





# DiDomenico votes to pass early education, childcare bill

Last week, Senator Sal DiDomenico joined his colleagues in the Massachusetts State Senate to unanimously pass S.2973. An Act to expand access to high-quality, affordable early education and care. This bipartisan legislation will transform early education and childcare in the Commonwealth by making it more accessible and affordable for families, providing high-quality care for young children, strengthening early education providers, improving compensation and professional development for the early education workforce, and addressing the workforce needs of Massachusetts employers. The bill draws from the recommendations made by the Special Legislative Early Education and Care Economic Review Commission, which was created by the legislature in 2020 and issued its final report in March 2022.

“This issue has been a top priority of mine for many years, and I am thrilled to pass this transformative piece of legislation alongside my Senate colleagues,” said Senator DiDomenico, Assistant Majority Leader of the Massachusetts Senate and a member of the Special Legislative Early Education and Care Economic Review Commission. “As a father of two children, I know that affordable and quality early education and care is indispensable for families and their economic security. This bill will increase childcare access and help thousands of families obtain care at lower costs. Just as importantly, these investments will provide support to childcare providers and ensure people working in



Senator Sal DiDomenico addressing the Senate to pass S.2973.

this field can earn a living wage, acquire higher education, and support their own families. I want to thank Senate President Karen Spilka for making this a priority and Chair Jason Lewis and Chair Michael Rodrigues for all their work to bring this important issue to the Senate floor.”

“Just as the Senate led on transforming the Commonwealth’s K-12 education system through the Student Opportunity Act, today’s bill would similarly transform the early education system,” said Senate President Karen E. Spilka (D-Ashland). “Unfortunately, high-quality early education remains out of reach for most Massachusetts families, and our providers struggle to keep their doors open. This bill will address those issues and make our Commonwealth stronger by making early education more affordable, investing in our early educators, and ensuring the sustainability of our providers. I want to thank Senator Lewis and the members of the Special Legislative Early Education and Care Economic Review Commission for their extensive work on

this bill, as well as for the work of Chair Rodrigues and the many, many advocates and stakeholders that got us to today.”

Senator DiDomenico has been a champion for early education and care expansion since he first took office 12 years ago. In 2013, DiDomenico played a pivotal role in creating an Early Education and Out of School Time (EOST) capital fund that provided \$45M in loans and grants to early learning centers and out-of-school-time programs serving low-income families. Recently, during the onset of the pandemic, Senator DiDomenico secured \$10 Million for COVID-19 Preparedness and Stabilization Grants to provide critical support to Massachusetts afterschool and out-of-school time programs.

Throughout the past two years, DiDomenico served on the Special Legislative Early Education and Care Economic Review Commission and worked with colleagues to create a blueprint for the investments Massachusetts needs to make in the care economy. The Senator worked tirelessly to push this massive early education and childcare bill across the finish line and will continue to fight for even more investments in the years to come.

High-quality early education helps young children to develop stronger communication, social, and cognitive skills. Investments in early education have been shown to yield considerable long-term benefits, such as higher academic achievement and greater lifetime earnings. Many families in Massachusetts, however,

lack access to high-quality, affordable early education. This impacts the ability of parents, especially working mothers, to enter or remain in the workforce. The financial strain of childcare on families is a contributing factor to workforce shortages and threatens to hamper the state’s economic recovery.

The Senate bill would improve access to high-quality and affordable care for Massachusetts families in several ways. The bill would:

- Increase subsidy eligibility over time from the current level of 50% of state median income (\$65,626 annual household income for a family of four) to 125% of state median income (\$164,065 annual household income for a family of four)
- Make it easier for subsidized providers to offer scholarships or discounted tuition for their private pay families
- Require the Department of Early Education and Care (EEC) to evaluate and eliminate barriers to subsidy access for families on an annual basis
- Require parent fees for subsidized families to be affordable and updated at least every five years
- Require EEC to assess the extent of the current supply of licensed childcare availability across the state and the unmet needs of families

Even though childcare is expensive for families in Massachusetts, early education and childcare providers are themselves in crisis. Given the low wages and poor benefits that providers can afford to pay their staff, providers face chronic challenges with attracting and retaining early educa-

tors, almost all of whom are women and many of whom are women of color. Federal pandemic relief funding has been a lifeline for the early education and care sector, but these funds are one-time.

This Senate legislation will help stabilize providers, improve program quality, and expand capacity in several ways. The bill:

- Makes permanent the operational grants to providers that were first distributed during the pandemic and requires that a provider must be willing to enroll subsidized children in order to qualify for a grant
- Requires EEC to use an actual cost-of-quality-care methodology for setting subsidy reimbursement rates and calculating operational grants
- Requires EEC to reimburse subsidized providers based on quarterly enrollment rather than daily attendance of children
- Takes steps to strengthen the recruitment and pipeline of early educators

Early educators with bachelor’s degrees earn far less than their counterparts who teach in public elementary schools, and one in six early educators lives in poverty.

To improve compensation, benefits, and professional development opportunities for the early educator workforce, this legislation:

- Requires EEC to develop a career ladder that links educational attainment and work experience to compensation and benefits and recommends that compensation levels be commensurate with public school teachers who are similarly credentialed

- Establishes early educator scholarship and loan forgiveness programs to provide greater access to higher education and professional development opportunities
- Enables subsidized providers to offer free or discounted seats for the children of their own staff

Other provisions would further improve and strengthen early education and childcare in Massachusetts. The bill:

- Creates a commission to study and recommend to the legislature ways that employers could provide more support to their workers to help meet their early education and childcare needs
- Requires EEC to report to the legislature on ways to expand successful local partnerships, such as the Commonwealth Preschool Partnership Initiative (CPPI)
- Requires EEC and the Children’s Investment Fund to report to the legislature on ways to improve and expand the impact of the Early Education and Out of School Time (EOST) Capital Fund for making improvements to early education facilities
- Requires EEC to create a plan to pilot and scale shared service models that can improve the efficient delivery of high-quality care
- Creates a data advisory commission to work with EEC on expanded data collection and reporting, and the improved use of data to inform the cost and quality of care

Having passed the Senate, An Act to expand access to high-quality, affordable early education and care now moves to the House of Representatives for further consideration.

## Students / CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

succeed Dr. Wallace as Principal of the Devens School. Dr. Puleo served as Assistant Principal at the Devens in 2021-2022, and she has been a member of the Devens team since the school opened in 2013.

After serving as a teacher from 2013-2016, Dr. Puleo transitioned to the position of Educational Team Leader, a role that enabled her to form close connections with parents and outside agencies to better support students.

- A new leadership team has been appointed at Everett High School (EHS). Dennis Lynch, a veteran EPS educator, will serve as the new EHS Principal. He served as Principal at the Albert N. Parlin School for the past two years and has been an EPS educator and administrator for 12 years.

Longtime EPS educators Stanley Chamblain and James Murphy have

been named as Assistant Principals at Everett High. All three educators previously served at Everett High School. Prior to becoming the Parlin School Principal, Lynch was a teacher and a Dean of Students. Chamblain is a former guidance counselor and the current head coach of the Crimson Tide boys basketball team. Murphy, a versatile and experienced educator, served as the EHS Data Director, overseeing the school’s student management/scheduling system. Collectively, the trio has extensive experience across all major departments and aspects of the daily operation of EHS.

- Nancy Sutera will be the principal of the Parlin School, and she will be hiring two assistant principals to join her leadership team. Ms. Sutera has a long track record of success as a teacher, mentor, and building leader.

During more than two decades in the EPS, Ms. Sutera has served as a math teacher, an instructional facilitator, a department head, and an assistant principal at the Parlin and Whittier schools. “Her skillset makes her ideally suited to serve as the principal of one of our K-8 schools,” said Superintendent Tahiliani.

- Lauren O’Connor has been hired as the district’s first-ever Director of Security. O’Connor, an EHS graduate and Everett resident, most recently was Encore Boston Harbor’s Assistant Director of Security Administration and Emergency Management. She will oversee safety and security policies, procedures, and protocols at the district level, while working out of EHS.

The Superintendent stressed that the addition of O’Connor will directly address one of the School Committee’s top priorities:

Safety, particularly at EHS.

“This topic was addressed regularly during last school year, both during School Committee sessions and in conversations I had with students, staff, and parents,” the Superintendent said. “It is my responsibility to act on those concerns, not only in the moment but for the long haul.”

O’Connor will help develop clear and consistent safety procedures, either by leveraging existing systems or by implementing new practices and protocols. She will review and upgrade policies, oversee security technology, and plan training, among other responsibilities.

“I am genuinely excited to have these talented individuals in place now, so they can fully immerse themselves in preparing for our reopening in September,” Superintendent Tahiliani said.

## Cornelio / CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Martins questioned Cornelio on the running of the office and overseeing the personnel, noting that he took time off from September to December of last year when his child was born. Martins noted that there was no paid family leave for city employees. However, all city employees are able to use their vacation time and accrued sick time for medical leave.

Councillor Alfred Lattanzi noted that the City Charter calls for a vote on this position every five years and he likes to see what applicants are out there.

Councillor Richard

Dellisola recommended that Cornelio step down as Chair of the Election Committee. Cornelio noted that he was not involved in elections and agreed with Dellisola. However, right now the City Charter reads that the City Clerk must be on the Election Commission. Cornelio suggested that there is time to change the charter.

The three councillors who voted against the reappointment were Martins, Lattanzi, and Vivian Nguyen.

After the vote, Cornelio thanked the council and said, “All of you know that I love being here.”

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NEWS IN BRIEF

MALDEN SUMMER FESTIVALS ADD THREE MORE PUB CRAWL DATES

The City of Malden is pleased to announce that with the continued success of the Murder at the Malden Bank Pub Crawls, the City has added three more dates. Can you solve the crime while having a great time with friends and family? Visit [www.MaldenGamingDistrict.com](http://www.MaldenGamingDistrict.com) for the additional dates and tickets.

