

Everett Independent

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The Davis Companies makes another major Produce Center purchase

By Seth Daniel

If the “last mile” is somewhere in Everett, then that spot must be in the Produce Center area as Boston developers seem to be scrambling to develop “last mile” (i.e., e-commerce companies like Amazon) distribution facilities there at a fast clip.

Recently, The Davis Companies (TDC) purchased two large warehouses on Beacham Street from James Ruma and family for \$13.85 million in what would be their second major purchase in the area in the last year.

“The Davis Compa-

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ST. THERESE’S CHURCH COMES DOWN



The demolition of the St. Therese’s Church campus on Broadway and Gledhill has begun over the last several weeks, and Tuesday night marked the first public meeting on the plan now that construction has gotten underway. The Neighborhood Developers (TND) plans to develop a 77-unit senior affordable building on the site with a health center located at the ground floor. There will also be workforce home ownership opportunities developed on Gledhill Avenue as part of the project. The online meeting was the first of what is expected to be several meetings prior to the building construction kicking off in the spring after the site has been cleared.

St. Therese Church was the site of perhaps the longest vigil in the Archdiocese of Boston when it’s closure was announced in the early 2000s. Dedicated parishioners occupied the church come what may for more than 1,000 days to keep it going and keep it open before eventually conceding.

Napolitano resigns City Council seat

Will apply for recently opened Asst. Clerk position

By Seth Daniel

Councilor Peter Napolitano confirmed late Tuesday that he has submitted his letter of resignation from the City Council, and will apply for the recently-opened Assistant City Clerk position.

“I have submitted my resignation and plan on issuing a statement in my own words addressing the situation this week,” he said. “I’m confident where I stand with the City and I’m more than ready to do the job and have a great working relationship with (City Clerk) Sergio Cornelio. I’ve lived in Everett 63 years and I’m not ready to go away. I’m anxious to continue to be of service.”

Napolitano said it was time to take a new direc-

tion, and that was particularly made clear after he and his entire family became ill with COVID-19 in October. He said that was a deciding moment, and after 20 years on the Council he was ready to make a change.

As of the close of business on Tuesday, he was no longer a councilor, which he said was tough to grasp after so many years. Napolitano was often controversial on the Council and was the one that made the biggest push to change the City Charter and get away from the bi-cameral system. He said he had to announce the resignation at this time in order to be out of office 30 days, which is required before applying for a City job.

WINNA WINNA, TURKEY DINNAH



Miranda DeMasi, of Everett was a winner of the Everett Independent What are you Thankful for contest, and received a 20-pound turkey from Shady Brook Farms.

DECADE OF SERVICE: Sen. DiDomenico reflects on 10 years in the Legislature

By Seth Daniel

The journey over the past decade for Sen. Sal DiDomenico has been a whirlwind of starting out, moving up and being a helper for his community.

However, as he celebrates 10 years in the State Senate this year, he said he is always taken back to his late father’s flower shop in Cambridge, where DiDomenico’s professional mission statement of ‘I want to help people’ was formed as he watched his dad pull levers and work connections in the area to help people that needed it most.

“A lot of people used to come into his flower shop

and ask for help for any number of things,” said DiDomenico. “He had friends in politics and he would call them and try to get help for people. I saw that and I wanted to be that person too – the person who could call and get help for people. When I first got elected to the State Senate he was so proud. I can still see his face the night I got elected and he was so happy. I’m very lucky to have had such great support networks from my family, my wife, my kids, my friends and my mom and dad.”

It was from that point that the fire to fight for

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Civil Rights group will explore legal options following Council vote

By Seth Daniel

The surprise rejection by the City Council on Nov. 23 of a Charter Change to prevent a Voting Rights Act lawsuit has one Civil Rights group looking at its legal options against the City if the matter doesn’t pass on reconsideration Dec. 14.

Everett’s electoral system came under fire more than two years ago due to the fact that ward councilors for the City Council and School Committee are elected by a citywide vote rather than a vote of

the ward-only. That was a system put in place by the new City Charter in 2014, but a system that has been challenged elsewhere in Massachusetts – most recently in Lowell – as a violation of the federal Voting Rights Act.

On Nov. 23, the matter was at long-last coming up for a vote, and with the support of Mayor Carlo DeMaria, City Clerk Sergio Cornelio and Council Dean Wayne Matewsky, it was considered a shoe-in. But the shoe-in was shoed

See C CIVIL RIGHTS Page 2

Developer purchases Owens Moving building for \$15 million

By Seth Daniel

The longtime Owens Movers company has sold its building in the Commercial Triangle area of the city recently to Boston commercial real estate company Oliver Street Capital.

The transaction for 44-48 Garden St. came in at \$15 million for the property, which has been in the Owens family for years and leases to the scene shop for the Huntington Theatre Company – among others.

Eddie Owens Jr., chief financial officer of the company, did not return a phone call from the Independent for comment.

Oliver Street Capital was founded in downtown Boston in 2014 by Jonathan Hyde and Jonathan O’Donnell. Their company strategy is “a value based real estate investment manager focused on acquiring and managing high quality commercial and residential real estate

investments.”

Neither Hyde nor O’Donnell returned e-mails seeking comment on the purchase of the Owens Business Center.

The property has ongoing leases and it could be possible Oliver Street only intends to take an income investing approach to managing and operating the existing tenants. However, the area is rapidly changing and has seen several long-time industrial and/or commercial uses flip to residential or office. Research and Development is also a target for City Planners in the area, while the old industrial uses are now being discouraged under the 2019 Commercial Triangle Re-development Plan.

Mayor Carlo DeMaria said he was encouraged by the sale and others that share his enthusiasm for the area.

“I am excited to see developers sharing my

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BEST BURGER, VIA EVERETT



Everett native and North Conway restaurateur Dan Rassi won the Food Network’s Chopped! Television show last Tuesday, Nov. 17, in a competition with three other chefs about who could make the best burger in the ‘Comfort Food Feud’ competition. He will now advance to the Dec. 9 Comfort Food Feud finals, with the winner of that larger contest winning \$25,000.

Rassi, who grew up in Everett and worked at restaurants here, now operates Wicked Fresh Craft Burgers with another Everett native, Marc Iannuzzi, in New Hampshire. Last week’s episode was filmed in Maine at an outdoor kitchen last August. His winning burger featured a donut baked into the hamburger bun, and ground short rib and burger flavored with a red wine sauce. It also contained a mixture of carrots, celery and onion. Rassi said that winning burger is now featured at his restaurant as the ‘Champ Burger.’ Rassi beat out fellow chefs Mitzzy Jackson-Robinson of the University of Pennsylvania; Johan Jensen of Connecticut; and d’Andre Miller of New York City.

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Cases of COVID-19 continue to stay in double-digits day over day

Staff report

The numbers of COVID-19 cases in Everett has begun to creep up into the 40s nearly every day with the last week (Tuesday to Tuesday) registering 293 new cases in the city. That is an increase from the prior week when there were 284 cases for the week, and the previous week when there were 210. The numbers have almost doubled in the last three weeks.

The most recent numbers are as follows:

- Tuesday, Dec. 1 – 43
 - Monday, Nov. 30 – 45
 - Sunday, Nov. 29 – 44
 - Saturday, Nov. 28 – 47
 - Friday, Nov. 27 – 16
 - Thursday, Nov. 26 – 33
 - Wednesday, Nov. 25 – 39
 - Tuesday, Nov. 24 – 36
- 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 Dec. 31. There is no appointment necessary, and test results are usually available within 24 to 48 hours.

Civil Rights / CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

away as the Council surprisingly rejected the measure in a 7-4 vote – with a total of eight votes needed to prevail.

Those voting against were Councilors Peter Napolitano, Jimmy Tri Le, Fred Capone and John Hanlon.

Napolitano – who was rumored to be leaving the Council this month, though that couldn’t be confirmed – did file for reconsideration and it will be taken up again on Dec. 14. That said, those challenging the system did not find it heartening to see the rejection, saying it reminded them of the case in Lowell where that City fought the matter in court and lost after spending more than \$1 million on legal costs.

“It is disappointing to hear that the Everett City Council appears to have decided to maintain an electoral system where all City Councilors are elected at-large,” said Oren Sellstrom of Lawyers for Civil Rights Boston. “This was a real missed opportunity. Federal courts have frequently ruled that at-large electoral systems have the potential to illegally dilute the vote of communities of color. In our successful lawsuit against the City of Lowell over their similar electoral system, one of the key reasons we highlighted to justify federal court intervention was that the City Council had refused to change voluntarily. Unfortunately, it appears that Everett is going down that same road. We will continue to work with our community allies in Everett and explore all available legal options to protect the voting rights of communities of color.”

Councilor Fred Capone said he doesn’t dispute the premise, but said in any Charter Change he believes it should go to a vote of the people on a ballot. That same sentiment was voiced by Napolitano at a recent Council meeting, as he was a major figure in re-writing the City Charter around 2010 and said the people needed to speak by voting on any changes.

Capone said he keeps hearing about people

ready to sue the City, but he’s never seen any paperwork and would like to have them come to present their concerns before suing.

“I would like the group to come in and tell us what violation they see and have neighborhood meetings about this,” he said. “They should bring the issue to people’s attention and put it on the ballot.”

Councilor Anthony DiPierro has said he is tired of debating the issue, and was encouraged that a vote was taken, but said he was disappointed that it was rejected.

“I am disappointed that the ward voting change was voted down last week,” he said. “Aside from being the proper decision based on legal precedent, I think it makes councilors better representatives of the wards and brings more accountability to the table.”

Councilor Gerly Adrien said she had sat down with the Lawyers for Civil Rights before she ran for Council to understand their concerns. She said she believes it would be the right thing to do to approve the matter on Dec. 14.

“When I sat down with the Lawyers for Civil Rights about this piece before I even thought about running for City Council, I knew that the charter structure was wrong on the city-wide voting structure for the ward seats,” she said. “I hope that the City Councilors would help save taxpayers funds by voting Yes to make these changes on the charter or risk being sued.”

Clerk Cornelio confirmed that the matter had been reviewed by outside legal counsel and studied by several inside and outside City Hall. The determination was that the changes – the largest being the change to ward-only voting for ward seats – were appropriate. He said the reconsideration process would play out on Dec. 14, and the Council would need two-thirds of those present to vote in the affirmative to approve the change.

CITY OF EVERETT TOY DRIVE PROGRAM

The City of Everett is running its annual Holiday Toy Drive Program.

Each year this program helps ensure that all Everett children receive toys during the holiday season. Low-income residents in need can apply for this program.

“It is my honor to host the annual Holiday Toy Drive Program,” said Mayor Carlo DeMaria. “My Administration is proud to collect toys for those in need and distribute them to the children.

Council approves Mayor’s seat on School Committee

By Seth Daniel

The Everett City Council at their Nov. 23 meeting in a 7-2 vote approved the charter change to have an Everett mayor become a voting member on the School Committee.

The move to have the mayor be a voting member is similar to several surrounding communities.

Mayor Carlo DeMaria has been actively involved in a Listening Tour of Everett residents to get their input on having the mayor become a voting member on the School Committee.

This past motion comes on the heels of another proposed Charter Change which was rejected by the Council when it was expected to be a shoo-in, and it was a strange night that has elicited many strong opinions across the city over the last week.

Most did not even expect a vote on the issue that night, and Mayor DeMaria had just finished the third of his 10 Listening Tour sessions prior to the meeting. His administration, and many Councilors, did not expect a vote on the matter until Dec. 14 – and it was expected to be a very close vote.

As it was, Councilor Gerly Adrien pushed the issue at the meeting and asked that the Council not wait. She called for the Council to vote immediately on the matter.

In the end, the matter was decided by a 7-2 vote, which provided the super-majority necessary to approve it, and send it as a Home Rule Petition to the State Legislature for final reviews – which tend not to make changes but review for legal implications. Those voting against were Councilors Fred Capone and Adrien. Those voting in favor were Councilors Anthony DiPierro, Peter Napolitano, Michael McLaughlin, Michael Marchese, Rosa DiFlorio, Wayne Matewsky and Jimmy Tri Le. Councilors Stephanie Martins and John Hanlon had technical issues and did not vote.

City Clerk Sergio Cornelio said such a Charter Change only needs a super-majority of those present, so 7 of 9 votes allowed it to pass. He also said reconsideration was filed, but it was blocked and failed, so the matter cannot come up again. Ironically, Cornelio confirmed that later on, Martins indicated she wanted to log a ‘no’ vote on the matter, and Hanlon called to say he wanted a ‘yes’ vote.

“Those votes could not be officially counted toward the real vote, but given the issue at hand, I let it be known how they would have voted if there weren’t technical issues,” he said.

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

More families have faced challenges this year because of the pandemic, and it is my hope that all children receive toys for the holidays. I am asking for our community to come together and give back to those in need.”

Due to the economic impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, the City is anticipating more residents to apply for this year’s holiday assistance program. The Holiday Toy Drive Program is made possible exclusively through donations and the City is asking for those who can, to make a donation and help the community.

Residents who wish to assist with the Holiday Toy Drive Program can bring their toy donations to the 1st floor of City Hall or can donate virtually through the City’s GoFundMe link: <https://www.gofundme.com/f/4dkdf-city-of-everett-christmas-toy-drive>. Deadline for donations is Monday, December 7, 2020.

