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Everett

Independent

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WHAT’S OLD IS NEW

As this is being written, a huge Russian Army is standing ready and poised, at the whim of Russian dictator Vladimir Putin, to invade the nation of Ukraine, potentially bringing death and devastation to Europe on a scale not seen since 1939 when Nazi Germany invaded Poland with a blitzkrieg.

As was the case in 1939, when authoritarian leaders in Germany, Italy, and Japan combined to form an Axis, Putin and his fellow dictator, Xi Jinping of China, are conspiring to set the world ablaze. Putin has Ukraine in his crosshairs and Xi likewise has his sights set on an invasion of Taiwan.

The big difference between now and then is that these dictators possess nuclear weapons, which makes an all-out war unthinkable.

That means that they can get away with pretty much anything. They know that the U.S., which is their only countervailing force, will be hesitant to engage them directly because of the threat of escalation into a nuclear conflict.

Another difference between now and then is that both Russia and China have the ability to wreak havoc throughout the world by means of cyber warfare. The world economy, including that of the U.S., is incredibly vulnerable to Russian and Chinese hacks.

Make no mistake about it -- if the U.S. imposes the severe economic sanctions on Russia that are being promised by the Biden administration, the Russians will retaliate with a scale of cyber warfare that will make the hacks of last year look like child’s play.

Another key difference between 1939 and today is that Russia plays a huge role in the world’s energy markets. Although the Russian economy is only a fraction the size of California’s, Russia serves as the major energy provider for Western Europe. A shutdown of the delivery of Russian natural gas and oil to Europe will drive energy prices skyrocketing beyond their already-high levels.

Our so-called allies in the Middle East, especially Saudi Arabia, could help out, but they’re in bed with the Russians. Their decision to keep oil output artificially low is creating an energy crisis not seen since the Arab oil embargoes of the 1970s and early 1980s.

In addition, U.S. oil producers have joined the Saudi-Russian oil-opoly by limiting energy production in this country, thereby keeping prices artificially high. If energy prices continue their upward trend, the Biden administration may have to order a nationalization of the oil industry to increase domestic output.

World history has shown that dictators do what dictators do. Putin, Xi, and MBS essentially are dictators for life and face no consequences for their policies and actions in their own countries. All three have cracked down brutally on political opponents and various ethnic groups that may pose even a remote threat to their regimes.

As they seek to expand their authoritarian regimes beyond their borders, world peace will be in peril.

Dark days lie ahead.

Independent Forum

GUEST OP-ED

We all face challenges

Dr. Glenn Mollette

Everyone will face insurmountable challenges in life. The price of longevity is heartache, opposition, failures, grief and life events that come out of nowhere. Life is filled with the death of loved ones, financial ups and downs, daily health challenges and world events that impact us whether we like them or not.

Russia is going to invade Ukraine. Most of us don’t like Russia anyway but we have to sit here and watch what they are doing to someone else while it negatively affects our energy, financial stability, our military, and our everyday lives. We don’t like it; we don’t want it but we will be impacted by the evil decisions of Russia’s leadership. Can you imagine how the people of Ukraine feel?

We despise what Covid-19 has done to all

us. Mask wearing, vaccinations and the fear of gathering have tormented us. The loss of family and friends who went into Intensive Care Units and never came home haunts us. Can we begin to imagine how they felt as they struggled to breathe on respirators their last few days of life?

We have all faced news that a loved one was killed on the battlefield, or someone died suddenly of a heart attack, or received news of terminal cancer.

Typically, we ask why? We ask God, “Why has this happened?” or “Why me, God?” Often there is rarely a good answer. We can analyze and say, “This could have been prevented. Or, this is how he or she should have lived their lives.” Sports fans making suggestions from their recliners while watching reruns always see how the play could have been run better.

Life is always in motion. We make decisions. We react to situations differently. We don’t always do the right thing and emotions often overturn commonsense.

The reality is that we all face and walk through fires. Most of the time we’re hopeful that everything will work out alright. Often, things do. Unfortunately, everything doesn’t always work out alright. If we manage to survive, that’s when we have to help others who are crushed in spirit, who can’t see the light of day for the darkness in their lives.

Ukraine needs their allies or they will never be the same. It can’t be all the United States. We can’t save everyone and have proved it over and over again from Afghanistan to Iraq to Vietnam.

There are always those around you who need your emotional and spiritual

support. If nothing else, friendship and a word of kindness and support are always meaningful.

Most of the time, we feel as if we face our greatest challenges alone. A lonely place of desperation is a dark place to be.

Don’t ever go there. Look to God. When money, friends, education, hospitals, doctors and the church can’t fix what you are facing God can see you through. He never leaves us or forsakes us. His hand is strong and nothing can pull us out of his mighty hand.

Glenn Mollette is the publisher of Newburgh Press, Liberty Torch and various other publishing imprints; a national columnist – American Issues and Common Sense opinions, analysis, stories and features appear each week in over 500 newspapers, websites and blogs across the United States.

Veterans // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

establishes protocols that are designed to identify and correct any examples of mismanagement or inadequate care as quickly as possible. I thank Chair McMurtry and Chair Michlewitz for the work they did to advance this critical legislation.”

“An Act relative to the governance, structure and care of veterans at the Commonwealth veterans’ homes” (H.4441):

“I am so excited for this important legislation to be enacted,” said State Representative Jessica Giannino (D-Revere). “Our veterans selflessly served to protect the values, lives, and rights of our great country. Now it is our time to serve our veterans by giving them the best services and treatment available.”

“We as a Commonwealth and a country have not greater duty than to take care of our veterans. The passage of this important legislation will allow the Commonwealth to improve the delivery of services to veterans most in need. I am proud to have supported this effort,” said State Representative Jeffrey Rosario Turco (D-Winthrop).