Based upon the actual locations from the first bank robbery murder in the United States, the easy 17-minute walk takes you to multiple locations connected to the murder of a member of the esteemed Converse family. At each location you will encounter interesting characters who will present you with challenges and puzzles to unlock the mystery behind the 1863 murder.

Best of all, each location is now a great dining and drinking establishment, and the author of the book *Abel Bodied: Murder at the Malden Bank*, Michael Cloherty, will be at the final location for a book signing. These events are part of the Malden Summer Festivals and are sponsored by the Office of Mayor Gary Christenson.

Located next to the Malden Center MBTA Orange Line station, the restaurant-filled area is also home to Malden’s Gaming District. This is the place to go if you want to quest at Boda Borg, conduct a science experiment that is a lot like mini-golf, play and stock up on Magic cards, shoot some billiards, try a racing simulator or sing your heart out at Karaoke..

Easily accessible by Orange Line, but FREE Parking is available at both of the City’s garages at 170 Centre Street or

7 Jackson Street. Please visit [www.MaldenGamingDistrict.com](http://www.MaldenGamingDistrict.com) to learn more.

RMV ANNOUNCES LOW PLATE LOTTERY

The Massachusetts Registry of Motor Vehicles (RMV) is announcing that applications are now being accepted online for the 2022 Low Number Plate Lottery at [Mass.Gov/RMV](http://Mass.Gov/RMV) using the Online Service Center. To be eligible, applicants must apply for this year’s lottery by 5 p.m., Friday, September 2. If selected for a low number plate, winners will be notified by mail.

This year, there are 199 plates available through the low plate lottery. Some of this year’s low plates are F7, 36, 78K, X44, 1S, and 6666.

Applicants should note that there is no fee to apply. However, should the applicant be selected as a winner, there is a special

plate fee that will be required, as well as a standard registration fee.

Customers are encouraged to visit the RMV’s website or follow @MassRMV on Twitter for details on the lottery plate drawing to be announced later this summer, including the date, time, and location of the event. In addition, lottery plate applicants will be sent a notification from the RMV to the email address they provided with event details. The lottery results will be posted after the drawing on the RMV website.

**Lottery Rules and Eligibility Requirements**

- Only one entry per applicant will be accepted, regardless of the number of active registrations the applicant has.
- An applicant must be a Massachusetts resident with a currently active, registered, and insured passenger vehicle.
- Companies/corporations may not apply.

- MassDOT (Registry of Motor Vehicles, Highway, Mass Transit, and Aeronautics) employees, including contract employees, and their immediate family members are not eligible. (“Immediate family member” refers to one’s parents, spouse, children, and brothers & sisters.)
- Requests for specific plate numbers will not be honored. Eligible applicants will be considered for all plates listed. Plates will be awarded in the order in which they are listed on [Mass.Gov/RMV](http://Mass.Gov/RMV).
- An applicant’s registration and license cannot be in a non-renewal, suspended, or revoked status at the time of entry, the time of the drawing, or the time of the plate swap. As such, an applicant must not have any outstanding excise taxes, parking tickets, child support, warrants, or unpaid E-Z Pass/Pay by Plate violations.
- Online entries will be

accepted only and must be completed by 5 p.m., Friday, September 2.

- Lottery results will be available on the RMV website: [Mass.Gov/RMV](http://Mass.Gov/RMV). By law, lottery winners must be announced by September 15, 2022.
- All winners will be notified mail with instructions on how to transfer their current registration to their new lottery plate. Winners will have until Friday, December 30, 2022, to swap their plates. Unclaimed plates will be forfeited after Friday, December 30, 2022. Plates will be registered to the winning applicant only.
- All plates remain the property of the RMV even after registration.
- All information received, including names of all applicants and the list of winners, is subject to release in accordance with the Massachusetts Public Records law.

Baker proclaims ‘Hurricane Preparedness Week’

Staff Report

Hurricane Preparedness Week, as proclaimed by Governor Charlie Baker, runs through July 16. All week, the Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency (MEMA) will engage local communities across Massachusetts to highlight the risk of tropical storms and hurricanes, and encourage residents to take steps to prepare.

As part of MEMA’s commitment to diversity and equity in emergency planning, this year’s campaign will include information to equip those living with disabilities and specific medical needs.

“Hurricane Preparedness Week is an annual reminder of the hazards that the Commonwealth faces and how residents can prepare during hurricane season,” said Public Safety and Security Secretary Terrence Reidy. “While it’s been 31 years since Hurricane Bob made landfall in New England, hurricanes and tropical storms remain a threat to Massachusetts and we ask residents to learn if they live in a hur-

ricane evacuation zone, develop an emergency plan, build an emergency kit, and stay informed.”

For the 2022 hurricane season, MEMA has continued its longstanding commitment to deepen local, state, federal, and private sector partnerships. The Agency has convened meetings to discuss logistics, operational plans, and capabilities; facilitated a series of tabletop exercises; and participated in a large tabletop exercise with Emergency Support Function (ESF) partners and the National Weather Service. Additionally, MEMA Acting Director Dawn Brantley serves as Co-Chair of the National Emergency Management Association Diversity and Equity Committee which focuses on identifying opportunities to advance diversity and inclusion in the workforce; and ensures equity and accessibility of emergency management policies and programs. While MEMA and its partners are taking steps to ensure the Commonwealth is ready, preparedness is a shared responsibility that all should take part in.

“While MEMA continues to prepare for disasters, we can’t do it alone – preparedness is a whole community responsibility and we want everyone to be prepared for the challenges and impacts they may face in an emergency,” said Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency (MEMA) Acting Director Dawn Brantley. “I urge residents with disabilities and medical needs to take steps to prepare for their circumstances by customizing their emergency plans, gathering necessary supplies and planning with their support network who may be able to assist during a disaster. For those individuals, I want to assure you that MEMA takes accessibility of emergency programs and services very seriously and we work year-round to ensure that we are prepared to support all individuals equally and equitably before, during, and after disasters.”

Plan for Your Unique Needs

Every person and family may have different needs in an emergency.

Individuals with disabilities or medical needs may take extra steps to prepare:

- If you receive medical treatment or home health care services, work with your medical provider to determine how to maintain care and service if you are unable to leave your home or have to evacuate.
- If you live in an area that may flood and may need an accessible transportation option to evacuate, plan with family, neighbors, and friends who may assist you. Contact local public safety officials to make them aware of your needs.
- If your medical equipment uses electricity, talk to health care providers, your utility company & your personal support network for options during a power outage.
- Ensure that your emergency kit has all the items you and your family would need including medications, spare eyeglasses, medical equipment and supplies, and children’s items such as diapers and formula.

Ways to Prepare

**Know Your Zone** – In Massachusetts, there are three designated hurricane evacuation zones - Zone A, Zone B, and Zone C, for coastal areas of the state at risk for storm surge flooding during hurricanes. Visit MEMA’s interactive hurricane evacuation zone map to learn if you live or work in a hurricane evacuation zone:[www.mass.gov/knownyourzone](http://www.mass.gov/knownyourzone).

**Make an Emergency Plan** – Talk to your family and create an emergency plan of how your family would evacuate, shelter in place, and stay in touch. Consider children, seniors, individuals with disabilities and medical needs, and pets in your emergency plans. <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/make-a-family-emergency-plan>

**Build an Emergency Kit** - Build an emergency kit that includes all the items your household would need for three to five days without power. Every emergency kit should include bottled water, food, a flashlight, a radio and extra batteries, a first aid kit, and personal & hygiene items. Kits should also be customized for any additional items your family would need given medical conditions, pets, and other considerations: <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/build-an-emergency-kit>.

**Stay Informed** – Individuals should have several ways to receiving emergency alerts. Residents are urged to sign up for their community’s local notification systems. Other ways to receive alerts and information include the Emergency Alert System, Wireless Emergency Alerts, NOAA Weather Radio, and social and traditional news media. The Commonwealth’s 2-1-1 hotline is available 24x7 for non-emergency assistance and is available with translation in 150+ languages and can be

accessed via video relay services. <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/be-informed-and-receive-emergency-alerts>

For more information, including interactive evacuation zone maps, a social media toolkit, flyers, preparedness tips, videos and more, visit MEMA’s Hurricane Season Preparedness webpage.

MEMA is the state agency charged with ensuring the state is prepared to withstand, respond to, and recover from all types of emergencies and disasters, including natural hazards, accidents, deliberate attacks, and technological and infrastructure failures. MEMA’s staff of professional planners, communications specialists and operations and support personnel is committed to an all hazards approach to emergency management. By building and sustaining effective partnerships with federal, state and local government agencies, and with the private sector - individuals, families, non-profits and businesses - MEMA ensures the Commonwealth’s ability to rapidly recover from large and small disasters by assessing and mitigating threats and hazards, enhancing preparedness, ensuring effective response, and strengthening our capacity to rebuild and recover. For additional information about MEMA and Emergency Preparedness, go to [www.mass.gov/mema](http://www.mass.gov/mema).

Council / CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

still wanted to speak to be able to do so after the council had completed its agenda.

However, Sandy Juliano, a resident who has spoken almost on a regular basis at the council’s meetings since the first of the year, told the councilors on Monday night that she had wanted to speak at a recent meeting on the matter of the reappointment of Chief Financial Officer Eric Demas, but by the time she was provided with an opportunity to to speak, the council already had approved his reappointment.

“Public participation is a good thing,” Councilor Michael Marchese told his colleagues. The proposed new measure, he said, “would not restrict anyone. We need structure only on matters happening on the agenda.”

Councillor Richard Dellisola suggested that there be two sign-in sheets for speakers, one for par-

ticipants who wish to express their views on matters that are appearing on the agenda that night, and the second for those who wish to speak about matters not on that night’s agenda.

Councilor Stephanie Smith asked that the order be sent to the Legislative Affairs and Election Committee. with the public being asked to send in their comments on the structure of public participation.

“We want public input,” Smith added. She noted that all councilors can be reached by any residents to offer their views on the shape of the Public Participation at the council’s meetings.

In other matters: Councilors voted to accept a grant from the Massachusetts Gaming Commission in the amount of \$100,000 for the Industrial District Design Guidelines. The councilors initially had held up their approval of this grant until

they were able to definitely find the area being earmarked for the grant.

