

THE LYNN JOURNAL

Thursday, April 21, 2022

Essex County DA candidate James O'Shea holds campaign kickoff reception

By Cary Shuman

Lynn native James O'Shea, candidate for Essex County district attorney, held a campaign kickoff reception April 13 at Kowloon in Saugus.

A very enthusiastic, standing-room-only crowd of supporters packed the upstairs function hall for the event.

Attorney Kevin Foley introduced attorney O'Shea for his remarks.

"It's great to see all of you here and to have so many peo-

ple interested in the O'Shea for DA campaign," began Foley. "I've known Jim for more than 15 years and feel very strongly about his candidacy. The idea of running for district attorney wasn't just something that developed in the last couple of months when Jon Blodgett announced he was not seeking re-election. James has had a long deeply held desire to serve. He felt like with his experience and background, he could make a real difference

Please see O'SHEA Page 7



Joining Derek Omoregie at his national letter of intent signing ceremony are, from left, Lynn Classical Assistant Athletic Director Cathy Ellis, Athletic Director Bill Devin, Danny Omoregie, Daren Omoregie, Mentoring Program Leader Anthony Seaforth, and Head Football Coach Brian Vaughan.

A Bright Future Ahead

Omoregie will continue his football career at Southern Connecticut

By Cary Shuman

Derek Omoregie has had a great support system at Lynn Classical. Athletic Director Bill Devin and head football coach Brian Vaughan, both former college athletes themselves, have been there every step of the way as Omoregie blossomed from a very good JV player into a 6-foot-4-inch college football prospect.

And they were there last Thursday when Omoregie signed his letter of intent to attend Southern Connecticut State University, who plays in the highly competitive Division 2 North-

east-10.

"I visited Southern Connecticut in January and I met with the coaches and decided this was where I wanted to play football and get my degree," said Derek.

He is projected as a defensive end for the SCSU Owls and he has begun the process of preparing to play at the next level.

"Right now, I'm at 220 pounds and I'm trying to get to 240 before camp starts," said Derek.

Omoregie played two years of varsity football in Coach Vaughan's program. He was the recipient of the Bob Melanson Unsung Hero Award at the Rams' season-ending banquet.

A key conversation with Coach Vaughan

Derek Omoregie attended the Sewall Anderson Elementary School and Breed Middle School. He began playing football in the eighth grade for the West Lynn Rams 'B' team.

"To be honest, I wasn't really that good," said Derek. "I really didn't take football seriously. I was just playing for fun."

Following his sophomore year at Classical, Omoregie sat down with Coach Vaughan for a "your future is now" conversation.

"Coach told me that I could be

Please see FUTURE Page 3



Attorney James O'Shea, with his wife, Tara, and their daughters, Jamison and Bella, at his campaign kickoff for Essex County District Attorney.

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EDITORIAL

EARTH DAY REPORT, 2022: THE PLANET IS DOOMED

We were around for the first Earth Day in 1970.

We clearly recall the incident a year earlier that spurred Congress and President Richard Nixon to create the Environmental Protection Agency when the Cuyahoga River, which feeds into Lake Erie in Cleveland, literally caught fire after a spark from an industrial plant on the shoreline ignited the chemicals and other pollutants that laced the river.

The Boston area was not much better. The mid-1960s song, Dirty Water, which is played at Fenway after a Red Sox victory, was about the famously-polluted Charles River. In addition, until the Deer Island treatment plant was built in the early 1990s, Boston Harbor was considered the most-polluted harbor in the U.S.

The Clean Water Act and the modern Clean Air Act, both of which enjoyed wide bipartisan support in Congress, came into existence in the aftermath of the creation of the EPA as the result of the environmental movement and enjoyed widespread support throughout the country.

However, terms such as global warming and climate change were not in the lexicon at that time. We thought that if we could clean-up our waterways and air by reducing the levels of pollutants, everything would be fine.

And to a large extent, the goals of cleaner air -- lead was removed from gasoline, there are far fewer coal-burning plants -- and cleaner water -- we now can swim in the Charles and Boston Harbor -- have been attained.

But fast-forwarding 50 years, we now can see that we did not anticipate the global scale that air and water pollution would achieve thanks to industrial development in Third World countries and real estate development in our country.

Nor did we know then that the buildup of greenhouse gases would lead to a warmer and more dangerous planet. Indeed, we recall reading in U.S. News and World Report a cover story in the mid-1980s that predicted that the effect of air pollution would be a colder planet. According to the article, the climate in Florida would resemble that of New England within 100 years or so because, it was theorized, smog would block out the sun's rays.

