

# Everett Independent

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Wednesday, February 21, 2024



The City of Everett was joined by the community and performers at the Connolly Center for the City's first-ever Lunar New Year Celebration.



Attendees holding their gifts and enjoying the festivities.

PHOTOS COURTESY THE CITY OF EVERETT

## Everett hosts first-ever Lunar New Year Celebration

Special to the Independent

The City of Everett hosted the Lunar New Year Celebration on Friday, Feb. 16, at the Connolly Center. Residents gathered to celebrate the Year of the Dragon for the City's first-ever Lunar New Year celebration.

Attendees rang in 2024 with a celebration featuring entertainment

like musical performances, dancing and singing throughout the evening along with delicious food served to all. Following the performances, the event culminated with the Red Envelope ceremony where gifts were handed out to all who attended. This event marked the first time the City hosted a Lunar New Year event as part of Mayor Carlo DeMaria's

"Everett for Everyone" initiative.

"Our first Lunar New Year Celebration in Everett is a part of our continued commitment to ensuring Everett is for everyone and to provide residents with the opportunity to learn about different cultures and partake in their traditions together," said Mayor DeMaria. "Thank you to our Diversity, Eq-

uity and Inclusion Department for helping put together this event, as well as all of the organizations and individuals that joined us to make it a tremendous success. Happy Lunar New Year, Everett!"

Celebrated on the second new moon after the winter solstice, Lunar New Year marks the be-

See LUNAR Page 10

## ZION CHURCH MINISTRIES HOLD BLACK HISTORY MONTH SERVICE AND COLLATION

Zion Ministries Church of Everett celebrated Black History Month with a service and collation Sunday, Feb. 18 at the church.

Bishop Robert G. Brown presided over the event, welcoming the many guests to the celebration. The signing of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 by President Lyndon B. Johnson on July 2, 1964 was noted in his remarks. President John Fitzgerald Kennedy first proposed the landmark civil rights and labor law in June, 1963.

The Rev. Leroy Mahoney, Pastor of First Baptist Church, Saugus, was the guest preacher at the service.

Bishop Brown was set to join Bishop Regina E. Shearer, Professor Emeritus Dorothy Gomez, and Dr. Zebulon Miletsky of Stonybrook University as guest panelists Tuesday night for a discussion of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, to be broadcast live on ECTV.



Pictured at the Zion Ministries Church Black History Month celebratory event at Zion Ministries Church Sunday, Feb. 18, are, from left, Bishop Regina E. Shearer of Zion Church Ministries, the Rev. Leroy Mahoney of First Baptist Church, Saugus, Bishop Robert G. Brown of Zion Church Ministries, Marcia Brown, former Everett city councilor Al Lattanzi, and the Rev. Jarrell Riggins of Green Street Baptist Church, Melrose.

## DiPierro seeks revival of School Finance Review Commission

By Cary Shuman

The City Council unanimously approved a motion by Ward 3 Councilor Anthony DiPierro at its Feb. 12 meeting to re-establish the School Finance Review Commission (SFRC) as a collaborative effort among three segments of city government.

The 13-member Commission would consist of representatives from Mayor Carlo DeMaria's Office, the City Council, and the School Committee.

"This is not a Commission that I have just created, it's something that's been on the books here since 2012," said DiPierro in introducing his motion. "It [SFRC] hadn't met for a while. It was picked up in 2018 and it served its purpose."

DiPierro clarified that it was not his intention to "come from a place of oversight (for the Commission)."

"It's more to come from a place of collaboration," said DiPierro. "I think it only serves us all well if city government, this body in particular, works hand in hand with the School Department. This isn't just about school financing and budgeting. It's tasked with reviewing enrollment, School Department-related expenditures to include overcrowding, and the need for new space. I think

this is a great opportunity for us to communicate more regularly in regard to the School Department's needs, rather than only during budget season."

Councilor-at-Large Katy Rogers asked if it were possible "to expand the Commission to include a school space element, because space is an issue in our schools that is so directly related to finances."

"I think that is a great point," said DiPierro in response to Rogers' suggestion. "However, I'm just looking to revive this [Commission] at this moment. I'm just asking the Mayor to get together with Council President [Robert] Van Campen, School Committee Chair [Jeanne] Cristiano, and at least get the appointees together, and those topics can certainly be brought up at the meetings by whoever is appointed."

Ward 4 Councilor Holly Garcia asked how the membership of the Commission would be constituted.

Van Campen said it was his belief that he, as council president, would appoint the four members of the City Council to the Commission.

"I'm certainly happy to entertain any letters of interest from [Council] members," said Van Campen.

## City hosts Rumble at the Rec professional wrestling show

Special to the Independent

The City of Everett's Recreation and Youth Development Department hosted the Rumble at the Rec professional wrestling show on Friday, Feb. 20, at the Everett Recreation Center.

The wrestling ring took center stage at the Recreation Center as professional wrestlers brought entertainment and excitement to residents of all ages. The crowd was delighted by the action-packed event as they cheered for their favorite wrestlers to be victorious in their matches that took place throughout the evening. In between matches, fans

had the opportunity to interact with their favorite wrestlers and take photos to remember the moment. A fun time was had by all who attended.

Mayor Carlo DeMaria would like to thank everyone who attended, as well as all of the event organizers and participants that contributed to the success of the event.