Erin Deveney, the Chief of Staff of the Mayor’s Office, appeared before the council to answer their questions. Deveney explained that this is the old Exxon site area. This study will provide “a consistent vision” for the area, she said.

The councilors wanted to know if the \$100,000 was enough to complete the entire study. Deveney said that she did not know, but noted that there is money in the FY23 budget to provide additional funding if needed.

Councilors voted to send to the Traffic Commission a resolution to eliminate on-street parking in the vicinity of 73 Clarence St. Marchese noted that this is a very dangerous corner and at most there would be only three spaces lost.



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# Everett

## Independent

President: Stephen Quigley

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### SUMMER IS HALF OVER -- MAKE THE MOST OF WHAT'S LEFT

We realize that most of the kids have been out of school for only a few weeks, but in terms of what we think of as the full summer season from Memorial Day to Labor Day, this coming weekend will mark the midpoint of the Summer of '22.

Thus far we have been blessed with generally perfect weather -- dry, with lots of sun; warm, but not too hot -- for outdoor activities of every kind.

Admittedly, for those among us who crave the heat and humidity (which is how we liked it when we were younger), the weather has been a bit on the cool side. But the flip part to that is that our electric bills have been low because we rarely have needed to use the air conditioning.

Those of us who are fortunate to live along the coast have been able to keep our windows open at night to bring in the cool sea breezes, which have been more prevalent this year than usual, to fill our homes.

In addition, the above-normal ocean temperature -- we noticed the warmer temps in the middle of May -- have allowed for the sort of refreshing dip for which we typically have to wait until late July and August.

Compared to much of the rest of the country, which has seen extreme weather with record-setting heat domes, wildfires, drought, and powerful winds, our corner of the world here in the Northeast has been idyllic.

But we know that Mother Nature is unpredictable and that in the end, things always even out, so to speak.

So we urge our readers to make the most of the second half of the Summer of '22 with our family, friends, and loved ones and to create memories that will last a lifetime.

The nice thing about summer is that in our experience, we've found the most memorable moments often are the simplest, such as getting an ice cream with the kids or just spending a day at the beach or going to a big summer movie, whether with the family or a date.

We will leave with these words from the song by the great Nat King Cole from the early 1960s that captures what summertime is all about:

Roll out those lazy, hazy, crazy days of summer  
Those days of soda and pretzels and beer  
Roll out those lazy, hazy, crazy days of summer  
You'll wish that summer could always be here

### AMERICA ALWAYS HAS HAD AN ANTI-DEMOCRATIC ELEMENT

As the January 6 Committee continues its hearings, many of us (including an increasing number of former Trump supporters) have been shocked by the extent to which Trump and those around him plotted to overturn the election of Joe Biden.

Yes, we've long-known about the basic outline of the plot and many of the specifics of Trump's machinations -- such as the infamous call to the Georgia Secretary of State to "find" him 11,780 votes (a conversation that would make an organized crime boss proud) -- but the January 6 Committee has tied it all together and added some new facts through the testimony of witnesses' who have revealed many new details.

However, undeniably there is a large segment of Americans who think Trump did nothing wrong and continue to applaud what he did prior to, on, and after January 6.

For anyone who knows their U.S. history, the large number of Americans who are sticking with Trump is not surprising. There always has been a faction in America from the time of our Founding that has been authoritarian, white-male supremacist, and anti-democratic.

In the segregated South of the Jim Crow era, the anti-democratic extremists were Democrats from the end of the Civil War until the 1960s. Joe Biden liked to brag about how he could work with Strom Thurmond and other conservatives in the Senate, but those guys were just as extremist and as anti-democratic as anyone today, maybe even more so.

The difference between today and those eras is that many of the sub-groups of American culture that formerly were invisible now are out there, front and center. Joe Biden could "work" with rabid segregationists like Strom Thurmond because it largely was accepted by the majority of Americans, even "liberal" Democrats, that this is the way things were. But that sort of thinking no longer aligns with the attitude of the majority of Americans.

However, there still is a sizable portion of our fellow citizens who are not willing to acknowledge that times have changed. They're the ones who wear T-shirts that proclaim, "I'd rather be Russian than a Democrat."

The January 6 Committee is to be applauded for its work in laying out the full extent of Trump's plotting to overturn the election, but it has exposed the deep rifts in our society that literally are threatening to bring us to the brink of another Civil War.

Ominously, although what we are learning from the January 6 Committee hearings of the recent past may be informative, it does not bode well for the future of our democracy.

# Independent Forum

## GUEST OP-ED

### Airline travel woes, flying is frustrating

By Dr. Glenn Mollette

Airline travelers have experienced frustration since the 2021 holidays as covered by national news. Travel delays and even trip cancellations have been aggravating experiences for travelers. If you only have a weekend and your trip includes a flight on Friday and a return flight on Sunday you are chancing a lost weekend. Being delayed from Friday to Saturday is surely to sour your trip.

My wife and I have flown a few times and it seems as if there is a new devil at every level. Last Spring, we hoped for a few days in Florida. We booked our flight from Indiana to change planes in Atlanta before going on to Florida. We checked our luggage and had minimum provisions in our backpacks. We arrived in Atlanta on a Saturday afternoon only to learn that our plane on to Florida was cancelled because of weather. We also heard from fellow disgruntled travelers and a TSA agent that the cancellation was really due to problems with air traffic controllers. We also heard that Delta was very short-staffed. After standing in line at a ticket counter for two hours I was told the next available flight was two nights later at 7PM. We were advised that our luggage was already on another plane to our destination.

We had no choice but to find a hotel room. Thousands of other flights were delayed or had been cancelled that day. Hotel rooms were not easy to find. We finally found one. We were forced to get a taxi and stay two nights in Atlanta with minimal provisions. Needless to say, it was an extra unplanned expense.

When we finally arrived in Florida, I knew we were good on transportation. I had paid in advance for a rental car. We got the car pretty fast. However, I wasn't told that our upfront payment was forfeited because we didn't pick up the car within a 24-hour time frame of the reservation date. I didn't realize I was paying a second

time until I reviewed my bank statement later. Since I had paid for the car up front, I did not think that Budget would care if we were delayed. I thought wrong. According to Budget you have to let them know within 24 hours if your plans change. I learned something new. Education is always expensive. I disputed the charge but my bank stood with Budget.

All in all, my wife and I had a good time in Ft. Myer's Beach, Florida. Except, flying was miserable that time around. Delta Airlines made no offers to compensate us with any new or free tickets. They felt no obligation to cover any of the additional expenses we incurred in Atlanta. Budget Rent A Car made double money for an old Camry they rented me. The car was a take it or leave it. They said it was all they had available when I arrived.

Are there any answers? Sure. Stay home. Or, try to find flights that are direct if possible. This seems harder and harder. Buy a small suitcase that fits the

legal carry-on dimensions. Then you will have your bag with you. If you can handle your trip without a rental car, you might be happier. Sometimes this is impossible but not always. We recently traveled to Baltimore and stuck with Taxis. We saved quite a bit because we didn't pay for a rental car and we didn't have to pay parking fees at the hotel.

I don't like to fly in storms. I do want the airlines to make my safety a priority. I would rather arrive late than never. Just be aware that in the age we currently live in flying can be frustrating.

*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.*

## LETTER to the Editor

**TAX REBATE PROPOSAL MISSES THE MARK**

**To the Editor,**

The Massachusetts Legislature's proposal to send \$250-\$500 checks to a particular income range (38-150k) is economically misguided and fails to meet the moment.

Under this proposal:

-A widowed mother of two kids making \$30,000 a year in the service industry gets \$0... but a dual-income, no kids married couple in their late 20s making \$135,000 a year gets \$500. (Why???)

-With a historic opportunity to invest in things we've long ignored, like our transportation system, crumbling public housing and a lack of affordable housing generally, a lack of affordable childcare, and our public higher education system that keeps increasing tuition on MA residents --- \$500 million will be sent out, without a penny going to the most needy,

in a short-term way that will not make a lasting impact.

-During a period of inflation, money is given to the income range most likely to spend it on supply-constrained goods and services, thus making inflation worse.

I 100% get trying to help families facing the crunch of inflation right now, but a short-term cash infusion increases demand, which increases inflation... what would actually fight inflation would be increasing the supply of things that are driving cost of living up - like housing and childcare.

If the Legislature feels the best use of the state's surplus is tax cuts rather than investing it in public goods, then let's do actual tax cuts that are permanent and promote long-run economic growth.

The state could increase the earned-income tax credit or the child tax credit, cut the sales tax, reduce filing fees and licensing fees on small

businesses, or marginally reduce business taxation in general on small businesses... all kinds of things that have a long-term impact, rather than a sugar high that is only appropriate in a time of urgent need for short-run economic growth, which is not the situation we are in right now, as any economist left, right or center would attest to.

I disagree with Governor Baker's proposed suite of long-term tax reductions, many of which would predominantly help upper-income earners, but at least there's a

logic to them, in terms of promoting the state's economic competitiveness in the long-term.

This proposal is deeply unserious, short-term thinking, which wildly misses the opportunity we have to make investments in the state's future -- all to try to conveniently time checks around election time, even though more than half of the Legislature doesn't even have an opponent. For the sake of thinking long term about MA's future, I hope it is sunk.

**Joe Gravellese**

# Everett

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## 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.



CITY PAWS

Pets are good to us

Those of us who live with animals worry about friends when they tell us of the death of a furry family member. We know this loss can mean changes in their day-to-day activities, and that a lack of emotional support from their pet may endanger their well-being.

The Research

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) says, “There are many health benefits of owning a pet. They can increase opportunities to exercise, get outside, and socialize. Regular walking or playing with pets can decrease blood pressure, cholesterol levels, and triglyceride levels. Pets can help manage loneliness and depression by giving us companionship.”

