

# Everett Independent

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## EVERETT IN THE SNOW



The signs says Welcome to Everett, it wasn't meant for the snow last Friday. See page 8 for more snow photos.



Not many bike rentals last Friday.



The monument of Lt. Joseph Wehner WWI U.S. Army watches over Everett as the snow falls last Friday morning.



Shoveling snow is a ritual in New England, everyone can do without.



Everett residents clearing their vehicles off early on Friday to begin the day.

## Everett City Council addresses homeless encampment

By Stephen Quigley

The recently-inaugurated City Council was ready to start its business for the New Year with all councilors present at the January 10 meeting.

The problem of the growing number of tents and homeless encampments near Santilli Circle had the councilors more than a little concerned.

Ward 3 Councilor Anthony DiPierro, one of the sponsors of a motion asking representatives from the city's Inspectional Services Dept. (ISD) and from the Police Dept. to come to the council to discuss the issue, cautioned his fellow members that this encampment was near a school and "it could get worse."

Ward 1 Councilor Wayne Matewsky echoed this concern, recalling the fire last year at the encampment area and noting that the encampment is just down the street from the \$3 billion dollar casino.

"We cannot just throw them out, but we have to do something," said Councilor at Large Richard Dell Isola, adding that he and his son have brought down supplies for those living there. "They are on state property, but this is our city."

The council then voted to refer the motion to the Public Safety Committee and requested representatives from the ISD and the Police Dept. to appear.

The controversial mat-

ter of compensation and longevity pay for the office of the mayor once again was discussed by the council.

Ward 2 Councilor Stephanie Martins sponsored a motion that the issue be discussed at a special meeting of the council, which is formally known as a Committee of the Whole.

"We should put politics aside and talk about the compensation of the office of mayor now and in the future," said Martins, who added that at this meeting all compensation should be discussed, as well as taking into consideration the compensations of mayors and city managers in other communities.

"I have no problem with the salary of the mayor, but with the longevity section," said Councilor at Large Michael Marchese, who voiced the view that the issue does not need a special meeting of the Committee of the Whole, but should be discussed right now.

However, Martins countered by stating that a special meeting would be beneficial and will provide an opportunity for the council to go into depth on the question since there will be no other matters before the councilors.

"This issue has been kicked around," said Matewsky, who also noted that whatever the council does, the new regulations will not take effect for

See COUNCIL Page 2

## Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Breakfast is canceled due to COVID

Staff Report

Bishop Robert Brown, Senior Pastor of Zion Church Ministries' 17th Annual Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Scholarship Breakfast, scheduled for Monday, Jan. 17, 2022, has been canceled due to the recent outbreak of COVID-19 cases in the area.

The breakfast in honor of the Rev. Dr. King, the outstanding civil rights leader and orator, had been planned for Monday morning at the Edward G. Connelly Center.

"We decided to cancel the breakfast because of the COVID situation," Bishop Brown said Tuesday. "The COVID cases just kept going up and

people were getting nervous, and I can understand that. We are going to try to do an event virtually, likely on the following Sunday [Jan. 23].

Bishop Brown said the MLK Breakfast was canceled for the second year in a row due to COVID. The last Zion Ministries' MLK Breakfast was held in January, 2020.

## Sheriff Peter J. Koutoujian joins Executive Board of Law Enforcement Leaders to Reduce Crime and Incarceration

Special to the Independent

Law Enforcement Leaders to Reduce Crime and Incarceration (LEL) has announced that Middlesex Sheriff Peter J. Koutoujian — a founding member — has joined the group's executive board.

LEL was established in 2015 with a goal of identifying and implementing solutions to reduce both crime and incarceration through a focus on four primary areas including increasing alternatives to arrest and prosecution (especially for mental health and drug treatment); strengthening community-law enforcement ties; reforming mandatory minimums; and restoring balance to criminal laws.

LEL is comprised of over 200 current and former police chiefs, sheriffs, federal and state prosecutors, attorneys general and correctional officials from



Sheriff Peter J. Koutoujian.

all 50 states.

