



City of Everett
Office of the Mayor
Carlo DeMaria, Jr.
484 Broadway
EVERETT, MASSACHUSETTS 02149

PRESS RELEASE

Monday, October 17, 2016

MAYOR DEMARIA HOLDS RIBBON CUTTING EVENT AT STAFF SERGEANT HERMAN A. DAY PARK

Mayor Carlo DeMaria and the City of Everett gathered together this past Saturday for the unveiling of the newly renovated Staff Sergeant Herman A. Day Park. The community event was well attended by residents and state and local officials. The park received a \$1.4 million renovation, paid for by funds from the Mayor's Capital Improvement Plan.

Day Park is named in memory of Herman A. Day who was an Everett resident that served with the 366th Infantry Regiment in World War II. Sergeant Day was killed in action on February 10, 1945. In 1945, during World War II out of the 900,000 African American soldiers who served only 12,846 saw infantry combat, Herman Day, was one of the 2,800 African Americans that were killed in action. He was part of the 92nd division, which was known as the Buffalo Soldiers. He was awarded a Purple Heart, Combat Infantry Badge, American Campaign Medal, and World War II Victory Medal.

The renovation project included two playgrounds, a splash pad, adult fitness equipment, four picnic tables, a rain garden, bio-swale, and a dog park, while independent pedestrian lighting illuminates the other areas of the park, such as the perimeter walkways.

The Mayor addressed attendees at the ribbon cutting and expressed the importance of renovation and development within the City, especially to community areas such as parks and playgrounds. "Day Park is one of many parks and tot lots around the City that has or will receive updates and renovations," stated Mayor DeMaria, "Keeping our recreational areas and green spaces current and well maintained is an essential aspect of retaining value in our City. Our residents, especially our children, deserve the very best places to retreat for fun and relaxation."

The Tot Lot has been completely overhauled. It has been made larger, with all new play equipment, and is also ADA compliant. The most drastic improvement is the overall beautification of the park. Formalized entrance areas, ornamental fencing, decorative lampposts, drinking fountains, and standardized benches and trash receptacles highlight the significant improvements in landscaping such as retaining walls, flowerbeds, planters, and more.

Everett's Planning and Development Director Tony Sousa stated, "Every corner of this park has such beautiful elements to it and its done with great passion thanks to the Mayor through his leadership and vision."

Everett's Veterans Services Director Jeanne Cristiano stated, "The newly redeveloped Staff Sergeant Herman A. Day Park is testimony to Mayor DeMaria's unbending commitment to honor and support this community's veterans, both past and present."

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