The National Institutes for Health (NIH) sponsors research to learn more about ways animals can help specific people in specific ways. For example, one study examined

how therapy dogs working in hospitals or nursing homes help reduce patients’ stress and anxiety. Another study found, “... caring for fish helped teens with diabetes better manage their disease.” The routine of feeding the fish and cleaning the tank made them more responsible for checking their blood sugar levels.

The day may come when medical professionals prescribe watching fish swim about, walking a dog, or playing with a cat as readily as they now prescribe pills or physical therapy.

Seniors and Pets

The CDC has found that loneliness and social isolation put older adults at risk for dementia and other medical conditions. Research tells us that pets reduce these risks. Those of us with dogs know how many friends and acquaintances were introduced to us by our dogs.

A friend who had

lived alone adopted a cat. We can see the positive change in her attitude and mood. She connects with the dog people in her life by showing cat pictures. She likes having a reason to go home and being responsible for another creature.

At any age, we should carefully consider the type of animal that is best for us. Think about your likes and dislikes, lifestyle, and budgetary and physical limitations. Another friend of ours adopted a cat after she lost a large dog. The cat is good company. She doesn’t have to take it out for walks on snowy winter days. It is easier for her to travel and have a pet sitter come in and take care of the kitty on a daily visit.

We all should consider our animals’ futures and have a plan to care for them if we are unable to do so. Some seniors see this as a reason they can’t add an animal to their lives. Sometimes this is a wise decision. However, that



Trudy (on a squirrel hunt) is a star in our album of dogs who make us smile.

does not mean they can’t enjoy the benefits animals provide. Perhaps they can help a friend, family member, or neighbor care for a pet.

Community Benefits

Penny takes a lot of photos of dogs on her morning walk. We have an album of dog photos that make us smile. Our neighbor’s silly puppy, Trudy, made Penny laugh when

she posed full-length up a tree chasing a squirrel. We also laugh when that photo pops up on a computer screen.

On our dog walks, we connect with neighbors, exchange information, and share a few minutes of our dog’s time with those who miss their pets. We file reports on the Boston 311 app for items that require city action. We’ve

called 911 to report a person needing help, an auto accident, or to report needles and other drug paraphernalia. Dog walkers can be the eyes and ears of their neighborhood.

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

Rep. McGonagle, House pass bill supporting veterans’ services, military families

Rep. Joe McGonagle, along with his colleagues in the Massachusetts House of Representatives passed comprehensive legislation addressing the Commonwealth’s most immediate needs in the veteran community and making necessary updates to service member quality-of-life issues and acknowledgements of our military branches and individual service, including supporting military families who relocate to the Commonwealth with expedited licensure and school enrollment, creating education awareness programs and establishing the Massachusetts Medal of Fidelity.

“After our veterans have given so much to us, it is imperative that we take care of them and their families,” said McGonagle. “Military families make many sacrifices so if we can repay them in any way, we must. Many of these new practices are really simple and just make sense, but have been overlooked for years. As the son of a Lieutenant Colonel, I understand much of this firsthand and am grateful we have the opportunity to push the well-being of our veterans and their loved ones forward. I am especially grateful to Speaker Mariano and Chair McMurtry for their advocacy on this issue.”

“Our veterans represent the best and bravest among us, and are deserving of unwavering support from those in public office,” said House Speaker Ronald J. Mariano (D-Quincy). “While we can never truly repay those who have served this country, the legislation passed today is another example of the House’s commitment to ensuring that veterans in Massachusetts, and their families, have access to the services and educational opportunities that they deserve. I want to thank Chairman

Paul McMurtry, as well as all my colleagues in the House, for their hard work, and for prioritizing the well being and success of the Commonwealth’s veterans.”

Highlights of the legislation include:

Military spouse licensure portability: requires the Division of Occupational Licensure, the Department of Public Health, and Massachusetts Boards of Registration to accept a military spouse’s application for licensure or notify them of what criteria they were not able to meet within 30 days of the application.

Expedited military spouse teacher licenses: establishes a military spouse certificate to be issued by the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education Commissioner to military spouse teachers that meet certain requirements.

School enrollment for military children: allows military families to register and enroll in a school district when a service member first receives their relocation order, waiving the proof of residency requirement at the time of registration. This provision also allows military children who are transferring mid-semester to enroll in and attend one of the Commonwealth’s virtual schools.

Purple Star campus designation: establishes the Purple Star Campus Program, to be administered by the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, to designate schools that demonstrate a commitment to students and families of service members.

In-state tuition continuity for military-connected college students: ensures that a member of the military stationed in the Commonwealth, their spouse, or their children are deemed an in-state resident after their acceptance

at one of the state’s higher education institutions.

Civilian licensure and certification information: directs the Commissioner of Veterans’ Services to make information on civilian licensure and certification opportunities available to service members and veterans, and provide information on military education and skills to relevant agencies.

Open Burn Pit Registry:

- Directs the Commissioner of the Department of Public Health (DPH), in consultation with the Commissioner of the Department of Veterans’ Services and the Adjutant General of the National Guard, to develop educational materials and an informational pamphlet on the health impacts of open burn pits during overseas deployment and information on the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs’ Airborne Hazards and Open Burn Pit Registry to be distributed to health care providers, veterans’ service offices and organizations, and service members and veterans.

- Directs the Commissioner of the Department of Veterans’ Services, in consultation with the Commissioner of DPH and the Adjutant General, to contact all members of the Armed Forces, National Guard and veterans to register for the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs’ Airborne Hazards and Open Burn Pit Registry.

- Requires the Adjutant

General to request that the periodic health assessment for National Guard members determine whether the member is eligible to participate in the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs’ Airborne Hazards and Open Burn Pit Registry and if eligible, the member register for the Registry.

Massachusetts National Guard family education program: establishes a Massachusetts National Guard Family Education Program to allow National Guard members to transfer their unused education benefits under the National Guard Education Assistance Program to their dependents.

Slot machines at veterans’ organizations: allows the Gaming Commission to issue limited slot machine licenses to veterans’ organizations.

Founding anniversaries of U.S. Armed Forces: requires the Governor to set aside the founding date anniversaries of the U.S. Army, Air Force, Coast Guard, and Massachusetts National Guard.

Medal of Fidelity: establishes the Massachusetts Medal of Fidelity to be presented to the next of kin of a service member or veteran who died as a result of service-connected post-traumatic stress disorder, a service-connected condition resulting from a traumatic brain injury, or a service-connected disease, condition or injury related to exposure to harmful toxin, herbicides, agents

or materials.

Deborah Sampson Memorial Commission: Establishes a commission to determine a location and create a memorial for Deborah Sampson, a Massachusetts resident who disguised herself as a man in the Continental Army during the American Revolutionary War.

Funeral and burial benefits: requires funeral directors and their staffs to provide information on burial and funeral benefits for veterans.

“An Act relative to military spouse-licensure portability, education and enrollment of dependents” (H.4978) passed the House of Representatives 154-0 after a similar version of this legislation passed in the Massachusetts State Senate. The legislation moves back to

the Senate for further consideration.

Earlier this year, the House passed legislation establishing additional protections for veterans and mandating increased accountability for management of veterans’ homes. “An Act relative to the governance, structure and care of veterans at the Commonwealth veterans’ homes” is currently in conference committee negotiations. 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’ Homes in Chelsea or Holyoke.

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Saturday, August 6th

Beethoven's 9th Symphony

Wednesday, August 17th

Mendelssohn & Fabiola Méndez

Wednesday, August 24th

Pines of Rome

For more information go to [www.LandmarksOrchestra.org](http://www.LandmarksOrchestra.org)



CELEBRATION OF LIFE HELD FOR FORMER EHS STAR MICHAEL JOSEPH MATARAZZO

A celebration of life was held for former Everett High School football star Michael Joseph Matarazzo July 7 at Village Bar and Grill.

Friends and football teammates joined members of Michael’s family at the event that honored the well-known Everett resident.

Michael was a standout running back for Everett High as the Crimson Tide won three consecutive state championships (2001, 2002, and 2003).

Ross Pietrantonio, one of Michael Matarazzo’s classmates and teammates, led the organizing of the event that featured music and prize drawings. Pietrantonio said there are plans to present scholarships in memory of Michael Joseph Matarazzo to Everett High graduates.

Gina Matarazzo, Michael’s sister, expressed her gratitude to the many people who attended the event.

“I just want to thank everybody who came out to support the scholarship,” said Gina. “It was nice to see how supportive this community has been during this time. We as a family appreciate it.”



E Club President Carl Colson and his daughter, E Club Treasurer Daryl Colson.



Stephanie Smith, Livia Pietrantonio, and Carlie Smith.



Michele Capone and Fred Capone.



City Councilor Al Latanzi, boxing champion Richie LaMontagne, and Major League Baseball draft pick Matt Nuzzo.



The Matarazzo Family, Gina Matarazzo, Denise Matarazzo, Matthew Matarazzo, and Andrew Matarazzo.



Former Everett High and Brown University teammates Frank Nuzzo, George Paone, and Matt Nuzzo.



David Short, Jennifer Beaulieu, Ashley Morgan, and David Ashley.



Gina Matarazzo (left) with the organizers of the celebration of life for her brother, Michael Joseph Matarazzo, (from left), Ross Pietrantonio, Katie O'Neill, and Councilor-at-Large Stephanie Smith.



Eric Costa, Ashley Claudino, David Buono, and J.R. Petrone.



Alea Martinelli, Ryan Pietrantonio, Ross Pietrantonio, Brandi Corbello, Marlene Pietrantonio, and Peter Pietrantonio.



Everett High friends and football teammates attended the event celebrating the life of Michael Joseph Matarazzo.



George Paone, Peter Pietrantonio, Joseph Baldacchino, Alea Martinelli, Ryan Pietrantonio, Marlene Pietrantonio, and Brandi Carbello.

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# BLO brings free orchestral music to Hatch Shell

Staff Report

Boston Landmarks Orchestra, under the direction of Music Director Christopher Wilkins, brings its annual summer series of free, live orchestral concerts to the iconic DCR Hatch Memorial Shell on the Esplanade, with a special focus on concerts in East Boston, Chelsea, Roxbury, and Mattapan. Rooted in the mission “we build community through great music,” Landmarks Orchestra is thrilled to present a concert series of free events which showcase a diversity of music and cultures.