If you would like to know about all of the upcoming events the City of Everett has planned, please visit [cityofeverett.com/calendar/category/events/list](http://cityofeverett.com/calendar/category/events/list). You can also follow the official social media pages on Facebook,

See RUMBLE Page 3



PHOTO COURTESY THE CITY OF EVERETT

Thumbs up for the Rumble at the Rec.

For the latest news in Everett that you need to know, check [everettindependent.com](http://everettindependent.com)



Everett

Independent

President: Stephen Quigley

Editor in Chief: Cary Shuman

HOUSE DEMOCRATIC LEADERS ARE TO BLAME FOR UKRAINE’S PREDICAMENT

When a small gang of extreme Republicans undertook the ouster of former House Speaker Kevin McCarthy last year, we wrote at the time that the refusal of Democrats to aid in keeping McCarthy in his seat was foolhardy. Despite the contempt that Democrats felt about McCarthy, we noted that he was better than any likely replacement from the GOP. McCarthy had negotiated a debt ceiling increase and a budget with President Biden, and he was a staunch supporter of Ukraine. As we wrote at the time, “The devil you know is better than the devil you don’t.”

However, the Democrats took the bait and sided with the small band of extremists to oust McCarthy. Instead of being the adults in the room, the new Democratic House leadership decided instead to sit back smugly and watch the spectacle, no doubt figuring that the GOP’s self-destruction would be advantageous politically.

But it is obvious now that the Democrats severely miscalculated. McCarthy has come and gone and Mike Johnson, an evangelical right-winger, is the new House Speaker. The chaos surrounding McCarthy’s final days is long-forgotten and the new reality is that Johnson represents an even more-extreme form of Republicanism than before. Most significantly, Johnson has refused to take up the bill that was passed by a bipartisan majority in the Senate to provide additional military aid to Ukraine.

For Americans who have been alarmed by Vladimir Putin’s assault on freedom, this has been a very depressing week. First came word that Putin ‘s main political adversary, Alexei Navalny, had died in a Siberian gulag under still-unknown circumstances. A few days later, the Ukrainian army had to abandon its position in a key city because of a lack of ammunition thanks to the failure of the U.S. to deliver military assistance.

But what is most-depressing is that it is becoming increasingly clear that Putin has outfoxed American leaders in the White House and in the Congress. To use a common metaphor, Putin has been playing three-dimensional chess and our petty and ineffectual leaders, especially the Democrats, have been playing checkers.

Putin understands American politics better than our own leaders, especially the Democrats, who obviously are clueless. The Democrats thought they were scoring political points when they abetted in McCarthy’s downfall, but in reality, they fell into a trap, with the result that they have become nothing more than the useful idiots of the 21st century.

DEMOCRATIC LEADERS NEED TO TELL BIDEN TO STEP ASIDE

It has become increasingly obvious that President Joe Biden is spiraling faster-and-faster downhill, both physically and mentally.

He can barely string together two sentences -- not even from a teleprompter -- and if he answers questions off-the-cuff (which he seldomly does because he has held fewer press conferences than any president in modern history, and when he has held press conferences, he answers questions that have been pre-submitted on index cards), he invariably will commit a major gaffe.

His advisors tell us that in meetings, he’s as sharp as ever. But if that’s true, then (as Jon Stewart suggested) why not show us a video of one of those meetings so we all can see him in action, so to speak?

Let’s be clear where we stand: Joe Biden has been a great president and his administration has accomplished more legislation that will benefit Americans than any since Lyndon Johnson’s in the 1960s.

But as much as Biden deserves credit for his landmark achievements, the only thing that matters is the future. No politician deserves re-election based solely on what they’ve done in the past. Our elected public officials are public servants -- not the other way around -- and candidates have to be judged based on what they can do if re-elected.

The view of a majority of voters, including Democrats, is that Joe Biden is a stumbling and bumbling old man. His rapid descent into old-age before our eyes is evidence of the truth of the maxim, “Time and tide wait for no man.”

However, despite Biden’s low poll numbers, no Democratic leader has had the courage to come forward to tell Biden that he should step aside. In our view, the Democrats’ failure to acknowledge the reality that the whole world can see eventually will be shown to represent a serious miscalculation that threatens not only the future of democracy in this country, but throughout the entire free world.

If Biden were to step aside (as LBJ did in March of 1968) it would energize the Democrats and the country. Yes, it might be a bit messy, but the end result would be a younger and more vigorous candidate, such as Commerce Secretary Gina Raimondo, for example, with a vice-presidential candidate such as Maryland Governor Wes Moore (or vice-versa) in whom the American public would feel proud and confident in tackling the challenges facing the world today.

Independent Forum

Healey-Driscoll administration announce \$5M in awards to local Fire Departments

The Healey-Driscoll Administration announced \$5 million in awards to 321 Massachusetts fire departments through the state’s Firefighter Safety Equipment Grant program. The City of Everett received \$10,153.33.

“Every single day, firefighters across Massachusetts put themselves in harm’s way to protect their communities,” said Governor Maura Healey. “They deserve our thanks and our support. The Firefighter Safety Equipment Grant program is just one way we can express our appreciation for that selfless dedication.”

