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Wednesday, September 13, 2023

CITY OF EVERETT HOLDS 9/11 REMEMBRANCE CEREMONY



PHOTOS COURTESY OF THE CITY OF EVERETT



The City of Everett held a ceremony to remember those who died in the attacks that occurred on Sept. 11, 2011. **Deputy Fire Chief Will Hurley presided over** the speaking program. Mayor Carlo De-Maria, State Rep. Joe McGonagle, Fire Chief Scott Dalrymple, and Police Sgt. Joe Gaff delivered remarks. Shown above, Everett firefighters at the 9/11 Remembrance Ceremony. Left, the Everett Fire **Department Honor** Guard. See more photos on

Planning Board takes up large Rivergreen Drive proposal

Staff Report

The Planning Board took up the large-scale development planned for Rivergreen Drive at its meeting last week.

Applicants John Tocco and Ricky Belliveau and their team made a presentation on the project, which calls for the redevelopment of a 25-acre site within the city's Riverfront Overlay District.

The proposed redevel-

opment calls for the construction of three mid-rise residential buildings totaling 830,000 gross square feet and containing 591 dwelling units, 585 parking spaces, and a 14-acre public riverfront path and park. The applicant is proposing that 59 of these units will be designated as affordable.

The address of the proiect is listed as 1, 4, and 6 Rivergreen Drive and 0 Tremont Street.

Following the presentation, multiple comments were made by Board members, led by Leo Pizzano who had a good amount of feedback on the aesthetics of the building, according to Planning Director Matthew Lattanzi.

Multiple letters were read into the record, including letters of support from Night Shift, Koffee N' Box, the owners of the 65 Norman Street Project, and a form letter signed by

multiple youth throughout the City.

Page 6.

There was also a letter of opposition from Mayor Carlo DeMaria; and two comment letters which contained suggestions for what folks want to see in a project down in the area from Mystic River Watershed Association (My-WRA) and Friends of the Malden River, according to Lattanzi.

See PROPOSAL Page 2

MAYOR DEMARIA CONGRATULATES EVERETT LITTLE LEAGUE MASSACHUSETTS DISTRICT 12 CHAMPIONS

Special to the Independent

Mayor Carlo DeMaria

at City Hall. See Page 10 for more photos.

Little League Massachusetts District 12 championship-winning team to recently invited the Everett Everett City Hall to con-

Mayor DeMaria was pleased to meet with the Everett Little League District 12 champions

gratulate them on their achievement.

The team was invited to enjoy pizza and refresh-

do."

or, alongside the Everett City Council, presented citations to each player and coach in recognition of their achievement in the

council chamber.

PHOTO COURTESY OF THE CITY OF EVERETT

ments in the Mayor's conference room while chatting with Mayor DeMaria. The team proudly displayed their championship banner, which was recently awarded to them as a token of their accomplishment.

"I'd like to thank the team for meeting with me at City Hall to enjoy some pizza, refreshments and to discuss their remarkable season," said Mayor De-Maria. "I wish them all the best of luck and continued success in everything they Afterwards, the May-

For the latest news in Everett

Everett voters head to the polls Sept. 19 for preliminary election

By Cary Shuman

Everett voters will cast their ballots in the preliminary election in four different contests on Tuesday, Sept. 19.

Director of Elections Danielle Pietrantonio said that the polls will be open at 18 precincts at 12 locations throughout the city.

The four races on the ballot are as follows:

Councilor-at-Large

Thirteen candidates are running in the preliminary election, seeking to claim one of the ten nominations for advancement to the general election on November 7.

The four incumbents in the races are Councillors-at-Large Michael Marchese, John Hanlon, Stephanie Smith, and Irene Cardillo. The other nine candidates are Angelmarie DiNunzio, Katy Rogers, Shaskia Bosquet, Kisan Upadhaya, Guerline Alcy, Jean Marc Daniel, Joseph Perotti Jr., Maria R. Bussell, and Daniel LaRosa Senatillaka.

Ward 4 City Councilor

City Councilor Jimmy Tri Le is the incumbent in the Ward 4 race. Holly Garcia and Kimberly Kit Bridge are the other candidates seeking one of the two nominations for the final election in November.

School Committee Ward 4

Three candidates Thomas P. Messina Jr., Robin M. Babcock, and James A. Mastrocola – are hoping to finish in one of the top two spots in the preliminary election and proceed to the final election in November.

School Committee Ward 6

Four candidates - Daniel Skerrit, Pattiann Scalesse, Thomas E. Abruzzese, and Joseph A. D'Onofrio – are running in the preliminary election. The top two finishers will advance to the final election in November.

Pietrantonio predicts a turnout of 4,000 voters

for Tuesday's election Director of Elections Danielle Pietrantonio predicts a turnout of approximately 4,000 of Everett's 22,000 registered voters

for Tuesday's election. "Early voting [at City Hall] has been pretty steady," reported Pi-etrantonio. "We've also mailed out 2,000 ballots, and we've been receiving them daily."

Pietrantonio said she expects to have all the ballots counted and the results posted by 9:30 p.m. on Tuesday.

Everett celebrates Brazil's independence with a flag raising and festival

raised the Brazilian flag on Saturday, Sept. 9, at City Hall in recognition of the country's 201 years of independence. Immediately after, attendees paraded from City Hall, down Broadway, to the School Street municipal parking lot for a festival to celebrate the City's Brazilian-American commu-

The City of Everett's Director of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Cathy

The City of Everett Draine was pleased to be joined by fellow speakers Executive Director of the Brazilian Women's Group Heloisa Galvao, State Rep. Judith Garcia, City Councilor Stephanie Martins and Deputy Consul for the Consulate General of Brazil in Boston Júlio Cesar de Jesus.

> After delivering their remarks, Vocalist Natalia Hubner performed a ren-

> > See FESTIVAL Page 12



Galvao.

that you need to know, check everettindependent.com

Parlin Adult and Teens

Yarn Club Parlin Fireplace Room. Tuesday, September 19th at 7pm. Come chit chat and stitch! Bring your crocheting, knitting, or any other yarn craft and sit and socialize with other members of the crafting community. Recommended for ages 14-109!

Board Game Afternoons Parlin Fireplace Room. Thursday, September 21st from 3-5pm. Join us for an afternoon of board game fun at the library! Play your favorite classic games with friends, family, and fellow board game enthusiasts. No need to bring your own games—we have plenty to choose from. Join us to learn new games and enjoy friendly competition.

100 Years of Boston Comedy Parlin Meeting Room. Thursday, September 21st at 7pm. Veteran arts journalist Nick Zaino explores Boston's long history of comedy, from vaudeville to YouTube, highlighting some of the personalities that have defined laughter in America for 100 years. This program is funded by the Everett Cultural Council.

Parlin Childrens

Lego Club. Parlin Children's Room. Monday, September 18th from 3-5pm. Attention all Lego lovers: Lego Club is back

"I fully recognize the

need to create more af-

fordable housing to allow

families to make Everett

their home," stated De-

Maria in his letter. "How-

ever, the need for housing

is not the only critical need

facing our community. We

also have the need to build

a new comprehensive

school building that will

alleviate classroom sizes

across our entire school

district. We also need to

create and preserve access

our waterfront for the

The mayor stated par-

cels of land in the propos-

al should be considered as

part of the City's State-

ment of Interests (SOIs)

filed with the Massachu-

setts School Building Au-

thority (MSBA) as poten-

tial new areas to site a new

"A new high school fa-

cility is the only way to

high school facility.

benefit of all our resi-

dents."

Proposal / CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

at the Parlin Memorial Library! Come to the Children's Room after school on Mondays for some free-building lego fun. Open to all ages. Children under 6 years old must be accompanied by an adult. No registration required.

Storytime and Singalong with Karen, Parlin Children's Room. Wednesday, September 20th at 10am. Join us for a fun-filled morning of singing and storytelling with Karen! Suggested ages 0-6.

Python I: Beginner Class, Parlin Meeting Room. Wednesday, September 20th at 4:30pm. Learn the basics of Python programming with classes at the Parlin Library. By signing up, you get to attend all 6 classes over the course of 4 weeks. You can bring your own device, or we will provide one for you! This program is appropriate for ages 9-13, or grade levels 4th-8th. Spots are limited, so register online today at bit. ly/EVECal

Puppet Story Time, Parlin Meeting Room. Thursday, September 21st at 10:30am. Through Me To You Puppetry invites you to join Newton and the gang for Puppet Story Time! Newton and his puppet friends take turns reading stories and singing songs with the kids. At the end of the 30 minute

alleviate classroom size

for all grades in our school

district," DeMaria stated.

"This proposed develop-

ment would significantly,

and potentially irreparably

damage the City of Ever-

ett's ability to meet the im-

portant needs of our stu-

dents and their families. I

can't allow the interest of

one project to compromise

the public needs of thou-

sands of Everett students."

the project The only vote

that was taken on the proj-

ect at the Sept. 5 meeting

was to authorize Lattan-

zi to collect 53G funds

from the applicant for

the purpose of hiring out-

side consultants to review

technical aspects, such as

legal, engineering, archi-

tectural, and environmen-

tal aspects, of the project.

quest from the board for

the applicant to invite a

representative from Wynn

Development, the current

There was also a re-

The only vote taken on

show, the kids are invited to say hi to Newton and give him a high-five. They can even stay after the show to play with some of Newton's puppets during a hands-on Puppet Free Play session! Register for the storytime online today at bit.ly/EVECal

Friday Family Movie Night! Parlin Meeting Room. Friday, September 22nd at 3 pm. Break out the popcorn! Come and watch Monsters University with your friends and family.

