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# Everett Independent Newspaper Co.

Tuesday, December 31, 2024



Members of Teamsters Local 25 alongside the toys they donated to the City of Everett's annual Toy Drive.

# DeMaria thanks contributors to the City's Holiday Assistance Program and Toy Drive

Special to the Independent

Mayor Carlo DeMaria would like to recognize and thank donors for taking part in the City of Everett's annual Toy Drive and Holiday Assistance Program.

For the past 17 years, the City has accepted donations of unwrapped toys

from individuals and or- tance Program and Toy ganizations to distribute to Everett families in need of assistance to help them have a joyous holiday season. This year, the City of Everett was able to serve over 200 families and over 460 children thanks to these generous donations. The donors who helped make the Holiday Assis-

Drive a huge success by donating toys this year are as follows:

- Christian Lighthouse
- City of Everett staff; • DiDomenico Founda-
- Everett residents;
- International Brotherhood of Electrical Work-

ers (IBEW Local 103);

- Schiavo Club;
- Teamsters Local 25.

Mayor DeMaria would also like to recognize all the team members who worked tirelessly to ensure every Everett family in need of assistance was served. Dedicated City

See TOY DRIVE Page 4

# **Council honors Council President** Van Campen at last meeting of the year

By Cary Shuman

The Everett City Council honored outgoing Council President Robert Van Campen at the final meeting of the year Dec. 23 in the Council Cham-

Councilor-at-Large John Hanlon and Ward 1 Council Wayne Matewsky presented a plaque on behalf of the Council to Van Campen thanking him for his service as president.

"This is a presentation that we're making to our president, Mr. Van Campen, for doing an outstanding job," said Hanlon.

"We appreciate what you did. You kept the decorum that was supposed to happen at all times, and

we appreciate that also."

Matewsky also expressed appreciation to Van Campen.

"I've served up here for 40 years and I was president three times (1999, 2005 2021), so I've actually had 40 different presidents," said Matewsky. "I really mean this when I say it, we were very fortunate as members to have such a good president, a fair president, knowledgeable – he knows the rules, and that's very important. I can't say enough about his performance. We chose the right leader for this Council. I'm very grateful as a colleague to serve with this gentleman."

See VAN CAMPEN Page 2



Ward 1 Councilor Wayne Matewsky and Councilor-at-Large John Hanlon present a plaque of appreciation to outgoing City Council President Robert Van Campen at the final meeting of the year Dec. 23 in the Council Chambers.



The Everett City Council honored Council President Robert Van Campen for his outstanding leadership of the 11-member Council throughout the past year. From left, are Ward 1 Councilor Wayne Matewsky, Legislative Aide Nicholas Saia, Ward 3 Councilor Anthony DiPierro, Councilor-at-Large John Hanlon, Councilor-at-Large Michael Marchese, Council President Robert Van Campen, Councilor-at-Large Stephanie Smith, Councilor-at-Large Katy Rogers, Ward 4 Councilor Holly Garcia, Councilor-at-Large Guerline Alcy-Jabouin, Ward 6 Councilor Peter Pietrantonio, City Clerk Sergio Jaramillo, and Legislative Aide Michael Mangan.



# DeMaria was Everett's No. 1 newsmaker in 2024

Staff Report

As the leader of a city with more than 50,000 residents and growing, Mayor Carlo DeMaria has a challenging job each

Now in his sixth term as leader of his own hometown's government, De-Maria showed no signs of slowing down one bit in 2024. He and his outstanding chief of staff, Erin Deveney, seemed to be at every City Council meeting, whether it was speaking about the installation of a new roof at the old Everett High School or advancing the seventhand-eighth academy project [at the old EHS] proposed by Supt. of Schools

William Hart, who also had great first year as the leader of the school district. A vital matter due to the over crowdedness in the schools, it will now proceed to neighborhood meetings as requested by City Council President Robert Van Campen.

And then there was Mayor DeMaria's crucial early support of Sen. Sal DiDomenico's proposal to bring a new soccer stadium to the city. The 24,000-seat facility would be built across from the world-class Encore Boston Harbor, a vision years ago by the mayor that has brought millions of dollars to the city coffers. DiDo-

**See YEAR IN REVIEW Page 3** 

# **Honoring Everett's** first female councilor

Council votes to display portrait of Rosie LeCours in Council Chambers

By Cary Shuman

The City Council approved a resolution at its Dec. 23 meeting to display a portrait of former Common Councilor Rosie LeCours inside the City Council Chambers.

LeCours, who lived on Fuller Street in Ward 3, became the first woman ever elected to the Everett Common Council in 1973. She went on to serve close to 30 years as an elected official. In those years, Everett had a bicameral legislature with a Common Council (18 members) and a Board of Aldermen (7 members).

"This woman, Rose Le-Cours, was really before her time," said Matewsky. "Not only was she the first woman elected to the Everett City Council, before that she was the first woman taxi driver in the City of

Boston." In her later years, Le-Cours served as an Everett Auxiliary Police officer. "She was a remarkable woman," said Matewsky. "This woman dedicated her life to this city, and she

See LECOURS Page 3

#### Rogers' motion would expand Council TV coverage to YouTube

By Cary Shuman

City Council meetings could soon be available on YouTube as the result of a well-received motion by Councilor-at-Large Katy Rogers.

twice-monthly The meetings are currently televised live by municipal station ECTV. Rogers asked her colleagues to consider expanding viewer accessibility to meetings to include the You-Tube channel.

"I understand that we do a lot to try and make meetings transparent, but I do think that having [the meetings] on YouTube would increase that transparency, even for our own sake, to be able to look

back at an archival record of our meetings," said Rogers. "Having it just on cable and the website and Facebook is restrictive compared to YouTube which has a lot more features that increase accessibility."

Rogers said she has requested the Mayor Carlo DeMaria Administration to add Council meetings to YouTube streaming services in addition to the existing streaming services.

City Council President Robert Van Campen said he has had correspondences with the Administration about the addition of You-Tube accessibility "and they're equally committed to assisting the City Council in making that happen.'

Our Offices will be clos WEDNESDAY, JA in observance of the New Years Day holic See you again on the

# Everett Independent

**President:** Stephen Quigley Editor in Chief: Cary Shuman

#### HAPPY NEW YEAR

It's hard to believe that another year has passed and that 2025 is here -- and that we now are entering the second quarter of the 21st century.

