

Everett Independent

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Front row are Fire Honor members Adam Ragucci, Dan Lloyd, and Richard Costanza. Middle row are Fire Chief Joseph Hickey and Mayor Carlo DeMaria. Back row are Sgt. Major Tom Arditta, Veterans Services Director Antoine Coleman, and Rep. Joseph McGonagle. See Pages 6 and 7 for more photos.

CITY OF EVERETT HOLDS ITS ANNUAL MEMORIAL SERVICES

Special to the Independent

The City of Everett held its Annual Memorial Day Services May 27 at the Gold Star Pavilion in Greenwood Cemetery.

Veterans Services Director Antoine Coleman, a veteran of the United States Marine Corps, led the speaking program.

“As proud Americans, we should all remember that our freedom is not free,” Coleman told the assemblage. “It is only possible because heroes, some from our own families or neighborhood, have paid a high price. It’s that price which enables us to have ceremonies and observances like this in towns across this great country.”

Mayor Carlo DeMaria thanked the many resi-

dents and officials in attendance for “joining us today to show our continued respect for the brave individuals who have selflessly served our nation.”

“We especially want to recognize and remember those who have paid the ultimate price for our sake and for the sake of our country by sacrificing their lives,” said DeMaria. “Every member of the military who has given their life in service should be remembered and honored for their selfless bravery. The greatest respect that we can show for the memory of those we have lost is by living honorable lives with consideration and compassion for others.”

Millie Cardello, a Unit-

See SERVICES Page 6



U.S. Marine Corps veteran Richard Doherty and U.S. Army veteran Dennis Yebba.

Chelsea Soldiers’ Home shelter hits one month of operation

By Adam Swift

Operations at the temporary emergency assistance shelter at the old Chelsea Soldiers’ Home hospital building are in full swing.

Earlier this spring, state officials announced that the empty building would be used as an emergency shelter for six to 12 months as the state faces an influx of migrants, many from Haiti.

The shelter is currently at its capacity of 100 families, or about 300 people, according to Alex Train, the Chief Operating Officer for La Colaborativa, the local human services nonprofit overseeing operations and services at the shelter.

“We’re working with all the families presently on what we see as immediate stabilization – access to basic necessities, healthcare, immigration assistance – as well as dovetailing into intensive case management for all of them,” said Train. “The case management component focuses on helping families exit the shelter faster. It’s a combination of workforce training, ESOL classes, digital literacy, as well as financial counseling and housing assistance.”

Train said La Colaborativa does anticipate that as people progress through the program and gain employment and housing, there will be new families moving in for the duration of the project.

“From our vantage point, it’s been going remarkably well,” said Train. “We’ve been able to hire over 95 new employees, including over 75 Chelsea residents to work in the shelter with living wage conditions with good benefits and stable income. Moreover, we’ve been able to employ a model of intensive case management and wraparound services at the shelter, which is really the first time this type of model has been used in the state’s overflow sites.”

Train said La Colaborativa is continuing to work with the state on issues such as access to healthcare as well as access to various forms of immigration assistance.

“Overall, everyone is situated now and the families seem to be doing really well,” said Train.

City Manager Fidel Maltez said he has heard no bad news or complaints, either from residents or the city’s public safety team about the shelter operation at the soldiers’ home.

“Our public safety team has visited the facility just about once a week to check in, and we have not found any issues at all with the facility, with the way it is being operated, or with the residents there,” said Maltez. “I have been extremely pleased with how well managed it is. I have spoken to the staff at the governor’s office, and they are equally pleased, and I think things are going extremely well.”

DiDomenico Secures Millions in the Final Senate 2025 Budget

Special to the Independent

Last Thursday, Senator Sal DiDomenico and his Massachusetts Senate colleagues unanimously approved a \$57.999 billion budget for Fiscal Year 2025 (FY25). Following robust and spirited debate, the Senate adopted several of Senator DiDomenico’s amendments, adding millions of dollars in spending for statewide initiatives and local priorities that will directly benefit constituents in his district and residents around the Commonwealth.

The budget builds on the Senate’s commitment to fiscal responsibility while delivering historic levels of investment in every level of education, regional equity, and mental health, reflecting the Chamber’s commitment to creating a more affordable, equitable, and competitive Commonwealth. Senator DiDomenico’s amendments will support

working families by expanding access to food, clothing, quality education and workforce training.

“This budget is a victory for people of all backgrounds and income levels in my district and throughout the Commonwealth,” said Sal DiDomenico, Assistant Majority Leader of the Massachusetts Senate. “I am proud to bring millions of dollars to my district for organizations and programs that provide vital services for our residents. These investments will create new opportunities for people of all ages in our communities, support projects that will improve lives and ensure all our children can build the bright futures they deserve.”

Statewide DiDomenico Amendments

\$3.5 million to expand the annual clothing allowance for low-income

See BUDGET Page 3

EHS softball team earns share of GBL title; awaits tourney foe

Special to the Independent

The Everett High softball team clinched a share of the 2024 Greater Boston

League (GBL) title with a 22-0 victory at Somerville last week. Coach Stacy Poste-Schiavo’s Lady Crimson Tide had put

themselves in position for a share of the GBL crown with a 5-4 victory over Medford the week before, but they still needed to win their final GBL contest with the Lady Highlanders -- and they did so in emphatic fashion.

Everett exploded for 12 runs in the top of the first, with key hits coming from Emma Longmore, Olivia Dresser, Ashley Seward, and Emilia Maria-Babcock, but the biggest of all came off the bat of Gianna Masucci, who delivered a grand slam home run.

The Tide tacked on four more markers in the second behind key hits by Alexa Uga, Seward, and Maria-Babcock and made it 22-0 with six more markers in the third, with Longmore, Seward, and Maria-Babcock providing the power.

EHS hurler Peyton Manning was nearly-per-

fect in her five innings (the game was called after five frames because of the mercy rule), allowing just one hit, while fanning 10 Lady Highlander opponents and walking only two.

“The girls were eager for this win to clinch the GBL title, even if we have to share it with Medford,” said Poste-Schiavo. “They were coming off of a tough loss (the previous day to non-league opponent Lowell) and knew this game could not be taken lightly. I can’t say enough about this team and how amazing they are to coach and watch.”

In the 10-8 setback to Lowell on Senior Night, the Lady Crimson Tide had moved out to a 7-2 lead after four innings, but the visitors erupted for five runs in the fifth to bring the contest back

See SPORTS Page 8

EVERETT HIGH VOLLEYBALL SENIOR NIGHT



Before the final home volleyball match of the season, Everett High School head coach Mike Fineran thanked the four graduating seniors for their dedication and commitment to the program. Pictured at the pre-game ceremony, from left, are seniors Nischal Tamang, Mark Pierre, Kaleb Miranda, and Hyan Soares, and head coach Mike Fineran.

McGonagle, House pass major health care legislation

Special to the Independent

Rep. Joe McGonagle, along with his colleagues in the Massachusetts House of Representatives, passed comprehensive legislation that aims to restore stability to the health care system, bolster accountability within the industry, and control health care spending to ensure that everyone in Massachusetts has access to quality, affordable health care. The bill also includes important updates to how the Commonwealth regulates and monitors the health care market, informed by the Steward Health Care crisis.

"I think today shows Massachusetts' commitment to taking action to protect its citizens against predatory and harmful practices in the healthcare field," said McGonagle. "What we saw with Steward Health Care was unacceptable and cannot happen again. Massachusetts has always been a leader in healthcare and this is no different. I'm grateful to Speaker Mariano, Chair Lawn and all my other colleagues for getting this legislation passed."

The legislation passed today continues the House's commitment to bettering the Commonwealth's health care system, as was demonstrated during the passage of Massachusetts' landmark health care reform laws of 2006 and 2012. Facets of this bill include:

Strengthening oversight

To prevent hospitals and other providers from exploiting the same gaps in the state's regulatory structure that Steward Health Care exposed, the bill passed today makes important updates to the Commonwealth's laws that govern the oversight of hospital systems and other provider organizations.

The House legislation:

- Increases transparency related to the corporate structure of hospitals and other provider organizations by requiring disclosure of significant for-profit investment, including any private equity investments, and empowers the state's Center for Health Information and Analysis (CHIA) to gather

more financial data on hospitals and other provider organizations

- Enhances penalties for failure to comply with data reporting requirements, including increased financial penalties, adverse consequences for licensure, and withholding approvals of future projects

- Empowers the Health Policy Commission (HPC) to scrutinize certain transactions more closely for anticompetitive impacts, such as significant equity investments that result in a change of ownership or control of a hospital, conversion of a hospital from a non-profit to a for-profit entity, and a significant transfer of a hospital's assets

- Expands the Attorney General's authority to seek information from significant equity investors, real estate investment trusts (REITs), and management service organizations as part of that office's statutory authority to monitor and investigate health care trends, and exposes entities with an ownership or controlling interest in a provider organization to potential liability under the state's False Claims Act if the entity knew, but did not report, that a provider organization was defrauding MassHealth, for example

The bill also makes important reforms to prevent acute care hospitals from selling their most valuable asset, their land, to REITs. When Steward sold their hospital properties to Medical Properties Trust (MPT) in 2016 for \$1.25 billion, Steward agreed to lease back their former properties from MPT for exorbitant rents, syphoning away important resources and depriving the hospital operations and patients from needed investments. The House bill prohibits the future leasing of land from REITs for the operation of a hospital's in-patient facilities and requires increased disclosure of other lease arrangements as part of the licensure process with the Department of Public Health (DPH).

In response to the tragic death of a patient at one of Steward's hospitals, the bill also improves patient safety by ensuring that

DPH is notified if a hospital's medical or surgical supplies are at risk of repossession because of a hospital's financial condition. The bill requires a secured creditor or vendor of medical equipment to notify the hospital and DPH of a possible repossession of equipment 60 days before the intended repossession.

