# Everett Independent Newspaper Co.

Tuesday, December 24, 2019

### Tahiliani says lawsuit will help strengthen her going into Everett

By Seth Daniel

New Supt. Priya Tahiliani had found herself on the pages of the newspapers long before being spotlighted for landing the job as the new Everett superintendent – a job that hasn't been open for 30 years or more.

In fact, last year, she and another woman filed a lawsuit against Boston Public Schools (BPS) - her former employer- for a lack of equity in pay. It was a high-profile suit and it is still outstanding, but it is a suit her attorney at the time said was a "brave" step forward due to the fact that she sued her employer over a potentially touchy situation.

The suit indicates that several members the administration in BPS, who were men, made more money that Tahiliani for the same, or lesser, work. The suit indicated that the issue had been brought up in writing and orally several times since 2017, but her attorney said they decided to file suit as a last resort.

While many might consider having an ongoing lawsuit against one's employer as a negative for a iob candidate, some on the School Committee have said it likely could be a plus considering the envi-

See LAWSUIT Page 2

### Wynn-ter at Encore

First holiday season a learning experience for resort

By Seth Daniel

The desert isn't exactly prime territory for pine trees, snowy winters and mistletoe, but the Encore Boston Harbor team and Wvnn Resorts folks in Las Vegas have teamed up to learn a new palate of plantings in time for their first holiday season in Everett.

And despite going really big and all out, it is also the first time they have worked in a real winter environment.

"This has been first and foremost on the minds of many of us from Las Vegas going back several years," said Patrick Chadwick, director of horticulture and floral at Encore. "We've never done this before in environment...We wondered how it would look. The whole standard we uphold with our program in Las Vegas isn't what you would have in a

See WYNN-TER Page 3





### Tahiliani chosen as new EPS superintendent in unanimous vote

but still will need to successfully negotiate a contract.

By Laura Plummer

On Thursday, Dec. 19, the School Committee held a vote to select a new superintendent of the Everett Public Schools (EPS), choosing candidate Priya Tahiliani in a unanimous vote on the first round of

Tahiliani required only a simple majority to clinch the nomination, but ended up as the candidate of choice for all School Committee members present. Members claimed not to have discussed their preferences with each other beforehand, making their decision all the more surprising.

"I am incredibly honored and humbled to have been

invited into the Everett community," Tahiliani told Independent following her win. "I plan to return that warm welcome by fully embracing this opportunity to serve the students, staff, families, and community members of this wonderful city."

Chair Tom Abruzzese said he was surprised by the first-round, unanimous vote, and had been prepared for a battle lasting as long as midnight. All his preparations for a long, drawnout affair were unnecessary

"A case could be made for all four," he said. "That's why I was surprised it was a unanimous vote. Going into in my mind, and that went back to the Search Committee. I probably interviewed her in October. She was in the back of my mind and came to visit Everett, blew everyone away here. Marcony (Barros) and Frank (Parker) went to visit her at Boston Public Schools, and when they went to Madison Park (High School), people still missed her and that was seven years removed. That's the kind of person we're talking about... I'm staking my reputation on this. I think I'm a pretty good judge of people and I couldn't be more happy

with the selection." School Committeeman Frank Parker said it will be a chance for the district to

See TAHILIANI Page 3

### it, I was supporting Priya



Mayor Carlo DeMaria took part in an interview in front of the School Street bus stop, which was decorated with festive holiday flowers on Wednesday, Dec. 18, as part of the Flower Bomb project. It is the second Flower Bomb at Everett bus stops, and it is used to help promote the Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) initiatives that the City is promoting with other transportation experts. The Flower Bomb will remain up for a few weeks. See page 12 for story.

### HOLIDAY PUBLICATION SCHEDULE: The Newspaper will be published on Tuesday, Dec. 31

The New Years Advertising Deadline IS FRIDAY, DEC. 27™

The Office will be **CLOSED** Wednesday, Dec. 25 and Jan. 1 in observation of Christmas and New Years holidays.

## Unanimous **Decision**

School committee selects new superintendent

By Seth Daniel

A unanimous vote most of the time signals that everyone is on board with the decision.

That might be the case with the School Committee in their 7-0 vote on Thursday, Dec. 19, for Priya Tahiliani, but it doesn't mean that the rest of the community is board. After the decision, and even beforehand, there was a great deal of dissatisfaction with the choice.

Before the vote, many including Mayor Carlo DeMaria and School Committeeman Lester MacLaughlin - disparaged the process as it didn't contain any internal, Everett candidates.

After Thursday's choice, many took to social media or other platforms to say they wouldn't support the new superintendent, with others saying the school system had "been given away to a graduate student," alluding to the fact that Tahiliani is still working to complete her doctorate in education – though she is a licensed superintendent.

"To the naysayers, good

luck," said School Committee Chair Tom Abruzzese. "Believe me, I'm completely at peace with this whole process right now. Priya Tahiliani will prove all the naysayers wrong. I'll stake my reputation on that. I think I'm a pretty good judge of people and I couldn't be more happy with the selection. Priya has tremendous energy, a lot of experience, and going back to the public meeting at the Parlin Library, most everybody said they wanted a former teacher. At our meeting on Dec. 14, when she talked to us, it was a teacher talking to us. I think that's vital. I think the superintendent and administrators still are teachers and should not be so distant from teaching. She came across that way to me, and obviously I wasn't

alone." School Committeeman Frank Parker said Tahiliani was a great choice, and people should try to get on board and support her. He said comments that she is a "grad student" just aren't

correct. "Of the internal can-Mrs. Gauthier

See DECISION Page 2

### WINTER FUNDRAISER



PHOTO BY KATY ROGERS

Carmella Marchant, Jim Marchant, and Fred Cafasso celebrated the holidays with Senator Sal DiDomenico during the senator's annual Winter Fundraiser at Oliveira's Restaurant on Broadway. The time was held on Dec. 18, just prior to the holiday break. See Page 5 for more photos.

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### New superintendent understands learning English as a second language

It was at the end of first grade, and thought new Supt. Priya Tahiliani had been born in Memphis, she didn't speak much English.

Her parents spoke Sindi – a dialect of Hindi that is closely related to Punjabi – at home, and because of the fading health of her grandfather, she was going back and forth to India frequently. Her parents had immigrated to Memphis, where she was born, but their roots there were not yet firm.

And with all that going on, by the end of her first grade year, Tahiliani was nearly held back. Educators in Memphis weren't sure if she had cognitive problems, but felt it would be a good idea for her to repeat a grade.

wasn't really "ESL something they had yet, so you were kind of put into a classroom with everyone else," she said. "We spoke Hindi and Sindi predominantly at home. At school, I really had to learn English, including not only the social English but the academic English - which is very difficult. My grandfather was ill and we were going to India a lot. Any English I learned, I would quickly forget in India, and then I would come back to Memphis. That brought us to the end of first grade and I still wasn't speaking English well."

When educators there told her parents they wanted her to repeat first grade, that's when everything changed, she said.

Her parents freaked out and agreed to begin speaking English at home exclusively. They spoke English, as did Tahiliani's sisters, and so even though English wasn't their first language, it became the language of

"I was pretty much mute for three or four months,' she laughed. "I didn't understand anyone at school

or at home. Fast forward, I learned English pretty quickly and got to the second grade. Because of those language issues, flipping back and forth, it hurt my reading comprehension... That has given me a unique perspective on English Learners. It made me not only want to support them, but also to go back and get my license to work directly with them."

Her experience fortifies a resume that none of the other candidates could provide, and it is especially crucial now and in the coming years as English Learner (EL) students are growing in the district. In 2020, the Everett Schools has made a concerted effort in the budget to address EL students and to make sure teachers are certified.

Last spring, Keverian School Principal Alexander Naumann said 66 percent of the students at the school don't speak English at home. At Everett High, Principal Erick Naumann has said there are probably 1,000 current or former EL students in the population. It's the case all over the district, and the District's EL Director, Anne Auger, said one third of the entire school district will be EL students in two years.

Having someone who can understand their experience might be beneficial.

Tahiliani, who was in the Boston Public Schools Office of English Learners, said there are a lot of different tactics they have been using - and some of those have actually ended up helping native speakers at the same time.

"A lot of the good prac-

tices we used for English Learners, such as being explicit about how to use language and the functions of nouns and verbs, has also helped our native speakers become better writers too," she said. "We started using that instruction not just in literacy, but also science and math. The same tech-

Another major advantage, she said, is she has been in charge of engaging and reaching out to parents of EL students in Boston. Many are recent immigrants, she said, so they can be a hard population to connect with about school issues. That said, she indicated that not all parents simply don't have the time. Some don't know they can be active participants in their child's education. She said that is likely the case in Everett, too, and she wants to make sure everyone has

"That is definitely a population where engagement is tough," she said. "It is sometimes because they are working multiple jobs, but there are some – like my parents – who have the time but it isn't in the culture to get involved in the educational system. It is important to let them know they have a voice and to be advising us about their students and what they see going on...When you're an immigrant family, that's not necessarily something you know to do or that you've seen around you."

### **Tahiliani Knows Friday Night Lights**

Growing up in Memphis, Supt. Priya Tahiliani was well aware of the most exciting place to be on Friday

Given the strong emphasis on high school football in that Tennessee city, it was at the football stadium.