For those of us who are close to three-quarters of a century in age, as we look back at the quarter-century markers of our lifetime, we realize that when we were young, everything from the past seemed like very, very For example, when we'd be watching WWII movies

such as The Longest Day or The Battle of the Bulge in the 1960s, that war seemed to be entirely of another era. But those events had occurred less than 20 years previ-

That's about the same length of time, for example, that separates the start of the war in Iraq, which was in 2003, to today. Yet as we look back on that war, it seems like it was only yesterday that we were glued to our TV sets watching the U.S. forces advance to Baghdad.

Thoughts such as these make us realize that the one

thing we've discovered about aging is that the older we get, the faster that time seems to go by.

We often quote a verse from Alfred Lord Tennyson's 'Ring Out Wild Bells" when we write our annual New

But after re-reading the poem in its entirety, we are printing the whole thing, because it sums up -- better than we ever could express -- our feelings about 2024 and our hopes for 2025.

Although it was published in 1850, its verses are timeless. Indeed, one could apply every stanza to something going on in the world today.

So we hope you take the time to read it and enjoy it, as we did the other day:

Ring out, wild bells, to the wild sky, The flying cloud, the frosty light; The year is dying in the night; Ring out, wild bells, and let him die. Ring out the old, ring in the new, Ring, happy bells, across the snow: The year is going, let him go; Ring out the false, ring in the true. Ring out the grief that saps the mind, For those that here we see no more, Ring out the feud of rich and poor, Ring in redress to all mankind. Ring out a slowly dying cause, And ancient forms of party strife; Ring in the nobler modes of life, With sweeter manners, purer laws. Ring out the want, the care, the sin, The faithless coldness of the times; Ring out, ring out thy mournful rhymes, But ring the fuller minstrel in. Ring out false pride in place and blood, The civic slander and the spite; Ring in the love of truth and right, Ring in the common love of good. Ring out old shapes of foul disease, Ring out the narrowing lust of gold; Ring out the thousand wars of old, Ring in the thousand years of peace. Ring in the valiant man and free, The larger heart, the kindlier hand; Ring out the darkness of the land,

We wish all of our readers a Happy and Healthy New Year.

Ring in the Christ that is to be.

#### FRANK BELLOTTI

Massachusetts lost one of its greatest-ever public servants recently with the passing of Francis X. Bellotti, a former Lieutenant Governor and three-time Attorney General, at the age of 101.

Frank, as he was known to everyone, was a brilliant politician and lawyer who dedicated his life to serving the people of the Commonwealth.

His tenure as Mass. AG from 1975-87 is widely regarded as the national model for the modern office of the state attorney general. He brought the AG's office into the forefront on issues such as civil rights and consumer protection in the 1970s, achievements for which he was recognized by the National Association of Attorneys General as the most outstanding attorney general in the United States in 1981.

There are three things that younger readers should know about Frank Bellotti. The first is that he was a man of great humility and integrity. He was just a straightforward, regular guy.

Second, he always stayed in great shape, which helps explain why he lived to be 101. He was a fierce competitor in handball and worked out every day.

The third is that he is just about the last from the Greatest Generation of politicians who served our state so well. Frank served with distinction in WWII in Europe as the commander of a troop of 58 men and was a contemporary of notable politicians such as John F. Kennedy and locally, Andrew P. Quigley.

We know we join with many of our fellow long-time residents in mourning his passing and in extending our condolences to his large family, which includes 11 surviving children, 25 grandchildren, and 15 great-grand-

children.

# Independent Forum

## 2025 Everett Resident Parking Sticker program has begun

Mayor Carlo DeMaria is pleased to announce the official start date for the 2025 Resident Parking Sticker program. Starting Thursday, January 2, vehicle owners must submit an online application in order to obtain their parking sticker for 2025. Additionally, payments made online through City Hall Systems via e-check will no longer incur a fee on any transaction.

After a resident has successfully submitted an online application, they will receive a confirmation email. Once the resident's information is verified, they will receive an additional email to confirm that the order has been successfully processed. The parking sticker will then be mailed to the resident. Residents may apply for up to four stickers per online application. Information required to complete the application includes:

- Full Name:
- Address:
- Phone Number;
- Email Address;

- License Plate Num-
- Name that Appears on the Registration.

The Everett Independent • Tuesday, December 31, 2024

Resident stickers for 2025 must be obtained and displayed on the vehicle before March 1. As a courtesy, from January 2 to February 28, stickers may be obtained for FREE. The \$10 fee per sticker will be reinstated on March 1.

Please be advised that in order for a resident sticker to be approved, the vehicle must be registered to the City of Everett and be in good standing. A sticker will not be issued if the vehicle has overdue parking tickets or unpaid excise tax.

For residents applying for a first-time sticker or those with new plates or vehicles, please visit City Hall, Room 13, to apply. Please bring your vehicle's registration and proof of address, such as a driver's license or current utility bill, to obtain a parking sticker.

Please note that residents of the Lower Broad-

way area must visit City Hall, Room 13, in order to renew their Lower Broadway sticker and visitor placard. Please bring your registration and proof of Lower Broadway area address, such as a driver's license, current utility bill, or last year's visitor placard to renew.

vehicles Commercial must bring their registration and vehicle to City Hall and pass an inspection to obtain a resident sticker. The vehicle must weigh under 10,000 pounds and have no more than four wheels to obtain the sticker. Box trucks are not allowed to obtain a resident sticker. The cost of the sticker will be \$300.

The City will allow one-day visitor passes to be obtained at \$5 per pass. Also, you can obtain up to four 10-day parking placards per plate per year for \$25 per placard. To qualify, you must provide a valid registration and proof of the Everett address (current utility bill or current lease).

online Resident The

Parking Sticker Program application can be found epay.cityhallsystems. com. For questions regarding the program or the online application, please contact Constituent Services at 311 within city limits or at 617-394-2270, or the Collector's Office at 617-394-2275. If you have questions regarding your sticker order status, please contact City Hall Systems at 508-381-5455.

When applying online for the resident sticker, you may receive an email that the system does not recognize the address. In this case, the Collector's office will add the address into the system and then respond to the email notifying the address has been added. At this point, the resident may re-apply for

the sticker online. To apply or for more information, please visit: cityofeverett.com/cityhall/departments/parking/ residential-parking-stick-

## LeCours // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

hasn't been recognized correctly for all the firsts that she's done."

Council President Robert Van Campen recalled that LeCours had "such a treasure trove of historic Everett photographs and all the different things that people had given her through the years" at her home. "This [recognizing LeCours] is a wonderful idea," Van Campen told Matewsky.