Addressing the rising cost of health care

To address the rising cost of health care in Massachusetts, the bill passed today reforms the HPC and the health care cost growth benchmark by establishing a benchmark-setting process that is more responsive to market pressures, while also raising expectations on providers to meet the Commonwealth's cost containment goals:

- Reconstitutes the HPC board from 11 to nine members who have more current, relevant experience and insight into the trajectory of the health care market

- Establishes a Technical Advisory Committee within the HPC to adjust the benchmark based on market conditions, such as inflation, labor and workforce development costs, and the introduction of new pharmaceuticals, medical devices, and other health technologies

- Changes the current annual benchmark to a three-year benchmark beginning 2026-2029 which will allow health care entities greater flexibility to address unexpected expenses, and give the HPC

greater insight into longer-term trends

- Gives the HPC increased enforcement authority when a health care entity exceeds the benchmark, and when a first performance improvement plan (PIP) is not successful, by allowing the HPC to suggest elements of a new PIP and to conduct Cost and Market Impact Review (CMIR), which may result in a referral to the Attorney General

The bill also establishes a dedicated Division of Health Insurance (DOHI) to review health insurance rates for affordability for consumers and purchasers of health insurance products. Currently, the same state agency that reviews auto insurance policies reviews health insurance, an insurance product that is essential to the well-being of residents and an important aspect of one of the Commonwealth's largest economic sectors. This bill raises the assessments on insurance companies to pay for increased staff to give health insurance products the scrutiny they deserve.

Protecting independent community hospitals and slowing further market consolidation

This legislation includes several policies to advance the House's long-standing policy goal of protecting low-cost, high-value health care providers and of avoiding further market consolidation by larger hospital systems.

The bill establishes and integrates a Rate Equity

Target within the benchmark enforcement process for insurance companies, with the goal of raising the reimbursement rate for historically poorly reimbursed acute care hospitals. The bill incentivizes insurance companies to pay these hospitals no less than 15 percent below the average reimbursement rate for hospitals in the insurance company's network during the first three-year benchmark cycle from 2026 to 2029. Thereafter, the bill guarantees a minimum percentage increase in a hospital's reimbursement rate as a percentage of the health care cost growth benchmark.

This up-front investment by commercial insurers will provide needed resources for low-cost providers for the long-term benefit to the health care market given that, if such hospitals were to close or merge with a larger hospital system, total health care costs in the Commonwealth would inevitably increase.

The bill, via an amendment from Representative Frank A. Moran, also provides a Medicaid rate enhancement for a similar group of hospitals, based on a hospital's percentage of patients that are public

The House bill also revisits House legislation passed last session which requires applicants for new ambulatory surgery centers to partner with independent community hospitals if the facility's primary service area would overlap with that of

the independent community hospital. This measure would protect these crucial hospitals from having their most important services syphoned off by surgery facilities that do not provide the same level of community benefit as 24-hour hospitals that offer a more complete range of health care services.

Stability and planning

The bill establishes a Health Resource Planning Council to produce a five-year plan on how to address regional and state capacity issues, which will be housed within a reformed HPC.

The bill passed today recommits to comprehensive state and regional health resource planning, and requires consideration of the state plan in the Determination of Need (DoN) process.

It also creates new license categories for urgent care centers and office-based surgery centers, as well as a new registration requirement for physician practices with more than 10 physicians. The bill also requires physicians to notify patients 90 days prior to terminating a patient-physician relationship, which was partly informed by Compass Medical's abrupt closure of its physician group practice locations in May 2023.

The bill passed the House of Representatives with a 152-1 vote. It now goes to the Senate for consideration.

Mayor DeMaria congratulates 7th-Grade Boys Travel Basketball championship team

Mayor Carlo DeMaria recently congratulated the Everett 7th Grade Boys Travel Basketball Team at Everett City Hall for winning the New England

Tournament championship.

The players, coaches and parents joined Mayor DeMaria for some pizza and to discuss the impor-

tance of staying healthy and making the right choices to continue being successful in the future. Following the discussion, the Mayor presented the

players and coaches with citations on behalf of the City of Everett in recognition of their accomplishment.



Mayor Carlo DeMaria congratulated the 7th Grade Boys Travel Basketball team at City Hall for winning the New England Tournament Championship.

Everett Arts & Culture Events

Call to Youth artists for

CITY HALL SUMMER Art Show

During July & August

SUMMER FRESH!

Up next at City Hall Art by ages 18 & under Use QR code or email:

EverettArtEntry@gmail.com

for more information.

Deadline to enter June 30

ALL Artists under 18 welcome!

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EVERETT CULTURAL COUNCIL!

For more info, email: ECC Chairperson
Martha Chason-Sokol
martha@mchason-sokol.com



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PHOTOS COURTESY THE CITY OF EVERETT

City of Everett staff, along with Superintendent William Hart and elected officials, joined together at Glendale Park to dedicate a bench to the Everett High School Class of 1968.

City of Everett dedicates bench to Everett High School Class of 1968

The City of Everett joined with the Everett High School (EHS) Class of 1968 at Glendale Park to dedicate a bench in honor of the members of the class and remember the ones who are no longer with us.

City of Everett staff, along with members of the Class of 1968, Superintendent William Hart

and elected officials, gathered at Glendale Park in recognition of the newly dedicated bench.

“It’s amazing to see that no matter where life may take the members of this class, they always find a way to stay in touch and come back together through events, get-togethers and remembering the ones who are no

longer here,” said Mayor Carlo DeMaria. “I’m glad the City of Everett was able to honor this class that never forgets their Everett roots.”

Following the dedication, everyone in attendance was welcomed to the EHS Crimson Café to enjoy a luncheon that was prepared by EHS Culinary Arts students.



After the dedication, attendees were invited to partake in a luncheon served and provided by EHS Culinary Arts students at the Crimson Café.



The bench dedicated to the EHS Class of 1968 located at Glendale Park.



The new plaque recognizing the EHS Class of 1968 installed on the bench at Glendale Park.

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Budget // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

families. This investment will give families \$500 per child to purchase the clothes they need every year.

\$250,000 for operations services for the Massachusetts Emergency Food Assistance Program.

Senator DiDomenico also successfully advocated for the \$42 million that was included for food services in this program.

\$300,000 for Operation A.B.L.E. of Greater Boston to provide basic workforce and skills training, employment services and job re-entry support to older workers.

Require the Department of Elementary & Secondary Education to gather data on sex & relationship education in our schools. This will help our state government understand how we can best support our schools to ensure our children have the information they need to protect their health and form respectful relationships.

Local DiDomenico Amendments

\$25,000 for the John F. Kennedy Family Service Center for educational programming and family engagement.

\$25,000 for East End House to provide comprehensive support services for families.

\$25,000 for Cambridge Economic Opportunity Committee for economic stability and mobility services

\$25,000 for Transition House to address domestic violence through intervention and prevention

\$25,000 for Margaret Fuller House for community advancement pro-

gramming

\$25,000 for The Spot to provide materials and services to residents in need

\$25,000 for the Eliot Family Resource Center for comprehensive community-based services and resources

\$25,000 for La Comunidad to support community programming and services

\$25,000 to the Everett Haitian Community Center for community programming, resources and services

\$25,000 for Chelsea Black Community for community-based services and resources

\$50,000 for Community Action Programs Inter-City for economic stability and mobility services

\$25,000 for Chelsea Restoration Corporation to promote home ownership for low-to-moderate income residents in Chelsea and the surrounding areas

\$25,000 for Harvest on Vine Food Pantry to provide food resources and services

\$50,000 for the theater program at Cambridge Public Schools

\$50,000 for the music program at Everett High School

\$25,000 for the music program at Chelsea High School

\$25,000 to the Everett Public Schools for student-led environmental initiatives

\$25,000 for Girls on the Run Greater Boston to provide social-emotional learning and physical activity curriculum to elementary and middle

school-aged girls in the cities of Chelsea, Everett, and Cambridge, and in Charlestown

\$25,000 to For Kids Only Afterschool for a pilot workforce development program to support programming for low-income and at-risk children and educators

\$25,000 for the Bunker Hill Monument Association regarding the history of the Bunker Hill Monument