“This legislation will build a foundation for consistent statewide expectations at the Commonwealth’s Soldiers’ Homes. The men and women who have served our nation in uniform deserve top level

quality care. These measures will go a long way toward ensuring that care as we begin a new chapter in a soon to open Chelsea Home thanks to the continued commitment of Speaker Mariano, Chairman McMurtry, the entire legislature and Governor Baker.” said State Representative Dan Ryan (D-Charlestown)

“An Act relative to the governance, structure and care of veterans at the Commonwealth veterans’ homes” (H.4441):

- Requires home superintendents to be licensed as nursing home administrators and either be a veteran or someone with experience managing veterans in a nursing home or long term-care facility.
- Establishes a 17-member statewide Veterans’ Homes Council to manage and control the veterans’ homes, promulgate regulations to the local boards, and confirm and remove superintendents.
- Preserves local, 5-member boards of trustees for the veterans’ homes in Chelsea and Holyoke with the authority to nominate candidates for superintendents of their respective veterans’ homes.
- Establishes the Office of the Veteran Advocate, an independent office that will be led by a Veteran Advocate appointed by

the Governor, Attorney General and State Auditor.

- Requires the Veteran Advocate to submit an annual report, which will be made public, to the Governor and the Legislature with an analysis of the delivery of services to veterans and recommendations for changes in agency procedures.
- Establishes the position of ombudsperson for each veterans’ home to advocate on behalf of the residents and staff at the home.
- Requires the Department of Public Health (DPH) to conduct and report on inspections of veterans’ homes twice a year, or as often as they see fit, and establishes a maximum time of 30 days for a veterans’ home to correct any violation that DPH identifies.
- Requires that all state-operated veterans’ homes adhere to the guidelines for trauma-informed care as outlined by the Centers for Disease

Control and Prevention, and be certified by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services.

- Requires the Office of Veterans’ Homes and Housing to submit an annual report including findings but not limited to the quality of care provided at the homes and an analysis of activities of the Office and of the Veterans’ Homes Council.

In May 2021, the House approved a \$600 million bond authorization — with \$400 million for the construction of an updated Holyoke Veterans’ Home facility and \$200 million to increase geographic equity and accessibility for veterans not primarily served by the veterans’ Home in Chelsea or Holyoke.

“An Act relative to the governance, structure and care of veterans at the Commonwealth veterans’ homes” passed the House of Representatives with a 156-1 vote. It now goes to the Senate.

CONGRATULATIONS, SANDRA



On Sunday, Sandra Glines of Everett celebrated the 38th Anniversary of her baptism at Glendale Christian Lighthouse Church. Sister Sandra came to Glendale Christian Lighthouse Church 39 years ago with many needs and the Lord miraculously delivered her from them all. Glory to God. She is a faithful servant of the Lord and is greatly appreciated at Glendale Christian Lighthouse Church. Pictured with Sandra is Pastor Larry Russi.

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Your opinions, please

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News Briefs

COVID-19 VACCINATION CLINICS IN EVERETT DURING FEB. SCHOOL VACATION WEEK

Free clinics are family-friendly, open to all

The City of Everett is partnering with the Massachusetts Department of Public Health (DPH) to provide COVID-19 vaccination clinics in Everett during School Vacation Week, February 20–26, 2022. COVID-19 vaccination clinics in Everett will be held at the Samuel Gentile Recreation Center located at 47 Elm Street at the following dates and times:

- Sunday 2/20/22 from 3pm-8pm
- Monday 2/21/22 from 3pm-8pm
- Tuesday 2/22/22 from 3pm-8pm
- Wednesday 2/23/22 from 3pm-8pm
- Thursday 2/24/22 from 3pm-8pm
- Friday 2/25/22 from 3pm-8pm
- Saturday 2/26/22 from 4pm-8pm

There will be an additional clinic held on Saturday 2/19 and Saturday 2/26 at Pope John High School in Everett.

Anyone ages 5 and older can get a COVID-19 vaccination or booster at these clinics. Families are welcome. No appointment is needed. Vaccination is free and you do not need an ID or health insurance.

Blue Cross Blue Shield of Massachusetts is partnering with DPH to help sponsor the event, providing funding for activities and giveaways at clinics. \$25 gift cards are avail-

able while supplies last as well as a free 2 week membership to the Malden YMCA. Those who get vaccinated will be able to enter a drawing to win a \$500 Visa gift car.

The COVID-19 vaccines and boosters are free, safe, and effective. They help keep people from getting very sick from COVID-19. People ages 5+ who live, work, or study in Massachusetts should get a COVID-19 vaccine. People ages 12+ should get a booster.

For more information, visit mass.gov/kidsclinic.

KEEP YOUR HEART HEALTHY WITH GOOD FOOD CHOICES

Treat your heart as you would a friend. Making mindful food choices, moving your body regularly, and sleeping well are all key to maintaining a healthy relationship with your heart and avoiding heart disease. In recognition of National Heart Health Month, Mystic Valley Elder Services (MVES) Nutrition Services has the following good food choice tips

- Choose a variety of fruits and vegetables every day.
- Include whole-grain, high fiber foods such as barley, bran cereals, brown rice, buckwheat, corn, oatmeal, plain popcorn, quinoa, rye, whole wheat bread, wild rice, whole grain pasta.
- Consume fish at least twice each week, especially herring, mackerel, salmon, sardines, trout, or tuna.
- Choose lean meats

and non-meat protein alternatives — chicken, turkey, fish, pork, lean beef, beans, nuts, egg substitutes, or egg whites.

- Select fat-free, skim or 1% milk, and low-fat cheeses and low-fat yogurt. (You can also try the new variety of non-dairy milks available, such as almond milk or rice milk, which have less saturated fat than dairy.)
 - Minimize your intake of partially hydrogenated fats, such as butter or margarine.
 - Minimize intake of high-sugar, high-fat pastries such as muffins, donuts, cakes, pies, cookies, candies.
 - Limit beverages high in added sugars such as soda, fruit punch, and sweetened coffee and teas.
 - Choose & prepare foods with little or no salt.
 - If you consume alcohol, do so in moderation. Dietary guidelines suggest one drink/day for women and up to two drinks for men.
 - Be attentive to your portion sizes and the balance of foods on your plate. Changes in weight can put stress on your heart.
- If you are interested in learning more about MVES’ Nutrition Programs, please visit us at mv.es.org or call 781-324-7705.