Programming this summer celebrates a dazzling array of composers and music. Highlights include the world premiere of “Many Mansions,” a new orchestral and choral work by Diane White-Clayton based on Roland Carter’s arrangement of “In Bright Mansions Above”; the Boston premiere of William Dawson’s “Negro Folk Symphony”; Beethoven’s 9th Symphony with the One City Choir, Coro Allegro, and vocal soloists; a new partnership with the Four Strings Academy; and the announcement of cuatrista Fabiola Méndez as Composer-In-Residence for 2022-23 to work with Boston students on composition and performance workshops.

Music Director Christopher Wilkins says “The 2022 season is filled with music the whole family will enjoy—works by Gershwin and Bernstein, the William Tell Overture, a performance of Pines of Rome in the series finale, and much more. There are great monuments of the orchestral literature, including the Beethoven ‘Ninth’ and Berlioz’s Symphonie fantastique. And as always, performances fulfilling Landmarks Orchestra’s unique cultural mission, addressing Boston history, cultural diversity, and conflict and reconciliation. We are also thrilled to begin an exciting long-term collaboration with Puerto Rican cuatro virtuoso, Fabiola Méndez.

Following a strategic planning process led by Chair of the Board of Advisors, Jean Scarrow and Landmarks Orchestra Board Chair Emmett G. Price III, the organization is embarking on a 10-year strategic plan. Primary goals stemming from the plan are to increase the diversity of audiences, ensembles, and staff to be more representative of the residents of the City of Boston; bring more community-based programming into Boston neighborhoods; and develop deep and authentic partnerships with partner communities within the next decade.

## New Partnerships and Community Outreach

At the heart of each Landmarks Orchestra season is the spirit of community and collaboration.

This year’s partnerships and collaborations include:

- A new relationship with Four Strings Academy, a music training institution founded by Mariana Hill. Students from the Academy will join Landmarks principal string players for a Prelude Performance on July 20.

- Partnering with the Hyde Square Task Force and Ágora, founded by

Elsa Mosquera Sterenberg, led to a grant from the Yawkey Foundation to fund our first Composer in Residence—cuatrista Fabiola Méndez. She will spend a year in residence, working with students to create a new work that will premiere on the Landmark’s 2023 summer season. A preview concert of the work will happen in January 2023 (details TBA).

- A grant from The Cummings Foundation which will support Landmarks Orchestra’s Music & Memory program with performances in assisted living centers which specialize in care for patients with memory loss and dementia.

- In partnership with Carnegie Hall, Link Up introduces students grades 3-5 to an orchestra by helping them become part of it. Students are given the opportunity to join Boston Landmarks Orchestra in a highly participatory program in which they learn to sing or play an instrument in the classroom, with a culminating performance. Landmarks Orchestra is the only orchestra in the state to work with Link Up.

- Landmarks has partnered with longtime Performing Arts ASL Interpreter with the Orchestra, Christopher Robinson, who will lead a group of advisors to develop strategies which will make Landmarks events more accessible. This summer’s performances will include ASL interpreters at many performances, and SUB-PAC’s will be available at select performances. SUB-PAC is a patented tactile audio system that provides a high-resolution immersive experience by quietly and accurately transferring deep bass frequencies to create an immersive, physical, full-body experience.

## 2022 Summer Concerts and Events

*An ASL interpreter will be present at many performances; see the website for current details.*

### TELLING TALES

Wednesday, July 20, 2022, 7pm ET | Hatch Shell

Boston Landmarks Orchestra, Christopher Wilkins, conductor

Prelude Concert: Four Strings Academy with Landmarks Orchestra Principal Strings

Bedřich Smetana, “The Moldau” from Ma Vlast (My Fatherland)

Ethyl Smyth, The Wreckers Overture

Paul Dukas, The Sorcerer’s Apprentice

Hector Berlioz, Symphonie fantastique

### SWEET SORROW

Wednesday, July 27, 2022, 7pm ET | Hatch Shell

Boston Landmarks Orchestra, Christopher Wilkins, conductor

Giuseppe Verdi, Nabucco Overture

Florence Price, Ethiopia’s Shadow in America

Boris Lyatoshinsky, Symphony No. 3 in B minor, Peace Shall Defeat War

Andante maestoso—Allegro impetuoso (1st movement)

Jan Sibelius, Finlandia

David Amram, Symphony: Songs of the Soul (Shiray Neshama)

Freilekh (Dance of Joy) (3rd movement)

Piotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky, Romeo and Juliet

### Overture-Fantasy

## BEETHOVEN’S 9th SYMPHONY

Saturday, August 6, 2022, 7pm ET | Hatch Shell

Boston Landmarks Orchestra, Christopher Wilkins, conductor

Sirgourney Cook, soprano

Tichina Vaughn, mezzo-soprano

Ethan Bremner, tenor

Phillip Bullock, baritone

David W. Hodgkins, chorus master

One City Choir

Coro Allegro

Gioachino Rossini, William Tell Overture

Johann Strauss, Jr., To America: Fair Columbia Waltzes

Diane White-Clayton, Many Mansions (world premiere performance)

Ludwig van Beethoven, Symphony No. 9 in D minor, op. 125

## Wednesday, August 17, 2022, 7pm ET | Hatch Shell

Boston Landmarks Orchestra, Christopher Wilkins, conductor

Fabiola Méndez, cuatro

George Gershwin, Cuban Overture

Georges Bizet, L’Arlésienne (excerpts from original version)

Carlos Chávez, Sinfonía india

Florence Price, Folk-songs in Counterpoint (selections)

Fabiola Méndez, Bomba pa’ la diaspora and other selections

Felix Mendelssohn, Symphony No. 4 in A major, “Italian”

### THE VIRTUOSO ORCHESTRA

Wednesday, August 24, 2022, 7pm ET | Hatch Shell

Boston Landmarks Orchestra, Christopher Wilkins, conductor

Leonard Bernstein, Candide Overture

William Dawson, Negro Folk Symphony (Boston premiere)

Georges Enesco, Romanian Rhapsody in A major, op. 11, No. 1

Ottorino Respighi, The Pines of Rome



COURTESY PHOTO

Deputy Chief Will Hurley and Firefighter Adam Ragucci joined the EPD Junior Police Academy and taught the recruits basic cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR).

## Tourney / CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

the 11-year-old class with distinction and will join Savi as returning “players to watch” in the league in 2023.

The Everett 11-year-old team will begin play in the Jimmy Fund Tournament

versus Melrose Wednesday at Sacramone Park. Brian Savi will coach the team in the tournament that continues through the second week of August. All proceeds from the tournament go to the Jim-

my Fund.

The Everett 12-year-old team will also be competing in the Jimmy Fund Tournament in a separate 12-year-old division.

## White House / CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Murphy and John Cornyn, and all those who worked tirelessly to craft and pass this bill. And though work remains to be done, I believe this legislation represents meaningful action in efforts to improve safety in our communities, our homes and our schools.”

In addition to the items listed above, the legisla-

tion:

- Adds convicted domestic violence abusers in dating relationships to the National Instant Criminal Background Check System (NICS).
- Creates federal straw purchasing and trafficking criminal offenses.
- Establishes funding for the creation and estab-

lishment of extreme risk protection order systems, as well as mental health, drug and veteran courts.

- Provides funding to expand mental health services in schools.

- Invests resources to help institute safety measures for schools, including training for school personnel.

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## NEWS FROM AROUND THE REGION

### MORE MONEY TO BE SPENT ON STREETS

CHELSEA - Thanks to nearly half a million Lyft and Uber rides originating in Chelsea in 2021, the city now has an additional \$50,000 for its streets and sidewalks improvement plan.

At its most recent meeting, the City Council approved the appropriation of \$49,247.90 in available funds from the Commonwealth Transportation Infrastructure Fund to assist in the FY23 street and sidewalk program.

“These extra funds available for appropriation come from the recent annual distribution to the City based upon rides originating in Chelsea from Transportation Network Companies (TNCs) such as Uber and Lyft,” stated City Manager Thomas Ambrosino. “As part of the new regulatory scheme, TNCs are required to pay the Commonwealth a \$0.20 per-ride assessment. One half of that assessment is distributed proportionately to each city and town in the Commonwealth based upon the number of rides that originate in the municipality.”

The state has previously determined that local communities must specifically appropriated the TNC funds in order to be spent, and that the funds must be used “to address the impact of transportation network services on municipal roads, bridges, and other transportation infrastructure.”

Ambrosino requested the funds be used for FY23 roadwork.

Council President Roy Avellaneda said that in addition to using the funds, the city should take ad-

vantage of the information provided to the city about the number of Uber and Lyft rides originating in Chelsea.

“Nearly 500,000 trips originated ... out of Chelsea,” said Avellaneda. “You think about that, that’s nearly 40,000 trips per month, or 10,000 trips per week of cars that people are taking through Uber or Lyft out of this community. It’s an amazing numbers, and it means 10,000 people per week don’t want to ride the bus, 10,000 people don’t want to get a bike, 10,000 people may not have a car, but still want to get into one.”

Avellaneda noted that the state only counts rides that originate in Chelsea, not return trips, meaning the total number of ride shares is probably closer to twice that number. He also pointed to pre-Covid numbers in 2019, when there were about one million ride shares that originated in Chelsea.

“This gives us a glimpse of how many cars are coming in and out of our city,” he said. “That’s a million trips, two million trips in 2019 of people taking Uber.”

Later this month, the MBTA is hosting a meeting in council chambers to talk about its planned bus proposals, Avellaneda said.

“I’m going to be here, and I’m going to ask them ‘What does your plan do that might make a dent in the number of people living in this community who don’t feel like riding your bus? What are you doing wrong?’” he said. “How are we going to get people out of cars if we are not providing them with the public transportation that is convenient for them and serves their needs? We talk about new roadways

and bike lanes and all that, but a million people were taking Uber and Lyft prior to Covid.”