But, as is evident today in the news headlines every day, just the opposite is occurring.

The Antarctic, the coldest location on the planet, recently experienced an episode of warm weather unlike any ever observed, with temperatures over the eastern Antarctic ice sheet soaring 50 to 90 degrees above normal. The warmth has smashed records and shocked scientists.

At the globe's other pole, the Arctic is warming three times faster than the rest of the planet and atmospheric scientists are trying to better understand the processes contributing to such swiftly-rising temperatures.

In Australia, the Great Barrier Reef continues to experience unprecedented coral bleaching because of rising seawater temperatures. In Florida, the manatees are dying at unprecedented rates because they are starving, thanks to the run-off from housing and agricultural developments that is choking the seagrass, their main food source.

All in all, our planet is in far worse shape, despite many notable successes, than it was on the first Earth Day in 1970. And the sad reality is that at the rate we're going, in another 52 years things are going to be exponentially worse.

Dr. Glenn Mollette

Carrying baggage is exhausting. When traveling we often pack more than we need. When making a trip it's always easier to travel light.

Life is a trip. The longer we live the more we seem to pack and try to carry. Our mind has so many shelves, drawers and spaces for luggage of all shapes and sizes. We have this giant closet inside our brains that we fill up throughout life.

Your mental closet is filled with memories that are good and not so good. You may have spaces filled with grief, sadness, hurts, rejection, loss, failure, disappointments, defeats and more. You also hopefully have stored up some happy times, victories, successes, celebrations, achievements, love, relationships and peace. Hopefully your mind is filled with more positive happy events.

I heard the story about a young man who loved his cat. The cat died and his mother gave him permission to bury his cat in the backyard. The mother became appalled when she discovered

GUEST OP-ED

Living life lighter

her son was digging up the cat every few days to see how the cat was doing. Too often we live our lives this way. We dig up old stuff that needs to remain buried forever.

Too often the mind carries what cannot be physically buried, good or bad. We are frequently impacted by what we keep stored. One cold morning, a little boy put his backside up against an old coal stove. The hot stove burned his bottom and he knew never to do that again. What we have stored up in our minds can often serve us well. Wisdom is gained the hard way. The school of hard knocks is educational and expensive. We pay dearly throughout life to learn the hard way. Thus, what we have stored up can be very valuable to us as we face additional life challenges and opportunities.

Your past decisions, work, interests, achievements, failures and mistakes all play a part in where you are today. This could be very good. Or, it could be very bad. If you learned from your mistakes and moved forward then you may be further ahead than you ever imagined. If you

didn't learn from your mistakes and you continue to make them then frustration and sadness is haunting you.

Today is a new day. You can't change the past. You do not know the future. Live your best life now. Dispose of as much baggage as you can. Do away with old resentments and regrets. Forgive people. Forgive yourself. Don't live in the cemetery but live with hope of seeing your loved one in a better place.

Paul, the author of *Philippians* said it this way, "Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended: but this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before, I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus."

Glenn Mollette is the publisher of Newburgh Press, Liberty Torch and various other publishing imprints; a national columnist – American Issues and Common Sense opinions, analysis, stories and features appear each week in over 500 newspapers, websites and blogs across the United States.

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Future CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

a big part of the team next year, and that's when I said, 'It's time to take football seriously now,'" recalled Derek.

"Mr. Vaughan was inspirational," said Omoregie. "The weight rooms were closed [during the COVID-19 pandemic], so I began working out at my house and eating and training right to build up my strength."

Omoregie also played two years of varsity basketball at Classical.

Sharing the path

Derek Omoregie has a twin brother, Daren Omoregie, who also played for the football team. They are sons of Odaniel Omoregie and Blessing Omoregie.

"I'm one minute older than Daren," said Derek. "Daren is a great brother, and we moti-

vate each other. We're always trying to be better than one another, and that just pushes us to become the best we can be. He's a cornerback and receiver and played three years of varsity, and he'll be committing to a college soon."

Derek said the Rams' 17-14 double-overtime win over Lynn English on Thanksgiving "was definitely a highlight in my career."

Lauding his older brother, Danny

Derek's older brother, Danny Omoregie, 29, attended the letter-of-intent signing ceremony held in Mr. Devin's office at Classical.