MVES OFFERS SAFETY TIPS WHEN WALKING IN SNOWY AND ICY CONDITIONS

Each winter, slip and fall accidents cause serious injuries. Even when surfaces do not look es-

pecially icy or slippery, it is very possible that a thin sheet of transparent ice or “Black Ice” is covering your pathway putting you at risk. When you approach a footpath or roadway that appears to be covered with ice or snow, always use extreme caution. Many slips and falls happen in places people regard as safe and secure, typically outside their front door, on the doorstep, on the path or while getting out of the car.

With the winter weather upon us, Mystic Valley Elder Services’ (MVES) Safety Committee advises these 10 tips to make sure you are staying safe when walking around in snowy and icy conditions.

- Walk slowly and carefully. Wear boots or other slip-resistant footwear.
 - Use special care when getting in and out of vehicles. Use the vehicle for support if you need to do so.
 - Watch for slippery floors when you enter any building or home.
 - Avoid walking with your hands in your pockets; this can reduce your ability to catch yourself if you lose your balance.
 - Watch out for black ice.
 - Tap your foot on potentially slick areas to see if the areas are slippery.
 - Walk as flat-footed as possible in very icy areas.
 - Avoid uneven surfaces if possible. Avoid steps or curbs with ice on them.
 - Report any untreated surfaces to your town, property owner, or work’s maintenance department to help keep you safe.
 - Remember: Ice and snow mean, “take it slow!”
- If you are interested in

knowing more about Mystic Valley Elder Services’ programs, please visit us or call.

HOUSE PASSES DRIVER’S LICENSE BILL

In an unprecedented effort to increase safety on the roads, the Massachusetts House of Representatives passed legislation that will allow applicants who are unable to prove lawful presence in the United States to apply for a Massachusetts driver’s license.

Under this legislation, the Massachusetts Registry of Motor Vehicles (RMV) will not inquire about immigration status when processing an application for a Massachusetts driver’s license or registration, solely basing the issuance of driver’s licenses to residents who provide required documents to prove their identity, pass the corresponding driver tests, and meet all other eligibility criteria.

“I’m proud of the significant step that the House took today towards bringing all drivers under the same licensing and insurance standards, regardless of immigration status,” said House Speaker Ronald J. Mariano (D-Quincy). “In addition to increasing safety on our roads for all drivers, this legislation recognizes the essential role our immigrant neighbors play in our society and economy by ensuring that everyone has access to a driver’s license. I thank Chair Straus, Chair Michlewitz, the bill’s sponsors, and all my colleagues in the

House, as well as countless supporters, immigration and labor advocates, and law enforcement officials for their tireless work to ensure its passage.”

“In line with the 16 other states that have passed laws offering standard licenses to those providing secure identification documents, this carefully crafted public safety legislation will mean that all drivers using our roads are identifiable, competent and insured,” said Representative William M. Straus (D-Mattapoisett), House Chair of the Joint Committee on Transportation.

“I’m extremely grateful for the tireless advocacy that led to this pivotal moment. I also want to thank Speaker Mariano, Chair Michlewitz, Chair Straus, and the House for their leadership on this important issue,” said Boston Mayor Michelle Wu. “All Boston and Massachusetts adults deserve access to driver’s licenses regardless of immigration status. I support the Family Mobility Act because it will make all of us safer.”

“We cannot overstate our joy, pride and gratitude for today’s historic vote in the Massachusetts House of Representatives,” said the leaders of the organizations that co-chair the Driving Families Forward Coalition, Brazilian Worker Center Executive Director Lenita Reason and 32BJ SEIU Vice President Roxana Rivera. “We extend our deepest thanks to Speaker Mariano for his clear support in moving the bill through the legislative process, and we also

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CRIMSON TIDE BOYS 82- 68 OVER NEWTON NORTH IN SEMI-FINAL GAME

The Crimson Tide, ranked 13th in the MIAA Division 1 Power Rankings, made a statement Sunday night as they rolled to an 82-68 win over the Newton North Tigers (No. 3 in the MIAA Power Rankings) in the semi-final round of the IAABO Board 27/Comcast Classic Sunday night at Woburn High school. Steve Cordero led the way with 25 points.



GOING NOWHERE: Steve Cordero poured in 25 points but also played strong defense, here guarding Newton North’s Jose Padilla.



SLIP UP: Roger Vasquez takes a tumble after slipping as he defended a Newton North offensive.



SIDELINE PATH: Steve Cordero finds room between the sideline and Newton North’s Holland Hargens.



ELBOW ROOM: Newton North’s Jose Padilla caught a face-full of Jaysaun Coggins elbow as he defended the Everett forward’s drive to the basket.



IT’S MINE: James Monexant rips down a rebound in front of Newton North’s Jose Padilla.



TWO IN SIGHT: John Monexant glides to a pair of points in front of Newton North’s Will Davis.



SUPER SERVICE: John Monexant serves up a pair of his 13 points.

EHS Roundup

STRONG FINISH FOR EHS TRACK TEAMS

The Everett High girls and boys indoor track teams put the finishing touch on a successful indoor season with some outstanding performances at the first annual Rising Meet that was held at the Reggie Lewis Track and Athletic Center last Tuesday.

“The Rising Meet was a great meet and we had great performances from everyone,” said EHS head coach Jehu Cimea.

Richard Malloy finished in first place in the high jump with a leap of 5’-4” and Joseph Murillo finished first in the shot-put with a toss of 40’-0.75”.

Also attaining the med-

al podium were Omar Marshall with a fifth place finish in the 300 meter dash, Brandon Ho with a fourth place effort in the long jump, and Lakisha Kirnon with a seventh place finish in the hurdles.