Avellaneda said the city needs to use that data to help make policy and advocate for better public transportation.

### TWO NEW ART INSTALLATIONS TO MAKE DEBUT

EAST BOSTON - Two new public art installations by two will make their debut in East Boston on July 13, at the East Boston Social Centers and LoPresti Park.

With support of a Boston Transformative Public Art grant artist Yu-Wen Wu and artist Eli Brown have both commissioned to create the two new works of public art in Eastie.

Over at the Social Centers Wu, a Now and There Public Art Accelerator Artist, has created a light-based public art installation, We Belong, that debuts in East Boston by July 13. In LED neon, the work forms the text “We Belong, here, together, guided by the same stars” in an eight-foot circular sculptural art form with a constellation that maps and connects Boston’s neighborhoods.

The continuously-lit piece will begin its city-wide journey at the East Boston Social Center, where the city’s early immigration centers were located, and will move onto other diverse neighborhoods across Boston in the future. All are welcome to celebrate the opening party on Wed. July 13 in Central Square.

“Two years in the making, We Belong is an exciting push for my practice in public art and another opportunity to experiment

### ANNUAL HORRIBLES PARADE



**PARTY IN THE USA:** Shown above, Juliet, Emily, Anabel, and Gianna marched in the 140<sup>th</sup> Horribles Parade on July 3 celebrating Independence Day.

with light-based media,” said Wu. “I am so excited to bring the installation to East Boston, a neighborhood with vibrant culture, tight-knit community, and important history. I hope the work will help to initiate dialogue on belonging and inclusion among all communities in Boston.”

Wu is an interdisciplinary artist living and working in Boston. Born in Taipei, Taiwan, Wu’s subjectivity as an immigrant is central to her artwork. Arriving in the United States at an early age, her experiences have shaped her work in areas of migration—examining issues of displacement, arrival, assimilation, and the shape of identity in a new country.

Wu said she is passionate about data, mapping, and its storytelling and her work lies at the crossroads of art, science, politics, and social issues.

Her wide range of projects include large-scale drawings, sculpture, site-specific video installations, community-engaged practices, and public art. Wu has been awarded numerous grants, exhibited nationally and internationally and is included in several private and public collections.

With the support of a Boston Transformative Public Art grant, Wu’s “We Belong” will travel to multiple Boston neighborhoods in 2022-2023. Through community events at each site and digital engagement opportunities, local residents will be invited to participate

in the project by sharing what the concept of “belonging” means to them.

“We are all about creating visionary new works for the city and highlighting inclusivity,” said Executive Director of Now + There Kate Gilbert. “Yu-Wen Wu’s installation emphasizes a welcoming spirit to residents, new and old, who have come here to Boston to make this their home.”

At LoPresti Park, Now + There’s Public Art Accelerator Artist Brown will premiere Beam Me Down, a public art installation of an unidentified flying object (UFO), on the same day.

The sculpture’s design blends the qualities of a UFO and a shell, and is steered by a selection of hermaphroditic tidal animals such as oysters and barnacles. An accompanying comic book is co-illustrated by the artist and young Eastie residents.

Brown said “Beam Me Down” is meant to play on the power and wonder of the unknown and asks viewers to consider relationships with some of the smallest animals that sustain life at the water’s edge and what they can teach about navigating rising seas. It is one of several installations that will be going up this summer as part of Now + There’s Accelerator program, bringing site-specific, temporary public art works to all neighborhoods of Boston.

“I wanted to focus on the feeling of encountering the unknown, because it’s something we’re all

facing right now as resources become more unstable and we come up against the dilemma of who is going to save us from ourselves,” said Brown, who identifies as a trans artist. “But it’s also been a huge part of my life as a trans person. And so the UFO as this universal symbol of ‘the other’ can serve to raise questions we are thinking through as a species, while also being a playful object for all ages.”

Brown added that by featuring hermaphroditic creatures at the helm, his work hints at the lessons we can learn from human and non-human queer life, adaptation and survival.

Brown said by reframing the climate change narrative the artist hopes viewers move from a linear perspective, where society reaches an end, toward a cyclical perspective and look to the strength of ancient tidal species for survival strategies.




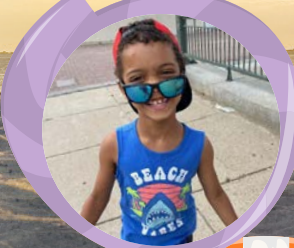

“This project is meant to encourage us toward small acts in response to big anxiety, like the Kid in the comic who forms a relationship with a neighborhood snail,” said Brown.

From the installation in LoPresti Park, Brown draws on the work’s tidal animals to become the main characters in a sci-fi comic book which he co-illustrated with East Boston students, ages 3 to 18, from Adams Elementary School. The comic

See REGION Page 9

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Region //

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8

book will be available by QR code and will be printed in English and Spanish. Local bodegas and shops will carry it for free, and people can contribute drawings to the virtual space at the East Boston Public Library.

Brown is an interdisciplinary artist working in sculpture, comics, and community organizing whose work explores queer and trans intimacies through time and cross-generational dynamics. They are especially interested in asking what the future of human evolution could look like if we reimagined reproduction as a queer, ecological strategy. Recent work has been featured at Flux Factory, deCordova Sculpture Park and Museum, Tailgate Projects in Tampa, FL, and Creative Time Summit X.

“I expect Beam Me Down will be as transformative to visitors as Eli’s thoughtful participation in the fourth cohort of the N+T Public Art Accelerator,” said Gilbert.

Now + There’s Public Art Accelerator program grants Boston-based artists a \$25,000 stipend along with a six-month curriculum to help them with curatorial, technical, and financial support as they develop new temporary and site-specific works of art for the neighborhoods of Boston.

HONORING  
FREDERICK  
DOUGLASS

LYNN - North Shore Juneteenth hosted the Reading Frederick Douglass Together July 3 at Frederick Douglass Park in Central Square.

Guests participated in the reading of Mr. Douglass’ famous Fourth of July Address.

North Shore Juneteenth President Nicole McClain welcomed residents to the twelfth annual event that had been previously held at High Rock Park.

Mayor Jared Nicholson delivered remarks at the event that honors Mr. Douglass’ outstanding contributions as a social reformer, abolitionist, orator, writer, and statesman.

“Thank you, North Shore Juneteenth, the Lynn Museum, Mass Humanities – thank you to all of you for being here,” Nicholson said. “This is such a marquee event and to have it in a marquee spot like this is really exciting for the city of Lynn. This is something that’s gone on for years, and it’s really important for us to recognize this story. It’s an important part of our local history, the role Frederick Douglass played, and you can see that with the memorial dedication of this park in his name. He’s been such an important part in our country’s history. Particularly now, as we are celebrating the nation’s birthday, it’s important to recognize that part of our country’s history that isn’t talked about during Fourth of July: the anniversary of the Declaration of Independence where it was declared that all men were created equal – and then and now, that struggle to make that true continues. Frederick Douglass knew it then when he said it, and more and more people are working to try address that. It’s a proud legacy for the city to have had someone fighting for that in our city, and it’s a proud legacy that so many of the folks that are here

today are carrying on.”

Mr. Douglass lived in Lynn from 1841 to 1848 and wrote his autobiography, The Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass, while a resident of the city.

The event was founded by Wendy Joseph and is one of the longest running in the state honoring Frederick Douglass’ Fourth of July speech.

(Information from Mr. Douglass’ autobiographical data online was used in this story).

CHANGE IN  
ELECTION  
PROCESS  
FOR SCHOOL  
COMMITTEE

REVERE - Long-time School Committee members Stacey Rizzo and Michael Ferrante have agreed on many issues during their years on the seven-member board. Both have advocated vigorously for the construction of new schools and voted often to ensure that Revere students have had the most state-of-the-art resources needed to excel.

They have been front and center supporting student-athletes in all sports, and they have taken great pride in Revere being a national model for urban education in America.

Ferrante, 65, has served on the School Committee for 17 years. Rizzo, 64, has served for 12 years and currently holds the position of vice-chair. She is also the president-elect of the Massachusetts Association of School Committees.

But Rizzo and Ferrante are on opposite sides of the City Council’s decision to approve Mayor Brian Arrigo’s proposal to change the election process for candidates seeking seats on the School Committee. Arrigo asked that six members be elected by the voters in their respective wards (Wards 1-6), while there also be a city-wide election for two at-large seats. The mayor would be the ex-officio chair of the School Committee, meaning future boards would have nine members as opposed to the current seven-member structure.

Both City Solicitor Paul Capizzi and Council President Gerry Visconti pointed out there would be a very good chance that Revere would face a lawsuit (as had happened in Worcester) if they maintained the current election process for the School Committee.

School Committee member John Kingston, who had obviously done his homework on the issue, correctly noted that while most communities have seven-member School Committees, the City of Malden does in fact, have nine members [eight ward seats and Mayor Gary Christenson as chair].

The Council voted 7-2 to approve Mayor Arrigo’s election proposal, with Councillors Ira Novoselsky and George Rotondo casting votes against the motion. Councillors Anthony Coglian-dro, Patrick Keefe, Joanne McKenna, Steven Morabito, Richard Serino, Marc Silvestri, and Gerry Visconti voted in favor of Arrigo’s proposal.

Rizzo a strong supporter

Stacey Rizzo left no doubt on which side of the issue she stands, stating vigorously, “I am 110 percent for it. I just believe

every ward does need its representation. I think it gives other candidates an opportunity to get into an election and not have it be based on name recognition. As far as having two at-large seats, I agree with the proposal because it just allows another set of eyes to look at the whole district.”

Noting some of the questions being raised about having two at-large seats, Rizzo added, “There are five councilors-at-large, I don’t know why there is such an opposition with the School Committee having two [at-large seats].

“I want people to run in those wards,” continued Rizzo. “The families are going to know the candidates because they see them living every day in their wards.”

Interestingly, Rizzo will see direct political ramifications from the new ward-election proposal as she has relocated to Ward 5 where School Committee member Aisha Milbury Ellis, a rising star in Revere politics, resides.

