was chosen by a panel of judges from nearly 50 applicants.

Martinez will paint the utility boxes over the next few weeks, serving up slices of Boston food history.

Martinez’s vividly colored rendering of Boston’s Chinatown Gate depicts a diverse group of residents enjoying an equally diverse array of iconic Boston dishes.

The entire outdoor art project will focus on famous coffee and candy companies, the foods of diverse cultures, indelible food locations across the city, and some of Boston’s best-known dishes. “Tasteful Boston”

See REGION Page 9

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Region // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8

locations are centered in and around Downtown Crossing, spanning from Chinatown to Government Center to the heart of the Financial District.

Artists participating in “Tasteful Boston” are diverse in discipline and background, drawing on personal and family food memories as well as historical subjects.

Other artists featured in “Tasteful Boston” include the South End’s Carolyn Depot, Medford’s Rebecca Rose Greene, Charlestown-based Jasmine Lee, Hyde Park-based Khyle Parke, Elliot Portman of Brighton, Ellie MacQueen of Quincy, and Allston-based Aisling Wilson.

“These beautiful, whimsical and surprising ‘Tasteful Boston’ installations remind us that our art, our neighborhood, and our city’s rich culinary traditions are alive and ready to bounce back,” says Downtown Boston BID President and CEO Rosemarie Sansone. “Public art is one of the many ways the BID activates Boston’s resilient business district. As shoppers, diners, workers, and art lovers are ready to come back, we’ll be ready to welcome them.”

The Downtown Boston Business Improvement District (BID) was created by property owners committed to achieving the district’s full potential as a premier and vibrant destination. Its mission is to significantly improve the experience of all who live, work, visit, go to school or shop in the Downtown Boston BID by: providing supplemental services to keep the streets and sidewalks clean, upgrade the aesthetic appearance of the district, and make people feel welcomed and safe; promoting and fostering an energetic and thriving business climate in the area; and serving as the voice and advocate for the district.

COVID RATE STILL CONTINUES TO CLIMB

EAST BOSTON - After recently seeing a week over week decline in East Boston’s COVID-19 positive test rates, the number now seems to be climbing once again in the neighborhood. Eastie experienced an all time high with an 11.8 percent positive test rate back in August, but efforts by

the city and health officials brought that number down to 5.1 percent last month. However, two weeks ago the positive test rate number climbed to 6.1 percent and last Friday jumped to 8.8 percent. Last Friday, the Boston Public Health Commission (BPHC) released the latest COVID-19 data and Mayor Martin Walsh addressed the trend here and across Boston. “The City is continuing its outreach in East Boston where the positive rates are the highest,” said Mayor Walsh. “We are working on expanding testing access in East Boston, and we continue to do bilingual outreach in all of our Latino communities.” The Mayor said that most of Boston’s neighborhoods saw increases last week, so this uptick in activity is something that impacts everyone. “While the City is bringing resources and information to where it’s needed, we also need everyone’s help,” said Walsh. “That especially includes our young adults, among whom we continue to see the most cases. If you have to go to work, if you live in a large household, or if you’re running a business, the City has resources and information that can help you stay safe.” He said that every single person, in every neighborhood, must continue to follow the guidelines the City has laid out, because they’ve been proven to work.” Those include wearing a mask; washing your hands; keeping six feet of distance as much as possible, and having your mask on if you’re unsure if you’re keeping that distance; and following all the guidelines for your industry, or your college or workplace. The Mayor also urged people in Eastie to not go to gatherings, especially not to house parties or cookouts where people are mingling. “This is where we are seeing most of the transmission right now,” said Walsh. “We must all make smart choices to protect our health, our family’s health, and the health of our community.” For over a month the city has been working with healthcare professionals and agencies like the East Boston Neighborhood Health Center to curb the COVID spike in the neighborhood. The City launched an elevated outreach plan for Eastie to address the