In the girls 4 x 200 relay, the EHS quartet of Yelsa Garcia, Gigi Boyce, Nyla Crowder, and Datchene Elyse finished in fourth place.

In the boys 4 x 200, the foursome of Angel Torres, Brandon Ho, Omar Marshall, and Richard Malloy brought home third place ribbons.

Malloy also represented the Crimson Tide at Saturday’s Division 1 State Meet. Richard competed in the 55 meter dash and finished in 16th place with a sprint of 6.83 seconds.

Both the boys and girls

will have a short break before the beginning of the 2022 spring outdoor season.

EHS BOYS BASKETBALL FINISHES AT 19-3

The Everett High boys basketball team concluded its 2022 regular season, dropping a 78-64 decision to top-ranked and undefeated B.C. High Monday evening in the finals of the Comcast Classic tournament held at Woburn High.

The Eaglets led all the way, including a 38-25 advantage at the half, but the gritty Crimson Tide, behind Roger Vasquez (22 points) and John Monexant (15 points), cut the BC advantage in half to 43-35

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GROUP EFFORT: Everett’s Roger Vasquez (15), Jaysaun Coggins (22) and David DeSouza (2) surround Newton North’s Jason Antonellis (4) and Florian Kuechen (24) as Kuechen tries to get control of a loose ball.

NEWS FROM AROUND THE REGION

PROJECT GETTING READY TO BREAK GROUND

CHELSEA - A major reconstruction of the upper Broadway corridor is slated to get underway this summer.

But before the city can put the federally-funded project out to bid, the City Council must approve a series of temporary and permanent easements of private property that will allow the work to go forward.

Most of those easements are for relatively small slices of sidewalk that are privately owned, but have been used by the city dating back over a century.

“Every time you build a new road with federal money, and we are getting a lot of federal money to do this, you have to do a survey of the entire roadway and the sidewalks to make sure you actually own the land where the road and sidewalk exist,” said City Manager Thomas Ambrosino at a City Council subcommittee meeting on the project and easement requests last week.

After completing the survey, the city identified nine parcels where there’s a need for the city to take a small portion of land to complete the project.

“There are unique circumstances where we have to acquire these little slivers with a permanent easement,” said Ambrosino. He said that no one would likely realize that the small parcels aren’t already owned by the city.

“So we have to take that by a permanent easement, and we have to pay the person for it; they are very tiny slivers for the most part,” said Ambrosino.

For the project, the city will also need to pay for about 180 temporary easements, allowing contractors to work on small parcels that are typically at the end of a driveway or abutting a sidewalk.

The total cost of paying for all the easements is \$312,000, with about \$200,000 of that coming from leftover funds from previous capital projects, and \$112,000 from the city stabilization fund. The City Council will need to approve the spending and the easements.

A number of the property owners affected by the takings attended last week’s meeting, with several stating that they were unduly worried by the letters sent out by the city, believing that they were going to take a much more substantial amount of their property.

City Council President Roy Avellaneda apologized for the wording of the letter causing some potential stress and confusion for some residents.

Chelsea Housing and Community Development Director Alex Train said the city has been pushing for federal funding for the Upper Broadway project for over three years, and has currently secured \$11.3 million for the project.

The main components of the project include the reconstruction of intersections at Broadway with Cary Avenue, Webster Street, Stockton Street, and Eastern Avenue, as well as the reconstruction of the roads and sidewalks between those intersections.

“The ultimate goal at the intersections is to install intelligent traffic sig-

nal systems that optimize traffic flow and ameliorate some of the chronic safety issues we have on the corridor,” said Train.

Train said the city is looking to put the project out to bid in March, with work beginning in the summer. Overall, Train said the project will take about two years to complete.

In addition to the major road and sidewalk upgrades, Train said there will be aesthetic upgrades along the corridor, including new street trees, bust shelters, and pavement markings.

“The goal of this project is to make your neighborhood look better, and the goal is to upgrade Broadway and make it a nicer place,” said Ambrosino. “It is going to be two years of disruption and inconvenience, but when it is all over, it’s going to be a really pretty street with all new sidewalks, trees, and all new traffic signals. And then we’re going to do it all over again on downtown Broadway and we’ll have to go through the same process, but then we will have learned our lesson and will send out better notices.”

PIERS PARK PROJECT IS ON TRACK

EAST BOSTON - At a Jeffries Point Neighborhood Association (JPNA) meeting, Massport’s Anthony Guerriero said the Piers Park project is on track to be completed by the end of the 2023 calendar year.

“We’re still scheduled to open the park at the end of 2023,” said Guerriero. “We’re working very closely with the East BostonProject Advisory Committee (PierPAC). We started this process in 2017, PierPAC voted on a concept in 2019 and voted on that design in November of 2021. We’re going to be going out for bids in the late spring or early summer.”

Since 2017, Massport has collaborated with East Boston residents and PierPAC members on a design for Piers Phase Park II. At a community meeting in 2019 Massport officials and members of PierPAC narrowed down the design options for the new park to three and presented those options to residents.

Then in 2021 PierPAC narrowed the options down to one.

Massport has contracted Kleinfelder Northeast Prime as the park’s landscape architecture and Pressley Associates to work with Kleindfelder in incorporating climate resilience designs into the park to deal with future sea level rise. Piers Park II will be elevated to match the existing Piers Park and seamlessly extend the Harborwalk and connect the walking paths of both parks.

The new park will also have berms to prevent flooding along Marginal Street. Additional resilient and sustainable elements will be incorporated in the Park’s final design.

“We are building a park not for 2023 but for 2040,” said Guerriero of incorporating seas level rise mitigation into the design. “This design will address not only the needs of the neighborhood now but the needs of East Boston in the future.”

The \$15 million construction project will transform the 4.5-acre

waterfront park adjacent to the 11-acre Piers Park on Marginal Street into a recreational space that is conducive for multi-generational activities.