“I just moved to Ward 5 and Aisha lives in Ward 5, and more than likely she would win a Ward 5 election over me, because she has lived here and I just moved here,” added Rizzo, while noting that School Committee members Carol Tye and John Kingston reside in Ward 1 and could potentially be opponents in a 2023 Ward 1 School Committee election.

“But the election shouldn’t be about the incumbents,” said Rizzo. “It needs to be about the schools and the students.”

Rizzo has not announced whether she will be a candidate in the 2023 election.

“I have five grandchildren that I watch a lot, and if I can’t do my job 100 percent, I don’t know if it’s fair - I’m going to keep that in the back of my mind right up until probably April of next year,” said Rizzo. “I love my job, and every time we have a graduation and I see all these students that I’ve known since kindergarten – it breaks my heart that I would give it up.”

Ferrante likes the current SC election process

Michael Ferrante wants School Committee elections to remain the way they are. For one, he feels that nine members may make the School Committee less cohesive and less effective.

“You’re going to have nine people up there trying to make decisions – that’s not easy, you know that, and I know that,” Ferrante said candidly. “I just think the more people you have, the harder it is to make decisions. I like it the way it is, but it’s unfortunately, it’s probably not going to stay that way. Right now, if you have the ward fights, we’re going to lose two of our current members, although they could run for at-large seats and win a seat. So, are we trying to eliminate people there, or are we just trying to open it up for more people? I’m really not sure. If the system’s not broken, don’t fix it. Everybody has the same opportunity to run and win.”

Ferrante offered an excellent question that has yet to be addressed by officials, which is: how many candidates on the ballot in School Committee races will advance to the final election?

“If this new proposal

gets enacted, how many candidates will you need to have an at-large primary?” he asked rhetorically. “Does it revert to the rules where you need double the candidates, plus one, to hold a primary? We have to know the answer to that before we proceed to the next step.”

With the Council’s approval of Mayor Arrigo’s election proposal, the decision now rests with the state legislature.

DICICCO SHINES  
IN CHAMPIONSHIP  
PLAY

WINTHROP - Winthrop High star gymnast Brandi Dicicco played a key role as a member of the champion Team Massachusetts squad at the national high school championships held recently in Ft. Myers, Florida.

Brandi competed in two events, floor exercise and vault.

“Brandi has been working on upgrading her routines for this competition since the end of our season in February,” said WHS coach Pete Gobiell. “The meet is pretty intense with over 100 really good gymnasts competing.

“Massachusetts has developed a very intense rivalry with New Jersey,” Gobiell noted. “In the past two years, New Jersey beat us by .1 and the next year by 1.0.

“Brandi’s job was just to hit her routines and try to make the finals,” Gobiell added.

A couple of mistakes on the balance beam left Team Massachusetts feeling the pressure to stick their floor routines. However, Decicco did not disappoint her teammates and came through with a clutch performance, hitting her routine for a 9.35, her personal best of the season.

“Brandi rose to the level of all the top competitors and was unbelievable,” said Gobiell. “It was the best routine I’ve ever seen her do. Her 20 teammates surrounded her as she walked off the floor.”

The competition was close with Massachusetts battling New Jersey, Illinois, and Wisconsin. The vault was next and Brandi warmed up her tsukahara vault, which is a backwards flipping vault. She hit her vault, scoring a season-high score of 9.2, a mark that placed her among top four scores counting towards her team’s total.

After Team Massachusetts finished for the first day, they knew the meet was too close to call.

“Nobody felt that any one team dominated the meet,” said Gobiell. “It was going to be a close one. Everyone would have to wait until the next day after finals for the winning team to be announced.”

Brandi made finals on floor and missed vault finals by one place. Her routine during finals on the floor exercise was superb, with no major mistakes, but the competition was tremendous.

Brandi did her job once again, finishing her career with a great performance. With all of the teams sitting on the floor, Team Massachusetts was called out last -- finishing in first place and ending a drought since 2016.

“Brandi finished her high school career on top,” said Gobiell of his ace gymnast, who plans to compete for the Springfield College gymnastics team next year.

OBITUARIES

Edward Dimond

October 13, 1944 ~ June 27, 2022

Edward J. Dimond, 77, passed away peacefully surrounded by his family on June 27.

A US Air Force veteran, he was the beloved husband of the late Marie (Pizzuto) Dimond, the loving father of Michelle and her husband, Matthew, Brian and his wife, Nicole, Nicole and her husband, Brian P. and Darnielle and her fiancé, Ryan; cherished grandfather of Amber, Macayla, Ashleigh, Sydnee, Alyssa, Erin, Zachary, Kloe, Chelsi and McKenna and brother of Kathy Venezia, Steven Dimond, Larry Dimond and the late Louis Dimond. Edward is also survived by many nieces, nephews, great-nieces, great-nephews and good



friends. His funeral was held from the Salvatore Rocco & Sons Funeral Home, 331 Main Street, Everett on Tuesday, July 12 followed by a Funeral Mass in Immaculate Conception Church, 489 Broadway, Everett. Interment was in Woodlawn Cemetery, Everett. For more information, please visit [www.roccofuneralhome.com](http://www.roccofuneralhome.com).

Thomas Marchant

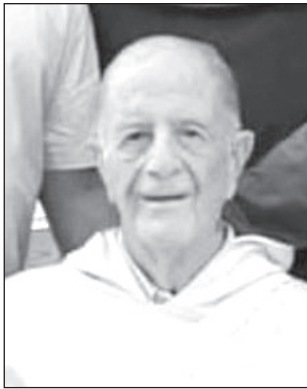
Retired Insurance Adjuster and Permanent Catholic Deacon

Deacon Thomas W. Marchant of Wakefield, formerly of Everett, entered into eternal rest on Sunday, July 10 at home, surrounded by his loving family. He was 90 years old.

Born in Brighton, Tom lived in Everett for many years before settling in Wakefield these last few years. He worked as an insurance adjuster prior to retirement.

On May 22, 1976, Thomas was ordained in the first class as a Permanent Deacon with the Archdiocese of Boston. He was a U.S. Army Veteran serving honorably during the Korean Conflict.

He was the son of the late Thomas T.J. and Marie (Boudreau) Marchant, beloved husband of Beatrice M. (Cassie) for over 69 years; dear and devoted father of Thomas L. and his wife, Donna of Wakefield, Diane Grenham and her husband, James and Michele Marchant Taylor and her husband, Daniel, all of Wakefield, Michael and his wife, Susan of Chelmsford, Joseph and his wife, Cindy and Paul and his wife, Christine, all of Everett; brother of



Phyllis Drinkwater of Andover and the late Mary Mangene; loving Papa of Jenna, Alyssa, Matthew, Ryan, Kristen, Samantha, Emily, Michael, Robert, Jacob, Sebastian, Charlotte and the late Danielle and Kevin and Great-Papa of Timothy, Avery, Jack, Nolan, Ella, Cameron, Aedan, Isabella, Gianna and Kora.

Deacon Thomas will lie in repose in his beloved and devoted parish, St. Anthony Church, 38 Oakes St., Everett, Thursday, July 14 from 4 to 8 p.m. His concelebrated Funeral Mass will be on Friday, July 15 at 2 p.m. A private family burial will take place on Saturday.

In lieu of flowers, contributions in Deacon Tom’s memory to St. Anthony’s Church would be sincerely appreciated. Arrangements by the Cafasso & Sons Funeral Home, Everett 617.387.3120

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# EBNHC / CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

vaccination efforts and more.

“We are all still trying to recover from the stress that the pandemic has put on our Massachusetts communities,” said Emily Haber, Massachusetts Service Alliance CEO. “We are thrilled that we will have so many programs in Massachusetts that will be engaging AmeriCorps members in addressing pressing health concerns in our communities thanks to this new AmeriCorps/CDC initiative. The Public Health AmeriCorps members will join over 2,000 other AmeriCorps members that will be meeting critical needs across our communities next year in health, education, the environment, and workforce development.”

Haber said Public Health AmeriCorps is an example of a whole government approach to address the nation’s most pressing challenges. The partnership between AmeriCorps and the CDC leverages the expertise of both agencies, capitalizing on AmeriCorps’ experience managing some of the most prominent public service and workforce development programs in the nation while benefiting from CDC’s technical expertise as the country’s leading public health agency.

“East Boston Neighborhood Health Center is honored to partner with AmeriCorps to offer the next generation of health-care leaders the opportunity to serve with us,” said EBNHC Chief Medical Officer Jackie Fantes. “As one of the nation’s leading community health centers, we see the power of high-quality, accessible healthcare to change lives every day. For those desiring to support health equity, we invite you to apply to our AmeriCorps post and lay the groundwork for what we feel is a fulfilling and exciting career path.”

AmeriCorps, the federal agency for volunteerism and national service, provides opportunities for Americans to serve their country domestically, address the nation’s most pressing challenges, improve lives and communities, and strengthen civic engagement. Each year, the agency invests in grants for local non-profit, community, tribal, and state organizations; places more than 250,000 AmeriCorps members and AmeriCorps Seniors volunteers in intensive service roles; and empowers millions more to serve as long-term, short-term, or one-time volunteers. Learn more at AmeriCorps.gov.

# Eight alternative ways to keep cool without AC

Motorists are being given suggestions on how to cope with the heat this summer - when they don’t have the luxury of using an air-con.

The holiday car rental experts at StressFreeCarRental.com have outlined eight ways to keep cool and improve your driving experience while travelling over the summer.

Although most new cars come with a sufficient climate control system, many drivers are still having to put up with sweltering conditions while they’re out on the road.

There’s nothing worse than being trapped in a hot car for a long journey, however it’s sometimes unavoidable, especially if you’re commuting to work or going on a road trip.

Those who have ACs but are looking to cut back on their motoring expenses should also consider alternatives, because using air-con can increase fuel consumption by as much as 20%.

Among those making the list of suggestions are freezing water bottles to use as ice packs and shielding your car from the sun with a dashboard cover.

A spokesperson for StressFreeCarRental.com said: “Driving in the blazing sun can cause motorists to feel dizzy and ill from heat exhaustion, which in return is dangerous for all the road users.