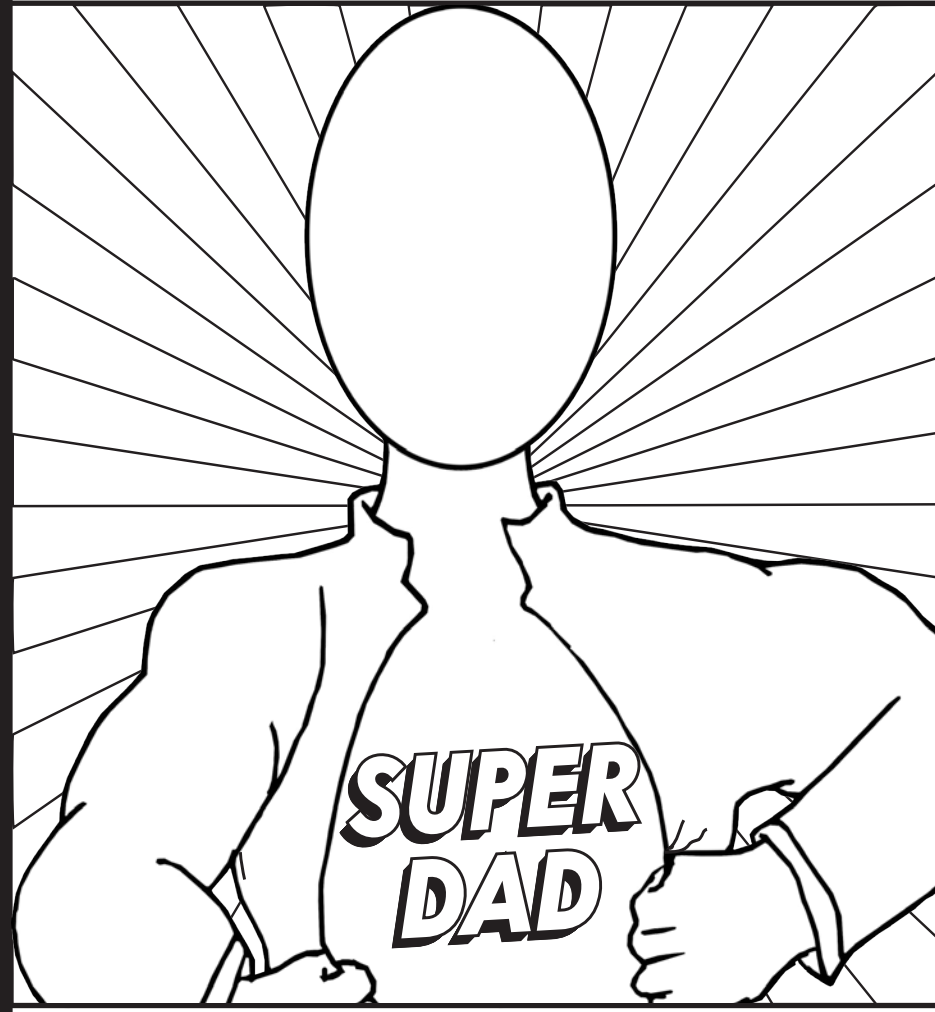
\$25,000 for Courageous Sailing for youth programming and enrichment opportunities

As the Commonwealth adjusts to a changing economic landscape and ongoing tax revenue volatility, the FY25 budget adheres to disciplined and responsible fiscal stewardship. It does not raise taxes, nor does it draw down available reserves from the Stabilization Fund or the Transitional Escrow Fund, while at the same time judiciously utilizing one-time resources to maintain balance.

The Senate’s budget continues responsible and sustainable planning for the future by continuing to grow the Rainy Day Fund, already at a historic high of over \$8 billion. The Senate’s proposal would build the Commonwealth’s reserves to a healthy balance in excess of \$9 billion at the close of FY25.

A conference committee will now be appointed to reconcile differences between the versions of the budget passed by the Senate and House of Representatives.

NOT ALL HEROES WEAR CAPES FATHER'S DAY COLORING PAGE



This is my Dad - Dad's name _____

Drawn By - Your name _____

City _____

DRAW YOUR DAD

- Complete the picture by creating a picture of your father!
 - PENS & MARKERS WORK BEST, use BOLD COLORS
- Please e-mail to: PROMO@REVEREJOURNAL.COM

Deadline for entries will be Friday, June 7th.

Entries will be published in the June 12th, & 13th issues of the Revere Journal, Chelsea Record, Everett Independent, East Boston Times, Winthrop Sun Transcript, and The Lynn Journal

For Advertising Rates, Call 617-884-2416

Everett Independent

President: Stephen Quigley

Editor in Chief: Cary Shuman

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE CLASS OF 2024

A high school graduation is a singular event in the life of every community, where almost everybody knows one of the graduates or their families. All of us share in the happiness and sense of achievement of our young people who will be receiving their diplomas. And for all of us, a high school graduation brings back our own fond memories from our long-gone youth.

For the graduates themselves, their high school graduation marks both an end and a beginning. They no longer are children, either in the eyes of the law or in reality. They are full-fledged adults who will be leaving the sheltered harbor of their families and communities and setting sail on a journey that none of them will be able to anticipate, but which will be full of surprises, bringing both stormy seas and smooth sailing.

Yes, graduation is a bittersweet time, both for the grads and their family members.

For the parents who will be watching their sons and daughters step to the podium when their name is called, no doubt they will be thinking of how fast time has gone by since they first brought their child by the hand to preschool and kindergarten.

Such moments bring to mind the sentiments expressed in the lyrics of the song, Sunrise, Sunset, from the musical Fiddler on the Roof:

Is this the little girl I carried
Is this the little boy at play?
I don't remember growing older
When did they?
When did she get to be a beauty
When did he grow to be so tall?
Wasn't it yesterday when they were small?

We congratulate the Class of 2024 for all of the accomplishments that have earned them the right to step onto that podium to receive their diplomas. We know we join with all of the members of our community in wishing them blue skies and sunny days, both on their Graduation Day and in the years ahead.

DRIVERLESS CARS: WE CAN'T WAIT!

We recently returned from a trip to San Francisco to visit our daughter and got the chance to ride in the driverless taxis from Waymo, the company owned by Google, which has been operating in San Francisco and Phoenix for the past few years.

At first we were skeptical of taking a ride in the cars, which have received some bad press, but Kate (who has been using the service for a number of months) assured us it was perfectly fine.

The vehicles, which are electric Jaguar SUVs, make you feel as if you are riding with a luxury limo service. They are clean, quiet, and have leather seats. They also play soft, relaxing music, though you have the option to choose different genres.

Most importantly, the Waymos obey the speed limits, always signal when changing lanes, never rush through a yellow light, let alone a red light, and yield to pedestrians in crosswalks. In other words, the Waymos are far safer than human-operated vehicles.

The experience made us realize that driverless vehicles, guided by AI, will be commonplace in the not-too-distant future -- a future that will make our roads far safer than the carnage that exists today in which more than 40,000 Americans are killed and countless tens of thousands more are severely injured every year thanks to human operators who either are texting-and-driving, under the influence, engaged in road rage, falling asleep at the wheel, inexperienced, too old, blinded by the sun, disobeying the traffic laws, or are just bad drivers.

Driverless cars also will have a huge positive financial impact on our society. Auto insurance rates will go down precipitously (especially for young drivers), car repairs caused by accidents will be minimal, health care costs will decline enormously because of the decrease in auto-related injuries, and senior citizens will retain their independence.

In short, we have seen the future of cars without human operators -- and we can't wait!

SEND US YOUR NEWS

The Everett Independent encourages residents to submit birth and engagement announcements, news releases, business briefs, honor rolls, social news, sports stories, and photographs for publication. Items should be forwarded to our offices at 385 Broadway, Citizens Bank Building, Revere, MA 02151. The Independent also encourages readers to e-mail news releases to editor@everettindependent.com.

The Everett Independent assumes no financial responsibility for typographical errors in advertisements, but will reprint that part of the advertisement in which the error occurs.

Advertisers will please notify the management immediately of any errors that may occur.

Independent Forum

UPCOMING EVENTS AT EVERETT PUBLIC LIBRARIES

Parlin Adult and Teens

Pin Your Pride On! Parlin Fireplace Room. Tuesday, June 4th at 3pm. Share your Pride this month by making a pride pin! From pronouns to pride flags, choose one of our pre-made button templates or create your own. All are welcome to participate!

Blackstone Valley Veggie Growers: Growing a Summer Salad, Parlin Meeting Room. Tuesday June 4th at 6:00 pm. Learn the basics of growing lettuce, tomatoes and cucumbers. No registration required.

Yarn Club Parlin Fireplace Room. Tuesday, June 4th 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!

Drop-in Tech Help Parlin Fireplace Room. Thursday, June 6th from 3-4pm. Want to learn how to use your tablet, phone,

or laptop? Bring your tech to the library for help from one of our librarians!

Dungeons & Dragons at the Library. Parlin Meeting Room. Saturday, June 8th at 11:30am. Ready for the adventure of the summer? Whether you're new to D&D or a roleplaying pro, join our campaign and embark on epic quests with other adventurers. Space is limited to 5 players per session. You do not need to attend the previous session to play! Character sheets will be provided. Registration is required. Limited to ages 13 and up.

Parlin Childrens

Butterfly Exhibit Stop by the Children's Room this month to observe our Butterfly Life Cycle Display behind the circulation desk. Observe our caterpillars metamorphosis as they form their chrysalises and hatch into butterflies right in our own children's room. Release date to be determined.

Lego Club. Parlin Children's Room. Monday, June 3rd from 3-5pm.

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 Sing-along with Karen, Parlin Children's Room. Wednesday, June 5th 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, June 5th at 3:00 pm. 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.

Story Time Adventures with Mrs. McAuliffe Parlin Children's Room. Thursday June 6th at 11am. Join Mrs. McAuliffe for our enchanting Story Time! You will be whisked away on mag-

ical adventures through the pages of your favorite books. Bring a friend or make a new one in our circle of friends.

No Children's Room Activities Friday Jun 7, 2024

Shute Adult and Teens

Resume Writing, Shute Adult Department. Book a one-on-one resume assistance appointment at the Shute Library and let a librarian help you craft a resume tailored to your strengths and aspirations. Sign up for a thirty minute session at both the Shute Library. Fridays by appointment only.

Computer Basics 101, Shute Adult Department. Tech Newbie? No Problem! Learn to power up, click around, type like a pro, explore the digital world, and even send your first email. Book your Friday adventure with technology today! By appointment only on Fridays. Please call the Shute Library to register for an appointment.

EBNHC appoints Mazul as Interim Chief Medical Officer

East Boston Neighborhood Health Center (EBNHC) announced the appointment of Julio Mazul, MD, as Vice President and Interim Chief Medical Officer. During his more than 17-year career at EBNHC, Dr. Mazul has served in several roles, including Medical Director of the Women's Health Department and, most recently, Deputy Chief Medical Officer. A practicing OB/GYN, Dr. Mazul has directed numerous organizational-wide clinical quality and population health initiatives, including reducing barriers to care for underserved women and families, and advancing health equity for the LGBTQ community through staff education and training.