"I just want to say I appreciate Danny a lot," offered Derek. "He was like a big inspiration for me.

Seeing what he did in his football career - he wasn't highly recruited, either, but he went to AIC, and he became All-Northeast-10 and won the defensive lineman of the year award - and that just really inspired me. He's one of the reasons I dedicated myself to football and I wanted to play in college."

Derek Omoregie said he intends to work hard every day this summer and try to become a starting player at Southern Connecticut State. And with his size, skill, determination, and positive attitude while playing in the highly regarded Northeast-10 - he will be noticed. In today's sports environment where nearly every game is televised, the NFL, USFL, and CFL scouts will be watching.

"That's the plan," said Derek.

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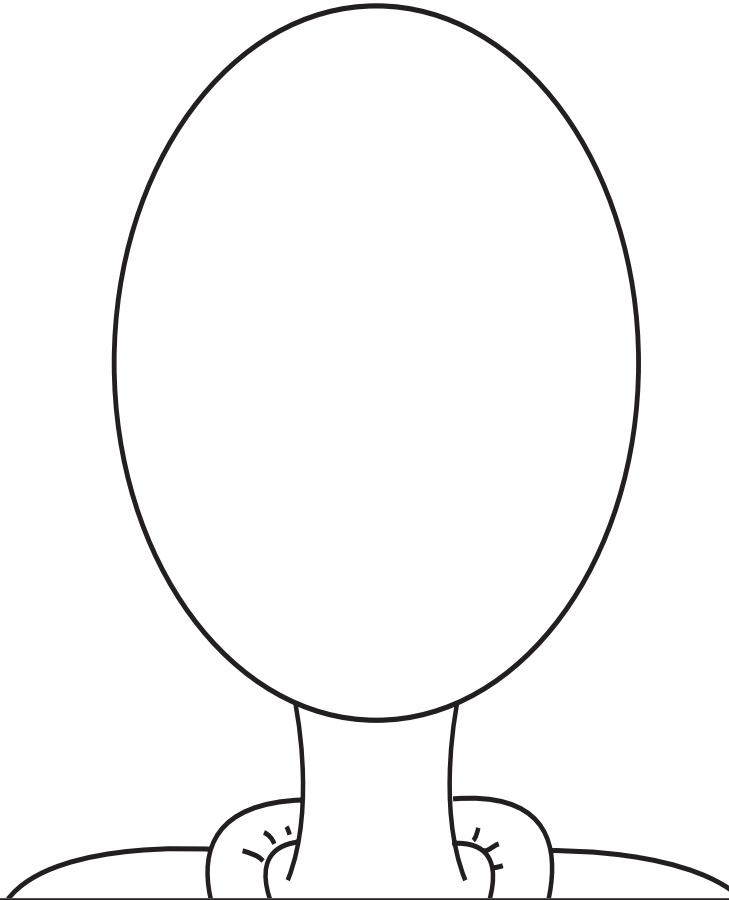
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LYNN CLASSICAL FOOTBALL AWARDS BANQUET

The Lynn Classical High School football program held its awards banquet at the Knights of Columbus.

The guests enjoyed a buffet dinner followed by the awards program led by head coach and former Northeastern University star running back Brian Vaughan.

Lennin Pena, Vaughan's Lynn English teammate and a member of the Lynn School Committee, was the guest speaker.



Brian Vaughan and George Moriarty Commitment and Dedication Award recipient RJ Faessler.



Brian Vaughan and Bill Joyce Sportsmanship Award recipient Emil Bruno.



Brian Vaughan and Scout Team Player of the Year Jordan Delgado.



Brian Vaughan and Schol-Athlete Award recipient Nick Tinkham, who will be continuing his football career at Division 1 Stonehill College.



Brian Vaughan and Boley Dancewicz All-American Award and Special Teams Player of the Year Award recipient Kyle Durant. Kyle Durant kicked "the biggest field goal in school history" to beat Lynn English, 17-14, in double overtime in the Thanksgiving game, said Vaughan.



Brian Vaughan and Marquese Avery, recipient of the Tim Frager Outstanding Running Back and Gerald LeBrasseur Iron Man Awards.



Brian Vaughan and Bob Melanson Unsung Hero Award recipient Derek Omoregie.



Brian Vaughan with his son, GBL All-Star quarterback Brian Vaughan Jr., recipient of the Harry Agganis Team MVP Award.



Classical alumni Orlando Concepcion and Luis Gonzalez received their Classical letterman jackets at the banquet.