Under the plan, a 1.07-acre play area will be the centerpiece of Piers Park II. While Piers Park is a passive park, Piers Park II will be an active park that allows for multiple usage, including sports activities by more than one group at the same time. The oval-shaped field will be surrounded with new water features, a picnic grove, several exercise equipment geared for active seniors, and a children’s area with a playground structure and a wandering path with musical instruments.

A new 1,000 square foot building for Piers Park Sailing Center and public restrooms will also be built. At the meeting residents got a look of the Sailing Center’s new home for the first time.

“We’ve been getting some input from (PPSC Executive Director) Alex DeFronzo and his team to give them the space that they need,” said Guerriero. “Instead of the current trailer they operate out of this would be a permanent structure with a lot of windows so they can see out onto the docks and the harbor.”

Guerriero said the park would be secured, monitored and maintained by Massport just like the award winning Piers Park.

“Once we choose a contractor it should take about 18 to 20 months to complete,” said Guerriero. “We are going through the permitting process now in order to get that out of the way and be ready to go once bids come back.”

The park is one of several high impact mitigation projects identified by both the City of Boston and members of the Logan Impact Advisory Group (LIAG) through their review for both the Terminal E modernization and the future construction of 5,000 additional parking spaces at Boston Logan International Airport.

MS-13 LEADER SENTENCED TO PRISON

LYNN - A leader of MS-13 was sentenced in federal court in Boston for RICO conspiracy and his participation in the July 2018 murder of a teenage boy in Lynn, who suffered at least 32 sharp force trauma wounds consistent with being stabbed repeatedly, along with blunt force injuries to the head.

Erick Lopez Flores, a/k/a “Mayimbu,” 33, of Lynn, was sentenced by U.S. Senior District Court Judge Mark L. Wolf to 40 years in prison and five years of supervised release. In July 2020, Lopez Flores pleaded guilty to one count of conspiracy to conduct enterprise affairs through a pattern of racketeering activity, also known as RICO conspiracy, on behalf of the MS-13 gang. As part of his plea, Lopez Flores also admitted that he participated in the 2018 murder of a teenager, who was murdered with extreme atrocity and cruelty, and with deliberate premeditation, in violation of Massachusetts law.

MS-13, or La Mara Salvatrucha, is a transnational street gang operating in Massachusetts and numerous other states, as well as countries such as El

HARBOR HOUSE COLLECTIVE DISPENSARY CELEBRATES GRAND OPENING



Chelsea City Manager Thomas Ambrosino joins Chelsea elected officials and the Londono family, and the Harbor House Collective team on cutting the ribbon at the 80 Eastern Ave. dispensary and cannabis grow facility.

Salvador, Honduras and Guatemala. MS-13 gang members often commit acts of extreme violence against suspected rivals, those suspected of cooperating with law enforcement, and others who the gang views as a threat. In recent years, dozens of MS-13 members have been convicted of RICO conspiracy and other serious felonies in the District of Massachusetts.

MS-13 is organized into “cliques” or branches operating in local territories. Lopez Flores belonged to the “Sykos Locos Salvatrucha” clique of MS-13, which operated in the cities of Lynn, Chelsea and other parts of Massachusetts. Lopez Flores was one of the leaders of the Sykos clique and had been an MS-13 member since approximately 2006.

In November 2018, Lopez Flores and five other MS-13 members of the Sykos clique were indicted following an investigation into the murder of a teenage boy, whose body was found in a park in Lynn on Aug. 2, 2018. The six defendants in this case included five participants

in the murder, as well as one longstanding member of the Sykos clique. In a related case, the government charged a juvenile co-conspirator who was the sixth person involved in the murder.

The evidence in this case, which included a recording of one of Lopez Flores’ co-defendants describing the murder in graphic detail, revealed that Lopez Flores and five other MS-13 gang members murdered the victim based on their mistaken belief that he may have been assisting law enforcement.

On July 30, 2018, the gang members lured the victim to a playground and at least four of them were armed with knives. The group pretended to be friendly with the unsuspecting victim and took him to a wooded area of the park. At the scene, the gang members surrounded the victim and repeatedly stabbed him to death. At least four of the six assailants stabbed the victim, while Lopez Flores and a juvenile gang member assisted at the scene. Lopez Flores authorized the

murder in his capacity as one of the leaders of the clique. After killing the victim, the gang members left his body in the wooded area of the public park. An autopsy revealed that the victim suffered at least 32 sharp force trauma wounds consistent with being stabbed repeatedly, along with blunt force injuries to the head.

All six defendants indicted in this case, along with the juvenile charged in the related case, have pleaded guilty. Lopez Flores is the first defendant to be sentenced. Jonathan Tercero Yanes, a/k/a “Desalmado,” is scheduled to be sentenced on Feb. 15, 2022 for RICO conspiracy and his participation in the July 2018 murder; Henri Salvador Gutierrez, a/k/a “Perverso,” is scheduled to be sentenced on Feb. 16, 2022 for RICO conspiracy and his participation in the July 2018 murder, as well as his participation in a December 2016 murder in East Boston; and Djavier Duggins, a/k/a “Haze,” is scheduled to be sentenced

See REGION Page 8

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APPROCIATION

Everett Independent

Wednesday, August 19, 2020

Published by the Independent Newspaper Co.

MOVIE NIGHT IN EVERETT

APPROCIATION

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OBITUARIES

Sheila Greatehead

Of Rhode Island, formerly of Everett

Sheila A. (Spaulding) Greatehead of Woonsocket, RI, formerly of Everett, entered into eternal rest in the Landmark Hospital in Woonsocket, Rhode Island on Wednesday, February 16 after a brief illness. She was 57 years old.

Born in Wilmington, Sheila lived in Everett for many years before settling in Woonsocket these last few years. She worked for Purity Supreme as a Certified Receiver for many years before they became part of the Stop & Shop Companies.

The beloved wife of Charles J. Greatehead for over 31 years, she was the cherished mother of the late Patrick Charles Greatehead, loving daughter of Carole (Frost) Spaulding and the late Frank Spaulding, dear sister of Frank Spaulding of New Hampshire, Maryann Spaulding of New Hampshire and the late Nancy Spaulding and



Terri Mismecci.