"I believe Dr. Mazul's medical experience, dynamic leadership, and lived experience will help to advance our high standards of culturally responsive, high-quality patient care," said EBNHC President and CEO, Greg Wilmot. "Dr. Mazul has played a vital role in shaping the organization's clinical quality priorities; his decades of work in women's health reinforces our health system's commitment to caring for women and families through all stages of life."

EBNHC is the largest community-based primary care health system in Massachusetts and recently received recognition from the Department of Health and Human Services' Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) for its role



Dr. Julio Mazul.

as a national quality leader in community health care. In 2023, EBNHC received seven quality awards from HRSA, including National Quality Leader gold badge for excellence in Maternal and Child Health.

Dr. Mazul was born and raised in Los Angeles, California. He received his Bachelor of Science in biology and a minor in history from the University of California, San Diego. Dr. Mazul obtained his medical degree from the Georgetown University School of Medicine and completed his residency in OB/GYN at the Beth Israel Deaconess/Harvard Medical School program.

"Serving as Interim Chief Medical Officer is a unique honor for me. While I am a doctor and a leader, I am also the son of Guatemalan immigrants; I understand what it means to be one of our patients and approach my work with that understanding every day," said Dr. Mazul. "I am proud to be part of EBNHC's talented team of providers and excited to be in a position to build a healthier future for every-

one in our community."

Dr. Mazul assumes the position following Dr. Jackie Fantes, MD, FAAFP, who served as the system's Chief Medical Officer for almost a decade. EBNHC will provide additional updates on its long-term plans in the months ahead.

East Boston Neighborhood Health Center, soon to be NeighborHealth as of June 1, 2024, is one of the nation's largest Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs) and the largest community-based primary care health system in Massachusetts, serving over 120,000 people and recognized by the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) as a National Quality Leader. For more than 50 years, EBNHC has offered access to comprehensive primary care, specialty care and emergency care for patients in the Commonwealth. In a first-of-its-kind merger in 2020, EBNHC joined forces with the South End Community Health Center

and expanded services to patients who live and work in Boston's South End and Roxbury neighborhoods.

EBNHC champions innovative care models to actively bridge health equity gaps in our low-income and immigrant communities with services unique from other health care providers in our state. In addition to primary and specialty care, EBNHC operates Massachusetts' only satellite Emergency Department, which is the fourth busiest ED in Boston and is co-located with advanced radiology, including CT scan services, same-day Behavioral Health Urgent Care and an integrated pharmacy. Today, EBNHC remains dedicated to promoting and sustaining healthy communities, families, and individuals both in and out of the exam room by providing accessible, person-centered, compassionate, and high-quality health care services. For more information, visit www.ebnhc.org

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Gayhart receives Little Free Library's Award for Outstanding Achievement

The Little Free Library (LFL) nonprofit organization is pleased to present Evelyn Gayhart of Everett, Mass. with the 2024 Todd H. Bol Award for Outstanding Achievement. This award honors extraordinary individuals who embody LFL's mission to build community, inspire readers and expand book access for all.

"It is a privilege to recognize Evelyn Gayhart as one of this year's winners of the Todd H. Bol Award for Outstanding Achievement," said LFL Executive Director Greig Metzger. "Her volunteer efforts exemplify the vision of the late founder of Little Free Library, Todd Bol, to engage communities and enrich lives through the power of shared books."

The seventeen-year-old first had dreams of start-

ing a Little Free Library book-sharing box when she was twelve. Evelyn immediately started planning, getting city approvals, fundraising, gathering book donations and designing and building a little library with her grandfather. Despite delays due to covid, her inaugural library opened on housing authority property across from Whener Park in 2021. She has since established four additional libraries and has three more planned, thanks to a Little Free Library Partner Expansion grant.

"I originally started it as a project for the Girl Scouts Silver Award but ended up wanting to expand beyond just one," Evelyn said. "The response I've been getting has made me really happy. I get to make sure more

people have the opportunity to get and read books. It's been an extremely rewarding experience."

The Todd H. Bol Awards for Outstanding Achievement are named for LFL's founder, Todd Bol, who created the first Little Free Library book-sharing box in 2009 in Hudson, Wisconsin, and passed away unexpectedly in 2018.

This is the sixth year the awards have been presented.

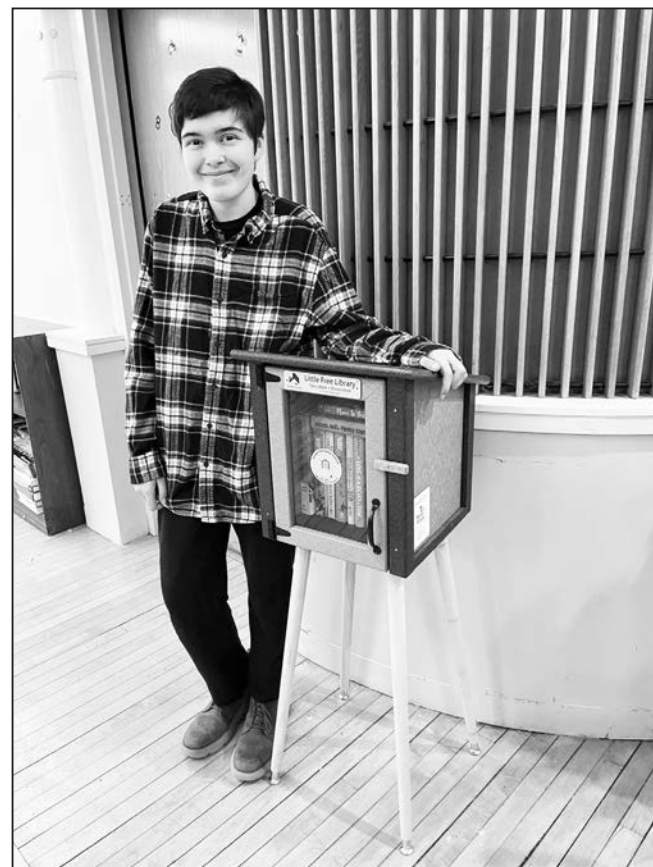
Read more about this year's winners and see their photos: LittleFreeLibrary.org/todd-bol-awards.

Learn about Little Free Library Week, May 12-18: LittleFreeLibrary.org/lfl-week.

Little Free Library® (LFL) is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that builds community, inspires readers and expands

book access for all through a global network of volunteer-led Little Free Libraries. There are more than 175,000 registered Little Free Library book-sharing boxes worldwide in all 50 states, 121 countries and seven continents. Through them, over 300 million books have been shared since 2009. LFL received the 2020 World

Literacy Award as well as honors from the Library of Congress, National Book Foundation and others. The organization grants Little Free Libraries full of books to underserved areas through its Impact Library and Indigenous Library Programs and champions diverse books through its Read in Color initiative. To learn more, visit LittleFreeLibrary.org.



Evelyn Gayhart of Everett.

EBNHC to award six exceptional leaders for their positive impact on the health of local community

Special to the Independent

East Boston Neighborhood Health Center (EBNHC), soon to be NeighborHealth, is thrilled to announce the Art of Health Care fundraising event at the Museum of Fine Arts (MFA), Boston on June 12. This year's reception will include the 2024 Health Equity Awards where six recipients will be honored.

The Art of Health Care event allows EBNHC, the largest community-based primary care health system in Massachusetts, to provide greater support to programs and services dedicated to eliminating barriers to care due to so-

cial factors such as race, language, and economic mobility. All funds raised will have a transformative impact on vulnerable populations by supporting numerous EBNHC programs. This includes providing coordinated health and wellness care to children with developmental and cognitive disabilities; supporting older adults stay healthy and independent in the community; and developing educational training programs for the next generation of healthcare professionals.

"The 2024 Health Equity Awards give us a rare opportunity to publicly celebrate six individuals and organizations who,

through their work, have improved the lives of the communities served by our health center," said Greg Wilmont, President and CEO of the East Boston Neighborhood Health Center. "From the iconic MFA, we will honor leaders who understand the power of social determinants to drive health outcomes and have made addressing them a major focus of their personal and professional lives."

EBNHC is honored to recognize the following changemakers who have helped break down barriers to care for our most vulnerable communities throughout Greater Boston:

- Dr. Thea L. James, MD, MBA. Vice President of Mission, Boston Medical Center is to be recognized as Health Equity Champion for her leadership in dismantling medical mistrust in Boston's Black community.

- Alberto Vasallo, III. CEO/ President of El Mundo Boston is to be recognized as Health Equity Champion for his commitment to partnering across sectors to reduce health disparities in Boston's Latinx community.

- Dr. Gerald Hass, MD. Co-Founder, South End Community Health Center is to be recognized as Health Equity Trailblazer for co-founding the South

End Community Health Center more than 50 years ago.

- Jack Craddock, President Emeritus, East Boston Neighborhood Health Center is to be recognized as Health Equity Trailblazer for being an early and ardent advocate of community-based health systems in Massachusetts.

- Rita Sorrento, Chair, Board of Directors, East Boston Neighborhood Health Center is to be recognized as Health Equity Trailblazer for her long-time healthcare, education and community advocacy.

- Seae Ventures, LLC, an investment firm specializing in early-stage healthcare technology and

services companies, will be recognized as Health Equity Partner for uplifting talented entrepreneurs committed to addressing health and social challenges.

"These leaders inspire us on our journey toward achieving health equity and we are honored to present them with these awards," said EBNHC Vice President of Development and Chief Human Resources Officer Steven Snyder. "Just as an artist creates a masterpiece with precision and care, addressing disparities is no different; it is complex work that requires perseverance and creativity from all who champion it."

