

# Everett Independent

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CARY SHUMAN PHOTOS

Following its confirmation of the appointment of Kevin Pereira to the Everett Police Department, the Everett City Council joined the newly inaugurated officer for a photo inside the City Council Chambers. Seated is Everett Police officer Kevin Pereira. Standing, from left, are City Councilors Wayne Matewsky, Michael Marchese, Stephanie Smith, Anthony DiPierro, and Guerline Alcy Jabouin, Police Capt. Paul Strong, Council President Robert Van Campen, and Councillors Holly Garcia, Stephanie Martins, Katy Rogers, and Peter Pietrantonio.

## KEVIN PEREIRA TAKES OATH OF OFFICE AS NEW EVERETT POLICE OFFICER

Kevin Pereira took the oath of office Monday night during the City Council meeting, officially confirming his incoming status as an officer in the Everett Police Department. Pereira is 2012 graduate of Everett High School and attended UMass Boston.



Everett Police Capt. Paul Strong (left) offered the official congratulations of the Everett Police Department to its newest officer, Kevin Pereira, following the oath-taking ceremony Monday in the City Council Chambers.



City Clerk Sergio Cornelio administers the oath of office to new Everett Police officer Kevin Pereira at the City Council meeting Monday night.

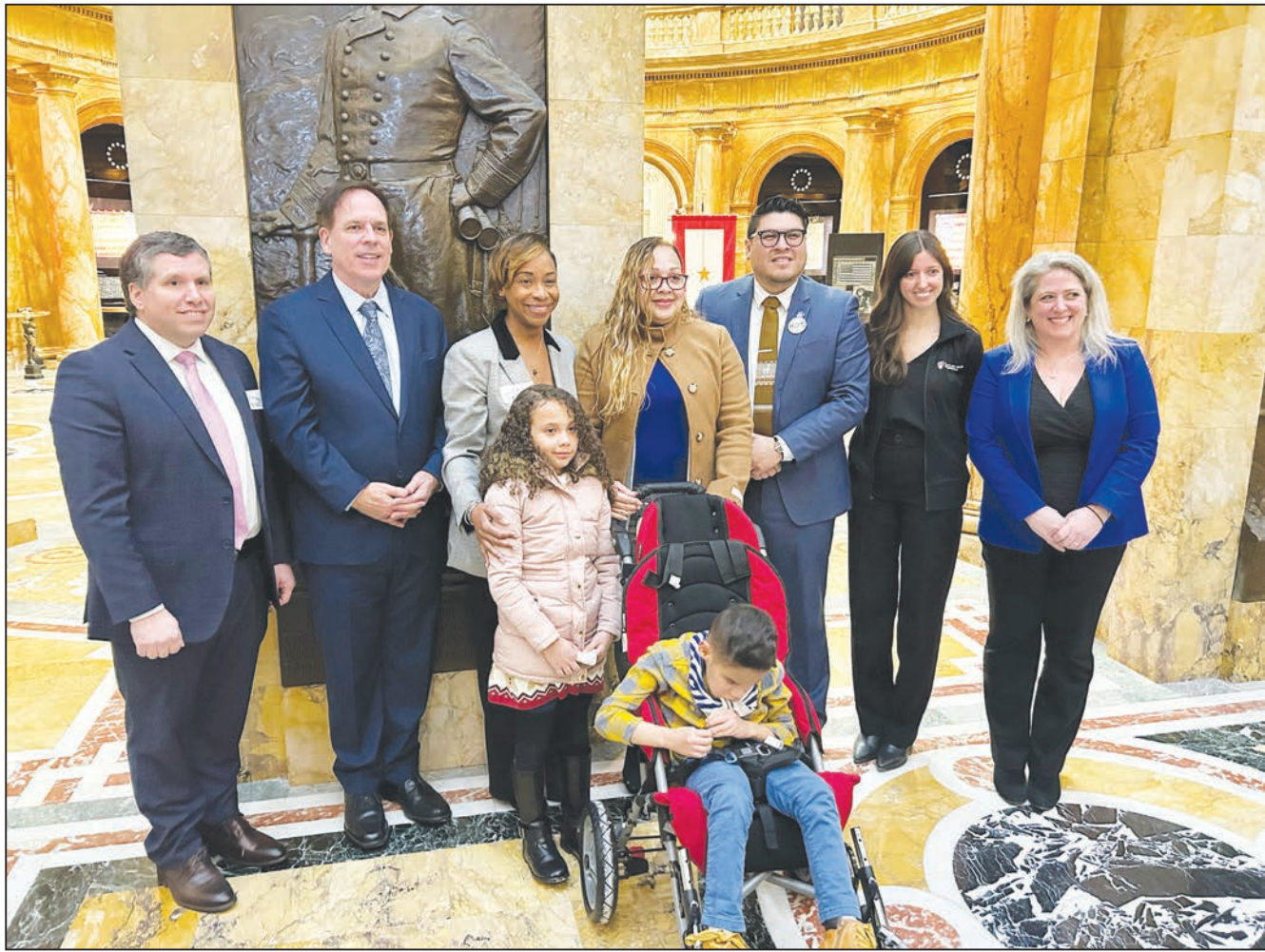
## DIDOMENICO CHAMPIONS COVER ALL KIDS

Last week, Senator DiDomenico joined colleagues and advocates to highlight the importance of his Cover All Kids bill during the coalition's advocacy day at the State House. Approximately 40,000 children and young adults under age 21 who meet eligibility criteria for MassHealth currently lack coverage due to

their immigration status. DiDomenico's bill, S.740, would remove this barrier and ensure all children in our state can access health care, regardless of their immigration status. Senator Sal DiDomenico spoke at the advocacy day to emphasize the critical need for this legislation, "We can't wait two more

years to file this bill again because a whole group of children are not going to have access to health care, eyeglasses, hearing aids, wheelchairs, or medication. In one of the richest states in the richest country, guaranteeing health coverage for every single child should be non-negotiable." The event was hosted by

the organizers of the Cover All Kids' coalition, Health Care For All, and the speakers included Attorney General Andrea Joy Campbell, the bill's House Sponsor, Rep. Dave Rogers, and countless coalition members who packed the State House to advocate for this urgently needed legislation.



Senator Sal DiDomenico with advocates, and colleagues. (Left to right) Senator Sal DiDomenico, Representative Dave Rogers, Attorney General Andrea Campbell and on the far right is Amy Rosenthal, Executive Director of Health Care for All.

## School Comm. retains Hart as Superintendent

By Stephen Quigley

After much debate, the Everett School Committee on Thursday night voted to keep newly-appointed Superintendent of Schools William Hart on the job while continuing to have Superintendent Priya Tahiliani remain on paid administrative leave. Tahiliani was placed on paid administrative leave by the previous school committee that voted on the matter at its October 30 meeting after several allegations against Tahiliani surfaced.

Thursday night saw members of the audience and School Committee speaking on both sides of the issue.

For the first 45 minutes of the meeting, committee members heard different points-of-view from mem-

bers of the public, with some advocating reinstating Tahiliani and others attesting to the positive start and outreach that have marked Hart's tenure since being appointed to the superintendent's post in December. After listening to the differing, though not necessarily contradictory, views of the public, the School Committee members weighed in on the issue.

"We are in a tough spot," said School Committee member Margaret Cornelio, adding, "There is no way to make it 100% right."

School Committee member Joanna Garren said she favored restoring Tahiliani to her position as superintendent.

School Committee

See HART Page 3

## A move to the podium

Van Campen implements change in speakers' location

By Cary Shuman

City Council President Robert Van Campen has implemented a change in the location from which speakers on matters before the Council will deliver their remarks.

At Monday's meeting, the first of his term as the new president, Van Campen asked that speakers deliver their remarks from the podium at the front of the chambers as opposed to the desk located inside the Council seating area.

Erin Deveney, Chief of Staff to Mayor Carlo DeMaria, was one of the first speakers to address the audience from the podium when she gave a thorough explanation of the mission of the Everett Fire Victims Fund at the request of City

Councilor Peter Pietrantonio.

Van Campen has reasoned that all Council business-related speakers should be facing the audience while delivering remarks. In the past, speakers would have their backs to the audience in the Chambers.

It was an impressive debut for Van Campen, who graciously recognized the freshman councilors who were participating in the Council's first full meeting of the new year.

And in a nice gesture that did not unnoticed, Van Campen accorded new Everett Police Officer Kevin Pereira the honor of sitting in the president's chair during the traditional photo following Pereira's oath-taking ceremony.