Shute Adult and Teens

Resume Writing, Shute Adult Department. Do you need help sprucing up an old resume or creating a new one? Sign up for a thirty minute session at both the Parlin and Shute Libraries. By appointment only. Please call 617-394-2302 for the Parlin Library and 617-394-2308 for the Shute Library to register for an appointment.

Computer Basics 101, Shute Adult Department. Not familiar with the computer? Learn the basics: how to start up and shut down a computer, perform mouse and keyboard functions, use applications, learn Microsoft Word, navigate the Internet, set up an email account, and more! By appointment only. Please call 617-394-2302 for the Parlin Library and 617-394-2308 for the Shute Library to register.

owner of record of the land, and from GE, who

holds liability for the Ac-

tivity and Use Limitation

recorded on the site.

In other business, the Planning board heard from the attorney for a proposed 18-unit apartment complex at 657 Broadway. The attorney stated that the applicant has hired a new architect to review and revise the project and will be back before the Planning Board later in the fall.

The board also heard a proposal for a 27-unit multifamily dwelling with podium parking at 295 Chelsea St. There is currently a two-story dwelling on the 12,718 square foot parcel. Five of the units in the proposal would be designated as affordable.

The project received ZBA dimensional relief in 2021. Planning Board members had questions and suggestions as to the aesthetics to the building, which the applicant received and will take under advisement for his next appearance before the board on Oct. 2.

Middlesex Sheriff's Office urges residents to be alert for continuing arrest scams

The Middlesex Sheriff's Office is continuing to urge area residents to be alert for ongoing phone scams in which the perpetrators are posing as members of the Middlesex Sheriff's Office (MSO).

In recent weeks, numerous residents have reported receiving calls or voice messages from individuals claiming to be members of the MSO. In some cases, the callers are using the names of real MSO personnel and have – in some instances - told individuals to report to a legitimate MSO address to clear up the matters.

In each case, scammers told residents there were warrants or fines in their name for unresolved citations, or for failing to appear for jury duty. In one instance this past weekend, a caller falsely told an individual the FBI had a warrant for their arrest.

In various calls, scammers sought anywhere from a few hundred dollars to a couple of thousand dollars to clear up the matters, while some wanted the fines to be paid using pre-paid cards. Fortunately, none of those who have recently notified the Middlesex Sheriff's Office of these scam calls reported losing any money.

The Middlesex Sheriff's Office reminds residents that legitimate law enforcement will never threaten arrest over the phone, nor demand a fine

or fee be paid using a gift card, pre-paid card or cryptocurrency. These are tell-tale signs of a scam and residents who receive such calls are urged to hang up and report the calls to local authorities.

Residents who receive scam calls in which individuals falsely identify themselves as MSO deputies or officers may contact the MSO at 978-667-1711 and ask to speak with the Inner Perimeter Security (IPS) Unit.

To learn more about law enforcement arrest scams and how to protect yourself, please visit our website at www.middlesexsheriff.org/arrestscams.

Everett residents to participate in **Boston Marathon Jimmy Fund Walk**

Nine residents from Everett will participate in the Boston Marathon® Jimmy Fund Walk presented by Hyundai on Sunday, October 1.

Carmen Lucerna, Sheila Irizarry, Teresa Mac-Donald, Donna Capozzi, Lafontaine, Stephanie Marlene Martinez, Anthony Castellano, Emma Voligny, and Jacqueline St. Germain, along with thousands of other walkers, will participate in the iconic annual event that will unite the community to raise funds to support all forms of adult and pediatric care and cancer research at the nation's premier cancer center, Dana-Farber Cancer Institute. The Jimmy Fund Walk has raised more than \$167 million for Dana-Farber Cancer in its 34year history, raising a record-breaking more than \$8.8 million in 2022.

Stephanie Lafontaine will participate as a Walk Hero for the Boston Marathon Jimmy Fund Walk. Heroes are matched with Jimmy Fund Walk teams to give participants an opportunity to connect with patients. Stephanie was diagnosed with inflammatory breast cancer. Stephanie walks on her match team,

Team IBC. "I'm here and healthy today because of the incredible care I received at Dana-Farber, and especially the inflammatory breast cancer team," Stephanie writes. "Thanks to this dedicated team and research funded by the Jimmy Fund, I am able to continue my passion for scuba diving, travel, and

underwater photography." "Throughout the past 34 years, the Jimmy Fund Walk has continuously supported life-saving research and cancer care at Dana-Farber. The 2023 Walk will be held during the Jimmy Fund's 75th anniversary year and will aim to raise \$9 million in the effort to prevent, treat, and defy cancer," said Zack Blackburn, Director of the Jimmy Fund Walk. "This year also marks the 35th annual Jimmy Fund Walk. We are eager to get out on the course and see all our outstanding walkers and teams come together to support this great

The Jimmy Fund Walk is the only organized walk permitted on the famed Boston Marathon® course, and participants have the flexibility to choose from four distance options: 5K walk (from Dana-Farber Cancer Institute's Longwood Medical Campus), 10K walk (from Newton), Half Marathon walk (from Wellesley), and Marathon walk (from Hopkinton).

Whatever route walkers choose, participants will be treated to 10 refueling stations as well as poster-sized photographs of patients - Jimmy Fund Walk Heroes - displayed at each mile and half-mile marker as inspiration. All four routes of the Jimmy Fund Walk will culminate at the Jimmy Fund Walk Finish Line Powered by Schneider Electric. Due to construction in Copley Square, the Jimmy Fund Walk Finish Line location has been moved to the Fenway neighborhood for 2023. Walkers should know that distances may be slightly shorter as we finish the walk in front of Fenway Park. The finish line will include a celebration complete with food, music, and a speaking program.

If walkers wish to participate a bit closer to home, the Jimmy Fund Walk has flexible opportunities. Participants can also join the event virtually by "walking their way" from wherever they are most comfortable-in their neighborhood, on a favorite hiking trail, or on a treadmill at home. Materials to support Virtual Walkers are available.

To register to walk or volunteer at the Jimmy Fund Walk, (#Jimmy-FundWalk) or to support a walker, visit www.JimmyFundWalk.org or call (866) 531-9255. Registrants can enter the promo code NEWS for \$5 off the registration fee. All registered walkers will receive a bib, medal, and a Jimmy Fund Walk T-shirt.

About the Jimmy Fund The Jimmy Fund, celebrating its 75th anniversary in 2023, is comprised community-based fundraising events and other programs that, solely and directly, benefit Dana-Farber Cancer Institute's lifesaving mission to provide compassionate patient care and groundbreaking cancer research for children and adults. The Jimmy Fund is an official charity of the Boston Red Sox, the Massachusetts Chiefs of Police Association, the Pan-Mass Challenge, and the Variety Children's Charity of New England. Since 1948, the generosity of millions of people has helped the Jimmy Fund save countless lives and reduce the burden of cancer for patients and families worldwide. Follow the Jimmy Fund on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram: @TheJimmy-Fund.

Everett Arts & Culture Events

EVERETT CULTURAL COUNCIL GRANTS Local Cultural Funding for 2024 from the Mass Cultural Council is available for Everett projects!

The ECC can help you get money for your arts & cultural programming! Grant Proposal workshop at the Parlin Library TONIGHT! Wednesday, September 13th f6:30-8:30PM.

ECC members will be available to help applicants through the proposal and application process. FREE WORKSHOP TO HELP YOU GET MONEY!

CALL TO ARTISTS! **Artists Group of Charlestown**

Wild New England -Oct 6-22 at the StoveFactory Gallery



WAYNE NEWTON A **GUEST AT ENCORE BOSTON HARBOR** RESORT

Legendary singer Wayne Newton stayed at



Everett School Committee member Michael McLaughlin had the opportunity to meet legendary singer Wayne Newton during his stay at the Encore Boston Harbor Resort in Everett.

News in Brief

the Encore Boston Harbor Resort over the weekend.

Newton was in town to perform at The Italian Feast of Saints Cosmas and Damian Saturday night in Cambridge.

Newton is known as "Mr. Las Vegas" for being one of the most prolific performers in the entertainment capital of the world, so it came as no surprise that Newton chose the luxurious, fivestar Encore Boston Har-

bor Resort for his hotel accommodations, enjoying a taste of Las Vegas during his stay in Everett.

NICK ZAINO PRESENTS 100 YEARS OF BOSTON **COMEDY AT THE EVERETT PUBLIC LIBRARIES**

The Everett Public Libraries are pleased to announce a presentation

ist Nick Zaino. He'll be exploring Boston's long history of comedy, from vaudeville to YouTube, highlighting some of the personalities that have defined laughter in America for 100 years.

from Veteran arts journal-

This program is funded by the Everett Cultural Council and will take place at the Parlin Memorial Library on Thursday, September 21, at 7pm.

For Advertising Rates, Call 617-884-2416

On the campaign Trail

WARD 4 COUNCIL **CANDIDATE HOLLY GARCIA HOLDS CAMPAIGN** RECEPTION

Holly Garcia, candidate for the Ward 4 seat on the Everett City Council, held a campaign reception Sept. 7 at the Schiavo

In her remarks to her many supporters, Garcia said, "A lot has changed since I last ran for the City Council Ward 4 seat, but my love of this city remains the same. I'm pursuing this goal to be a city councilor so that I can be the voice for the voiceless while uniting Everett, not dividing it. I am grateful for all of the support and I'm looking forward to the preliminary election on Tuesday, September 19."