MENORAH LIGHTING SET FOR DEC. 14

Mayor Carlo DeMaria is pleased to announce that the City of Everett will be

hosting our 4th Annual Menorah Lighting ceremony to celebrate Chanukah on Monday, December 14, at 6 p.m. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, this year’s ceremony will be closed to the public and made available to watch on Facebook Live.

“I am honored to host this ceremony with Rabbi Yisroel Baron,” said Mayor Carlo DeMaria. “Chanukah is an important holiday in the Jewish Community, and I want to celebrate the holiday with them. Lighting the Menorah has a special meaning,

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should only be changed by a vote of the people.

“I am not ambivalent regarding the Council’s self-serving and immoral decision to thwart the rights of the people and value their voices above those of their constituents,” she wrote in an e-mail. “I find this abhorrent and appalling. I am not opposed to the counselors having opinions – they should get a vote, just like every other voter in the city. I am opposed to an 11-member Council having enough power to push through a city charter change significantly impacts the families of Everett without a ballot vote or even allowing the people the courtesy of having a voice via the listening tours.

“The fact that several councilors decided that their personal feelings and opinions regarding this matter were the only ones of value is offensive and irresponsible, especially considering that most of them do not have children in the schools,” she continued.

Member Samantha Lambert said she was quite disappointed with the process, one that fundamentally changes the form of governing the schools and did so without even giving the people a voice.

“I have heard from a number of our Community Groups that have simply asked that if changes are needed to the City Charter prior to the current 2024 timeline, that the voters of Everett are included, because yes, an informed dialogue to examine the merits is necessary,” she wrote in a letter.

“I am disappointed in the action of the City Council in failing to recognize the hypocrisy in voting against one amendment and in favor of the other,” she continued. “There was no outpouring of public sentiment demanding this change, there was no dialogue about the benefits or consequences of these amendments, there was no public hearing. The actions taken by the City Council on November 23 disregarded the voice of the people of Everett...”

Chair Tom Abruzzese said he felt it was just not a priority right now when the goal of the Committee is figuring out remote schooling issues and trying to get kids back in school.

“Simply put, this is really I think – forget me being on the School Committee, but as a taxpayer going on in my 65th year – I think it’s something people should vote on,” he said. “We’re in the middle of a pandemic and this is not one of my priorities. Let’s just put it that way. If this is someone’s priority, I fail to see why...I still believe it’s a democracy and I’d prefer it to be the will of the people rather than a handful of people. We’ll all have to deal with it and I hope we deal with it together. There are important things to be done right now and it’s time for serious people to do them.”

Member Dana Murray said the rushed decision was not the way democracy should work, and she said it should have been voted upon by everyone. She said the City Charter is a sacred document and

MOVING NOTICE

On December 10, 2020 the office of John F. Yee, MD, PC is moving to:
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THANK YOU EVERETT FOR YOUR SUPPORT OVER THE PAST 40 YEARS

City tree lightings cancelled due to Covid concerns

Staff report

Mayor Carlo DeMaria will be remotely conducting the City of Everett’s annual Christmas Tree Lightings on Thursday, December 3. This year’s festivities that we all look forward to have been cancelled due to the pandemic. There will be trees lit at Everett Housing Authority, Wehner Park, and Everett Square. However due to the COVID-19 pandemic, these events will be closed to the public and shared virtually on Facebook Live.

“Christmastime is a wonderful time of the year and I am excited to begin the Christmas season with our Tree Lightings,” said Mayor Carlo DeMaria. “This year has been challenging for our community and I hope lighting our trees can provide a small glimmer of hope. It is truly unfortunate we cannot welcome the community to join us for the festivities, however, health and safety come first.”

The Tree Lightings will take place during the evening hours on December 3.

Below is the schedule for the events:

- Everett Housing Authority, 381 Ferry Street – 4pm
- Wehner Park, Broadway and Lynn Street – 5:30pm
- Everett Square, Broadway – 7pm

Residents are welcome to visit Mayor DeMaria’s Facebook page, @mayordemaria, during these scheduled times to participate. The City of Everett hopes that the Tree Lightings will bring the community joy and happiness throughout the holiday season.

What will Councilor Adrien do? Fundraiser could be a clue

By Seth Daniel

There’s been no shortage of prognosticators trying to read the tea leaves on whether or not Councilor Gerly Adrien will run for re-election to the City Council or other elected offices.

For some time, she hasn’t been saying explicitly.

Many believed she would run earlier this year after having topped the Council at-Large ticket last year, and after a pow-

er-packed local and regional rally on her behalf two weeks ago, the idea became even more discussed.

This week, however, her Committee announced a Dec. 13 re-election End Of Year Fundraiser for City Council.

Adrien said the fundraiser is for re-election efforts to her Council position for the upcoming 2021 City Election. She didn’t explicitly rule out changing her mind though, in comments, but seemed

Briefs / CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

and I am grateful to be part of it.”

“The message of Chanukah being the faith that light, goodness, and joy has the power to triumph over darkness, suffering, and evil is an important one that transcends cultural and religious lines,” said Rabbi Yirsroel Baron.

“This year more than ever, we can all celebrate this message.”

The City of Everett is committed to being an inclusive community to celebrate all faiths. Mayor DeMaria is proud to hold the Menorah Lighting ceremony with Rabbi Baron. The ceremony is being held on the fifth night of Chanukah in front of City Hall at 484 Broadway. Residents are welcomed to virtually participate in the ceremony through Mayor DeMaria’s Facebook page, @mayordemaria.

HOLIDAY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM AT THE CONNOLLY CENTER

If you are in need of

holiday assistance, The Mayor’s Office of Human Services has extended the deadline to apply for toys and a holiday meal for your family. Income eligible families can apply for the program December 10th and December 11th at The Connolly Center (rear door) between the hours of 9 AM and 11 AM. You must bring proof of residency, your income statement and birth certificates for eligible children under the age of 16 years. Those that are applying will be subjected to a temperature check, wear a mask, remain socially distant, and be required to use our hand sanitizing station. Applications must be done in person. No applications will be accepted over the phone. For additional information please call 617.394.2260 or 617.394.2323

CITY UPDATES COVID-19 TESTING SITES

Beginning on Monday, November 30, the City of Everett will conduct COVID-19 testing

for residents at updated locations. Testing will be available at the Samuel Gentile Recreation Center and the RiverGreen Park parking lot. Cataldo Ambulance Services will be administering these tests. Below please find the updated scheduled:

- Samuel Gentile Recreation Center – 47 Elm Street: Monday – Thursday: 7am – 1pm, 2 – 7 p.m.
- RiverGreen Park Parking Lot – 1 RiverGreen Drive: Friday & Saturday: noon – 6 p.m.

The Recreation Center will be an indoor walk-up site. There is parking available at the center as well as on street parking and overflow parking at Everett High School and the DCR hockey rink. Public transportation is also available close by. It is important for those who get tested indoors to wear a mask, use hand sanitizer, and practice social distancing. The RiverGreen Park parking lot will continue to run as a drive-thru site.

DiDomenico/ CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

communities was instilled in DiDomenico – and though he worked for some time successfully in the hotel and hospitality business – his fire for politics didn’t cease. After a time as the Ward 3 Everett City Councilor, he decided to run for the open seat in the State Senate for the district representing Everett, Chelsea, Charlestown, and parts of Cambridge and Allston. It was a risky move, but it resulted in a win. Now, after a decade of advocacy at the highest levels as he has risen to the upper leadership of the State Senate as Assistant Majority Leader, he finds himself at the table for almost all big decisions in state policy.

“Being at the table where decisions are made in the Senate is a great place to be for my district,” he said.

But DiDomenico was adamant to stress that he doesn’t just bring himself and his own opinions to that decision-making table. He said he has made a point out of getting to know the heart-and-soul of the communities he represents and to understand what each needs – taking that to the table to make sure it’s heard by those in power.

“A lot of what I do is not rocket science,” he said. “I actually go into the communities and talk to people and know their names. I feel what we do in the State House comes from what is happening in the communities I represent. A lot of what we do comes from advocates in my district.

“The louder voices get access, but the people who don’t feel they have a voice don’t push it when they hit a barrier,” he continued. “Those are the people I want to speak for – those people who feel like government isn’t working for them. I want to show them our toles is to help people and their voices are heard by me. It all goes back to that simple phrase I’ve always carried with me, that being ‘I want to help people.’”

Relying on a dedicated support network from each of his communities – a network that has always included his family close by his side – he has marched towards that goal

in pursuing important legislation that he has always felt was the right thing to do. That is especially true of education funding, early childhood education and school lunch options.

Some of his landmark legislative achievements in the last 10 years include: Breakfast After the Bell, Community Investment Tax Credit and Extension, Social Worker Safety, Pre-Registration for Youth, Early Ed & Out of School Time Capital Fund, Safe and Supportive Schools, E-bike Regulations, SNAP Gap Common Application, Language Opportunities for Our Kids, Life the Cap on Kids, Youth Tobacco Prevention, Health Care Equity for Foster Children, and Children with Medical Complexities.

Nothing has been as close to his heart though as education and the battle for more educational funding equity – an issue that was hopefully resolved last year with the signing of the Student Opportunity Act. DiDomenico said his advocacy and role in getting that multi-year bill passed was one of his crowning achievements in the past 10 years.

“I fought for our students to not just get their fair share, but more than their fair share because of the inequities our students face,” he said. “They need more than other students need...We all know it’s a great bill for kids and teachers, but over time we’ll see a huge change in how we educate our kids because we have the resources to do it. In Everett, Chelsea and Charlestown, we have a lot of obstacles. There are a lot of things we need in our communities that other communities don’t have to deal with. To me, to change funding formulas without taking into account these challenges wasn’t right, but we finally fixed that.”

The education piece has also filtered into preschool and early childhood education, where DiDomenico has been a leader on the issue for some time. That has been recognized by many advocacy groups who have awarded him for his efforts – something that can seem casual but in fact is very unique.

His drive to expand Head Start and get preschool for every three-year-old in the state is an



State Sen. Sal DiDomenico has helped the communities in his district navigate COVID-19 over the last 10 months, but this year he has also marked the milestone of 10 years in office as state senator. He said he has found success by getting to know the people in his communities first-hand and then advocating for what they say they need.

effort - along with expanded child health care – he calls his “baby” in terms of issues.

Those efforts have many times crossed over with advocacy for senior citizens – working on both issues with community-based organizations to get proper funding so those groups are care for.

“A big part of my job is working within my communities with community-based organizations that are on the front lines every day and supporting them by making sure funding gets to them to do their work,” he said. “Having these long-standing relationships even before I was in the Senate has helped me advocate for them in putting policies they want in place and getting resources for them.”

Those relationships transitioned well to provide COVID-19 relief through those organizations directly to the residents – something DiDomenico said has been the primary focus of his office for the last 10 months. He said he and his staff have been in close contact with leaders in Everett, Chelsea and Charlestown to assist them in COVID-19 responses. That has included advocating for the use of the EnVision Hotel in Everett as a COVID isolation center paid for by the state and utilized by all three communities. It’s also in-

cluded close collaboration with Gov. Charlie Baker in mobilizing resources like food and, in the case of Chelsea, deploying the National Guard. It’s also included Facebook telethons to raise money to help all three communities with essential needs during the pandemic.

Much of this work, however, he said could not be done without the help of his staff at the State House. He said his staff is unique in that there is very little turnover and those that come to work for him rarely leave. In fact, two of his staffers have been with him since he walked through the doors of the State House 10 years ago.

“We haven’t had a lot of turnover in 10 years,” he said. “I’ve had 10 staff members in 10 years. That’s pretty remarkable...That’s incredible and plays well to my con-

stituents because they are experienced and know what our communities need and who to call to get things done. They get things done because of relationships we’ve built over time both inside and outside the State House.”

Some of those senator-plus-staff achievements show up in small issues that are resolved behind the scenes, but others show up in the State Budget. Those recent accomplishments include:

- Education: \$9.725 million
- Environment, Parks and Substance Abuse Prevention: \$280,000
- City Upgrades: \$2.5 million
- Transportation Infrastructure: \$12.2 million
- Public Safety: \$1.15 million
- Children, Families, Veterans and Seniors: \$1.5 million

- Housing and Small Business Relief: \$2.5 million

All told, that equals out to more than \$82 million in recent months, DiDomenico said, and is a credit to his time in the Legislature and the advocacy of his dedicated staff – not to mention the strong relationships he enjoys with key members of the communities in his district.

In the end, the 10-year journey has changed so much about DiDomenico and he said it boils down to just loving his job.

“I love hotel work and I love that industry, but I can tell you by far the State Senate is the best job I’ve had in my life,” he said. “It’s a privilege to serve. I love being a state senator and hope to do it a long, long time.”

END 2020
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Everett

Independent

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‘TIS THE SEASON FOR GIVING -- AND NEVER HAS THE NEED BEEN MORE URGENT

“It was the best of times; it was the worst of times.”
-- Charles Dickens, *A Tale of Two Cities*.

With Christmas fast approaching, most of us will be rushing about -- either to the stores and malls or on-line --- to do our holiday shopping in hopes of finding that “perfect” gift for our family members and loved ones.

Despite the pandemic that has ravaged our nation in so many ways, most Americans actually are doing okay, if not extremely well. Sure, the pandemic has made life inconvenient and not as enjoyable as usual for everybody, but most of us are getting along just fine.