NEWS BRIEFS

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION PARISH HOSTS ANNUAL MULTICULTURAL FESTIVAL JUNE 15

On behalf of Father Joseph Chacha Marwa, the Immaculate Conception Parish of Everett is proud to announce, Multicultural Festival "24", an all-day event on Saturday, June 15th, from 10am to 5pm at the Lafayette School Park. The day will include a variety of family-based activities featuring a variety of international food, music, dancing, activities, games and a soccer tournament with all proceeds going to the Immaculate Conception church of Everett. To celebrate our diversity in the Parish and the City of

Everett, we invite you all to join us in kicking off the Summer. For more information, please contact the rectory at 617-389-5660. We look forward to seeing you there.

FIRST OF ITS KIND TRANSPORTATION FAIR HAPPENING IN EVERETT JUNE 8

Have you ever wanted to try to put a bike on an MBTA bus? Or be more visible while biking or walking at night? Did you know that Everett has an amazing shared use community trail called the Northern Strand Trail, where there will be a free guided bike tour and fun run/walk on and near this trail on June 8? And you'll be able to enjoy free food

and music afterwards?

The City of Everett and Green Streets Initiative are hosting the first ever Everett Transportation Fair on The Northern Strand Community Trail at 7- Acre Park along the Northern Strand Trail on Saturday, June 8, 2024 (rain date June 9). There will also be food trucks (with free food while supplies last!), music, kid's bike parade, bike repair, arts and crafts, and community transportation resources!

The event runs from 11 AM - 3 PM, with these provisions: If you want to participate in a free raffle, you'll need to arrive and check in before 1PM, and stay until 2 PM to pick up any possible prizes. To join the guided bike ride or 2.5-5K Fun Run, arrive at 11 AM as both activities start

at 11:30 AM and require pre-registration or on-site permissions and signatures from adults. There will also be a kids' bike/scooter/stroller parade at 1:30 PM where all can show off their newly decorated reflective and fluorescent art decor!

Attendees can also learn more about healthy and green transportation options in, around, to, and from Everett! Related organizations like the MBTA, MGH Community Care Van, MassDOT, Walk Massachusetts and many others will be available for demonstrations and activities for people of all ages.

Pre-register and learn more about the event here: <https://www.gogreenstreets.org/what-moves-everett-community-fair>.

OBITUARIES

Louise "Dolly" Cardello Retired Hair Stylist

Louise M. "Dolly" Cardello of Everett, entered into eternal rest, unexpectedly, Sunday, May 26 in the Melrose Wakefield Hospital. She was 91 years old.

Born in Boston, Dolly lived in Everett for most of her life. She was a professional hair stylist until her retirement. Dolly's clients knew what to expect when they sat down in her chair-perfection!

She was the daughter of the late Giuseppe and Artemisia Giantonio; the beloved wife of the late Carmen A. Cardello who predeceased her in 2003; the dear and devoted mother of William L. Cardello and his wife, Ann and Michael J. Cardello and his wife, Danae, all of Peabody; the dear sister of the late Anthony Giantonio and Orlando Giantonio; the loving Grandma of Michael C. Cardello, Sean M. Cardello, Kristina Cardello, William J. Cardello and his wife, Julie and the late Michael J. Cardello, Jr.; and loving Great-Grandma of Olivia



Cardello.

Relatives and friends are respectfully invited to attend Dolly's visiting hours in the Cafasso & Sons Funeral Home, 65 Clark St. (Corner of Main St.) Everett, Friday, May 31 from 4 tom7 p.m. Her Funeral Mass will be celebrated in the Immaculate Conception Church, 487 Broadway, Everett at 12 noon. Burial will follow at the family lot at the Holy Cross Cemetery, Malden.

Contributions in Dolly's memory to the American Cancer Society, 3 Speen St., Framingham, MA 01701 would be sincerely appreciated. Parking with attendants on duty.

LAMONICA VISITS EVERETT LEGENDS CAMP; WILL PLAY FOOTBALL AT AIC



Everett High football star Matt LaMonica (right) stopped by the Everett Legends Football Camp Saturday at Everett Memorial Stadium. LaMonica said he will be continuing his football career at American International College where he will join Everett High graduating seniors Shane McKenzie and Dominic Papa, and former EHS quarterback Karmarri Ellerbe in the program. Matt is pictured above at the Legends Camp with his AIC teammate, Jeremiah Elie, a graduate of Somerville High School.

OBITUARIES

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

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Services // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

ed States Air Force veteran and former member of the Everett School Committee, was the program's keynote speaker.

"There was a lot of unrest and controversy around the Vietnam War," said Cardello. "A lot of my friends enlisted in var-

ious branches of the military. One morning I decided to go to the recruiting office on Pleasant Street in Malden and there I made the decision to join the Air Force and do my part for my country – it was the best decision I ever made. That started me on a most

incredible journey. "I wanted to be the best version of myself, so I worked hard at being an exemplary part of the United States Air Force. I grew up in a family that promoted love and loyalty to God, country, and family. Those values were en-

hanced when I joined the Air Force.

"The military instills loyalty, respect, patriotism, selflessness, self-discipline, and strong work ethics. It teaches courage, honor, and leadership. I

am proud to have served my country and I am proud to be an Air Force veteran. I gave 100 percent and got a 100 percent return on my investment. I continue to live by the values and life skills that I learned in the

Air Force.

"God bless you and God bless America," Cardello said in concluding her humble and impactful speech.



Veterans Services Director Antoine Coleman and Veterans Agent Gerri Miranda.



Councilor-at-Large Katy Rogers and keynote and former city councilor Millie Cardello.



The Everett Fire Honor Guard, U.S. Marine Corps veteran Richard Costanza, Dan Lloyd, and Adam Ragucci.



Mayor Carlo DeMaria Jr., pictured with his parents, Rosa DeMaria and Carlo DeMaria Sr.



Keynote speaker Millie Cardello, Patricia Sacro, and Sal Sacro.



Antoinette Blanchard, Catarina Patterson, and Ward 2 Councilor Stephanie Martins.



The dignitaries in attendance are pictured at the Memorial Day Services held Monday at the Glenwood Cemetery.

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Please visit everettindependent.com

CITY OF EVERETT HOLDS ITS ANNUAL MEMORIAL SERVICES



Ward 4 Councilor Holly Garcia and Richie DiNapoli.



Mayor Carlo DeMaria delivers remarks at the Memorial Day Services.



Veterans Services Director Antonio Coleman delivers his welcome remarks at the Memorial Day Services.



Fire Chief Joseph Hickey, Mayor Carlo DeMaria, and Police Capt. Paul Strong, who has been appointed as the new chief of the Everett Police Department.



Rep. Joseph McGonagle, Sgt. Major Tom Arditta, and Ward 3 Councilor Anthony DiPierro.



Director of Youth Development and Enrichment John Rus-solillo, DEI Director Cathy Draine, and Mayor Carlo DeMaria.



Assistant Director of Youth Substance Abuse Prevention Eric Mazzeo, Ward 6 Councilor Peter Pietrantonio, and Ward 2 Councilor Stephanie Martins.



Dolores Lattanzi, DEI Officer Simone Holyfield, former city councilor Al Lattanzi, DEI Director Cathy Draine, Ward 3 Councilor Anthony DiPierro, Jack O'Brien, and Joanne Agnes.



Bishop Robert G. Brown, former city councilor Al Lattanzi, Dolores Lattanzi, and Councilor-at-Large John Hanlon.



Veterans Services Officer Antoine Coleman, Rep. Joseph McGonagle, DEI Officer Simone Holyfield, Ward 6 Councilor Peter Pietrantonio, City Council President Robert Van Campen, Councilor-at-Large Katy Rogers, Councilor-at-Large John Hanlon, Ward 4 Councilor Holly Garcia, Councilor-at-Large Michael Marchese, Ward 3 Councilor Anthony DiPierro, Ward 2 Councilor Stephanie Martins, and Mayor Carlo DeMaria.

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MIKEY SAINRISTIL AND ISAIAH LIKELY HOST EVERETT LEGENDS FOOTBALL CAMP

Baltimore Ravens tight end Isaiah Likely and University of Michigan defensive back Mikey Sainristil, a second-round draft pick of the Washington Commanders, provided Everett youth football players with a day to remember at their Everett Legends Football Camp May 25 at Everett Memorial Stadium.

The two former Everett High football stars led a large contingent of players through football drills on a beautiful spring day. Likely and Sainristil obliged every autograph and photo request at the sessions. They also delivered an inspiring message to the youths. The campers enjoyed a barbecue lunch of hot dogs and hamburgers. Each camper also received a Legends Camp T-shirt.

Likely and Sainristil said they were happy to be able to give back to a community that has supported them throughout their football careers.

Interestingly during a one-on-one drill, Isaiah Likely spectacularly jumped amazingly high above one of the campers. The “Likely Leap” was reportedly captured on video.



Football coach CarolLyn Manuel, with Everett High School standouts Peterson Monexant and Chonlee Cine.



The stars were out Saturday at Everett Memorial Stadium for the Everett Legends Camp. Pictured, from left, are Mikey Sainristil of the Washington Commanders, and Zay Flowers, Isaiah Likely, and Malik Cunningham, all of the Baltimore Ravens.



Mikey Sainristil and his former Everett High School football teammate David Zorrilla, pictured at the Everett Legends Camp.



Everett High School football head coach Justin Flores (center), pictured at the Everett Legends Camp with Everett High football players, from left, Chance Barreto, Kevin Diaz, Joao Barreiros, and Enno Neto.



Former Everett High sports standout Shawn McGrath (Class of 2011), pictured with his nephews, Michael Morgan and Brennis McGrath, at the Everett Legends Camp.