increase in case data. According to the data released by the BPHC on Friday, Eastie’s COVID infection rate rose three percent and went from 500.8 cases per 10,000 residents to 515.6 cases per 10,000 residents. The last increase two weeks ago was 2.6 percent. The citywide average is 255 cases per 10,000 residents and Eastie still has the highest infection rate in all of Boston. As of Friday, 72 more residents became infected with the virus in Eastie and there were 2,420 confirmed COVID-19 cases, up from the 2,348 reported by the BPHC two weeks ago. Of the 17,450 Eastie residents tested for COVID last week and 8.8 percent were found to be positive for the virus, an increase of 44 percent. The citywide positive test rate is 3.9 percent. Overall since the pandemic began 14.3 percent of residents here have been found to be positive. The statistics released by the BPHC as part of its weekly COVID19 report breaks down the number of cases and infection rates in each neighborhood. It also breaks down the number of cases by age, gender and race. Citywide positive cases of coronavirus rose by three percent last week from 17,140 cases to 17,649 confirmed cases. So far 14,723 Boston residents have fully recovered from the virus and one additional resident died last week bringing the total of fatalities in the city to 764. During his daily press briefing on the virus Friday, Walsh said Boston had entered the “red” category on the state map on Wednesday, September 30. “That means Boston is seeing eight or more daily cases per 100,000 population,” said Walsh. He said this move was expected, but to note that this map is based on one metric—raw number of cases per day. “We’re also looking at the positive test rate and the hospital data and trends over time,” he said. “Everyone must focus on what we can do to keep the activity down, and that is part of living with the virus.”

FIELD SUFFERS HEART ATTACK

LYNN - Lynn City Councillor-at-Large Brian Field was expecting to be back at work last week after suffering a near-fatal heart attack the week before at home. Field is

a funeral director at Solimine Funeral Homes in Lynn.

Field, 44, underwent surgery Friday at Salem Hospital after being rushed to the hospital earlier in the day. He had been experiencing chest pains Thursday night but he thought it was indigestion.

“I thought it was a case of indigestion but the pains started again at 6 a.m. [Friday],” reported Field. “I texted my wife [Stefani] to come upstairs and she and her father, who is a retired firefighter, called 911. Lynn Fire and Atlantic Ambulance came and transported me to Salem Hospital. The Emergency Department was great.”

Field said he was very grateful to those who responded so quickly in a serious, medical situation.

“My family, the Lynn Fire Department, Atlantic Ambulance, the paramedics on the ambulance, the Salem Hospital Emergency Department, and Dr. Sunu Thomas, “who did the stent procedure.”

Field was released from the hospital Monday afternoon. “I’m on medication, resting at home – the doctors told me do some walking. I’ve made a couple of lifestyle changes on diet, medication, and exercise and I should be okay. I’ve been cleared to go back to work.”

Field said he had no previous heart-related incidents prior to the heart attack. He had undergone lower base skull surgery in July and that affected his exercise regimen. He does not believe the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic had a negative impact on his circulatory system and overall health.

“I don’t think it had anything to do with my health situation,” said Field. “I think everybody is stressed by the pandemic.”

Field and his wife, Stefani, will celebrate their 20th anniversary on Oct. 7. The couple has three children all of whom visited him in the hospital.

“Stefani’s been the best, I can’t ask for a bet-

ter woman,” said Field. “She’s been by my side all summer. I hope to have an anniversary dinner with her. I don’t think I can eat a steak, but we’ll do something. I’ll take her somewhere nice. I owe her.”

Field said Mayor Thomas McGee and all of his colleagues on the City Council have reached out to him offering their best wishes in his recovery process.

POSSIBLE CHANGE IN OVERNIGHT PARKING RULES

REVERE - Ward 1 Councillor Joanne McKenna is seeking to amend some of the regulations in the new City-Wide Overnight Parking Program that begins on Oct. 15.

Specifically, McKenna wants “to allow residents whose vehicles are registered in the City of Revere and who pay motor vehicle excise taxes to the City of Revere be eligible to receive an overnight or permanent parking sticker provided the resident does not live in a residential building in which parking variances have been previously granted by the City.”

“I’m finding that people that are living on state roads – that are taken care of by DCR and MassDOT – they can’t get parking stickers and they’re paying excise taxes in Revere and they’re registered in Revere. A great example is Revere Beach Parkway. We have single-family houses there and they can’t get overnight stickers because it’s run by MassDOT or DCR. I just don’t think that’s fair.”

Councillor-at-Large Jessica Giannino and Ward 6 Councillor Richard Serino thanked McKenna for bringing the issue into the public forum.

“I obviously wasn’t on the City Council last year when the Council enacted the resident parking ordinance but I, too, have received calls, not so much for Ward 6 for its impact, but for Revere Beach Boulevard and the Lynnway where friends have expressed concerns.”

Ward 3 Councillor

Arthur Guinasso said he called [Parking Director] Jim Rose in reference to Revere Beach “and Revere Beach is exempt so anyone can park on Revere Beach – you don’t even need a sticker.”

Ward 5 Councillor John Powers said he explained to a constituent that, “We don’t control state highways. We can advise. We can request. But we don’t have any direct control over them. I think this is a matter that certainly would fall upon the Legislature and the Governor. I agree with Councillor McKenna 100 percent. There are state roads.”

