

The Boston Globe

Serving our community since 1872

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 2024

Lewiston families say they were left in dark

Excruciating waits, little info after shooting

By Daniel Kool
GLOBE CORRESPONDENT

AUGUSTA, Maine — Survivors and relatives of those killed in the October mass shooting in Lewiston, Maine, testified Thursday that they endured agonizing waits in the chaotic hours after the shoot-

ing, with information from law enforcement about their loved ones scant and slow to come.

And, at the third hearing of an independent commission investigating the shootings, some family members also expressed frustration at how local law enforcement

responded to warnings about erratic behavior by the shooter, Robert R. Card II, in the weeks before he went on a rampage at a bowling alley and nearby bar on Oct. 25, killing 18 people.

Kathleen Walker, whose husband, Jason Walker, was shot in the head at the Just-in-Time Recreation bowling alley, said it took “an

excruciating 15 hours to get official confirmation” of what she already feared: he was dead.

“My world is forever changed,” Walker said, describing how the couple was just settling into their new lives as empty-nesters. “I need all of you as a commission to find the failures and plug the holes.”

LEWISTON, Page A7

Healey intervenes as strike drags on

Calls for arbitrator to force Newton sides to reach deal

By Mandy McLaren and Deanna Pan
GLOBE STAFF

For the first time in the ongoing Newton teachers strike, which has left roughly 12,000 students out of school for 10 days, Governor Maura Healey intervened on Thursday, asking a Middlesex Superior Court judge to appoint a third party to force the union and School Committee to agree to a new contract.

The request for an arbitrator by the governor signaled a new level of pressure on the two sides to make concessions in a bargaining dispute that’s lasted more than a year and led to the state’s longest teachers strike in decades.

At Healey’s direction, the state Labor Department also asked Judge Christopher Barry-Smith to order twice-daily status conferences with the labor board and Education Secretary Patrick Tutwiler, which would allow him to “speak to the educational harms faced by Newton students each day that Newton’s schools are closed,” according to a court

NEWTON, Page A9

US prosecutors looking into O’Brien records

Part of a grand jury probe, according to subpoena

By Matt Stout
GLOBE STAFF

Federal prosecutors have sought a trove of records tied to Shannon O’Brien, including the top cannabis regulator’s personnel file and the contents of her email account, saying the requests were part of a grand jury investigation, according to a copy of a federal subpoena obtained by the Globe.

The subpoena that the office of the US attorney for Massachusetts sent to state officials last fall does not specify who is the target of the investigation, nor did it disclose the scope of the probe.

An Oct. 10 letter that accompanied the subpoena said that a federal grand jury is investigating “suspected violations of federal criminal law.” The letter — sent by Dustin Chao, head of the office’s public corruption unit — did not specify what those violations might be. The Globe does not know if other subpoenas related to the same investigation have been issued.

The documents nonetheless provide a glimpse

O'BRIEN, Page A8



PHOTOS BY KEN MCGAGH FOR THE BOSTON GLOBE

Luke Miarecki of Upton (center) got advice from Ella Costa of Milford at Blackstone Valley Regional Vocational Technical High.

In the push for diversity, a call for a vocational school lottery



Martha Cummings (left) of Grafton and Olivia Ferrelli of Northbridge applied makeup to mannequins.

By James Vaznis
GLOBE STAFF

To increase student diversity at vocational schools in Massachusetts, civil rights advocates are pushing to have students admitted by a blind lottery instead of allowing vocational schools to use poor grades, other unfavorable records, and interviews to weed out applicants.

Advocates have launched an all-out offensive to change the admission rules, as they fend off strong opposition from the vocational schools, which prefer greater autonomy over admissions standards. Ad-

vocates are not only lobbying lawmakers to mandate a lottery, but are also urging Governor Maura Healey to do so directly by convincing the state Board of Elementary and Secondary Education to adopt the admission change by state regulation.

The push comes nearly one year after advocates filed a civil rights complaint with the US Department of Education over what they perceive as unfair admission practices at the vocational schools. The complaint is pending.

“This is about ensuring every stu-

VOCATIONAL SCHOOLS, Page A8

Most hospital leaders now avoiding conflict by staying off corporate boards

By Liz Kowalczyk
GLOBE STAFF

Just three years ago, almost all of Boston’s hospital chiefs worked lucrative outside jobs as directors of for-profit companies, a rate that far exceeded national levels. But since then the corner office culture has shifted dramatically.

Now, just one hospital chief maintains her outside commitment on a for-profit

board: Dr. Laurie Glimcher, the chief executive of Dana-Farber Cancer Institute and a professor at Harvard Medical School. In 2022, Analog Devices paid Glimcher \$318,000 in fees and stock for serving on its board of directors. Her compensation from Dana-Farber was nearly \$4 million in 2021, the most recent year available.

HOSPITALS, Page A9

Harvard’s chief diversity officer is the latest administrator to face allegations of plagiarism and academic misconduct, stirring unease among diversity professionals. **B1.**

The ex-leader of the State Police commercial driver’s licensing unit was dishonorably discharged and 26 people lost their licenses. **B1.**

Defense Secretary Lloyd Austin apologized for keeping his cancer diagnosis secret. **A2.**



The Celtics couldn’t handle the Lakers and fell again at TD Garden, 114-105. **C1.**

IRobot faces a murky future after the collapse of an acquisition by Amazon. **B5.**

Getting our Phil

Friday: Cloudy again. High 45.

Saturday: Sun, maybe. High 39.

Weather and Comics, G6-7. Obituaries, C10-11.

VOL. 305, NO. 33

Suggested retail price
\$3.50



FOLLOW-UP

A RATE
YOU’LL LOVE!

5.55% APY*
12-MONTH CD OR IRA CD SPECIAL
FOR ONE WEEK ONLY!

For a limited time, we’re offering this sweetheart deal.

To open your CD, visit any Salem Five branch location or visit saalemfive.com/heart

SalemFive
MAKE YOUR MOVE.™

*Annual Percentage Yield (APY) is accurate as of 2/1/2024 and subject to change. A minimum balance of \$10,000 is required to open and obtain the annual percentage yield (APY) for our non-IRA CD Special, and for our IRA CD Special the minimum balance is \$2,000. A penalty will be imposed for early withdrawals from Certificates of Deposit (CDs). Maximum deposit amount is \$500,000. Fees may reduce earnings. Personal accounts only. One account per customer. Salem Five Bank is a Member of the FDIC.