“From structure fires and water rescues to hazardous materials and building collapses, firefighters never know what life-threatening risks the next call will bring,” said Lt. Governor Kim Driscoll. “These grants will support the purchase of fundamental tools and specialty equipment to

help them do a dangerous job more safely.”

Fire departments across Massachusetts were invited to apply to the Firefighter Safety Equipment Grant program, which provides reimbursement on purchases of 135 different types of eligible equipment. Eligible items include hoses and nozzles, turnout gear, ballistic protective equipment, gear washers and dryers, thermal imaging cameras, hand tools and extrication equipment, communications resources, hazardous gas meters, and more. In many cases, the purchase of this equipment will help departments attain compliance with Occupational Safety & Health Administration or National Fire Protection Association safety standards. This is the fourth year that funding has been awarded through the program.

“For the second year in a row, many fire departments are using this

program to provide their personnel with ballistic vests and helmets so they can make life-saving rescues in active shooter situations,” said Secretary of Public Safety and Security Terrence Reidy. “As we confront this growing threat and other emerging hazards, we are proud of the way Massachusetts fire departments have risen to every challenge.”

“While smoke and flames are the most obvious threats to firefighters’ safety, occupational cancer is the leading cause of death in the fire service,” said Deputy Secretary Susan Terrey. “We now know that wearing the right type of protective gear and cleaning it properly can reduce that risk. This program will give many firefighters access to tools that will help protect them from the number one threat to their health and well-being.”

“The Firefighter Safety Equipment Grants are an

investment in the health and safety of Massachusetts firefighters,” said State Fire Marshal Jon Davine. “The flexibility of the program is especially valuable because it allows each department to make purchases based on their specific needs and resources. It has become a vital part of the way the Massachusetts fire service prepares for the constantly evolving threats in the world around us.”

“Firefighters who have the proper protective gear and contemporary rescue tools are much better able to protect themselves and the residents they serve,” said Hyannis Fire Chief Peter Burke, President of the Fire Chiefs’ Association of Massachusetts. “These grant awards will have immeasurable impacts on public safety in Massachusetts for years to come.”

Davis announces candidacy for Democratic State Committee Woman

Former Mayor Henrietta Davis announces that She is a candidate for Democratic State Committee Woman.

The following is her statement:

I’m excited to announce that I’m running for Democratic State Committee Woman, to help make a difference in this critical presidential election year. I want to bring together Democrats to actively campaign for candidates who will protect women’s rights, LGBTQIA+ rights, civil rights and voting rights, and promote true democratic values.

I want to tell you about who I am and my record of accomplishment. As mayor of Cambridge, and in my many years as an elected official there, I went all out to see that we



Henrietta Davis.

in Massachusetts were national leaders in children and family health, in addressing climate change and in providing solutions for housing at all income levels.

I’m a policy person and a strong believer in democratic values--in making government work for the people, in fairness and for participation in government. I always work collaboratively and strategically to get things done. That’s what I plan to do as Democratic State Com-

mittee Woman.

I am proud to have Senator Sal DiDomenico’s endorsement as I run for this seat which represents his Senate district, Middlesex and Suffolk. It is made up of the eastern end of Cambridge, and all of Chelsea, Everett and Charlestown. It’s a wonderfully diverse district, and a microcosm of the state. I would like to be a link between the people of the district and the Massachusetts Democratic Party -- to help the party to hear more about the issues and opportunities that confront people across this district. And MassDems could also become more connected to the hard-working organizations and non profits that are helping our families, communities and businesses thrive. I pledge

to work hard to be that link for the Middlesex and Suffolk district.

We have lots of work ahead to first of all elect a Democratic President and build a robust social safety net. We need to answer urgent housing needs, to create jobs and opportunities for workers to afford to remain in our state. We also must urgently reduce carbon emissions and increase alternative energy resources, to protect people from the effects of climate change. There is an urgent need to address the needs of new immigrants. These are all priorities for me. I ask for your vote on March 5 (or before if you vote by mail.) I would be honored to serve you and look forward to hearing your priorities for our district.

The Everett Independent reserves the right to edit letters for space, accuracy and clarity. We regret that we cannot publish unsigned letters. Please include your street and telephone number with your submission. The Everett Independent publishes columns, viewpoints and letters to the editor as a forum for readers to express their opinions and to encourage debate. Please note that the opinions expressed are not necessarily those of The Everett Independent. Text or attachments emailed to editor@everettindependent.com are preferred.

Your opinions, please

The Everett Independent welcomes letters to the editor. Our address is 385 Broadway, Revere, MA 02151. Letters may also be e-mailed to editor@everettindependent.com. Letters must be signed. We reserve the right to edit for length and content.

Everett Independent

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# DiDomenico champions Community Action Agencies at State House event

CARY SHUMAN PHOTOS

Special to the Independent

Senator Sal DiDomenico spoke at the Massachusetts Association for Community Action (MASSCAP)'s public policy briefing about the essential role Community Action Agencies play in our community. He was joined by the Community Action Agency leaders in his district, Cambridge Economic Opportunity Committee (CEOC), Community Action Programs Inter-City, Inc. (CAPIC), and Action for Boston Community Development (ABCD). During the event, MASSCAP informed legislators and staff about their policy priorities and what kind of assistance they need from the state in order to successfully serve constituents across the Commonwealth.

