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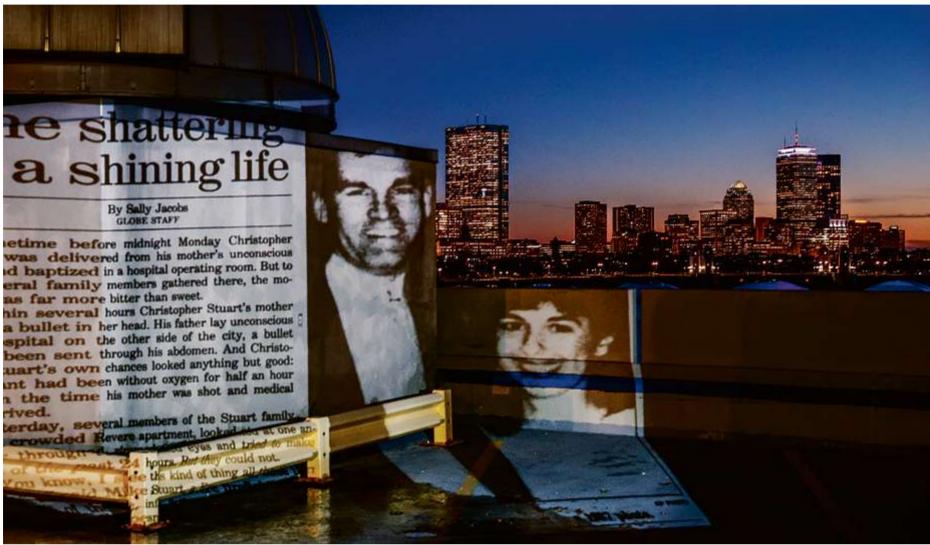
DECEMBER 3, 2023

It began with the crackle of a 911 call and a man saying he and his wife had been shot on the way home from a childbirth class. The Charles Stuart case would prove a hinge-point in Boston history; also, a lingering mystery. The story of the murders has never been fully told.

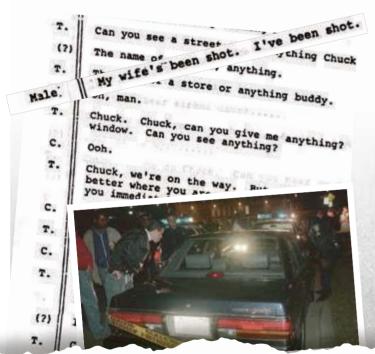
Until now.

NIGHTMARE IN MISSION HILL

CHAPTER 1



The front page of The Boston Globe from Oct. 25, 1989 – featuring Charles and Carol Stuart – was projected with the Boston city skyline.



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

It was 1989. The crack epidemic was raging, the murder rate was soaring, and white flight had taken hold.

Then came a shooting that would go on to define so uch about Boston: its identity, its politics, its problems.

This is the untold story of Mission Hill, the Charles and Carol Stuart shooting, and the people who got caught up in it and never managed to get free.

The voice on the 911 line was strained, with an edge

"I've been shot," the man said. There were no sounds in the background that offered any clues to what had taken place. Just the low, steady static of the recorded

"Where is this, sir?" asked the dispatcher, who scribbled on a notepad as the wheels of a reel-to-reel recorder captured each dramatic breath and pause.

"I - I have no idea," the man stammered.

It was 8:43 p.m. on the night of Oct. 23, 1989. The man's name was Charles Stuart, but everybody called him Chuck. He was lost somewhere in Boston, calling from the brick of a car phone installed in his blue Toyota Cressida. He wasn't alone.

His wife, Carol, sat in the passenger seat next to him. She was seven months pregnant with their first child. And Chuck said Carol was in bad shape.

The dispatcher looked up from his notes and signaled to a sergeant — two fingers, two victims.

The sergeant grabbed another phone to listen in. He pulled the spiral phone cord tight, and wedged the handset between his ear and shoulder.

"I was just coming from ... Brigham and Women's Hospital," said Chuck, stumbling over the words.

STUART, Page A12

A housing win, in a rare locale

Unusual alliance leads to new digs for the homeless

For about 15 years, Jack Koutoujian was homeless, the result of a downward spiral that began with a divorce. He frequented the shelter run by Pine Street Inn, then bounced between rented rooms. At 79, he never again expected to have a

SHIRLEY LEUNG **COMMENTARY**

home he could call his own.

By year's end, he and about 100 other formerly homeless people will have moved into studio apartments in the most desirable of Boston neighborhoods: the Back Bay.

"Thank God, you have something over your head, outside it's so cold," said Koutoujian, who once lived in a house in Belmont. "The best thing in life is to have your own room and especially the bathroom."

Call it the Miracle on Clarendon Street, born of a pandemic that led one developer to back out and another to step in with the improbable idea of converting a historic building in the Back Bay into affordable housing. Projects like these typically take years to pull together, but

LEUNG, Page A16

Milestone moment for sickle cell — and medicine

By Jonathan Saltzman GLOBE STAFF

Marie Tornyenu missed more than 100 days of high school while hospitalized repeatedly for sickle cell disease, an inherited blood disorder that causes crippling pain. Somehow, she still managed to complete at least eight Advanced Placement courses, play clarinet in the school band, and get admitted to Boston University.

Then in December 2021, after transferring to Cornell University, she received an experimental medicine that used a revolutionary gene-editing technology to treat inherited diseases. It freed her from excruciating bouts of pain and the frequent blood transfusions that are a mainstay of sickle cell treatment.

GENE THERAPY, Page A18

Rain? Check.

Sunday: Rain, some heavy. High: 45-50. Low: 41-46. Monday: Getting brighter.

Complete report, A26. Deaths, A19-25.

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