Citing the lack of sufficient parking spaces for residents at the Jack Satter House and the lack of parking spaces nearby on Oak Island Street, Powers said “this whole project has to be revisited.”

Guinasso said the City Council and Traffic Commission worked on the Overnight Parking Program for more than five years. “If we start attacking the program by watering it down, we really have to draw back. Let the program take its place. And then we have a little meeting with people and organize. But to keep watering it down and sending it to a point where – we’re defeating the whole purpose that we intended.”

Council President Patrick Keefe agreed with Guinasso stating, “We had the debate [on resident parking]. Now we’re in the middle of implementing. Before we make adjustments, we need to really let the dust settle. We have to be smart enough to let this happen and let it play out and then make the adjustments down the road.”

In a matter related to resident parking, Councillor-at-Large Steven Morabito noted that there is “caretaker permit” that a resident (vehicle owner) can apply for when providing health care to residents in emergency situations. Morabito commended Director Jim Rose for his assistance in a recent situation involving an emergency care provider assisting a senior resident.

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First Come - First Served

Contentious Licensing meeting focuses entirely on COVID-19 violations

By Seth Daniel

Three establishments that violated state COVID-19 protocols over the last few weeks – all after being warned two weeks ago – got one-week suspensions of their licenses and another establishment got a three-day suspension.

All will have to provide a COVID-19 operational plan within 10 days to the City in conjunction with the Department of Labor Standards, and their suspensions are to begin this Friday, Oct. 9.

The reports of violations came from members of the License Commission on one occasion and from state investigators from the Alcoholic Beverages Control Commission (ABCC) on several other occasions. ABCC investigators and Everett Police have been vigilant over the last few weeks in sniffing out violations at all of the City’s establishments due to Everett being a ‘red’ high-risk community, and the Board put in place an 11 p.m. closing time at a meeting on Sept. 21. At that meeting, establishments Braza Grille, 158 School St.; La Fania, 18 Beacham St.; and La Finca, 37 Norwood St.; were all warned that complaints had been lodged against them, and they were given a chance to “tighten things up.”

It seems, however, those warnings were ignored, as investigators and License Commissioners only days later found further, more

egregious violations.

At the Oct. 1 Emergency Meeting, the Board was prepared to give out three-day suspensions with a requirement to submit a COVID-19 plan, but that all changed after a heated exchange with Braza Grille representative Paul – who accused the Board of discrimination.

That upped the ante on the penalty, which soon increased for everyone to one week.

“I don’t think any of that matters,” said Member Phil Aloro. “If we’re notified of a violation, we’re supposed to react to it...In my opinion, I think that the (three-day) penalty is not enough. We had this business up a week ago and he heard what we said and he ignored it. There was supposed to be no live entertainment and there was live entertainment...It’s up to this business to be able to follow all the rules and regulations. He’s not following them. The penalty should be more than three days...I don’t think they’re taking their business seriously. We’re pro-business and we don’t want to shut anyone down, but from what I’ve seen and heard I don’t think this business is running properly.”

Braza seemed to be the test case for the night, and it had started when Chair Phil Antonelli was called late on Thursday night by the Everett Police saying there were complaints and observations of activity that didn’t follow COVID-19 guidelines. Antonelli said

with so many complaints, he decided to see for himself if it was true. What he found was a complete disregard of all the rules that were explained just a few days before, he said, such as people at the bar, too many people at a table, Karaoke singers, overcrowding and no one wearing masks.

“This is serious,” said Antonelli. “I understand everyone was closed four months and no one made much money and bills are due. I’m aware of that, but we can’t operate as we did last year. It’s an unfortunate reality of life. Everett’s numbers are up and it should be a concern to you and your patrons.”

Paul told the Commission he has the largest establishment in the City – aside from the casino – and he’s had no problems in 10 years.

“Are you kidding me Paul?” asked Antonelli. “We’ve had someone who got killed outside of your establishment.”

Then Paul said the Board frequently enforces things against his restaurant that they don’t for others – and said he believes he is being discriminated against.

“What I find is you people use my establishment as an example for the city,” he said. “I see a video of different establishments and they do the same thing I do. It’s not fair...It’s not just this time. I want to see who sent a video.”

At that, the ante was upped and what was three days for everyone turned

into a week’s suspension beginning on Oct. 9.

“I’m trying to be fair, but you’re wanting to push the envelope and accuse the Board of discrimination,” said Antonelli.

“I’m desperate; I’m trying to survive,” said Paul.