Those who are able to work from home have not suffered a loss of income. And for those among us who have any sort of investments, from real estate to the stock market to certain types of small businesses, the pandemic has been a boon.

However, the good economic news for the majority of Americans has not been shared by all. For a sizable minority of our fellow citizens, the effects of the pandemic represent an existential disaster.

Millions of Americans of all ages, in a percentage greater than at any time since the Great Depression, are struggling financially.

To put it in stark terms, more Americans, including families in our own communities, are going hungry than at any time in our history. The lines of cars that stretch for miles and miles in cities all across the country are the equivalent of the iconic photos of the bread lines and soup kitchens of the 1930s..

Far too many of our fellow citizens, including children, live either in shelters or in similar temporary housing arrangements -- or on the streets -- because the reality of our economy has left them out in the cold -- literally -- thanks to the pandemic.

The homeless always have been among us, but the scope and depth of the problem is far beyond anything that has been experienced in our lifetime. The vast discrepancy between the enormous wealth enjoyed by some Americans and the abject poverty being endured by others is similar to what has existed in major urban centers in South America and India -- but it now is happening right here in the U.S.A.

For these millions of Americans, the holiday season brings no joy.

Psychologists tell us that the Biblical directive, that we should give to those who are less fortunate, actually is the best gift that we can give to ourselves. Helping others activates regions of the brain associated with pleasure, social connection, and trust, creating the so-called “warm glow” effect.

Never in the lifetime of anybody reading this editorial has the need for donations to local food banks been more urgent. There will be ample opportunity to do so in the coming weeks to make the holidays brighter for those who are less fortunate -- and there is no excuse for failing to do so.

Your opinions, please

The Everett Independent welcomes letters to the editor. Our mailing address is 385

Broadway, Revere, MA 02151. Our fax number is **781-485-1403**. Letters may also

be e-mailed to

editor@everettindependent.com.

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

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deb@reverejournal.com

Assistant Marketing Director

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Page Design, Copy Editing

Scott Yates

Kane DiMasso-Scott

Reporting Staff

Seth Daniel
(seth@reverejournal.com)

Cary Shuman

(cary@lynnjournal.com)

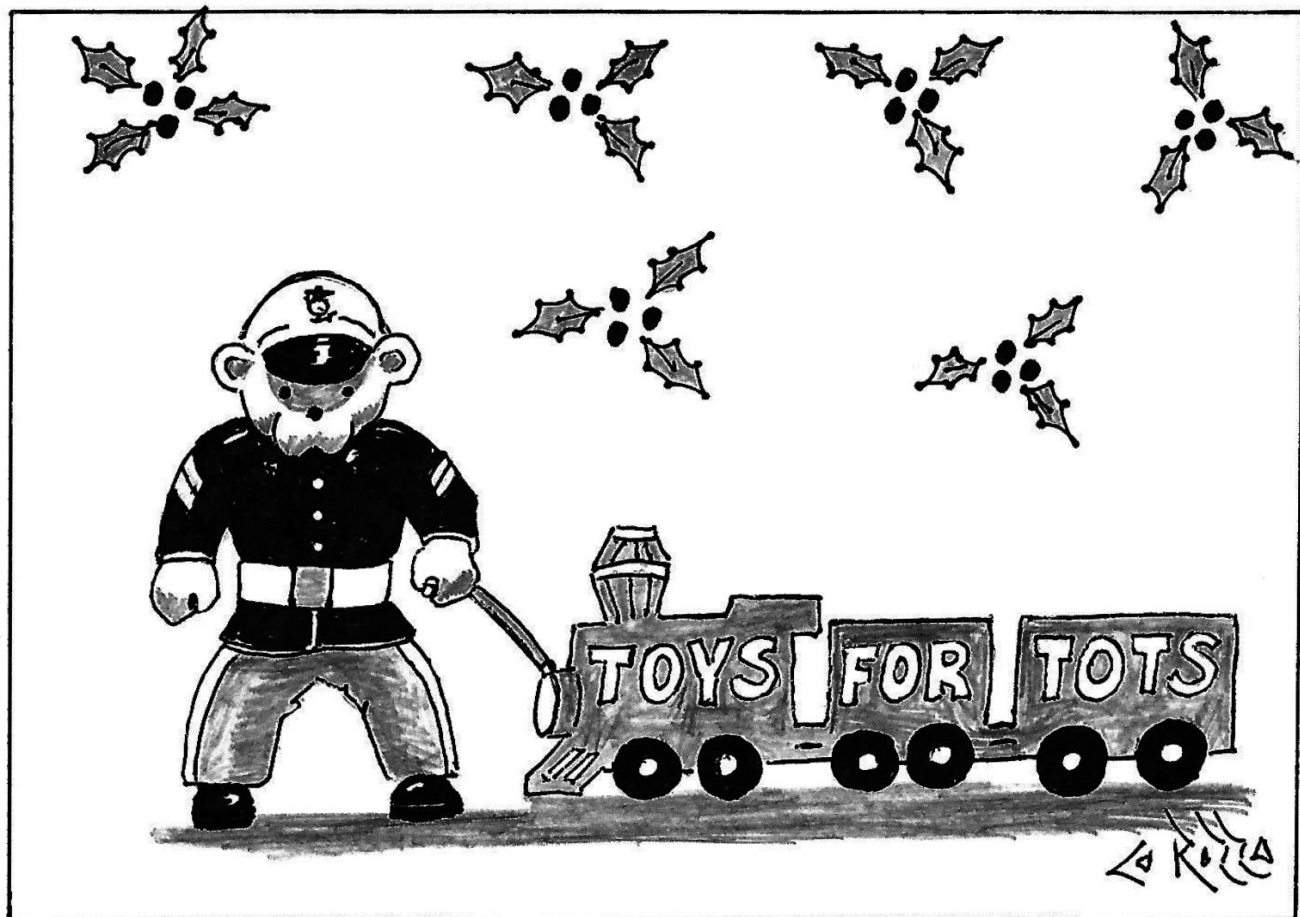
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Independent Forum



TIS THE SEASON, IF YOU PLEASE, CHOOSE YOUR FAVORITE CHARITIES

LETTERS to the Editor

REGARDING A PREVIOUS OP-ED

In response to the November 10th Guest Op-Ed “An Informed Dialogue to Examine the Merits is Necessary” and the City Council’s vote to amend the City Charter on November 23, 2020.

Several months ago, an amendment to the Everett City Charter was proposed as a result of a potential lawsuit from The Lawyers for Civil Rights (see Everett Independent <http://everettindependent.com/2019/09/28/proposed-change-civil-rights-group-encourages-city-to-de-construct-citywide-voting/>). This was presented to the public as an urgent change necessary to protect the Democratic process and promote a more representative elected body. When this item came before the City Council, there were several additional amendments to the City Charter, including changes to the number of signatures for a recall position, employment opportunities while serving as an elected official, and to make the Mayor a voting member of the School Committee, among others. None of these items were presented to the public. When that meeting was abruptly ended, it became known that there were far more amendments than originally presented. As a result of feedback, the Mayor chose to host a number of listening sessions through mid-December. I applaud this step by the Mayor, though I feel it does not go far enough to create a formalized dialogue with readouts available of all of the feedback to the public.

The City Charter is the people’s Charter. This is how the voters determine the governance in their city and the Everett City Charter was adopted by ballot in 2014. The Charter Commission included in

Section 16.5 “A Periodic Review of the Charter” requiring a Charter Review Committee to review the Charter at least every 10 years. It is next due to be reviewed in 2024, though there is nothing preventing the City Council from convening a City Charter Review Committee before that date.

On November 23, 2020, the Everett City Council decided to split the question, choosing to vote on Ward Representation and the other City Charter amendments in one question and the Mayor as a voting member of the School Committee on a separate vote. They failed the first item, the amendment that would change the method in which Ward elected officials would be voted (changing from an all At-Large System to a Ward voted system) that was the original reason for the Charter Amendment. They passed the second item, making the Mayor a voting member of the School Committee, changing the School Committee structure from a 9 person voting body to a 10 person voting body, prior to the conclusion of the Mayor’s own listening tour. This will now go to the State House via Home-Rule Petition.

Any amendment to the City Charter belongs to the people of Everett. I have heard from a number of our Community Groups that have simply asked that if changes are needed to the City Charter prior to the current 2024 timeline, that the voters of Everett are included, because yes, an informed dialogue to examine the merits is necessary. Concern for future administration could be addressed through this process or through the existing review process. I am disappointed in the action of the City Council in failing to recognize the hypocrisy in voting against one amendment

and in favor of the other. There was no outpouring of public sentiment demanding this change, there was no dialogue about the benefits or consequences of these amendments, there was no public hearing. The actions taken by the City Council on November 23rd disregarded the voice of the people of Everett and rather than take the steps necessary to formalize the review through a deliberative, representative public process, instead they acted inconsistently to implement or deny these changes deemed so urgent that they need to be done through Home-Rule Petition. My thanks to those Councilpersons that publicly voted to honor the voice of the residents of Everett and the role of the people in governance of our city.

Samantha Lambert

REGARDING THE CHARTER CHANGE

Dear Editor:

In October, a Charter change was presented to the Everett City Council on behalf of Mayor Carlo DeMaria. The Mayor was proposing to be a voting member of the Everett School Committee, something that the Everett City Council as the Legislative body must pass and send to the Governor’s office for approval and ultimate passage. After numerous conversations with constituents, School Committee members, members of the Council, and other interested parties I spoke to Mayor DeMaria about his proposal. The Mayor suggested that he develop a Listening Tour to hear from all interested parties regarding the Charter change. There was a month period where he would conduct 10 Listening Sessions as well as outreach. I personally participated in the first three Listening Tours over the past week. The last one

ended just five minutes before the City Council meeting began on Monday, November 23.

During the Council meeting on Nov. 23, both myself and Councillor Stephanie Martins made a motion to table the Charter change piece, holding it off until December 14 when the Mayor and members of the Council were to be fully versed on the community’s feelings on this. To my surprise, the motion to table the item until December 14 failed and another motion was presented by a member of the Council to vote on the matter during the meeting.

Councillor Gerly Adrien expressed her concern.

The purpose of holding off until December 14 was to allow the Democratic process to be followed. To hear from residents, teachers, social organizations, clergy, and all other interested parties. By requiring the Council to vote on this piece, we were unable to complete the Listening Tour and decide our votes based on what we were hearing.

The proposed Charter change ultimately passed and the measure to send the Home Rule Petition to the State House passed a 7-2 super majority vote. I voted in the affirmative on this measure because as of Nov. 23 before the meeting I heard from more than 100 people, mostly supporting the measure.

After a long conversation with Mayor DeMaria Tuesday morning, he said he has decided to continue his Listening Tour. He will shift gears and now listen to what the community wants to see him prioritize if he does, in fact, become a voting member of the Everett School Committee. I will continue to join these Listening Tours and I encourage all of you to, as well.

Michael J. McLaughlin
Everett City Councillor

GUEST OP-ED

In Tribute to a friend and a co-worker — Jim Soper

By Mayor Carlo DeMaria

Over this past weekend, the City lost an invaluable member of the Administration, Jim Soper. Jim has worked with my administration for at least 10 years now. Not only was he a

dedicated co-worker, but also he was my friend.

Jim and I shared many of the same qualities. That’s probably why we did butt heads. I always knew that Jim was irreplaceable that’s why I think he knew he could

at times say things to me that would get me worked up. He certainly had a way about him.

I truly loved Jim Soper, not only was he a great co-worker, but also he was an excellent boss to his staff and was an amaz-

ing department head who treated every resident, developer, and basically anyone who had to come to the Building Department with the utmost respect. It was never ‘no’ with Jim.

GUEST OP-ED

Together we must stop the MBTA service cuts

By Senator Sal DiDomenico

The MBTA Fiscal Management and Control Board recently released their “Forging Ahead Initiative,” a series of ill-conceived cuts to MBTA services that will have devastating (and likely long-lasting) impacts on those who rely on public transit to get to and from work. Our district in particular will be uniquely impacted by these cuts, as we are one of the most transit-dependent in the state. Not to mention, we have been some of the hardest hit by COVID, while also having one of the highest percentages of essential workers. According to the MBTA’s Forging Ahead website, some of the main “proposals” impacting our community include:

- Subway: 20% Frequency Reductions Across All Lines; Service Stops after Midnight.
- Bus: 5% Frequency Reduction on Essential Routes & 20% Reduction on Non-Essential Routes; Service Stops after Midnight.
- Commuter Rail: Service Stops after 9 PM; Weekend Service Ends (as early as Jan. 2021); Decreased Peak and Midday Service.
- Ferry: All Ferry Service Will End; Charles-town Ferry Diverted to the Rt.93 Bus.
- The Ride: Some trips may become premium and be able to be booked 40 minutes in advance, instead of the current 30 minutes.

Without question, components of the MBTA’s plan, such as stopping bus service at midnight,

will disproportionately impact essential employees who don’t work regular hours and need to travel late at night. It especially hurts my Chelsea and Everett constituents who already don’t even have access to subway or commuter rail, and solely rely on the bus to connect them with their jobs and their community. Every part of my district will be impacted by these cuts, and we should all be concerned that these “temporary” changes could become permanent, impacting our transportation system for years or even decades to come.