Senator Sal DiDomenico spoke about the essential need for Community Action Agencies, "These organizations provide critical services and benefits to residents throughout my district, and I will always fight for them and the work of all Community Action Agencies by advocating for funding and support in the Legislature."

DiDomenico also highlighted the Commission on Poverty which he is now leading with Rep. Marjorie Decker, "I look forward to working with my friend and co-chair, as well as the Commission members to address the poverty crisis that exists throughout the Commonwealth and work towards solutions that benefit our most vulnerable residents."



Senator Sal DiDomenico speaking during the MASSCAP event



Senator DiDomenico with Representative Marjorie Decker.



Shown (left to right) are Richelle Cromwell (CAPIC Executive Director), Tina Alu (CEOC Executive Director), Senator Sal DiDomenico, Sharon Scott-Chandler (ABCD President and CEO), Joe Diamond (Executive Director of MASSCAP)

## Rumble // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Instagram and X (the platform formerly known as Twitter). Facebook: /cityofeverettma and /mayor-carlodemaria. Instagram: @cityofeverettma and @mayorcarlodemaria. X: @City\_EverettMA and @Mayor\_DeMaria. All are welcome to attend the many exciting events that are planned.



Young attendees enjoyed interacting with the wrestlers in between matches.



The crowd reacting a to a big moment during a match.


PHOTOS COURTESY THE CITY OF EVERETT



High-fives for the crowd as a wrestler enters the ring.

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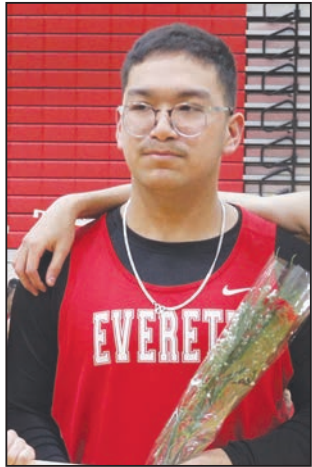


THE EVERETT HIGH SCHOOL HOLD INDOOR TRACK SENIOR NIGHT

The Crimson Tide Varsity Boys and Girls Indoor Track Team held Senior Night at EHS Gymnasium on Wednesday, February 7.



Senior Oliver Felix.



Senior Sushant Shrestha.



The 2023-2024 Crimson Tide Indoor Track Team.



Senior Yasseen Lila.



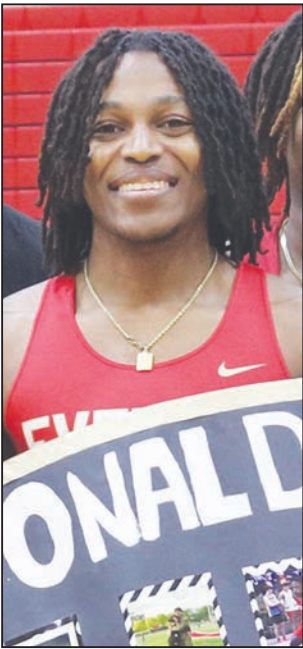
Senior Nicole Fonseca.



Senior Shane Mackenzie.



Senior Dawens Germain.



Senior Donald Michael.



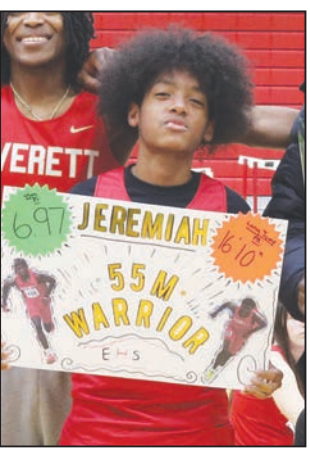
Senior Matthew LaMonica.



Senior Nischal Tamang.



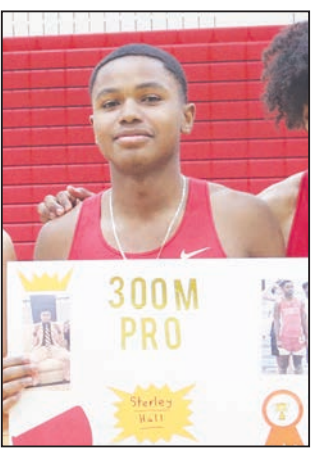
Senior Nicole Brandao with her family.



Senior Jeremiah Jeanlouis.



Senior Jason Stark.



Senior Sterley Hall.



Senior Kang Nguyen.



Senior Jalen Jones and family.



Senior Layla Betancur-Cardona and family.



Senior Jayden Prophete.



Senior Tiana Allen and family.



Senior Suzanne Maharjan with family and friends.



Senior Darrynn Desreameaux and family.



Senior Tiffany Escobar and family.



# Sports

## EVERETT IN BASKETBALL ACTION AGAINST EAST BOSTON

BOB MARRA PHOTOS

East Boston and Everett came into their non-encounter last Thursday night riding impressive win streaks, and one had to end. Greater Boston League power Everett, 14-4 coming into the game and winners of five straight, and East Boston, 14-4 with all their wins piling up after a 0-4 start, put on a Battle Royale, and four quarters of basketball wasn't enough. Tied 50-50 at the end of regu-

lation, Everett went on to win 65-60 in overtime. Both teams are headed for post-season play, Everett in Division 1 and East Boston in Division 3.