Ward 4 City Council candidate Holly Garcia and her godson, Cliff Sauvageau, welcome State Rep. Joe Mc-Gonagle to her campaign reception.



Holly Garcia and Richard DiNapoli



Holly Garcia, with candidate for councilor-at-large Katy Rogers (left) and Ward 6 Councillor Al Lattanzi, at her campaign reception at the Schiavo Club.



Ward 4 City Council candidate Holly Garcia, with friends, supporters, city officials, and other candidates for office at her campaign reception Sept. 7 at the Schiavo Club.



Holly Garcia, with friends and supporters at her campaign reception at the Schiavo Club.



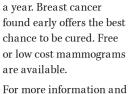
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mother, Deborah Garcia.

All women over 40 should have a mammogram once

chance to be cured. Free or low cost mammograms are available.



For more information and answers to any of your cancer questions, contact us any time, day or night.

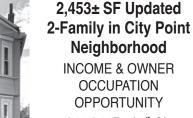
Mammograms Save Lives.

1.800.ACS.2345 Hope.Progress.Answers.®

www.cancer.org



Real Estate AUCTION



675-677 East 5th St., S. Boston, MA Wed., Sept. 20 at 11am

Auction On-site Open House: Wed., Sept. 13 (11am-1pm) Info, Full Terms, Broker Registration & More at: www.JJManning.com

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Nat. Grid submits plans for modernization of its energy distribution system in State

Special to the Independent

National Grid submitted its Electric Sector Modernization Plan (ESMP), the Future Grid Plan, to the Grid Modernization Advisory Council (GMAC) outlining the critical investments needed in the local electric distribution system over the next five years and beyond to meet Commonwealth's nation-leading climate change, clean energy, and equity goals as established in the 2050 Clean Energy and Climate Plan (CECP). As part of National Grid's commitment to delivering a fair, affordable, and clean energy future for all its customers, the Plan outlines a comprehensive and flexible path designed to expand and upgrade the current electric distribution grid, ensure reliability, enable increased electrification, and empower smart customer choices and the transition away from a fossil-based econ-

"We are at an inflection point in the Commonwealth's energy future. We must continue to invest to achieve our shared goal of accelerating the adoption of climate and clean energy solutions by all customers and communities across Massachusetts. Today we've submitted a plan that strives to do just that," said Steve Woerner, President, National Grid, New England. "With electric peak demand expected to double over the next 25 years, driven by substantial growth in the use of electric heating and transportation, now is the time to build a future grid that is smarter, stronger and cleaner. We must harness our state's innovative and collaborative spirit to achieve an energy future that works for all."

A Focus on Key Smarter, Stronger, **Cleaner Energy Goals**

The company's Future Grid Plan details the broad areas of investment and the key role they will play in building a smarter, stronger, and cleaner energy future that:

- Empowers customers to make smart, clean energy choices that work for them;
- · Creates a ready, reliable and more resilient grid capable of withstanding more extreme weather and evolving threats;
- Leverages innovation, drives efficiency, and supports greater system flexibility; and
- Enables a more just and equitable energy future that benefits all.

The Future Grid Plan is innovative, customer-centric, and equity-focused to help ensure that customers and communities across our diverse service area can participate in and benefit from the clean and electrified energy future, while maintaining high quality service and high reliability.

Future Grid Plan: Three Key Areas of Investment

Over the next five years, the company proposes to invest approximately \$2 billion in three key areas to build a clean energy future and meet the Commonwealth's electric-based approach to achieving net zero emissions, which is estimated to double current peak levels of energy de-

- Network Infrastructure, such as new and upgraded power lines, transformers, and substations to make them stronger, more resilient, and ready to connect more clean and distributed energy and accommodate substantial growth in electric demand.
- Technology and Platforms, such as new planning tools, systems, and processes to drive smarter decision-making. This includes installing state-ofthe-art data and monitoring systems to provide greater visibility into how the grid and interconnected devices are operating to ensure system safety and stability, upgrading IT systems and communications networks to support two-way information flows and control, and providing greater system flexibility, security, and more timely information to customers.
- Customer Programs, such as new offerings and pilots to help customers reduce their carbon footprint, adopt cleaner energy solutions and drive smart energy use, better manage costs, and build community resilience and agency.

"By developing and submitting this Future Grid Plan as our Electric Sector Modernization Plan, National Grid is taking a critical step towards meeting the energy and climate challenges of today and the future," said Nicola Medalova, National Grid New England's Chief Operating Officer. "The Future Grid plan begins to define the scope and scale of what we collectively must do over the coming years and decades to combat climate change and enable a more electrified future, and the policy and regulatory changes needed to make it happen. This is a holistic plan that identifies the system investments and changes needed in the local electric distribution grid, its operations, and how it must perform to benefit all. Most importantly, it offers an opportunity to engage broadly, stimulate ideas, and gain input to ensure this proposal is supportive of and responsive to the needs and expectations of all our customers and communities."

The proposed investments in the Future Grid Plan support the goals set forth in the Commonwealth's CECP of expanding energy efficiency and demand response, advancing the smart electrification of heating and transportation, and accelerating the connection of solar, storage and other clean energy technologies to the local energy grid. The proposed Future Grid Plan builds upon investments that are already underway and approved by the Department of Public Utilities (DPU) in previous proceedings that have put us on a pathway to reducing emissions and increasing electrification.

Ensuring All Customers Are Heard, Engaged, and Benefit

The proposed investments in the Future Grid Plan align with feedback from customers and communities the company has received to date as part of an extensive engagement process in advance of this submission. The scope of this public engagement included outreach to our National Grid Customer Council, comprised of both residential and commercial customers, as well as public officials, local businesses, clean energy groups, nonprofits and community groups and organizations representing Environmental Justice Communities

(EJCs). The investments proposed in this Future Grid Plan are currently projected to have an average annual bill impact of approximately 2% over the first investment period and result in benefits to customers and communities across Massachusetts, including:

- Generating incremental economic activity of \$1.4 billion and 11,000 full- and part-time jobs by 2030.
- Enabling an additional 4 gigawatts of capacity by 2035, enough to support an additional 1.1 million electric vehicles, 750,000 electric heat pumps.
- · Upgrading hundreds of feeders to enable the connection of more clean, distributed energy resources.
- Improving local air quality as more cars, buses and trucks are electrified.

National Grid has also proposed a new Equity and Environmental Justice Policy and Stakeholder Engagement Framework and, together with the state's other electric distribution companies (EDCs), a joint Community Engagement Stakeholder Advisory Council to empower communications and give more agency to communities to address historic inequities. The company has also proposed enhancing its existing Workforce Development Program to train the next generation of electric line worker from the diverse communities we serve and expanding partnerships to ensure we are reaching all members of our communities to educate and engage them in opportunities that will come from the clean energy transition.

STEPHANIE SMITH

City Council at Large #9 on the ballot



Everett Independent

President: Stephen Quigley

Editor in Chief: Cary Shuman

HOPEFULLY, WE WILL HAVE DODGED A BULLET

As we are writing this, forecasters are predicting that powerful Hurricane Lee will track off to our east, sending us perhaps some rain, high winds, and high seas, this

Although we in this area have been very fortunate to have evaded the consequences of climate change-induced natural disasters -- the hurricanes, floods, extreme heat, tornados, and wildfires (although we did have some bad air days from the Canadian wildfires earlier this summer) -- that have struck just about every other part of the U.S. (and the world) in recent years, it occurred to us that there is no place on earth that is safe from the catastrophic effects of climate change.

We have escaped the recent wrath of Mother Nature -- and hopefully our good luck will extend through the weekend -- but we fear it is only a matter of time before a devastating storm strikes our corner of the globe that will make the Blizzard of '78 and the Perfect Storm of 1991 look like child's play.

AUTO WORKERS DESERVE A FAIR CONTRACT

We realize we may be getting a little bit far afield here, but we wish to voice our support for auto workers at General, Motors, Ford, and Stellantis (formerly Chrysler) in their quest to obtain a fair contract.

Without getting into the details of the negotiations, the bottom line is that those three automakers have been making billions of dollars in profits in the past few years, enriching their shareholders and executives. On the other hand, the rank-and-file employees who actually make the cars and trucks that make those folks rich have not seen their fair share of the profits during a time of high inflation.

And lest anyone think that giving into the workers' demands will put the automakers at a competitive cost disadvantage, the UAW workers' share of the overall cost of a car is just four percent, according to a statistic we heard on TV the other day.

When Henry Ford was asked why he paid his assembly line workers a high wage, he said he did so in order to allow them to be able to buy the cars they were making. We realize that when Ford made that comment more than 100 years ago, it was a different world, but the principle still is the same: Full-time workers in America deserve to earn a living wage in order to enjoy the fruits of their labors. Capitalism may be a great economic system, but only if everyone is able to share in it.

ROSH HASHANAH IS THIS WEEKEND

Rosh Hashanah, the Jewish New Year, will be observed this weekend starting this Friday evening at sunset and ending at sunset on Sunday. During the weekend's festivities, members of the Jewish faith will gather with family and friends to engage in prayer services and share traditional foods.

This weekend's celebration begins a 10-day observance of the high holy days for Jews worldwide that will culminate with Yom Kippur, the Day of Atonement, the holiest day of the Jewish year, starting at sundown on Sunday, September 24, through sundown on Monday, September 25.

