

# The Boston Globe

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FRIDAY, DECEMBER 8, 2023

## Mass. left waiting on federal shelter aid

D.C. immigration standoff keeps Biden package on hold

By Tal Kopan  
GLOBE STAFF

WASHINGTON — Federal money to help Massachusetts and other major metropolises shelter migrants is tied up in a messy partisan fight over funding and immigration policy, one that shows no signs of speedy resolution.

The state has repeatedly said it is being pushed to the brink trying to house an influx of migrants who have fled dangerous or impoverished countries. Along with mayors of major cities including Chicago and New York, Massachusetts' leaders have begged the Biden administration and Congress for more federal support to accommodate the growing numbers as winter temperatures make access to housing all the more urgent.

In a letter released Wednesday, all of the state's lawmakers in Congress told the Department of Homeland Security that current funding is insufficient and not "equitably distributed," short-changing Massachusetts compared to its need. According to the Department of Homeland Security, the department has given out \$1 billion to local communities and nonprofits nationwide, \$2.8 million of which went to Boston. As of August, the state was spending \$45 million a month to shelter and care for homeless and migrant families, the lawmakers wrote, and money is running short.

But while the administration has made some small policy changes and pots of money available, **SHELTER AID, Page A5**

## Crash driver has history of police chases

After one, was sentenced to a psychiatric hospital

By Travis Andersen, John R. Ellement, and Emily Sweeney  
GLOBE STAFF

WALTHAM — When a Ford pickup truck began to pull off Totten Pond Road late Wednesday afternoon, the driver of the Jeep behind it casually drove around. But the truck swerved back into the road, seemingly making a U-turn before colliding with the Jeep, and then hurtled down Totten Pond toward some flashing lights and orange construction signs.

Behind the wheel, authorities said, was Peter J. Simon, a New Hampshire man who twice previously had been involved in car chases with police, including one in 2009 in which he nearly hit a state police trooper and was ordered to spend years in a psychiatric hospital. And with that abrupt move on Totten Pond Road Wednesday, Simon allegedly unleashed a cascade of mayhem that claimed two lives and set off yet another car chase that ended in a crash.

**CRASH, Page B4**



Waltham police Officer Paul Tracey (left) worked for the department for 28 years. Roderick Jackson was a gas operations technician for National Grid.



**The T disclosed a pair of safety incidents** — a worker injury and a near-miss involving an electrified third rail — months after similar incidents. **B1.**

**Hunter Biden was indicted on nine tax charges in California** as a special counsel investigation into his business dealings intensifies. **A2.**