Our region cannot recover from this pandemic and get moving again until, and unless, we redouble our efforts to build a transportation system that facilitates the movement of people, not just cars. Reducing public transit will severely limit access to these services for communities and residents that need it most, further exacerbating inequities that the pandemic has already brought to light. If we want to heal from this, we must invest more in our transit system, not take services away. We all recognize these are difficult fiscal times, particularly for the underfunded MBTA, but these unprecedented times underscore the need for further investment in our economic drivers, not less.

As for next steps and what we can do about this, please know I am already in talks with my Senate colleagues and leadership in the Legislature regarding action we can take in response to these cuts. I have also addressed my concerns and opposition

to the “Forging Ahead Initiative” directly with the MBTA’s leadership team. Additionally, the MBTA has hosted several regional meetings regarding these proposals, where I have testified against these cuts.

While the public meetings for our district have already passed, you can still submit your feedback to the MBTA by emailing them at publicengagement@mbta.com. I encourage everyone to do so; stopping these cuts will be a collective effort, one that requires advocacy from legislators like myself, but also grassroots opposition. The deadline for feedback is coming up soon on December 4th, so please do not delay in contacting the MBTA if you wish to register your concerns.

I have already heard from so many of my constituents on this, and many have indicated they will be contacting the MBTA as well. I am truly grateful for everyone’s advocacy on this issue. It is my sincere hope that, working together, we can stop these cuts from taking place and protect public transportation for generations to come.

Sal N. DiDomenico is an Massachusetts State Senator legislator who has served in the Massachusetts Senate since May 2010 and as Assistant Majority Leader since 2018. He is a Democrat representing the Middlesex and Suffolk district, which includes his hometown of Everett as well as Chelsea, Allston, Brighton, Charlestown, and parts of Cambridge and Boston.

DiDomenico secures \$125K in housing relief funding for Everett

Staff report

Senator Sal DiDomenico recently announced his amendment providing housing relief in the City of Everett was included in the Massachusetts State Senate’s Fiscal Year 2021 budget. DiDomenico filed several amendments focusing on support for his local community and prioritizing many of the services and programs he has long championed in the Senate.

Centering his community’s most urgent needs, Senator DiDomenico filed an amendment specifically providing \$125K to the City of Everett to address housing instability brought about by the 2019 novel coronavirus.

“This pandemic has been devastating for our community; we’ve been disproportionately impacted by the COVID-19 virus, and its fallout is felt acutely here in Everett, especially when it comes to evictions and foreclosures,” said Senator Sal DiDomenico. “The FY21 Senate budget includes many new provisions and funding to assist and protect renters and struggling homeowners. Still, I filed

this amendment to ensure that our community has the additional support and relief that we need right now to address the many housing issues that have arisen and been exacerbated by the COVID crisis.”

This funding for Everett will work in tandem with the additional statewide housing supports included in the Senate budget that DiDomenico advocated for. These supports include:

- \$50 million for Residential Assistance for Families in Transition (RAFT), as well as emergency changes to the RAFT program to increase the maximum amount of rental assistance that a household can receive from \$4,000 to \$10,000 and allow eligible households facing a housing crisis to access both RAFT and HomeBASE,
- \$135 million for the Massachusetts Rental Voucher Program (MRVP).
- Language requiring a landlord to provide a form with information related to the eviction process and resources for tenants.
- Language requiring a court to grant a continuance in a residential eviction case for non-payment of rent if the tenant has suffered a financial hardship due to COVID-19 and has a pending application for emergency rental assistance.

“We are still facing the greatest eviction crisis our Commonwealth has ever seen, which is why need to implement reforms & invest in our safety net for both renters and struggling homeowners,” said DiDomenico. “This budget takes key steps towards that goal, including the important investments in RAFT and MRVP, and of course the dedicated housing funding I secured for our Everett community. I am also very proud that the Senate budget includes language regarding “notice to quit,” which I have been advocating for to ensure that renters know their rights if and when facing eviction.”

The Senate budget is now pending before conference committee where it will be reconciled with the House version of the Fiscal Year 2021 budget.

Peabody man pleads guilty to robbery and firearm charges in Everett, Boston area

Staff report

A Peabody man pleaded guilty last week in connection with over a dozen armed robberies throughout greater Boston, including robberies in Everett.

Luis Cintron, 41, pleaded guilty to 14 counts of interfering with commerce by robbery and conspiracy to interfere with commerce by robbery. He also pleaded guilty to charges of possession of cocaine and cocaine base with intent to distribute. U.S. District Court Judge Indira Talwani scheduled sentencing for March 12, 2021. In March 2018, Cintron was arrested and charged by criminal complaint.

Cintron was involved in the robbery of 15 convenience stores in the greater Boston area between Dec. 28, 2017 and Feb. 15,

2018. During each of the robberies, which occurred in East Boston, Chelsea, Lynn, Winthrop, Peabody, and Everett, two robbers entered the store wearing masks and wielding a firearm. During a Jan. 8, 2018, robbery in Lynn, one of the robbers fired a gun at a clerk who had followed the robbers out of the store.

Each charge of interfering with commerce by robbery provides for a sentence of up to 20 years in prison, three years of supervised release and a fine of \$250,000. The charge of possession of 28 grams or more of cocaine base with intent to distribute provides for a mandatory minimum sentence of 10 years and up to life in prison, at least eight years and up to life of supervised release and a fine of up to \$8 million. Sentences are im-

posed by a federal district court judge based on the U.S. Sentencing Guidelines and other statutory factors.

United States Attorney Andrew E. Lelling; Joseph R. Bonavolonta, Special Agent in Charge of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, Boston Field Division; Colonel Christopher Mason, Superintendent of the Massachusetts State Police; Boston Police Commissioner William Evans; Chelsea Police Chief Brian Kyes; Lynn Police Chief Michael Mageary; Winthrop Police Chief Terence M. Delehanty; Peabody Police Chief Thomas M. Griffin; and Everett Police Chief Dan Templeman made the announcement. Assistant U.S. Attorney Robert Richardson of Lelling’s Major Crimes Unit is prosecuting the case.

Op-Ed // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

It was always ‘Let me see what we can do to make this work.’ He was always determined.

He made developing and building in Everett very enjoyable for all involved. He was a class act.

Jim and I spent many hours either in my office, on the phone, or on the campaign trail talking about his parents, grandparents, his wife, children and more recently we

spoke about his grandchildren. What is most upsetting to me is that he shared with me all his dreams for the future - what he was planning to do after retirement in building a home near his daughter in Maine. I know how devastated his family is; I am beyond saddened by the huge loss this city and his family have incurred.

We will all miss you Jim. I hope you know how

much you were loved by so many in this community. I always enjoyed being around you. You were a great thinker, a hard worker, and you never rested. You were always working to better yourself and your family.

God bless you Jim. Rest In Peace my friend, and I will miss you very much.

Carlo DeMaria is the Mayor of the City of Everett.

Owens Moving // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

enthusiasm for the future development of the Commercial Triangle Area,” he said. “I appreciate the commitment that long standing businesses such as Owens Movers have made to Everett and certainly hope that these deals are mutually beneficial to all parties. The changes that will be taking place in this part of our City will present new and different opportunities for economic growth. I look forward to these new development opportunities and appreciate the increasing recognition of Everett as a place where residents and businesses can grow and thrive.”

In February, the Massachusetts Gaming Commission (MGC) honored the Owens family at their regular meeting in a spotlight on vendors who had



Jonathan Hyde of Oliver Street Capital.

benefitted from the casino introduction to the state.

Eddie Owens Jr. and Ed Owens both appeared and told the story of their company, which includes Henry Owens Jr. making the rare move in 1927 as a black man to open his own major moving company. Soon, they had become one of the top companies in the Boston area, and Ed Owens expanded the com-



Jonathan O'Donnell of Oliver Street Capital.

pany when he took over to include more commercial accounts such as Raytheon and others.

The company had been located in Everett for decades and recently had found success in working for Encore Boston Harbor, and also in leasing out portions of their facility to organizations like the Huntington Theatre Company.

Davis Companies / CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

nies continues to invest in properties and communities that offer last mile opportunities and Everett is an outstanding location with a number of possibilities,” read a statement on the purchase from TDC.

The two properties are just over the Everett line from Chelsea, and are currently used for the Ruma Fruit and Produce company and its many subsidiaries – which includes importing unique Fiddleheads produce. The current warehouse is about 96,000 sq. ft.

Mayor Carlo DeMaria said he was very glad to hear that TDC has made another purchase to rehabilitate the industrial area, bringing new jobs and construction to the district.

“I appreciate the commitment that long standing businesses such as the Ruma Family have made to Everett and certainly hope that these deals are mutually beneficial to all parties,” he said. “The changes that will be taking place in this part of our

City will present new and different opportunities for economic growth. I look forward to these new development opportunities and appreciate the increasing recognition of Everett as a place where residents and businesses can grow and thrive.”

The purchase comes just as TDC is finishing up the permitting process in Everett for a “last mile” distribution center built on spec without a tenant yet at the old Boston Mar-

ket Terminal, on Second Street and Market Street. The company purchased that property in 2019 for \$28.5 million.

They have proposed a 220,000 sq. ft. brand new ‘last mile’ distribution facility for the property, hoping to find an e-commerce tenant like Amazon. There has been no announcement on whether or not a tenant has been signed yet, but an announcement is expected before the end of the year.

MOVING SALE!

Furniture (sofas, love seat, coffee table, end tables, kitchen sets), **décor accessories** (lamps, large silk tree, mirrors, oil paintings, and floral pieces too many to list).

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THE ZONTA CLUB OF CHELSEA AND NORTH SHORE NEWS

The Zonta club of Chelsea and North Shore has delivered our annual holiday gift cards to our local School Depart-

ments. Theses cards are given to families in need in the 5 cities we service: Chelsea, Revere, Everett, Winthrop and Saugus.



Zonta members Mary Jane O'Neill and Barbara Lawlor are here with Everett's finance administrator accepting holiday gift card for Superintendent Priya Tahiliani. These cards will be given to families needing a little help this year.

Metro Housing says progress being made on RAFT program backlog

More than 6,200 incomplete applications found in processing

By Seth Daniel

After some elected officials in Everett voiced frustrations with the state's RAFT housing assistance program, the lead agency for the program said it hopes to clear up the 8,000-application backlog in the coming weeks.

Jeff Landis, of Metro Housing, said the agency has hired 50 permanent and temporary staff members since late October to scale-up their program to meet the goals of Gov. Charlie Baker's foreclosure prevention strategy. RAFT has always been a housing emergency relief program, but as COVID-19 began to give birth to a potential eviction crisis, the program was tapped to scale up significantly to prevent peo-

ple from being kicked out of their homes en mass.

The hiring, he said, allowed them to clear out that 8,000 application backlog from the first stage of the application process. Anyone that submitted applications in the first stage online has now been contacted by a Metro Housing staffer and informed of what to do next, he said.

"The addition of the new staff has resulted in nearly 1,300 completed applications moving forward to the processing stage," he said. "While reviewing the backlog of applications, more than 6,200 were found to be incomplete. These applicants have been asked to submit more detailed information."

Metro Housing is now responding to all new RAFT applications within two business days, he said. However, with the large

number of applications now being processed, applications may take from two to six weeks, depending on whether they are submitted with all documentation before proceeding to the confirmation and payment stage.

"Just as the original backlog was cleared up over the last four weeks, Metro Housing expects this backlog to be cleared in the coming weeks as the staff are trained and reassigned to these new tasks," Landis said.

Originally, Councilor Stephanie Martins and Councilor Michael McLaughlin voiced considerable frustrations with the RAFT program and proposed the City begin its own Municipal Eviction Relief program to fill in the gaps immediately. RAFT has responded by saying it is moving quickly to get applications on track.

EVERETT' HISTORICAL PROPERTIES

6-8 Walnut Street — The Wilbur Apartment Building

(The following is a weekly feature in the Independent based on the City's 2018 Historic Property Survey done to note the many little-known historically significant properties within the city.)

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

The Wilbur Apartment Building is a courtyard type apartment building unusual for combining 32 flats with a row of seven storefronts. The three-story, U-shaped brick building has an open courtyard facing Walnut Street with a line of single-story storefronts facing Hancock Street to the west and wrapping around the corner to Walnut Street as well. The brick apartment building has concrete trim including a wide frieze with fine dentil course above the first floor windows and more narrow belt courses below the second and third story windows. Near the top of the building is another wide frieze with more pronounced dentils. At each end of the apartment block and at the center of the courtyard there is a stepped concrete panel decorated by a shield with foliate ornament. At the center of the courtyard, the main entrance to the apartments is emphasized by an elaborate two-story centerpiece. The doorway is capped by a pediment supported by unfluted columns flanked on each side by a single window and outer pilaster. On the second floor, there is a pair of windows set in an eared concrete surround, topped by a segmental pediment. To either side, an individual window is decorated by a side console. Remaining windows on the apartment building include individual, double and sets of three windows all with 1/1 sash.

The single-story storefronts have been heavily altered over the years but retain some elements to suggest their original design including quoining, thin pilasters with foliate capitals and stuccoed wall surfaces. An additional concrete gabled parapet with shield is centered over the Hancock Street storefronts.

The Wilbur is one of a small number of open courtyard apartment buildings constructed in Everett in the early 20th century.

The courtyard type apartment building was



A modern, front view of The Wilbur from the street.