## EHS GIRLS HOOP ACTION



BOB MARRA PHOTO

Manal Bouhou (4) stretches for a rebound during the Wednesday, Jan. 17 game against Chelsea. Everett won 47-23. See Page 6 for more photos.



Celebrate Catholic  
Schools Week

Page 8



# Council reappoints Colameta to the Everett Housing Authority

By Cary Shuman

When the Everett city councilors began talking about the reappointment of Phillip Colameta to the Everett Housing Authority Board, there was a question about whether Colameta lived in the city.

Colameta was watching the meeting live on Everett TV and quickly (within the speed limit, of course) traveled to City Hall to state emphatically that he did in fact, live in the city.

Council members saw Colameta standing in the back of the Council Chambers and voted favorably to allow Colameta to speak at the meeting. “I first would like to thank everybody for giving me the opportunity



Phillip Colameta speaks at the City Council meeting Monday night.

to come up here,” began Colameta. “I do apologize earlier for not being here. I’ve been involved in the city for many years, myself a former councilman, not realizing until I was home tonight watching this broadcast that there

are faces here that I have not seen. I should have been here. I’m hoping that you will consider me for an additional five years at the Everett Housing Authority.”

Councilor-at-Large Katy Rogers said she could attest to the fact that Colameta was a resident of Everett, having met Colameta at his house while she was on the campaign trail. “Unless his address has changed, as far as I am aware, he is a resident of Everett,” said Rogers.

Councilor Peter Pietrantino addressed Colameta, stating, “there was a lot of speculation that you do not live in Everett. Can you prove any different?”

Colameta acknowledged to Pietrantonio that

there was some confusion about his living situation.

“I can understand why [the issue was raised],” said Colameta. “I have lived in the city my whole life, actually in Ward 4, I grew up on Coolidge Street. My wife and I and two children purchased a house on Chisholm Street in Ward 4 where we lived for ten years.”

Colameta continued his story, ultimately revealing that he and his wife recently put their home on the market, with an intention “to move into a three-bedroom apartment next door.”

“I can understand the confusion,” Colameta said directly to Pietrantino, announcing that he now lives on Windsor Street.

Councilor-at-Large Guerline Alcy Jabouin asked for some verification of Colameta’s place of residence, to which Colameta replied, “I have my driver’s license on me.”

Colameta, who has served on the Everett Housing Authority Board since 2013, then handed his driver’s license to City Clerk Sergio Cornelio. The vote on Colameta’s reappointment to a five-year term on the EHS was 10-0 in favor.

Interestingly, the next matter on the agenda was EHA-related as Alcy Jabouin asked that the EHA and Mayor Carlo DeMaria’s Office create a program to subsidize air conditioners for residents

at the Glendale Towers and other EHA properties.

Alcy Jabouin was lauded for her motion, coming as it did with the temperatures outside just above freezing, far in advance of the sizzling summer heat that brought the malfunctioning air conditioning problem to the forefront last summer.

And in a final note to the situation, Colameta said outside the Chambers that he was aware of the problem and believes there is funding in the EHA budget to address what seems to be an electrical problem and not necessary a problem with the air conditioners themselves.

## CITY PAWS

### Companion animal timelines

By Penny & Ed Cherubino

Human lives have many timelines. We often refer to a particular one: the timeline of the dogs who have been part of our family and friendships. A memory of a time or place often includes the dog or dogs who were part of that moment.

Recently, we remembered a special time with a particular friend and realized he was one of the people who knew all our dogs. This thought resulted in us listing the people who shared this distinction and naming the companion animals each had in their lives.

#### May I Pet Your Dog?

Living in an area with so many college students and young adults means we often sense the longing for a canine connection that comes with the question, “May I pet your dog?”

Sometimes, that ex-

change is followed by a history of their lives with pets. They might tell us, “My family had a Westie when I was young?” Or, “I really miss my dog. He lives with my parents.” We’ve even had offers to walk our dogs from dog-lonely people.

We always suggest volunteer and paid jobs that will bring them in contact with animals. These opportunities range from volunteering at an animal shelter to working for a grooming or pet supply shop or a dog walking service. We understand the need for fur to stroke and an animal to curl next to you on a sofa or a bench. We share that need and are happy to let our pup play surrogate for a few minutes.

We also appreciate and are aware of what it takes to accept the responsibility of a companion animal at a point in your life when you may not be able to meet the financial, time, or

housing requirements that would make it possible.

#### Sharing Companions

We’ve always been advocates of dog-sharing, not only for a quick pat on a walk but also in a much more meaningful way. We chose a West Highland White Terrier for our first dog because we shared a home with a lovely older friend. Our research told us that Westies were seldom one-person dogs. We wanted a dog who would happily spend time with all three of us. Our Sassy fit the bill, and as a former school teacher, our tenant was a great help with her training.

Recently, we spotted neighbors with a new dog. We knew they had been reluctant to return to full-time dog care after losing their long-time companion. This dog, they told us, was their Grandpup! They had a win-win situation: they could enjoy walking with a dog again and see-



Living near so many young adults means we often sense the longing for a canine connection that comes with the question, “May I pet your dog?” (Photo by Alison Pang)

ing their dog community while helping their daughter have more free time in her busy life.

While dogs are the most accessible animals to share with others, we have known a lovely Ragdoll cat that belonged to a good friend, a guinea pig who lived with a family member, and a stunning parrot who lived on our floor.

Companion animals are more than part of your timeline. They can be a lifeline connecting you with people and requiring you to exercise. The National Institutes of Health writes, “Interacting with animals has been shown to decrease levels of cortisol (a stress-related hormone) and lower blood pressure. Other studies have found that animals can reduce

loneliness, increase feelings of social support and boost your mood.” That makes sharing a pet a kindness to someone else. Having one is a kindness to yourself.

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

## Biden-Harris Administration announces \$2.5 million grant for more electric-vehicle charging network

The Biden-Harris Administration last week announced a \$2.5 million grant to the Town of Deerfield, Massachusetts to fund two publicly accessible EV charging sites. The award is one of 47 projects in 22 states and Puerto Rico selected to receive a total of \$623 million in funding to help build out an electric vehicle (EV) charging network under the U.S. Department of Transportation’s Charging and Fueling Infrastructure (CFI) Discretionary Grant Program. This means EV drivers in Massachusetts and across the country can charge their electric vehicles where they live, work, and shop.

The grants are a critical part of the Biden Administration’s goal of building out a convenient, affordable, reliable and made-in-America national

network of EV chargers, including at least 500,000 publicly available chargers by 2030 ensuring that EV’s are made in America with American workers.

Under President Biden’s leadership, EV sales have more than quadrupled, the number of publicly available charging ports has grown by nearly 70 percent, and more than 4 million EV’s are now on the road. Spurred by the President’s historic investments, private companies have announced more than \$155 billion in the EV and battery supply chain under the Biden-Harris Administration. EV’s are critical to our rapid and equitable transition to clean transportation systems, producing zero tailpipe emissions, reducing air pollution and greenhouse gas emissions – major contributors to climate change and key

contributors to respiratory ailments.

“America led the arrival of the automotive era, and now we have a chance to lead the world in the EV revolution—securing jobs, savings, and benefits for Americans in the process,” said U.S. Transportation Secretary Pete Buttigieg. “This funding will help ensure that EV chargers are accessible, reliable, and convenient for American drivers, while creating jobs in charger manufacturing, installation, and maintenance for American workers.”

The grants being announced today are made possible by the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law’s \$2.5 billion Charging and Fueling Infrastructure (CFI) Discretionary Grant Program, a competitive funding program, that includes construction of approxi-

mately 7,500 EV charging ports. The CFI program complements the \$5 billion National Electric Vehicle (NEVI) Formula Program to build the “backbone” of high-speed EV chargers along our nation’s highways. Thanks to the NEVI program, new charging stations in Ohio and New York have opened, and states like Pennsylvania and Maine have broken ground.

“Every community across the nation deserves access to convenient and reliable clean transportation,” said U.S. Secretary of Energy Jennifer M. Granholm. “The Biden-Harris Administration is bringing an accessible, made-in-America charging network into thousands of communities while cutting the carbon pollution that is driving the climate crisis.”

In Massachusetts, the \$2.5 million grant will be used to fund two public access EV charging sites at the Leary Public Parking Lot and Town Hall Public Parking Lot. The sites are centrally located to the surrounding rural towns and will serve several disadvantaged communities.