Like Everett, Friday Night Lights was a major part of the culture where Tahiliani grew up and she said she has missed that in her 19 years in Boston where Friday football culture isn't so strong.

"Everett does usually win and I'm excited to be a part of that," she said. "That's something we had where I grew up and I've missed that in my 19 years working for Boston Public Schools."

### Decision // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

doesn't have a doctorate, Charlie Obremski doesn't have a doctorate," he said. "Dr. Easy has a doctorate, but it's in philosophy with a minor in educational leadership. Ms. Tahiliani in her current role as assistant superintendent...went into a hostile environment and yet three years later when you talk to her colleagues they say she has done a great job... She can do the same in Everett if people are willing to cooperate...She is part of a lawsuit challenging inequality of pay and at the same time we've had three MCAD complaints against us for harassment. Maybe if we had the courage that Priya had three years ago, we wouldn't be in this situation today."

Councilor Michael Mc-Laughlin said he would support the decision, but is disappointed with it.

"I have watched the process from afar and have been very disappointed throughout the process," he said. "Although I thank the 15 volunteers who served on the Search Committee, I absolutely believe it was a mistake to disqualify any individual currently working in the school system based on the past in which they were not directly involved in. These individuals that were considered insiders of Everett are individuals that have dedicated their whole entire lives to the City of Everett and having a positive impact on countless amounts of children's lives including mine throughout the Everett public school system. After decades of positive employment they were not qualified to at least have an interview in my eyes is shortsighted leadership for our community."

He said, though, he will support Tahiliani in her

new role. "We as a community

Lawsuit// CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

should come together now and support Ms. Tahiliani; it's a fact that if she is successful as the new leader of the school system the students will be the benefit of this transition."

Mayor Carlo DeMaria, who had been an outspoken critic of the process to choose a new superintendent, posted on Facebook last week his support of the new choice. He also thanked Interim Supt. Janice Gauthier for her work in stepping up over the past

"It is with great pleasure and honor to welcome Priya Tahiliani as the new Superintendent of Everett Public Schools," he wrote. "I look forward to working closely with her as we continue to grow and develop a strong school system for our community."

Jessica Gold Boots of the Everett Educational Coalition (EEC) said she felt those looking to discredit Tahiliani before she arrives are misguided.

"I think that would be very misguided because I think all three candidates were vetted by more than 350 hours of work by the Search Committee," she said. "They wouldn't have been put forward if not qualified. If people are saying they won't support her, I am very disappointed. This isn't about looking back, but moving forward and giving Ms. Tahiliani a chance. It's time to move on, especially since before this, Everett was led for 30 years by an alleged sex offender."

She said it isn't a job for life, and she hopes the School Committee will do their due diligence and make sure Tahiliani lives up to expectations.

There were rumors that the Everett Teacher's Association (ETA) was disappointed with the choice, but President Kim Auger said that wasn't the case. She said they support the choice and will work with Supt. Tahiliani.

For her part, Tahiliani said she won't fight against the sentiment, but work to gain trust. She said she has been in the situation before at Boston Public Schools where others didn't agree with her being chosen. Likewise, she said she has also found herself on the other side of the argument, where she didn't agree with a choice made by others.

"Basically, I don't want to dismiss that," she said. "It's a valid feeling for those folks that were not considered and those that folks that supported them...I'm coming in and trying to communicate with them and build relationships and trust...Unfortunately, I'm not here to question the decision of the School Committee, especially with everything everyone has been through. I thought they made an important decision and I'm here to try to work with those who may be unhappy with that decision.

"My hope is these people will stay and want to be part of this new thing, even if it wasn't exactly what they expected it would be," she continued.

Abruzzese said the decision is put in context, as one year ago this week, the former superintendent resigned amidst a flurry of accusations - leaving the School Committee to put the pieces together for the past 12 months.

"People are going to have concerns," he said. "Even with this selection, there are naysayers criticizing our selection. All I can say is a lot has happened in a year and I think we're ending 2019 on a high note, and on a much better note than the end of 2018."

### Rift between Auger and Parker not related to superintendent

niques do transfer."

By Seth Daniel

Immediately following the vote for superintendent on Thursday night, a confrontation between Everett Teacher's Union President Kim Auger and School Committeeman Frank Parker unfolded for everyone to see.

It got pretty heated, but according to both, it was not about the choice made by the Committee. Some had thought Auger preferred candidate Paul Toner a former statewide teacher's union leader – and that

And she said the conflict has happened multiple times and might need to be

all," she said. "I can work with her and am excited to do so. This is the second time (Parker) has tried to publicly harass and intimidate me. He confronted me and started swearing at me. I'm going to decide what I'll do soon."

tions against him, and said

he's going to move forward. "The allegations are not true," he said.

> Auger said Parker has confronted her one time at a political time earlier this fall, and now after Thursday's meeting. She said on Thursday, they were trying to figure out who an unidentified man was at the meeting who was taking pictures. Parker had apparently talked to the man as well, and Auger said many in the audience thought he was from the Everett Education Coalition (EEC). It turns out he was a

WBUR Radio reporter there to cover the selection. After the meeting, Auger

said Parker yelled at her for looking into the matter, and for saying he was working with the EEC. Parker, again, said all the

allegations were not true.

ronment the new superintendent is coming into. With the former superintendent embroiled in criminal charges, and many in the district with divided loyalties, it will take a fair amount of bravery to

Tahiliani said she can't speak to the specifics of the case – which call for equitable pay and back pay for the potential lack of equity - but can speak to her reasoning for filing it.

lead Everett into the 2020

school year.

"It is no secret pay inequity is a thing," she said. "If I'm not willing to take action and stand up for what I feel is right, who will? It's a significant thing to challenge. It's so much easier to go with the status quo. Unfortunately, there are times you need to challenge structures to create change. I don't think I could do that when I see that 50 percent of the girls in Everett Public Schools or Boston Public Schools will be entering into a workforce, and I want them to feel they're valued as much as anyone else."

does seek to right a wrong that was done to her specifically, but she affirmed the decision to file the suit came for the benefit of everyone coming up behind her – including men.

"Sometimes I think men get a bad rap on this because many want to see these things change as well," she said. "There are structures put in place that need to be pushed on... You have to make an active decision to bring that challenge. I'm not doing it for myself or just for women, but men who want to see the change too. Everyone should be allowed to go to work and feel valued as much as the person next to them."

That experience will likely play strongly into her favor as she potentially begins to lead the Everett district in the aftermath of a difficult year with the former superintendent resigning among allegations of sexual harassment, and the process to choose the new superintendent being wrought with controversy from those within the district and City government.

"That may be one of the few areas where it may be helpful not to be from Everett," she said. "There could be a level of distrust if I was. Part of my mission is to build trust and relationships going in...It's very intentional work to create a culture where people believe in that. It is a huge challenge, but I know how important it is to be a

trustworthy person." She said she would be open to people who challenge her system and her structures, something that she did in the lawsuit. Her job, she said, is to create a culture where those voices can be heard and responded

to rather than shut down.

"Like with that lawsuit, my voice and everyone else's voices are important," she said. "I would never question anyone for questioning the system. It's good and it's healthy. At the same time, I can still work in the system and be successful. There is a culture that is created with that, and I think I'm the right person to do that in Everett."



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was the source of the con-

Not so, said Auger.

taken to the next level. "It was not about Priya at

Parker denied the allega-

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### EVERETT PUBLIC LIBRARIES EVENTS

### **Family Storytime** Parlin Memorial Monday, January 6

Come to the Parlin Library at 11:00am on Monday morning to read books, sing songs, explore movements, and more. For toddlers and preschoolers (and their grown-ups.) No registration required.

### **Sensory Stations Parlin Memorial** Wednesday, January 8 Drop by the Parlin

Library at 11:00am on Wednesday morning for some guided play. Stations might include play-dough, painting, sand tables, blocks, and more! Suggested ages 2-4, siblings welcome! No registration required.

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PHOTOS BY KATY ROGERS

### East Boston Savings Bank Charitable Foundation awards grant to MVES

Mystic Valley Elder Services (MVES) recently received a \$2,500 grant from the East Boston Savings Bank Charitable Foundation for MVES' Elder Independence Fund, a significant resource that offers grants to low-income older adults or adults living with disabilities to pay for an urgently needed item or service that helps the individual remain independent.

"We are very grateful to the East Boston Savings Bank Charitable Foundation and its generous donation to our Elder Independence Fund," said Daniel O'Leary, Chief Executive Officer of Mystic Valley Elder Services. "This donation will be a tremendous help in maintaining the Fund and helping those older adults in need within our 11 communities."

The Elder Independence

Fund is used as a last resort to provide community services, purchase essential home care services, and address situations of need for which there is no other government program or charitable resource. In order to maintain this vital resource and insure its continued existence, and its ability to respond to the needs of local older adults and adults living with disabilities, Mystic Valley Elder Services seeks support from funders such as the East Boston Savings Bank Charitable Founda-

The East Boston Savings Bank Charitable Foundation was established in 1998 by East Boston Savings Bank to provide funding to support charitable causes and community development activities within the communities of East Boston Savings

Bank. Since its inception, the Foundation has distributed more than \$6 million in funding to support many deserving charitable causes and community development activities. (Located in Malden,

Mass., Mystic Valley Elder Services is a non-profit agency that provides essential home- and community-based care and resources to older adults, adults living with disabilities, and caregivers who reside in Chelsea, Everett, Malden, Medford, Melrose, North Reading, Reading, Revere, Stoneham, Wakefield and Winthrop. Agency services include coordination of home care, transportation, Meals on Wheels, and information, advice and referrals. For more information, please call (781) 324-7705 or visit www.mves.org.