LONGEST REACH: Jaysaun Coggins (1) gets above Eastie's Christian Sanders and teammate Allsin Desruisseaux (11) and grabs a rebound.



ELBOW ROOM: Lian Dorosario Santos (13) drives on Christian Sanders.



STAY COOL: Coach Gerard Boyce shouts instructions to his troops during the overtime period.



CONCENTRATION: Christian Vasquez (15) has full attention on the basket as Eastie's Xander Boutros (3) reaches in. See Page 6 for more photos.



SURROUNDED: Allsin Desruisseaux (11) looks for a way to escape Easties Islam Mohamed (2), Draggio Tejeda Feliz, (11) and Javon Wise Normil (33).



NEVER TOUCHED IT: Henrique Pinto (32) stays clear of a loose ball and shields East Boston's Draggio Tejeda Feliz (11) from regaining possession as the ball bounces out of bounds.

The Boston Globe

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EVERETT IN BASKETBALL ACTION AGAINST EAST BOSTON

BOB MARRA PHOTOS



OUCH: Jaysaun Coggins gets a mouthful of forearm from East Boston's Alejandro Garcia (21) in the battle for a rebound.



FIGURE IT OUT: Jevaun Berberena (21) plans his next move.



I'LL TAKE THAT: Henrique Pinto (32) wrestles a rebound away from Eastie's (22).



NO TRESPASSING: Lian Dorosario Santos (13) puts a roadblock in front of a drive by East Boston's Xander Boutros (3)

EHS Roundup

EVEILLARD IS 7TH IN 300; DESRAMEAUX FINISHES 9TH AT D-2 STATE MEET

Revere star sprinter Kayshaun Eveillard brought home a seventh-place medal in the 300 meter dash at last week's Division 2 State Meet that was held at the Reggie Lewis Track and Athletic Center. Kayshaun sped to the medal podium with a clocking of 36.44.

He also anchored the Crimson Tide's 4 x 200 relay along with teammates Matthew LaMonica, Jalen Jones, and Jeremiah Jeanlouis. The quartet finished in 20th place with a time of 1:38.66.

Donald Michel competed in the 55 meter hurdles and finished in 20th place with a clocking of 8.63.

On the girls' side, star shot-putter Darryn Desrameaux, who holds the EHS school record and who recently captured the Greater Boston League championship, narrowly missed winning a medal.

Darryn's toss of 34'-11" was just 0.25" shy of the eighth-place finisher. Ironically, the eight-place girl's toss of 34'-11.25" is the exact distance of Desrameaux's EHS record.

Teammate Layla Betancur-Cardona, who battled with Desrameaux for the EHS record earlier this season, finished in 21st place with her throw of 29'-9.25".

The Lady Crimson Tide 4 x 200 quartet of junior Angelina Papa, junior Zylle Cannon-Mathis, sophomore Isabella Pimenta, and junior Yelsa Garcia finished 23rd with a clocking of 2:01.77.

EHS GIRLS PLAY WELL VS. LOWELL

Although the Everett High girls basketball team came up on the short end of their contest with non-league opponent Lowell last week, EHS head coach Riley Dunn was pleased with her team's performance and hustle.

"My girls played so hard and it was some of the best basketball I have ever seen them play," said Dunn. "They played together, they executed our plays, responded to adjustments on the fly, and never let up until that buzzer rang. Unfortunately, we didn't finish on top, but I am so proud of their fight and performance against a solid Lowell team."

Malaica Guillaume led the Lady Crimson Tide in scoring with 16 points and pulled down seven rebounds. Emilia Maria Babcock reached double figures with 10 points and pulled down five boards.

"Casey Martinez, Kaesta Sandy, Taisha Alexandre, Sonia Constanza Flores, and Manal Bouhou all had some major defensive stops and made some shots on offense to keep us in the game," noted Dunn, whose crew was set to close out its 2024 campaign this past Monday with a contest against non-league foe Marblehead.

EHS BOYS AWAIT TOURNEY OPPONENT

The Everett High boys basketball team concluded its 2024 regular season this past weekend in the Davenport Classic Tournament at Sharon High School.

The Tide dropped their preliminary round contest to host Sharon, the 15th-ranked team in Division



EHS star sprinter Kayshaun Eveillard proudly displays the seventh-place medal he earned at last week's Division 2 State Meet in the 300 meter dash.

2, by a score of 77-52, but then came back to top Dedham in the consolation game, 65-45.

First-year coach Gerry Boyce's squad, who finished the season with a fine 15-5 overall record and took second place in the Greater Boston League with a 12-2 league mark, now will await the announcement of their final seeding and first-round opponent in the upcoming Division 1 state tournament. The Crimson Tide are ranked 37th in D-1 and punched their ticket for a Journey to the Tourney thanks to their over-.500 record.

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# Bunker Hill Community College opens Student Success Center

Special to the Independent

Bunker Hill Community College (BHCC) held a ribbon-cutting ceremony at the College’s Student Success Center on Monday, officially opening the first new building in more than a decade at the state’s largest community college.

The 56,000-square-foot Student Success Center is home to the College Library & Learning Commons, academic advising and coaching, and wrap-around student services that help support BHCC’s students, many of whom are students of color and first-generation college students. The State’s Division of Capital Asset Management and Maintenance (DCAMM) and BOND Building and Construction led the building’s planning, engineering, and construction. NBBJ is the project architect.