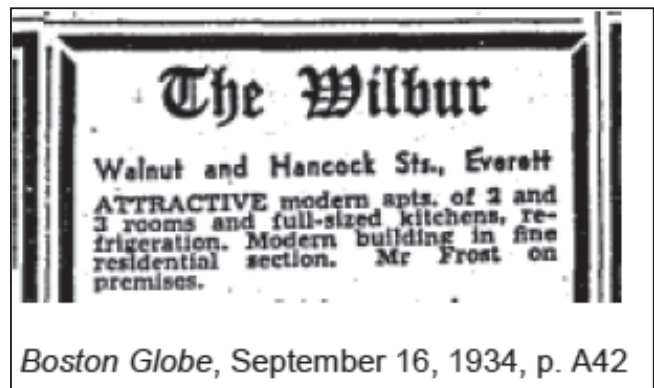
The U-shaped courtyard facing Walnut Street.

originated by Ralph Adams Cram with his design for Richmond Court on Beacon Street in Brookline in 1898. The Everett versions are considerably more modest than the Brookline model – other local examples include Aubrey Manor, 5-15 Hancock Street and The Bucknam at 68 Linden Street.

HISTORICAL NARRATIVE

This modern apartment building ("The Wilbur") replaced a single-family dwelling fronting Hancock Street. It was built in 1928 for Edith M. O'Brien. The 1928 Boston directory indicates that she worked in real estate with an office at 73 Tremont Street in Boston and resided at 209 Linden Street in Everett. No additional information was found concerning Edith O'Brien who apparently sold the property soon thereafter. According to State Inspection Records, the building was designed by Byron Earl Porter (1890-1970) of Lynn.

The 1930 Everett Directory combined with the 1930 Census provides insight into the early tenants who rented apartments in "The Wilbur". Their occupations included managers, superintendents, salesmen, teachers, a lawyer, and a hotel steward. In some cases, widows occupied units with their daughters. Most were married couples. Monthly rents ranged from \$45 to \$60/month with both two and three-room apartments. They offered full kitchens and tile baths with showers.



A newspaper advertisement in the 1934 Boston Globe advertising apartments for lease in The Wilbur.

In 1930 the storefront at 63 Hancock Street was occupied by Ella Gerrish, confectioner. By 1940 Williams Pharmacy occupied the space. A barber occupied 65 Hancock for many years (Joseph Nocera in 1930 and Harry Jenkins in 1940). Leo Silvi-ate's shoe repair business was located at 67 Hancock during this time period while Abraham Gordon's tailor shop was at 69 Hancock.

The building was designed by Byron Earl Porter (1890-1970) who was born in Lynn. The 1913 directory lists Porter as a draftsman working at 25 Exchange Street in Boston but by 1914 he was listed as an architect, apparently self-proclaimed. He studied evenings at the Huntington School of Architecture from 1907 to 1915 and also studied with the International Correspondence School in Scranton, Pennsylvania from 1908 to 1918 where he earned a diploma (American Architects Directory 1962). Prior to 1922 he maintained an office in Lynn; in 1922 he moved to an office at 1119 Tremont Street in Boston.

MACRIS has 10 references for Byron Porter including buildings in Salem, Marblehead, Medford, Brookline and Boston between 1911 and 1931. The only apartment building listed is located at 148 High Street in Medford, a brick Classical Revival structure with tile roof designed in 1931. He later worked as a designer for E.I. du Pont from 1942 to 1945. He moved to Spokane, Washington where he worked for Whitehouse & Price from 1945 to 1952 and then established his own practice in that city, where he died in 1970. In the 1962 edition of the American Architects Directory, he cited three works from the time spent in the Boston area: O'Hara Apartment Building, Medford, the Palmer and Lorraine Apartment Buildings in Lynn, and the Shay Building in Boston.

Real Estate Transfers

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Raju, Samsuzzaman	Damasio, Fernanda A	42 Liberty St	\$590,000
Lee, Christina	Merino, Manuel	8 Waverly St	\$699,000

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Former Mayor David Ragucci files for retirement as Assistant City Clerk

By Seth Daniel

Former mayor, long-time City legislator and current Assistant City Clerk David Ragucci announced on Tuesday his intention to retire at the end of January, 2021, ending 42 years of service to City and state government and a full-circle ending serving the community he grew up in and continues to cherish.

Ragucci announced his retirement around noon on Tuesday and said he was grateful to have finished his career in Everett – where he spent so many years living and working and serving the community.

“I am retiring and it has been a pleasure working for the City of Everett,” he said. “The people that make this job a pleasure have been great. It was wonderful working for the community I was born and raised in and raised

my own family in. It was more than a pleasure. The people that had their trust in me, I can’t thank them enough – the entire City Council, the mayor and the people of Everett. It’s been my honor and privilege. That may sound cliché, but it’s appropriate. I was able to end my career here where it began.”

Ragucci began his work in 1980 when he was hired by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts as a fraud investigator, and he worked at that job for 16 years. Simultaneously, in 1980, he was elected to his first term as the Ward 6 City Councilor in the old bi-cameral system. He did that for three terms, then moved up to the Board of Alderman for 12 years.

Then, for eight years, he served as mayor of the City during a time of great expansion. He served four, two-year terms as mayor, and ushered in several important projects.

Following that, he spent nine years as the Town Manager in Stoneham, and then a few years ago came back to Everett to serve as Assistant City Clerk under City Clerk Sergio Cornelio.

During his time as mayor, Ragucci was known as a hand-on mayor. Few could forget his time spent plowing the streets during more than a few blizzards – something chronicled on the news broadcasts. While such things may not have resounded with the unions, it was more than popular with the blue-collar residents of Everett at the time to see their mayor pitching in to lend a hand plowing the streets in an emergency situation.

“A lot of enemies were created during those times, but more friends I think,” he laughed.

He said on Tuesday he felt his crowning achievement as mayor was prevailing in the fight to lo-

cate Everett High School on the ledge at Glendale Park. He said it was a major political battle, and a lot had to be done, but as he drives by the school now, he said he is happy how it turned out.

“I had a tremendous fight in five years of my mayoral tenure on putting the high school in Glendale Park,” he said. “I find that to be quite a rewarding site when I drive by it. Many people didn’t think it would turn out this way. I like to think that was a crowning achievement of my administration. That was a fight by a lot of people for a long time.”

One of the hurdles to overcome was the order by the National Park Service to replace the parkland taken for the school. At that time, he said, the NPS was requiring a two-for-one swap – meaning that they planned to take five acres for the school and would need to come

up with 10 new acres of parkland elsewhere.

“Never before and never again did the National Park Service require a replacement of two-for-one,” he recalled. “To find 10 acres of land in Everett and it had to be contiguous, they were really putting the nails in our coffin. But we worked it out and ended up getting the GE parkland that is now a beautiful, beautiful open space for the City.”

He said it is heartening to see that all of the concerns from the neighbors about the school have, in time, been proven wrong – and the idea paid off very well.

Clerk Sergio Cornelio said Ragucci actually gave him his start in City government. He said few know it, but when he was 18, Ragucci hired him out of high school for the night watch at the Department of Public Works. That’s where he began his career,

working for Ragucci, and now it has been interesting the last few years to have Ragucci working for him.

“He really gave me a good start,” said Cornelio. “To have him come back and work for me was a role reversal. It was nice and we made a good team. He brought a wealth of historical knowledge. He’s worked in government since 1980, so he was a big help to have here in the office. I will be sad to see him go, I’m happy for him because he deserves it after 42 years.”

Ragucci will continue to serve on the Redevelopment Authority Board, but his last day at the Clerk’s Office will be Jan. 28. He said he will stick around short-term to train his replacement in the role of Assistant City Clerk, but after that it will be a lot of rest and relaxation.

“Long-term, I see a lot of golf and a lot of beach in my life,” he said.

CITY PAWS

Same breed, different dog

By Penny & Ed Cherubino

In a recent interview with Zazie Todd, Ph.D. of Companion Animal Psychology, Lili Chin, author of Doggie Language, made an essential point that all dog lovers need to understand. She stressed that dogs are individuals saying, “They are intelligent, sentient beings and no two dogs are the same. No two dogs of the same breed are the same!”

That comment set us to thinking about the many dogs we have known over the years. We’ve met zen Greyhounds and excitable Greyhounds, gentle giant Mastiffs, and Mastiffs we didn’t entirely trust. We know pushy terriers and laid back terriers. We even had a neighbor with a very snappy, nasty Pug.

Our Three Dogs

We’ve lived with three West Highland White Terriers, fostered a few more, and found each dog to be different from the rest. Our Sassy was well named. She challenged us constantly. She was our first dog as a couple, and she was determined to be the family’s boss. Maggie Mae was our happy, outgoing dog who loved every person and every other dog she met. Poppy is the anxious, worried little girl who will bark at dogs on TV but is afraid of everyone and everything outside her home. On the plus side, Poppy is the cuddliest Westie we’ve known.

Rooms Full of Westies

The differences in individual dogs were never more apparent to us than on occasions when we were in a room full of



All four Westies in this pack have their own personalities and reactions to their surroundings.

Westies. When Sassy died, a very kind couple who raised these terriers invited us to their home for what they called Westie therapy. They had us sit on the living room floor and sent twenty-one Westies to us as comfort dogs.

We laughed, cried, hugged, snuggled, and enjoyed the antics of this pack. We noticed the roles the individual dogs played in their large family.

Ed became best buds with their alpha male, who didn’t like many people. There was one timid little girl who was clearly the lowest member of the pack. Penny wanted to tuck her under a jacket and take her home with us to let her be number one in our hearts.

When we attended a weekend event for a Westie rescue and transport group, we saw more personality differences

among these canines. Two dogs from the same household couldn’t get along with any other dogs and even snarled at one another. Many of these Westies had the independent nature the breed is known for, but one little one was frantic and sat staring at the door, whining softly, anytime her guardian stepped away.

Genetics vs. Environment

There are some factors in a dog’s genetic makeup that you will have to live with when you choose a breed. These will be emphasized or downplayed depending on the direction a particular breeder took when choosing the parents.

For example, some people who breed terriers want their dogs to be feisty for the show ring. They not only breed for it, but

also encourage it in their training. More responsible choices might be to breed dogs who have not shown signs of genetic disorders like hip dysplasia in Alsations or deafness in Dalmatians.

Thoughtful training and support can help most dogs overcome some of the negative aspects of their genetics. However, when you choose a new member of your family, try to consider what is known about the breed or mix of breeds in the dog’s heritage. Plan how you will deal with both the potential behavior and health problems. But, remember, no two dogs are the same.

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

License Board back at full contingent with appointments

By Seth Daniel

The Everett License Commission has been a lonely duo for the past year since member Brian McCarthy moved to the Election Commission.

However, the Board has now been made whole once again with a new appointment and a re-appointment approved by the City Council on Monday, Nov. 23.

Former Zoning Board member Michael Dantone has been made a new appointment to the License Board by Mayor Carlo DeMaria after suddenly being removed from the ZBA last August. Some postulated he was removed due to his public support of Councilor Michael McLaughlin for state representative over incumbent Joe McGonag-

gle. However, Mayor DeMaria said that was not the case whatsoever, and was only part of his effort to reorganize Boards. Now, Dantone has found a new home on what has during COVID-19 become one of the most critical Boards in the City when it comes to enforcing COVID-19 state guidelines on licensed establishments.

Re-appointed to the Board was Phil Aloro for another term.

They will join longtime Chair Phil Antonelli to once again have a three-person Board to decide liquor licenses and COVID-19 guidelines and other licensing matters.

City Clerk Sergio Cornelio said the two members would likely be sworn in this week and would appear at the next meeting.

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NEWS FROM AROUND THE REGION

OFFICIALS
ANNOUNCE STATE
GRANT

CHELSEA - The City has reported it has secured the largest MassWorks grant in the Commonwealth this year to help further cement the mixed-income Innes Housing redevelopment project – a grant that will provide \$5 million to helping lay the groundwork for the project before it begins.

City Planner Alex Train said the grant was a key part of the overall Innes package and will allow the project stability to go to the open market for financing.

“The Department of Housing and Community Development, Chelsea Housing Authority, the City of Chelsea and the Corcoran Companies are excited to announce we have received the largest MassWorks award in the Commonwealth - a total of \$5 million for critical infrastructure like streetscape improvements, utility work, and site infrastructure. It will allow the project to move forward now in 2021.”

A total of \$1 million will be dedicated to reducing flooding and mitigating things around the site with utilities and streetscape improvements – likely eliminating the persistent flooding issues at Highland Park. That will include new lighting, sidewalks, roadways, crosswalks and bicycle/pedestrian infrastructure.

The remaining \$4 million will be used for demolition on the Innes site and for site improvements needed ahead of construction.

“This is huge and definitely the catalyst of the project, particularly on the streets and critical infrastructure,” he said. “With that, we’ll soon be able to transform the corridor for Chelsea Housing Authority residents and elevate the transportation connections between the City’s neighborhoods and the surrounding waterfront.”

Jenn Corcoran, of Corcoran Companies, said the MassWorks grant was a centerpiece of the entire

development, and they had been working very closely with the state to impress upon how important that money was to unlock private financing.

“I’d go as far as to say this was something we needed to get,” she said.