It was too late, and the Board voted 2-0 to suspend. Paul indicated he would appeal to the ABCC, but ABCC Attorney Kyle Gill indicated they are taking the violations seriously. “These guidelines the state put out for restaurants are intended to keep us safe and at the ABCC so far violations have resulted in indefinite suspensions,” he said.

The other two major violations came at La Fania and La Finca, both who had also been called up to the Board on Sept. 21, and then had violations on Sept. 25 by ABCC investigators.

Owner Kilder Cardova indicated he was very serious about the virus and had it for six weeks earlier this year. However, he said the violations detailed in the report weren’t accurate, and that there was no Karaoke going on. Rather, the man with the mic was telling people to sit down and follow the rules.

ABCC Investigators told the Board they believed it was traditional Karaoke with people singing and words on a screen behind them, as well as too many people without masks and such.

“These establishments need to be dealt with now,” said Councilor Michael

McLaughlin, who represents that area. “We can’t have COVID-19 spreading. They just told you they didn’t have Karaoke and the investigators confirmed they did. If these businesses are going to come up here and not tell the truth, why are we here? La Fania, La Finca and Braza have had multiple opportunities. We shouldn’t tolerate this. We should set a precedent. Every business is watching what we do here.”

Cardova agreed to the suspension, noting he wasn’t there at the time, and likely something he didn’t know was going on. He said he wouldn’t appeal.

La Finca owner Manuel De Vasquez also had violations from an ABCC investigation where they found many violations, including DJ music and dancing inside.

“Did I have a PC playing with music? Yes,” he said. “I’m not going to say the report is false. You know me. I’m not going to hide or go anywhere. I’ll take full responsibility and I’ll take the punishment as it comes.”

Both restaurants also got a one-week suspension that starts Oct. 9, and are subject to submitting the COVID-19 plan.

Councilor Stephanie Martins argued for a lifting of the 11 p.m. closing, saying businesses needed help now to survive, but she also asked patrons and owners to be more responsible.

“I ask the community

to help us to keep these businesses open,” she said. “Many of them are being temporarily closed and placed on probation because their patrons are violating COVID-19 guidelines inside those establishments.

Please follow the mask rules. This is not the time for dancing, for karaoke, and for 20 people sitting together. The State and the City are serious about these guidelines for your own safety - and the businesses are the ones that are footing the bill and taking the loss. Let’s all work together to safely reopen the city while protecting each other.”

One other restaurant, Tres Gatos on Chelsea Street, was levied a three-day suspension as the establishment had no complaints about COVID-19 at the Sept. 21 meeting, though the establishment has a long history of discipline with the Board. ABCC investigators found several violations occurring inside in an inspection, but the Board decided on a three-day suspension and presentation of a COVID-19 plan.

Finally, Rob Jack’s on Main Street also was found to have a minor violation in an inspection by the ABCC, but the establishment had never had a complaint logged before or any negative history with the Board. Owner Luis Flores said he has corrected the problems and the ABCC concurred with that.

He was given probation only.

Cases continue to go upwards, but still far from surge levels

By Seth Daniel

The increase in confirmed COVID-19 cases in Everett continues to increase week over week with the City averaging around 12 or so cases per day over the last two weeks, and Public Health Nurse Sabrina Firicano said the message is the same – avoid large gatherings, wear a mask and wash hands frequently.

Over the last seven days (ending Tuesday), the City has seen 82 new cases, with numbers in the teens most days. However, only six cases were reported on Tuesday, a marked decrease from prior days.

Still, the time now is to be vigilant.

“We have been seeing an increase in cases in the last week or so – like 12, 14 and 15 a day,” she said. “We were seeing last month seven or eight or less a day. We have seen a little bit of an uptick in cases.”

Putting that in context though, it is far from the daily rate under the surge of cases in April when Everett logged 50 or 60 a day. At that time, the cases were running through the community without any rhyme or reason to how it was contracted, but now the recent uptick in numbers appears to be tied to personal responsibility and

attending large gatherings for the most part.

“We’re really trying to identify any public areas or events people attended and came back and potentially infected other members of the household because we are seeing multiple people in one household test positive,” she added.

She said such things have kept Everett in the ‘red,’ or high-risk zone as defined by the state and Gov. Charlie Baker’s re-opening plan. Being vigilant, she said, is going to be the only way to be able to continue to the next phases of opening and get things back like high school sports, indoor concerts and other ameni-

ties enjoyed by communities that have stopped the spread successfully.

“It is something to continue to monitor because it is an uptick of what we were used to,” she said. “Obviously, we’re still in the red by the state standards because we have more than eight cases a day.”

Though it has been said over and over again, Firicano said the best thing to do is to wear a mask, social distance and stay away from large gatherings.