“From my time working at the local level, I know that finding electric vehicle charging in a community is different from

finding charging along highways,” said U.S. Transportation Deputy Secretary Polly Trottenberg. “USDOT is proud to make an investment that will provide Americans with convenient, straightforward charging options in their communities.”

“The Federal Highway Administration is pleased to announce this grant in Massachusetts that will bring EV charging to people and communities all across the nation,” said Federal Highway Administrator Shailen Bhatt. “These investments through the CFI Program will grow our national EV charging network, support President Biden’s goals of achieving net-zero emissions for the nation by 2050 and promote opportunity for all Americans to enjoy the benefits of EV charging.”

As part of today’s announcements, the Federal Highway Administration is awarding \$311 million in funding to 36 “community” projects, including two Indian Tribes in Alaska and Arizona. These projects invest in EV charging and hydrogen fueling infrastructure in urban and rural communities, including at convenient and high-use locations like schools, parks, libraries, multi-family housing, and more.

Another \$312 million in funding will go to 11 “corridor” recipients whose projects are located along roadways designated as Alternative Fuel Corridors (AFCs). These projects will fill gaps in the core national charging and alternative-fueling network.

The CFI Program advances President Biden’s Justice40 Initiative, which set a goal that 40% of the overall benefits of certain federal investments flow to disadvantaged communities that are marginalized by underinvestment and overburdened by pollution. More than 70% of the CFI funding announced today will support project sites in disadvantaged communities.

To provide a consistent charging experience for users that ensures a convenient, affordable, and reliable national charging network, EV chargers constructed with CFI funds must adhere to the same minimum standards established for NEVI-funded chargers. FHWA is working closely with the Joint Office of Energy and Transportation, which provides technical assistance on planning and implementation of a national network of electric vehicle chargers and zero-emission fueling infrastructure.

## Councilor DiPierro notes Healey’s plan to raise meals, lodging taxes

By Cary Shuman

At Monday’s Council meeting, Ward 3 Councilor Anthony DiPierro addressed the topic of Governor Maura Healey’s bill that would allow cities and towns to raise taxes on meals and lodging.

DiPierro introduced the matter prior to a unanimous vote by the Council

to approve Encore Boston Harbor’s request for a renewal of its inn holder’s license.

City Clerk Sergio Cornelio acknowledged that Healey is looking to increase meals and lodging taxes, a decision that would be made by individual cities and towns.

“They are looking at some type of increase,”

said Cornelio. “I don’t know if that’s going to be a local option again, or if it’s going to be automatic. That’s something we’re going to have to wait to hear from the Governor’s office.”

DiPierro offered, “I would like to continue that conversation at a later date.”



# Councilor Rogers wants residents to have access to waterfront

By Cary Shuman

Councilor-at-Large Katy Rogers said at Monday night’s Council meeting that National Grid “has failed to fulfill its legally mandated obligation to the City entitling residents to 24-hour access along the waterfront.”

Rogers, who had clearly done her homework on the issue, delivered a scathing message to National Grid officials at Monday night’s Council meeting, admonishing “one of the largest utility companies in the world with a net income of more than \$50 billion” to put the best interests of the people first.

Following is the text of Councilor Rogers’ remarks:

“Everett residents deserve the same opportu-



PHOTO COURTESY OF KATY ROGERS  
Pictured above is a sign posted by National Grid.

nities as all communities in the State of Massachusetts. National Grid is doing a disservice to the people of Everett, and it is imperative Everett residents are aware of this injustice.

“National Grid has failed to fulfill its legally mandated obligation to the City of Everett under Chapter 91, in which residents are entitled to twenty-four hour public access along our waterfront. For decades, the vast majority of Everett residents have been barred from entry to our riverfront property which we are warranted to under Massachusetts law. Without National Grid’s compliance, an existing multi-million dollar pathway connecting Everett, Malden, and Medford remains incomplete.

“Residents of Everett should know that all other waterfront partners, including Encore Boston Harbor and Gateway Mall have complied with the city to do their fair share

of responsibility in public access. For several years, National Grid has dodged their commitment. For context, Chapter 91 is triggered by certain activities, such as building and altering structures, filling, dredging, and demolition. National Grid has made at least three modifications to their property in Everett, instigating Chapter 91. National Grid is one of the largest utility companies in the world with a net income of more than 50 billion dollars. They are fully aware of their obligation and are the only entity standing in the way of a multi-municipality plan, which would ultimately connect Everett all the way to Marblehead. Eighty per cent of the pathway exists in Ev-

erett, but as it stands, National Grid currently has ‘No Trespassing’ signs on the land Everett residents are entitled to.

“It is time for National Grid to put the best interests of the people first. We need not only to protect our environment but celebrate it as well by preserving green spaces and ensuring our waterfront is accessible to all. As a partner to Everett, National Grid must be held to the standards they are obliged to under state legislation. Everett can and should be a leading example, and as City Councilors it is our responsibility to hold National Grid accountable for the Rivergreen Walkway which is long overdue to our constituents.”

## Martins requests update on Encore Boston Harbor renegotiation process

By Cary Shuman

It appears that Ward 2 Councilor Stephanie Martins will be the official taking the lead in monitoring the renegotiation process of a new host agreement with Encore Boston Harbor, the five-star resort and casino located at 1 Broadway in Everett.

Martins offered a resolution at Monday’s Council meeting that the Mayor Carlo DeMaria Administration provide an update on the negotiations of a new host agreement. With Encore Boston Harbor exploring the expansion of its operations across the

street on Route 99, some observers have suggested a possible increase in the impact fee payment that Encore pays annually to Everett. That payment to the city exceeds \$25 million per year. Encore also joined with Mayor DeMaria in establishing the Citizens Foundation which donates more than \$100,000 annually to local organizations and individual business owners.

There is no doubt that Encore has been an outstanding partner in the city, basically putting the City of Everett on the destination map for world travelers. The fabulous re-

sort/casino gives visitors a true taste of Las Vegas, from the elegant dining experiences available at restaurants to the professional gaming atmosphere at the tables and slot machines and inside the WynnBET Sportsbook.

In another Encore-related matter, Martins requested that a representative appear before the Council to discuss how Encore’s construction of a Mystic River walk-bridge spanning from the Assembly Square neighborhood in Somerville to Encore Boston Harbor would impact the city.

## Hart // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

member Robin Babcock pointed out, “We inherited this situation and we owe it to the community to review it.” Babcock added that she had concerns over the process. She noted that several members of the former school board did not have an opportunity to properly review the allegations against Tahiliani before they voted to place her on paid administrative leave.

“I don’t want to add to the chaos -- we must move forward,” said committee member Samantha Hurley.

School Committee member Samantha Lambert noted that a decision on the charges is expected soon and that by bringing Tahiliani back, “It could allow for closure.”

Robert Galvin, the attorney for the Everett public schools, then presented his opinion. “The investi-

gation must continue and Ms. Tahiliani is abiding by the rules of paid leave,” Galvin said. However, he cautioned the committee members, there might be a risk that bringing back Tahiliani could impede the investigation. He noted that the investigator knows no one involved in the case and is highly-experienced in his field. He also noted that no School Committee member should comment on the ongoing investigation.

After some more discussion (with some committee members pointing out that Tahiliani’s contract expires in five weeks on February 29 and that the taxpayers of Everett will be paying two superintendent salaries until that time), the members took a vote on whether to reinstate Tahiliani or have her remain on paid administrative leave. (A “yes”

vote would reinstate Tahiliani, while a “no” vote would have her remain on paid leave.)

Voting in the affirmative were Lambert, Babcock, and Garren. Voting “no” were chairperson Jeanne Christiano, Mayor Carlo DeMaria, Cornelio, Joseph D’Onofrio, and Hurley. The motion thus failed to pass.

The committee then took a second vote on whether to reconsider the motion (with a “yes” vote) or not to reconsider the motion (with a “no” vote). Voting “yes” were Lambert and Garren. Voting “no” were Cristiano, DeMaria, Cornelio, D’Onofrio, and Hurley. (Babcock voted to abstain). With the motion to reconsider having failed, the committee effectively ended further discussion on the matter.

## Jury convicts third individual involved in 2021 Roxbury stabbing death

The third individual charged with the fatal beating and stabbing of a 34-year-old Boston man in 2021 was convicted of involuntary manslaughter today, District Attorney Kevin Hayden announced.

A Suffolk Superior Court jury convicted Dravon Robinson, 39, of Everett, of involuntary manslaughter under the theory of wanton and reckless conduct for his role in the death of Ricardo Garcia, 34, in August 2021.