Lynn Classical football players are attired in the uniform replicas that they will be wearing in the 2022 football season this fall.



Brian Vaughan and Lennin Pena with Harold Durgin Memorial Award recipient Nick Costa.

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LYNN CLASSICAL FOOTBALL AWARDS BANQUET



The Classical seniors attired in their Classical letterman jackets. Front row, from left, are Nick Tinkham, Javien Soto, Derek Omoregie, Kyle Durant, and Mamadou Bah. Back row, from left, are Emil Bruno, Angel Valentin, Victor Robles, and Daren Omoregie.



Brian Vaughan with GBL All-Stars Kyle Durant, Brian Vaughan Jr., and Nick Costa.



Brian Vaughan and Coaches Award recipients John Nasty, Angel Concepcion, Kymani Phipps, and Jordan Delgado.



Brian Vaughan with Junior Varsity Defensive Player of the Year Jordan Delgado and Junior Varsity Offensive Player of the Year Dontae Rucker.



Brian Vaughan with Scholar-Athlete Award recipients Marquese Avery (sophomore), Abner Lopez (freshman), and Nick Costa (junior).



Head Coach Brian Vaughan (second from left), with Assistant Coaches Joe Ford, Jordan Brown, and Tyler Alicudo, and guest speaker, Lynn School Committee member Lennin Pena.

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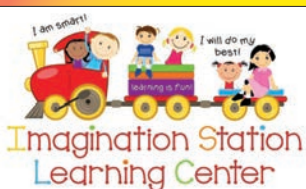
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O'Shea CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

as district attorney.”

Foley also highlighted O'Shea's 24 years of experience as a criminal defense attorney in Massachusetts.

“He has had cases in every court in Essex County and he knows every assistant district attorney in Essex County on a first-name basis, and they know him,” said Foley.

O'Shea, who was joined at the event by his wife Tara, and their daughters, Bella and Jamison, and his siblings, delivered an inspiring address that garnered applause at certain points for his remarks. He stressed unity and praised first responders “who have the courage to put their lives on the line every day.”

O'Shea also offered, “You

know that I have a strong feeling for fairness, that I'm passionate about these issues, representing my clients, representing immigrants, and I've worked with the police for 24 years. This campaign is going to be more about uniting people than dividing people.”

In concluding, O'Shea said, “I want to thank my brothers and sisters, my family who has been a support to me. My entire life I've stood on their shoulders. I am the youngest of Bill and Bev's six children and from birth they have doted on me and protected me and taken care of me and I think they're getting kind of sick of it. Thank you for coming here and enjoy the rest of the night.”



Pictured with attorney James O'Shea at his campaign kickoff reception at Kowloon are Jim Ward (left) and Tom Dill.



Lynn native James O'Shea delivers remarks at his campaign kickoff event for Essex County District Attorney.

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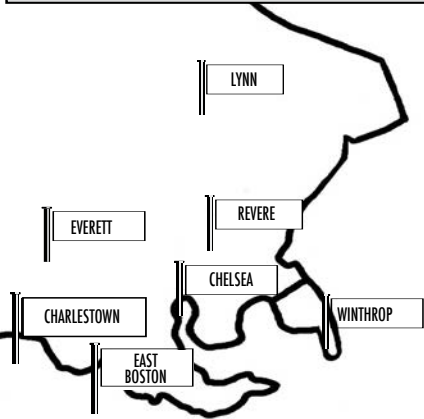
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Baker-Polito Administration announces unemployment overpayment relief plans

The Baker-Polito Administration announced plans to provide expanded relief to unemployment claimants with overpayment obligations. The announcement follows a decision by the U.S. Department of Labor (USDOL) to approve in part the Commonwealth's request to provide certain Pandemic Unemployment Assistance (PUA) claimants with relief from overpayments that resulted from a mid-program change in Federal rules. Massachusetts had requested that USDOL provide relief for all claimants with overpayments related to a new employment substantiation requirement created midway through the program. However, USDOL only granted relief for certain weeks of overpaid benefits.

While USDOL did not grant Massachusetts' request for complete relief, the Administration today is announcing several options to provide substantially expanded relief for claimants with non-fraudulent overpayments, including a simplified "one-click" option for people to easily request and receive a State-issued waiver. Together, the USDOL waiver and the additional state actions announced today will allow for the resolution of up to \$1.6 billion in overpayments, or up to 71% of outstanding overpayments. Of these totals, \$1.3

billion represents overpayments in emergency Federal programs paid for entirely with Federal dollars.