In suggesting that all the councilors be included in co-sponsoring the resolution Ward 3 Councillor Anthony DiPierro 'As Ward 3's city

heard stories of the iconic Rosie LeCours throughout Ward 3 and our city – I see many pictures of her taxi. It sounds like she was a wonderful woman full of laughs. I want to thank Councilor Matewsky for putting this on the calendar for a woman that certainly deserves the recognition and honor."

Councilor-at-Large Michael Marchese recalled he co-sponsored Mrs. LeCours' last piece of legislation which was the installation of a green light at the corner of Ferry Street and Elm Street. 'She is most deserving

Marchese.

Councilor-at-Large Stephanie Smith said that Rosie LeCours was "a trailblazer" and her service in city government was a positive influence for her.

Matewsky said he has asked Legislative Aide Michael Mangan for additional biographical information on Mrs. Le-Cours' career that would accompany the photo in the Chamber. He has also asked Councilor-at-Large Katy Rogers, a professional photograph, for her assistance in locating a photograph that would councilor, for years I've [of this honor]," said best portray Mrs. Le-

Cours' extraordinary life in Everett.

Matewsky thanked his colleagues for their unanimous support before requesting that the proposal be placed on the agenda for the second meeting in February pending an update from Mangan and

(Rosie LeCours died on July 29, 2006, at the age of 98. She was the beloved wife of the late Harry A. LeCours and the mother of Harry J. LeCours. She was also a cherished grandmother and great-grandmother.)

#### Van Campen // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Van Campen thanked the Council for its kind words during his farewell presidential address.

"To my fellow members here, thank you for putting your trust in me for the past year," said Van Campen. "I want to remind you again that I was one of the several freshmen elected in 2023, and being president of the City Council was not what I sought out to do when I ran. I sought out to actually bring what I thought we could all bring to the city, which is a more transparent and a more accessible, and honest, civil discussion of the issues we face without taking it personal. I hope if nothing else, as my year as president ends, you can take pride in the fact that working with me, I think we showed the City of Everett what a professional, civil, deliberate body can

look like." Concluding his remarks, Van Campen noted the efforts in the legislative process of Clerk of Committees John Burley, City Clerk Sergio Cornelio, Assistant City Clerk Peter Napolitano, Legislative Aides Mike Mangan and Nick Saia - "everyone involved in our operation."

Van thanked the Mayor Carlo DeMaria Administration "for working with me on some of the big issues that

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their opinions and to encourage

debate. Please note that the opin-

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are preferred.

Campen

we face today and going forward."

Van Campen said he is looking forward to returning to his seat in the Chambers and working with "my fellow colleagues as we continue to do our best in a civilized, dignified, professional way to move

our city forward." The Council will pick its new president at the Monday, Jan. 6 organizational meeting.

**Business** 

Accounts Executive

Judy Russi

jrussi@eastietimes.com

**Editorial** 

Page Design, Copy Editing

Scott Yates

Scott@chelsearecord.com

Kane DiMasso-Scott

kdscott@thebostonsun.com

Reporting Staff

Cary Shuman

(cary@lynnjournal.com)

# Everett Independent

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# **DIRECTORY**

#### **President**

Stephen Quigley stephen.quigley@reverejournal.com

#### **Advertising & Marketing** Director of Marketing Debra DiGregorio

deb@reverejournal.com

Maureen DiBella mdibella@winthroptranscript.com

Assistant Marketing Director

Senior Sales Associates Sioux Gerow charlestownads@hotmail.com

> Legal Advertising Ellen Bertino

**Printer** 

Gannet Publishing

PHONE: 781-485-0588 Fax: 781-485-1403 E-Mail: editor@everettindependent.com

ebertino@eastietimes.com

#### Fresh and Local

# Condiments, Sauces, and Chutneys, Oh My!

By Penny & Ed Cherubino

We love exploring other cultures through their foodways which means we've amassed a wide selection of condiments, sauces, chutneys, and such. Slowly, our growing collection has taken over our already too-small refrigerator. To solve the problem, we've purchased a small refrigerator just for condiments.

#### Refrigerate **After Opening**

If you read the labels on most of these bottles and jars, they say, "refrigerate after opening." We follow this advice not for food safety reasons but for food quality. Most of these products are not refrigerated in their native settings. Many are salted, pickled, or fermented for preservation. However, in their native settings, they are used and replaced far more frequently than in our home.

In a Korean household, Kimchi is eaten daily and used up quickly. The same applies to fish sauce in a Thai or Vietnamese kitchen or preserved lemons in the Middle East. These are treasured additions to favorite dishes, but they're not used quickly enough to prevent them from losing their flavor intensity without refrigeration in our home.

#### **Fusion Experiments**

We have a plan to use up many of the condiments we bought for special dishes by challenging ourselves to find other uses. Think about the role a condiment plays in its native culture, then use it to replace other ingredi-

Great starting points for this type of fusion experiment can be egg dishes, salad dressings, and sandwiches. Kimchi adds saltiness and spice to Korean dishes. Add some to scrambled eggs, and they

take on a new dimension. Google "kimchi salad dressing recipes" for dozens of options. Replace the sauerkraut on a hot dog or rueben with kimchi.

Hoisin sauce is traditionally used in Chinese cooking as a glaze for meat, part of a stir fry sauce, and as a dipping sauce for Peking Duck. It offers a wonderful balance of sweet, savory, pungent and salty flavors. When something you cook is lacking those notes, add a bit of hoisin.

Consider what it might do as a glaze for carrots, squash, burgers, or spread on a wrap.

#### Make Your Own **Condiments** While we have not tak-

en on the task of making

our own ketchup, we've

improved the taste of commercial versions by adding sriracha. In researching for this article we found endless references to making your own





Here's a peek inside our condiment refrigerator.

preserved lemons, pickles, relishes, chutneys and

We love chutneys and have traditionally made small batches around the holidays. Our love of Indian food has added many chutney recipes to our collection. We also love to try some of the great chutneys from small producers like Blake Hill Preserves in Vermont.

#### **Buy Quality Not** Quantity

Early on in our use of

fish sauce, we discovered the vast difference between the least and most expensive versions and finally settled on Red Boat Fish Sauce 40°N recommended by Andrea Nguyen a Vietnamese food edu-

cator we trust. Chili Crisp is another example of a condiment that has become a fad and is appearing in so many versions at so many price points that deciding which to try can be daunting. We still buy the Lao Gan Ma Spicy Chili Crisp we've

kept on hand for years.