Robin’s cousin, Karonn Brown, 51, was convicted by a Suffolk County jury of first-degree murder in November 2023.

Brown’s son, Derrell Sanford, 29, pleaded guilty to manslaughter earlier this month during jury selection for his trial.

Sentencing for both Robinson and Sanford is scheduled for February 5 at 9:30 a.m. in courtroom 906 of Suffolk Superior Court.

Assistant District Attorney Nathan McGregor

said that on the morning of August 8, 2021, Brown, Robinson, and Sanford were driving through Roxbury when they approached Garcia’s girlfriend. Brown exited the vehicle and attempted to speak to Garcia’s girlfriend. Garcia ran over to defend his girlfriend. Robinson and Sanford both exited the vehicle and the three attacked Garcia at the corner of Allerton and Peirson streets. During this attack, Sanford kicked

Garcia as Brown and Sanford stabbed him. Garcia was transported to a local hospital where he was pronounced dead.

“There were three men involved here and not one of them chose to de-escalate the situation. I’m grateful for all who worked to hold each of them accountable for this shocking attack. I can only hope these convictions will bring some sense of justice to Mr. Garcia’s family,” Hayden said.

## Everett Arts & Culture Events

JOIN the

## EVERETT CULTURAL COUNCIL!

Help shape Everett’s Arts & Culture programs  
The Everett Cultural Council is a volunteer group that works to foster creativity, diversity and an arts & culture renaissance in the city of Everett. There are openings for new members.

For more info, please email: ECC  
Chairperson, Martha Chason-Sokol  
[martha@mchason-sokol.com](mailto:martha@mchason-sokol.com).

## CALL TO ARTISTS!

Artists Group of Charlestown Spring Show

## CLEAN SLATE

A juried exhibition inspired by the change of season.



Use QR code or visit:

[www.artistsgroupofcharlestown.com](http://www.artistsgroupofcharlestown.com)

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## Real Estate Transfers

BUYER 1	SELLER 1	ADDRESS	PRICE
Engeda, Tekebu	Cifala, Philip	35 Pleasant St	\$850,000
Shrestha, Jeetendra	Rds Properties LLC	48 Ferry St	\$650,000
Ngan, Alex	71 Wellington Avenue LLC	71 Wellington Ave #1	\$460,000
Hines, Lorraine	Osborne Jr, John J	881 Broadway #58	\$297,000



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Pat Roberto,  
REALTOR Broker/President

### PUBLIC NOTICE RIGHT OF WAY MAINTENANCE

As required by Massachusetts General Law Chapter 132B, National Grid (New England Power and/or Massachusetts Electric Company) hereby gives notice that it intends to selectively apply herbicides along specific transmission line rights-of-way in 2024.

The selective use of herbicides to manage vegetation along rights-of-way is done within the context of an Integrated Vegetation Management (IVM) program consisting of mechanical, chemical, natural, and cultural components. In right-of-way vegetation management the pest or target is vegetation (primarily tall growing) that will cause outages and safety issues. National Grid’s IVM program encourages natural controls by promoting low growing plant communities that resist invasion by target vegetation. The selective use of herbicides and mechanical controls are the direct techniques used to control target vegetation and help establish and maintain natural controls.

National Grid may utilize any of the herbicides noted the MA Sensitive Materials list. Rodeo, and possibly one of the following herbicides, Arsenal or Arsenal Powerline, will be applied directly to the surface of stumps immediately after target vegetation is cut (Cut Stump Treatment). Garlon 4 or Garlon 4 Ultra will be applied selectively to the stems of target vegetation using hand-held equipment (Basal Treatment and Dormant stem treatment). Krenite S or Rodeo, mixed with Escort XP, and one of the following herbicides, Arsenal or Arsenal Powerline, or Milestone will be applied selectively to the foliage of target vegetation using hand-held equipment (Foliar Treatment). Cambistat as a tree growth regulator. Applications shall not commence more than ten days before nor conclude more than ten days after the following treatment periods. The herbicide mixes and additional information about rights of way management in Massachusetts can be found here: <https://www.mass.gov/rights-of-way-vegetation-management>

Municipalities that have rights-of-way that were treated in 2023 but may require some touch-up work in 2024:  
Everett

#### Treatment Periods

February 1, 2024 – May 30, 2024	May 30, 2024 - Oct 15, 2024	Oct 15, 2024 – Dec 31, 2024
CST	Foliar	CST
Basal	CST	Basal
Dormant Stem	Basal	Dormant Stem
	Cut stubble	

\*The exact treatment dates are dependent upon weather conditions and field crew progress.

Further information may be requested by contacting (during business hours, Mon-Fri from 8:00 am-4:00 pm):  
Mariclaire Rigby, National Grid, 939 Southbridge Street, Worcester, MA 01610.  
Telephone: (781) 290-8310 or email: [mariclaire.rigby@nationalgrid.com](mailto:mariclaire.rigby@nationalgrid.com)



## HOW ARE THOSE NEW YEAR’S RESOLUTIONS GOING?

All of us, consciously or subconsciously, make some sort of New Year’s resolution in the hope of improving our lives and those of our loved ones.

Without a doubt, the most common New Year’s resolution is weight loss, which is not surprising, considering that 72 percent of all Americans -- an astounding number -- are either overweight or obese. Excess weight has been linked to just about every disease imaginable -- cancer, diabetes, and heart disease being among the most prominent. During the height of the COVID-19 pandemic, excess weight greatly increased the risk of death or serious complications from COVID-19 across all age groups.

We strongly condemn discrimination of any form against those who are overweight. Maintaining a healthy body weight is difficult for just about everyone (almost three-quarters of us, apparently) in our hurry-hurry world where the convenience of fast-food makes it all-too-easy to indulge in an unhealthy diet on a regular basis.

In addition, we are deluged with advertisements from the fast-food industry, who give us those full-screen shots of triple-bacon-cheeseburgers-with-fries-and a soft drink -- a truly deadly combination that hits all of the “bad food” buttons for high calories, saturated fat, salt, and added sugar.

It is not a coincidence that the average American male today weighs 30 pounds more than the average American male did in 1960 and the average American female today weighs the same as that male in 1960 (and no, it’s not because we’re all taller than our grandparents) when you consider that in 1960, there were 248 locations of a certain fast-food franchise across America, but today there are 13,340 of them. (And that’s just one fast-food company!)

However, we do not subscribe to the belief that being overweight is the result of a “disease” that somehow uniquely affects Americans, regardless of race, ethnicity, or gender, compared to the rest of the world. (We rank as the most-overweight people among every industrialized nation.) To be sure, there are some individuals who genetically are pre-disposed to having an unhealthy body weight. But wherever American-style food is imported into countries across the globe, health issues that previously did not exist in those countries become epidemic.

There is no question that bad food can be addictive, whether it’s those triple-cheeseburgers, infinite varieties of snack foods, etc., etc., etc. in a society where bad food is cheap, available everywhere, and pushed on us by Madison Avenue -- and where we associate overeating as a form of reward.

Our present overweight society increasingly makes the 2008 Disney sci-fi movie “Wall-E,” in which the humans of the future are grossly overweight, look prescient -- except that the distant future already is here. The Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health recently estimated that, based upon current trends, by 2030 86 percent of Americans will range from overweight to obese.

With the odds stacked against us to make our weight-loss New Year’s resolutions stick -- which is why so few of us are successful -- it would appear that our only hope is for those new weight loss drugs to become readily-available and covered by insurance for all Americans. Societal weight-loss would be the best thing we could do to improve our collective health, both physically and emotionally. The drugs may be expensive, but if that’s what it will take for Americans to shed our excess pounds, the upfront costs of those drugs will save us billions of dollars in health-care costs down the road.

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.

# Independent Forum

## UPCOMING EVENTS AT EVERETT PUBLIC LIBRARIES

### Parlin Adult and Teens

Parlin Book Group, Parlin Meeting Room, and Zoom. Monday, January 29th at 6:00 pm. We start the New Year with Vera Wong’s Unsolicited Advice for Murderers by Jesse Q Sutanto. Vera, a little old lady of a certain age, finds a dead man in the middle of her shop. She investigates, because nobody sniffs out wrongdoing quite like a suspicious Chinese mother who knows the killer will be back. (Amazon) 18+. Call Kathleen at (617) 394 2300, or send an email to slipp@noblenet.org, for the Zoom link, or join us in person!

Yarn Club Parlin Fireplace Room. Tuesday, January 30th 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!