DUA will contact claimants in the coming days with information about this relief.

Relief Provided by USDOL (\$349 Million)

Background: The Federal government launched the PUA program in March 2020 to support workers not covered by the traditional UI system who lost work due to the pandemic. Massachusetts was one of the first states to implement the PUA program. In early 2021, after tens of thousands of claimants had been qualified and were receiving benefits, the federal rules changed to require that claimants provide documented substantiation of prior employment or be ruled retroactively ineligible for benefits. After completing the technical changes needed to implement the employment substantiation requirement, Massachusetts sent notice to claimants on March 23, 2021 informing them of the new requirement. While the Federal employment substantiation requirement was meant to address problems with fraud that had developed in the PUA program, one unintended result was that legitimate claimants were determined to be overpaid if they failed to respond or to provide

sufficient documentation. In response, Massachusetts requested in February that USDOL allow the Commonwealth to issue a blanket waiver for overpayments resulting from the change in Federal rules. Massachusetts was the first state to request such a blanket waiver from the Federal government.

USDOL's Decision: In its notice to Massachusetts partially approving its request, USDOL noted that the Commonwealth provided proper notice for claimants to fulfill the employment substantiation requirement. Given that, USDOL said it would only allow a blanket waiver for overpayments occurring prior to the Commonwealth's notice of the rule change. The waiver therefore covers only overpayments made for the period running from the week ending January 2, 2021 through the week ending March 20, 2021. USDOL indicated that it believes that the Commonwealth provided sufficient opportunity for claimants to meet the requirement once the notice was issued and that it would not approve a blanket waiver for overpayments after the week ending March 20, 2021.

The practical effect of USDOL's decision is that most claimants with employment substantiation overpayments will receive partial relief because

some weeks of overpayments will be waived. However, very few claimants will receive complete relief, as Massachusetts had requested. The blanket waiver approved by USDOL covers approximately \$349 million and provides partial relief to 53,487 claimants with outstanding overpayments. This translates to about 41% of total dollars associated with outstanding PUA employment substantiation overpayments. Approximately 84% of claimants with outstanding PUA employment substantiation overpayments will receive at least some relief from the Federal blanket waiver.

In March 2020, Massachusetts paused overpayment collection activities for both Federal and State unemployment programs. This means that the vast majority of PUA employment substantiation overpayment dollars have not been repaid and there are currently no financial consequences for claimants who have been overpaid. In response to the new blanket waiver, the Department of Unemployment Assistance (DUA) will return any previously-repaid funds to claimants. DUA will communicate directly with claimants about this process, and no action is required by the claimant.

Further Relief from Massachusetts

Because Massachusetts advocated for complete relief for these claimants, it has also prepared new solutions to provide additional relief, with the goal of making it as easy as possible for claimants to be relieved of non-fraudulent overpayment obligations, in both the PUA and UI programs:

The Administration will be filing for funding soon to offset the impact of State-issued UI waivers on the UI Trust Fund.

Resolving Identity Verification Claims (\$475 Million): Overpayments with ID verification issues exist in both Federal and State UI programs. A significant portion of these overpayments are uncollectible, as they are likely connected to a nationwide fraud scheme involving stolen identities. Claimants nominally connected to these overpayments likely did not actually receive benefits because their identities were stolen and used by criminal actors to obtain benefits illegally. To resolve, DUA will set aside overpayments involving fraudulent claims for eventual write off as provided by statute. The Administration will file for funding soon to offset the impacts of this approach on the UI Trust Fund, to ensure employers are not adversely impacted by this approach.

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NEWS FROM AROUND THE REGION

WATER DISCOUNT VOTE FAILS TO PASS COUNCIL

CHELSEA - A proposal by District 6 City Councilor Giovanni Recupero to submit a home rule petition to the state legislature giving homeowners a 20 percent discount on their water and sewer bills failed to gain council approval at Monday night's meeting.

Recupero was attempting to have the legislature pass a bill that would have given the discount to owner-occupants of condominiums, and all residential homes of four or fewer units.

Recupero laid out his reasoning for the discount at a subcommittee meeting held last week. Council President Roy Avellaneda listed a number of reasons he was opposed to Recupero's proposal, and City Manager Thomas Ambrosino said he had no official opinion, since the move would have been revenue neutral for the city.