“It gets repetitive to hear it and many are just over it, but it really is important, especially if you go to a gathering of some type,”

she said. “Even if it’s in the state guidelines for inside or out, it’s still important to follow these suggestions. We still need to get back to the basic fundamentals. It’s been a long time and I understand everyone can get frustrated and it can get exhausting, but the virus is still out there.”

Everett is still a beneficiary of the state Stop the Spread testing program and there is ample free testing all over the city right now through Oct. 31. There is no appointment necessary, and test results are usually available within 24 to 48 hours. The sites and times are as follows:

•Mondays – Big Flo

Park, Chelsea Street, 7 a.m. to noon.

Glendale Park, noon to 6 p.m.

•Tuesdays – Sacramone Park, noon to 6 p.m.

•Wednesdays – Little Flo Park, Nichols Street, 7 a.m. to noon.

Edith Street Park, noon to 6 p.m.

•Thursdays, RiverGreen Parking Lot Drive Thru Testing, noon to 6 p.m.

•Fridays, Swan Street Park, 7 a.m. to noon.

Everett City Hall, noon to 6 p.m.

•Saturdays, RiverGreen Parking Lot Drive Thru Testing, noon to 6 p.m.

School Committee votes to move to in-person meetings with continued Zoom available

By Seth Daniel

The School Committee voted 8-0 on Monday night to go back to in-person meetings as soon as possible at Everett High, but not without some worry as to losing the large numbers of parents and community members that have been attracted to the Zoom meetings.

On Monday night, Chair Tom Abruzzese began the discussion about moving back to in-person meetings at the high school for the members and guests, though the general public

likely wouldn’t be allowed to attend under such a format. That, of course, would make the Zoom option a necessity going forward in order to function as an open meeting.

“It’s not just because I’m tired of Zoom meetings,” said Abruzzese. “I personally think it’s time. We had meetings in the administration building and I personally think we should go back to in-person School Committee meetings.”

Any such plan would include socially distancing the members, and masks would be required for

those attending. A cleaning protocol in the library would be established in addition to what is already being performed, and Josh DelGaizo of Everett Public Schools Channel 15 said he believed they could broadcast on television and also have a Zoom meeting setup as well for the public to watch.

Most of the members were in agreement.

Member Alan Panarese said he is willing to come back, but would appreciate an option for those that do not want to.

“I am willing to come back as long as we’re socially distanced and there are masks worn,” he said. “I don’t have a problem either if anyone has a problem doing this. I have no objection to anyone that is nervy with their health and doesn’t want to come back.”

Said Member Marcony Almeida Barros, “I believe this is totally possible to do, and totally safe to do. The Council has been doing it...I’d rather go there. If someone doesn’t want to go, then Zoom is an option.”

Member Millie Cardillo agreed, saying that students are in the schools and administrators too.

“We have staff in our schools and now we have students in our schools and administrators in our schools,” she said. “We should also feel safe in our schools. I don’t want to hold it against anyone that doesn’t want to come in because of their health, though. My personal opinion is I’m ready.”

The one concern, however, is losing the huge audience that has migrated to watching School Committee meetings for critical information. The Committee was one of the first to hold a successful online meeting in Everett, and their online meetings have been the most successful of the COVID era in Everett – along with the Zoning Board and Planning Board. At one point last spring, a School Committee meeting had more than 2,000 viewers watching live. In a world prior where meetings featured empty audiences and big decisions being made, one highlight of the era in Everett has been

just how many parents have migrated to watch the School Committee and become informed on school re-opening issues in a way they didn’t before.

“Zoom and Facebook for our viewership is skyrocketing,” said Member Frank Parker. “We regularly have 1,200 to 10,000 views of these videos. Messaging coming out of these meetings is critically important on the topic of where we are and where we’re going. I don’t want to lose that.”

Many on the Committee, including Supt. Priya Tahiliani, said they were worried about the product that would be put out with an in-person meeting that has an online component attached to it.

Many have pointed out that City Council meetings in person have not been as successful for the public, as the sound is bad and makes it difficult to hear what’s going on. Meanwhile, there are issues there also about conduct and mask wearing and divulging symptoms. Few on the Committee wanted to stage such meetings, but

also wanted to meet in person at some point soon.

“I think it’s not the health issue here but the technical issue and the public access,” said Member Stephanie Lambert. “If it’s an open meeting and there’s a hot item, we can’t have 50 people in the Library with us. There is so much information families want and they do go back to these videos. There are issues with the City Council and there are times I have no idea what happened...Maybe our meeting can be of a better quality...It’s really the access piece.”