Pictured (L-R) John A. Carroll, Executive Vice President & Chief Operating Officer, East Boston Savings Bank joins grant recipients Peg Crowe, Malden YWCA; Elizabeth Hart, Tailored for Success; Anna Tse, Malden YWCA; and Jenny Vanasse, Mystic Valley Elder Services.

### Wynn-ter // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

cold weather climate. We wanted to create something that would fit without relaxing the standard we uphold. It wasn't just a year in the making, but many years. We have never done this before."

But they certainly learned quickly. Chadwick said they

have 26 holiday trees, 16 wreaths, 500 feet of garland and 5,000 six-inch poinsettias providing the backdrop for the colossal display.

"We started planning during construction," he said. "We build everything in house and started construction on our holiday display six months ago. We have already started building towards our 2020 display as there is no better time to do that than when everything is in place this year. This was the first year and the first time in the space so there are some things we're tweaking as we go."

The lobby in Everett, he said, is much different than in Las Vegas - with different tones due to the different seasons, as well as more lighting from outside. That led to a totally different design. The holiday trees are

quite special, and while they are a typical artificial tree, they have been customized in a way only Encore could manage. Each branch of every tree has been affixed with lights, meaning that each of the 26 trees uses 16 strands of lights each. "The ornaments are very

interesting as well," said Chadwick. "There are 25 different types and shapes of ornaments on each tree. That's what makes them particularly special well."

The poinsettias line all of the holiday displays in the



Patrick Chadwick, director of horticulture and floral at Encore, said it has been a new experience for them to appoint the resort with holiday plantings and trees – as they are used to working in a desert environment. It has been, he said, an exciting time at Encore this season.

lobby, and with more than 5,000 needed, Chadwick said he has already begun to order for next year's display. Each of the six-inch plants is live and irrigated in place, he said, and have been growing all year long. That was only accom-

plished though the work of a dedicated team, as the Encore only had a few months to practice in the new space after the June opening – but also to work in an environment where it's low light because of the early sunsets on the East Coast. "I have a fantastic team

that helped alleviate all my concerns along the way," he said. "The team did well, some of whom are Everett residents." He said they used 15 flo-

rists and 15 gardeners on Meanwhile, outside in

the cold weather was a totally new experiment. Coming from Mon-

tana originally, Chadwick thought back to the winters there and some of the plants that work in a cold environment.

This year, along with lighting up 67 trees out-

side the resort, they did full

plantings all over the outside areas.

Some things, like gold euonymus, really worked out, while the blue chip juniper is something they will improve upon next year.

'This is the first time and we'll do tweaks," he said. "We have our successes in some places and not oth-

Beyond that, they also have catered to some families and conventions looking for the holiday spirit. Some have requested trees in their rooms, while others have asked for presents for children. All of it is something Chadwick said they are happy to do. "I really hope everyone

in the communities come down and see it," he said. "Take a walk through the lobby and along the HarborWalk. Particularly, the whole program is very special when it's snowing outside." The holiday décor will

remain up through the first week of January. At that time, they will change over to celebrate the Chinese New Year, a major attraction at the resort.

### Tahiliani // CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

get a fresh start after a trying year.

"It's time to get on board and time to move on," he said. "Ms. Tahiliani has the full support of the entire School Committee, along with the Massachusetts Association of School Committees (MASC). We will do everything to see that she is successful."

Kim Auger, president of the Everett Teacher's Association (ETA), said they have already reached out to begin working with Tahiliani.

"The ETA has already reached out to Ms. Tahiliani and we certainly are in line with helping her take the best actions to ensure success for our students," she said. "I think we were all surprised at the unanimous vote, but we are all supportive of Priya and are ready to work with her."

Jessica Gold Boots, a Malden teacher and Everett resident who has been active in the Everett Education Coalition (EEC) this year, said she is excited to see Tahiliani picked.

"I personally, speaking only for myself, strongly felt Priya was the best candidate," she said. "As a resident, I wrote a letter to the School Committee encouraging them to select Priya. However, as an organization, the EEC did not endorse any of the candidates because our mission is to bring information to those that may not have been in the conversation in year's past."

Only seven of nine School Committee members showed up for the vote to choose the superintendent - which is the most important function of the School Committee. Two outgoing members of the Committee, Lester MacLaughlin, of Swampscott, and Bernie D'Onofrio, of Everett, did not attend the meeting on Thursday. MacLaughlin had objected to the Search Committee and the process several times. After not getting support to re-start the process at a meeting on Monday's meeting, he left even before getting recognized with a plaque for his service. He did not return.

Abruzzese said D'Onofrio had contacted him, noting that he had a very important meeting in Boston for his day-job at Bank of America. He was unable to break from that meeting to be present, but Abruzzese said D'Onofrio was willing had his schedule



Priya Tahiliani.

"I did not hear from Lester, and when he left the

worked out.

MacLaughlin.

meeting Monday night, it was disappointing because after he left we paid tribute to him, but beyond that I can't comment on it," he said. "Amongst the duties and powers of the School Committee, hiring a superintendent is the most important thing." Tahiliani has worked as an administrator and

He did not hear from

educator for Boston Public Schools (BPS) for two decades, and is currently the Assistant Superintendent for its Office of English Language Learners (ELLs). In addition to teaching certificates, she has a master's degree from Harvard and is currently pursuing a doctorate degree in urban education leadership. Earlier this year the

School Committee teamed up with the Massachusetts Association of School Committees (MASC) in its search to replace Interim Supt. Janice Gauthier, who took over for former Supt. Fred Foresteire in 2018. The Search Commit-

tee consisted of School Committee members Tom Abruzzese, Marcony Barros, David Ela and Frank Parker; Councilor Fred Capone; Police Chief Steven Mazzie; Yrma Fiestas from the Everett Education Coalition; teacher and soccer coach Oswaldo Constanza; teacher Devon Abruzzese; football coach Theluxon Pierre; Teacher Union President Kim Augur; retired teacher Richard Liston; EHS Art Director Amanda Gil; Commissioner of the Election Department Dorothy Martin Long; and Fernanda Rocha, president of the Parents Advisory Council for Special Needs.

Following a series of interviews with 21 candidates, the Search Committee had put forth a list of four finalists to the School Committee. Others included Thomas Flanagan, the Chief Academic Officer for the Providence Public Schools, and Paul Toner, the Senior Director of Policy and Partnerships for Teach Plus. Todd Stewart, a Superintendent Fellow for the Worcester Public Schools, was originally on the short list, but removed himself from consideration at the last minute when he accepted another offer in Ashburnham.



was the first to share his vote for Priya Tahiliani on Thursday night.



Alan Panarese voted in favor of Priya Tahiliani.



David Ela expressed his support for Priya Tahiliani in what would be his final vote as a member of the Committee.



Frank Parker said he also supported Priya Tahiliani for superintendent.



Chair of the Search Committee and of the School Committee, Thomas Abruzzese, voted for Priya Tahiliani.

The finalists were all well-qualified and had been rigorously scrutinized by the Search Committee, the School Committee, current EPS employees and members of the public at large prior to Thursday's vote.

Pending a successful contract negotiation, Tahiliani will take over for Supt. Janice Gauthier in July 1, 2020.

School Committee Attorney Bob Galvin has already been in contact with her to begin negotiations. It is hoped she can come to the district to visit and become more familiar with the school system prior to the start of her contract.

Seth Daniel contributed to this report.

### **MVES** receives grant from Boston Foundation

Mystic Valley Elder Services (MVES) recently received a \$25,000 grant from the Boston Foundation to support MVES' unfunded and underfunded programs and services through the Foundation's Open Door Grants pro-

ley Elder Service. "We look

forward to building upon our

record of providing essential

home and community based

"This grant will support necessary services including transportation services, Meals on Wheels, and our mental health program that need funding in order to continue," said Dan O'Leary, Chief Executive Officer of Mystic Val-

adults living with disabilities in our 11 communities since 1975." "Mystic Valley Elder Ser-

services to older adults and

vices has a demonstrated record of service to give elders and people with disabilities the opportunity to live independently," said Paul S. Grogan, President and CEO of the Boston Foundation. "Without them, many of their clients would not be able to live and thrive in the communities they call home. We are pleased to be able to support their ongoing work with this grant."

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### Everett Independent

**President:** Stephen Quigley

Editor in Chief: Cary Shuman

### HAPPY HOLIDAYS

This is a wonderful time of the year, to paraphrase the song, with holiday music playing in the malls and on our car radios, resurrecting our earliest childhood memories -- even for the younger set -- of Christmases-past.

We choose just the right tree, decorate it carefully with our family-heirloom ornaments, and when we first turn on the lights, it brings a smile even to the oldest among us.