Corcoran said last summer they were able to get a Home Rule Petition passed to move the development forward, and this was one of the last governmental pieces. Now, she said, though they are about one year behind due to COVID-19 delays, they are ready to move into the next phase of the development.

“All I all, we’ll probably be about a year behind where we had been before all this,” she said. “We’ll pick up in December where we left off in March.”

She said they are taking the project to the financial markets and will be looking to develop financial partners.

CHA Director Al Ewing said this is a big milestone his agency has been waiting for.

“It really is a big milestone for the project at Innes Development,” he said. “We’re excited to get this grant from the state and continue moving the project forward.”

Sean McReynolds, of Corcoran, said getting the largest grant shows the state is prioritizing this kind of partnership.

“I think the MassWorks grant highlights the priority the state put behind construction projects, public/private partnerships and something as important as the Innes Development being in the Smart Growth District,” he said. “There was a lot of work done behind the scenes to get the Smart Growth District established there.”

Train said they hoped to have a contractor on board in early 2021 and begin the infrastructure work just ahead of the overall construction project getting underway.

AGENCY RECEIVES
5-STAR RATING

CHELSEA - The Chel-

sea Jewish Visiting Nurse Agency (VNA) received the prestigious 5-Star rating from Home Health Compare. This designation reflects the highest number of stars allotted to a home health agency. Notably, there were only three home health care agencies with a 5-Star rating in the entire state of Massachusetts as of September 2020. In fact, only a select number of agencies across the country have been awarded this distinction.

“We are so pleased that our VNA Home Care has been recognized as being among the top home health agencies not only in Massachusetts, but throughout the country,” said Chelsea Jewish Lifecare President Adam Berman. “Earning this 5-Star designation is a testament to our skilled and compassionate staff, our strong commitment to excellence and our dedication as an organization to provide the highest caliber of care possible.”

These ratings are based upon two separate categories: “Quality of Patient Care” and “Patient Satisfaction.” A rating of 5 stars means the agency achieved the highest possible evaluation. Home Health Compare, part of the Medicare website, serves as a key resource to help consumers choose a quality home health care provider.

Chelsea Jewish VNA provides exceptional home care services in the comfort of one’s home or assisted living facilities. By creating a care plan that best suits each client’s needs and scheduling preferences, an individual will receive a treatment plan that is customized specifically for his or her needs.

Today the five-star rating system has become a critical way for the public to measure the quality and satisfaction of a home health care provider. Five stars are considered well above average. Adds CJL’s Berman, “We work very hard, day in and day out, to achieve and maintain this 5-star rating. I am incredibly proud of our home care staff.”

WINTHROP HIGH SENIORS POOL TIME,
RESOURCES FOR THE COMMUNITY FOOD PANTRY



Friends and WHS seniors, Cody Bell, Matt Stoddard, and Cody Wojcik, have been volunteering every Wednesday after school since the beginning of November. The friends have been collecting and sorting food, restocking shelves, and asking local businesses for monetary donations as a way to help out their local food pantry in Winthrop. Shown above, the three sorting through Food Pantry donations in the St. John’s Episcopal Church hall.

5 star survey and patient satisfaction. One of three with 5 star quality of patient care ratings in the state, and one of 3 that has both 5 star quality of patient care and patient survey ratings.

SENIOR HOUSING
PROJECT BREAKS
GROUND

EAST BOSTON - The East Boston Community Development Corporation (CDC) broke ground on its Boston Planning and Development Agency (BPDA) approved project to create a 42 unit residential building serving low-income seniors.

The Grace Apartments, located at 187 Sumner St. will also renovate 17 income-restricted units on the site’s existing building according to Zoe Cushman of Public Relation firm Matter Now.

“Ground has officially broken on Grace Apartments,” said Cushman. “The new residences will be built adjacent to the historic Woodbury Apartments, providing existing residents with the option to move into Grace Apartments upon construction completion. As part of a long-term plan, the completion of Grace Apartments will allow for future renovations to the Woodbury Building for workforce housing.”

Cushman said the development answers calls from both Governor Charlie Baker and Boston Mayor Marty Walsh for improved access to affordable housing in Greater Boston and across the Commonwealth.

The project was approved at the BPDA’s board meeting in January, 2019. BPDA officials said the approval of the 42 income-restricted senior units at 187 Sumner St. makes progress towards Mayor Walsh’s goal of increasing affordable housing to support not only a strong middle-class, but also area seniors. May-

or Walsh has updated the City’s housing targets to support the creation of new affordable housing, increase access to homeownership opportunities, and prevent displacement of the neighborhood’s most vulnerable residents.

According to plans approved by the BPDA, the CDC project involves the construction of a new 39,067 square foot, 42-unit seven-story building and the renovation of an existing 26,800 square foot building currently on the same site in Maverick Square.

The new building will include all low-income elderly housing. The existing building, which includes 17 elderly/disabled subsidized units as well as approximately 3,000 square feet of ground floor commercial, will be converted to workforce housing units, including two affordable units.

The property consists of a 16,266-square foot parcel of land with 26,800-square foot of mixed use, residential and commercial building.

There will be no changes to the footprint of the existing building and the proposed new building will be situated behind the existing building.

The 3,798 square foot first floor will consist of a community room, kitchen, lobby, mailroom, office, and mechanical space. The lot size will accommodate five parking spaces, one of which will be handicapped accessible.

The second through seventh floors will have seven units per floor, for a total of 42 units. There will be no changes to the footprint of the existing building.

The tenants in the existing building will be given the option to move to a new unit upon completion of the first phase of the project.

The CDC has controlled the project site since the late 1970s. The property consists of an irregular shaped 16,266 square foot

parcel of land behind the existing 26,800 square foot mixed use, residential and commercial building.

The CDC sought to develop the land back in 1975 and received approvals by the then Boston Redevelopment Authority but those approvals have since expired.

The CDC held a BPDA-sponsored meeting back in September 2019 as part of the Article 80 review process and there was little to no opposition to the plans.

The CDC’s Al Caldarelli argued in the project’s filing that the proposed project offers the immense benefit of increasing the number of senior affordable housing units in Maverick Square. Caldarelli added that the CDC is acutely aware of the demand for senior affordable housing in Eastie as developers and managers of several elderly affordable housing developments in the neighborhood.

“There are over one-thousand households on the CDC’s waiting list for its elderly affordable housing developments,” said Caldarelli. “Moreover, the proposed project will create workforce housing in the heart of Maverick Square, adding a diversity of incomes and ages to development.”

HVNA VOTES ON
PROJECTS

EAST BOSTON - At its monthly meeting earlier this month the Harbor View Neighborhood Association (HVNA) voted on three development projects.

The first project at 85-86 Horace St, the group voted 34 to 14 in favor of owners Adam and Deana Fetherson’s plan to subdivide the existing parcel at 87 Horace into two lots and erect a single-family house.

According to the couple’s attorney, Jeff Drago, the ground floor will have

See METRO NEWS Page 9

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HOME CARE

Region // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8

a one car garage, patio, storage and mechanicals; the 2nd floor will be a kitchen, dining room, rear deck, and half bath; and the 3rd floor will be three bedrooms and two full bathrooms.

The Fethersons plan to live in the newly constructed home to accommodate their growing family.

The group then voted 28-20 in favor of the project at 95-97 Horace St. There, owner/developer Joseph Trichilo plans to subdivide the existing 5,000 sq. ft. parcel and build a two unit condo building with two parking spaces.

According to Trichilo’s attorney, Richard Lynds, all units will be two bedroom, two bathroom units.

Lynds said Trichilo has scaled down the project from four units with six parking spaces to the two units.

Abutters at the meeting commended Trichilo and Lynds for addressing the concerns of neighbors by reducing the size and scope of the project. Lynds said the change was in response to a desire to see more green space and improve the buffering between the project and neighbors.

“We may be able to extend the green area a bit more,” said Lynds.

In the last presentation of the evening HVNA members voted -21 against the project at 95-97 Addison St.

Owners Nick Earls and Eric DiNicola proposed to demolish the existing home and build a 10 units condo building with 10 parking spaces on a 6,000 sq. ft. lot.

Attorney for the DiNicolas, Mike Ross, said the project is within the McClellan Economic Development Area, which makes the project tricky from a zoning standpoint. Addison Street is not zoned for residential units but is for Executive Suites.

Ross said the owners started by proposing 12 units but reduced the number of units to 10.

However, HVNA members--given all the recent development on Addison Street, were not thrilled by the idea of tearing down a small residential home and building 10 units.

While Ross said his clients have over 20 letters of support from abutters within 300 feet of the project one abutter at the meeting said he was an abutter and did not support the proposal.

CRIGHTON HONORED FOR WORK

LYNN - The Massachusetts Housing & Shelter Alliance (MHSA) announced that it will honor Senator Brendan P. Crighton (D – Third Essex District) for his commitment to providing comprehensive housing solutions for people experiencing homelessness in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic. Senator Crighton will receive the “Canon Brian S. Kelley Public Servant Award” at the 2020 MHSA Annual Meeting, which will be held virtually on December 10, at 9 a.m.

The award is named in honor of Canon Brian S. Kelley, a longtime advocate committed to ending homelessness through his tireless work at Boston’s Cathedral Church of St. Paul.

“While Senator Crighton has always been a leader in addressing the

issue of homelessness, he stepped up in a big way from the outset of the pandemic,” said MHSA President & Executive Director Joe Finn. “Senator Crighton recognized the impact that COVID-19 would have on people experiencing homelessness and, in his role as Chair of the Joint Committee on Housing, ensured that the needs of those living in permanent supportive housing did not go unnoticed.”

“I am humbled to receive the Canon Brian S. Kelley Public Servant Award,” said Senator Crighton. “It has been an absolute honor to work with Joe Finn and the outstanding staff at the Massachusetts Housing & Shelter Alliance. Their decades of commitment and dedicated service assisting people who are experiencing homelessness are truly remarkable. COVID-19 has had devastating effects on housing-insecure families and individuals throughout the Commonwealth. MHSA works to meet people where they are, to maintain and recognize their dignity and to help them get back on their feet. I am proud to call them a partner and I am deeply moved and greatly appreciate this recognition.”

Elected to the State Senate in 2018, Senator Crighton represents the Third Essex District, serving the City of Lynn and Towns of Lynnfield, Marblehead, Nahant, Saugus and Swampscott. As Chair of the Joint Committee on Housing, Senator Crighton advocates for legislation and programs that prevent homelessness, promote housing affordability, incentivize transit-oriented development, and help build diverse housing stock.

More information about the MHSA Annual Meeting is available at <https://www.mhsa.net/AM2020> or by contacting Meg Hoffman Calleja at mcalleja@mhsa.net.

The Massachusetts Housing & Shelter Alliance (MHSA) is a nonprofit organization dedicated to ending homelessness in Massachusetts. Through advocacy, collaboration, education, and innovative program development, MHSA focuses on evidence-based solutions that reduce public reliance on emergency resources and prioritize access to stable housing and individualized support services. MHSA draws on the on-the-ground experience of its 89 member agencies from across Massachusetts to inform its advocacy and program development. MHSA’s unique position as an intermediary between public agencies and homeless service providers enables it to create solutions to homelessness that have the greatest impact. For more information, please visit www.mhsa.net.

SELEVITCH HONORED FOR WORK

REVERE - Robert Selevitch has had a distinguished career in the field of private investigation for 40 years. He has worked on some of the state’s most high-profile cases.

Selevitch was honored in a ceremony on Nov. 17 with the Massachusetts Innocence Program’s Committee for Public Counsel Services’ prestigious “Investigator Award” for outstanding investigative service.

Lisa M. Kavanaugh, director of the Innocence Program, lauded Selevitch’s excellent work for the agency and his overall professionalism while investigating cases and helping people.

“Rob has been an integral member of the Innocence Program team for many years,” said Kavanaugh. “His investigative work on two cases in particular was absolutely integral to our success in convincing the DA in both cases to assent to our motions for a new trial and to the dismissal of the charges. Thank you, Rob, for all you do.”

The two individuals whom Selevitch assisted had been incarcerated for 38 and 41 years respectively.

“It was very gratifying to help these men,” said Selevitch. “I know I have a purpose in life.”

Selevitch described the award recognition as “one of the highlights of my career.”

Selevitch, 66, worked in the investigation unit for the U.S. military and later for the Department of the Defense before starting his own private investigation firm.

A lifelong Revere resident and 1972 graduate of Revere High School, Selevitch has two children, Sara Selevitch and Steven Selevitch. Sara is a graduate of Emerson College and holds a Master of Fine Arts from California Institute of Art. She is a writer. Steven is a graduate of Syracuse University and works for BNY Mellon.

“I have two great kids who are really doing well,” said Selevitch. “The Revere Public School did very well for my kids.”

Following is the text of Robert Selevitch’s award acceptance speech:

Thank you, Richard. Thank you for the kind words. the first thing I want to say is how honored I am to be here tonight receiving this award. I know there are many incredibly talented and dedicated criminal defense investigators across the state, any number of whom have done things worthy of this award.

I also want to talk briefly about the job Richard Slowe has done as the chief investigator of the public defender division. While many indigent defendants have never heard the name Richard Slowe, many owe him a debt of gratitude. As chief investigator Richard Slowe has advocated for and developed training programs and initiated best practice protocols that have elevated the performance of every criminal defense investigator in the state. The improved skill set of the investigators has a direct correlation to better outcomes for our clients. Thank you Richard for your leadership. It all ties together.