To all of our friends of the Jewish faith, please accept our wishes for "Shanah Tovah."

Your opinions, please

The Everett Independent welcomes letters to the editor. Our address is 385 Broadway, Revere, MA 02151. Letters may also be e-mailed to editor@everettindependent.com.

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

The Everett Independent reserves the right to edit letters for space, accuracy and clarity. We regret that we cannot publish unsigned letters. Please include your street and telephone number with your submission. The Everett Independent publishes columns, viewpoints and letters to the editor as a forum for readers to express their opinions and to encourage debate. Please note that the opinions expressed are not necessarily those of The Everett Independent.

Text or attachments emailed to editor@everettindependent.com are preferred.

Independent Forum

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

Manicotti

By Elizabeth Umbro Cavallaro

As I look back in time, I see faces, events and places that reflect my life. Most of the faces that I remember were of my family with lots of aunts, uncles and cousins getting together making lots of noise in happiness; all relating to food. There were weddings, bridal showers, anniversaries, birthdays and any get-togethers possible. If you could not make it you were either sick, dead or in the hospi-

buffet tables with glorious meats, antipastos, pastas and desserts. There was always a celebration of food and its preparation in our homes or in our backyards. We did not have gardens or pools; just plain old dirt backyards with no grass and a broken swing set. A few tomato plants were struggling to grow; we were fortunate to end up with a dozen.

There were continuous

On Sundays there was the big tomato sauce simmering on the stove while Italian music was playing on the radio. Sometimes my mother would sing; she had a good voice for singing and yelling. My parents bickered in the kitchen all the time; they must have liked each other a little; they had seven children. I was number seven. My father came to this country when he was fourteen years old, met my mother and started a family. The whole neighborhood permeated with the same intoxicating aromas. I lived in an Italian area; a



poor section of town. Everyone made their Sunday sauce in the morning. I lived in a tenement house on the third floor. Everyone knew each other and helped each other. Most of them moved away and I am sure that those sweet people are gone now. We rushed home from church, changed our good clothes to our dungarees to have dinner. The family always ate together on Sunday, no ifs or buts. We were poor but did not know it. We did not have much but the rent was paid and our bellies were full. After dinner my father would give me fifty cents to walk to the drug store for an ice cream sundae or a banana split with my friends. Those were the days that I remember so well.

There are so many amazing pasta sauces which are so incredibly easy to make that take no more than twenty minutes; fish sauce, pesto, meat sauce, white sauce and my favorite marinara sauce. I have an infectious enthusiasm for cooking pasta; I want to eat it every night but at the risk of looking like the side of a barn, I refrain. There are so many different variations of pastas in the market today; spaghetti, linguini, ziti, fettucine and fusilli. Nowadays, with newly re-modeled kitchens, people are making their own pasta with machines; not as hard as you think.

My mother- in- law taught me how to make manicotti many years ago. She had such skills in the kitchen. It sounds frightening but trust me if you can make pancakes, you can make manicotti. It is filled with ricotta, rolled, placed in your baking pan and covered with your sauce; usually a marinara sauce. Served with a simple salad or an antipasto; what a delight. A smooth red wine tops off this din-

Manicotti Preheat oven to 350 One cup sifted flour Four eggs One cup of water Pinch of salt

Clean coffee (good measure)

Mix all. Butter a six-toeight-inch fry pan. When hot, pour one coffee scoop of batter onto pan, swirl around to cover pan. In ten seconds flip over for another ten seconds, remove. This yields about sixteen crepes.

Marinara Sauce Olive oil

One can whole tomatoes (I like Pastene) mash and break up

Four cloves of garlic Chopped basil or pars-

Grated cheese

Touch of red wine (opt.) Heat olive oil to cover bottom of small sauce pan. Sauté garlic, add tomatoes, let cook for about twenty minutes, add parsley or basil, grated cheese, salt and pepper.

Ricotta filling One pound of ricotta (I

like Dragone) One egg

One half cup grated

Chopped parsley

Sprinkle of mozzarella cheese (opt) Mix and fill each crepe

with mixture, roll, seam side down, lay in baking pan, pour sauce, then grated cheese... you may like a touch of mozzarella... opt. Bake for thirty minutes. Sprinkle with parsley

Enjoy with a smooth red wine. Single girls, make this on your first date and I guarantee a ring! Who knows?

Find unclaimed property at findmassmoney.gov

Treasurer Deborah B. Goldberg has announced the latest grouping of names added to the state's list of unclaimed property

Over 50,000 new properties worth millions of dollars belong to individuals and businesses throughout the Commonwealth including West Newbury native, John

"We currently have over \$3.4 billion in unclaimed

property at Treasury, and it could be yours," said State Treasurer Deborah B. Goldberg. "Unclaimed property's time is up; your time is now. So call our office today to begin the

claims process." Unclaimed property includes forgotten savings and checking accounts, un-cashed checks, surance policy proceeds, stocks, dividends, and the contents of unattended safe deposit boxes. These accounts are turned over to the state after three years of inactivity. This newly released list includes only individuals and businesses with unclaimed property over \$100.

Treasurer Goldberg urges all citizens to check the comprehensive list for all amounts at https:// www.findmassmoney. center at 888-344-MASS (6277).

One in ten Massachusetts residents are owed money. Last year, Treasury processed over 153,000 claims and returned over \$163 million in property to its rightful owners.

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MC hires Saccomani as boys lacrosse coach

Malden Catholic has hired Michael Saccomani to head its Varsity Boys Lacrosse program, according to Malden Catholic Director of Athletics, William Raycraft.

"Over the years, Malden Catholic has a tradition of leading lacrosse in conference and state standings, and I am extremely excited about having the opportunity to coach lacrosse and work with the team at a very high level," stated Saccomani. "I look forward to elevating the program and bringing Lancer lacrosse back to its rich and prominent roots."

Michael Saccomani has a long and successful history in lacrosse which includes leading Western New England University as a captain and playing goalie, earning 1st Team All Western Mass and 1st Team All-League status and assisting his team in becoming Commonwealth Coast Conference (CCC) Champions. His elite play history earned him an opportunity to

play professionally. Since his playing days, Saccomani has directed his passion for lacrosse into coaching where he most recently was the Associate Head Hockey Coach and Defensive



Michael Saccomani.

Coordinator for Bishop Fenwick High School and Head Coach at 3D Club Lacrosse. He also spent several years as a graduate assistant coach at Western New England University where he was a goalie coach, leading the nation in saves, defensive coordination and recruiting coordination. In addition, he ran the university's strength and conditioning program.

According to Ray-"Coach Saccomani emerged out of a great pool of applicants. He is an educator who has a deep and thorough knowledge of lacrosse and understands the balance required to be a successful student and competitive athlete. He has a driving energy that inspires players and will serve to restore the winning tradition MC Boys Lacrosse program."

Since 1932, Malden Catholic High School has shaped emerging

leaders in our community, claiming a Nobel Laureate, a Senator, two ambassadors and countless community and business heads among its alumni. Annually, graduates attend some of the nation's most renown universities including Harvard, Princeton, Dartmouth, University of Chicago, Georgetown, Cornell, Brown, Tufts University, Carnegie Mellon, Duke, Notre Dame, Northeastern University, Boston College and College of the Holy Cross, just to name a few. Foundational to student success is Malden Catholic's codivisional model which offers the best of both worlds, single-gender academics during the day and integrated social and extracurricular opportunities after school. Malden Catholic is known in the community for its rigorous academics, SFX Scholars Program and award-winning STEM program. Malden Catholic curricula is designed to improve individual growth mindset, leadership principles and success outcomes along with integrating the Xaverian values of trust, humility, compassion, simplicity



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State health officials announce third human case of west nile virus in Massachusetts

The Massachusetts Department of Public Health (DPH) last week announced the third human case of West Nile virus (WNV) in a Massachusetts resident this year. The individual is a male in his 50s who was exposed in Hampden County.

The risk of human infection with WNV is moderate in the Greater Boston area (Middlesex, Norfolk, and Suffolk counties) and in parts of Berkshire, Bristol, Hampden, Hampshire, Plymouth, and Worcester counties. There are no additional risk level changes indicated at this time.

"This is the third person with West Nile virus infection identified in Massachusetts this year," said Public Health Commissioner Robert Goldstein, MD, PhD. "It continues to be important for people to take steps to prevent mosquito bites, including by using a mosquito repellent with an EPA-registered active ingredient, draining standing water around their homes, and repairing window screens. Risk from mosquito-borne disease will continue until the first hard frost."

In 2022, there were eight human cases of WNV infection identified in Massachusetts. WNV is usually transmitted to humans through the bite of an infected mosquito. While WNV can infect people of all ages, people over the age of 50 are at higher risk for severe disease. Most people infected with WNV will have no symptoms. When present, WNV symptoms tend to include fever and flu-like illness. In rare cases, more

severe illness can occur. People have an important role to play in protecting themselves and their loved ones from illnesses caused by mosquitoes.

Avoid Mosquito Bites Apply Insect Repellent when Outdoors. Use a repellent with an EPA-registered ingredient (DEET (N,N-diethyl-m-toluamide), permethrin, picaridin (KBR 3023), oil of lemon eucalyptus [p-Menthane-3,8-diol (PMD)] or IR3535) according to the instructions on the product label. DEET products should not be used on infants under two months of age and should be used in concentrations of 30 percent or less on older children. Oil of lemon eucalyptus should not be used on children under three years of age.