"The only thing this is doing is sending it forward to the state to see whether they will allow it or not; let us decide for ourselves

whether we want it or not," said Recupero. "I'm a homeowner, and I know you can say, 'oh well, why should everybody else make up the difference.'"

But Recupero said the savings to homeowners would be a drop in the bucket compared to the over \$28 million the city brings in annually from water and sewer charges.

The councilor noted that the move would be similar to the shift in the property tax rate that puts a greater burden on commercial rather than residential property owners.

"The biggest stakeholder (in Chelsea) is the person who owns a home and lives here and puts all of their money in this city, so why shouldn't they get something in return?" Recupero asked. "All we have to do is send this to the state legislature, and I'm very doubtful that they will let this happen, because it is the first time something like this is ever being done."

Ambrosino said he had no opinion on whether the council should move forward with the home rule legislation, since it would be revenue neutral for the

city and shift the costs onto other users.

"The city is still going to collect the same amount of water and sewer revenue to run our system," said Ambrosino. "What this would do is exactly what would happen in the tax situation where you are simply shifting the burden from owner-occupants in the city to non-owner occupants. They would pay a higher water and sewer bill than they would in the absence of this."

Even if the home rule petition made it to the legislature, Ambrosino said the odds of it passing at the state level were likely slim.

"My sense is that when the legislature sent this to the Department of Revenue to look at, that they would not look kindly on this," said Ambrosino. "It is not something that they would typically do, and it is so unique that these kinds of programs are difficult to get past the DOR."

Avellaneda said he had several issues with the home rule petition, starting with Recupero's characterization that the city could send it to the legislature, and then the council could later decide if they wanted to enact the discount.

"Let's not mistake that," he said. "What we send to the legislature is asking them to approve something that is vehemently supported. You are basically asking them for a rubber stamp."

Avellaneda also said that the discount for homeowners would basically be asking someone else to subsidize their water use.

"Unlike taxes, the use of water and sewer in my opinion, is a utility, the same as gas, the same as electricity, and I can't dictate how much a building uses or a homeowner uses," he said. "They pay what they use, and I have no way of knowing that. You are asking this city council to subsidize a homeowner's water bill."

"To make someone else pay for someone's use of water and sewer when it is a utility and not a tax, I think it's unfair."

At Monday night's regular council meeting, the vote was 5-5 to introduce the home rule legislation, meaning it failed to move onto the State House.

Malden line to the Revere Beach Parkway, stretching more than 2.5 miles, and Elm Street from Ferry Street to Woodlawn Cemetery.

The \$33 million project will include:

Full reconstruction of all pavements, sidewalks, driveway aprons, curbs, and handicap ramps; an all-new drainage system that will reduce the likelihood of flooding during major storm events; new decorative street lighting; new traffic and pedestrian signals; replacement of the Chelsea/Ferry Street traffic signal with a small roundabout that will reduce traffic congestion at this intersection; reconstruction of Glendale Square, adding additional sidewalk space, outdoor dining space, bike lanes, and trees/landscaping; all-new water main infrastructure; and all-new gas main infrastructure (this work was already completed in 2020).

Erik Swanson, Director of Engineering, laid out the timetable to the councilors at Monday night's meeting.

The project officially started on April 4 and will entail temporary water lines for the homes along the route. Smaller lines of six inches will replace the 10" water lines that exist presently and will be in use until the project is completed with a new 10-inch line.

Some councilors were concerned whether these smaller lines will provide sufficient water pressure in fighting a fire.

However, Scott Dalrymple, the Provisional Chief of the Everett Fire Department, assured the councilors that everyone feels confident that with another engine, sufficient water pressure would be available to fight a fire.

"This is a long time to complete," Councilor Wayne Matewsky told his colleagues, adding, "I have concerns about residents and businesses."

Councilors were told that this project is timed to have the smallest impact on residents and businesses.

Councilor Richard Dell Isola asked about overnight parking and was told that overnight parking will be allowed, as well as some work done at night in addition to work during the day. He also urged that city officials meet with residents after about five months to hear their views.

Perhaps the most interesting part of the project will be replacing all the lights at Chelsea St. and Ferry St. with a free flowing

roundabout. Some councilors were skeptical about this design.

Councilor Michael Marchese noted that there is "a lot of underground utility work that will be going on."

However, Matewsky seemed to speak for his colleagues when he said, "This is a much-needed project," noting that it has been more than 40 years since Ferry Street has been extensively renovated. The federal government will provide \$25M in funding and the City of Everett will pick up the remaining \$8M.