Despite the hectic rushing to and fro', everybody it seems, is in a good mood. We endure the traffic, the long lines in stores, and more, because we know that what we are doing will bring joy and happiness to others.

For those of us with young children, we get to see Christmas through their eyes, giving us a second-chance to experience the wonder and joy that we felt when we were their age.

Although all of us celebrate the holiday season in our own way, the common thread is one of peace, joy, and happiness, regardless of religious or secular beliefs. Whether it be Christmas, Hanukkah, Kwanzaa, or a Seinfeldian Festivus, the spirit of the season imbues us with a sense of togetherness that transcends whatever negativity may exist both in our own lives and in the world around

We wish all of our readers a happy holiday season.

### **ENJOY THE HOLIDAYS --**SAFELY

Christmas this year is part of what for many people will be an extra-long weekend, which means that for many of us, we will be indulging in the "Christmas spirit" early and often.

By no means do we wish to cast negative thoughts, but we would be remiss if we did not remind all of our readers to enjoy the holiday season safely. This especially means that we should be careful not to drink and drive, nor allow our friends or family members to do so.

If someone appears to be under the influence, it is incumbent upon all of us not to let that person get behind the wheel of a car. Call an Uber if you have to -- if it is within our ability to prevent a tragedy, we must take the appropriate action.

### Your opinions, please

The Everett Independent welcomes letters to the editor. Our mailing address is 385 Broadway, Revere, MA 02151. Our fax number is

781-485-1403.

Letters may also be e-mailed to editor@everettindependent.com. Letters must be signed. We reserve the right to edit for length and content.

### SEND US YOUR NEWS

The Everett Independent encourages residents to submit birth and engagement announcements, news releases, business briefs, honor rolls, social news, sports stories, and photographs for publication. Items should be forwarded to our offices at 385 Broadway, Citizens Bank Building, Revere, MA 02151. Items can also be faxed to 781-485-1403. The Independent also encourages readers to e-mail news releases to editor@everettindependent.com.

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Director of Marketing

Debra DiGregorio

deb@reverejournal.com

Assistant Marketing Director Maureen DiBella

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Ellen Bertino

### **Business**

Accounts Executive

Judy Russi

### **Editorial** Page Design, Copy Editing

Scott Yates Kane DiMasso-Scott

### Reporting Staff Seth Daniel

(seth@reverejournal.com) Cary Shuman (cary@lynnjournal.com)

### Printer

GateHouse Media

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

# Independent Forum



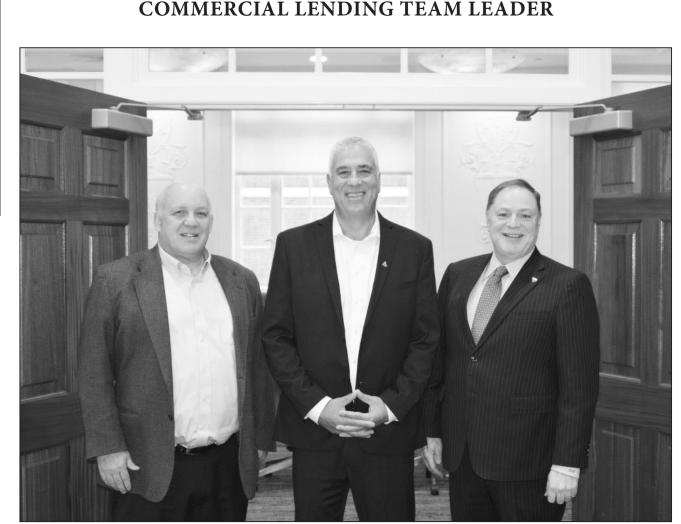
CHRISTMAS ~ PEACE ON EARTH MERRY

### HOLIDAY CHARITY AUCTION



Each year East Boston Savings Bank hosts a Holiday Charity Auction. EBSB employees, family and friends donate items that are auctioned off to the highest bidder. The proceeds benefit several local charitable organizations. East Boston Savings Bank is a longtime partner of Bread of Life, having raised over \$100,000 for programs to date. Shown here, John Carrol, East Boston Savings Bank Executive Vice President, Chief Operating Officer Gabriella Snyder Stelmack, Bread Of Life Executive Director, Richard Gavegnano, East Boston Savings Bank Chairman, President and CEO, Keith Armstrong, East Boston Savings Bank, Senior Vice President Administration.

### NEWBURYPORT BANK NAMES MITCH MARCUS TO SVP/



setts. Prior to his new post, Marcus was an SVP/Commercial Loan Officer. "Through his own lending portfolio, Mitch has proven to be a very valuable member of our Commercial Lending group," stated James Thompson III, EVP/Senior Lending Officer of the Bank. "I believe he has the leadership skills to take on the important role of Team Leader in Massachusetts." President & CEO Lloyd Hamm added, "He will greatly add to the level of professionalism and enthusiasm that's already at work in our Massachusetts Commercial Lending Team. He'll be both a great manager and mentor." Marcus has over three decades of knowledge of multifaceted lending and credit experience. Recognized for building

Newburyport Bank has promoted Mitch Marcus to Senior Vice President/Commercial Lending Team Leader in Massachu-

and growing lending groups within dynamic environments, he was most recently a Senior Vice President/Commercial Lender at Middlesex Federal Savings. He held executive management positions at First Ipswich Bank, Salem Five and Warren Bank after launching his career at Eastern Bank. Marcus holds a BS in Economics from Bates College, and studied at the ABA National Commercial Lending Graduate School. He is a member of Loan Committee approving SBA 504 loan requests at Granite State Development Corp. He and his wife Stacey live in Marblehead and are the parents of two grown daughters. Pictured from left: Newburyport Bank's James Thompson III, EVP/Senior Lending Officer; Mitch Marcus, SVP/

Commercial Lending Team Leader in Massachusetts; Lloyd L. Hamm, President & CEO.

PHOTOS BY KATY ROGERS

### SEN. SAL DIDOMENICO HOLDS ANNUAL WINTER FUNDRAISER

Sen. Sal DiDomenico hosted his annual winter fundraiser at Oliveira's in Everett on Wednesday night, Dec. 18. He was joined by friends, family, and supporters.



School Committeeman David Ela showed his support for Sen. Sal DiDomenico.



Paul Smith and Rachel Glass enjoyed dinner at Oliveira's during Sen. Sal DiDomenico's fundraiser.



School Committeeman Frank Parker, School Committeewoman-elect Samantha Lambert, and Sen. Sal DiDomeni-



co enjoyed their evening at Oliveira's.



Sen. Sal DiDomenico welcomed Officer Raoul Goncalves to

the winter fundraiser at Oliveira's.

Oliveira's owner, Wilton Rangel, was joined by State Rep. Joe McGonagle cutting meat behind the counter.



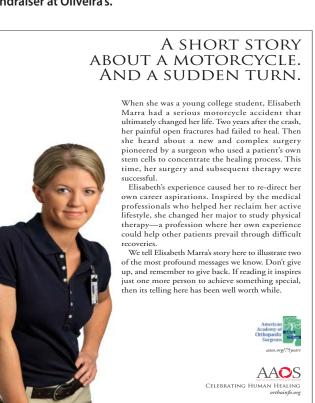
Sen. Sal DiDomenico was greeted by Councilor-elect Gerly Adrien.



Sen. Sal DiDomenico welcomed guests to his annual winter fundraiser at Oliveira's.



Sen. Sal DiDomenico was joined by friends: School Committeewoman-elect Samantha Lambert, Councilor-elect Stephanie Martins, John Ragucci, City Clerk Sergio Cornelio, Zoning Board member Roger Thistle, Patti Rogers, and Lori





### **EHS** SPORTS ROUNDUP

### EHS SPRINTERS SHINE AT THE SPEED CLASSIC

The Everett High boys and girls track teams journeyed to the Reggie Lewis Center on Saturday to compete in the Speed Classic

The top performer for the Crimson Tide girls' squad was senior captain Lucia Seide, who finished in fifth place in the 55 meter dash with a clocking of 7.75 and then anchored the 4 x 200 relay quartet that finished in fourth place.

Senior captain Victoria Chaparro also turned in a fine individual performance at the meet. Victoria ran in the 300-meter dash for the first time in quite a while and came through with a season-best clocking of 45.97.

Victoria also ran the third leg of the 4 x 200 relay, along with juniors Dajana Tadic and Jessica Santos and fellow senior captain Seide. The quartet sped to a fourth place ranking with an excellent time of 1:54.46, which was just 2.26 seconds off the winning pace.

Santos also ran individually in the 55-dash and finished among the leaders in the large field with a time of 8.11 that placed her in 23rd position.

In the 55-meter hurdles, Lyanne Murphy turned in a fine time of 11.43.

On the boys' side, the Crimson Tide saw a great day from Clarence Jules, who finished eighth overall in the 55-dash with a clocking of 6.82. "Clarence's goal this season is to be one of the best sprinters in Massachusetts," said EHS head coach Jehu Cimea.

Teammate Brendon Previlon also had a superb day in his specialty, the 300 meter dash, placing 12th overall and running a season-best clocking of 38.14.

Senior captain Mac Shillingford, who is looking to get back into running form, turned in a strong effort of 39.99 in the 300.