Be Aware of Peak Mosquito Hours. The hours from dusk to dawn are peak biting times for many mosquitoes. Consider rescheduling outdoor activities that occur during evening or early morning in areas of high risk.

Clothing Can Help Reduce Mosquito Wearing long-Bites. sleeves, long pants and socks when outdoors will help keep mosquitoes away from your skin.

Mosquito-Proof Your Home

Drain Standing Water. Mosquitoes lay their eggs in standing water. Limit the number of places around your home for mosquitoes to breed by draining or discarding items that hold water. Check rain gutters and drains. Empty unused flowerpots and wading pools and change the water in birdbaths frequently.

Repair or Screens. Keep mosquitoes

outside by having tightly fitting screens on all windows and doors. Protect Your Animals

zeal. https://www.

maldencatholic.org.

Animal owners should reduce potential mosquito breeding sites on their property by eliminating standing water from containers such as buckets, tires, and wading pools - especially after heavy rains. Water troughs provide excellent mosquito breeding habitats and should be flushed out at least once a week during the summer months to reduce mosquitoes near paddock areas. Horse owners should keep horses in indoor stalls at night to reduce their risk of exposure to mosquitoes. Owners should also speak with their veterinarian about mosquito repellents approved for use in animals and vaccinations to prevent WNV and EEE. If an animal is suspected of having WNV or EEE, owners are required to report to the Department of Agricultural Resources, Division of Animal Health by calling 617-626-1795, and to the Department of Public Health by calling

617-983-6800. More information, including all WNV and EEE positive results, can be found on the Arbovirus Surveillance Information web page at Mosquito-borne Diseases | Mass. gov, which is updated daily, or by calling the DPH Division of Epidemiology at 617-983-6800.



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INDEPENDENT

CITY OF EVERETT HOLDS 9/11 REMEMBRANCE CEREMONY

The City of Everett held a ceremony to remember those who died in the attacks that occurred on Sept. 11, 2011.

Deputy Fire Chief Will Hurley presided over the speaking program. Mayor Carlo DeMaria, State Rep. Joe McGonagle, Fire Chief Scott Dalrymple, and Police Sgt. Joe Gaff delivered remarks.

Bishop Robert G. Brown and the Rev. Khiet Dang Cao offered the opening and closing prayers respectively during the ceremony.

The Everett High



The Rev. Khiet Dang Cao of St. Anthony's Parish delivers the closing prayer at the



Fire Chief Scott Dalrymple honored the courageous service of the firefighters who died on Sept. 11, 2001.

School Choir sang the National Anthem. The Everett Fire Department's Honor Guard participated in the ceremony.



Mayor Carlo DeMaria speaks on behalf of the residents of Everett in remembering those who died in the terrorist attacks on Sept. 11, 2001.



Police Sgt. Joe Gaff speaks on behalf of the Everett Police Department at the memorial ceremony.



State Rep. Joe McGonagle delivers remarks at the 9/11 Memorial Ceremony held in Triangle Square.

The speakers paid tribute to Everett residents James Trentini and Mary Trentini, who died in the attacks on Sept. 11, 2001.



Everett High senior Alejandro Sanchez played Taps on his trumpet during the 9/11 Remembrance Ceremony.



Pictured are the many city officials, members of the Everett Fire and Police Departments, and residents who attended the 9/11 Memorial Ceremony.



Pictured at the City of Everett's 9/11 Remembrance Ceremony are Ward 1 Councilor Wayne Matewsky, City Council President Michael Marchese, Ward 2 Councilor Stephanie Martins, and Ward 6 Councilor Al Lattanzi.



Ward 6 Councilor Al Lattanzi, City Council President Michael Marchese, Ward 3 Councilor Darren Costa, and Ward 2 Councilor Stephanie Martins.



Pictured at the 9/11 Memorial Ceremony, from left, are Everett Police Officers Kris Gatt, Dominic Monzione, Marie Charlusena Sylvain, and Glenn Marshall, Sgt. Joe Gaff, and Capt. Demetri O'Malley.



Fire Chief Scott Dairymple, Members of the Everett Fire Department Honor Guard, Scott Hogan, Kevin DeVanna, and Sean Hogan, Mayor Carlo DeMaria, Bishop Robert G. Brown, and Deputy Fire Chief Will Hurley.



The Everett High School Student Choir, led by Director of Music Gene O'Brien, and Choir Director Corey Crofoot, sang the National Anthem during the 9/11 Remembrance Ceremo-



The many dignitaries are pictured at the City of Everett's 9/11 Remembrance Ceremony



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Sports

Everett High football rallies, but falls short to Xaverian, 32-21, in season opener

Staff Report

The Everett High football team climbed back from a large deficit in the second half, but Xaverian's late field goal sealed a 32-21 victory over the Crimson Tide in the season opener Friday night in Westwood.

Head coach Justin Flores was making his debut as the new leader of the Crimson Tide football program.

To their credit, the Tide made a furious comeback, cutting the deficit to 29-21 in the fourth quarter. Christian Zamor led the rally with two touchdown receptions, the first on a 33-yard strike from Everett quarterback Carlos Rodriguez. Damien Lackland, on a well-executed halfback pass, then connected with Zamor for a 75-yard TD pass. Rodriguez then completed a two-point conversion pass to Jaysaun Coggins, slicing Xaverian's lead to 29-21, with 7:48 left in the game.

But Xaverian placekicker Joseph MacDonald booted his second field of the game with 1:12 left to seal the Hawks' victory.

Flores said some early mistakes on special teams hurt the cause.

"We had some blunders on special teams, some things that we need to clean up," said Flores. "We only ran 35 plays on offense. If we get two special teams' possessions back, I think we're rolling. We had momentum in the second half and needed the ball back one more time."

Flores felt his team showed its character and fortitude with its second half comeback.

"It was good to see the team fight," said Flores. "We were down by a lot (29-6), and we didn't fold. We just kept fighting and came back into the game. The game wasn't over until they hit that field goal with a minute-and-a-half

Flores singled out the play of Zamor, a Boston College recruit. "Christian had an excellent game. He had two touchdowns and 108 yards receiving. He also had seven tackles," noted Flores.

Jayden Prophete also played very well for the Tide, throwing a touchdown pass and leading the defense with eight tackles and an interception.

Flores said the Everett defense had some bright moments but was hampered by Xaverian being able to start its drives in great field position.

"The defense did well for what it was handed," said Flores. "We didn't give them good situations whether it was the special teams or our offense in the first half going three-andout. For what they had to deal with, I thought they did a good job as a whole, but we have to tackle bet-

Everett hosts Somerville Friday in the Greater Boston League opener at Everett Memorial Stadium. Somerville (0-1) lost to Gloucester, 42-8, in its non-league opener.

THE EVERETT GIRLS VOLLEYBALL VARSITY TEAM





Senior Captains: Yasmine Laabadia and Nicole Brandao.

The Varsity Crimson Tide Girls Volleyball Team. Front row: Seniors Kaesta Sandy, Yasmine Laabadia, Nicole Brandeo, Darrynn Desrameaux. Back row: Donia Flores, Trinh Dang, Emilly Nogueira, Victoria Rodrigues, Tanessa Duvilaire, Clarice Alexis, Murielle Campo, Rochelle Castor, Nicole Damaceno.



EHS Roundup

EHS girls volleyball opens with 3-1 victory

The Everett High girls volleyball team opened its 2023 season in successful fashion with a 3-1 victory over defending Greater Boston League (GBL) champion Revere last Wednesday.

"We established ourselves pretty early on," said EHS head coach Michael Fineran of the Lady Crimson Tide's 25-16 victory in the opening set.

Senior captain Nicole Brandao set the tone from the outset of the match with two aces and five service points to give the Tide a quick 7-3 lead in the opening set and junior setter Victoria Rodrigues followed that with a run of four serves that pushed the margin to 12-5.

"Not only do we have good athletes, but we have more height than we've had in five or six years," noted Fineran, an advantage that was on display early and often, with senior middle Kaesta Sandy hitting three kills and a block and junior opposite

Tanessa Duvilaire adding

a block in the set.

In the second set, although junior Emilly Nogueira served points in a row, senior Darryn Desrameaux had a kill, and junior libero Sonia Flores made a number of plays in the back row, Everett fell by a score of

"We missed too many serves," noted Fineran, a problem that continued in the third set when the Tide missed seven serves early.

However, with the set deadlocked at 16-16, Nogueira and Brandao stepped up, combining for seven service points en route to a 25-18 win to take a 2-1 lead.

However, the set proved costly for Everett when the team lost Rodrigues to an injury on the final play. However, sophomore Nicole Damaceno made her varsity debut to start the fourth set and assisted on four kills and, while serving with the score tied at

5-5, delivered two aces. Desrameaux picked up her third kill of the match, Sandy picked up her sixth and seventh kills, and Nogueira and fellow ju-

Murielle Campo

made key digs that helped the Tide pull out a 25-22 victory to clinch the

Brandao finished with 25 service points and a team-high six aces. Nogueira had 23 and four.

"We have a deep team and many people contributed," said Fineran. "We began the match with 15 eligible varsity players and 13 saw action. We're going to need everybody and we're going to have to battle for every game.