A motion was made by Barros to have the next meeting in two weeks in person, but that was amended to say the next possible meeting would be in person – maybe in two weeks or maybe longer.

DelGaizo said he believed they could stage in-person meetings with a Zoom component that would translate just as well as the Zoom meetings do now, except with all the members present together.

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Annual 5K Walk for Ersilia event

On Saturday, Oct. 3, the family of Ersilia Cataldo-Matarazzo joined together to remember the beautiful life of a mother, sister, daughter, cousin, and friend. Although this year was different and folks were unable to join together physically to remember her throughout the year.

The Ersilia Catal-

do-Matarazzo fund is an initiative of her family and friends to continue her mission to help those most in need within our community. It's primary focus is to raise awareness of Domestic Violence. Even though this year's walk was virtual, they were still able to raise thousands of dollars to further their cause and will endlessly continue their mission.



Family and friends of Ersilia Cataldo-Matarazzo gathered at Glendale Park on Saturday for the virtual presentation and raffle drawings in commemoration of the annual 5K walk and fundraiser. This year it was a virtual event, but still the foundation and the Kiwanis were able to raise a good deal of money for the cause.



Mayor Carlo DeMaria speaks about his remembrances of Ersilia, and her unending desire to serve others. Going forward, he said he hopes the community can remember her by helping others in need, particularly for domestic violence awareness.



COURTESY PHOTOS

Everett Kiwanian Jim Mitchell presents a check from the fundraising effort to family members.

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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

Grace Anglican Episcopal Church

News and Notes

Grace Anglican Episcopal Church is open and welcoming to all.

There are 3 services on Sundays: 10am English, 1pm South Sudanese (Dinka) and 3pm Haitian Creole.

Come all and let us walk together in this season of

hope, renewal and new beginnings.

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

Church at the Well Everett

News and Notes

Church at the Well Everett is a new church for Everett that will begin meeting in 2021. Check us out on Facebook at www.facebook.com/churchforeverett to view weekly devotions and updates, visit us at [\[everett.church\]\(http://www.everett.church\) 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.](http://www.for-</p></div><div data-bbox=)

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 Tuesday 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 AM to 2 PM. Other times by appointment.

Glendale Christian Lighthouse Church

News and Notes

Adult Sunday School at 9:30 AM. Teaching about Holiness .

Sunday 10:30 AM Worship service.

Wednesday hour of Power, worship, prayer and Bible Study. We are studying about God, come join us.

Come join us in prayer every Friday at 6 am.

Saturday, 12-3, Women's Fellowship. Join our sisters in worship, fellowship and prayer.

“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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Servicio de Alabanza y Adoracion a las 10 am (en inglés)

• Miercoles Hora de Poder, Oración, alabanza y Estudio de la Palabra de Dios a las 7 pm (en

inglés)

• Ven unete a nosotros para orar todos los viernes a las 6 am

• Domingo Servicio de alabanza y adoracion a las 4pm (Servicio en español)

Mayores informes de los servicios en español (617) 306-3518

“No temas, porque yo estoy contigo; no desmayes, porque yo soy tu Dios que te esfuerzo; siempre te ayudaré, siempre te sustentaré con la diestra de mi justicia.”

Isaías 41:10

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617-387-7458

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

Zion Church - Everett

News and Notes

Senior Pastor Bishop Robert G. Brown will be hosting Virtual Masses to bring the people together, spiritually while they can't physically. Their virtual sanctuaries can be accessed via their face-

book page, “Zion Church Ministries.”

For more information, they can be reached online at zionchurchministries.com or via email at office@zionchurchministries.com

Immaculate Conception Parish

News and Notes

Our Parish Staff: Father Joseph Chacha Marwa, S.M.A. Administrator;

Father Ernest Egbedike, S.M.A. Parochial Vicar; Secretary Barbara Cannon

Weekly Mass Schedule at Immaculate Conception is as follows:

Saturday (Sunday Vigil) 4:00 p.m., Sunday 7:00 a.m., 9:00 a.m. (Family Mass), 11:00 a.m., and 5:30 p.m.

12:15 p.m. Spanish Community

4:00 p.m. Haitian Community

Masses are being held in the Chapel.

Eucharistic Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament: Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament is held every Thursday from 7:45 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. in the Chapel.

Each Thursdays' adoration will conclude the Benediction of the Most Blessed Sacrament at 6:30 p.m. All are invited to spend a few moments with Our Blessed Lord

Bring a Book-Buy a Book - We have a new Fundraiser Program in the back of the Church. It's called Bring a Book-Buy a Book. All books are a dollar and any money collected will go towards our Stain Glass Fund. Bring a Book and Buy a Book and make a donation. Our selections are great and varied. Please stop by the table and see what we have. Thank you

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489 Broadway
Everett, Mass 02149
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School // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

school online – whether at home or in the e-Learning Centers.