“There are some cost-effective alternatives that help motorists tackle the heat and prevent accidents while they’re out and about on a hot day.”

Here are StressFreeCarRental.com’s best tips for cooling down without the help of an air-con:

Stay hydrated

Make sure to bring a refreshing cold beverage with you on your journey to

avoid dehydration and store it under the seat to maintain its cool temperature.

Hang a wet rag over the vent

The air blown out will be much cooler, but make sure you have a few wet rags ready to replace it with as it will dry out quite quickly. Also remember to take them out of your car and wash them afterwards to prevent mildew.

Freeze water bottles to use as ice packs

Wrap a frozen bottle in a towel and rest it against your seat behind your neck. Once it defrosts, you’ll have ice cold water to drink and cool off too.

Park in the shade

There’s nothing worse than getting into a boiling hot car at the end of the day, so be mindful of where you leave your vehicle. Under trees is the obvious choice – but you can also try to find a large truck or lorry for shade.

Get a mini-fan

A portable fan can make all the difference, even on the hottest summer days. These fans are small but mighty when it comes to cooling yourself down while you’re stuck in a hot car.

Get cold packs

Although cold packs don’t provide a long-term solution, they can be used as a quick relief from the heat.

Use a dashboard cover

Put on a dashboard cover on your car’s windshield to keep sunlight away from the car’s interior. You won’t feel as overwhelmed by the heat if you don’t have to touch hot vinyl surfaces.

Keep windows slightly cracked

It’s obviously not a good idea to open your windows all the way but leaving just a small crack will promote ventilation and help to keep your car cool.

# FBI warns of spike in rental and real estate scams

As rents, home prices, and inflation surge in today’s highly competitive real estate market, the FBI Boston Division is warning the public about the risk of rental scams, and the need to be cautious when posting and responding to rental properties and real-estate online.

“We have seen a significant increase in the amount of money being lost by people who are desperate for a good deal. Scammers are cashing in on renters who need to act quickly for fear of missing out, and it’s costing consumers thousands of dollars, and in some cases, leaving them stranded,” said Joseph R. Bonavolonta, Special Agent in Charge of the FBI Boston Division. “We are asking everyone to exercise caution, especially over the next few months, as folks look to book last minute summer getaways.”

Rental scams occur when the victim has rental property advertised and is contacted by an interested party. Once the rental price is agreed-upon, the scammer forwards a check for the deposit on the rental property to the victim. The check is to cover housing expenses and is, either written in excess of the amount required, with the scammer asking for the remainder to be remitted back, or the check is written for the correct amount, but the scammer backs out of the rental agreement and asks for a refund. Since the banks do not usually place a hold on the funds, the victim has immediate access to them and believes the check has cleared. In the end, the check is found to be counterfeit and the victim is held responsible by the bank for all losses.

Another type of scam involves real estate that is advertised online. The scammer duplicates postings from legitimate real estate websites and reposts these ads, after altering them. Often, the scammers use the broker’s real name to create a fake email, which gives the fraud more legitimacy. When the victim sends an email through the classified advertisement website inquiring about the home, they receive a response from someone claiming to be the owner. The “owner” claims they’re unable to show the property without payment because they are either out of town or out of the country. If the victim is interested in renting the home, they are asked to send money and shortly thereafter the property is no longer available.

According to the FBI’s Internet Crime Complaint Center (IC3), which provides the public with a means of reporting Internet-facilitated crimes, there has been a steady increase in losses reported by victims of real estate/rental scams in the last three years.

Nationwide, in 2021, 11,578 people reported losing \$350,328,166 due to these types of scams which is a 64% increase from the previous year. Here in the Boston Division, which includes all of Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, and Rhode Island, 415 victims reported \$13,424,269 in losses which is a 27% jump.

42 victims in Maine lost \$489,309

290 victims in Massachusetts lost \$8,944,041

41 victims in New Hampshire lost \$2,576,210

42 victims in Rhode Island lost \$1,414,709

The actual losses are most likely much higher

because many people are hesitant to report they were scammed. Within the FBI Boston Division’s area of responsibility, several incidents have been reported in recent months including:

An Idaho man was in the process of re-locating to Rhode Island and responded to a Craigslist ad for a year-long rental in Narragansett, RI. After securing a \$21,756 advance from his employer, he wired that money to the “owner” and set up a time to gain access to the residence. Prior to the agreed upon meeting time, the man received a text canceling the meeting because the “owner” was in Chicago tending to his sick son. The man went to the residence and was greeted by the actual property owner who told him it was not a rental property and he had not posted an online ad.

An East Providence, RI, man responded to an online advertisement for an apartment in Cambridge, MA, requiring the first and last month’s rent, along with a security deposit. The man was told he would not be given the keys and allowed to access the apartment until the \$6,000 check cleared the bank. As soon as that happened, he made an appointment to collect the keys for the apartment but no one answered the door. After calling and texting the purported owner, the victim received a text stating “you got scammed, do not text this phone anymore.”

A University of Rhode Island student responded to an online advertisement on Facebook Marketplace for an apartment in Wakefield, Rhode Island. The student wired \$1,800 to secure the place after he was told he wouldn’t be allowed to see

the apartment prior to moving in because the landlord is always traveling. When he showed up to move in, the address he was given was for the leasing office and he was told there were no units available.

How to avoid being victimized:

Do not wire funds to people you do not know.

Do not put money towards a house or apartment you have not seen.

Confirm the identity of the landlord by researching public records to find out who owns the property you are seeking to rent or purchase.

Do not fill out applications online until you have met directly with the property manager.

Know local rental prices.

Look for online reviews, references, and testimonials from past inhabitants.

Be wary if a potential tenant wants to rent property sight unseen.

Be wary if a potential renter says they are out of town and will send you a cashiers’ check.

Be wary if a potential landlord says he is out of the country and wants the rent sent to a foreign account.

Do not accept overpayment for properties. If you receive a check for more than the specified amount, return it. Do not deposit it.

If you find yourself the target or victim of a rental scam, stop all contact immediately, and if you have already sent money, it is extremely important to report any transfer of funds to your financial institution and file a complaint with the FBI’s Internet Crime Complaint Center at ic3.gov.

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CHURCH News

Mystic Side Congregational Church

News and Notes

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

and socializing follow our services. Parking is avail-able 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 togeth-er, 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 on-line at zionchurchminis-tries.com or via email at office@zionchurchminis-tries.com

Glendale United Methodist Church

News and Notes

Glendale United Meth-odist 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 ded-icate 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 particu-lar week and leave a copy of your dedication in the mail in that is on the Pas-tor’s door. Please contact the Pastor if you have any questions.

Boy Scout Troop 814: Meet in Cooper Hall on Tues. evenings from 6-9 p.m. Cub Pack 11 meets on Saturday mornings.

NA Meetings – Mon.

Glendale Christian Lighthouse Church

News and Notes

Sunday 10:30 a.m. Worship service.  
Weds. hour of Power, worship, prayer and Bible Study, via Zoom.  
“Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human mas-ters,” Colossians 3:23  
“In Pursuit of Spiritual Excellence”  
Righteousness, Godli-ness, Faith, Love, Truth

**GLENDALE  
CHRISTIAN  
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CHURCH  
701 BROADWAY  
EVERETT,  
MASSACHUSETTS  
02149  
617-387-7458  
Rev. Larry Russi, Sr.  
Pastor  
pastorlarry@  
thelighthousechurch701.net**

Church at the Well Everett

News and Notes

Church at the Well Ev-erett is a new church for Everett. Check us out on Facebook at www.face-book.com/churchforever-ett to view weekly devo-tions and updates, visit us at www.foreverett.church

to sign up for our news-letter and see how we can help you, or connect with the Everett Community Aid Network at www.ev-erettcan.com to request any additional help.

Grace Anglican Episcopal Church

News and Notes

Grace Anglican Episco-pal Church is open & wel-coming to all.  
There are 2 services on Sundays: 10am English, 1pm South Sudanese Din-ka  
Come all and let us walk together in this sea-

son of hope, renewal and new beginnings.  
**Grace Anglican  
Episcopal Church  
67 Norwood Street,  
Everett, MA  
Church Phone  
617-387-7526 or  
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# EPS educator throws out the ceremonial first pitch at Fenway

Special to the Independent

Devens School teacher Kevin Doyle threw out the ceremonial first pitch on Wednesday, July 6th at Fenway Park as the Boston Red Sox celebrated Disability Awareness Night.

The Red Sox recognized several local families and advocates in the disability community, as well as Paralympians and Special Olympians, as part of its pregame ceremonies prior to the Red Sox-Tampa Bay Rays game. Doyle was joined by Paralympian rower and silver medalist Allie Reilly in throwing out ceremonial first pitches.

In addition to serving as

a substitute special education teacher at the Devens, Mr. Doyle is a member of the Red Sox' media relations staff.

Disability Awareness Night was coordinated in partnership with Horace Mann Education Associates (HMEA), which aims to teach, support and empower people with developmental disabilities and their families to live meaningful lives of their choice. Disability Awareness Night is part of the City of Boston's All-Inclusive Boston culture and tourism initiative and the Red Sox' ongoing effort to make Fenway Park an inclusive environment for all fans.



Devens School teacher Kevin Doyle acknowledges the Fenway Park crowd prior to throwing out the ceremonial pitch as part of Disability Awareness Night.



Red Sox manager Alex Cora congratulates Devens School teacher Kevin Doyle after he threw out the ceremonial first pitch prior to the July 6th Red Sox-Tampa Bay game at Fenway Park.



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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.

The Independent also encourages readers to e-mail news releases to [editor@everettindependent.com](mailto: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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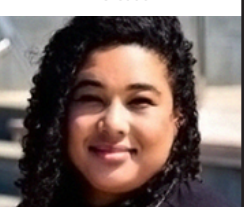
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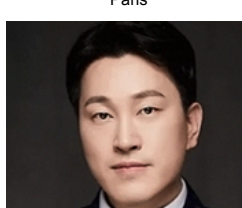
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