One way to try a few different versions of the same condiment is to swap a bit with friends. We've been doing this with spices for years. Now that we have room to store a bit more we can start a condiment swap to add to our soup and spice swaps.

Do you have a question or topic for Fresh & Local? Email Penny@ BostonZest.com with your suggestion.

### Year in Review // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

menico's continuing ability to bring substantial state funding to Everett and his surging popularity among his colleagues on Beacon Hill is also a positive for Everett and his

DeMaria appointed a new police chief [Paul Strong] in May and a new fire chief [Joseph Hickey] in November and brought on board new firefighters and police officers to bolster public safety in the community.

But arguably the biggest story involving Mayor DeMaria came in December when he received a \$1.1 settlement in his defamation suit against the Everett Leader Herald, representing a "total victory" for the mayor. As a condition of the settlement, the 139-year-old newspaper was forced to shut down.

Mayor DeMaria's accomplishments have been well-received by the community. On the political scene, Mayor DeMaria and First Lady Stacy De-Maria welcomed hundreds of guests to a recent campaign reception at Anthony's, drawing residents and businesses from across the city.

DeMaria's community-wide events, the Independence Day Celebration at Glendale Park and the numerous social happenings for seniors, such as the New Year's Eve Luncheon (Dec. 31) have been huge hits for residents of all ages and backgrounds.

And the mayor has the biggest story of 2025 in his own hands: whether he will run for re-election and continue to lead the city he loves to greater heights. It is expected that the mayor will announcement his intentions in the spring.

Some of the other big stories of 2025 were:

#### A "new" City Council takes office

The return of Robert Van Campen to the city councilor and his election as council president ushered in a new era for the 11-member board.

Ward 3 Councilor Anthony DiPierro was elected to the Council and his productiveness and professionalism was greatly appreciated by his constit-

Katy Rogers ran a brilliant, highly visible campaign and took office in January as a councilor-at-large following a successful first run for office. Rogers' proposal to have all Council meetings available for viewing on YouTube has received the support of the DeMaria Administration and further exemplifies her creative, forward thinking.

Ward 4 Councilor Holly Garcia, whose contributions to so many local group such as the Girls Scouts does not go unnoticed, also had a banner first year on the council.

Ward 6 Councilor Peter Pietrantonio has distinguished himself for his workmanlike approach to city government. His questions truly to get down to the nuts and bolts of city government, a style that has won supporters to his camp.

Councilor-at-Large Guerline Alcy Jabouin enhanced her stature an important voice in the community and drew a substantial vote in the

election.

Ward Councilor Wayne Matewsky and Councilors-at-Large Michael Marchese and John Hanlon bring invaluable experience to the board. Marchese has indicated that he will be a candidate for re-election. Matewsky's decision to run citywide for a councilor-at-large seat makes that election "one to watch" in 2025.

And two of the Council's most dynamic officials, Councilor-at-Large Stephanie and Ward 2 Councilor Stephanie Martins, continued to build on their productive records in government. Smith, Martins, Alcy Jabouin, Rogers, and Garcia brought the Council to within one vote of women having the

#### The passing of Joe O'Donnell

Everett lost one of its greatest sons when Joseph O'Donnell passed away on Jan. 7, 2024.

The ultimate philanthropist and a highly respected leader in the food industry, Mr. O'Donnell's contributions to Everett set the standard for many

His work as a champion in the fight against cystic fibrosis did not go unrecognized. The founder of the Joey Fund in honor his son, Mr. O'Donnell raised millions of dollars for the charity.

But he never forgot his Everett roots.

Sal DiDonemico's emergence as senate powerhouse Sen. Sal DiDomenico's continuing ability to bring substantial state funding to Everett and his surging popularity among his colleagues were positive developments for Everett. His incredible work in the Senate has caught the eye of the state, and his future in the esteemed 40-member body is very bright.

#### **Supt. William Hart** completes his first year

William Hart completed a successful first year as superintendent of schools after taking office in December, 2023.

His proposal to convert the old Everett High School into a citywide seventh-and-eighth-grada academy will be one of the big stories in the new year.

Some of interesting sports stories in 2024 were former Everett High football great Mike Sainristil leading the Michigan Wolverines to a national championship and becoming a key defensive back for the NFL's Washington Commanders, fellow Crimson Tide star Isaiah Likely becoming a star tight end for Baltimore Ravens, longtime youth sports leader Brian Dimond stepping down as Crimson Tide Pop Warner president, record-setting Everett quarterback Jon DiBiaso excelling as the quarterbacks coach at Boston College (as his father John DiBiaso reaffirms his status as the best coach in Massachusetts with another state championship) and the E Club of Everett honoring the great Nuzzo Family, with four first-ballot Hall of Fam-

ers (should Everett launch

a Hall of Fame Organization) in Frank Nuzzo Jr. Frank Nuzzo III, Matt Nuzzo, and Brian Nuzzo. Can you imagine what their trophy shelf was at the Nuzzo home through the years?

Sen. Sal DiDomenico's continuing ability to bring

substantial state funding to Everett and his surging popularity among his colleagues on were positive developments for Everett. His incredible work in the Senate has caught the eye of the state, and his future in the esteemed 40-member body is very bright.

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### Toy Drive // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1



Members of the Carmen A. Schiavo Club alongside the toys they donated to the City of Everett's annual Toy Drive.



The DiDomenico Foundation alongside the toys that they donated to the City of Everett's annual Toy Drive.

staff orchestrated the intake to ensure that only eligible Everett residents benefited from the Holiday Assistance Program. The Mayor's Office oversaw the team of staff and the entire process, including taking applications, helping organize the toys, bagging the toys for families, making phone calls, and distributing the toys

to the families who qualified.

"The Holiday Assistance Program would not have been possible without the efforts of our incredible City staff who worked hard behind the scenes all season long, along with the generous donations that were provided by so many thoughtful individuals and organizations," said Mayor DeMaria. "We are truly grateful for the crucial role everyone has played in helping our residents who need a little help to enjoy this special time of year. It always warms my heart to see our community come together in such a big way every year in support of this program. Thank you all.'



Members of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW Local 103) alongside the toys they donated to the City of Everett's annual Toy Drive.