Relatives and friends are respectfully invited to attend Sheila’s Funeral Service today, Wednesday, at 11 a.m. in the Cafasso & Sons Funeral Home, 65 Clark St. (Corner of Main St.) Everett. Interment in Holy Cross Cemetery, Malden. In lieu of flowers, contributions in Sheila’s memory to St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital, 501 St. Jude Place, Memphis, TN, 38105 would be sincerely appreciated.

Parking with attendants on duty.

Roundup/ CONTINUED FROM PAGE 6

midway through the third period.

However, the Eaglets showed why they are the top-ranked team in the state and fended off the Everett challenge.

Despite the loss, the Crimson Tide concluded an outstanding regular season with an overall record of 19-3 in which

coach Stanley Chamblain’s crew blitzed their Greater Boston League opponents to win the GBL title with a perfect 14-0 record.

The Tide now will await the announcement of their seeding and first-round opponent in the upcoming Division 1 state tourney.



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Region // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 7

for RICO conspiracy on Feb. 17, 2022. Sentencing hearings for the two remaining co-defendants, Marlos Reyes and Eliseo Vaquerano Canas, have not yet been scheduled by the Court.

First Assistant United States Attorney Joshua S. Levy; Joseph R. Bonavolonta, Special Agent in Charge of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, Boston Division; Matthew B. Millhollin, Special Agent in Charge of Homeland Security Investigations in Boston; Colonel Christopher Mason, Superintendent of the Massachusetts State Police; Essex County District Attorney Jonathan W. Blodgett; Suffolk County District Attorney Kevin Hayden; Acting Boston Police Commissioner Gregory Long; and Lynn Police Chief Christopher Reddy made the announcement. Assistant U.S. Attorneys Kunal Pasricha and Kaitlin O’Donnell of the Criminal Division prosecuted the case.

This effort is part of an Organized Crime Drug Enforcement Task Forces (OCDETF) operation. OCDETF identifies, disrupts, and dismantles the highest-level criminal organizations that threaten the United States using a prosecutor-led, intelligence-driven, multi-agency approach. Additional information about the OCDETF Program can be found at <https://www.justice.gov/OCDETF>.

REVERE’S
TRANSPORTATION
COSTS ARE
SKYROCKETING

REVERE - At a recent Revere School Committee’s Ways and Means subcommittee meeting, Revere Public School COO Matthew Kruse was the bearer of some bad news—Revere’s school

transportation costs are skyrocketing.

“Cumulatively, we’re up 63% with some major increases there,” said Kruse. “Transportation costs this year are spectacularly higher than they were last year. So that leaves me as the CFO in conversation with Superintendent Dianne (Kelley), the CEO, to make sure we’re on the same page about a few things. One is, how are we covering the current year deficit so that we’re not holding a major problem come spring when we start to close out the fiscal year. Number two, what are we doing to correct the budget for next year, and potentially work on some cost saving solutions as we go forward.”

Kruse said the first thing RPS did was look at any purchase orders that were closed out from last year that have funds remaining.

“In them, which is very common because students will begin a run and then they will move or they will stop attending that school or that program,” explained Kruse. “So those funds become available in the subsequent fiscal year. Then there’s also some reimbursement for homeless transportation that comes in and helps. So the first thing we did was say we’re going to apply all of those incomes to the problem.”

Using funds from those surpluses Kruse said RPS chipped away at a \$3.3 million problem and moved it down to about a \$1.5 million deficit.

“Then we were able to allocate some of the federal Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Funding (ESSER) that came through for these transportation costs,” said Kruse. “So we’re able to reclass costs against the grant. So we are only dealing with a deficit right now of around \$100,000.”

While the City of Revere pays the bill to get the kids to school Kruse and Kelley are preparing to negotiate with the city to up transportation costs in the next budget.

“There are the costs they will need to budget for for next year,” said Kruse. “So we’ll be asking them for \$9.6 million on the schedule 19 excludable cost sheet to make sure that we are appropriately funded for next year.”

Kruse said RPS plans to send out bids this spring for the yellow buses and for some additional short bus runs as well.

“Short bus runs are going to enable us to save money,” he said. “Just imagine instead of having four minivans getting kids to a special education school, we’ll be able to just run one short bus to do those pickups. So we’re hoping to cut costs on Special Education, which was the biggest leap this year. By going out to bid for several short bus vendor runs that will eliminate the need for a couple of dozen minivan runs within the city.”

Kruse said there are some of the measures he and Kelley are working on behind the scenes to close the transportation deficit.

“We are working on all of those things to cover this year’s deficit, to be amply funded for next year, and to have some cost savings,” said Kruse. “I just wanted you (the committee) to know because we are talking about millions of dollars of unexpected costs, and wanted to give room for any questions as we’re taking those actions.”

Committee member Carol Tye said, while she is not blaming anybody for the unexpected costs, she was concerned about increased expenses with a decrease in services.

“We need to keep that in mind,” she said.

SELECTION
PROCESS FOR NEW
TOWN MANAGER
BEGINS

WINTHROP - Winthrop Town Council President James Letterie said the process to select the new town manager of Winthrop is underway.

“The search has begun,” said Letterie. “All the meetings of the committee (Town Manager Search Committee) will be held in executive session because applicants are protected by privacy laws, so their names aren’t out in the public until the finalists are selected.”

Karen Chaves is chair of the Town Manager Search Committee. The other members are: School Committee member Gus Martucci (the designee of School Supt. Lisa Howard), Councillor-at-Large Robert DeMarco, former Winthrop superintendent of schools John Macero, past Town Council president Peter Gill, Viking Pride Foundation Chair Vinnie Crossman, and Citizens Finance Committee member Shannon Poulos.

The Search Committee will interview candidates in the next three to four weeks and present the names of the finalists to the Town Council.

“Once the finalists are selected, it will become a public process and the Council will conduct interviews with the finalists,” said Letterie. “Those meetings will be televised. Once those interviews are done, ultimately, I will put a name forward for the Council’s approval.”