Justin King did well in the 55 meter hurdles. Justin's time of 9.68 placed him 29th among the large field of competitors.

Captain Ryan Vu was among the top long jumpers in the competition. His leap of 18'-7" placed him in 14th position.

The Speed Classic saw a change in the boys' 4 x 200 lineup, with junior Brendon Previlon running the first leg and senior captains Ryan Vu, Eduardo Chaparro and Mac Shillingford running legs two, three, and four respectively.

"Our new 4 x 200 relay ran an amazing time of 1:39 with no competition, blowing away their heat by eight seconds," noted Cimea. "With competition, this new relay team can make some noise this year."

Last Wednesday both the girls and boys opened their dual-meet season at Greater Boston League rival Re-

For the girls, who came up on the short end of a 60-25 decision, the top performers were Jessica Santos, who won the 50-yard dash, and Kira Gray, who topped the field in the shotput.

Second-place finishers for Everett who added three points to the Crimson Tide side of the scoresheet were: Lyanne Murphy in the high hurdles; Victoria Chaparro in the 50-dash; Tanashia Johnson in the 300 dash;

and Leslye Rojas-Rupel in the mile.

Adding single points to the Everett cause with third-place performances were: Rejeana Guillaume in the 300 dash; Eduarda Bernardo in the 600; and Brian Vilson in the shot.

On the boys' side, Mac Shillingford finished in first place in the 300 dash and Mario Sheard outdistanced the field in the shot-put.

Captain Arthur Rosa took second place in the two-mile run.

Third-place finishers for Everett were Samy Lamothe in the 50 yard dash; Ryan Vu in the 600 dash; Gabriel Loureiro in the 1000; and Jose Lemus in the mile.

Crimea and his boys and girls squads next meet is set for January 9 at Medford. The Crimson Tide's freshmen and sophomores are scheduled to compete in the Freshman-Sophomore Meet at the Reggie Lewis Center on January 4.

# EHS girls basketball opens with two victories

The Everett High girls basketball team opened its season in strong fashion with a pair of victories over Greater Boston League rivals Revere and Medford this past week.

The Lady Crimson Tide swept past Revere last Monday, 68-39, and then dispatched Medford, 52-36, this past Thursday. The twin wins bode well for the Everett girls, who won the last GBL championship three years ago under coach Tammy Turner before the GBL disbanded and merged temporarily with the Northeastern Conference.

With the GBL back together, but with the addition of former long-time member Revere (which itself departed the GBL for the NEC in 2006), the victories this past week (coupled with Revere's subsequent win over Somerville) are an indication that the Everett girls rate as the favorites to repeat as GBL champs with Malden (which defeated Medford 31-16 last week) looming as the chief rival standing in the way of an Everett GBL-title repeat.

The Lady Crimson Tide have a series of non-league contests coming up this week. They were scheduled to play at Mystic Valley this past Monday and will trek to Peabody on Friday. They will return home to host Saugus next Monday at 5:30 p.m.

### EHS hockey team stands at 2-2

The Everett High hockey team improved to 2-2 on the season with a 5-4 victory over Norton this past Saturday at the Foxboro Sports Center.

The Crimson Tide were set to meet Blue Hills Regional this past Monday and then are scheduled to host a holiday tournament this week at Allied Veterans Rink, starting with a contest against Watertown on Thursday and then either the championship or consolation game on Friday.

The EHS skaters are then off until January 4 when they will trek to Minuteman Regional.



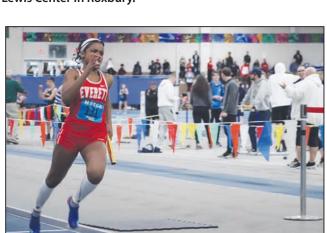
The EHS boys 4 x 200 relay quartet of (front I-r) Brendon Previlon and Ryan Vu and (rear, I-r) Eduardo Chaparro and Mac Shillingford turned in an outstanding effort at the Speed Classic held Saturday at the Reggie Lewis Center in Roxbury with their time of 1:39.98.



Captain Mac Shillingford brought ran the anchor leg of the boys' 4 x 200 relay competition at the Speed Classic held Saturday at the Reggie Lewis Center in Roxbury.



Captain Eduardo Chaparro turned in a strong performance in the third leg of the boys' 4 x 200 relay competition at the Speed Classic held Saturday at the Reggie Lewis Center in Roxbury.



Everett High's top sprinter, captain Lucia Seide, anchored the EHS girls' 4 x 200 relay team to an outstanding fourth place finish at the Speed Classic this past weekend at the Reggie Lewis Center. Lucia also turned in an outstanding individual performance in the 55-meter dash, finishing in fifth place among the large field with a time of 7.75.



Clarence Jules, the Crimson Tide's top sprinter, sped to an outstanding eighth place finish in the 55-meter dash at the Speed Classic held Saturday at the Reggie Lewis Center in Roxbury.



EHS captain Victoria Chaparro has a firm grip on the baton for her leg of the girls 4 x 200 relay event at Saturday's Speed Classic at the Reggie Lewis Center in Boston.



Brendon Previlon ran the first leg of the boys' 4 x 200 relay competition at the Speed Classic held Saturday at the Reggie Lewis Center in Roxbury.



EHS speedster Jessica Santos runs her leg of the girls 4 x 200 relay at Saturday's Speed Classic in which the Crimson Tide finished in fourth place in the event.



Captain Ryan Vu ran a strong second leg of the boys' 4 x 200 relay competition at the Speed Classic held Saturday at the Reggie Lewis Center in Roxbury.



Everett High boys indoor track captain Arthur Rosa competes in the 600 meter dash at the Speed Classic held Saturday at the Reggie Lewis Center in Roxbury.



Sticky size: 3 in. x3 in. Shown sized to scale above covers approx. 2 columns

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# **Sports**

### **EVERETT HIGH IN HOOP ACTION AGAINST MEDFORD**

Everett High Boys' basketball faced Medford on Thursday night, Dec. 19, in a home game. The boys rebounded from a loss to Catholic Memorial in the home opener last week, and cruised by Medford, 88-53.



SKY'S THE LIMIT: John Monexant flies through the air en route to two points.



Paulo Rodriguez plays stifling defense.



Coach Stanley Chamberlain rallies the troops.



Kevin Ariste with the put back.



Franky Aubourg slams it home.





Dimitry Philippe weaves through the Medford press.



Brandon Johnson calls out a play from the point.



Franky Aubourg twists and turns in the lane.



Kevin Ariste drives hard to the basket.



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### **NEWS FROM AROUND** THE REGION

### STILL NO PRESIDENT FOR COUNCIL

CHELSEA - The City Council membership convened for an intense meeting to try to find consensus on who would become president of the Council next year - and they closed with a stalemate that left Councillor Leo Robinson, the dean of the Council, holding the gavel for the time being.

Both Council President Damali Vidot and Councilor Calvin Brown were vying for the position, but ended up only getting five votes each. That left Robinson as the swing vote, and with both not having supported him in the past, he voted 'Present.'

That, as it turned out, catapulted him into the Council President seat for the time being until the stalemate can be broken.

"If there isn't a president elected and we can't come to a decision, then the senior member will be acting president until a decision is made," said Vidot. "In this case, that's Leo Robinson. Leo would stay president until someone gets the votes.'

It was clear from the beginning that the outcome wasn't going to be decided Monday night – as has been the custom for years and years prior to the Jan. 6 inauguration and officer vote.

There were two votes taken in succession, and both turned out the same

Those supporting Vidot were Councilors Judith Garcia, Yamir Rodriguez, Enio Lopez, and Giovanni Recupero.

Those supporting Brown were Councilors Roy Avellaneda, Naomi Zabot, Melinda Vega Maldonado and Todd Taylor.

Robinson, of course, voted present.

Afterward, Vidot said she looks forward to continuing the process of choosing a leader.

"I am grateful to my colleagues for their belief in me by supporting my leadership on the City Council," she said. "Their decision to stand in solidarity with me speaks to our shared interests in continuing the work we've been able to accomplish these past couple of years. There is a shared excitement about building coalitions with the new members of the council to amplify the voice of the community at large at City Hall. I am looking forward to continue the process in selecting leadership for 2020 that's reflective of our shared values."

Robinson said he hasn't been pleased with the leadership on the Council in 2019, and he hopes that excitement for Chelsea can return with a new leader.

"I hope we can agree on moving the city forward," he said. "I think what we lost in all this about who is with whom and who is doing what, is two years ago everyone was talking about Chelsea. Now, no one is talking about Chelsea. We need to get back to having people talk about Chelsea."

Behind the scenes, there

was some discussion that

Brown had secured the votes and had the commitment of Vidot. However, that changed at some point between the election and Monday night. Brown gave no names, but told the body Monday that some peo-

ple had gone back on their

commitments.

That left the deadlock, which some say is going to be remedied with the ascension of Councillor Avellaneda, who seems to have formed an alliance now with Robinson on the leadership.

Some are saying that come Jan. 6, Avellaneda might have secured that sixth swing vote and could land with gavel in hand for 2020.

•Councillor Judith Garcia got the necessary six votes to secure her position as the vice president of the Council for 2020. She had one against her and four voted present.

Those voting for Garcia were Vidot, Rodriguez, Lopez, Vega Maldonado, and Recupero.