## Annual N.E. Boat Show cruises into **Boston Convention Center Jan. 8-12**

The annual New England Boat Show, featuring more than 500 boats, special show sales, and fun for all ages, will take place right at the start of 2025, from Wednesday, January 8 through Sunday, January 12, at the Boston Convention and Exhibition Center at 415 Summer St.

This year's show, officially known as the Discover Boating New England Boat Show in partnership with Progressive Insurance, will kick off the 2025 boating season with post-holiday deals on hundreds of new boats, all the latest marine gear, and nautical fun for the whole family, bringing the summer vibes alive with more boats, a kids' mini paddleboat lake, SUP demos and yoga in an indoor pool, the Discover Boating Beach Club, and free education for boaters of all levels.

The Discover Boating Beach Club will bring a little summer to winter with live music, chef and mixology demos, and beach games throughout the show. In addition, there will be the New England **Boat Show Opening Night** Party to benefit Save the Harbor/Save the Bay with an oyster bar, beer & wine

Show attendees can see & shop big sales on the most comprehensive selection of boat brands and types in New England, from center consoles and family cruisers to pontoons and wake sports boats with boat show specials on the newest boating accessories, marine electronics, on-the-water mustand haves.

bar, and more.

New this year is the Float & Flow: SUP (standup paddleboard) Pool in which guests can experience Zen on the water with certified instructors who either will guide participants through an easy intro to paddleboard yoga, or just take a paddleboard out for a short spin, courtesy of SUP YO Adventures. The on-water demos are available on a first-come, first-served basis, Wednesday-Friday: 12pm–7pm, Saturday: 10am-7pm, and

Sunday: 10am-5pm. The Queen of the Show will be a Tiara 43 LS which features ample seating and refined yacht aesthetics, complemented by the power and performance of twin Mercury Verado®

V12 600hp engines. In addition, there will be a Pursuit OS 405, a spacious sport fisher designed for serious fishing and entertaining and powered by quad Yamaha 450 XTO engines; an Everglades 395, featuring cutting-edge engineering and exquisite craftsmanship on the state-of-the-art center console; a Beneteau GT 41, the newest sporty express cruiser with slender lines, ultimate speed and elegance throughout; and a Formula 380 SSC, a full-cabin bowrider in-FAS3Tech corporates multi-step technology and a molded structural grid to deliver the sure-footed performance that is a Formula hallmark.

There will be "Art of Casting Pond & Saltwater Fishing Workshops" which participants can learn the art of casting from the experts at Goose Hummock Saltwater Fishing Outfitter atop a 30' long fishing tank. Plus, fishermen can catch more tips at expert angler workshops, where anglers of all experience levels can improve their fishing game,

learn proper rigging for big game fishing, and get the best tips on how to land a

trophy tuna. Other workshops include a "Jigging Techniques Tank" (in which pro anglers will demonstrate the basics of jigging, covering types of jigs, best techniques, and the fish species you can expect to catch by jigging); a "Boating 101" education class for new boaters at Fred's Shed How-To Center, presented by Progressive, featuring a variety of daily seminars and demos covering everything from getting started to service, maintenance, updating, and operating; an America's Boating Club Boating Simulator for "hands-on" practice in boating skills such as docking, pivot turns, stopping, and more using a real Mercury throttle and steering wheel; a Classic & Wooden Boat Collection featuring vintage boats dating back 80 years.; live music presented by Pete's One Mann Band, who will play hits from ABBA to Zeppelin; and the "Big Catch Photo Op," to capture the fun of a day at the show with your

family and friends. Tickets are \$20 for adults. Children 12 & under get in free when accompanied by a paid adult. Tickets are available online at NewEnglandBoatShow. com. Admission is free for active/veteran military, active/retired first responders, and USCG & USCGA members on opening day, Wednesday, January 8.

## **OBITUARIES**

All obituaries and death notices will be at a cost of \$175.00 per paper. Includes photo. No word Limit. Please send to obits@reverejournal.com

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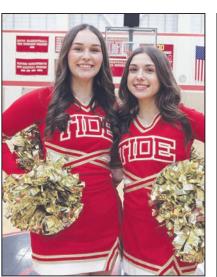
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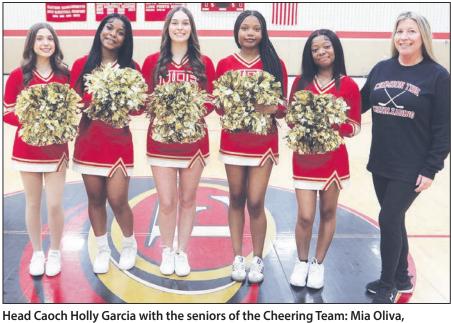
#### EHS VARSITY HOCKEY CHEERLEADING SQUAD



Head Coach Holly Garcia with the 2024-2025 Everett High School Crimson Tide Varsity Hockey Cheerleading Squad.



Senior Captians of the Crimson Tide Hockey Cheering Squad, Mae Kelley and Mia Oliva.



Morayma Noze, Mae Kelley, Bianca St. Fort, and Elahni Cesar.

## EHS Roundup

#### EVEILLARD FINISHES SIXTH IN HOLIDAY CHALLENGE; SECOND AT SPEED CLASSIC

Everett High junior track star Kayshaun Eveillard turned in a superb performance this past Saturday in the Boston Holiday Challenge, which featured competitors from across the country at the TRACK at New Balance in Brighton. Kayshaun took home a sixth-place medal in the 200 meter dash with a sprint of 23.22. Kayshaun

also finished 17th among the large field in the 300m dash with a clocking of 36.93.

Eveillard's medal-winning effort comes on the heels of his strong showing at the recent MSTCA Speed Classic held at the Reggie Lewis Center in Boston, in which he finished in second place in the 300 meter dash in a clocking of 36.44, which was just 0.22 behind the first-place time.

Eveillard also performed well in the 55 meter dash with a sprint

See ROUNDUP Page 6

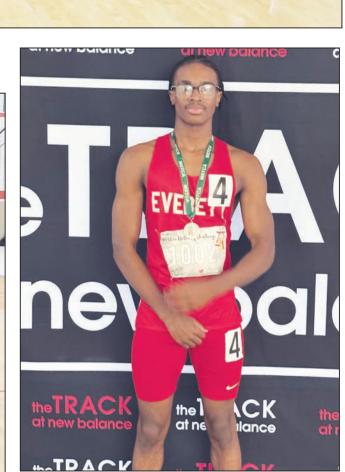
#### EVERETT HIGH SCHOOL CRIMSON TIDE VARSITY INDOOR BOYS AND GIRLS TRACK TEAM



Head Coach Brendan Hahesy with 2024-2025 EHS Crimson Tide Varsity Indoor Boys and Girls Track Team.