Isaiah Likely of the Baltimore Ravens and Mikey Sainristil of the Washington Commanders join young football players for a photo at their Everett Legends Camp May 25 at Everett Memorial Stadium.



The families of Isaiah Likely and Mikey Sainristil showed their support at the Everett Legends Camp. Pictured, from left, are Isaiah Likely's sister, Shani Headley, and mother, Shana Marble, Mikey Sainristil's parents, Carlot Sainristil and Raymonde Sainristil, and sister, Aisha Sainristil.



Crimson Tide Pop Warner coaches Peter Forte and Dylan Cyprien are pictured with Crimson Tide Pop Warner football players at Everett Legends Camp.

Sports // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

to level. After a scoreless sixth and seventh frames, the contest went into extra innings, with Lowell scoring three runs in the top of the eighth. Everett got one back in the bottom of the inning, with Uga knocking in Dresser (who had walked) with a two-out double. Masucci drew another base-on-balls to put the tying runs on base, but the Tide fell short, 10-8.

Everett benefited from some early wildness by the Lowell pitcher. Bryanna Mason delivered a two-RBI base hit in the second inning and Uga did like-

wise in the fourth.

“Lowell was one of the better teams we have faced,” said Poste-Schiavo. “They put the ball in play the most of any team we have faced, allowing us to show our defensive skills. Unfortunately, they caught up and hit in spots that were between the infield and outfield. Peyton did great on the mound with Alessandra Foster behind the plate. This was not the way we hoped for Senior Night to turn out, but it was nice to face competition we may see in the tournament.”

The Lady Crimson Tide, who finished the season with a sterling 18-2 overall record (13-1 in the GBL), now await word of their final ranking and first-round opponent in the upcoming Division 1 state tourney. The announcement of the pairings is expected today (Wednesday).

EHS BOYS VOLLEYBALL IS GOING TO THE TOURNEY

The Everett High boys volleyball team punched

their ticket for their first-ever Journey to the Tourney with a 3-0 victory over Wakefield last Wednesday. The triumph was the 10th of the season for coach Michael Fineran's squad, assuring the Crimson Tide of the .500 record that is needed to qualify for the state tournament.

“Our 10 wins on the season also set a mark for the boys volleyball program,” noted Fineran, whose squad subsequently defeated Pioneer Charter School of Science on Friday to finish with an 11-9

record. “We were 8-2 in our first year, but we were not eligible for the tournament. Last year, we fell two wins short, which was disappointing, but it actually helped keep us motivated and focused this season.”

The victory over Wakefield provided a fitting exclamation point to an observation of the pre-game Senior Night festivities in which the four members of the Class of 2024, who have been a part of the program since its inception three years ago, were recognized for their con-

tributions to Crimson Tide volleyball: Kaleb Miranda, who leads the team with nearly 50 blocks for the season; Nischal Tamang, who is the team's best server (95%); Mark Pierre, the starting setter; and Hyan Soares, a captain and three-year starter who can play any position.

The celebration continued as Everett cruised to victory in the first two sets, 25-8 and 25-11. Fittingly, the seniors led the way. Pierre set up 11 kills, including a pair from Ta-

Roundup // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8

mang. Soares blasted 10 serves in a row to build a 15-3 lead in the first set, and Tamang served 11 in the second, with four aces. Miranda aced the final point of the second set.

The juniors were well-represented too, with outside hitter Henrique Franca nailing 12 kills and a block in two sets, and middle Jefferson Umana adding three kills and three blocks in the match. Tamang and Franca left the match after set two to attend the National Honors Society Induction ceremony, which opened the door for juniors Matheus Queiroz and Bryan Soares Gomes to step in as outside hitters in the third set, and they responded by tallying four kills apiece.

The dominant server in the set was sophomore libero Christian Ramirez, who had three aces in 10 serves, including four in a row that turned a late-set deficit into a 23-22 lead. Junior Donald Vo had two kills, and Umana sealed the victory and Everett's spot in the post-season with a kill to the left corner.

"I am proud of the team and it feels good to achieve one of our goals for the season," said Fineran. "It's been an up-and-down season, with tough competition in every match and injuries and schedule

conflicts that meant only two players were available for every game."

Fineran and his crew now will await the announcement of their final seeding and first-round opponent in the Division 1 state tourney.

GERMAIN IS GBL HIGH JUMP CHAMP

Dawens Germain earned the title of Greater Boston League (GBL) high jump champion at last Monday's GBL Meet that was held at Dilboy Stadium in Somerville.

Dawens's leap of 5'-6" paced a dominant Crimson Tide effort in the HJ, with teammates Jalen Jones (5'-4") tying for second and Donald Michel (5'-4") finishing fourth.

Germain also scored a point with a sixth-place finish in the 400 hurdles in 1:05.90 to finish with 11 points on the day.

Sophomore Kayshaun Eveillard was the top-scorer for coach Jehu Cimea's squad, tallying 16.5 points with second-place performances in both the 400 dash with a clocking of 51.31 and the long jump with a leap of 20'-6". Kayshaun also anchored the fifth-place 4 x 100 relay quartet, with teammates Jayden Prophete, Jayshaun Coggins, Jere-

miah Jeanlouis, that came across the line in a time of 47.64.

Shane MacKenzie scored 12 points with a second-place medal in the javelin with a throw of 139'-4" and a fourth-place medal in the discus with a spin of 133'-8".

Additional point-scorers for the Tide were:

-- Donald Michel scored two points with a fifth-place effort in the 110 hurdles with a time of 16.55;

-- Fabrice Michaud scored two points with a fifth-place effort in the shot-put with a toss of 40'-9.75";

-- Kawan Medeiros added a point to the EHS scoresheet with a sixth-place effort in the long jump with a flight of 18'-1"; and

-- Jalen Jones scored six points with a third place in the triple jump with his final landing of 38'-4.75".

The Tide finished in fifth place among the eight GBL schools with 63 points. Somerville won the meet with 142 points.

DESRAMEAUX IS GBL SHOT-PUT, DISCUS CHAMP; SANDY CAPTURES JAVELIN

Darrynn Desrameaux put the finishing touches

on her dominant indoor and outdoor seasons in the Greater Boston League by capturing both the shot-put and discus events at the GBL Meet that was held last Monday at Dilboy Stadium in Somerville.

Darrynn won the shot-put with a throw of 33'-11" and overwhelmed all opponents in the discus with a toss of 95'-0", which was 12 feet further than her closest rival, to score 20 points for the Everett column on the scoresheet.

Teammate Kaesta Sandy also claimed a GBL crown with her javelin throw of 100'-6", a performance that was more than 15 feet further than her closest opponent.

The versatile Sandy also ran a leg of the Lady Tide's 4 x 100 relay quartet with Zyelle Cannon-Mathis, Yelsa Garcia, and Isabella Pimenta that took second place with a time of 55.27 for eight points, giving Kaesta a total of 12 points on the day.

Layla Betancur-Cardona also turned in a strong performance in the meet, finishing second in the shot with her toss of 32'-0" and taking a sixth-place medal in the disc with a spin of 72'-11" to score nine points on the day.

Nicole Brandao scored four points with a fourth-

place finish in the 100 hurdles in a time of 19.29.

The Lady Crimson Tide finished in sixth place in the meet with 51 points. Revere won the meet with 120 points.

EVERETT TRACKSTERS SHINE AT D-2 MEET, BRING HOME 5 MEDALS

A contingent from the Everett High girls and boys outdoor track and field teams competed in this past week's Division 2 State Meet and returned home with five medals.

For the boys, sophomore speedster Kayshaun Eveillard earned a seventh-place ribbon in the 400 dash with a clocking of 50.54. Kayshaun also competed in the long jump and finished in 17th spot with a leap of 20'-0".

Shane MacKenzie brought home an eighth-place medal in the discus with a throw of 140'-0". Shane also competed in the javelin and finished in 18th place with a toss of 135'-3".

Everett's 4 x 100 relay quartet of Jalen Jones, Jeremiah Jeanlouis, Jaylen Prophete, and Eveillard ran a time of 44.95 to finish in 11th place.

On the girls' side, Darrynn Desrameaux earned

a sixth-place ribbon in the shot-put with a throw of 34'-5.75". Darrynn also competed in the discus and finished in 17th place with a spin of 84'-7".

Teammate Layla Betancur-Cardona won an eighth-place ribbon in the shot with her toss of 33'-7".

Kaesta Sandy earned a medal for the Lady Crimson Tide with a seventh-place finish in the javelin with a throw of 102'-8". Kaesta also ran a leg of the Everett 4 x 100 relay foursome with teammates Zyelle Cannon-Mathis, Yelsa Garcia, and Isabella Pimenta that finished in 22nd place with a time of 53.85.

EHS GIRLS TENNIS REACHES TOURNEY

The Everett High girls tennis team, which qualified for the post-season state tourney last week, now is awaiting the announcement of their final seeding and first-round opponent in the Division 1 tournament.

Coach Courtney Menger's squad displayed grit and fortitude throughout the season and finished with a 7-7 record to punch their ticket for a Journey to the Tourney.

DeMaria administration awarded GFOA Distinguished Budget Presentation Award

Mayor Carlo DeMaria is pleased to announce the City of Everett has been awarded the Government Finance Officers Association's (GFOA) Distinguished Budget Presentation Award for its Fiscal Year 2024 budget.

The award, which represents a significant achievement, reflects the commitment of the City

of Everett and its staff to meeting the highest principles of governmental budgeting. In order to receive the budget award, the City had to satisfy nationally recognized guidelines for effective budget presentation that are designed to assess how well the budget serves as:

- A policy document;
- A financial plan;

- An operations guide;
- A communications device.