Bingo! Parlin Meeting Room, Wednesday, January 31st at 1pm. Can’t get enough Bingo? Join us every Wednesday in January! Prizes awarded.

### Parlin Childrens

Lego Club. Parlin Children’s Room. Monday, January 29th from 3-5pm. Come to the Chil-

dren’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 with Vera. Parlin Children’s Room. Tuesday, January 30th at 12pm. In English or Portuguese by request. Visit the Parlin Library Children’s Room to attend! Suggested ages 2-6.

Math Tutoring Sessions, Parlin Meeting Room. Tuesday, January 30th from 4-5:30pm. Students in grades 6-10 are invited to come to our new math tutoring program this January. Our mathematically-minded volunteer tutors will guide and support students with assignments and math concepts, helping them to understand difficult topics. Tutors will be available on a first-come, first-served basis. No registration required.

Storytime and Sing-along with Karen, Parlin Children’s Room. Wednesday, January 31st at 11am. Join us for a fun-filled morning of singing and storytelling with Karen! Suggested ages 0-6.

Drama Class. Parlin Children’s Room. Wednesday, January 31st at 3pm. Do you have a

drama queen or king at home? Drama Class in the Parlin Children’s Department is the perfect opportunity for your child to put those acting skills to use with our drama coach! Suggested ages 6-14.

Parlin Homework Center. Parlin Children’s Room. Mondays through Thursdays from 3-5pm. The Parlin Library’s Homework Center is up and running for the spring! Stop by the children’s department any time between 3 and 5 pm, Monday through Thursday, for help from one of our volunteer tutors on homework assignments. The tutoring center is recommended for grades K-8. Please email parlininfo@noblenet.org with any questions.

Origami Club. Parlin Fireplace Room. Saturday, February 3rd at 12pm. Come and practice the ancient art of paper folding. All ages and skill levels are welcome!

### Shute Adult and Teens

Teen Book Group, Shute Meeting Room. Monday, January 29th at 3 PM. This month, we will be reading All the Bright Places by Jennifer Niven. Come check out a copy of the book at the Shute Library during the month of January and read it be-

fore the 29th to discuss the book with your local librarian and your peers! Limited copies are available for checkout. Open to ages 14-18 only.

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.

### Shute Childrens

Storytime with Vera. Shute Children’s Room. Thursday, February 1st at 12pm. In English or Portuguese by request. Visit the Shute Library Children’s Room to attend! Suggested ages 2-6.

## NEWS BRIEFS

es, basements, and crawl spaces; inexpensive insulation can be bought at hardware and home supply stores

- Locate the water shut off valve and know how to shut off water; if a pipe bursts, shutting off the water promptly can help minimize the damage (shut off valve is usually located by the meter)

- If your pipes freeze, use a hair dryer to thaw the lines safely; thawing will not be fast, but it will be safe: Never use an open flame to thaw pipes

If there is no water coming through any of your taps, there may be a problem in your street or yard. If so, call BWSC’s 24-hour Emergency Assistance line at 617-989-7900.

## ATTENTION: VENDED MEALS COMPANIES

Boys & Girls Clubs of Boston is soliciting invitations for bid for vended meals to their Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) program site(s). The Vendor would provide meal services according to United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) regulations and guidelines as well as Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, Office for Food and Nutrition Programs policies and guidelines.

Vendors and/or their representatives may submit bids to:

Boys & Girls Clubs of Boston

Attn: Gabrielle Witham  
200 High St. Fl. 3  
Boston, MA 02141

A bid packet will be available by email at gwitham@bgcb.org to all potential bidders.

Potential bidders should email questions to Gabrielle Witham at gwitham@bgcb.org by February 2,

2024. The institution will email its response to these questions by February 9, 2024. All questions will be answered in writing only and sent to everyone by February 9, 2024.

All bids must be submitted no later than 5:00pm on February 16, 2024.

All bids are subject to review by the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, Office for Food and Nutrition Programs, 75 Pleasant Street, Malden, MA 02148.

The public bid opening will be at 11:00am on February 20, 2024 at 200 High St. Fl. 3, 02110. This institution is an equal opportunity provider. About Boys & Girls Clubs of Boston Boys & Girls Club of Boston holds a prominent position as the leading and most impactful youth organization in Greater Boston. It serves to catalyze far-reaching opportunities and create more equitable futures for 6 to 18-year-olds across eight clubs and YouthConnect in Boston and Chel-

sea. Since 1893, BGCB has focused on making the city thrive and has played an essential role for young people eager to explore their passions, find their purpose, and prepare for a life of success and impact. In partnership with the public sector, private enterprise, related non-profits, donors and volunteers, BGCB is aligned behind investing in the region’s urban talent pipeline and making a generational impact that expands beyond the walls of its buildings and deep into the communities it serves. Helping urban youth to navigate a fast-paced global climate steeped in change, the organization is recognized for fueling the future of the city and the Commonwealth through its innovative “readiness” programs centered on three outcome areas: Academic Success, Wellness and Workforce Readiness. It is an affiliate of the Atlanta-based Boys & Girls Clubs of America, with over 5,000 Clubs nationwide serving over 3.6 million young people.

Everett  
Independent

Published by the Independent Newspaper Group

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Applications are available for online access at [www.TheNeighborhoodDevelopers.org](http://www.TheNeighborhoodDevelopers.org) or for in-person pickup during office hours at 4 Gerrish Ave Rear, Chelsea, MA 02150. Alternatively, applicants can request application forms to be sent to them via mail or email. **The application period is from January 25, 2024, through April 29, 2024.** Deadline for completed applications by mail only: Postmarked no later than April 29th, 2024. For questions or more information, call Winn Management 617-884-0692.

**Office Hours:**  
Monday, Wednesday & Thursday 9am - 4pm  
Tuesdays 9am-7pm | Fridays 9am-3pm

Annual Income	Sales Price	# of Units
80% AMI	\$278,700	2
3 BR - 4.5 persons		
80% AMI	\$240,800	1
2 BR - 3 persons		
100% AMI	\$393,200	1
3 BR - 4.5 persons		
100% AMI	\$347,400	2
2 BR - 3 persons		

Maximum Income per Household Size

Household Size	80% AMI	100% AMI
1	\$83,150	\$103,900
2	\$95,050	\$118,800
3	\$106,900	\$133,600
4	\$118,750	\$148,400
5	\$128,250	\$160,300
6	\$137,800	\$172,200

\* 2023 Area Median Incomes for the Boston MA MSA.



Informational Meetings

at 4 Gerrish Ave, Chelsea, MA:

- Monday, February 26, 2024, at 7:00 pm
- Wednesday, March 6, 2024, at 7:00 pm

- Lottery date:** Friday, May 10, 2024

*Note: Attendance not required to participate in in the lottery.*

Use & resale restrictions apply. For more info or reasonable accommodations, call Winn Management:  
617-884-0692; TTY: 800-439-2370



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Equal Housing Opportunity





EVERETT HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS IN HOOP ACTION AGAINST CHELSEA

BOB MARRA PHOTOS

Everett scored the game’s first 19 points never gave up the lead, holding off Chelsea with a 47-23 win at Chelsea High School Wednesday, January 17.



Gleidy Tejada Sanchez (11) drives on Chelsea’s Keara Chevez Trejo.



Casey Martinez gets off a pass in front of Chelsea’s Melize Siliro.



Gleidy Tejada Sanchez leads a break up court.



Malaica Guillaume holds the ball out of the reach of Chelsea’s Melize Siliro.



A scramble for a loose ball.



Emilia Maria Babcock disregards the hand on her back and breaks upcourt.



Gemiah Boyce stretches a long arm in search of an offensive rebound.



Gemiah Boyce fights for possession with a pair of Chelsea forwards.

EHS Roundup

BUSY WEEK FOR EHS BOYS, GIRLS

The Everett High boys and girls basketball teams will engage in a full schedule in the coming week.

Coach Gerry Boyce’s boys’ squad, which stands in a tie for first-place with Lynn English in the Greater Boston League (GBL) with a 7-1 record (8-3 overall), was set to take on the Bulldogs last night (Tuesday) in a win-

ner-take-all showdown for first place.

The Crimson Tide defeated English, 65-61, in their first meeting earlier in the season, but Everett subsequently was upset by Revere, leaving the Tide and the Bulldogs dead-locked for the top spot in the GBL.

The Everett boys will host GBL foe Somerville tomorrow evening (Thursday) for a 7:00 opening tip and then will entertain Re-

vere next Thursday.