The EHS Crimson Tide Indoor Track Seniors: Front row: Angel Jaikaran Guevara, Tiffany Sousa, Zyelle Cannon-Mathias, Yelsa Garcia, Angelina Papa, Devonnie Gomez Walrond, Milena Antoino, and Fahema Coudo. Back row: David Iwangou, Trevon Carrington, Fabrice Michaud, Yuriel Ortiz, Harry Rivas Ramirez, David Roseme, Kawan Medeiros, Luvens Hector, Garvin Olibrice, Woodson Germain and Senior Captain David Huezo-Erazo.



Everett High track star Kayshaun Eveillard displays the sixth-place medal he won in the 200 meter dash at Saturday's Boston Holiday Challenge that was held at the TRACK at the New Balance facility in Brighton. The meet attracted competitors from across the U.S.

#### EHS CRIMSON TIDE BOYS BASKETBALL



The 2024- 2025 Crimson Tide EHS Varsity Boys Basketball Team.



Head Coach Gerry Boyce with the Varsity Crimson Tide Captains Jevaun Berberena, Tyson Chhun and Henrique Pinto.

#### Roundup // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5

of 6.83 seconds, which placed him among the top five in that event. (The official results were not posted because of a glitch in the system).

Crimson Tide teammates who also competed in the Speed Classic in the 55 dash were sophomore Godson Delisme (7.22 seconds), senior David Iwangou (7.65), freshman Edwich Jean Pierre (7.835), junior Henry Chen (8.07), and sophomore Alex Auguste (8.76).

In the girls' 55m event, junior Isabella Pimenta (8.541), senior Zyelle Cannon-Mathis (8.672), freshman Elora Philippe (8.882), senior Angelina Papa (8.883), freshman Chloe Iwangou (8.96), freshman Alana Diaz (9.060), and freshman Naomi Gideon (9.61) competed for the Lady Crimson Tide.

In the girls' 55m hurdles Devonnie Gomez-Walrond came across in the time of 11.08.

In the boys' 300, Godson Delisme ran a 39.86.

In the boys' 600 dash, junior Adrien Reyes finished with a time of 1:41.59.

In the MSTCA Distance

Classic held this past Thursday, junior Akanksha Neupane ran the 800 in a time of 3:08.22. In the boys' shot-put,

junior Gaetano Foster cracked the top-20 with a toss of 40'-1" to place 16th in the field. Senior teammate Fabrice Michaud also had a strong effort with a 21st-place

performance with a throw of 39'-7.5". Senior David Roseme (32'-3"), senior Trevon Carrington (29'-10.75"), and senior Garvin Olibrice (29'-5") also competed for the Tide.

In the girls' shot-put, sophomore Graziella Foster finished in 26th place with a strong throw of 26'-8.25". Senior Fahema Coudo came through with a nice toss of 25'-1.25"

#### EHS BOYS HOOP TO PLAY AT CLASSICAL

The Everett High boys basketball team will travel to Greater Boston League (GBL) opponent Lynn Classical this Thursday (January 2).

The Tide are coming off a pair of losses during the vacation week to Lincioln Sudbury and King Philip Regional in a holiday tournament at King Philip. "It was a challenging

weekend at the tournament," said EHS head coach Gerry Boyce. "We faced tough competition and unfortunately came away with two losses. I know how disappointing it can be to see the team struggle, and I want to acknowledge the hard work our players put in.

"Both games were closely contested in the first half, but we faced difficulties with rebounding and finding our rhythm in the second half, which made it tough to put points on the board," said the

coach. "One positive is

that Geordiell Luna-Morales was acknowledged as part of the all-tournament team.

"We're actively trying to rediscover the defensive intensity that defined our performance last season," Boyce added. "It hasn't been easy, especially against bigger opponents, but I believe in our team's potential and resilience. Looking ahead, we remain hopeful as we prepare for league play. Our next challenge will be against a talented and well-coached Lynn Classical team on their home court. I'm confident that with continued effort and determination, we can turn things around."

After the match with Classical, the Tide will host non-league foe Newton South next Tuesday for a 7:00 opening tip in the Everett High gym. They will travel to non-league opponent East Boston next Thursday (January 9).

#### EHS GIRLS BASKETBALL EDGED BY LAWRENCE

Although the Everett High girls basketball team came up on the short end of a 44-37 decision at non-league opponent Lawrence over the vacation week, EHS head coach Riley Dunn saw some positive signs from her team.

difling Riley Dunn saw some positive signs from her team.
"We battled back from being down 15 points," the said Dunn. "We are going

to keep building."



Crimson Tide Senior: Front row: Richarson Lomerique, Jevaun Berberena, and Tyson Ch-

hun. Back row: John Lung, Geordiell Luna-Morales, and Henrique Pinto.

Senior captain Emilia María Babcock led the way for the Lady Crimson Tide with 17 points and pulled down five rebounds. Gerniah Boyce chipped in eight points and grabbed five boards. Sonia Constanza Flores made four steals and ran the offense for the Tide.

This past Saturday the

Tide dropped a 67-2 decision to another non-league foe, Acton-Boxborough. "We fought hard against a very talented and disciplined opponent," said Dunn.

Sophomore Kylee Nord got her first start and turned in a strong effort with three rebounds, two steals, and two blocks. Maria-Babcock and freshman Julianna Rivera led the scoring with nine points and eight points re-

spectively.

Dunn and her crew are scheduled to return to action when they host Greater Boston League (GBL) foe Chelsea this Thursday, January 2. The opening tip is set for 6:00.





Lunch and Learn is a

monthly program created

City staff joined alongside Trish Hart for the December Lunch and Learn program.

#### CITY OF EVERETT HOLDS MONTHLY LUNCH AND LEARN to be joined by Trish Hart lives around the holidays.

from Hart Mind Body

Solutions to discuss stress

The City of Everett recently held its Lunch and Learn for the month of December at Everett City Hall. This month's program, entitled "All is Calm... All is Bright! Managing Holiday Stress in the Workplace," focused on learning about the sources of stress during the holidays and offering different techniques to help manage it.

inside and outside of the workplace during the holidays. Additionally, Hart offered various techniques on how to utilize breathing techniques to help reduce stress. Throughout the presentation, attendees were encouraged to participate in breathing exercises and discuss some of the City staff were pleased different stressors in their





The City of Everett's Director of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Cathy Draine introducing Trish Hart to City staff.

