# The Boston Globe

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### 10 YEARS LATER, MARKET BASKET'S FEEL-GOOD STORY



SUZANNE KREITER/GLOBE STAFF/FILE 2014



BILL GREENE.GLOBE STAFF/FILE 2014

Market Basket has long inspired loyalty, especially when it was under siege in 2014 (at left, empty shelves). The resolution was a relief for employees.

After regaining control of the chain, thanks to a revolt by employees and customers, Arthur T. Demoulas took a big chance on the future. It's paid off.

#### Jon Chesto

**COMMENTARY** 

oe Schmidt remembers like

it was yesterday. And if you shop at Market Basket, you probably do, too. Ten years ago, on a sunny morning in late August, Arthur T. Demoulas strode to a makeshift podium overlooking the lawn at the headquarters of Market Basket in Tewksbury and addressed the gathered crowd in triumph. Together, they had achieved the improbable: After decades of fighting between two warring family factions that culminated in Arthur T. being pushed out as chief executive by his cousin, a surprisingly successful employee revolt and customer boycott enabled him to win back con-

However, that victory came at a steep price: \$1.6 billion in debt.

Schmidt, a lifelong employee who got his start bagging groceries and now serves as Market Basket's director of operations, was among the top executives who were fired for their loyalty to Demoulas, only to be reinstated when he returned as chief executive.

Schmidt risked his livelihood for his mentor — and for a corporate culture focused on low prices and generous employee benefits. One day, he thought back then, he wanted to tell his kids their father took a stand for what was right.

Now, a decade later, that debt is almost all gone. Vindication for Schmidt and for the thousands of colleagues who believed a company's unique culture was worth fighting for.

All the management experts — the business school professors and consultants — seemed skeptical at the time that Market Basket would ever

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**Customers posted receipts from** other stores as they showed solidarity in 2014.

### \$150

in debt left from the \$1.6 billion buyout that ended the feud

**\$7.6** 

in projected revenue this year, roughly double what it was in 2014

more stores

35,000 employees

> about 40 percent higher

## **EEE death** in N.H. sets off more alarms

First in a decade; warming likely to bring additional mosquito-borne diseases

By Sabrina Shankman, Adam Piore, and Travis Andersen

A Hampstead, N.H., resident has died from eastern equine encephalitis, the mosquito-borne disease known as EEE, state health officials announced Tuesday, the first fatal case of the very rare disease in that state in a decade.

News of the death came just days after Massachusetts public health officials issued an unusual warning to four communities south of Worcester: Avoid being outdoors in the evening from now until the first hard frost, or risk contracting the infectious disease, which kills roughly 30 percent of those who get it. That warning followed the infection of an 80-year-old man in Worcester County with EEE, the first case in Massachusetts since 2020. His condition was not known Tuesday.

The cases are a sign that such outbreaks are happening more frequently and with more extreme effects, officials said, pointing to climate change as a likely cause.

Approximately 115 cases of EEE have been recorded in Massachusetts since it was first identified in the state in 1938, officials said. Outbreaks historically occurred in Massachusetts every 10 to 20 years, but that appears to be changing. The last outbreak began just five years ago, when 12 people were infected with EEE, six of whom died. That outbreak continued in 2020 with five cases, includ-

**DISEASES. Page A7** 

### Mass. schools get tougher on phones in class

**By James Vaznis** GLOBE STAFF

and Auzzy Byrdsell and Steph Ware GLOBE CORRESPONDENT

IPSWICH — When students return to Ipswich High School on Wednesday, they will have to hand over their cellphones and other personal devices, including laptops, which will be locked up throughout the school day.

The new policy represents a major victory among the school's educators in fighting their students' compulsive need to take out the phones — in defiance of classroom rules - to check social media, play games, or even watch movies. More concerning to teachers were the arguments that erupted between students over postings and cyberbully-

Ipswich High is among a growing number of Massachusetts public schools banning cellphones and other personal devices to regain control over classrooms, and to keep students focused on learning and improve their overall mental well-being. Tighter restrictions will greet students in such districts as Methuen, Fall River, Sandwich, and Pioneer Valley Regional.

Boston also is ramping up its cellphone ban, awarding a three-year, \$843,000 contract earlier this year to Yondr, a company that makes individu-

**CELLPHONES, Page A6** 



#### Bolted, down

Wednesday: Hot, T-storms. High 85-90. Low 61-66.

Thursday: Much cooler. High 67-72. Low 55-60. High tide: 7:18 a.m., 7:34 p.m. Sunrise: 6:05 Sunset: 7:24

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

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#### Trump Jan. 6 indictment is revised

Special counsel Jack Smith narrowed the allegations following a Supreme Court opinion that conferred broad immunity on former presidents. A5.

Possessing a switchblade is no longer a crime under the Second Amendment, the SJC ruled. B1.

A Bourne couple is blaming nearby pickleball courts for the difficulty they're having in selling their house. **B5.** 

Summer is starting to fade a bit, but peach season is in full swing with many varieties ready for picking at local farms. **G1.** 

# In Maine, pesticide fight is going local

Case of poisoned trees raises new awareness and brings calls for regulation

By Kevin Cullen

CAMDEN, Maine - About three years ago, Jo-Ann Wilson was walking along the harbor here when she noticed a small sign that had been stuck in the lawn of one of the mansions that dot the

The property owner approached her as she was reading the sign, which a landscaper had placed, warning people not to walk on the grass because it had been treated.

Wilson told the property owner the chemicals used on his lawn were bound to wash into the harbor.

The property owner, she said, wasn't interested in a conversa-"Mind your own business," she said he told her, turning on his

But that's just the point, Wilson said. It is her business. It's the business of everyone who lives and works in this quaint seaside town of 5,000. It's the business, she said, of everyone who lives along Maine's beautiful but environmentally vulnerable coastline.

That's why she and others asked town officials to consider an



MICHAEL G. SEAMANS FOR THE BOSTON GLOBE

Camden, Maine, drew international attention when it sought criminal charges against wealthy seasonal residents who killed a neighbor's trees to improve their water views.