Terence Delehanty is currently serving as the interim town manager of Winthrop.

Briefs // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5

thank the bill’s four lead sponsors, dozens of co-sponsors and many thousands of individual supporters. Today, all of them have helped move our state toward safer roads, stronger public security, better public health, and a more robust economy, while also taking a step toward transforming the lives of immigrants and their families across the Commonwealth.”

“Immigrants without status are essential workers and card-carrying, dues-paying union members. Moreover, they are our neighbors, friends, and family and an integral part of our economy and community. With overwhelming support from law enforcement, this bill will provide greater public safety and allow workers to obtain and keep good paying jobs, all while making facets of everyday life that many of us take for granted, like getting kids to school, a reality. We commend Speaker Mariano and the entire Massachusetts House for voting to pass this important legislation that will result in safer roads for all Massachusetts residents,” said Steven A. Tolman, President, MA AFL-CIO.

“I want to thank all those legislators, law enforcement leaders, immigration advocates and public health officials who worked tirelessly to advance this bill through today’s historic vote in the House,” said Middlesex

Sheriff Peter J. Koutoujian. “Efforts on this issue date back to my time as a state representative. Then, as now, it was clear that this bill would improve public safety and public health. While I was supportive of this concept 20 years ago, it was the rigorous identification requirements in the final version of this bill that strengthened it further and made today’s vote possible. I applaud Speaker Mariano for bringing it to the floor and the individuals who lent their stories and voices to this important cause.”

To apply for a standard driver’s license, applicants will need to provide at least two documents to prove their identity and date of birth. All documents written in a foreign language must be accompanied by a certified translation to English:

- Document #1: valid unexpired foreign passport or valid unexpired consular ID
- Document #2: valid US driver’s license, birth certificate, valid foreign national ID card, valid foreign driver’s license, ora marriage certificate or divorce decree

Residents who cannot prove lawful presence in the United States would remain ineligible for a “REAL ID” which requires documentation of U.S. citizenship or lawful status as a matter of federal law. To protect applicants’ privacy, the

legislation also prohibits the RMV from disclosing any information about applicants for and holders of a standard driver’s license except as authorized by regulations promulgated by the Attorney General.

“An Act relative to work and family mobility” (H.4461) passed the House of Representatives 120-36. It now goes to the Senate for their consideration.

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CHURCH News

Mystic Side Congregational Church

News and Notes

Mystic Side Congregational Church is located in Everett, on Malden-Everett border, at 422 Main Street. We offer a warm, inviting atmosphere, and all are welcome. Our Sunday Church service starts at 10:30 a.m. and Communion is offered on the first Sunday of each month. A very pleasant coffee hour

and socializing follow our services. Parking is available in our lot next to the church on Wyllis Ave. (one way off Main Street). We look forward to welcoming you this Sunday.

**Mystic Side
Congregational Church
422 Main Street
Everett, MA**

Zion Church - Everett

News and Notes

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

book page, "Zion Church Ministries."

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

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 a.m. to 2 p.m. Other times by appointment.

Glendale Christian Lighthouse Church

News and Notes

Sunday 10:30 a.m. Worship service.

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

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pastorlarry@thelighthousechurch701.net

Church at the Well Everett

News and Notes

Church at the Well Everett is a new church for Everett that will begin meeting in 2021. Check us out on Facebook at www.facebook.com/churchforeverett to view weekly devotions and updates, visit us at [\[everett.church\]\(http://everett.church\) to sign up for our newsletter and see how we can help you, or connect with the Everett Community Aid Network at \[www.everettcan.com\]\(http://www.everettcan.com\) to request any additional help.](http://www.for-</p></div><div data-bbox=)

Grace Anglican Episcopal Church

News and Notes

Grace Anglican Episcopal Church is open & welcoming to all.

There are 2 services on Sundays: 10am English, 1pm South Sudanese Dinka

Come all and let us walk together in this sea-

son of hope, renewal and new beginnings.

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Boston Symphony violinist Lucia Lin headlines North Shore Philharmonic Winter Concert

Boston Symphony Orchestra violinist Lucia Lin will play the Jean Sibelius Violin Concerto No. 1 as the featured soloist highlighting the North Shore Philharmonic Orchestra Winter Concert on Sunday, February 27. Music Director Robert Lehmann will raise his baton to start the concert at 3:00 p.m. at Swampscott High School auditorium.

The concert program will open with Michail Glikas’ “Overture to „Russian and Ludmilla” and conclude with Carl Nielsen’s Symphony No. 1.

Tickets can be pur-



Violinist Lucia Lin.

chased in advance on the Orchestra’s website, www.nspo.org or at Swampscott

High on the day of the concert for \$30. \$25 for seniors and students. Chil-

dren 12 and under are admitted free.

Violinist Lucia Lin joined the Boston Symphony Orchestra in 1985 and has enjoyed a stellar career as soloist, chamber musician, and recording artist. She debuted at age 11 when she performed Mendelssohn’s Violin Concerto with the Chicago Symphony Orchestra. Since then, she has won numerous competitions, including the 1990 International Tchaikovsky Competition in Moscow. She has appeared with the Boston Pops, the St. Louis Symphony Orchestra, the Oklahoma Symphony

Orchestra, the Cincinnati Chamber Orchestra, and the Festival Orchestra in Graz, Austria. She has served as the BSO’s assistant concertmaster and also has held concertmaster roles with the Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra and London Symphony Orchestra. She previously appeared with the North Shore Philharmonic Orchestra in 2015.

Danish Composer Carl Nielsen wrote his first Symphony in 1891-92 and dedicated the work to his wife, renowned sculptor Anne Marie Carl-Nielsen. The work is known for its distinctively “Danish” fla-

vors and Nielsen’s personal style.