## Healey appoints Sheriff Peter Koutoujian as member of MBTA Board of Directors

Special to the Independent

Trish Hart speaking to

attendees.

Governor Maura Healey appointed Sheriff Peter J. Koutoujian to serve as the newest member of the Massachusetts Bay Transportation Association (MBTA) Board of Directors. Sheriff Koutoujian will be the public safety designee. Earlier this year, Governor Healey appointed Tom McGee to serve as Chair of the Board, following the resignation of Chair Tom Glynn. "I'm proud to be ap-

pointing Sheriff Koutoujian to the MBTA Board of Directors, where he will work with this strong team of leaders to move us forward in our mission to deliver the high-quality MBTA service that riders deserve," said Governor Healey. "As a legislator and a Sheriff, he has always prioritized the health and safety of the people of Massachusetts, which is an important perspective to have on the Board." "Sheriff Koutoujian is

a highly respected and trusted leader, and we are excited that he will join the team at the MBTA Board of Directors," said Governor Lieutenant Kim Driscoll. "We look forward to continuing to work with the Board, Secretary Tibbits-Nutt and General Manager Eng to make the T more safe and

reliable for all of our com-

munities."

"The Healey-Driscoll Administration values leaders who have strong working relationships with community members, and Peter Koutoujian has demonstrated during his career that he is approachable and sensitive to the needs of the public," said Transportation Secretary Monica Tibbits-Nutt. "We look forward to working with him as we transform the MBTA into a public transportation system that is safe, reliable, and equitable."

"I've worked with Sheriff Koutoujian for years, and I know him to be an exceptionally talented leader who is committed to the safety and wellbeing of the people of Massachusetts," said former MBTA Board of Directors Chair Tom Glynn. "The MBTA's top priority is delivering safe and reliable service, and his extensive experience in public safety and law enforcement will be a valuable addition to the Board."

About the Nominee: Peter Koutoujian is currently the Middlesex County Sheriff. A former public defender, prosecutor, legislator, professor, and law enforcement leader, Sheriff Koutoujian has worked on leading issues in public safety and public health throughout his ca-

reer. His work has earned

him local and national rec-

ognition, including being

America.

Sheriff Koutoujian previously served as a State Representative from 1997-2011. He served as Chair of the Committee on Health Care and created the Commission on Oxycontin and Other Drug Abuse and the Commission to End Racial and Ethnic Health Disparities. He holds a master's degree in public administration from Harvard University's Kennedy School of Government, a law degree from the New England School of Law, and a bachelor's degree in psychology from Bridgewater State University.

also earned honors as one of the nation's most prominent Armenian-American officials, including the U.S. Ellis Island Medal of Honor as well as the Mkhitar Gosh Medal and Medal of Gratitude from the Armenian government. While the Sheriff still lives in his hometown of Waltham, he enjoys traveling to his wife Elizdriven mainly by a 30 perabeth's hometown in Macent increase in shoplifting. drid, Spain with their three

and Isabel.

of Directors.

Commercial burglaries are up six percent, but Cox said the data shows the six Sheriff Koutoujian will percent increase is entirely continue to serve as Sherrelated to shoplifting inciiff, in addition to his new dents being reclassified as role on the MBTA Board

who have been previously

# Wu, Cox highlight reduction in murders, shootings in city in '24

Special to the Independent

Boston Mayor Michele Wu and Police Commissioner Michael Cox, along with Isaac Yablo, a senior city advisor for public safety in the mayor's office, held a press conference at Boston Police Dept. (BPD) headquarters this past Friday to highlight the significant reduction in the murder rate and shootings in the city in 2024.

Cox began the session by noting that the 2024 statistics represent "an historic run" (which has resulted in Boston being named the safest big city in America by the Economist magazine and the Gallup poll survey), highlighted by a 33% reduction in homicides year-over-year to a record-low total of 24 and a 14% reduction in total incidents of gunfire to 307, which also is a record-low.

"We thought it important to lay out what we have done and what we plan on doing about crime and safety in the city," said Cox. "Our mission is to partner with the community to reduce crime -- our mission is community policing. The goals of the Police Department are to build trust through community partnerships, improve professionalism among the Police Dept., and to engage the community to find out the best way to use our resources to improve public safety."

Cox then recited a number of statistics, including the 14 percent decrease in gunfire incidents yearover-year and a 37 percent decline over the past five years. He said 2024 saw the lowest number of gunfire incidents since 2011 when the city began tracking those stats. In addition, shooting victims have declined by seven percent compared to 2023, by 18 percent compared to the five-year average, and by nearly 40 percent compared to the 10-year average. Over the previous 20

years, the city has averaged 260 shooting victims per year, but over the past three years this has declined by more than 100 victims per year; 2024 saw the third consecutive year of declines and the third consecutive year of fewer than 200 persons being shot in the city. Most significantly, the

24 homicides thus far in 2024 are the lowest number since 1957 and by far the lowest total since indepth data-keeping began in 2007, representing a decrease of 33 percent compared to 2023 and a 37 percent decrease compared to the average over the past five years. However, Cox not-

ed that so-called Part 1 crimes, which include aggravated assaults, commercial burglaries, and larcenies, have increased by one percent, but overall violent crimes are down by two percent, despite the three percent increase in aggravated assaults, which is attributable mainly to an increase in domestic violence incidents. He said property crime has increased two percent,

saving lives. The most important investment of all is to stop cycles of trauma and violence. When we do well at keeping violent crime down, we do well at doing everything else. "But most of all," Wu concluded, "we know there is more work to do. Today

is not a victory lap. It is a



Commissioner Michael Cox, comments on Boston's crime

trespassed. Cox said commercial burglaries actually are down by 17 percent without that quirk in the "In the entire time I've

been a police officer, the city has never been safer from violent crime. I've never been more proud of the city and our leadership in terms of crime and crime reduction," Cox concluded.

Mayor Wu (who began her remarks by speaking in Spanish) said, "Boston is recognized as a national leader in community safety with numbers far lower than comparable cities.