“That means right now we have no attendance issues for 72 percent of our population, which is a good start,” she said. “Another encouraging sign is attendance percentages increased from Day 2 to Day 7 and then again on Day 12. That does not mean we aren’t concerned about the other 11 percent of students that have attended school 59 percent of the time or less. Absolutely not. In fact, the 11 percent is what is driving our attendance outreach efforts across the district.”

Some of the best attendance has been at the elementary and middle school levels, but challenges exist within Everett High School and within vulnerable student populations – particularly English Language Learners (ELL) and low-income students.

While elementary and middle school attendance was above the district average, the high school began the school year below the district average.

However, she said over the last two weeks the attendance at Everett High has been on the upswing – perhaps because some technology problems have been resolved and that outreach specialists have been hitting hard with communications to families with student that aren’t regularly attending.

“One guidance counselor at one school...tried to contact a family five times by phone, 18 times

by the classroom Dojo and 12 times by class e-mail,” Tahiliani said. “That is not an isolated example. It’s indicative of what people throughout the district are doing.”

Another adjustment at the high school was adjusting how attendance was taken. While it was only at first period, the district is now looking at first period and then again at 1:30 p.m. Some students were missing the morning, but logging in for all of the remaining day. Tahiliani said if a student attends 50 percent or more of a day’s classes at EHS, they will now be counted present for the daily attendance figures – though they would still be marked absent for individual classroom attendances they missed.

Finally, she said she knows many students are a little down at EHS because they are missing sports, clubs, and social interactions that in-person school brings and which is so important at the high school age.

“Not playing your favorite sport or not being part of a cherished club or organization is no small consideration,” she said. “Nor is missing the daily abundant social interactions that a school environment provides. We do understand teen-agers are adjusting to this too and want them to know we are here to help them.”

One of the worst attendance groups were the ELL students, where only about 40 percent had 100 percent attendance and

60 percent didn’t have attendance issues in total. That left a large portion of about 40 percent that were having trouble and also the only portion of students that logged having no contact at all with the schools since the term began. Low-income students also showed a challenge as well, but not as significantly as ELL students.