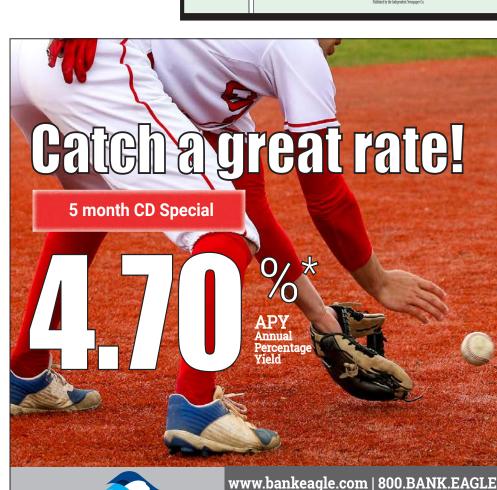
"There are no easy games on our schedule," the coach continued. "We want to play in November and we are staying focused on that goal."

Last Friday's contest at non-league rival New Mission was postponed because of the heat wave and will be made up in

Fineran and his crew have a busy week,

with five matches in 10 days. They were scheduled to take on GBL foe Malden this past Monday and will host GBL rival

See ROUNDUP Page 10



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MBTA releases independent track maintenance audit and publishes internal safety review

The Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority (MBTA) General Manager and CEO Phillip Eng addressed the release of two pivotal reports focused on track maintenance safety evaluation last week: an independent report conducted by Carlson Transport Consulting LCC and an internal review by the MBTA Safety Department. The investigations revealed deficiencies in track inspection processes, including inconsistencies in documentation and oversight. Both concluded improvements are imperative in terms of leadership, standardizing procedures, increasing staffing and training, and clearly outlining roles and responsibilities. Since safety restrictions were put in place in March, the MBTA has already been taking measures to address track issues, including hiring seasoned veteran engineers and establishing standard operating procedures for inspections and documen-

tation practices.

"These reports validate what I anticipated and observed since I first joined in April, and having seen similar challenges over my career across other agencies striving to change longstanding practices, I know the changes we have made to date are the building blocks to the organizational changes needed here," said MBTA General Manager and CEO Phillip Eng. "One of my first observations was the need for improved coordination and communication between departments responsible for critical maintenance work and, at the same time, clear lines of responsibilities and accountability. Additionally, while there is a tremendous amount of institutional knowledge within the team, it was evident that we needed reinforcement. We have added seasoned public transportation veterans, bringing fresh perspectives and best practices from other major transit agencies. As we continue to build out the leadership team, we remain focused on ensuring the safety of our workforce and riders while we restore our infrastructure and improve service for the public we serve."

In March 2023, the Department of Public Utilities inspected the Red Line and found in-

sufficient documentation of track repairs. This led the MBTA to commission an independent investigation into track inspection failures that prompted systemwide speed restrictions. The investigation revealed inconsistent defect identification, lack of defect verification, inadequate oversight of inspections, and inappropriate track geometry criteria. Additionally, the internal review by the MBTA Safety Department, conducted in an effort to be thorough and ensure accuracy, aligned with these findings. Both reports concluded that improvements are needed in track inspection processes and

The independent report makes recommendations in three categories: Process & Procedures, Staffing, and Roles & Respon-

- Process & Procedures: The MBTA should develop and issue Standard Operating Procedures for both visual and inspections third-party that include documentation requirements. The MBTA should also involve appropriate personnel in witnessing the third-party track inspections, consider alternative track geometry criteria that more closely fit the MBTA system, and develop a long-range track improvement plan.
- Staffing: The MBTA should increase staffing levels in the Maintenance of Way (MOW) division and evaluate compensation and responsibility parity across departments.
- Roles & Responsibilities: The MBTA should elevate inspection positions within the Maintenance of Way division, modify the selection process and qualification requirements for roles with inspection responsibilities, and enhance training, certification, and recertification for roles with inspection responsibilities.

The systemic issues

identified in the independent report align with those already published in the FTA's Safety Management Inspection, which the MBTA is actively addressing through its Quality, Compliance & Oversight Office. The goals of these efforts, which include staffing assessments, hiring plans, documentation of procedures,

and quality management,

to name a few, include the following areas of focus:

- Enhancing selection/ qualifications: To ensure that only the most qualified individuals are hired for track inspection positions and that inspectors have the knowledge and skills necessary to identify and report defects.
- Increasing Maintenance of Way staffing: To ensure that all track inspection needs are met and to improve the efficiency of the inspection process.
- Improving ing: To help inspectors to stay up to date on the latest inspection techniques and technologies and help them develop the skills they need to identify and report defects in a timely and accurate manner.
- Ensuring Section Foremen can witness vendor testing: To ensure that vendor testing is conducted properly and that defects are not missed.

Recently, MBTA announced its strategic values, goals, and metrics to improve safety, service, equity, sustainability, and culture, which builds on General Manager Eng's vision and mission to strengthen systems to better support a diverse and qualified workforce. "We owe it to the people of Massachusetts and everyone who visits our state to take a critical look at our approach and make tough decisions in a timely manner that best serve the needs of the organization," continued General Manager Eng.

The MBTA's progress is already underway, as the agency has been taking the following steps to address track inspection and maintenance:

Documentation and Training

 Conducted a comprehensive inspection doc-

- umentation and records audit following the March Geometry records finding to identify additional gaps. Issued a Standard Op-
- erating Procedure (SOP) for track geometry testing in June 2023 to standardize documentation and defect resolution. Draft SOPs for other inspection types are currently under final review.
- Enhanced the training program for System Repairpersons: Implemented updated program curricula in June 2023 by adding an additional week to the existing 2-week program,

increasing the training by 50%, consisting of supplementary fieldwork, specific digital reporting tool training, and an 8-week OJT program. A revised and enhanced recertification program for the Sys-Repairpersons will begin by December 2023.

 Increased instruction staff by hiring three new track instructors and is hiring three more. This will bring the total number of track instructors to six in the near term. The MOW Department is also increasing training space by procuring two classroom trailers.

Staffing

- Hired 30 new track laborers since December 2022 and are striving to hire for as many as 50 more track positions in the coming months.
- Recruited a new Senior Director of Maintenance of Way and Chief of Infrastructure, both with extensive track inspection, maintenance, and construction experience in August 2023. The MBTA will continue to recruit Director and Deputy Director positions to fill track department leadership po-
- Workforce assessments are underway within the FTA Safety Management Inspection (SMI) program to determine optimal staffing levels for inspection, maintenance, and capital initiatives.

Inspections

- Issued a directive to "black address critical condition" defects immediately. (Track defects are logged using a color-coded guide: green, yellow, red, and black. Green is the best rating, and black is the worst. A defect rated green is considered minor and does not require immediate attention. A defect rated yellow is considered moderate and should be repaired soon. A defect rated red is considered severe and should be fixed quickly. A defect rated black is considered critical and requires immediate attention.) Speed restrictions are a mitigation measure used to address red and yellow conditions that require repairs.
- Updated the new geometry testing SOP to set expectations for MOW staff requiring real-time reporting of critical defects to Section Foreper-

sons for immediate verification and resolution.

- Issued a Request for Information (RFI) in August 2023 to gather industry feedback on geometry testing requirements and
- Implemented a program for tandem inspections utilizing external experts to provide real-time mentoring for internal inspection staff.

Preventative Maintenance

• Improved preventative maintenance scheduling and planning to optimize the efficiency of regular

repairs and upkeep.

 Procured additional inspection vehicles/equipment to expand coverage and access.

The findings in the independent report align systemic issues identified in the Federal Transit Administration's (FTA) recent Safety Management Inspection. In response to the FTA report, the MBTA has already been actively working to fix these problems through its Quality, Compliance & Oversight Office. The MBTA has made strides this summer on the FTA response, closing another CAP on August 18, 2023, under another Special Directive (Special Directive 22-6, CAP 4), bringing the total number of closed CAPs to 3 of 39 and 6 of the 42 findings under the SMI Report.

Over the past several months, these efforts include the following:

- Track Maintenance and MOW Management Practices: The MBTA has corrected specific track defects and is developing the processes, tools, reporting equipment, resources, and budget to fix maintenance backlogs and establish proactive maintenance management • Managing the Impact
- of Operations, Maintenance, and Capital Project Requirements on the Existing Workforce: The MBTA is documenting its workforce requirements across the organization with a specific focus on understanding the interdependencies between operations, maintenance, and capital projects. The MBTA will also develop a five-year hiring plan to address the outcomes from the workforce assessment. • Operating Conditions

and Policies, Procedures, and Training: The MBTA will develop an understanding of training gaps for its workforce, develop and implement that training, and develop a centralized training governance program to ensure appropriate quality, tracking, and administration of training across the author-

"We are deeply committed to making the MBTA the safest and most reliable transit system in the country," added General Manager and CEO Eng. "Systemic process infrastructural failures do not happen overnight; as a result, we need a strong commitment to addressing longstanding issues. That's why we are reviewing the entire organization and clarifying responsibilities and accountability across the leadership team. The status quo is unacceptable, and we are rebuilding the workforce as we rebuild our infrastructure. It is our responsibility to put our workforce in positions to succeed with clear direction, appropriate training

and resources." Furthermore, the MBTA has hired two track veterans to enhance its track oversight: Chief of Infrastructure Doug Connett and Senior Director of Maintenance of Way Jody Ray. With nearly four decades of operations, safety, and maintenance experience in the public transit industry, Connett joined the MBTA in August 2023 to provide direction to the entire Infrastructure Directorate, which is comprised of over 1,000 employees within the track, signals and communications, power, facilities, and logistics teams. Connett is responsible for executing programs to improve service quality, reduce costs, increase employee productivity, and increase revenue and ridership. Ray, a veteran of the Commuter Rail with extensive experience in track maintenance and construction, is transitioning to the Maintenace of Way Division. Both individuals will be responsible for the overall track man-

agement and condition. In April 2023, Governor Healey appointed a new MassDOT Chief

See MBTA Page 9

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MBTA / CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8

Safety Officer with significant track experience, Pat Lavin, to support the MBTA in making the system safer and more reliable. Lavin has 40 years of experience in transportation safety and operations, including as a subject matter expert and technical writer for the MBTA Safety Review Panel in 2019. He was previously Executive Vice President and

Chief Safety Officer for the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA) and Senior Director for Operations in the Office of System Safety of New York City

"We've supplemented our existing team with seasoned veterans of public transportation systems who have over 100 years of experience combined,"

concluded General Manager Eng. "I know that addressing these areas of concern will take time and collective effort, but I'm confident that together, we can achieve our goals and

make a difference here at the T. We're going to keep at this until the MBTA is the best it can be for our riders."