"Safety is the foundation of everything we do in making Boston a home for everyone," Wu continued. "Safety is not merely the absence of harm or fear or violence. It is the positive affirmation of belonging, of people feeling excited to be part of a community where they are welcome and able to use every opportunity and every part of every neighborhood." Wu then highlighted

some of the innovations undertaken by the BPD including: the sharing of data (that previously had been privy only to the police) with the local communities that provide a shared understanding of the trends in the city, which in turn has resulted in suggestions from the community that have been helpful to the police: the largest and most diverse academy-training classes in many years; a new contract that adheres to the highest-professional standards; the deployment of community intervention teams that increase visibility and presence; and the reinstatement of weekly vouth safety meetings to prevent violence.

Wu also emphasized the interconnection between the reduction in crime and violence with programs involving other city departments, particularly those conducted under the auspices of the Boston Center for Youth and Families. Wu also mentioned paid summer jobs for youth that reached a highest-ever level of 10,000 this past summer; more programming in the parks; a doubling of the level of universal pre-K; expanded early college through the school system; investments in small businesses; the increase in enrollment in the public schools for the first time in more than a decade; and the reduction in chronic absenteeism in the schools.

"It has been an allhands-on-deck effort," said the mayor. "This is about

report out, a reflection of the type of results we can see when we all view community safety as a collective responsibility that we share together and that everyone has a part in."

Yablo emphasized some of the points made by Cox and Wu. "This has been a tremendous year of success, particularly in the reduction of firearm violence," said Yablo. He said that the city has adopted three strategies: Focusing on individuals who engage in firearm crimes; looking at how a person's environment contributes to crime; and positive policing initiatives.

"We have done constant monitoring of what the problem is," said Yablo. "We don't go into any solutions without a constant and up-to-date understanding of where the problems lie. But we are not done. We will continue to get better. We cannot rest well until we are at zero."

In response to a question from a reporter about the single-biggest reason for the good numbers, the mayor replied, "Strong coordinated leadership. the dedication of everyone moving in the same direction on the cityside and in the community, and having that commitment every day of the year to make this the focus."

In response to a ques-

tion about the open drug use that is evident in many communities, Cox responded, "We do drug investigations all the time and have become highly-responsive to our communities." However, he added, "We're not going to criminalize mental health issues. But we are doing more with the DA's office and through the courts to get help for individuals. We didn't invent the opioid crisis and we cannot arrest our way out of it, but we do need to do more to make people in our communities feel safer and we are trying to do that by becoming more agile with these teams of officers going into places to make sure that individuals know they will be held accountable." Cox also noted that repeat offenders are respon-

sible for committing an outsize number of violent crimes. Yablo added that there is a dedicated unit -- whom he labeled, "The 'stop shootings team'," -that is focused on preventing firearm crimes by certain individuals. He said the unit has been tasked with reaching out to young people, typically ages 18-24, who have been involved with firearm crimes in the hope of reaching them while they're still young. He noted that this is important because the typical age for both firearm-related criminals and their victims is between

27-30 years old.

named the national Sheriff of the Year for 2023 by the Major County Sheriffs of

Sheriff Koutoujian has

children: Peter, Cristian,

burglaries by perpetrators

#### **CHURCH** News

#### Glendale Christian Lighthouse Church

News and Notes

Sunday 10:30 Worship service.

Weds. hour of Power, worship, prayer and Bible Study, via Zoom.

"Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters." Colossians 3:23

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Rev. Larry Russi, Sr. **Pastor** pastorlarry@

thelighthousechurch701.net

#### **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 ate the Immaculate Conception Parish is as fol-

- 1: Monday-Saturday at 7:00a.m. in the Chapel.
- 2: Saturday at 4:00p.m. (Sunday Vigil) and at Vietnamese 7:30p.m. 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
- 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 Span-

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** 

489, Broadway, **Everett MA 02149 Phone** Call 6173895660

#### **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

Please visit everettindependent.com

#### Church at the Well Everett

News and Notes

Church at the Well Everett is a new church for Everett. Check us out on Facebook at www.facebook.com/churchforeverett to view weekly devotions and updates, visit us at www.foreverett.church

to sign up for our newsletter and see how we can help you, or connect with the Everett Community Aid Network at www.everettcan.com to request any additional help.

#### 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

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 Pastor's Office Hours: Saturdays 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Other times by appoint-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 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

#### **Zion Church - Everett**

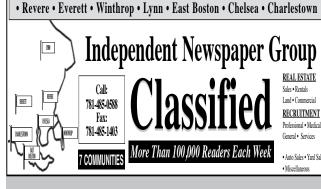
News and Notes

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.

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appointment.

For more information, they can be reached online zionchurchministries. com or via email at office@ zionchurchministries.com.



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# NeighborHealth brings holiday cheer through food distribution

## Volunteers and staff prepare 900 bags of food

On Thursday, December 19, NeighborHealth's Community Resource and Wellness Center buzzed with activity as staff and volunteers prepared 900 bags of food for holiday distribution to families and residents in the community.

The health system's healthcare navigators, social workers, behavioral health team members and leaders were joined by volunteers from AmeriCorps and Union Capital Boston to assemble fresh produce, dry goods and lean proteins like eggs, pork and chicken to distribute ahead

of the holidays.

NeighborHealth's holiday food distribution was a part of their ongoing initiatives through the Community Resource and Wellness Center, where they provide food and other necessities to the community year-round to residents. The food program is made possible through the support and partnership of NeighborHealth's food suppliers, Red Cross Food Pantry, Spoonfuls, and the Greater Boston Food Bank, as well as the dedicated staff, volunteers and community members whose continuous contri-

butions enable Neighbor-Health to provide more than 10,000 pounds of food weekly to the community.

To sign up for this program and learn more about the Community Resource and Wellness Center at 282 Meridian Street in East Boston, visit: Community Resource and Wellness Center at NeighborHealth.

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

South End Community

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

Health champions innovative care models to actively bridge health equity gaps in our low-income and immigrant communities with services unique from other healthcare providers in our state. For more information, visit www.neighborhealth.com.



Bags of food, prepared by NeighborHealth team members, ready to go to families for the



NeighborHealth President and CEO, Greg Wilmot, joined NeighborHealth staff and volun-



NeighborHealth Chief of Human Resources Steven Snyder assembles holiday food bags for the community.



NeighborHealth's Community Resource and Wellness Center as staff and volunteers prepared for holiday food distribution.

# Everett Independent



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NeighborHealth Chief Operating Officer Ryan Boxill and

duce for distribution to NeighborHealth community.

volunteer Jehova Hernandez working to prepare fresh pro-

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NeighborHealth AmeriCorps member Eve Feuerbach bagging food to distribute to local families for the holidays.