I have been blessed to work with incredible lawyers throughout my career, both as a private investigator in Massachusetts and while working at Committee for Public Counsel Services. The attorneys were all different in the way they approached their jobs, but the one thing the great ones all have is a determination to get it right...to give every client the opportunity for a fair trial, often in the face of daunting odds.

I work in two separate and distinct divisions within CPCS. I am the staff investigator for the Middlesex County Trial

Unit where I investigate serious felonies for public defenders in Middlesex County. I am also a regional supervising investigator where I supervise 11 criminal defense investigators in Boston, Roxbury, Lawrence, Lowell, and Framingham for the public defender division.

For the past several years I have also been the lead investigator for the Innocence program for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts where I work with with an incredibly talented and dedicated group of legal professionals who fight injustice every day. We have had tremendous success at the Innocence Program, and I’ve had the honor to have participated in a dozen exonerated cases - changing lives never gets old.

In that capacity I work with two of the fiercest fighters for justice I have

ever had the pleasure to team with - Lisa Kavanaugh, the director of the Innocence Program for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, and Carolyn McGowan, the attorney in charge of the Somerville trial unit. They have provided the leadership that is instrumental to my success, as well as successful outcomes for our clients. They lead by example, and the attorneys that work with them see the example being set and they respond by zealously advocating for their clients. It all ties together.

Being able to collaborate with great lawyers is awesome. When it clicks, it’s like listening to a symphony to me, all the parts fit and tie together. With people like Richard, Lisa and Carolyn conducting, the musicians in the orchestra are free to open their hearts and play the

songs they love.

Yes, I have been truly blessed in my life. I have a family who love and support me, friends who are loyal and encouraging, and a career that has brought me tremendous personal satisfaction.

Confucius says choose a job you love and you will never work a day in your life. The fact that the job I chose can have such a profound effect on the lives of others is very gratifying. I know what Tom Brady feels when he hoists the Super Bowl trophy over his head in victory. Watching exonerees, like Fred Clay, Ray Champagne, and a dozen others we’ve gotten released, walk out those doors is an incredible feeling. Changing lives for the better is so gratifying. I can’t wait until we do it again. Thank you. Good night.

- 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 December 21, 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: 168 Bucknam Street
Map/Parcel: D0-01-00003
Person Requesting: Mr. Adam Zuniga
117 Orleans Street.
East Boston, MA 02128

To the said Board of Appeals, the owner/applicant proposes to construct a new two (2) family on an existing 5814 sf lot that currently has an existing two (2) family residential building that was constructed in April 1928.

The owner wishes to convert the existing three (3) family dwelling into a four (4) family dwelling. The plot plan submitted indicates that Six (6) parking spaces are proposed in the yard are several are stacked parked and requires backing into the street. The permit is respectfully denied in accordance with The City of Everett Zoning Appendix A for the following reasons:

Reason for Denial:

- A four (4) family is not an allowed use in this district.
- The Floor Area is above the allowable at 1.22 FAR.
- The parking plan provided indicates that a vehicle will be required to be moved in order for the other vehicles to enter and leave the parking lot.
- Does not have the required 275 square feet per car.
- The parking plan provided indicates that a vehicle will be parked within the required minimum specified building Front setback of ten (10) feet and the corner setback of seven (7) feet.
- The parking plan provided indicates that a vehicle will be parked closer than eight (8) feet from a habitable window.
- The parking plan provided indicates that it will be necessary for vehicles to back into the street.
- The parking plan provided does not indicate an 18’ aisle to allow vehicles to ingress and egress at the same time.

Zoning Ordinance:

1. Section 4 Dwelling Districts (a) Uses:

A. Uses. Within any dwelling district as indicated on the zoning map, no building, structure or premises shall be used and no building or structure shall be erected which is intended or designed to be used in whole or in part for any industry, trade, manufacturing, or commercial purposes, of for other than the following specified purposes:

1. A single or double semi-detached dwelling existing at the time of the first enactment of the Zoning Ordinance may be converted to provide not more than a total of three (3) dwelling units provided that the following standards are met:

Any addition shall comply with the front, side and rear yard requirements and height limitations of the Zoning Ordinance.

Where the existing building is already non-conforming, any alteration shall not increase the existing non-conformity. Parking in accordance with this Zoning Ordinance shall be provided for any additional dwelling units. (Ord. of 4-29-91)

2. Section 4 Dwelling Districts A Uses 17. Conversion of Dwelling. No new dwelling unit created by the conversion of an existing dwelling shall be permitted unless the requirements of minimum lot area and off-street parking are satisfied for all dwelling units in existence and proposed in the dwelling after the conversion or enlargement. (Ord. 02-046 of Oct. 22, 2003

3. Section 17 Off Street Parking (J): “Parking facilities shall be designed so that each motor vehicle may proceed to and from the parking space provided for it without requiring the moving of any other motor vehicle.”

4. Section 17 Off Street Parking (I): Each required car space shall be not less than 9 feet in width and 18 feet in length exclusive of drives and maneuvering space, and the total area of any parking facility for more than five (5) cars shall average two hundred seventy-five (275) square feet per car. No driveways or curb cuts shall exceed thirty (30) feet in width. (Ord. 01-046/2001)

5. Section 17 Off Street Parking (K): “Parking facilities shall be designed so that no vehicles shall be parked nearer to any street lines than the minimum specified building setback for the Zoning District in which the parking facility is located.”

6. Section 17 Off Street Parking (M): “No parking stall shall be located within eight (8) feet of any window of habitable rooms in the basement or first story level of any building.”

7. Section 17 Off Street Parking (O): 4. “Except for one and two family dwellings, parking shall be designed so that it is not necessary to drive over sidewalks or curbs or to back into the street or driveway”

8. Section 17 Off Street Parking (O): 5. “All parking areas shall have an access road with a minimum of eighteen (18) feet to allow ingress and exiting at same time.”


Mary Gerace – Chairman
Board of Appeals

Roberta Suppa - Clerk

OBITUARIES

Camille Harney

Former Catholic Cemetery Association Secretary



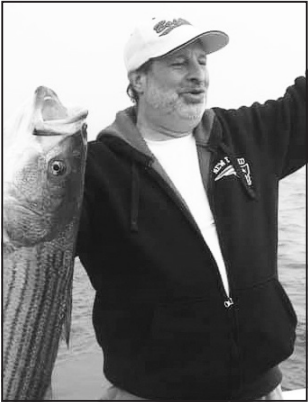
Camille (Palladino) Harney of Everett, formerly of East Boston, passed away on November 27 at the age of 76.

The cherished daughter of the late Louis and Marie (Martucci) Palladino, she was the beloved wife of Edward Harney, loving mother of Edward F. Harney Jr., of Everett, Kristen Walters and her husband, Bradley of Tyngsborough and the late Eric Harney; dear sister of Richard Palladino and his wife, Geraldine of Revere and adored grandmother of Ian and Kayla Walters.

Camille was employed as a secretary for The Catholic Cemetery Association in Beverly; she

Richard Daniel Capone

Will be remembered and missed for the kindhearted and humorous person that he was



Richard Daniel “Rick” Capone, 63, of Everett, passed away peacefully at home on Thursday, Nov. 19 surrounded by loving family at his bedside after a year-long cancer illness.

He is survived by his wife of 34 years, Diana (Page) and he was the loving father of Nicole Capone of Las Vegas, NV and Sean Capone of Braintree; devoted brother to Joseph and his wife, Judy Capone and Steve and his wife, Nancy Capone, all of Port Charlotte, FL; Lawrence and his wife, Patsy Capone of Salem, NH, David and his wife, Christine Capone of Winthrop, and Karen Lorentz of Revere. He is also survived by his mother-in-law, Gail Page of Claremont, NH, brother and sister-in-law Stephen and Mary Page of Claremont, NH and three godchildren: David Capone, Jr. of Winthrop, Lori Roberto of Revere and Tommy Lorentz of Sarasota, FL, as well as by many other nieces, nephews and friends. He was predeceased by his parents, Joseph and Annie Laurice Capone, his

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OBITUARIES

All obituaries and death notices will be at a cost of \$100.00 per paper. That includes photo.

Please send to obits@reverejournal.com or call 781-485-0588

Baker-Polito administration awards over \$4.7 million to support food security

Staff report

The Baker-Polito Administration announced over \$4.7 million in grants to address urgent food insecurity for residents across the Commonwealth as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. This funding is being awarded as part of the fifth round of the new \$36 million Food Security Infrastructure Grant Program, created following recommendations from the Administration’s COVID-19 Command Center’s Food Security Task Force, which promotes ongoing efforts to ensure that individuals and families throughout the Commonwealth have access to healthy, local food.

“As Massachusetts residents celebrate Thanksgiving this week, we recognize that food insecurity remains a significant challenge for many families throughout the Commonwealth, making our efforts to secure a resilient, diverse local food supply chain even more critical,” said Governor Charlie Baker. “Through a \$56 million investment through our Food Security Task Force, our Administration is committed to investing in our local food infrastructure and ensuring a secure supply of food, which will enable

us to ensure that families throughout Massachusetts can access local, nutritious food as they continue to meet the challenges created by the pandemic.”

The local awardees for the fifth round of the Food Security Infrastructure Grant Program include:

- Everett Community Growers, \$319, Funding will enable the organization to expand the availability of its products to low income individuals and families within the community by investing in equipment (a receipt printer) that enables SNAP/EBT payments to be directly made.
- Chelsea Public Schools, \$80,743, The Chelsea Public Schools will utilize program funding to enable the purchasing of new equipment and point of sale tablet technology, which will assist in food distribution through its grab and go meals program.
- Boys & Girls Clubs of Boston, \$142,770, The funding will enable the organization to implement a Facility Adaption Project, which includes updates and adaptations to BGCB Clubs to prepare for the reopening and/or to safely conduct programming in order to provide services to youth during the 2020-21 program year.
- YMCA of Greater Boston, \$183,847, The funding will enable the YMCA of Greater Boston to establish mobile food pantries to deliver food to underserved neighborhoods in Boston. The mobile food pantry will provide full-service food pantry operations and it will rotate on a weekly basis to deliver to as many neighborhoods as possible.

The goal of the Food Security Infrastructure Grant Program is to ensure that individuals and families throughout the Commonwealth have equitable access to food, especially local food. The program also seeks to ensure that farmers, fishermen and other local food producers are better connected to a strong, resilient food system to help mitigate future food supply and distribution disruption.

The fifth round of the grant program includes 54 awards for a total of \$4,742,293 to fund critical investments in technology, equipment, capacity, and other assistance to help local food producers, especially in the distribution of food insecure communities. When evaluating the applications, considerations included equity, economic impact and need, sustainability and scalability of efforts, and ability to support producer readiness to accept SNAP and HIP benefits. In the program’s first four rounds, the Administration awarded over \$17.7 million to more than 137 recipients.

The Administration also announced the COVID-19 Command Center’s new food program for isolating and quarantining individuals in collaboration with local boards of health and the Community Tracing Collaborative (CTC), which invests nearly \$1.2 million to support residents in isolation. Communities across the Commonwealth have developed innovative, local solutions to support families who are dealing with the direct impacts of COVID-19, for which access to nutritious and culturally appropriate food is crucial. For a portion of low-income households, and in certain geographic areas, food security remains a top concern while isolating. This new program will be coordinated with local health departments, the CTC, food pantries, municipalities, and other local partners to assess needs and gaps in service at the individual and community level, and develop and deploy local solutions to ensure the foods security needs of those isolating and quarantining can be met.

Sheriff Peter J. Koutoujian appointed to national effort to improve criminal justice data

Staff report

Middlesex Sheriff Peter J. Koutoujian announced his appointment to the newly formed steering committee to guide Justice Counts, the largest, most comprehensive effort to improve the availability and utility of criminal justice data to date.

Justice Counts, made possible by the support of the U.S. Department of Justice’s Bureau of Justice Assistance, is a national, consensus-building initiative designed to help policymakers make better decisions with criminal justice data that’s more timely, less disjointed, and as useful as possible.

“I am honored to join this important national effort,” said Sheriff Koutoujian. “The collection, analysis, and sharing of real-time data is crucial to enhancing public safety in every jurisdiction across the country. Access to key metrics will provide policymakers with the ability to make smarter, more informed decisions on improvements to our criminal justice system.”

The initiative is led by The Council of State Governments Justice Center and backed by 21 additional partners representing officials in every corner of our nation’s state, county, and municipal justice systems. The steering committee comprises active state and local officials—from law enforcement, to corrections, to legislatures, and beyond—who will help the initiative organize available data for each state and ultimately reach consensus about a baseline set of criminal justice metrics that can drive budget and policy decisions.

“Justice Counts has assembled an unprecedented coalition of state and local leaders to enhance policymakers’ decisions across our nation’s justice system,” said Georgia Supreme Court Justice Michael P. Boggs, who will chair the steering committee. “I’m proud to help mobilize policymakers and stakeholders from across the country to put these metrics to work, and to support the development of the tools they need to help them measure what matters.”

Justice Counts will embark on a scan of public, aggregate criminal justice data to provide policymakers in every state with timely information about their criminal justice systems, existing gaps in data collection, and opportunities to do better.