“Today is the culmination of the work of so many and of 50 years of the Community College movement right here on this campus,” said BHCC President Pam Eddinger. “In these hallways, we can see the ambitions and po-

tential of our students.”

President Eddinger, Secretary of Education Patrick Tutwiler, Commissioner of Higher Education Noe Ortega, DCAMM Commissioner Adam Baacke, State Senator Sal DiDomenico, and State Representative Dan Ryan spoke to College community members at the ceremony.

“Today, we are celebrating a new space that will benefit BHCC’s student community now and for years to come, improving their experience and maximizing the resources available to them,” Secretary Tutwiler told an audience of more than 100 BHCC faculty, students, and guests. I want to share a strong congratulations to the BHCC leadership team and the entire student community for nurturing this project forward.”

“It is our genuine pleasure to deliver the space that your students deserve,” said DCAMM Commissioner Baacke. “Your students, faculty, and staff have been creating transformative experiences for 50 years, and they’ve been doing that

despite the facilities. Now, they’ll be doing it with the facilities that help make their jobs easier and not harder.”

State Senator Sal DiDomenico reflected on the new building coming online in the middle of the College’s 50th Anniversary, saying, “50 years in the making is a special thing for any institution. But the mission of this school is to give people a second chance, it is turning their lives around, it is the first step in the next step of their lives... This is the mosaic of the Commonwealth coming together at this school, and now we have a facility that matches the dedication, excellence, and prestige of being a graduate of this institution.” State Representative Dan Ryan spoke both as a legislator and a graduate of BHCC: “I think of where we are now as a community, as a nation, as a commonwealth and I think of the impact that this building, the students, the teachers, the faculty, President Eddinger and all the presidents before her have had... People didn’t envision it then, but



The Student Success Center at Bunker Hill Community College.

the Commonwealth did... and that’s why businesses are coming from around the world to headquarter themselves within walking distance from here.” All but one of the College’s current buildings were constructed almost 50 years ago and designed to accommodate around 5000 students. However, the campus has housed more than three times that number in recent years, and the aging buildings have accumulated a backlog of deferred maintenance. The Student Success Center also represents the Commonwealth’s commitment to climate-resilient infrastructure.

Based on Passive House principles, the building’s exterior enhances the college’s visual engagement with the community. The building is designed to be Net Zero Energy-ready, integrating a geothermal well field on campus. It is engineered in anticipation of a future photovoltaic array. Additionally, the building uses a highly insulated, high-performing envelope. It anticipates projected sea-level change and the rise in base flood elevation by shifting all critical building systems, including the emergency generator, to the roof level. About Bunker Hill Community College

Bunker Hill Community College is the largest community college in Massachusetts, enrolling approximately 16,000 students annually. BHCC has campuses in Charlestown and Chelsea, and a number of other locations throughout the Greater Boston area. BHCC is one of the most diverse institutions of higher education in Massachusetts. Sixty-five percent of the students are people of color and more than half of BHCC’s students are women. The College also enrolls nearly 600 international students who come from 94 countries and speak more than 75 languages.

## New England premiere of “Eurydice” includes new arrangement from Boston-born composer

Boston Lyric Opera (BLO) presents a new production of composer Matthew Aucoin and librettist Sarah Ruhl’s opera Eurydice – a retelling of the Orpheus myth from Eurydice’s viewpoint – directed by Doug Fitch and conducted by Aucoin. BLO, with Opera Grand Rapids, has co-commissioned a new, more intimate orchestral arrangement from Aucoin that premieres here. Sydney Mancasola (far r.) and Elliot Madore (r.) perform the roles of Eurydice and Orpheus.

Eurydice runs for five performances over two weeks, from March 1 to March 10, 2024, at the Huntington Theatre.

Both Ruhl and Aucoin are recipients of the MacArthur “Genius Grant” Fellowship. Aucoin was born and raised in Boston. His 2015 opera, Crossing, was premiered in the city by American Repertory Theater.

Ruhl’s libretto for Eurydice is adapted from her 2003 play of the same name. In both, she challenges the traditional myth of Orpheus and the Underworld by giving voice and prominence to a character often relegated to the background. Ruhl has said, “in the myth, we never hear from Eurydice – she is always a cipher. I’m interested in her voice, a voice that hasn’t been heard before.”

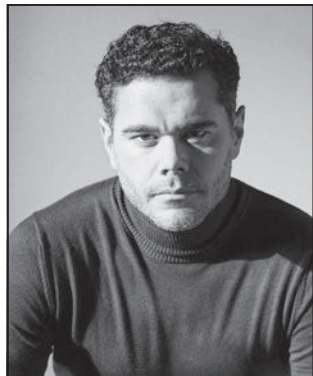
BLO General Director & CEO Bradley Vernatter praises both Ruhl’s writing and Aucoin’s music, saying “I fell in love with Sarah’s poetic adaptation...so much so that a line from the libretto (‘All I have I give for love’) anchors our season materials. Matt’s score is stunning, and I was convinced it would shine for a chamber ensemble.”

**CAST AND CREATIVE TEAMS**

In addition to Mancasola and Madore, the cast for Eurydice includes: Mark S. Doss as Father (a character Ruhl created in part to honor her own father, who died when she was 20 years old); Nicholas Kelihier as Orpheus Double;



Sydney Mancasola.