A proficient rating must be received in all four of these categories, and in the fourteen mandatory criteria within these categories, to receive the award.

The Government Finance Officers Association is a major professional association servicing

the needs of more than 22,500 appointed and elected local, state, and provincial-level government officials and other finance practitioners. It provides top quality publications, training programs, services, and products designed to enhance the skills and performance of those responsible for government finance policy

and management.

"We look forward to continue to be recognized as a leading community in providing exemplary financial reporting through our budget presentations," said Mayor DeMaria. "As an administration, it is my

goal to enhance and promote quality government management for the benefit of the residents and businesses in the City of Everett."

DPH report shows uptick in calls to State's Problem Gambling Helpline

The Massachusetts Department of Public Health (DPH) released the Fiscal Year 2023 Problem Gambling Helpline report, which highlighted an increase in call volume to the line and included initiatives that served more than 2,000 individuals in communities across Massachusetts in prevention efforts.

DPH established the Office of Problem Gambling Services (OPGS) in 2016 to mitigate the potentially harmful effects of gambling, which can take a toll on individuals and communities in Massachusetts. Problem gambling can significantly impact an individual and their family, relationships, social interactions, and employment. It disproportionately impacts people of color and has a high level of comorbidity with substance use and mental health disorders.

Community-based initiatives funded by OPGS raise awareness about problem gambling and provide access to resources. Campaigns and programs have targeted youth and men of color – two of the groups most likely to experience problem gambling – through community outreach, small group sessions, presentations, and events. Looking forward, OPGS will continue to target these populations through new initiatives, including youth peer-to-

peer mentoring, telehealth services to improve access, and targeted public awareness campaigns.

"As access to gambling expands in Massachusetts, we remain focused on supporting and promoting prevention, referral, and treatment options to help those with a gambling problem," said Public Health Commissioner Robert Goldstein, MD, PhD. "The Problem Gambling Helpline is a centerpiece of these efforts. We are committed to working with our state and community partners to connect to appropriate resources so that people get the care they need."

From July 2022 through June 2023, the Problem Gambling Helpline saw an increase in overall call volume and referrals from the previous year. The increase is likely the result of improvement in helpline services in coordination with public awareness campaigns, community efforts to provide individuals and families with education and resources, and sports wagering advertisements. There is currently no evidence to support that the increase in call volume and referrals is a direct result of an increase in problem gambling in the Commonwealth.

The helpline received 3,050 calls in Fiscal Year 2023, up from 1,378 calls in Fiscal Year 2022 for a 121 percent increase.

Calls from those seeking support and information increased by 41 percent to 636 and calls resulting in referrals specifically for outpatient treatment increased by 96 percent – to 185 from 362.

Of the 636 callers, 73 reported sports betting as their reason for seeking assistance – a 1,117 percent increase from FY22, when only six callers referred to treatment reported sports betting as their main concern.

Sports wagering in Massachusetts launched in casinos January 31, 2023; online sports wagering began March 10, 2023. Total call volume for the Problem Gambling Helpline was the highest from February through June 2023 with 2,069 calls, as sports wagering was launched and advertisement of the Problem Gambling Helpline that is required to accompany sports wagering ads increased.

The report also found:

- Calls from individuals seeking help increased to 380 in FY23 from 301 in FY22, while calls from loved ones of those with a gambling problem increased to 148 in FY23 from 106 in FY22.

- Calls from individuals in recovery increased to 89 in FY23, compared to 27 in FY22, an increase of 230 percent.

- Referrals by gambling type for casinos increased to 170 in FY23 from 45 in FY22, an increase of 278

percent.

- Male callers increased by 56 percent to 500 in FY23 from 321 in FY22 while the number of female callers remained about the same – 137 in FY23 compared to 131 in FY22.

- Calls seeking referrals for treatment increased across all age groups in FY23. Those 30-to-39-years-old represented a 293 percent increase – to 169 in FY23 from 43 in FY22.

- Referral calls increased across all regions. The state's Northeast region had the largest increase of 62 percent – to 123 in FY23 from 76 in FY22.

"The Problem Gambling Helpline provides an important connection between those who are experiencing problem gambling – including sports betting – and services that can help," said Victor Ortiz, Director of the Office of Problem Gambling Services. "Expanded access to gambling in the Commonwealth poses risks, particularly to those in recovery, and highlights the need to provide responsive referrals to callers based on their needs. The OPGS is committed to monitoring the ongoing impacts of sports wagering and expanded access to gambling on individuals, families, and communities in the Commonwealth."

Thousands participate in Project Bread's 56th annual Walk for Hunger

On Sunday, May 5, more than 4,200 participants joined Project Bread's 56th annual Walk for Hunger. This year, the event aims to bring in \$1.3 million to fight food insecurity statewide. Funds raised will go toward improving food access for all children and families across the Commonwealth.

"Each year, the Walk brings together thousands of people in Massachusetts for a common purpose," said Erin McAleer, Project Bread's CEO. "Every dollar raised and every Walker who participates today makes a huge difference in our year-round work. It's a tangible impact. At last year's Walk, we were focused on making school meals free for all children permanently. This year, that's a reality."

Project Bread's Walk for Hunger, which began in 1969 as the first pledge walk in the nation, celebrates and raises awareness of the nonprofit's year-round efforts to fight hunger. This year's 3-mile route on the Boston Common was accessible for all ages and ability levels. Walkers participated in



Over 4,000 people participated in Project Bread's annual Walk for Hunger. PHOTO BY JON SACHS PHOTOGRAPHY

family-friendly activities, including lawn games, face painting, arts and crafts, and more. Project Bread's Chef Sherry Hughes opened the morning with a Grains & Greens recipe demonstration with WROR 105.7 station hosts Bob & LBF. Live performances by bands What She Said and Bad Bat kept Walkers entertained throughout the morning. Families learned about Project Bread's role in the recently launched Make Hunger History co-

alition, a first-of-its-kind convening of policymakers, businesses, service providers, and people with lived experience to end hunger in Massachusetts permanently.

"We rely on the funds raised through the Walk for Hunger to make our work possible," says McAleer. "We've made great strides—but there's still too many people in Massachusetts who aren't sure where their next meal is coming from. We have an ambitious goal of \$1.3

million—and we're still working to reach it. We need the public's support to help us make a difference for the 1 in 5 families with kids who are worrying about putting food on the table."

During the event, Project Bread presented its most distinguished award, the Patrick Hughes Award for Social Justice, to Greg Wilmot, President & CEO of the East Boston Neighborhood Health Center. Wilmot was honored for his leadership of the state's

largest community-based primary care provider in Massachusetts, his passion and dedication to the community, and his deep commitment to addressing food insecurity as part of healthcare. The award recognizes an individual with an unyielding commitment to driving meaningful change by addressing the causes of hunger, thus carrying forward the spirit of the event's founder, Patrick Hughes.

"As a longtime participant in this walk, this is a special moment for me. I am honored to carry forward the legacy of Patrick Hughes, a social justice advocate who believed that people united together for a common purpose can inspire change," shared Wilmot, during his remarks on Walk Day. "I am proud of EBNHC's work to address food insecurity and thankful to have innovative partners like Project Bread who share our belief that access to healthy and nutritious food is not only a right, but essential to the health and wellbeing of our patients and our community."

In keeping with the community-spirit of the

event, the Walk also provides a platform for other organizations to fund the vital work they do for food security locally. In 2019, Project Bread launched a joint fundraising program, The Commonwealth, to uplift the work of community-based organizations. This year, 39 nonprofits participated in the program, raising more than \$172,849 and counting.

Fundraising will continue through the summer with the goal of raising \$1.3 million. As of now, that goal has not been reached. Visit www.projectbread.org/walk to donate or start a personal fundraiser to support this mission.

People experiencing food insecurity should call Project Bread's FoodSource Hotline (1-800-645-8333), which provides confidential, free assistance getting connected to a variety of food resources in 180 languages and for the hearing impaired. Counselors can pre-screen families and help them to apply for SNAP. Learn more at www.projectbread.org/get-help.

Freedom Trail Foundation launches Rainbow Revolutionaries Tours

The Freedom Trail Foundation announces the launch of a new, first of its kind official Freedom Trail tour entitled Rainbow Revolutionaries.

On June 2, the Foundation's Rainbow Revolutionaries Tours will step off to illuminate the lives, loves, and fights for liberty of Boston's LGBTQ+ community, while exploring how queer individuals have been making history for centuries. Led by 18th-century costumed guides, the tours will travel along the Freedom Trail and visit seven places featuring Boston's LGBTQ+ history, including official Freedom Trail historic sites as well as sites just steps off the Trail. Rainbow Revolutionaries will uncover the history of Boston Marriages,

political milestones for LGBTQ+ rights, and the storied romances of some of Boston's most famous individuals, from literary giants to a world-renowned actress, and even a Revolutionary war hero. Tour goers are invited to join in to bring this history to life and celebrate Pride by discovering the achievements of the queer people who have always been a part of and have helped shape Boston.

"Same-sex relationships and gender nonconforming people have always existed throughout history, but until recently, mentions of queer people in history have often gone overlooked," said the tours' creator Programs Manager Catherine Benjamin. "It's a privilege to bring these stories

to light, and acknowledge the identities of people who may have felt hidden in the shadows during the time they lived in."

These special tours will be offered on Saturdays and Sundays throughout June (except June 8), departing at 10:45 a.m. on Boston Common behind the Robert Gould Shaw and Massachusetts 54th Regiment Memorial. Freedom Trail Foundation walking tours are \$17 for adults, \$15 for seniors/students, and \$8 for children, and include a \$1 donation to the Freedom Trail Foundation's Preservation Fund. Tickets may be purchased at the Boston Common Visitor Information Center and The BOS Traveling Mobile Visitor Center (various locations) and online at TheFreedomTrail.org.



