

IN THE SHADOW OF GRIEF

Scars run deep, inside and out

STORY BY SAMANTHA J. GROSS | PHOTOS BY CRAIG F. WALKER | GLOBE STAFF

Second of three parts.

LEWISTON, Maine — Tom Giberti ducked into an opening between bowling lanes and into the thunder of pin-setting machines, cranking and heaving on this busy night like the engine of a ship. He was in search of a screwdriver. A locker with a stuck key needed fixing, and he was the guy who usually fixed things

No single description captures the scale and scope of the survivors’ pain. Nothing quite encapsulates the experience of trying to live life the way it was before. Each fumbles forward in their own way.

around there. He did a bit of everything at Just-in-Time Recreation, actually. He ran the league nights, did the paperwork. He cleaned up after closing, making sure the balls were back on the racks where they belonged. He knew the alleys probably better than anyone; he’s been bowling there nearly as long as the current owners have been alive. He’d tried to retire a couple of times, but both times came

LEWISTON, Page A6



Colin Robinson, who has autism, was at Just-in-Time Recreation the night of the shooting. His parents (above, his father, John) wonder how it has affected him.

Financial help right from the start

Mass. considers baby bonds to boost disadvantaged people later in life

By Tiana Woodard  
GLOBE STAFF

Imagine a government program that would create a savings-bond-like investment for every child at birth. At age 18, that child could take the accumulated savings and invest it as they wish — in a business, or in a home, perhaps toward a col-

**MONEY, POWER, INEQUALITY**

Closing the racial wealth gap

lege degree. Anything that could help them build up wealth. They’re called baby bonds, and the idea is catching on. Connecticut became the first state to create

such a program, in 2021. California later approved a similar trust fund program. Other states including Vermont, New York, and New Jersey have considered proposals as well.

And now, the idea is under consideration in Massachusetts, with the state treasurer and lawmakers pushing legislation that would create a trust fund for the most impoverished residents. Proponents say the

BABY BONDS, Page A9

Israeli forces expanded their ground offensive into urban refugee camps in central Gaza after bombarding the crowded Palestinian communities and ordering residents to evacuate. Once again, internet access was interrupted. **A3.**

Americans increased their spending this holiday season, despite lingering inflation. **B5.**

The controversial blogger “Turtleboy” was ordered held after a chaotic arraignment. **B1.**



Eating it up

Check out our 2023 restaurant awards (clockwise from top left, Comfort Kitchen, Barlette, and Grace by Nia). **G1.**



A wild year in politics sets stage for a wilder one

By Jackie Kucinich  
GLOBE STAFF

WASHINGTON — The year before a presidential election tends to be a table-setter for the election to come.

So brace yourself because 2023 was a hot political mess.

It was a year bookended by Representative Kevin McCarthy’s rise and then fall from power in the House. In January, the California Republican clinched the speaker’s gavel after 15 rounds of votes. By October, a single round of voting made him the first speaker in history to be bounced. And by December, he announced he was resigning and not coming back to Congress in the new year.

McCarthy wasn’t the only politician to make inauspicious history this year.

In March, Donald Trump became the first former president to be indicted when he was charged with 34 felony counts in New York for allegedly falsifying business records tied to hush money payments to a porn actress. By the summer, 40 counts in federal court had followed related to his alleged concealment of classified documents at his Mar-a-Lago resort in Florida. In August, his alleged involvement in election interfer-

YEAR IN REVIEW, Page A8

Others want voice in talks on Everett soccer stadium

Some residents, officials concerned about traffic

By John Hilliard  
GLOBE STAFF

For more than a year, Everett Mayor Carlo DeMaria and the Kraft Group have been promoting a plan to build a professional soccer stadium along the city’s Mystic River waterfront, near the Encore Boston Harbor casino and a potential entertainment complex.

But amid talks that could bring Robert Kraft’s New England Revolution team to the city, residents, advocates, and elected officials say the public has, so far, not had a chance to weigh in on the proposal for the stadium, which would draw thousands on game days, putting pressure on the city’s infrastructure.

“I think engagement needs to start now,” said Robert Van Campen, who was elected to the City Council in November. “It probably should have started a long time ago.”

Antonio Amaya Iraheta, executive director of Everett-based La Comunidad Inc., a nonprofit that supports Latino immigrants, is concerned that a stadium, once completed, would bring largely low-paying, part-time service jobs to a city grappling with rising housing costs. The median price for a single-family home in

EVERETT, Page B4

Mist opportunity

Wednesday: A bit of rain. High 47-52. Low 43-48.

Thursday: More of the same. High 46-51. Low 36-41.

Weather and Comics, G6-7. Obituaries, C11.

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