Out of concern for the health and safety of all musicians and audience members, the North Shore Philharmonic Orchestra requires all patrons attending the concert present proof of a Covid-19 vaccination, or proof of a negative Covid-19 test no more than 72 hours prior to the concert. Home tests are not accepted. Patrons will be required to wear masks and socially distance in the auditorium.

For more information about the North Shore Philharmonic Orchestra, visit nspo.org.

CITY PAWS

How to walk a dog

By Penny & Ed Cherubino

The adoption of pandemic pups and the rise of app-based dog walking services has resulted in a good number of inexperienced dog walkers. Many of our most expert and reliable reference sites have been running articles on dog walking dos and don’ts. Perhaps they’re fielding questions on the topic or have noticed problems when out and

about with their dogs.

It Depends on The Dog

Many of our decisions about dog walking depend on the particular dog we are about to walk. Start with your choice of walking gear. Ask your veterinarian for any specific equipment recommendations to walk your dog. For example, many small breeds need a halter rather than a collar to prevent tracheal collapse.

Strong dogs may be safer to walk with an anti-pull leash. Dogs with narrow heads need a Martingale collar to prevent them from escaping by slipping from a standard collar. Many dogs benefit from a gentle leader leash once they grow accustomed to it. Consider a two-leash harness if your dog has ever escaped because of fear or anxiety. We use one for our frightened little Westie.



Excellent, professional dog walkers never use retractable leashes because they are dangerous to both the dogs and the people around them.

There are a few items of walking gear that most experts agree should never be used and are illegal in some places. Retractable leashes are dangerous to both dogs and humans. In many areas, a leash must not exceed 6 feet.

The SF/SPCA has noted that “Many civilized countries have outlawed prong collars, recognizing the harm they can do! New Zealand, Austria, Australia, Switzerland, the Canadian Province of Quebec, and many others have made prong collars (and in many cases choke and shock collars) illegal.”

The Ability of the Walker

Sometimes size matters. Penny once witnessed a small woman pulled out into traffic by a large, poorly-trained dog. On the other hand, we had a tiny friend who had no problem walking her beautiful, well-trained Mastiff. The other animal in her life was a horse, and she

was an experienced rider, strong for her size, and she knew the importance of good communication with and training for her charges.

Training Never Ends

Working on improving your dog’s behavior is an ongoing job. Think about adding a mini-training session to each walk. We love how people with new dogs make them pause and sit at every corner. While that may not continue as a regular step each time you cross the street, consider asking your dog to sit and wait once or twice a walk to keep that skill honed for the times when you feel you need it.

We recently watched a young woman working with her large husky in the park. She would walk, stop and turn to go the other direction once or twice every block. This is a classic method of teaching a dog not to step ahead of you and pull. She praised the good turns and stopped to

reinforce what she wanted from her strong sled dog.

More Tips

What might seem like common sense to experienced dog guardians may not be as evident to first-timers. In case of any mishap, always have your dog both microchipped and with a visible ID so anyone who finds your pal can call you.

While training, stick to the same routine and walking route. This will offer fewer distractions for both of you as you reinforce training. Then add small changes to busier places as you grow confident in both of your walking skills.

Finally, remember that walks are good for both of you, and enjoy your time together!

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

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Everett Police remember the lives and service of Black Everett Police Officers during Black History Month



Everett’s first Black Police Officer

Harry Taylor

EPD is honoring the first Black Police Officer appointed to the Department, Harry J. Taylor. Officer Taylor was born on Aug. 4, 1884 in New Bedford, MA. On Feb. 26, 1917, he was appointed a regular patrolman by Mayor Christopher Harrison.

Officer Taylor was a member of the elite Everett Police Pistol Team which competed throughout the region.

Officer Taylor retired from the EPD on May 26, 1946 after 29 years of distinguished service.

Officer Frederick “Fleet” Taylor

Officer Frederick “Fleet” Taylor was appointed to the Everett Police Dept. on Aug. 10, 1942.

Born and raised in Everett, ‘Fleet’ earned his nickname because he was able to run so fast. The Parlin Memorial Library still has his original scores from his high school years in their archives. In addition to



track, Fleet played halfback for the 1929 Everett High School Football team.

Fleet often worked in the old Everett Square Police Box, directing traffic and assisting with school crossings. He was also a lover of animals and rescued those that were being abused or neglected.

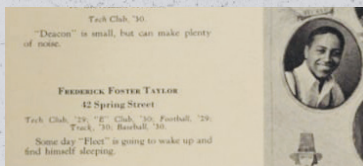
When the Boston Strangler escaped from prison, “Fleet” was one of the arresting officers sent to Lynn to apprehend him. Officer Taylor passed away in Jan. 1970

Officer Earl Clemmons

We remember Officer Earl Clemmons Jr: Earl grew up in Everett and attended Everett High School. Earl became a member of the Everett Police Department in January of 1977. He served as a member of the Operations Division,



working as a patrol officer. Earl passed away in 2001.



Officer Lawman “Skippy” Jonhson

Lawman joined the EPD on March 26, 1975.

Officer Johnson split his time with the department between the patrol division and the detective division.

Officer Johnson saw many changes come to the police department in his nearly 35 years of service. From walking beats to patrolling sectors in a cruiser and writing out handwritten reports to typing them on computer based systems. Skippy comes from a family dedicated to service. His brother was a member of the Everett Fire Department and later the Chelsea Police and sister was a judge in the Mass Trial Courts. Lawman Johnson retired on Feb. 20, 2009.

EPD’s First Chaplain

Bishop Robert G Brown

Bishop Robert G. Brown is the first chaplain appointed to the Everett Police Department by former Everett Mayor, David Ragucci. Bishop Brown has been the pastor of Zion Church Ministries in Everett since 1981. He was appointed to the position of chaplain under Chief Jim Rogers in 2002 and is currently serving under



Chief Steven Mazzoie. Bishop Brown is actively engaged in his work as chaplain for the Everett Police as well as for the Greater Boston Critical Incident Stress Management Team. He is the Chair of Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Employment Opportunity Commission, and works with many of the City Departments and agencies when needed.