Coach Riley Dunn’s girls’ squad will play five games in 11 days: They were set to travel to English last night (Tuesday) and to Somerville tomorrow (Thursday) evening. The Lady Crimson Tide then will host non-league opponent New Mission on Monday at 5:30 and Somerville next Tuesday at 6:00 before traveling to Revere next Thursday.



## SCENES FROM THE ANDREW JAMES LAWSON FOUNDATION INVITATIONAL TOURNAMENT AT TD GARDEN



The Everett High School Unified Basketball Team Wins at the Andrew James Lawson Foundation Invitational Tournament at TD Garden. Recently the EHS Uni-

fied Basketball Team headed to TD Garden, home of the Boston Celtic and Bruins. They were invited to play the Andrew James Lawson Invitational Tournament against the RHS

Team. This was a great event for the team, getting to play on the same court as the Boston Celtics and having a huge crowd of spectators cheer them on. The Crim-

son Tide Unified Team came out on top, beating the Patriots, but this day was more about playing a game they loved at a world class venue, something they all will remember.



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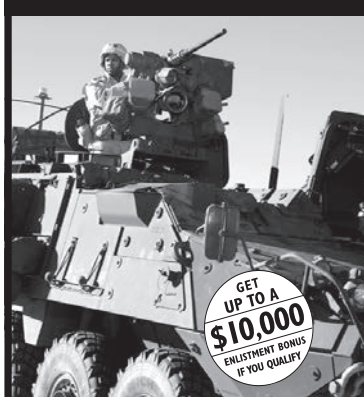
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# Celebrate Catholic Schools Week 2024

January 28 - February 3

#CSW24

The Catholic Schools Week (CSW) 2023 – 2026 theme is “Catholic Schools: United in Faith and Community.” Catholic schools have an irreplaceable role in the Church’s evangelizing mission. Building on the central goal of Catholic schools to form saints, Catholic schools teach and embrace the whole person, body, mind and spirit. The fact that all members of a Catholic school community share the Christian vision of faith that Christ is the foundation of Catholic education is what unites the school as a faith-filled community.

While faith is the binding element in Catholic schools, the Church reiterates that parents are the first teachers of their children. Holding this tenet, Catholic school communities expand beyond the walls of school buildings to envelop the family as an integral part of the school community. Together teachers, administrators, staff, students and parents fuel the light of faith by integrating culture with faith and faith with living.

## East Boston Central Catholic School celebrates Catholic Schools Week

### Enrollment soars in school’s 50th year

By Cary Shuman

East Boston Central Catholic School will celebrate 50 years of excellence in Catholic education at its annual gala April 12 at Spinelli’s, Lynnfield. In advance of that milestone event, EBCCS will Celebrate Schools Week beginning Jan. 28 with an exciting slate of activities for students and their families.

There is certainly a lot to celebrate.

EBCCS Principal Robert Casaletto reports that there is an enrollment of 189 students for the current school year, which is an increase of over 20 percent from the previous year.

Casaletto said one of the reasons for the surge in popularity was the school’s high retention rate, proudly stating, “Our students and their parents

who were here last year all loved it, so they all came back this year. We had a 95 percent retention rate.”

Another key to the success in attracting students to the school was its considerable outreach to different parishes in the area beyond East Boston. Casaletto credits new School Chaplain, the Rev. Dan Zinger, for helping to bring in more Catholic families.”

The hiring of an assistant principal, Gabriela Twaalfhoven, has also been instrumental in building enrollment. Twaalfhoven worked directly with new families on enrollment last summer.

Casaletto also noted the Catholic Schools Foundation providing of financial support to families in need through its Building Minds Scholarship Fund.

Casaletto is in his sev-

enth year as principal and 30th year as a member of the EBCCS faculty. His leadership of the school during the COVID-19 pandemic was extraordinary and in actuality, resulted in an increase in enrollment when the school was allowed to reopen.

“The people affected by COVID-19 was high in East Boston, so the Health Department wouldn’t let us open,” said Casaletto. “We opened our pre-K only for in-person learning. But we did a virtual learning program that our parents were just thrilled with, and because we did such a good job surviving the pandemic, we grew our enrollment coming out of it and it’s been going up since.”

**Catholic Schools Week Activities Schedule**  
Special student activities have been planned throughout Catholic Schools’ Week to give parents an opportunity to “join” your child’s classroom.

EBCCS parents are invited to the following activities. Each activity will take place in your child’s classroom unless a different location is noted.

**Sunday, January 28**  
Mass will be celebrated at St. Michael’s Parish - St. John’s Church in Winthrop at 10:00 a.m. to kick-off CSW. Our choir

will sing and all families are encouraged to join.

**Monday, January 29**  
• Kindergarten: Winter Art Project 8:45-9:30  
• Cherubs, Kindergarten, 3, 4, & 5: Young Authors’ Presentation Auditorium (see Library Schedule)

**Tuesday, January 30**  
• Grade 7: “Kahoots” Game 8:30-9:10  
• Angels, 1, 2, 6, 7, & 8: Young Authors’ Auditorium (see Library Schedule)

**Wednesday, Jan. 31**  
• Angels: Circle Time 8:30-9:00  
• Cherubs: Morning Routine & Heggerty Phonemic Awareness 8:30-9:15  
• Grade 3: Reader’s Theater Presentation 1:00-1:30  
• Grade 1: Chicken Soup w/Rice Activity 1:40-2:10.

**Thursday, February 1**  
• Grade 6: Sarcophagus Design 8:30-9:10  
• Grade 5: Math & Social Studies Super Bowl 9:30-10:30  
• Middle School: Ice Skating Field Trip 1:00-4:00



Students enjoying storytime in class at EBCCS.

• Grade 4: City of Snowdome Presentations 1:30-2:10  
**Friday, February 2**  
• Student Appreciation Casual Dress Day  
• Grade 2: Groundhog Day Activities 9:00-9:30  
• Grade 7 & 8: Science Fair 1:00-2:15 Auditorium  
We ask all students and faculty to dress in something RED to honor all our troops who have deployed or will deploy for their active duty assignments.



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Students receiving help on projects at EBCCS.

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# Healey-Driscoll Administration celebrates Northeastern University for winning \$6 million

The Healey-Driscoll administration is celebrating Northeastern University for winning three federal grants totaling \$6 million from the National Telecommunications and Information Administration’s (NTIA) Public Wireless Supply Chain Innovation Fund to support their Institute for the Wireless Internet of Things (WIoT). The federal investments supported by the Massachusetts Technology Collaborative, which provided \$1.52 million in capital grant funding from the Technology & Innovation Ecosystem Awards program managed by the Innovation Institute at MassTech.

Altogether, these NTIA grants – funded by the CHIPS and Science Act of 2022 – will help unlock

innovation in testing and strengthening of the wireless supply chain across the nation, helping reduce costs, increase competition, and lower security risks for future mobile networking.

“Massachusetts has a proud history of paving the next frontier of telecommunications and is continuing this tradition through the initiative of our colleges and universities, who are staying on the cutting edge of mobile tech,” said Governor Maura Healey. “We want to congratulate Northeastern on their innovative approach to ensuring our communications are more secure, cost-effective, and will create the jobs of tomorrow, and we thank the Biden-Harris administration for making this fund-

ing available.”

“We’re a state filled with the best universities in the country,” said Lieutenant Governor Driscoll. “This support from the Biden-Harris administration allows us to further empower our academic institutions and students. By equipping them with the necessary tools, we aim to motivate them to reach exceptional heights in technological innovation.”

“For more than 50 years, U.S. universities have worked in partnership with government to advance the frontiers of science and maintain our global competitiveness,” said Joseph E. Aoun, president of Northeastern University. “This federal investment in Northeastern’s wireless com-

munications research – supplemented by the Healey-Driscoll administration’s vital support – will enable our scientists to develop break-through technologies that benefit our region, the nation and the world.”

The three NTIA grants to Northeastern include:

- August 8, 2023: A \$2 million award for the TENORAN project, with partner Dell Technologies, NVIDIA, an automated end-to-end energy-efficiency profiling of Open RAN systems through high-fidelity standardized testing scenarios.
- November 28, 2023: A \$2 million award for DigiRAN project, with partner Dell Technologies, focused on the interoperability, security and performance testing of an open RAN (radio access network architecture) system.
- January 10, 2024: A \$2 million award for AutoRAN project with partner Nvidia, which will research the automation of “end-to-end continuous testing for open and disaggregated cellular systems.”