On the city's web page, Mayor Carlo DeMaria informed Everett citizens that, "Like all construction projects, this project will, at times, require some lane and road closures as well as other inconveniences to those who live and travel along Ferry and Elm Streets. The City and MassDOT will communicate with affected residents in advance of work being done near their property and provide means for any feedback or complaints during the construction process."

"The estimated time frame to complete this work is approximately three years, with work beginning this upcoming April through November of 2024. While this is a long period of time, it is expected that construction will occur in segments, meaning that individual portions of the roadways will be mostly affected for only one year of the project. We will communicate to you a more detailed schedule as it becomes available from MassDOT and the selected contractor."

Residents are encouraged to go to the website, ferryelm@ci.everett.ma.us, for questions and concerns.

COUNCIL 1 RACE HEATING UP

EAST BOSTON - With the special election preliminary for the District 1 City Council seat less than a month away, the two candidates, Gabriela "Gigi" Colletta and Tania Del Rio, have been out in the district canvassing with volunteers, talking to voters about the most pressing issues, fundraising and garnering key endorsements from supporters.

Last week the Ward 1 Democratic Ward Committee voted to endorse Tania Del Rio's candidacy for the District 1 seat that includes Eastie, the North End and Charlestown.

THREE-YEAR PROJECT IS UNDERWAY

EVERETT - City Councilors heard about the three-year project for the reconstruction of Ferry Street from Rich Street on the

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Region / CONTINUED FROM PAGE 10

SPRING CRAFT FAIR AT ST. JOHN'S CHURCH

"I am so proud to earn the endorsement of my home Ward Committee, of which I have been an active member for a number of years," said Del Rio, who lives in the Orient Heights section of Eastie. "Alongside the members of the Eastie Dems, I have worked to improve access to the democratic process for all of our neighborhood's residents, including by providing volunteer translation services and working to increase civic engagement and voter participation. I thank them and join them in their commitment to promoting progressive values in our District. I'm ready to work hard for this neighborhood and for all of District 1."

Chair of the committee Vicki DiLorenzo added, "I'm so proud to support Tania. Her campaign represents the type of bottom-up, community-driven leadership that we desperately need in Boston politics."

The Ward Committee endorsement follows endorsements by At-Large City Councilor Julia Mejia and community leaders Gloribell Mota and Saritin Rizzato.

Over at the Coletta campaign, the lifelong Eastie resident picked up a key endorsement from At-Large City Councilor Ruthzee Louijeune. Louijeune, who was elected to her first term on the Council in November, did very well among Eastie voters as a political newcomer. Among a crowded field of candidates, Louijeune finished fourth in the neighborhood during the city's municipal election.

"Coming out of Boston Public Schools and working in city government, Gabriella is uniquely qualified to lead," said Louijeune. "Having spent time advocating for working class families, she is a fighter who will bring leadership and drive to the council on day 1. I am proud to endorse Gigi for District 1."

Coletta also picked up the endorsement of Council President Ed Flynn.

"Over the last four years, I had the opportunity and privilege to work closely with Gabriela 'Gigi' Coletta on many issues impacting the City of Boston and District 1," said Flynn. "During this time, while she served as the Chief of Staff to Councilor Lydia Edwards, Gigi was known for her hard work, professionalism, and respect that she demonstrated to everyone she worked with. Gigi possesses all the qualities to do the job of a district City Councilor; including her fierce commit-

ment to the district, strong sense of leadership and work ethic, as well as the experience needed to respond to constituent needs. Gigi is also an unwavering advocate for social and economic justice, and we have collaborated closely to support our working families, veterans, seniors, persons with disabilities, and our immigrant neighbors. I'm proud to call Gigi a friend, and I enthusiastically endorse her to be the District 1 Boston City Councilor."

On the fundraising side, Coletta once again outpaced Del Rio and raised \$34,368.69 last month and has \$71,353.07 cash on hand going into the final stretch of the campaign according to Office of Campaign and Political Finance (OCPF)

Del Rio raised \$13,859.07 in March and currently has \$41,422.00 cash on hand according to OCPF.

VISCONTI WANTS MORE PROFESSIONALISM AT MEETINGS

REVERE - Council President Gerry Visconti took a moment of personal privilege at the outset of Monday night's meeting to address the topic of Council decorum during meetings.