CHURCH News

Mystic Side Congregational Church

News and Notes

Mystic Side Congregational Church is located in Everett, on Malden-Everett border, at 422 Main Street. We offer a warm, inviting atmosphere, and all are welcome. Our Sunday Church service starts at 10:30 a.m. and Communion is offered on the first Sunday of each month. A very pleasant coffee hour and socializing follow our services. Parking is available in our lot next to the church on Wyllis Ave. (one way off Main Street). We look forward to welcoming you this Sunday.

Mystic Side 422 Main Street

Immaculate Conception Parish

News and Notes

Our Parish Staff: Rev. Joseph Chacha Marwa, S.M.A. Rev. Gustavo Buccilli S.M.A Parochial Vicar, Barbara Canon Secretary, Parish Secretary.

Weekly Mass Schedule ate the Immaculate Conception Parish is as follows:

1: Monday-Saturday at 7:00a.m. in the Chapel.

2: Saturday at 4:00p.m. (Sunday Vigil) and at Vietnamese 7:30p.m. Mass Upper Church.

3: Sunday at 7:00a.m. and 10:00a.m. English Masses. At 12:00p.m. Spanish Mass and 4:00p.m. Haitian Creole Mass.

4: Confessions are on Saturdays from 3:00-3:45

Congregational Church Everett, MA

7:30 a.m.-6:00 p.m.

at the Confession Boots in

the Chapel, and at 11:15 Administrator, a.m. 12:00p.m. in Span-5: Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament at the Chapel on Thursday from

> Bring a Book buy a Book a new Fundraiser Program at the back of the Church. All books are a dollar. Any money collected goes to our Stain Glass Fund. You are most invited to make a donation for this course. Most welcome to worship with us on Sunday and weekdays.

Immaculate Conception Parish

Thank You.

489, Broadway, **Everett MA 02149 Phone** Call 6173895660



Give now.



Zion Church - Everett

News and Notes

Bishop Robert G. Brown and Zion Church Ministries invites you to join us every Sunday at our 10:00 a.m. Worship Service for a time of worship, praise and preaching, at 757 Broadway, Everett, MA. You can also join

Zion Church Ministries via livestream on Facebook and You Tube. For more information,

they can be reached online at zionchurchministries.com or via email at office@zionchurchministries.com.

Glendale United Methodist Church

News and Notes

Glendale United Methodist Church is open to all and we welcome people of all faiths, race, nationalities, and sexual preference. No one is ever turned away. If you are looking for a new home church, we would like you to check us out and let us know what we can do to make church a better fit in your life.

Bible Study: Consider joining us for Bible study on Sunday. We meet in the Church Parlor off the Chapel from 9:30 to 10:00 Sponsor the bulletin! For

a \$5 donation, you can dedicate the Sunday bulletin to recognize family, friends, or special occasions. There is a sign-up sheet in the Pastor's study. Feel free to choose your particular week and leave a copy of your dedication in the mail in that is on the Pastor's door. Please contact the Pastor if you have any questions.

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

Boy Scout Troop 814:

NA Meetings - Mon.

Bring Your Own Book 7:30 - 9:30 p.m.; Thurs. I Can't But We Can, 8:00 7:30 -9:30 p.m. AA Meeting – Saturday

evenings from 6:30 to 8:30 Pastor's Office Hours:

Saturdays 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Other times by appoint-Bread of Life Donations This outreach is being

done to honor the United Methodist Women's Group, who for so many years were our outreach source. Please bring any food item(s) to church and place in the box located on the altar. We are on the Internet

http://www.glendaleumc-everett.org **Glendale United Methodist Church Pastor David Jackson** 392 Ferry Street (across from Glendale Towers) Please enter the church by the driveway on Walnut Street 617-387-2916 PastorDavidJackson58@gmail.com **Pastor's Office Hours:** Saturdays 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Other times by

appointment.

Glendale Christian Lighthouse Church

News and Notes

Sunday 10:30 a.m. Worship service.

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

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

"In Pursuit of Spiritual Excellence" Righteousness, Godli-

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

Church at the Well Everett

News and Notes

Church at the Well Everett is a new church for Everett. Check us out on Facebook at www.facebook.com/churchforeverett to view weekly devotions and updates, visit us at www.foreverett.church

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

Grace Anglican Episcopal Church

News and Notes

Grace Anglican Episcopal Church is open and welcoming to all. There are two services

on Sundays: 10 a.m. English, 1 p.m. South Sudanese Dinka Come all and let us

walk together in this sea-

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new beginnings. **Grace Anglican**

son of hope, renewal and

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



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CITY COUNCIL HONORS DISTRICT 12 CHAMPION EVERETT LITTLE LEAGUE TEAM

The City Council honored the Everett Little League 12-year-old allstar team at a ceremony Monday night in the City Council Chambers.

Mayor Carlo DeMaria and City Councilors Stephanie Smith and Darren Costa, who are board members in the Everett Little League, presented the prestigious awards to the Everett coaches and players.

Everett Little League enjoyed a tremendous resurgence this season under the leadership of President Brian Savi and the board of directors.



out 11 batters in Everett's exciting 2-1 victory over Melrose in the District 12 title game, takes the podium to thank the City Council for honoring the team. Young also lauded his coaches and teammates for helping to make it a fun and memorable 2023 season.



The Everett Little League 12-year-old All-Star team, including Manager Joe Young and Coach Brian Savi, is pictured at the citation presentation ceremony Monday in the City Council Chambers.

Roundup // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 7

Chelsea today (Wednesday). They will host nonleague opponent Saugus on Friday, travel to GBL rival Lynn Classical next Monday, and entertain GBL foe Lynn English next Wednesday.

EHS boys soccer opens with 3-2 win

The Everett High boys soccer team opened the defense of its Greater Boston League (GBL) title with a 3-2 victory over GBL rival Somerville last Tuesday.

"We did really well," noted EHS head coach Pedro Blas of his team's performance. The goals were scored by a trio of Crimson Tide, Bonhomme Dieff, Wilbur Romero, and Kauan Moreira, who took turns reaching the back of the Highlanders'

Everett's next scheduled match last Thursday with Medford was postponed because of the intense heat and humidity of last week.

Blas and his crew were scheduled to meet GBL foe Malden yesterday (Tuesday). They will make the short trek across the Parkway to Chelsea tomorrow (Thursday) and will travel eastbound on the Parkway to Revere next Tuesday.

EHS girls fight hard in opener

Although the Everett High girls soccer team came up on the short end of a 7-1 decision to Greater Boston League (GBL) rival Somerville in the season opener last Tuesday, EHS head coach Domenick Persuitte saw a lot of positive signs from his team's performance.

"The team effort was great and the score does not depict the overall effort," said Persuitte. "For a good 25 or minutes, we had Somerville on their heels. An unfortunate call resulted in a Somerville goal, leading to multiple goals in the first half.

"The overall effort came from newcomers Marina Silvestri and Adalmita Silva, who both played well in their respective positions of defense and forward," continued Persuitte. "All three captains, Yelsa Garcia, Layla Cardona, and Shyann Ambersley, also put out an excellent effort."

The Lady Crimson Tide's goal was scored by freshman Layla Leles off a deflection around the penalty area late in the second half.

"Many girls were put into different positions. but overcame the adversity of learning a new po-

sition," added Persuitte. "Laura Sanchez, our goalie, played well despite the With last Thursday's

final score."

GBL foe Medford postponed because of the heat, Persuitte and his crew were scheduled to play at GBL rival Malden yesterday (Tuesday) and will host GBL opponent Chelsea tomorrow (Thursday) at 7-Acre Park. They will trek to non-league opponent Cambridge Rindge and Latin on Friday and return home to entertain GBL rival Revere next Tuesday.

scheduled encounter with

Julien shines in goal for EHS field hockey

Although the Everett High field hockey team, under the direction of new head coach Sabrina Wright, dropped a 5-0 decision to Waltham in its season opener last Wednesday, freshman goalie and last week's honorary captain Willins Julien, who saw about 34 shots on net and 24 penalty corners, turned in a superb performance.

"Willins was immense," said Wright. "As a freshman goalie, he really left it all out on the field and only letting in five goals with 34 shots and 24 corners is extremely impressive in my book. I'm excited to see him grow."

days later the Crimson Tide dropped an 6-0 decision to Haver-

"We played as a team this game and we looked so much better than our first game," said Wright. "Haverhill was just a half a second quicker. But I was extremely impressed and happy with the team I saw out there on Friday, and they should also be proud of themselves.