•E-LEARNING CENTERS

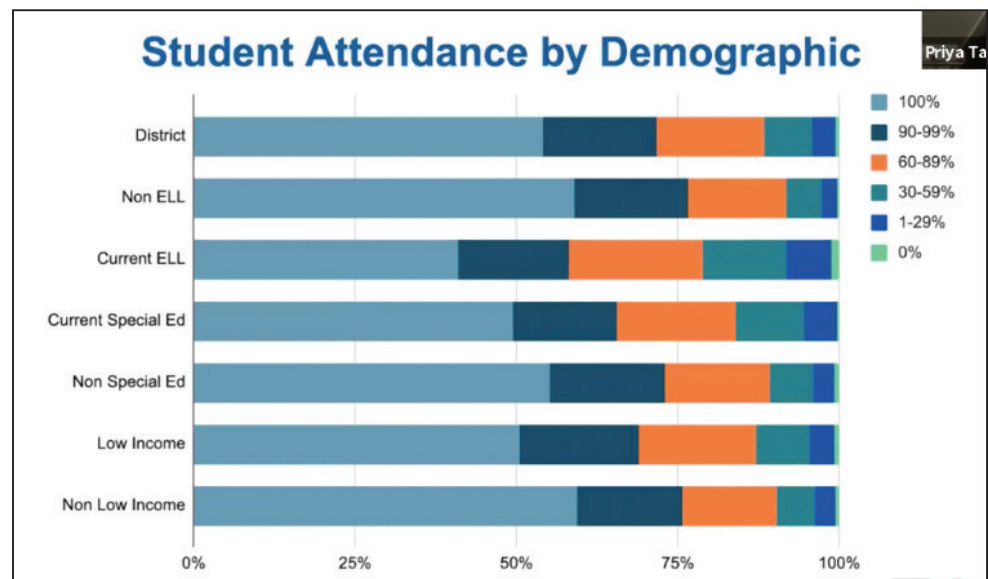
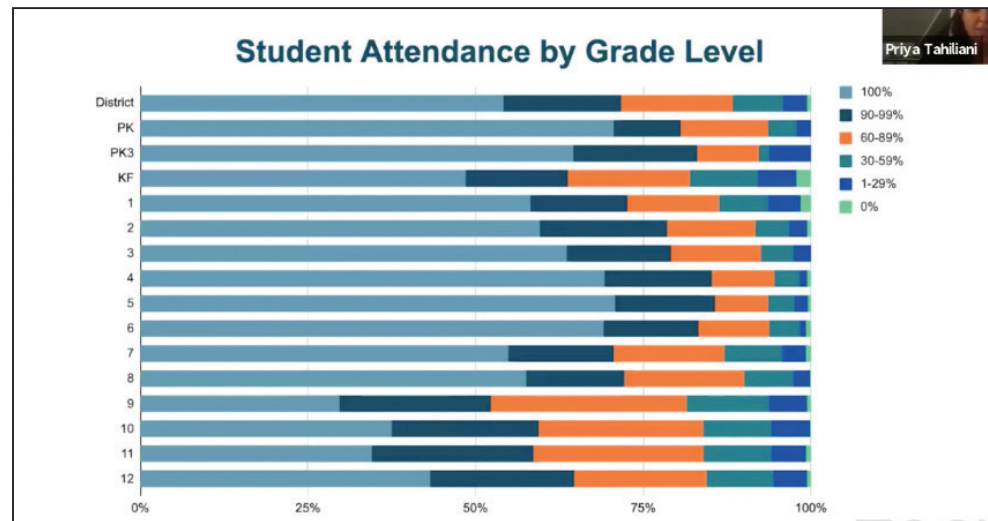
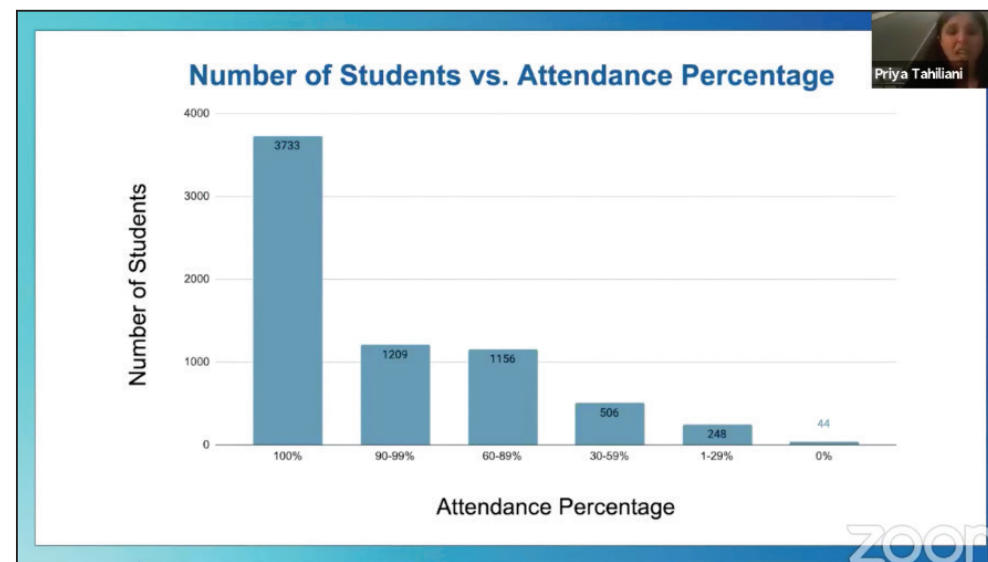
Visions of the e-Learning Centers being swarmed with kids for parents needing support has not materialized, but those that need the help are getting it, Tahiliani said.

There are about 59 percent of those invited to the Centers who are utilizing them, and spots are available for those that need them. Last week, 51 student requested to come to a Center and were accepted. The average daily attendance district-wide was about 270 students per day last week, with a dip on Friday, Oct. 2.

One issue with the Centers, however, is there needs to be more staff for the younger kids, and the district has responded by calling back all paraprofessionals to the Centers this week.

“We did identify one concern that demanded immediate action,” she said. “We found we needed more staff to monitor the Centers – particularly for our younger grade students. On Monday, we did call our paraprofessionals to our schools.”

The paraprofessionals



will be monitoring the Centers, and they were needed even if the Center

population stayed where it is at.

•DEVENS SCHOOL OPENS

The Devens School in-district special education program opened up on Sept. 28 for in-person classes serving the most vulnerable students in the district, and things went very well.

“Because the opening was very positive, we expect more families to

choose in person learning due to the success we had in opening that school,” she said.

She thanked Principal Brian Wallace for all of his hard work in getting the school ready, an noted some positives in that students were easily able to transition between classes and teachers were able to easily toggle between in-person and remote learning platforms.

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