“Northeastern’s commitment to build a more intelligent mobile networking infrastructure here in Massachusetts has

the potential to increase competition and grow our economy,” said Secretary of Economic Development Yvonne Hao. “We’re grateful for the support of the Biden Administration and the NTIA for enabling Northeastern University to pioneer technological advancements, break barriers, build a hub for economic development, and provide workforce opportunities for their student population.”

“Through these investments, Northeastern will help advance the wireless networks that power our innovation economy, making them more agile, responsive, and secure,” said Pat Larkin, Director of the Innovation Institute at MassTech. “For our startups in the advanced wireless space, this new technology will expand their access to cutting-edge technology and the world-class researchers at NU.”

nology and innovation as we compete for federal funds that strengthen our supply chains, while creating good-paying jobs and investing in our communities.”

The investments will help Northeastern expand on the WIoT Institute infrastructure to acquire equipment which, combined with their Open 6G Testing & Integration Center, will create a unique facility to test interoperability and AI research around the deployment of 6G wireless, while also building a hub for economic development around Open RAN/6G wireless ecosystem in Massachusetts and a tech incubator for locally based startups. In addition, the public investments will strengthen workforce development efforts around Open RAN and 6G in the state.

The new tools will complement Northeastern’s existing telecommunications research hubs, such as the wireless network emulator, called Colosseum, and the FCC Innovation Zone, which allows qualified federal “licensees to test new advanced technologies and prototype networks.”

## Bill passed to prevent abuse and exploitation

The Massachusetts House of Representatives last week passed legislation that combines several separate legislative initiatives into one bill that will help to prevent abuse and exploitation, while also enhancing protections for survivors. The legislation addresses teen sexting and image-based sexual assault, commonly referred to as “revenge porn;” expands the definition of abuse to include coercive control for the purposes of obtaining a restraining order; and extends the statute of limitations for certain domestic violence offenses from six years to 15 years.

share explicit photos of themselves or other minors are charged with violating Massachusetts child pornography laws and are required to register as sex offenders. The legislation passed today instead authorizes commitment to the Department of Youth Services (DYS), but also allows minors to be diverted to an educational program in lieu of criminal punishment. A district attorney, however, is allowed to petition the court to bring criminal charges in extreme cases.

“This legislation modernizes our criminal laws by ensuring that those who share explicit images of others without their consent face punishment, while also educating minors on the dangers of sharing explicit images of themselves rather than imposing some of the criminal justice system’s most severe consequences,” said House Speaker Ronald J. Mariano (D-Quincy). “I’m also incredibly proud of this legislation’s bolstered protections for survivors, including the added consideration of nonphysical forms of abuse for those seeking restraining orders from their abusers. I want to thank Chairman Day and the Judiciary Committee, along with each bill sponsor and all my colleagues in the House for prioritizing this vital legislation.”

“The House has heard the urgent call of survivors to enhance protections and ensure that our laws keep up with technology. But the House doesn’t just listen, we act,” said Representative Michael S. Day (D-Stoneham), House Chair of the Joint Committee on the Judiciary. “It’s critical that these reforms pass into law quickly so that victims of coercive control, adolescent sexting and revenge porn aren’t left without relief.”

The educational diversion program, to be created by the Attorney General in consultation with the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE), DHS, and the District Attorneys Association, would provide teenagers with information about the legal and nonlegal consequences of sexting, which would be made available to school districts. DESE should also encourage districts to implement media literacy programs in their schools as a prevention measure.

“This legislation represents a coordinated effort and a holistic approach to address an increasingly prevalent behavior and provides mechanisms to protect individuals victimized by those who threaten, intimidate, and harass the subjects of these images,” said State Representative Jeffrey N. Roy (D-Franklin), a lead sponsor of the bill. “The sexting provisions provide law enforcement officers with a middle ground that will allow them to educate kids about the consequences of their actions without ruining their lives. It will have a tremendous impact on people who have become entangled in the web and transmittal of images that can cause traumatic and lifetime harm through a diversion program that will educate them about the legal and personal consequences of this behavior.”

In addition to teen sexting, the bill addresses

the nonconsensual distribution of explicit images by adults by establishing a penalty in the existing criminal harassment statute, including up to two and a half years of prison time and/or a monetary fine of up to \$10,000. The bill increases the upper limit of the fine for criminal harassment from \$1,000 to \$5,000. Under

## OBITUARIES

### Alfred Smith Hoover

Active at Immaculate Conception Parish, longtime president of the Holy Name Society and 40-plus year treasurer of the St. Vincent de Paul Society

Alfred Smith Hoover, 95, of Everett, died on January 15.

Born in Brighton, Al grew up in Mission Hill and Auburndale. He was a graduate of St. John’s Prep and Suffolk University and a longtime employee of State Street Corporation. For years he was actively involved in Immaculate Conception Parish in Everett where he served as the treasurer of the St. Vincent DePaul Society for over forty years. He also served as an usher and was a former President of the Holy Name Society.

Al enjoyed spending time at his Mountain View Cottage on Sunset Lake. He was an avid reader and loved solving crossword puzzles and answering Jeopardy questions. Al and Kay enjoyed many trips over the years with their close group of friends.

A devoted family man, Al looked forward to family gatherings and spending time with his siblings, children, nieces, nephews and later in life with his grandchildren. He will be missed.

For 72 years, the cherished husband of Catherine M. (Canty) Hoover; beloved father of Stephen and his wife, Patricia of Everett, Ellen Mosher of Amesbury, Joan Callahan of Danvers; devoted



grandfather of Nolan, Timothy and Brendan Hoover, Nicholas, Michael, William, Julie Mosher and her fiancé, Stephen Blatic, Kyle and Liam Callahan, great-grandfather of Adalyn Hoover and predeceased by his parents, Henry and Catherine, sisters, Rosemary Machunski, Katherine Kumm, Theresa Gardiner and brothers, Henry, Robert and James.

Funeral arrangements were entrusted to the Cafasso & Sons Funeral Home, 65 Clark St., Everett. His Funeral Mass was celebrated in the Immaculate Conception Church, 487 Broadway, Everett and U.S. Army Military Honors were presented at the end of the Mass. Interment was private. In lieu of flowers please make a donation in his name to: The Society of St. Vincent De Paul Boston, 18 Canton Street, Stoughton, MA 02072 or The American Heart Association, 93 Worcester Street, Wellesley, MA 02481 or the charity of your choice.

### Rose Rita Montalbano

Eucharistic Minister at Our Lady of Grace Church and active member of the Socialites

Rose Rita (Aversa) Montalbano of Everett, entered into eternal rest at home surrounded by her loving family on Thursday, January 18. She was 101 years old.

Born in Chelsea, Rose was a lifelong resident of Everett. She was very active parishioner of her beloved church, Our Lady of Grace. Rose served faithfully as a Eucharistic Minister and was an active member of the Socialites.

The beloved wife of the late Jack J. Montalbano, she was the dear and devoted mother of Paul and his wife, Maria, Leonard and his wife, Nancy and John; sister of the late Albert, Peter and Charles Aversa. Rose is also survived by her loving grandchildren: John Montalbano and his wife, Seri, Michelle Mercurio and her husband, Doug, Laura Akana and her husband, Steve, Diana Erickson and her husband, Ted, Melissa Gutierrez and her husband, Stephen, Stephanie Smith and her husband, Andy and the late Vanessa Montalbano and her 15 loving great-grandchildren.

Relatives and friends are respectfully invited to attend Rose’s visiting hours in the Cafasso &



Sons Funeral Home, 65 Clark St. (Corner of Main St.) Everett on Friday, January 26 from 4 to 7 p.m. Her funeral will be from the funeral home on Saturday at 8 a.m. followed by a Funeral Mass in Blessed Mother of the Morning Star Parish, Our Lady of Grace Church, 59 Nichols St. Chelsea at 9 a.m. Services will conclude with Rose being laid to rest with her beloved husband, Jack and her loving granddaughter, Vanessa at the Woodlawn Cemetery, Everett.

In lieu of flowers, contributions in Rose’s memory to St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital, 501 St. Jude Place, Memphis, TN, 38105 would be sincerely appreciated.

Parking with attendants on duty.

## OBITUARIES

All obituaries and death notices will be at a cost of \$150.00 per paper.

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## CHURCH News

### Mystic Side Congregational Church

#### News and Notes

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

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

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

### Glendale United Methodist Church

#### News and Notes

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

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

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

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

NA Meetings – Mon.

