

# Boston Sunday Globe

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## NIGHTMARE IN MISSION HILL

Police ignored clues that Charles Stuart had engineered the murder of his wife, and many people in the know kept mum. That left Boston a divided city where the truth is still chasing the lies.

# THE ROAD NOT TAKEN

CHAPTER 8

*This series was reported by Adrian Walker, Evan Allen, Elizabeth Koh, Andrew Ryan, Kristin Nelson, and Brendan McCarthy. This story was written by Allen.*

Veda Bennett opened her front door to two strangers one summer morning in 2022.

Her Mission Hill apartment was dark and cool and still — a sharp contrast from the sweltering concrete patio where she liked to sit on a milk crate and chat with her neighbors. People called her Channel One, because she knew all the good gossip.

“I’m glad y’all came,” Veda said. She meant it.

She thought this conversation might hurt, but she also knew it had to be done. So, she stepped back from the door and gestured — come inside — and two Globe reporters stepped across 33 years of silence and into her kitchen.

They settled at the kitchen table, and before anyone asked a single question, Willie Bennett’s younger sister started to talk.

“Nobody ever heard my story,” Veda began, and she slipped back into the fall of 1989, a time that Veda never really left. The Stuart case sucked her in and never let her go, like a planet forever orbiting the sun.

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ERIN CLARK/GLOBE STAFF

A photo of a man being detained by Boston police is projected in the former neighborhood of the Bennett family in Mission Hill.

**Army beat Navy, 17-11**, in Foxboro, but, as always, the day was about much more than a game. **Sports, C1.**

**Time to look back before looking ahead.** Our critics have some thoughts on the best of the arts world in 2023. **SundayArts, N1.**

**Christmas decorations are often driven by sentiment**, but the age and style of a house can also be a guide. **Address, H1.**

**The Globe Magazine is not publishing today.** The puzzles can be found on **B4.**



## Splash only

**Sunday:** Becoming rainy. High: 58-63. Low: 48-53.

**Monday:** Heavy rain. High: 52-57. Low: 31-36. Sunrise: 7:02 Sunset: 4:11

Complete report, **B10.**  
Deaths, **A20-26.**

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## For the left, choice words over Gaza war

Sanders, others differ over cease-fire phrasing

By Jess Bidgood

GLOBE STAFF

WASHINGTON — Vermont Senator Bernie Sanders has had a quote stuck in his head for nearly a month, one that he says is key to understanding the Israel-Hamas war.

“I hope that the state of war with Israel will become permanent on all the borders, and that the Arab world will stand with us,” a Hamas media adviser told The New York Times in defense of his group’s Oct. 7 attack on Israel, which killed some 1,200 people and took 239 hostages.

►The University of Pennsylvania’s president, Liz Magill, has resigned amid criticism over her congressional testimony. **A4.**

As the civilian death toll of Israel’s response to Hamas’s attack has risen in Gaza, progressive activists inside and outside Washington have demanded that elected liberals call for an immediate and permanent cease-fire between Israel and Hamas. But Sanders pointed to that quote to explain why, in his mind, a solution to the conflict is not so simple.

“They want a permanent state of war, they want to destroy Israel, OK?” said Sanders, after handing a copy of the article with the quote marked with two black vertical lines to a Globe reporter as he sat down for a rare interview granted specifically to discuss the wrenching conflict. “Under those conditions, it’s kind of

DEMOCRATS, Page A4

“This is not the town it once was.”

RICH PRICE, *uncle of Burlington, Vt., shooting victim Hisham Awartani*

## Sound of gunfire unnerves a liberal idyll in Vermont

By Kevin Cullen

GLOBE STAFF

BURLINGTON, Vt. — It wasn’t that long ago that a violent night here in this fairly sleepy college town consisted of a fistfight outside any number of the bars and nightclubs on lower Main Street near Lake Champlain.

But the illusion that Burlington is a peaceful hub of old hippies and politically active students has been shattered in the last few years, as an unprecedented number of shootings has left many residents uneasy and city officials scrambling to get ahead of a disturbing trend.

In some of these shooting cases, no one is hit. So far this year, for example, there have been 16 criminal discharges of gunfire, with eight people actually hit. Two of the city’s three homicides this year were gun-related.

The most recent and most noted shooting took place two days after Thanksgiving, when three Palestinian students from US colleges were shot while walking near the home of a relative they were visiting, a few blocks from the University of Vermont campus.

Mayor Miro Weinberger called that shooting, which left one of the students

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CALEB KENNA FOR THE BOSTON GLOBE

Burlington, Vt., Mayor Miro Weinberger said shootings have increased in each of the last three years.

## Going big is familiar ground for Dana-Farber executive

SHIRLEY LEUNG

COMMENTARY

Dr. Laurie Glimcher learned early on from her father, a prominent physician-researcher, that success in science was built on a basic principle: Big discoveries require big risks.

The younger Glimcher took that advice to heart. In the late 1990s at her Harvard immunology lab, Glimcher and her post-doctoral student began a series of experiments that colleagues deemed “crazy.” But after a year of trial and error, the lab had a eureka moment when it found that white blood cells could be reprogrammed, a seminal discovery that led to new ways to treat cancer.

“Most scientists do good work, but they don’t transform a scientific question,” said Glimcher. “I always felt the only way to do that is to think big and go after something that’s going to be really important.”

Today, as the chief executive of Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, Glimcher is going big again, taking what may be the greatest risk of her career. She has bro-

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