

Boston Sunday Globe

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AUGUST 25, 2024

Grocery prices as election indicator

Voters skeptical candidates can tame food bills

By Emma Platoff
GLOBE STAFF

REEDSBURG, Wis. — Jessica Richert and Leland McKnight do not live particularly close to the Jams 2 Bent & Dent, a discount grocery store on the bank of the Baraboo River. And the transmission recently kicked out in their Chevy Tahoe, making their 30-minute trip all the more complicated.

But on Sunday, they were undeterred. The couple borrowed their daughter's Dodge Ram so they could load up on cereal, canned goods, and hamburger meat, because at the Bent & Dent, they know they can count on better deals than they'd get closer to home. As the sign outside the low-slung brick building advertises, "PRICES ARE LOW EVERY DAY!"

It has been one thing after another for their family this year: an adenoid removal surgery in May that cost Richert \$9,000 and two weeks off work; the car troubles; then gifts for

GROCERIES, Page A12

You think you know the Kan-camagus Highway? There are some hidden gems along the way. **Globe Magazine.**

Two NASA astronauts stuck in space for months will return to Earth in February aboard SpaceX's Dragon capsule, NASA said. **B1.**



The PG-13 movie rating turns 40 this year, but movie critic Odie Henderson says it doesn't do what it promised and never has. **SundayArts, N1.**

Perfect. Storm.

Sunday: Partly sunny.
High: 80-85. Low: 65-70
Monday: Showers.
High: 77-82. Low: 62-67.
Complete report, **A22.**
Deaths, **A16-21.**

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*
Suggested retail price
\$6.00



URBAN RE-RENEWAL



UNDOING DECADES OF DAMAGE



DAVID L. RYAN/GLOBE STAFF



CRAIG F. WALKER/GLOBE STAFF

Top: An aerial view of the plaza, just before it opened, at 1001 Boylston. Above: Cynthia Yee passed a highway wall while touring Hudson Street where she grew up, in Boston's Chinatown.

New buildings cover the scars from highways that tore through cities

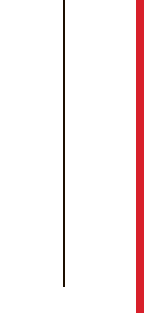
By Murray Whyte
GLOBE STAFF

To get your head around what the Mass. Pike did to Boston, it helps to get above it — way above it. From View Boston, the glassed-in deck 52 stories up in the Prudential Center, you can see the ragged scar the Pike carves into the urban landscape: As many as eight lanes stretching west to the horizon, cleaving the city in two.

Decades ago, starting in the 1950s, Boston and countless other cities were quick to sacrifice their cores to serve car culture. Dense inner-city neighborhoods were the past, the thinking went. Freeways, suburbs, and cars, cars, and more cars, were the future. They called it “urban renewal,” an intervention designed to radically remake urban centers crumbling into chaos and disrepair, whatever the social costs.

Today, that vision is starkly at odds with the dense, vibrant, walkable city centers that most now see as the ultimate goal. In Boston,

RENEWAL, Page A14



Shelter plan tests separation of church and state

Neighbors hit parish proposal to aid homeless

By Spencer Buell
GLOBE STAFF

SOMERVILLE — When members of First Church decided to make room for a 26-bed adult homeless shelter in their building's first floor, they said they were called to do so by their faith.

“First Church Somerville is convinced that God has given us this work to do,” the Rev. Jenn Macy, its lead pastor, said in a statement, adding, “We consider this work central to our call as a Christian church and are convicted by the Gos-

pel to center the needs of the most vulnerable.”

They may soon have to make that case in court.

A group of neighbors who oppose the plans for the shelter have been urging the city — so far, unsuccessfully — to revoke the church's building permit on the grounds that the project does not serve a religious purpose, as church leaders have claimed, and exploits a state law to put a new shelter where it doesn't belong and otherwise would not be allowed.

“They believe in the idea that Christianity says they should be helping the homeless, which is fine,” said Jane Becker, who lives across the

SHELTER, Page A13

‘It cannot go unnoticed that these top-level presidents are women and they are being dismissed in a rapid fashion.’

BERNICE LEDBETTER, *Center for Women in Leadership at Pepperdine University*

In the ivory tower, a question of support

OUSTED IVY LEAGUE PRESIDENTS

M. Elizabeth Magill
University of Pennsylvania
Tenure: 2 years



Claudine Gay
Harvard University
Tenure: 6 months



Nemat Shafik
Columbia University
Tenure: 1 year



Female leaders lost posts amid campus unrest

By Hilary Burns
GLOBE STAFF

A year ago, six of eight Ivy League college presidents were women, a milestone that indicated to scholars across the academy that the centuries-old boys club in the ivory tower was coming undone. The celebrations did not last long.

A bloody war half a world away in Gaza would soon pit students, faculty, and administrators against one another while attracting an unrelenting national spotlight that has so far impelled three university presidents to resign.

To some, it's unsurprising that college leaders have lost their jobs in recent months, following a series of missteps that angered sparring factions on their campuses, influential donors, and politicians concerned about campus antisemitism. But to the dismay of advocates of gender parity, the most high-profile departures as a result of the campus mayhem have all so far been women, causing some to question whether the female leaders were inadequately supported by their boards or treated differently than male peers dealing with discord on other campuses.

Ahead of what is widely expected to be another year of tension and emotional protests

IVY LEAGUE, Page A13

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