"At the Middlesex Sheriff's Office, we work side-by-side with community leaders and local organizations as well as our state and federal partners to enhance public safety through innovative and cutting-edge data-driven initiatives," said Sheriff Koutoujian. "I am honored to join Law Enforcement Leaders as an executive board member. I look forward to highlighting not only the work we are doing at the MSO, but

lifting up the efforts of our colleagues across the nation to enhance public safety, strengthen police-community relations and improve outcomes for justice-involved individuals and their families."

Sheriff Koutoujian, retired Seattle Police Chief Carmen Best and current Ramsey County (MN) Attorney John J. Choi join current executive board members including former Boston Police Commissioner Kathleen O'Toole to form the new board.

"Law Enforcement Leaders is thrilled to welcome three new members — Sheriff Peter Koutoujian,

Chief Carmen Best (Ret.), and Ramsey County Attorney John J. Choi—to the Executive Board," said Executive Director Ronal Serpas. "Each member brings a unique law enforcement perspective and will draw from decades of experience and leadership in their respective fields. Together, they will strengthen the Board and spearhead LEL as it seeks to fulfill its mission to reduce crime and mass incarceration."

To learn more about Law Enforcement Leaders to Reduce Crime & Incarceration, its goals and members, please visit [lawenforcementleaders.org](http://lawenforcementleaders.org).

The Independent Newspaper Group Offices will be **closed** on **MONDAY, JANUARY 17** in observation of **MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. DAY**. The office will reopen on Tuesday, Jan. 18. **Deadlines for ads & copy is Friday, Jan. 14.**

**TRASH DELAY**  
 Due to the Martin Luther King Holiday on Monday January 17, 2022, Trash will be delayed by one day  
 Capitol Waste Services, Inc.

The Independent Newspaper Group Offices are available by appointment only for the safety of our staff and customers. We appreciate your cooperation at this time.  
 Schedule an appointment during these hours  
 Mon — Weds 9:30 — 5 | Thurs & Fri 9:30 — 4pm  
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# MFA celebrating 20 years, dreaming a future together

On Monday, January 17, the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston (MFA), and Citizens Bank will invite the community to commemorate the life and work of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. at a free open house. This year's event marks the 20th anniversary of the MFA's partnership with Citizens on this annual celebration, which has welcomed more than 120,000 attendees over two decades. The event offers free admission—including access to special exhibitions—to Massachusetts residents, and tickets will be available in person on a first-come, first-served basis. Upon entry, visitors will be asked to validate their Massachusetts zip code to enjoy free admission.

The open house runs from 10 am to 5 pm, welcoming visitors to experience over a dozen exhibitions on view, including Paper Stories, Layered Dreams: The Art of Ekua Holmes. Also sponsored by Citizens, the exhibition features more than 40 vibrant illustrations by the Roxbury native that reflect her commitment to Black imagery and representation. Visitors will also

have their final chance to experience Black Histories, Black Futures, the teen-curated exhibition focusing on works by 20th-century artists of color, which ends its successful run on MLK Day—the same day its opening was celebrated in 2020. Programming offerings connected to both exhibitions will be announced in January.

“Thank you to the MFA for their continued partnership in this effort to honor and celebrate the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.,” said Lisa Murray, Massachusetts State President, Citizens. “This annual event is an opportunity for families and friends to come together and enjoy the incredible artwork on display, and we encourage everyone to take advantage of it this January.”

Effective Monday, January 3, 2022, the Museum will be open for visitors Thursday through Monday and remain closed to the public on Tuesdays and Wednesdays.

About Citizens Financial Group, Inc.

Citizens Financial Group, Inc. is one of the nation's oldest and largest

financial institutions, with \$187.0 billion in assets as of September 30, 2021. Headquartered in Providence, Rhode Island, Citizens offers a broad range of retail and commercial banking products and services to individuals, small businesses, middle-market companies, large corporations and institutions. Citizens helps its customers reach their potential by listening to them and by understanding their needs in order to offer tailored advice, ideas and solutions. In Consumer Banking, Citizens provides an integrated experience that includes mobile and online banking, a 24/7 customer contact center and the convenience of approximately 3,000 ATMs and approximately 1,000 branches in 11 states in the New England, Mid-Atlantic and Midwest regions. Consumer Banking products and services include a full range of banking, lending, savings, wealth management and small business offerings. In Commercial Banking, Citizens offers a broad complement of financial products and solutions, including lending and leasing, deposit and treasury



Visitors to the Museum of Fine Arts take a selfie in front of one of the exhibits.