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

AA Meeting – Saturday evenings from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.

Pastor's Office Hours: Saturdays 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Other times by appointment.

Bread of Life Donations – This outreach is being done to honor the United Methodist Women's Group, who for so many years were our outreach source. Please bring any food item(s) to church and place in the box located on the altar.

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

### 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-

son of hope, renewal and new beginnings.

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

### 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 YouTube.

For more information, they can be reached online at [zionchurchministries.com](http://zionchurchministries.com) or via email at [office@zionchurchministries.com](mailto:office@zionchurchministries.com).

### Immaculate Conception Parish

#### News and Notes

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

Weekly Mass Schedule at 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 7:30p.m. Vietnamese 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

at the Confession Boots in the Chapel, and at 11:15 a.m. 12:00p.m. in Spanish.

5: Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament at the Chapel on Thursday from 7:30 a.m.-6:00 p.m.

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. Thank You.

**Immaculate Conception  
Parish  
489, Broadway,  
Everett MA 02149 Phone  
Call 6173895660**

### 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

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**617-387-7458**

**Rev. Larry Russi, Sr.**

**Pastor**

**[pastorlarry@thelighthousechurch701.net](mailto: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](http://www.facebook.com/churchforeverett) to view weekly devotions and updates, visit us at [www.foreverett.church](http://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](http://www.everettcan.com) to request any additional help.



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All women over 40 should have a mammogram once a year. Breast cancer found early offers the best chance to be cured. Free or low cost mammograms are available.

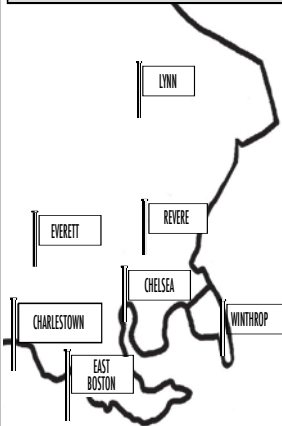
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617-349-4396

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

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

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

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

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

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

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200 Orange Street, Room 402  
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EXCELLENCE IN THE EVERETT PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Sprinting into the New Year!  
(No, Really ...)

Eveillard places second in statewide meet



Everett High School's Kayshaun Eveillard is sprinting into the Crimson Tide record book. The sophomore placed second in the Massachusetts State Track Coaches Association's Freshman/Sophomore Meet on Saturday, January 6 at the Reggie Lewis Track and Athletic Center in Roxbury, Mass. Competing against runners from across the Commonwealth, Eveillard finished second in the 300 meters with a time of 36.92 — the second-fastest time in EHS history. The eter Duperier in 2011. Eveillard is currently ranked No. 36 in the Commonwealth in the 300 meters.

A warm relationship

Commissioner Coleman, Rep. McGonagle  
coordinate coat donation



Everett High School guidance counselors join Superintendent of Schools William Hart and State Rep. Joseph McGonagle during a special coat donation on Thursday, January 4, 2024. From left: Ray Arsenault, Veterans Commissioner and EHS junior varsity basketball coach Antoinette Coleman, Jerard Crosby, Maureen Kacvinsky, Kelley Buonopane, Superintendent William Hart, Fernanda Andrade, Deborah Kosner, Sashae Walls, EHS Principal Dennis Lynch, State Rep. McGonagle, and Phillip Coleman.

Thanks to the generosity of an anonymous donor and the collaborative efforts of State Rep. Joseph McGonagle and Everett Veterans Commissioner Antoine Coleman, a large supply of brand-new winter jackets was donated to Everett High School (EHS) on Thursday, January 4, 2024.

Rep. McGonagle and Mr. Coleman delivered the coats to the EHS Guidance Department, where counselors will give them

to students throughout the winter of 2024. While the donor wants to remain anonymous, key corporate support was provided by The Home Depot and Ocean State Job Lot.

The donation was originally organized on behalf of veterans. In his role as Veterans Commissioner, Mr. Coleman donated as many as possible, but there was still a generous surplus left over. Mr. Coleman, who is also a member of the Crim-

son Tide boys basketball coaching staff, and Rep. McGonagle decided to give the remaining coats to EHS students.

"It is always humbling and heartening to see what people can accomplish when they work together as a team, for a clear purpose," said Superintendent of Schools William Hart. "My thanks to Rep. McGonagle and Mr. Coleman for thinking of our students and arranging this substantial donation."

A Bedtime Story

Wynn Resorts donates pajamas to EPS Students



The Everett Public Schools (EPS) thanks Encore Boston Harbor's parent company, Wynn Resorts, for donating pajamas to students in grades PreK-5. The gender-neutral pajamas (inset) were delivered to the district's PreK and elementary schools on Wednesday, January 3, 2024. Pictured above are grateful students at the Webster Extension. Wynn Resorts led made this donation in partnership with Nevada-based Spread the Word, an organization devoted to promoting literacy.



Front row, from left: Resiliency Award Winners Andrea Coronado, Gabrielle De Gouveia, Tyana Williams, and Kaylee DeCastro. Back row, from left: Health and Wellness Coordinator Julie Ann Whitson, Everett High School (EHS) Principal Dennis Lynch, Superintendent William Hart, and EHS English Language Arts Department Chair Ryan McGowan.

Stellar displays of resiliency

New initiative launched to honor EHS Students

Evolving from the hard work and inspiration they brought to the recently completed accreditation process, Everett High School leaders last week launched a recognition program that directly ties to the school's Vision of the Graduate (VOG).

Six Everett High School (EHS) students were presented with the first-ever VOG Recognition Award for Resiliency during a brief gathering inside Principal Dennis Lynch's office on Thursday, January 4, 2024. As stated on the certificates they received, the recipients were nominated by one of their teachers for demonstrating "Tenacity, Flexibility, Courage, Optimism, and a Growth Mindset."

"I love everything about this initiative," said Superintendent of Schools William Hart. "It is an ideal way for our teachers to celebrate the hard work, perseverance, and talents of our students."

Throughout 2023, EHS developed formal reports and strategies as part of the

New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC) accreditation process. While NEASC's formal decision will be released and shared with the community later this year, the process has already yielded important results. Chief among them was the creation of the VOG, which states:

Everett High School graduates will be:

- Resilient
- Innovative
- Self-Aware
- Empowered
- Service-Minded

To embed the VOG into the school's culture, accreditation leaders — Health and Wellness Coordinator Julie Ann Whitson and English Language Arts Department Chair Ryan McGowan — established the awards program for students who exemplify the characteristics of the VOG.

It launched with December's "Resiliency" award winners. The recipients were Andrea Coronado (nominated by EYC

teacher Dana Lipper), Kaylee DeCastro (guidance counselor Amelia Linehan), Laura Sanchez Cespedes (art teacher Josephine Dougan), Gabrielle De Gouveia (math teacher Amy Brogna), Angie Op-sina Torres (history teacher Andrew St. Pierre), and Tyana Williams (Spanish teacher Sara Colosimo).

The nominating teachers wrote descriptions about the students, which were read by Mr. Lynch, Ms. Whitson, and Mr. McGowan on January 4. The recipients received colorful certificates and Target gift cards.

In the coming months, students will be honored for displaying innovation, self-awareness, empowerment, and school and community service.

"I look forward to attending all future VOG Recognition Award ceremonies," said Superintendent Hart. "My applause to the EHS team for finding such a creative, positive, and multifaceted way to highlight our students and high school."

Crossing Paths!

EHS Senior Bound for the College of the Holy Cross



Congratulations to Everett High School (EHS) senior Gabrielle De Gouveia for being accepted to the College of the Holy Cross. She is pictured above with Superintendent of Schools William Hart (right) and EHS English Language Arts Department Chair Ryan McGowan, who is a proud Holy Cross graduate.

The First School Committee Meeting of 2024

New Members Sworn-In, Chair and Vice Chair Elected



The Everett School Committee held its first Regular Meeting of the new session on Tuesday, January 2, 2024. From left: Student Representative Sal DiDomenico, Vice Chairperson Samantha Lambert (At Large), Marcony Barros (Ward 5), Superintendent William Hart, Chairperson Jeanne Cristiano (Ward 3), Margaret Cornelio (Ward 1), Robin Babcock (Ward 4), Samantha Hurley (At Large), Joanna Garren (Ward 2), State Senator Sal DiDomenico, and Joseph D'Onofrio (Ward 6). The next Regular School Committee will be held on Tuesday, January 16, 2024, at 6:30 p.m. in the Everett High School Library.