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Test from MGH helps assess risk of dementia

Physical health, lifestyle, and social life scores point to likelihood of brain diseases

By Felice J. Freyer
GLOBE STAFF

Imagine you could take a test that would reveal your chances of having a stroke or developing dementia. And imagine, once you got the results, you had a way to reduce that risk.

Researchers at Massachusetts General Hospital say they can now offer both. But neither involves lab

work or medication. Instead, their “test” is a “Brain Care Score” that enables you to calculate your odds by reviewing certain aspects of your physical health, lifestyle, and social life.

And the treatment? It's in your hands. The score offers lots of options, all things you can change. For example, if you lower your blood pressure, you can add three points.

‘We want to see a 10% reduction in dementia in 10 years.’

Dr. Jonathan Rosand, the study's senior author, a neurologist and cofounder of the McCance Center for Brain Health at Massachusetts General Hospital.

Likewise if you quit smoking. The closer you get to the highest possible score of 21, the better care you're taking of your brain.

A study published earlier this month found that a large group of people with high Brain Care Scores — who, for example, exercised regularly, ate fruits and vegetables, and maintained friendships — were significantly less likely to suffer a stroke or develop dementia. The researchers say the finding validates their score.

BRAIN HEALTH, Page A7

Harvard leader gets support of faculty

More than 500 sign letter as pressure mounts over testimony on antisemitism

By Hilary Burns
GLOBE STAFF

and Daniel Kool
GLOBE CORRESPONDENT

Hundreds of Harvard University faculty members signed a letter Sunday urging the school's administration to resist calls to remove president

Claudine Gay, following widespread criticism of her responses at a congressional hearing last week on campus antisemitism.

The letter came as the Harvard Corporation and the school's Board of Overseers — the university's governing bodies — convened over the weekend for regularly scheduled meetings that will continue into Monday, according to a person familiar with the matter.

Harvard's president faced widespread criticism, alongside the presidents of the University of Pennsylvania and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, for offering legalistic and equivocal answers at the hearing on Tuesday to a question about whether calls for genocide of Jews would vi-

HARVARD, Page A6

Culture wars

Conservatives see an opening in campus unrest over the war in Gaza to assail the left-wing tilt in colleges. **A2.**



PHOTOS BY SUZANNE KREITER/GLOBE STAFF

Little Leaf Farms grows its lettuce in a 10-acre automated greenhouse. The company has taken care to gradually build its business.

AS RIVALS WILT, THIS INDOOR FARM FLOURISHES

Forgoing rapid venture capital expansion, Devens lettuce startup finds profit

By Thomas Lee
GLOBE STAFF

DEVENS — Indoor farming startups seeking to revolutionize the nation's food supply have endured a rocky year. Investors have significantly pulled back funding, forcing several companies once worth billions of dollars into insolvency.

Paul Sellew has been watching the situation with a mix of pride and hard-earned realism. Little Leaf Farms in Devens, which he cofounded and serves as chief executive, has been flourishing even as the bubble sur-



rounding such startups appears to have burst.

“There was a little bit too much hype, and it was not grounded in the kinds of approaches that we're doing here,” he said.

As of the end of 2022, investors had placed more than \$2 billion in such companies across 158 deals, according to data by Pitchbook. But Little Leaf executives decided to forgo venture capital, worried that the rapid expansion often expected in the startup scene may not be sustainable for their vision.

AGRICULTURE, Page A7

Desperate Gaza residents mass at Egyptian border

Fleeing Israel's siege, they find little food or shelter

By Ameera Harouda and Ben Hubbard
NEW YORK TIMES

DOHA, Qatar — The last point of refuge for Palestinians fleeing from Israel's relentless siege of the Gaza Strip is collapsing under the weight of tens of thousands of people seeking food and shelter, stirring fears of a potential mass displacement into Egypt, United Nations officials warned Sunday.

Pressure is mounting in the area near Gaza's southern border with Egypt, Rafah, where many Palestinians have tried to escape Israel's military campaign against Hamas, only to find more hunger, desperation, and death.

“Where should I go? Tell me, where should I go?” said Raif Naji Abu Lubda, 39, a farmer who fled to the border area with his wife and six children.

The family is now sleeping on the ground in the

MIDEAST, Page A6

The PGA is in talks with a consortium led by Fenway Sports Group to transform golf's most prestigious tour into a global for-profit enterprise. **C1.**

Former military bases may be used to help solve the state's housing crisis, possibly to locate thousands of homes. **D1.**

Shari Redstone is said to be in talks to sell her stake in National Amusements, the parent company of a sprawling news and entertainment empire. **D2.**

Grayed expectations

Monday: Rain early.

High 51-56, low 30-35.

Tuesday: Mostly sunny.

High 41-46, low 34-39.

Sunrise: 7:03. Sunset: 4:11.

Obituaries, **C10.**

Comics and Weather, **D5-6.**

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NIGHTMARE IN MISSION HILL

For reporters and readers, a troubling reckoning continues long after Stuart's plot unraveled

EPILOGUE: MEDIA SINS

ADRIAN WALKER

COMMENTARY

The 1989 murder of a pregnant white woman in Black-and-brown Mission Hill put the city's longstanding race and class divisions front and center.

And it proved to be a major test for the Boston media.

It raised questions of whose murders matter, and whose stories resonate. It brought to the surface such issues as diversity — more precisely, lack of diversity — in the city's newsrooms. And it made the city's proud media establishment look at itself in a way that remains deeply uncomfortable to this day.

Once Charles Stuart leaped to his death off the Tobin Bridge, the city's newsrooms came under fire for buying into his hoax — that the shooter was Black — for identifying suspects implicated by police in a murder they hadn't committed, and for giving the killing of a white woman from the suburbs a level of attention murders of Black victims never garnered.

Most of the criticism was deserved. I say that as someone who was a reporter on the story, with a front-row seat to observe what I consider many missteps.

STUART, Page A10



ERIN CLARK/GLOBE STAFF

The Boston Herald's front page from Oct. 24, 1989, is projected in downtown Boston with The Boston Globe's front page from the next day.