

# Hotter ocean fuels nightmare hurricanes

## Tampa braces with Milton on the way

**By Terry Spencer and Haven Daley**  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

TAMPA — Fearful Florida residents streamed out of the Tampa Bay region Tuesday ahead of what could be a once-in-a-century direct hit from Hurricane Milton, as crews worked furiously to prevent furniture, appliances, and other water-logged wreckage from the last big storm from becoming deadly projectiles in this one.

Tuesday marked the last chance for millions of people in the Tampa metro area to prepare for lethal storm surges, ferocious winds, and possible tornadoes in a place that has narrowly avoided a head-on blow from a major storm for generations.

“Today’s the last day to get ready,” said Craig Fugate, a former FEMA director who previously ran the state’s emergency operation division.

**MILTON, Page A7**



NOAA VIA ASSOCIATED PRESS

Hurricane Milton is poised to hit Florida just two weeks after Hurricane Helene devastated parts of the state and the Southeast.

## Worsening global warming is ‘a total game-changer,’ scientists say

**By Erin Douglas**  
GLOBE STAFF

There’s a super fuel that transformed Helene, and now Milton, into monsters: the hot ocean.

As Hurricane Milton barrels toward Florida’s Gulf Coast, residents are bracing for what will likely be one of the worst storms on record, a storm supercharged by climate change increasing the temperatures of Gulf waters about 2 degrees Fahrenheit warmer than normal.

It’s an all-too-quick reminder of just two weeks ago, when Hurricane Helene made landfall on Florida’s northwest coast and then devastated parts of the Southeast as it moved inland. Climate scientists have found in an early analysis that climate change made Helene far more powerful and destructive than it would’ve been otherwise. Those same conditions are likely supercharging Hurricane Milton now, scientists said.

The two monster storms in short succession are yet more evidence of just how big a role climate change plays in natural disasters. Burning fossil fuels adds heat-trapping greenhouse gases to the atmosphere, which has caused water and air temperatures to rise, creating prime conditions for stronger storms.

**CLIMATE CHANGE, Page A7**

## ‘Why are we fighting over admissions when we can fix the problem?’

CHARLIE ELLIS, *chair of the Nashoba Valley Technical School Committee*



JESSICA RINALDI/GLOBE STAFF

Kyra Matos (center), a junior at Greater Lawrence Tech, asked her classmates their opinions as they worked to solder pipes.

# Something to build upon

Increasingly popular vocational schools look to the state for help to grow

**By Christopher Huffaker**  
GLOBE STAFF

FITCHBURG — Since he was 12, Christian Lees-Morel had his career mapped out. Being good with his hands, and having seen his uncles earn good money in the skilled trades, Lees-Morel would go to the local trade school with a friend, then they would temporarily split up: Lees-Morel would become an electrician, the friend a plumber, and they would go into busi-

ness together flipping houses.

The plan hit a snag four years ago. The friend got into Montachusett Regional Vocational Technical School and is well on his way to entering his trade — but Lees-Morel didn’t because of poor marks in eighth grade. He went to Gardner High School.

Lees-Morel was one of the thousands of Massachusetts students each year who are locked out of the state’s trade high schools, which are

straining at the seams after decades of growing interest.

But this year, Lees-Morel, now a senior, got a second chance. The trade school, known locally as Monty Tech, has a new program, dubbed MVP, in partnership with three area high schools that lets students learn trades at Monty Tech while taking traditional academic courses at their high schools. Lees-Morel became one of

**VOCATIONAL SCHOOLS, Page A5**

# Voters down on MCAS graduation requirement

Poll also shows solid support for Harris, split on psychedelics

**By Matt Stout and Anjali Huynh**  
GLOBE STAFF

Facing a ballot brimming with potentially seismic choices, Massachusetts voters overwhelmingly want to eliminate the MCAS as a graduation requirement, allow the state auditor to investigate the Legislature, and, perhaps least surprising, make Kamala Harris the country’s next president, a Suffolk University/Boston Globe poll shows.

► **Warren far ahead in Senate race, poll says. B1.**

But they’re torn on a range of other issues, including whether to make Massachusetts the third state to legalize psychedelics, including mushrooms.


With just weeks until the Nov. 5 election, the survey of 500 likely voters found that Massachusetts’ center-left electorate is grappling with economic pressures, fears for the fate of democracy, and a host of weighty choices that could unlock major changes in the state.

Nearly half of those polled said they believe the country is headed in the wrong direction, though a vast majority — 61 percent — said they would support Harris, the second in command of the current Democratic administration, over Republican nominee and former president Donald Trump at 32 percent.

The numbers are on par with recent presidential candidates’ numbers in Massachusetts, a state that consistently delivers its 11 electoral votes to the Democratic ticket, and where Democrats hold every statewide elected office. President Biden earned 65 percent of the state’s voters in 2020, while Trump won about 32 percent.

The wide margin in the Suffolk/Globe

**POLL, Page A6**



### Shine and coshine

**Wednesday:** Very pleasant. High 62-67. Low 46-51.

**Thursday:** A bit cooler. High 58-63. Low 44-49.


Sunrise: 6:50 Sunset: 6:11

**Weather and Comics, G6-7. Obituaries, C9.**

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**Ethel Kennedy, the widow of Senator Robert F. Kennedy, suffered a stroke in her sleep and is in a hospital. B1.**

**Boston city councilors criticized post office leaders for refusing to testify** at an emergency hearing on mail delays after residents’ complaints. **B1.**

**Steward Health Care gave notice that it will abandon Norwood Hospital and close four satellite operations,** a move that will eliminate dozens of jobs and trigger a hearing. **B5.**

**Israel fired missiles at a residential building in Damascus,** Syrian and Iranian news agencies reported. **A3.**

**“The viral Dubai chocolate bar” has become big business** for makers trying to duplicate the pricey confection. **G1.**

LUIS TIAN 1940-2024

## Clutch and charismatic, with an unforgettable twist

**By John Powers**  
GLOBE CORRESPONDENT

Luis Tiant, a Cuban emigré whose pitching heroics spurred the Red Sox to the 1975 World Series and made him the city’s first Latino sports superstar, died Tuesday at his home in Maine. He was 83.

“El Tiante,” as he was known by fans who relished his bewildering swivel-hitch-and-fire delivery, his outsize personality, and his bravura performances under pressure, played for six major league teams during his 19-year career from 1964-82.

But his glory days were his eight seasons in Boston, where he won 122 games and was the centerpiece of several pennant races with a bewitching style that Globe writer Peter Gammons called his “marionette abracadabra.”

“He looked little like baseball royalty,” wrote Globe columnist Harold Kaese. “Stocky, thick-chested, short-armed. This



GLOBE FILE/1975

In the 1970s, Luis Tiant became Boston’s first Latino sports superstar.

**‘You really had to be there’** There will never be another like him, writes Dan Shaughnessy. **C1.**

**Left out of the Hall** Tiant could have been in Cooperstown long ago, writes Peter Abraham. **C1.**

was one of the princes of pitching?”

Mr. Tiant’s chiropractic motion — “wheeling and rotating on the mound like a figure in a Bavarian clock tower,” observed New Yorker writer Roger Angell — baffled batters who had no idea when and where the ball would be coming at them.

“He doesn’t even look at you when he throws the ball,” said former Yankees catcher Thurman Munson.

Mr. Tiant’s unpredictability amplified his two greatest qualities — his resilience and his reliability in must-win contests.

**TIAN, Page C9**