On June 2, the Foundation's Rainbow Revolutionaries Tours will begin.

domTrail.org.

"The Foundation is excited to launch Rainbow Revolutionaries, which was born from an idea of a Freedom Trail Player (guide) and completed by Programs Manager Catherine Benjamin," said Executive Director Suzanne Segura Taylor. "These special tours, as well as the Foundation's African-American Patriots and

Revolutionary Women tours, gives residents and visitors more opportunities to enjoy learning about 250 years of our Commonwealth's and City's complete history."

All walking tours are available for group tours year-round by appointment and are perfect for tourist groups, family outings, birthday parties, company parties, corpo-

rate activities, team building, and more, and may be scheduled via phone reservation at (617) 357-8300.

For more information about the Rainbow Revolutionaries Tours or media inquiries, the Freedom Trail and Freedom Trail sites, please call (617) 357-8300 or email info@thefreedomtrail.org.

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EVERETT CITY HALL INVITATION TO BID The City of Everett, Massachusetts invites bids for: "HVAC MAINTENANCE AND REPAIR SERVICES FOR EVERETT PUBLIC SCHOOLS" Contract No. 24-54 The City of Everett is seeking qualified firms to provide HVAC MAINTENANCE AND

REPAIR SERVICES for the Everett Public Schools. The selected vendor will provide all labor, materials, equipment, tools, permits and supervision necessary for HVAC MAINTENANCE AND REPAIR SERVICES for all City of Everett buildings as directed by the Director of Facilities, in accordance with the conditions, requirements, and specifications attached. Bid Documents will be available after 9 a.m. on May 29, 2024, at Purchasing - Everett, MA - Official Website

(cityofeverett.com) All bids shall be submitted to the Everett Purchasing Office prior to June 13 at 1:00 p.m. at the address listed above. The contract will be awarded under the provisions of M.G.L. c. 149 to the lowest cost responsible and responsive bidder offering the lowest total price for all three years of the contract. It is the responsibility of prospective proposers or bidders to check Purchasing - Everett, MA - Official Website (cityofeverett.com) for new

information any addenda or modifications to any solicitation. If any changes are made to this IFB, an addendum will be issued. Addenda will be posted to the City's webpage. The City of Everett reserves the right to reject any and all bids, or to award or not to award the contract for any reason the Mayor determines to be in the City's and/or the public's best interest. 5/30/24 EV

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CHURCH News

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.

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 or via email at 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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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-

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

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

Boston Lyric Opera's free outdoor "Street Stage" series returns

Boston Lyric Opera's (BLO) popular mobile performance venue Street Stage returns for free live performances to locations throughout Boston this summer. Sponsored by HarborOne Bank and the Mayor's Office of Arts and Culture, Street Stage brings opera and popular music performances to neighborhoods from Charlestown to South Boston; the series kicks off June 1 on the Rose Kennedy Greenway.

Conceived and created as a way to bring music to the public during COVID shutdowns, the 26-foot-long Street Stage vehicle is a semi-trailer engineered to open on three sides and offer a 270-degree view of performers. Audiences are encouraged to bring blankets or lawn chairs to the open-air performances.

“There's no more exhilarating experience than hearing beautiful music on a gorgeous warm summer day,” says BLO Artistic Director Nina Yoshida Nelsen. “The artists performing this summer season are some of the most

accomplished performers in Greater Boston. Different programs and activities are planned at each site, so multiple visits are encouraged!”

Nelsen says support from HarborOne Bank and the Mayor's Office of Arts and Culture is crucial to make the series available for free across the city. “It's quite fitting that three of our concerts are in places where the Harbor figures prominently.”

Details on the performance listings below, and information on BLO's other summer events is available at blo.org/events.

Street Stage Season Opener at Rose Kennedy Greenway

Date/Time: June 1, 2024 @ 3:00 PM (Rain Date: June 2)

Location: Rowes Wharf Plaza, Atlantic @ High Street, Boston

Details: The season opener at Rose Kennedy Greenway will feature a selection of beloved arias and popular opera repertoire, including exclusive previews of BLO's 2024/25 Season. Attend-

ees can also enjoy free Greenway Carousel passes available at the BLO information table.

Street Stage Returns to the South End's Villa Victoria

Date/Time: June 13, 2024 @ 4:30 PM

Location: Plaza Betances, IBA's Villa Victoria, 100 W. Dedham Street, South End

Details: Street Stage makes its anticipated return to Villa Victoria. This family-friendly program will highlight Spanish-language arias, and poetry by local residents and youth program participants, all to celebrate the cultural heritage of the community.

Street Stage Debut at Charlestown Navy Yard

Date/Time: August 3, 2024 @ 3:30 PM and 4:30 PM

Location: Charlestown Navy Yard, 23 2nd Ave., Charlestown, Boston

Details: For the first time, Street Stage visits the historic Charlestown Navy Yard. In partnership with the National Parks of Boston, this event will feature operatic arias and

music inspired by the sea, set against the backdrop of the Boston Harbor. Performances will take place on the lawn of the 1805 Commandant's House, with alternating musical sets at 3:30 PM and 4:30 PM. The program will also include meet-the-artist interviews and family-friendly educational content.

An Evening Concert at South Boston's Moakley Park

Date/Time: August 7, 2024, 5:30-7:30 PM

Location: Moakley Park Picnic Area, 450 Old Colony Ave., South Boston

Details: Street Stage brings a multicultural music program to historic Moakley Park for the first time. The event, perfect for a family-friendly evening, will feature food, games, and kid-centered art activities provided by Boston Harbor Now. Picnic tables and chairs will be available on a first-come basis, with attendees encouraged to bring their own seating. Registration is recommended at blo.org/events.

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A LOOK AT EXCELLENCE IN THE EVERETT PUBLIC SCHOOLS

EHS Theatre Company

Students and Staff Recognized by the School Committee



The members of the Everett High School (EHS) Theatre Company were publicly recognized by School Committee member Marcony Barros and his colleagues during the April 23, 21024 Regular Meeting. Under the direction of Artistic Director Evan DeMarzo, the Company reached the Massachusetts Educational Theater Guild (METG) Drama Festival Finals for the first time in more than 70 years, earning accolades and awards for their performance of "Augusta and Noble." Mr. DeMarzo and student-actors Gabriellie DeGouveia and Gianna Rodriguez-Sanchez all spoke with eloquence and passion about the play. Written by Carlos Murillo, "Augusta and Noble" is the coming-of-age story of Gabi Castillo, who lives in a vibrant Latino community in the West Town neighborhood of Chicago. Gabi is also a new student at Northside College Prep, where she is quickly exposed to new people and possibilities.

CITY PAWS

Garden tips for pet people

Last summer, our block had a serious outbreak of Pokeweed, a highly toxic and invasive plant. It started in one neglected front garden and quickly spread up and down the street. We warned neighbors with dogs and showed them photos of the plant. This was crucial to help them avoid it as they walked their dogs along the fences it leaned over.

This issue reminded us that gardeners and homeowners with gardens are not the only ones who must be aware of toxic plants, mulch, and garden chemicals.

What Are the Dangers?

The AARP outlined some of the dangers in an article on safe gardening for the whole family: "Pet owners who share their homes (and yards) with dachshunds that dig, corgis that chew, Dobermans

that drink from the bird bath and Labrador retrievers that treat the compost like a buffet (in addition to adventurous cats and maybe even some chickens) often go to great lengths to create pet-friendly yards where their four-legged friends can hang out without getting sick."

The AARP list of "6 Tips for Planting a Pet-Safe Garden" included some we've seen elsewhere, like learning about and removing toxic plants, reading directions and using garden chemicals and sprays with care, using safer options, and being cautious in your selection of mulch because some, like cocoa bean mulch, can be harmful to dogs.

They also added three tips that went beyond common knowledge. They suggested you do your best to discourage ticks and fleas and protect

pets allowed in the garden with treatments for these parasites. If you have a compost heap or container, you should ensure your pets (and we would add rodents) are not attracted by it.

They pointed out the dangers to pets when using sharp garden tools or power equipment and suggested keeping curious animals out of the garden when you trim trees and hedges or mow the lawn.

With many reports of coyotes in urban areas, supervising your dogs when they are in the garden is a good idea.

Safe and Fun

How safe a particular pet is in a garden depends on the age, breed, temperament, and how well-trained that animal happens to be. Like all other aspects of life with dogs and cats, training your



With many reports of coyotes in urban areas, supervising your dogs when they are in the garden is a good idea. (Photo by: Hiro Takashima)

companion to be a polite garden visitor will take some effort.

Sighthounds, like Greyhounds, tend to be couch potatoes outside their daily exercise routine. Like small breeds designed to be human companions, these guys are typically

easy on a garden. However, dogs with high energy and strong instincts to dig, guard, or hunt need careful monitoring and correction.

If you have a digger, consider building a sandbox and encouraging your pup to burrow there rather than dig up your plants. Some savvy gardeners have added a piddle post, perhaps a piece of driftwood, for male dogs to confine their marking instinct to one place.

Other dog-loving gardeners have added water features that are a favorite cooling-off spot for their companions. Providing sun and shade options lets your dog choose where to rest as the seasons change.

The Pokeweed Vigilante!

Fortunately, our pokeweed problem disappeared overnight. It was there one day, and the plants were gone the next morning. A person or persons unknown removed the pokeweed. They did a great job, judging by the minor regrowth we've seen this spring. We hope they disposed of it safely, which is our final reminder. In addition to removing toxins and dangers from your garden, you must be careful about how you dispose of them.

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

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