

The Boston Globe

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MONDAY, AUGUST 12, 2024

In Henning, supporters see ‘a great comfort’

Archbishop-elect praised for outreach; others wary over resolve on abuse cases

By Christopher Huffaker and Shelley Murphy
GLOBE STAFF

On the morning of Sept. 11, 2001, Richard Henning was a young priest on Long Island in New York, filling in for a vacationing pastor when two planes crashed into the World Trade Center.

Monsignor Bob Clerkin recalled that he was on a wide stretch of highway miles from his own parish when he reached Henning on his cellphone shortly after the second plane struck.

Henning understood that people would be turning to the church. He was calm. And ready.

“He had control of the situation,” Clerkin said during a recent interview, describing Henning as “a big guy” with a strong presence who rushed to a local parochial school to speak to children and “was a great comfort,” during the

unimaginable crisis.

Now, Henning, 59, is poised to take over as archbishop of the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Boston, one of the largest Catholic communities in the United States, with more than 1.8 million members. Cardinal Seán P. O’Malley announced last Monday that Henning, bishop of Providence, had been tapped by Pope Francis to succeed him on Oct. 31.

“I am humbled by the size and history of this archdiocese and I am very well aware that I have a lot to learn,” Henning said Monday.

Clerkin and others who have worked alongside Henning since he was ordained in 1992 say he also has a lot to teach. The New York native has been praised for his outreach to the Latino community and other immigrant groups. Fellow religious leaders describe him as a strategic and creative thinker who



PAT GREENHOUSE/GLOBE STAFF

When he was named to the Boston post, Bishop Richard Henning said he had a lot to learn; his backers said he also has a lot to teach.

helped prevent church closures and knows how to build collaborations.

Others are watching with skepticism. Advocates for clergy sexual abuse victims have raised concerns about his selection to take the helm

of the Boston archdiocese, which was at the center of the scandal and is still resolving claims over assaults committed by pedophile priests.

HENNING, Page A10

Migrant cases fill US courts in Mass.

Filings for deportations approach record as system struggles with influx

By Danny McDonald, Yoohyun Jung, and Giulia McDonnell Nieto del Rio

GLOBE STAFF

As thousands of migrants who fled violence and instability in their home countries face an unsettled future in Massachusetts, federal immigration authorities are on pace to file a record number of deportation cases this fiscal year, according to an immigration research center.

Through the first nine months of the 2024 federal fiscal year, which ends Sept. 30, the US Department of Homeland Security filed more than 44,000 new deportation cases in Massachusetts immigration courts. At the current pace, the total number of filings in the state by the end of the fiscal year could reach almost 59,000.

That compares to more than 54,000 cases in the previous federal fiscal year, which was the largest number of new filings in Massachusetts since 2001, according to data from the Transactional Records Access Clearinghouse, a research center at Syracuse University. Most of these cases are still pending with the court, data show.

Over the last two years, the wave of new migrants has pushed the state’s emergency shelter system to the brink, and Governor Maura Healey has clamped down on Massachusetts’ right-to-

DEPORTATION, Page A7

Israel expands evacuation zone in Gaza

Displaced again, residents struggle to find safety

By Wafaa Shurafa and Samy Magdy

ASSOCIATED PRESS

DEIR AL-BALAH, Gaza Strip — The Israeli military ordered more evacuations in southern Gaza Sunday, a day after a deadly airstrike on a school-turned-shelter in the north killed at least 80 Palestinians, according to local health authorities. The airstrike was one of the deadliest attacks in the 10-month war.

Israel has repeatedly ordered mass evacuations as its troops return to heavily destroyed areas where they previously battled Palestinian militants. The vast majority of Gaza’s population of 2.3 million people have been displaced, often multiple times, in the besieged territory 25 miles long by about 7 miles wide.

The latest evacuation orders apply to areas of Khan Younis, Gaza’s second-largest city, including part of an Israeli-declared humanitarian zone from which the military said rockets had been fired. Israel accuses Hamas and other militants of hiding among civilians and launching attacks from residential areas.

The humanitarian zone has steadily shrunk

MIDEAST, Page A6

Their global warming fight begins in own backyards

From Brockton to Andover, teens are mobilizing to create community solutions



JOHN TLUMACKI/GLOBE STAFF

Noah Fillion (left) and Zoe Smiarowski, both of Brockton, worked together on a table for a new outdoor classroom at Hancock Elementary School.

‘It is 100 percent the truth for me that the students are at the forefront of climate work. I could not be as effective without their help.’

JOYCE LOSICK-YANG, Andover’s sustainability and energy director

By Ivy Scott
GLOBE STAFF

BROCKTON — With dirt on their cheeks and smiles on their faces, the eight teenagers who make up Brockton’s Climate Crew this summer rested their shovels in the grass for a much-needed water break. The cohort of high schoolers and recent grads had just finished clearing the plot of land where, in a matter of weeks, an outdoor environmental studies classroom will be at the Hancock Elementary School, for younger students to learn about climate resilience in their neighborhood.

As climate anxiety grows among teens and young adults, many are turning to activism as a way to push back against feelings of helplessness. And while many teens are following in the footsteps of young global climate activists like Greta Thunberg to make policy demands at the national and international

levels, some are choosing their local communities as the place to start.

“When you think about climate issues, it feels like a giant thing that most people don’t touch, even if they care about it, because it’s too overwhelming,” said Climate Crew member Xaven Studer, 14. “But it matters, even the little things ... and seeing it unfurl, I’m excited I’m contributing to something important.”

From Brockton to Chelsea, Lowell to Andover, teenagers are at the center of their communities’ climate resilience efforts, urban farming initiatives, and recycling programs, in addition to raising support for local policies, such as increased access to renewable energy.

Research indicates nearly 60 percent of young people report feeling “very or extremely worried” about climate change, ac-

CLIMATE, Page A10

55,000 mattresses recycled over the past year by the Lowell youth violence intervention organization, UTEC.

Gangs refocused their attacks to areas outside of Port-au-Prince after international forces arrived in Haiti’s capital. **A4.**

The Canton Select Board shifted to Zoom meetings after months of verbal outbursts at hearings, often by Karen Read supporters. **B1.**

As the national markets and economy take hits, the Massachusetts business outlook continues to look stable. **D1.**

A ray of some shine
Monday: Some sun, clouds. High 77-82, low 62-67.
Tuesday: Some clouds, sun. High 78-83, low 66-72.
Sunrise: 5:49. Sunset: 7:49.
Weather and comics, **D4-5.**
Obituaries, **C10.**

VOL. 306, NO. 43

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Suggested retail price
\$4.00