Brown voted for Todd Taylor.

Taylor, Meanwhile, Avellaneda, Zabot and Robinson all voted 'pres-

The School Committee delegate from the Council was the only unanimous vote of the night, with Vega Maldonado getting that spot in a 10-0 tally.

•In choosing the order of seating and the order of voting, one new Councillor, Naomi Zabot, got the undesirable position of first vote on the roll call. That means as a newcomer to the body, she'll be the first signal on every major vote in 2020. The rest of the order is Garcia, Taylor, Recupero, Robinson, Brown, Vidot, Vega Maldonado, Rodriguez, Avellaneda, and

In the seating order, there was one interesting wrinkle in that Brown will sit next to Garcia - with Brown being the lone vote Monday against Garcia becoming vice president.

### CHELSEA NATIVE JOE SMITH, **LEGENDARY MUSIC EXECUTIVE**

CHELSEA - Joe Smith, the legendary music executive who headed three major labels over the course of a career that started at the dawn of the rock 'n' roll era, has died. Family members including Donnie Smith, his wife of 62 years, were at this side when he passed away on the morning of Dec. 2. For decades he was the industry's "go-to guy" for scores of record business-supported charity events at which he served as emcee and "roastmaster." Thanks to his quick wit and gregarious nature, his remarks were often the highlight of hundreds of industry functions.

A native of Chelsea, Smith was elected President of the Chelsea High School Class of 1945 before serving in Asia with the U.S. Army Infantry. Thereafter, taking advantage of the GI bill, he received a BA from Yale University. Following his graduation from Yale in 1950 he pursued a career in broadcasting and transitioned from sportscaster to disc jockey, spending thousands of hours on the air at WMEX and WVDA Boston, maintaining personal relationships with rock and roll stars whose

His theme song, performed by The Valentines, was "We're Gonna Rock With Joe Smith."

records turned into hits.

He moved to Los Angeles in 1961 where he joined Warner Bros. Records as National Promotion Manager. He became the company's President in 1972 and worked with a stellar roster of artists including Peter, Paul and Mary, Rod Stewart, James Taylor, Alan Sherman, The Grateful Dead, Don Rickles, Van Morrison, Alice Cooper, Bonnie Raitt, Black Sabbath, Deep Purple, Petula Clark, The Doobie Brothers and Little Feat.

At Warner Bros., he produced The 2013 Year Old Man, the 1973 sequel to The 2000 Year Old Man album by Mel Brooks and Carl Reiner.

He moved over to Elektra/Asylum Records in 1975 as Chairman. The roster of artists there included Eagles, Linda Ronstadt, Jackson Browne, Queen, The Cars, Carly Simon, Judy Collins, Joni Mitchell, Grover Washington Jr., Mötley Crüe, X, and Hank Williams Jr.

In 1983, he was named President and CEO of Home Sports Entertainment, a division of Warner Cable. Following this, he became the first full-time President of the National Academy of Recording Arts and Sciences.

During this time, he appeared in motion pictures FM and One Trick Pony. He came back to the music industry on a full-time basis in 1987 as President and CEO of Capitol-EMI Music. During his tenure there, the company registered record profits from such artists as Garth Brooks, Tina Turner, Bonnie Raitt, MC Hammer, Bob Seger, David Bowie, Poison, and others. While at Captiol, he oversaw the revitalization of the Blue Note label. Joe Smith's star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame is located in front of the Capitol Records Tower on Vine Street; both Bonnie Raitt and Jackson Browne spoke at his induction ceremony.

Keenly aware of the music industry's role in 20th century American culture, he sought to document the recollections of many of its key creative players in "Off The Record." Smith's book is based on interviews conducted with more than 230 artists, producers, managers and executives including Ray Charles, Paul McCartney, Artie Shaw, Ella Fitzgerald, Barbra Streisand, Bob Dylan, James Taylor, David Bowie, Stan Getz, Tony Bennett, Van Morrison and Dick Clark, Those audio interviews were donated to the American people in 2012 and now comprise The Joe Smith Collection at the Library of Congress.

www.loc.gov/collections/joe-smith

Upon his retirement from Capitol-EMI at the end of 1993, Smith assumed Executive Producer responsibilities to the World Cup Soccer tournament, where he was hired as executive producer of entertainment for World Cup USA in 1994, the first time the world's soccer championship was held in the United States. The tournament was crowned with a Dodger Stadium appearance by The Three Tenors that Smith facilitated.

Joe Smith is survived by his son Jeff Smith, daughter-in-law Amy Jo Smith and grandchild Lila Smith, as well as daughter Julie Kellner, son-in-law Jamie Kellner and grandchild Christopher Kellner.

Joe Smith was inducted into both the Doo Wop and Philadelphia Music Halls of Fame and received the Boston Music Lifetime Achievement Award. He was recipient of Billboard's Clive Davis Visionary Award and has been honored by the City of Hope and B'nai Brith and was granted an honorary doctorate from Berklee College of Music.

He served as Vice President of the Country Music Association, President of the Record Industry for Community Relations and as a board member of the Recording Industry Association of America as well as the Black Music Association. He has served as an officer or director of the City of Hope, Cedars-Sinai Hospital, TJ Martell Foundation, Variety Club and the Neil Bogart Memorial Lab. He served as a Trustee of the California Institute of the Arts, Yale School of Music, the Basketball Hall of Fame, Magic Johnson Foundation, Rhythm and Blues Foundation and the Museum of Science and In-

### **MASSHOUSINGS COMMITS \$7.9M** TO PROJECT

REVERE - A development project to bring much-needed workforce and affordable housing opportunities to the City of Revere got a boost from MassHousing last week. MassHousing has com-

mitted \$7.9 million in affordable housing financing to the non-profit The Neighborhood Developers (TND) for the construction of the 571 Revere St. The MassHousing financing will allow TND

to construct 51 units of new affordable housing for households across a broad range of income, including 19 new workforce housing

"By transforming a vacant parcel into a new, modern community of affordable and workforce housing, The Neighborhood Developers will help ensure that a revitalized Revere Beach remains welcoming and accessible to residents of all means," said MassHousing Executive Director Chrystal Kornegay. "TND is a strong, mission-based developer, and MassHousing is pleased to be part of the team making this important

project a reality." MassHousing is providing TND with a \$6 million permanent loan and \$1.9 million in workforce housing financing from the Agency's Workforce Housing Initiative.

The new, energy efficient housing will be constructed in a six-story building on a vacant site two blocks from Revere Beach and within walking distance to the MBTA's Wonderland subway station. The apartments will be on the top four floors of the building, with garage parking on the first two levels.

Thirty-two apartments will be affordable for households earning at or below 60 percent of the Area Median Income (AMI), with six of those units further restricted for vulnerable low-income households earning at or below 30 percent of AMI, and five of the affordable units further restricted for households earning at or below 50 percent of AMI. The remaining 19 apartments will be workforce housing units for households earning at or below 90 percent of AMI. The AMI for Revere is \$113,300 for a household

of four. Eight of the apartments will be subsidized by a federal Section 8 Project Based Housing Assistance Payment contract and three apartments will be subsidized through the Massachusetts Rental Voucher Program. There will be 26 one-bedroom apartments, 21 two-bedroom apartments, and 4 three-bedroom apartments.

# Get

Learn about a proposed substation project in East Boston.

Eversource is in the process of finalizing the exterior design of the proposed East Eagle Substation, part of the Mystic - East Eagle - Chelsea Reliability Project. This project will improve the electric system in the Greater Boston area, so customers will continue to have reliable power to meet their growing energy needs. As an important part of the process, residents of the East Eagle community are invited to attend and offer aesthetic design feedback at an upcoming open house.

### **Open House:**

Tuesday, January 14, 2020 Drop in between 5:30–7:30 p.m. East Boston High School 86 White Street, East Boston, MA 02128

Keeping the lines of communication open is an important part of our work in the community. The open house is designed to give residents an opportunity to provide feedback and ask questions about the next steps in the project.

For more information about this proposed project, please send an email to ProjectInfo@eversource.com, call 800-793-2202 or visit Eversource.com.

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## THE ANNUAL ROBERT A. MARRA MEMORIAL – SOUNDS OF CHRISTMAS CONCERT AT ST. ANTHONY'S CHURCH, FEATURING THE NORTH SHORE PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA

Conductor Robert Lehmann and the NSPO were once again on the alter of St. Anthony's Church on Revere Street last Dec. 15. Standing room only, as local residents packed the church pews and brought a record number of food items as the price of admission to this annual event. The St. Anthony Holy Name Society collected non-perishable foods as the concert goers entered the church and all donation to benefit the local food bank for the holiday

The concert began with a welcoming from Father Xavier, Administrator of Saint Anthony's and some brief words about the history of the concert by Robert

season rush.

A Marra Jr., President of the Board of Directors for the NSPO, and Revere Mayor Brian Arrigo.

A Christmas essay was written and narrated by RHS student, Jason Acosta and a special selection of music was directed by all the under 10-year-olds, via a magic Christmas wand.

It was a terrific evening for all in attendance, given the long history that this event has in the hearts of Revere residents, remembering a RHS music teacher and neighbor, and first chair violinist at so many concerts in St. Anthony's Church, the concerts name sake, Robert A. Marra 1920-2002.



stranger to the Sounds of Christmas Concert.