Specifically, the steering committee will guide the following efforts:

- State data: We will aggregate publicly available data from each of the 50 states to provide timely, integrated information and identify opportunities to improve data collection, analysis, and reporting.
- Consensus: We will bring state and local leaders together to reach consensus about a baseline set of criminal justice metrics that can inform budget and policy decisions.
- Resources: Create a range of tools that will enable policymakers and practitioners to improve how their state or locality collects, analyzes, and reports criminal justice data.

To learn more about Justice Counts, visit the initiative’s website at www.justice-counts.org.

LEGAL NOTICES

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF ACTIVITY AND USE LIMITATION

ExxonMobil Terminal 52 Beacham Street, Everett, Massachusetts Release Tracking Number 3-0310

A release of oil and/or hazardous materials has occurred at this location, which is a disposal site as defined by M.G.L. c. 21E, § 2 and the Massachusetts Contingency Plan, 310 CMR 40.0000 (MCP). On November 20, 2020, ExxonMobil Environmental and Property Solutions Company (E&PS), on behalf of ExxonMobil Oil Corporation (ExxonMobil), recorded a Notice of Activity and Use Limitation (AUL) at the Middlesex South Registry of Deeds for a portion of the ExxonMobil Terminal disposal site, pursuant to 310 CMR 40.1070 through 40.1080. Specifically, the AUL is for an area of the disposal site that currently comprises the Sprague Operating Resources LLC property located at 43 Beacham Street in Everett, Massachusetts and will limit the following activities and uses:

- ≠ Use for any purpose that would constitute a “permitted use” under any of the “residence” or “residential” zones, districts, or classification set forth in applicable City of Everett Zoning Ordinance in effect, or any other developed use, or any playground, recreational park day-care facility/school (or any other usage that involves the presence of children at high frequency and high intensity); i.e., hospital, hospice care, nursing home, hotel, restaurant, shopping center, rehabilitation center, community correction’s center, etc.;
- ≠ Installation and operation of a groundwater supply well for potable and non-potable uses, including irrigation, fire suppression and industrial process water;
- ≠ Underground parking, basements, or other underground construction other than building and road foundations, supports, footings, and utilities;
- ≠ Underground demolition or construction work, unless such work is conducted in accordance with a Soil Management Plan (SMP) and Health and Safety Plan (HASP) developed and implemented per the AUL;
- ≠ Planned (non-emergency) activities and/or uses which involve disturbance of, or direct contact with, the subsurface soil, unless such activities are conducted in accordance with the SMP and HASP, developed in accordance with MCP soil and wastewater management procedures;
- ≠ Use of soil for cultivation of fruits and vegetables destined for human consumption; and
- ≠ Use for the bulk storage or processing of petroleum products other than asphalt and residual fuels, including intermediate and finished products useful in making or blending asphalt and residual fuels, and liquid fuels solely used in the operation of the existing facility.

Any person interested in obtaining additional information about the Notice of Activity and Use Limitation may contact Kehat Folik, Project Manager, E&PS, 38 Varick Street, Brooklyn, NY 11222 (832) 624-1001. The Notice of Activity and Use Limitation and the disposal site file can be viewed at the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP) website using Release Tracking Number 3-0310 at <http://public.dep.state.ma.us/SearchableSites2/Search.aspx> or at the MassDEP

Northeast Regional Office, 2058 Lowell Street, Wilmington, Massachusetts (978) 694-3200.

12/2/20 EV

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE

Notice is hereby given by Rigano’s Towing Service 1081 Fellsway, Malden, MA, pursuant to the provisions of Mass General Laws, Chapter 255, Section 39A, that they will sell the following vehicles on or after December 10, 2020

beginning at 10:00 am by public or private sale to satisfy their garage keepers lien for towing, storage, and notices of sale. Vehicles are being stored at Rigano’s Towing Service.


1. 2016 Nissan Maxima VIN 1N4AA6AP-7GC438271

2. 2010 Hyundai Sonata VIN 5NPET4AC3AH580619

3. 2006 BMW 325i VIN WBAVB13566PT08364


Signed Basil Rigano Owner

11/25, 12/2, 12/9 EV



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617-635-4408

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51 Inman Street
Cambridge, MA 02139-1732
617-349-4396

CONNECTICUT COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS & OPPORTUNITIES
21 Grand Street, 4th Floor
Hartford, CT 06106-1561
860-541-3400

MAINE HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION
51 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333
207-624-6050

MASSACHUSETTS COMMISSION AGAINST DISCRIMINATION
One Ashburton Place, Room 601
Boston, MA 02108-1599
617-994-6000

RHODE ISLAND COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS
180 Westminster Street, 3rd floor
Providence, RI 02903-3768
401-222-2661/62

VERMONT HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION
135 State Street, Drawer 33
Montpelier, VT 05633-6301
802-828-2480

NEW HAMPSHIRE COMMISSION FOR HUMAN RIGHTS
2 Chenell Drive
Concord, NH 03301-9053
603-271-2767

NEW HAVEN COMMISSION ON EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES
200 Orange Street, Room 402
New Haven, CT 06510
203-946-8160/8165

All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act of 1968, which makes it illegal to advertise any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status (number of children and or pregnancy), national origin, ancestry, age, marital status, or any intention to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination.

This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate that is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertising in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis. To complain about discrimination call The Department of Housing and Urban Development "HUD" toll-free at 1-800-669-9777. For the N.E. area, call HUD at 617-565-5308. The toll free number for the hearing impaired is 1-800-927-9275.

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CHURCH News

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 facebook page, "Zion Church Ministries."
For more information, they can be reached online at zionchurchministries.com or via email at office@zionchurchministries.com

Glendale Christian Lighthouse Church
News and Notes
Sunday 10:30 AM Worship service.
Wednesday hour of Power, worship, prayer and Bible Study, via Zoom.
"Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters," Colossians 3:23
"In Pursuit of Spiritual Excellence"
Righteousness, Godli-

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

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
ness, Faith, Love, Truth
GLENDALE CHRISTIAN LIGHTHOUSE CHURCH
701 BROADWAY EVERETT, MASSACHUSETTS 02149
617-387-7458
Rev. Larry Russi, Sr. Pastor
pastorlarry@thelighthousechurch701.net

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

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. Brink 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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A public service message from the U.S. General Services Administration.

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.

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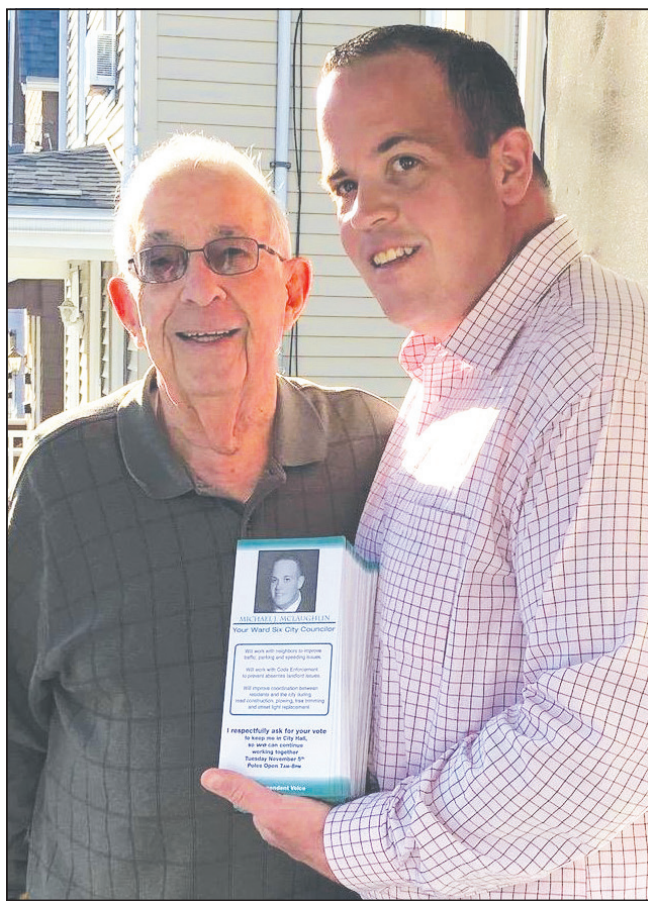
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HAPPY 90TH BIRTHDAY, SAL



On Monday November 23, Former Ward Six Alderman Sal Sachetta celebrated his 90th birthday. Councillor Michael McLaughlin was among the countless well wishes Sal received on his birthday. This photo was recently taken before Covid-19, which prevented everyone from being able to wish Sal a Happy Birthday in person. All wish Sal a Happy Birthday and a coming year filled with Good Health, Happiness and Loving Memories.

Mayor appreciative of support of City’s Holiday toy drive

Special to the Journal

Mayor Carlo DeMaria is proud to share that the City of Everett has received generous donations for the Holiday Toy Drive Program this week. The community has displayed their generosity in a way that will help many families this holiday season and the City is thankful for these acts of kindness.

“The generosity of the Everett Community is truly remarkable,” said Mayor DeMaria. “The Holiday Toy Drive Program would not exist without donations and I am extremely grateful for the support from residents and local businesses.”

Each year this program helps ensure that all Everett children receive toys during the holiday season regardless of their family income. The City of Everett would like to personally thank those who have been generous to the program this year.

Herb Chambers
Exelon

Jonathan Lauck - Exelon
Mike Bernfeld – Craft Brewers
Jeff Brewster – McDonald’s
Mark Hintlian – The Leavitt Corp
Colin Kelly – Schnitzer
Jonathan Davis – The Davis Co
Hipolito Aguilera – CozmoWorld
Mike Brown
Arsen Hambardzumian

There is still time to make a donation to help those in need this season. The City of Everett has anticipated an increase in applicants for the Holiday Assistance Program this year due to the economic effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. Toy donations can be brought to the 1st floor of City Hall or virtual donations may be accepted through the City’s GoFundMe link: <https://www.gofundme.com/f/4dkdf-city-of-everett-christmas-toy-drive>. Deadline for donations is Monday, December 7, 2020.

Massachusetts Gaming Commission releases applications and guidelines for 2021 Community Mitigation Fund program

Grant awards to municipalities have reached \$23 million since 2015

The Massachusetts Gaming Commission (MGC) is pleased to announce the release of the 2021 applications and guidelines for the Community Mitigation Fund (CMF) grant program. The required forms and submission instructions are available here. Applications from municipalities and other qualified governmental entities seeking mitigation funds are due by January 31, 2021.

The Massachusetts Legislature legalized casino gaming to produce broad-based economic development, including jobs and

revenue. The Legislature also established an equally important mandate to mitigate unintended impacts associated with the arrival of casino gaming. To that end, the law created the Community Mitigation Fund to support communities and governmental entities in offsetting costs related to the construction and operation of gaming facilities.

Since 2015, the MGC has issued approximately \$23 million in funding to advance needs in transportation, non-transportation planning, workforce development, and public safety for municipalities and government entities located in the vicinity of the casinos.

According to the statute, the Commission will

issue funds to assist host and surrounding communities, including “but not limited to, communities and water and sewer districts in the vicinity of a gaming establishment, local and regional education, transportation, infrastructure, housing, environmental issues and public safety, including the office of the county district attorney, police, fire, and emergency services.” Also, the Commission may distribute funds to a governmental entity or district other than a single municipality to implement a mitigation measure that affects more than one community.

“The MGC extends its gratitude to all those who have participated and who will participate in the Community Mitigation

Fund’s highly collaborative mitigation planning and innovative programming,” said MGC Chair Cathy Judd-Stein. “On behalf of the MGC, we look forward to continuing work with the communities and other interested parties to help the Commonwealth achieve the goals of the Expanded Gaming Act.”

A Community Mitigation Fund review team will conduct a comprehensive review of all applications to ensure compliance with the 2021 Guidelines and make recommendations to the Commission. After deliberation on those recommendations, the Commission will vote to award grant monies by July 2021.

CITY, STATE OFFICIALS HONOR SAMUEL GENTILE

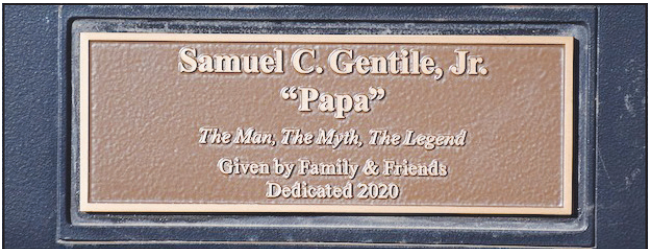
City and state officials, along with family members, were able to acknowledge the legacy of Samuel Gentile Jr., who passed away on May 27, 2020. Gentile was born

and raised in Everett, and was a beloved husband, father, grandfather, son, brother and uncle. He was a valued member of the Everett Community and will be missed.



Shown above, Councilor Wayne Matewsky and Mayor Carlo DeMaria join a family member to honor the late Samuel Gentile Jr. at a brief ceremony in front of the Recreation Center. A memorial bench was placed in front of the center to recognize his contributions to Everett.

Shown left, family members joined State Sen. Sal DiDomenico, Mayor Carlo DeMaria, State Rep. Joe McGonagle, Councilor Wayne Matewsky and Councilor Anthony DiPierro alongside the memorial bench.



The plaque on the bench proclaims ‘Papa’ as “The man, the myth, the legend.”



Shown to the right, Gentile family members gathered around the bench to remember Samuel Gentile Jr.

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