Elliot Madore.

David Portillo as Hades, Maggie Finnegan as Little Stone/Ensemble; Alexis Peart as Big Stone/Ensemble; Neal Ferreira as Loud Stone/Ensemble; and Junhan Choi as Ensemble.

In addition to directing the production, Doug Fitch will design sets and costumes. Lighting design for Eurydice is by Jorge Arroyo.

**PLOT SYNOPSIS**

When Eurydice opens, Orpheus and Eurydice are playing on the beach. Orpheus proposes and Eurydice accepts. Meanwhile, Eurydice’s father, who resides in the Underworld, writes a letter to his daughter but has no way to get it to her in the “real world.” He drops the letter

on the ground, where Hades finds it.

On her wedding day, Eurydice leaves the party and laments not knowing more interesting people. Hades appears as a mysterious man who says he has a letter from her father and invites Eurydice to his high-rise apartment to read it. A deadly accident sends her to the Underworld, where a dip in the river of forgetfulness erases her memories. With the help of her father, Eurydice regains the details of her life.

Above ground, Orpheus mourns Eurydice’s loss and resolves to bring her back from the Underworld. He confronts Hades, who agrees to let Eurydice go but sets a condition: Orpheus must

lead her out of the Underworld without looking back. The opera concludes with a heart-wrenching sequence, showcasing consequences of love, loss, and the pursuit of a second chance.

**THE PRODUCTION**

Fitch’s production moves the “real world” portion of the story to a hyper-stylized beachside location with palm trees. The Eurydice and Orpheus characters are inspired by hipster/nerd/musician culture. Eurydice’s father sits lonely in his Underworld room, rumpled, dusty and dreaming of the daughter he left in the real world. Hades’s persona is alternately scary, funny and protean...brazenly macho

yet able to access his feminine side. The underworld is a desolate but richly textured location, accessed by a winding iridescent river and a mysterious rain-filled elevator, all leading to the gates of Hell.

**TICKETS**

Tickets for Eurydice start at \$33 and are available now through the BLO website at blo.org, by reaching BLO Audience Services at 617.542.6772, or via email at boxoffice@blo.org.

Matthew Aucoin’s residency is made possible by Katie and Paul Bittenwieser. The commission of EURYDICE is supported in part by a gift from Pat and Bill O’Connor.



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A juried exhibition inspired by the change of season. StoveFactory Gallery  
Charlestown, March 22-April 14.  
Deadline to enter is March 7  
[www.artistsgroupofcharlestown.com](http://www.artistsgroupofcharlestown.com)



SCENES FROM THE EVERETT KIWANIS INTERCLUB MEETING

The Everett Kiwanis Club recently hosted an Interclub meeting for the other Kiwanis Massachusetts Division 12 clubs in the Crimson Café at Everett High School. The culinary department prepared another spectacular meal, finished with a delicious tiramisu. Keynote speaker, the Honorable James D. Barretto of the Massachusetts District Court, was on hand to speak in his capacity as an author of his first novel, *Mystic Wind*, a legal thriller.

Judge Barretto generously shared his experiences and tremendous insight into the entire writing process from inception to publication. Following the captivating presentation, attendees had the opportunity to ask questions. Also in attendance were Governor’s Council member Terrence Kennedy, State Representative Paul Donato of the Medford Kiwanis Club, Superintendent William Hart and Kiwanis Lt. Governor Mernaysa Rivera-Bujosa. Thank you



to everyone who helped make the event a huge success.



Alarming new survey reveals how high MBTA fares are harming riders

On the heels of Governor Healey pledging to fund a permanent low-income fare for the MBTA in her FY25 budget, a groundbreaking survey of riders finds that they forgo meals, medicines, and other necessities as a direct result of the high cost of fares. The MBTA Board kicked off a formal process to adopt a low-income fare at their meeting on last week and riders and workers were there to make their voices heard on how a low-income fare would be life changing. Here’s what riders are saying:

“Transportation costs, rent, groceries, medical costs, and other costs are all rising rapidly and that puts a lot of pressure on us,” said Jie Zhen Li, MBTA rider and Chinese Progressive Association member. “There are often service disruptions or delays for the Orange Line, which would make us get

to work late and impact our wages, further causing us stress. Low-income workers should receive a low-income fare that is affordable and allows us to enjoy high-quality public transit services.”

“I use public transportation daily, and several times every day, and I would love for this fare to be approved by the MBTA Board” said Oneida Mejia, Chelsea resident and MBTA rider. “In Chelsea, most people travel everywhere by public transportation daily. When a low-income fare is approved, we hope that it will be accessible to all low-income residents, and that there will be no barriers that prevent people from obtaining it.”

The rider survey underscores how unaffordable fares are having a harmful effect on where Massachusetts residents can live and work, and on the quality of their day-to-day

lives. A survey of over 300 MBTA riders across the state from November 22 to December 8, 2023 found the following:

- More than 50 percent of respondents found the cost of fares too high to afford.
- 68 percent of respondents said they would use the MBTA more if the fare was half the current cost.