"I think our biggest hurdles were the heat and first game jitters," Wright continued. "At the end of the day, the most important thing is that after each game these players can hold their heads up and say, 'Even though we lost, I still had fun out there,' and if they can do that, then I have done my job as their coach."

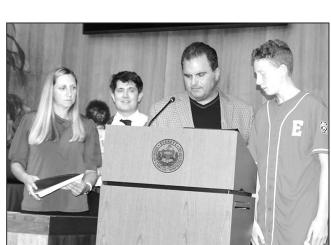
Wright and her crew are scheduled to host Northeast Regional today (Wednesday) and then will entertain Peabody on Friday in a game that will have a lot of meaning for Wright.

"This is a game I am forward to," looking Wright said. "My coach when I played for the Prime Field Hockey Club is the new head coach for Peabody. So for me to play against my coach who has taught me so much is a very full circle moment for me and it will be a lot

of fun." The Tide will travel to Wakefield next Tuesday before returning home to face Greater Lowell next Wednesday.



Councillor-at-Large Stephanie Smith lets the Everett Little League 12-year-old All-Stars know that they are No. 1 and that they did a great job representing the city with sportsmanship and class in the District 12 Tournament.



Mayor Carlo DeMaria reads one of the citations that were presented to the members of the District 12 champion **Everett Little League All-Star team as All-Star player Nick** Young looks on adjacently to the podium. Also pictured (left) are Councilor-at-Large Stephanie Smith and Ward 3 Councilor Darren Costa.

Fall garden maintenance tips

Special to the Record

As the autumn season approaches, it's an excellent time for homeowners to examine their gardens and prepare them for the cooler temperatures to come. Although you may think of gardening only during the summer months, caring for your garden during the fall can help it survive the winter season and produce a healthy crop next year.

Whether you're growing a vegetable garden, flower bed or even trees and shrubs, these fall garden maintenance tips will ensure your entire landscape is ready for temperatures to drop.

1. Clean Up Vegetable/Herb Gardens

If you're not sure where to begin on your fall garden maintenance checklist, the best place to start is by removing all dried plants and weeds in your garden bed. Keeping such plants in your garden over the winter could lead to pests and disease, thus preventing a healthy garden next year. For this reason, be on the lookout for any spent crops, as well as plants that are infested with disease. Tilling your garden is an excellent way to expose any dried plants or weeds. It will also reveal any pests hiding in your garden, including fall armyworms, which are most active during the fall.

As you remove plant debris from your garden, now is also an excellent time for removing gardening supplies. Items such as stakes, cages and labels should be gathered and put away to be used again next spring. 2. Prepare Your Peren-

nial Garden for Winter

Although the gardening season may be coming to a close, your perennial plants will continue growing until they go dormant in late fall. To prepare them for the colder temperatures, be sure to remove all weeds and any parts of the plant infested with disease or pests. If you're planning on adding more plants to your

garden, consider planting

bulbs

spring-blooming



PHOTO COURTESY SOD SOLUTIONS

A fall garden can still add some pop of color to your yard this season.

this fall while the soil is still warm.

Don't forget to continue watering your perennials at least once a week until the ground freezes. Once the ground does freeze, cover the crown of your newly planted perennials with a 4 to 5-inch layer of bark mulch. This mulch may also be used to cover perennials that are sensitive to frost.

3. Care for Trees and **Shrubs**

For those who have trees and shrubs, autumn is the perfect season to check on your shrubbery and prepare them for winter. One way to care for your trees this fall is to cover the soil around them with mulch. Adding a fresh layer of mulch around the base of your tree will protect the roots from harsh winter conditions. Avoid covering the trunk with mulch, however, as this could cause rot and other diseases. In addition to mulching, fall is also an ideal time to prune your shrubs once dormancy has started.

If you're looking to establish more trees and shrubs on your lawn, fall is the best time to plant while the ground is still workable. Generally, the ideal time to plant new trees is six weeks before the first sign of hard frost. Planting anytime between September through November will allow your new trees to establish their roots before winter sets in.

4. Plant a Cover Crop

A cover crop may be

spread over your garden to prevent erosion and weed growth. It may consist of mustard, clover, peas or even a combination of cover crops. Once spring arrives, the cover crop may be turned over to add nutri-

ents to the soil. 5. Plant Fall Crops

While the summer growing season may be over, there are still many plants you can grow over the winter. The most common frost-tolerant crops for fall planting include broccoli, cauliflower, kale, lettuce, parsnips, garlic, cabbage, collards and spinach. Many of these crops not only grow well during the fall, but they taste better after a

See GARDEN Page 11

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JACK GARDNER PROMOTED TO LIEUTENANT IN EVERETT FIRE DEPARTMENT

The City Council unanimously approved the promotion of Jack Gardner to lieutenant in the Everett Fire Department.

City Clerk Sergio Cornelio administered the oath of office to Gardner in the City Council Chambers Monday night.

Mayor Carlo DeMaria joined the Council in congratulating Gardner on his promotion.

Mr. Gardner's family, including his wife, Sandra Gardner, daughter, Olivia Gardner, and parents, John Gardner and Sandra Gardner, attended the swearing-in ceremony.



Mayor Carlo DeMaria and Everett City Councilors John Hanlon, Wayne Matewsky, Al Lattanzi, Michael Marchese, Stephanie Smith, Irene Cardillo, Stephanie Martins, and Vivian Nguyen join Everett Fire Department Lt. Jack Gardner and his proud family for a congratulatory photo following the swearing-in ceremony.



Everett Fire Lt. Jack Gardner is congratulated by Peter Chiarello (left) and Nick Chiarello (right), two of his lifelong friends and professional colleagues in the Everett Fire Department.



Fire Chief Scott Dalrymple (right) formally congratulates Jack Gardner on his promotion to lieutenant in the Everett Fire Department Monday at City Hall.



Mayor Carlo DeMaria congratulates Jack Gardner on his promotion to lieutenant in the Everett Fire Department. Also pictured are Lt. Gardner's wife, Michele Gardner, and their daughter, Olivia Gardner.



chele Gardner, and their daughter, Olivia Gardner, and his parents, Sandra Gardner (left) and John Gardner (right) following the swearing-in ceremony Monday at City Hall.



City Clerk Sergio Cornelio administers the oath of office to Everett Fire Lt. Jack Gardner at the ceremony in the City Council Chambers.

Garden / CONTINUED FROM PAGE 10

light frost. Be sure to cover peratures. your plants as soon as any frost is forecasted to ensure your garden survives the winter.

6. Apply Fall **Pre-Emergents**

Pre-emergent weed killers are used for controlling weeds before they appear above the ground. To promote a weed-free garden next year, consider applying fall pre-emergents to your garden once all plant debris is removed.

7. Apply Fall Fertilizer Similar to fall lawn care, many gardens and trees can

benefit from fertilizer before winter sets in. Fall fertilizer is best applied in late fall before the first frost, as it will help plants endure the approaching cold tem-

The Lawnifi® Fall Fertilizer Box, in particular, has three separate bottles of liquid fertilizer in it that help your garden recover from the hot summer temperatures it just endured as well as prepare for the colder temperatures ahead. This product is a great fall fertilizer for lawns and gardens.

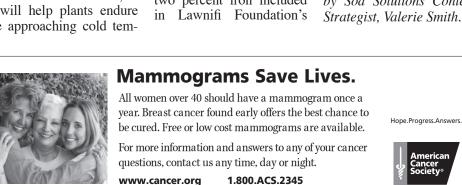
If you prefer traditional, granular fertilizers. Lawnifi Foundation is a slow-release granular fertilizer option that comes in a 25-pound bag and lasts for three months. With a 29-0-5 NPK formulation, Lawnifi Foundation is the perfect granular fertilizer for lawns and gardens. The two percent iron included

mixture helps plants carry oxygen throughout the leaves, roots and other parts of the plants to promote a green, healthy yard.

Following these simple fall garden maintenance tips will help your plants survive the cold temperatures of winter. Whether you plan on growing a cool season crop, or you simply want to protect your garden, this fall garden checklist will ensure a healthy, thriving garden next spring.

Want to learn more about achieving a great lawn? Check out more Sod University tips here and subscribe to our weekly newsletter.

This article was written by Sod Solutions Content





Festival // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

dition of the United States National Anthem, which was followed by the Brazilian National Anthem as the Brazilian flag was raised to fly high at City Hall. Pastor Bruno Silva from Universal Church gave the closing prayer to close out the ceremony.

At the conclusion of the ceremony, attendees took part in a procession lead by performers from City Hall, down Broadway, to the School Street municipal parking lot where the festivities took place. All

who attended were able to partake in food from local vendors, learn more about resources that are available to the community and dance to live music performed by various acts.

"I'm glad we were able to once again recognize and celebrate our Brazilian community here in the City of Everett," said Mayor Carlo DeMaria. "Thank you to everyone who contributed and helped make this event a huge success."



Natalia Hubner sang the American and Brazilian national anthems.



Pastor Bruno Silva delivering the closing prayer.



Face painting was a hit with younger attendees.



Milena Cecilia performing.



ed the Brazilian Independence Festival.



State Rep. Judith Garcia, Deputy Consul for the Consulate General of Brazil in Boston Júlio Cesar de Jesus, City Councilor Stephanie Martins, City Councilor Al Lattanzi and the City of Everett's Director of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Cathy Draine.



Attendees dancing to the music.



Samantha Montoani and Paula Dias dancing to the sounds of Grooversity led by Marcus Santos.



The procession began at Everett City Hall.



The procession began at Everett City Hall.



Trio Let's Vamos performing.

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