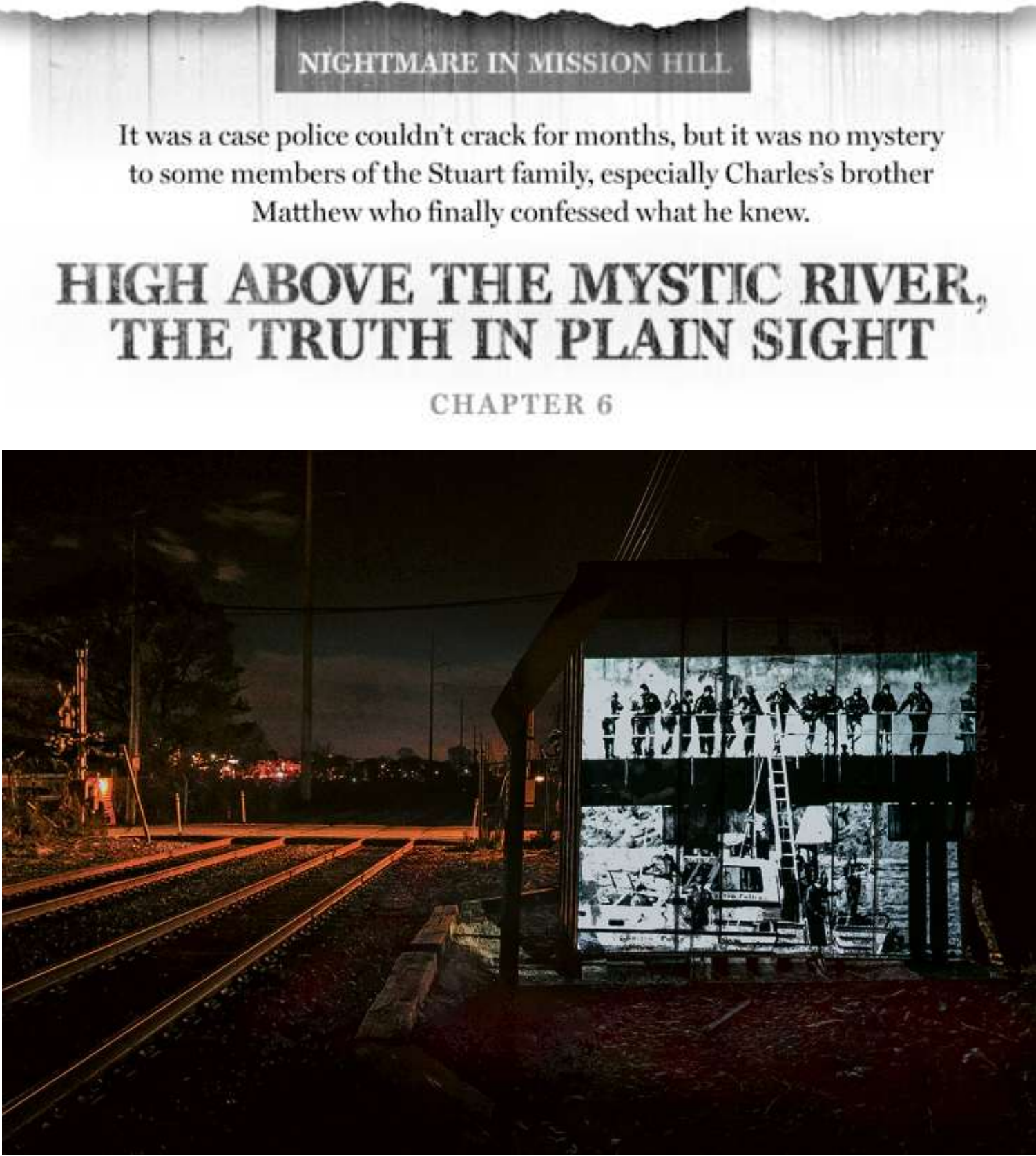
Better, sweet

**Friday:** Sunny, not as cold. High 40-45. Low 33-38.

**Saturday:** Warmer. High 48-53. Low 41-46.

Sunrise: 7:00 Sunset: 4:11

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



ERIN CLARK/GLOBE STAFF

A photo from 1990 of the search for the murder weapon at the Pines River in Revere is projected near the train tracks leading to Dizzy Bridge, where Matthew Stuart and Jack McMahon dumped the gun that killed Carol Stuart.



*This series was reported by Adrian Walker, Evan Allen, Elizabeth Koh, Andrew Ryan, Kristin Nelson, and Brendan McCarthy. This story was written by Allen.*

Chuck Stuart stopped his car on the lower deck of the Tobin Bridge a little before 7 on the morning of Jan. 4, 1990.

He sat there for a few minutes with his parking lights on. Rush-hour traffic was just starting to pick up on the bridge, a key link to the city from the northern suburbs. Soon, it would be bumper to bumper the whole length of the long steel arc. But not yet. It was still quiet enough that he could have heard the whoosh of wind from each car that passed him.

A woman driving by applying her makeup caught a glimpse of Chuck's reflection in her compact mirror. Not enough to make out his expression — just a flash of

his pale face in the dark.

As the streaks of gray light crept into the freezing sky, Chuck stepped out of his car onto the bridge. He left a handwritten note on the front seat, and he didn't bother to close his door.

A businessman spotted Chuck as he walked to the edge, and climbed up and over the green railing. Later, when the police would push the businessman to remember, he'd be able to summon only the barest details: the man was white, medium-build; dark jacket or vest. He described him mostly in terms of what he didn't see. Not blond; not short; no hat.

**STUART, Page A6**

## As beverages get more extreme, caffeine labels may need to keep up

By Dana Gerber  
GLOBE STAFF

For more than a year, the menu at Panera Bread has boasted three fruity, refreshing-sounding beverages branded as "charged sips."

"Charged" indeed: A 30-ounce serving of one of the lemonades can carry as much as 390 milligrams of caffeine. Though that's about the same caffeine content by volume as a large iced coffee from Dunkin', which clocks in at about 396 milligrams, the Panera drinks have become the subject of a

pair of wrongful death lawsuits since October after two customers died after consuming the beverages.

What gives?

The controversy, for the most part, lies not in the caffeine content itself but in the marketing of the beverages, according to the lawsuits. The two customers, 46-year-old Florida resident Dennis Brown and 21-year-old Sarah Katz, had preexisting health conditions that made caffeine consumption riskier. Brown had high blood pressure, and Katz

had a heart condition, according to the lawsuits filed by their families.

Both suits claimed the deceased typically steered clear of energy drinks and argued that Panera's beverages were not adequately advertised as such.

"I'm almost certain they didn't realize how much caffeine was in the beverage," said Timothy P. Fitzgibbons, a physician at UMass Memorial Health who specializes in cardiology and is not involved in either case. "It's too much, proba-

**CAFFEINE, Page A9**

## Outside panel urges changes at Harvard morgue

Finds no fault in scandal; families unsatisfied

By Felice J. Freyer and Sean Cotter  
GLOBE STAFF

A long-awaited review of Harvard's anatomical gift program, ordered by the university after its morgue manager was arrested for allegedly stealing and selling body parts, points no fingers and finds no fault.

Instead, the panel of outside experts recommends a series of procedural improvements that, taken together, imply that the morgue's three-person staff often operated without adequate documentation and oversight. For example, the experts found there was no formal procedure for receiving, reviewing, and approving requests to use donors' bodies.

Harvard officials, who released the experts' report Thursday, said the purpose was never to investigate what went wrong — they're leaving that to law enforcement — but rather to provide guidance for the handling of cadavers donated for medical education and research.

The scandal led to charges against seven people, spawned 11 lawsuits against Harvard, and revealed a ghoulish underworld of people who traffic in human remains.

Asked how the thefts could have continued for five years at the nation's premiere medical **MORGUE, Page A9**

## A LIGHT IN DARKNESS

Rabbi Josef Zaklos of the Chabad of Downtown Boston illuminated the first candle in the large menorah on Boston Common to mark the first night of Hanukkah.



MATTHEW J. LEE/GLOBE STAFF

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