Principal bass player, Marcel Marvarez.



Ward 3 Councillor Arthur Guinasso helps collect the food



of food to be sent to the Revere food pantry.



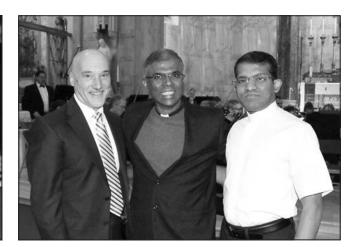
Members of St. Anthony's Holy Name Society collecting lots of food donated by generous Revere residents.



Joanne Staffier was one of many generous people donating bags of food to help the Revere food pantry over the holiday season.



Principal Viola, and having a great time too is Nikki Schafer.



President of the NSPO Board Robert A Marra Jr. Father Xavier and Father Rajesh Ravi.



Soloist, Susie Pepper was terrific, with her rendition of Ave Maria



Yvonne Taglieri and Joann Giannino.



Fr. Xavier welcomes the Conductor of the North Shore Philharmonic Orchestra, Robert Lehmann once again to St. Anthony's Church.



No stranger to Revere, Conductor Robert Lehmann, lead the NSPO in one of the many seasonal selections.

### **OBITUARIES**

### Carmelo Bottari

Life member of the Bricklayers and Allied Craftsmen Local 3

Carmelo Bottari of Everett died on Dec. 19 at the age of 84.

Carmelo was a life member of the Bricklayers and Allied Craftsmen of Local 3 in Charlestown. He worked on the original brickwork laying at Government Center Boston.

Born in Messina Sicily Italia Superiore on April 18, 1935, he was the devoted father of Joanne Roy and her husband, Curtis of Newburyport, Maria Bottari of Revere, Derek Bottari and his wife, Susan of Danvers and Danielle Bottari and her husband, Doug of Winchester; cherished grandfather of Amanda Roy, Ashley Roy and David Moore and dear brother of Maria Gammacurta of Roslindale, Giovanni of Everett, Agatina Rinella of Medford, Nino of Brighton, and the late Stefano and Joseph. He is also survived by loving nieces and nephews.

A Prayer Service will be held from the Paul Buonfi-



glio & Sons-Bruno Funeral Home, 128 Revere St, Revere on Friday, Dec. 27 at 11 a.m. and all are welcome at 10:30 a.m. Relatives and friends are kindly invited. A visitation will be held on Thursday, Dec. 26 from 4 to 7 p.m. Interment will be in Holy Cross Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made on Carmelo's name to Donation Processing, The Michael J. Fox Foundation, P.O. Box 5014, Hagerstown, MD 21741-5014. For guest book, please visit www. Buonfiglio.com.

### **Pasquale Guarino**

Longtime owner of Pat's Cleaners on Broadway, Everett

Pasquale "Pat" Guarino of Everett, 83, died on Dec.

Born in Mirabella, Italy, the son of the late Luigi and Teresa Guarino, Pat was the longtime owner and proprietor of Pat's Cleaners located on Broadway in Everett. He was involved in many local civic charitable clubs.

He was the beloved husband of Adeline for 62 years, loving father of Stephen and his wife, Julie of New Hampshire, Sandra Woodworth of Saugus and Paul of Revere; brother of the late Michele, Federico, Nino and Carmelina DeSimone and is also survived by three grandchildren: Samantha, Stephanie and David, four great grandchildren and many nieces, nephews and friends.

arrangements Funeral



were by the Salvatore Rocco & Sons Funeral Home, 331 Main Street, Everett. Interment was in Woodlawn Cemetery, Everett. In lieu of flowers, donations in Pat's memory may be made to the charity of choice.

For more information: 1-877-71-ROCCO or roccofuneralhomes.com.

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### Leslie M. Beck

Truck driver



Leslie M. Beck, Jr. Melrose, tered into eternal rest

Thursday, December 19, 2019 in the Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center in Boston. He was 66 years old. Born in Chelsea, Leslie worked as a truck driver. Leslie served our country in the United States Marine Corps.

The devoted son of the late Leslie M. Beck, Sr. and Bella Cooper, he was the beloved husband of Catherine A. (Barone) Beck, dear and devoted father of Tracy Gagliardi and her husband, Marc of Amesbury, Samantha Beck of Everett and Michael Cowels of Melrose and the loving grandfather of Brianna Vetrano, Michael Vetrano, Nicholas Provost and Juliana Domings. He was predeceased by seven



siblings.

Relatives and friends are respectfully invited to attend Leslie's visiting hours in the Cafasso & Sons Funeral Home, 65 Clark St. (Corner of Main St.) Everett on Thursday, Jan. 2 from 4 to 8 p.m. In lieu of flowers, contributions in Leslie's memory to the Wounded Warrior Project, 150 Cambridge Park Drive, Ste. 202, Cambridge, MA 02140 would be sincerely appreciated. Parking with attendants on

### **OBITUARIES**

All obituaries and death notices will be at a cost of \$100.00 per paper. That includes photo. Please send to obits@reverejournal.com or call 781-485-0588

### Margaret Russell

Her faithful, loving and inspiring life along with her strong Catholic faith will be her legacy.

Margaret P. (Gerety) Russell, 83, a resident of Everett passed away surrounded by the love and adoration of her family on Friday, Dec. 20 at the Whidden Memorial Hos-

Peggy was born on January 26, 1936 in Everett one of four children of late William and Beatrice (Landry) Gerety. She was raised in Everett and graduated from Girls' Catholic High School in Malden.

On Sept. 7, 1957, Peggy married her cherished partner, Jack Russell who predeceased her in 2007. Together they began their life in Everett and raised their family of five children.

Active in her community, Peggy volunteered many years and hours with St. Therese's Drill Team and she was also active in her faith in Saint Joseph's Parish. Besides volunteering and raising her family, Peggy worked as a Lunch Lady in the Everett Public Schools. In her spare time, she loved crossword puzzles and was an avid reader. But the most important part of her life was her family. Her children and grandchildren brought her great joy and happiness. Peggy was always full of life and loving her minute that she had with her family and friends. Peggy will be forever missed but her faithful, loving and inspiring life along with her strong Catholic faith will be her legacy.

Peggy was the beloved



wife of the late Jack Russell and loving mother of David Russell of Everett, Denise Perry and her husband, Christopher of Saugus, Donald Russell of Everett, Diane DeSimone and her husband, Peter of Everett and Laura Fitzgerald and her husband, Matt of Windham, NH. She was the adored grandmother of Michael Perry, Andrew DeSimone, Nicole DeSimone, Corey Fitzgerald, Craig Fitzgerald, Cameron Fitzgerald, C.J. Cantone and Jacob Cantone.

A Funeral Mass will be celebrated on Saturday, Dec. 28 in Sacred Heart Church, Main St., Malden and visiting hours will be on Friday, Dec. 27 from 4 to 8 p.m. at the Murphy O'Hara Funeral Home, 519 Broadway, Everett. Interment following Mass on Saturday will be in Holy Cross Cemetery, Malden.

In lieu of flowers, the family will like donations made in Margaret Russell's name to Alzheimer's Association 309 Waverley Oaks Rd, Waltham, MA 02452 or online at ALZ.org.

### **CHURCH** News

### **Immaculate Conception Parish**

News and Notes

Our Parish Staff: Father Joseph Chacha Marwa, S.M.A. Administrator;

Father Ernest Egbedike, S.M.A. Parochial Vicar;

Secretary Barbara Can-

Weekly Mass Schedule at Immaculate Conception is

as follows: Saturday (Sunday Vigil) 4:00 p.m., Sunday 7:00 a.m., 9:00 a.m. (Family Mass), 11:00 a.m., and 5:30

12:15 p.m. Spanish Community 4:00 p.m. Haitian Com-

munity Masses are being held in

the Chapel.

Eucharistic Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament: Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament is held every Thursday from 7:45 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. in the Chapel. Each Thursdays' adoration

tion of the Most Blessed Sacrament at 6:30 p.m. All are invited to spend a few moments with Our Blessed

will conclude the Benedic-

Bring a Book-Buy a We have a new Book -Fundraiser Program in the back of the Church. It's called Bring a Book-Buy a Book. All books are a dollar and any money collected will go towards our Stain

Glass Fund. Brink a Book and Buy a Book and make a donation. Our selections are great and varied. Please stop by the table and see what we

> **Parish** 489 Broadway Everett, Mass 02149 Phone 617-389-5660

### **Grace Episcopal Church**

News and Notes

Grace Anglican Episcopal Church is open & welcoming

There are 3 services on Sundays: 10am English, 1pm South Sudanese (Dinka) and 3pm Haitian Creole. We have Sunday school during each service in the Children's Room. Coffee Hour starts after the 10am service in the Parish Hall (entrance on 11 Liberty St.)

Come all and let us walk together in this season of hope, renewal and new beginnings.