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About the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston  
Founded on February

4, 1870, the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston (MFA), stands on the historic homelands of the Massachusetts people, a site which has long served as a place of meeting and exchange among different nations. The Museum opened its doors to the public on July 4, 1876—the nation's centennial—at its original location in Copley Square. Over the next several decades, the MFA's collection and visitation grew exponentially,

and in 1909, the Museum moved to its current home on Huntington Avenue. Today, the MFA houses a global collection encompassing nearly 500,000 works of art, from ancient to contemporary.

The Museum is located at 465 Huntington Avenue, Boston, MA 02115. For more information, call 617.267.9300, visit [mfa.org](http://mfa.org) or follow the MFA on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.

# Urgent need for kitchen volunteers at community servings

Kitchen volunteers are urgently needed at Community Servings to help the nonprofit's professional kitchen staff prepare and package 18,000 medically tailored meals that are delivered weekly to critically and chronically ill individuals across the region.

While Community Servings operates one of

Boston's largest volunteer programs, the current COVID-19 surge has pushed January volunteer numbers to low levels. Demand for the nonprofit's nutritious, life-saving meals has increased by over 80% since the pandemic began.

“Volunteers have been at the heart of our mission since we began, essen-

tial to ensuring that we can feed our neighbors in need and help maintain their health,” said David B. Waters, CEO of Community Servings. “Given the effects of this pandemic surge, we are making a plea for anyone with a few hours to lend a helping hand in our kitchen.”

Volunteers help peel and chop vegetables; por-

tion soups, stews and salads; and pack weekly meal bags for clients living with HIV/AIDS, cancer, diabetes and heart disease, among other illnesses.

For health and safety reasons, all volunteers are required to be fully vaccinated, have their temperature taken, and wear a surgical or KN95 face mask (provided) at Community Servings' Food Campus in Jamaica Plain, which is on the T's Orange Line. The kitchen is equipped with hospital-grade air ventilation and filtration systems.

Anyone interested in volunteering can visit [www.servings.org/](http://www.servings.org/) volunteer to sign up for three-hour shifts Monday through Friday (9 a.m. to noon, 1 to 4 p.m. and 4 to 7 p.m.).

Founded in 1990, Community Servings' mission is to actively engage the community to provide medically tailored, nutritious, scratch-made meals to chronically and critically ill individuals and their



Volunteers preparing meals that will be delivered to critically and chronically ill individuals across the region.

families. To help clients maintain their health and dignity, we provide culturally appropriate meals, nutrition education and counseling, and other community programs. Our kitchen team, with support from thousands of

volunteers, prepares over 800,000 medically tailored meals that are served to more than 3,200 clients annually. For more information about programs and opportunities to volunteer or donate, please visit [www.servings.org](http://www.servings.org).



**RISE**  
MASSACHUSETTS

## Chelsea, Dracut, Maynard NOW OPEN

GreenStar's adult use retail stores in Dracut, Maynard, and Chelsea, will officially become RISE Dispensaries on January 13, 2022.

**What does that mean for our customers?**  
You'll get the same excellent service from our teams, plus improved product selection, new branded merchandise, exclusive offers, and live events.

**Get to know RISE!**  
As the national retail dispensary of leading cannabis company Green Thumb Inc., RISE brings personalized care and exceptional service to thirteen states. RISE's premium product selection includes brands such as RYTHM, incredibles, Dogwalkers, and Dr. Solomon's.

At RISE, we believe cannabis is a freedom, and we're proud to serve your communities.



### LEGAL NOTICE

**LEGAL NOTICE**  
NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE  
Notice is hereby given by Rigano's Towing Service 1081 Fellsway, Malden, MA, pursuant to the provisions of Mass General Laws, Chapter 255, Section 39A, that they

will sell the following vehicles on or after January 20, 2022 beginning at 10:00 am by public or private sale to satisfy their garage keepers lien for towing, storage, and notices of sale. Vehicles are being stored at Rigano's Towing Service.

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