Governor Healey’s bold commitment to funding a low-income fare program would transform the lives of tens of more than 60,000 Massachusetts residents who count on the MBTA. For more than three years, MBTA riders and workers have united to demand a low-income fare and with the MBTA Board meeting, transit justice and affordability are

within reach. As the report shows:

- A low-income fare would benefit up to 63,000 riders by the end of a five-year implementation period.
- Riders would save about 50% on fares.
- For a daily rider on the bus and subway, this would save \$720 a year, while a Zone 5 Commuter Rail rider would save almost \$2,000 a year.

Survey participants said they use the MBTA to get to a range of destinations and MBTA riders continue to make daily sacrifices and face financial hardships due to the regular cost of riding the MBTA. Survey responses included:

- Not paying rent to afford bus costs
- Skipping meals or cutting back on groceries
- Not paying phone bills and basic necessities
- Not filling prescriptions
- Skipping medical appointments
- Walking or biking instead of taking the bus or train

“It’s clear that transportation is one of the biggest needs for those in our community seeking to take advantage of employment opportunities or accessing services,” said Mike Vartabedian, co-Chair of the Public Transit Public Good coalition and Assistant Directing Business Representative of the International Association of Machinists District 15. “This report shows that

people are skipping meals, medicines, and appointments, just because they cannot afford the MBTA fare. These stories underscore the urgent need for a low-income fare program that takes into account the heavy financial burden borne by riders. We are so gratified to see the Healey administration and the MBTA taking real action to make the low-income fare a reality.”

Public Transit Public Good is a partnership of transit workers and riders throughout Massachusetts fighting for the future of public transit. Community Labor United convenes PTPG. Visit [PublicTransitPublicGood.org](https://PublicTransitPublicGood.org) to learn more.

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parent(s) of the above  
named child(ren) is  
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and that the parent(s)  
whereabouts is unknown,  
and therefore personal  
service is not practicable,  
that the parent(s) has/  
have not voluntarily  
appeared in this matter  
or otherwise had actual  
notice, and that therefore  
service on the parent(s)  
must be effectuated by  
publication;  
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that the petitioner  
publish the accompa-

ing notice in the above  
named newspaper once,  
to appear no later than  
seven days before the  
aforementioned date  
above. The publication  
shall be proved by affida-  
vit of counsel containing  
a particular statement  
thereof, accompanied by  
a copy of the advertise-  
ment, or tear sheet of the  
newspaper containing the  
publication. Said affidavit  
shall be filed with the  
Clerk-Magistrate’s office.  
First Justice  
WITNESS: Hon. Gloria  
Y Tan  
Date Issued:  
02/12/2024  
Elizabeth Sheehy  
Clerk Magistrate

2/21/24  
EV



CHURCH News

Mystic Side Congregational Church

News and Notes

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

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

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

Glendale United Methodist Church

News and Notes

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

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

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

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

NA Meetings – Mon.

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

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

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

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

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

Grace Anglican Episcopal Church

News and Notes

Grace Anglican Episcopal Church is open and welcoming to all.

There are two services on Sundays: 10 a.m. English, 1 p.m. South Sudanese Dinka

Come all and let us walk together in this sea-

son of hope, renewal and new beginnings.

**Grace Anglican  
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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 You Tube.

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  
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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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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.ev-erettcan.com to request any additional help.



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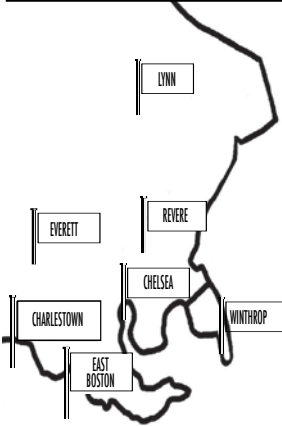
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# Lunar // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

ginning of the new year in the traditional Chinese lunarsolar calendar. Although Lunar New Year is observed worldwide, it is commonly celebrated in China – along with many other countries in East Asia – with performances, dances, festivals, parades, music and acrobatics.

If you would like to know about all of the upcoming events the City of Everett has planned, please visit [cityofeverett.com/calendar/category/events/list](#). You can also follow the official social media pages on Facebook, Instagram and X (the platform formerly known as Twitter). Facebook: /cityofeverettma and /mayorcarlodemaria. Instagram: @cityofeverettma and @mayorcarlodemaria. X: @City\_EverettMA and @Mayor\_DeMaria. All are welcome to attend the many exciting events that are planned.

com/calendar/category/events/list. You can also follow the official social media pages on Facebook, Instagram and X (the platform formerly known as Twitter). Facebook: /cityofeverettma and /mayorcarlodemaria. Instagram: @cityofeverettma and @mayorcarlodemaria. X: @City\_EverettMA and @Mayor\_DeMaria. All are welcome to attend the many exciting events that are planned.



The Connolly Center was filled with attendees to celebrate the Lunar New Year.



(Left to right) Simone Holyfield, Hung Goon (dressed as the emperor) and Cathy Draine.



(Left to right) Gary Yu, Simone Holyfield and Hung Goon.



Everett High School student Natalie Truong delivering opening remarks.



Attendees awaiting some delicious food.



The City of Everett's Director of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Cathy Draine handing a gift to a young attendee during the Red Envelope ceremony.

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Attendees enjoying the Lunar New Year festivities at the Connolly Center.



One of the highlights of the event was when the lion dancers interacted with attendees.