Christmas Week Services: Sunday Dec. 22 bined Christmas Service at 4pm Christmas Children Pag-

Tuesday Dec. 24

mas Eve Service with Christmas Carols 6pm

Wednesday Dec. 25 Christmas Day Service 1pm

**Grace Anglican Episcopal Church** 67 Norwood Street. Everett, MA Phone 617-387-7526 or 508-243-8487

### **Glendale Christian Lighthouse Church**

News and Notes

Adult Sunday School at 9:30 AM. Teaching about Holiness. Sunday 10:30 AM Wor-

ship service. Wednesday hour of Pow-

er, worship, prayer and Bible Study. We are studying about God, come join us. Come join us in prayer

every Friday at 6 am. Saturday, 12-3, Women's

Fellowship. Join our sisters in worship, fellowship and "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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ntaré con la diestra de mi

Isaias 41:10 "En busca de la excelen-

justicia."

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Amor, Verdad" **GLENDALE CHRISTIAN LIGHTHOUSE** 

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617-387-7458 Rev. Larry Russi, Sr. **Pastor** pastorlarry@ thelighthousechurch701.

net

have. Thank you **Immaculate Conception** 

### **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.

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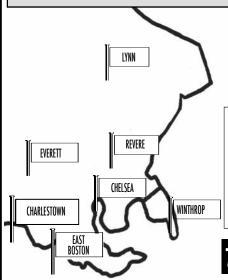
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### SEEKING **MISSING** PERSON

Searching for Marie Madeleine Murphy (original surname Carré and married to William Frew at one time). Marie arrived in Wintrhop, MA in 1952. She was born Dec 17th, 1927, originally from La Tranche-sur-Mer, France and lived at 26 Cutler St., Winthrop in 1952-53. If you have any information about her whereabouts or that of her children, please contact me at: robert\_frew@yahoo.com

TO PLACE YOUR AD 781-485-0588

### - LEGAL NOTICE -**CITY OF EVERETT**



484 BROADWAY, ROOM 26 **EVERETT, MASSACHUSETTS 02149** PHONE: 617-944-0211 FAX: 617-394-2433

**BOARD OF LICENSE COMMISSIONERS** 

This notice is to inform you that a public hearing will be held on Monday, January 13, 2020 at 6:30 P.M. at Everett City Hall, 2nd Floor, in room 27. Opinions will be heard regarding the following application:

An application has been presented to the License Commission for the approval of a Transfer of a Full Alcohol License from Tasty Garden, 444 Broadway to La Perle Caribbean Restaurant, LLC, which will be located at 444 Broadway, Everett, MA.

All interested parties may attend...

Phil Antonelli, Chairman Phil Arloro, Member **Annette DeBilio Administrative Assistant** December 24, 2019

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### - LEGAL NOTICE -CITY OF EVERETT



**BOARD OF APPEALS** 484 Broadway Everett, Massachusetts 02149 (617) 381-7445

To Whom It May Concern .:

This notice is to inform you that a public hearing will be held on Monday, January 6, 2019 at 7:00 PM, Connolly Center 90 Chelsea Street, Everett, MA 02149.

All interested parties may attend and opinions will be heard regarding the following petition.

Whereas a petition has been presented by: Property Address: 92 Malden Street. Map/Lot: L0-05-000040

Person Requesting: Fernando Lopes 92 Malden Street. Ev MA02149 To the said Board of Appeals, The owner/applicant proposes to

change the use of the existing single family dwelling constructed prior to 1926 to a two (2) family dwelling within the Dwelling district located on a 5020 sf lot with 40' of frontage. There is a proposed 2 1/2 story addition at the rear of the structure with dimensions of 33.8' x 22.4'. The existing lot frontage of 40' is nonconforming.

Reason for Denial:

Permit was denied in accordance to the City of Everett Zoning Ordinance Appendix A as follows:

Appendix A Section 4(b)(2) - Requires the lot area for a two

family dwelling to be 7000 sf. The lot area of 5020 sf containing a single family dwelling is conforming to zoning. The use change to a two family requires a lot area of 7000 sf. The applicant must seek relief in he form of a variance from the zoning Board of appeal Mary Grace - Chairman

> Roberta Suppa - Clerk **Board of Appeals** December 18, and December 24, 2019

### - LEGAL NOTICE -CITY OF EVERETT



To Whom It May Concern: This notice is to inform you that a public hearing will be held on

Monday, January 6, 2020 at 7:00 PM, at the Connolly Center 90 Chelsea Street, Everett, MA 02149. All interested parties may attend and opinions will be heard regarding the following petition. Whereas a petition has been presented by:

Property Address: 243 Chelsea Street Map/Lot: K0-03-000018

Person Requesting: Mr. Joseph J. Savage

243 Chelsea Street Everett, MA 02149

To the said Board of Appeals, The owner/applicant proposes to renovate an existing single family house, built in 1903, and convert it to a two-family residence. The existing 5000 sf lot is located in a Dwelling District. The lot and structure are nonconforming as to setback/s and lot area.

Permit was denied in accordance to the City of Everett Zoning Ordinance Appendix A as follows:

Section 4 Dwelling Districts (b)Dimensional Requirements (2) b. requires a lot size of 7000 sf for a two family structure. Applicant must seek relief in the form of a Special Permit and a finding pursuant to Section 3 General Requirements line (6) as follows: "Pre-existing, non-conforming structures or uses may be extended. altered or changed in use, providing that such extensions, alterations or changes of use shall be permitted only upon the grant of a Special Permit by the Zoning Board of Appeals and after a public hearing, a finding by the Board that such extension, alteration or change of use shall not be substantially more detrimental to the neighborhood than the existing non-conforming use or structure.

Mary Grace - Chairman Roberta Suppa - Clerk **Board of Appeals** December 18, and December 24, 2019

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### Everett delights riders with winter Flower Bomb, turns bus stop into 'A Beautiful Place to Be'

Staff Report

Everett is transforming the bus ride into a first-class travel experience, starting at the bus stop.

The City of Everett and BostonBRT on Dec. 18 revealed a bus stop transformed into a dazzling winter wonderland. The winter Flower Bomb at the School Street inbound bus stop was designed to surprise and delight people traveling along Broadway while also enhancing perceptions of the bus. Research has shown that enhanced bus stops not only grow ridership by enticing more people to try the bus, but also make wait times feel shorter before the bus arrives.

Mayor Carlo DeMaria welcomed riders as the BostonBRT street team handed bouquets while discussing recent bus improvements and the ambitious goal of creating New England's first Gold (BRT) corridor.

Created by Ad Hoc Industries, led by Adrian Gill, and built florist Krissy Price of Boston Pollen, the winterscape incorporated a lush tapestry of dried florals and birch branches, all sprinkled lights." The festive nature of this holiday-inspired concept produced a magical wonderland at the School Street bus

One of the most important aspects of Gold Standard BRT is well-designed, enclosed stations that provide people with comfort, secucold winter months. As the only Boston-adjacent city bus to get them where they need to go.

Greater Boston's highest-po- headlines with its rush hour tential transit corridors, so bus-only lane, which reduced



Mayor Carlo DeMaria was joined by Mary Skelton Roberts at the bus stop on Broadway.

it's important that we not only prioritize but really celebrate our buses and the people who ride them," said DeMaria. "We urge everyone who rides the bus to speak up for more improvements and BRT, and if you haven't ridden the bus lately, you should! The experience may be a pleasant surprise."

"Public transportation out hot chocolate and flower should be a delight to use and that includes where you access it. Riders deserve the basics of comfort and shelter, but we can go bigger and Standard Bus Rapid Transit bolder to transform the simple bus stop into a truly beautiful place to be, even in the wintertime," said Mary Skelton Roberts, co-director of climate at the Barr Foundation. "I want to thank Mayor DeMaria for his leadership."

"We're inspired by flowwith LED "twinkle fairy ers as a universal sign of giving; they cross all barriers between us. At this time of year as we continue to consider the experience of bus riders and BRT, the timing is just right. It's not only about the metrics in public transportation, it's about the people," said Adrian Gill, Founder and Creative Director of Ad rity, and protection from the Hoc Industries. "Why not elements, particularly in the make the bus stop a beautiful place to wait?"

This winterscape builds without a rail line, many Ev- on the City's efforts to elerett residents depend on the evate the bus experience for the 10,000 riders who travel along Broadway each "Broadway is one of day. Everett made national



Creative director behind the flower bomb, Adrian Gill, spoke about his work.

average travel time from Everett Square to Downtown Boston by more than 20 percent. Everett also became the first city in Massachusetts to test elevated platforms at bus stops, another crucial BRT element that makes it easier for riders - particularly those with wheelchairs, carts, or strollers - to get onto the bus. Survey responses indicated 81 percent support permanent level-boarding platforms, which the City has begun installing at bus stops along Broadway.

Stay tuned for more efforts as Everett continues to lead the region in its dedication to improving the bus experience for its residents and implementing BRT to bring faster commutes throughout the region.



Jay Monty, Mary Skelton Roberts, Mayor Carlo DeMaria, Julia Wallerce, and Adrian Gill stand inside the transformed bus stop.



Ryan Cazeau speaks with Mayor Carlo DeMaria at the School Street bus stop, which was decorated in festive flowers.



Mayor Carlo DeMaria is offered a bouquet to bus rider, Sylvia Oliveira.



Mayor Carlo DeMaria greeted guests as they waited for the bus at the decorated stop.



Mayor Carlo DeMaria offered a candy cane to Josalie Rodrigues while she waited for the bus with her mother,

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