"For the past several meetings, there's been a trend in these council chambers where political posturing has gotten in the way of professionally addressing the issues that come before us. The unprofessionalism, the sarcasm, the interruptions, and the side conversations that take place - that's gotten way out of control," summarized Visconti.

The leader of the 11-member Council took responsibility for the lack of consistent decorum in the Chambers "and for that, I want to apologize to the residents of Revere."

"We have the honor of sitting in these seats because the residents have elected us to do a job," said Visconti. "Sometimes we forget that we are here for the people and not the politics."

Visconti said he will begin to enforce rules that will limit councilors to three minutes when speaking on an issue. He added that City Council Clerk Ashley Melnik will manage the time limits.

"In closing, I ask that we all respect the decorum in these Chambers, and more important, we respect one another," said Visconti.



Shown above, a family shopping for candles at one of the tables at St. John's Episcopal Church Craft Fair on Saturday, April 9.

Shown to the right, Susan and Paul Amirault, selling EarthSoft Animal neck pillows.



COUNCIL NAMES NEW TOWN MANAGER

WINTHROP - At the Winthrop Town Council meeting on April 5, Council Pres. James Letterie named Anthony "Tony" Marino as his choice for Winthrop Town Manager.

Marino was one of three candidates chosen by the Town Manager Search Committee. Pres. Letterie thanked the candidates for applying and said that they all had the experience and qualifications necessary to be good town managers.

"All three took the time to get to know Winthrop, meeting citizens and department heads," he

added.

Pres. Letterie said he chose Marino, who is the current Town Manager of Ipswich, due to his professional background and his understanding of the unique challenges facing a seaside community.

Council confirmed the nomination in an 8-0 vote (Councilor Joseph Aiello was absent.)

"I was thoroughly impressed by [Marino]," said Councilor John Munson, citing his sense of humor and energy level.

Pending contract negotiation, Marino would start his new position as Winthrop Town Manager on May 23.

Pres. Letterie thanked the search committee and John Petrin of Paradigm Associates for

narrowing the field of candidates, which also included Anthony Ansaldo of Malden and Thomas Guerino of Vernon, VT.

"This process was meticulous, transparent and prompt," he said.

The council president also praised Interim Town Manager Terence Delehanty for his "leadership, compassion and undying love" over the past 11 months. During that time, Delehanty has overseen two budget processes; the loss of a CFO, assessor and treasurer; the retirement of the fire chief; a town election; a new town council; and COVID response.

"I can't thank him enough for leading us through this transition," said Pres. Letterie. "We are very lucky to have him."

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ST. MARY'S HIGH SCHOOL BOYS HOCKEY TEAM AWARDS BANQUET

The Saint Mary High School boys hockey program, a perennial contender for the state championship, held its awards banquet at the Nahant Country Club.

St. Mary's head coach Mark Lee, an inductee in the Mass. State Hockey Coaches Hall of Fame, led the awards program.

The Spartans concluded a successful season with an appearance in the MIAA Division 1 State Tournament.



St. Mary's Trustee Michael Reddy '80 presents the Patrick Reddy Award, named in memory of his son, Patrick, who was a St. Mary's hockey standout, to Eric Toto at the awards banquet.



Mark Lee presents the Team MVP Award to Jake Desmarais.



Mark Lee presents the David F. Lee Jr. Award to Captain Seamus Foley.



Former St. Mary's state championship basketball star Kirsten Ferrari presents the Martha Ferrari Award to Christian Iacoviello.



The coaches of the St. Mary's High School hockey team, from left, Jason Bullock, Doug Surette, Matt Smith, Mark Lee, Chris Price, Anthony Forman, and Devin Anno.



Head Coach Mark Lee, with the captains-elect of the 2022-23 St. Mary's High School hockey team, Luke Bott, Tad Giardina, and Brady Bullock.



The individual awards recipients are pictured at the banquet. Among those pictured with head coach Mark Lee are front row, Sam York (Coaches Award), Brady Bullock (Offensive Player of the Year), Seamus Foley (David F. Lee Award), and Christian Iacoviello (Martha Ferrari Award). Back row, head coach Mark Lee, Jake Desmarais (Team MVP), Cam McGonagle (Gary Muise Rookie of the Year), Owen Giangrande (Defensive Player of the Year), and Eric Toto (Patrick Reddy Memorial Award).



Coach Anthony Forman, JV Coaches Award recipients Sam Seeley and Stephen Nason, Team MVP Award recipients Anthony Palmer and Patrick Babineau, and Coach Chris Price.