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Groups use whale deaths to fight wind farms

Autopsies show no link but fail to stop misleading claims, researchers report

By Sabrina Shankman
GLOBE STAFF

Up and down the East Coast, seemingly as steady as the tide, dead whales are washing ashore. So far this year, three endangered North Atlantic right whales have been found dead — two in Georgia and one on Martha's Vineyard. Another seven humpback and five other large whales have been found, too, according to a federal count.

Their massive carcasses bore the marks of trauma and decay. Scientists say the causes of death were generally clear: most often, whales

were either tangled in fishing gear and unable to swim or feed, or sometimes were hit by ships or succumbed to disease.

Those findings haven't stopped opponents of renewable energy projects and fossil fuel interests from spreading misinformation about the whale deaths as part of their work to obstruct clean energy policies, according to a report from Brown University's Climate Lab. The researchers found a vast web of anti-offshore wind organizations are connected by groups with innocu-

WHALES, Page A7



DAVID L. RYAN/GLOBE STAFF

Opponents link wind farm projects such as this one being built off New England's coast to the deaths of whales.

Protests against Netanyahu intensify

Thousands take to streets to call for early elections as cease-fire talks resume

By Adam Rasgon, Vivian Yee, and Javier C. Hernández

NEW YORK TIMES

JERUSALEM — Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu faced growing challenges to power on Sunday as thousands gathered outside parliament to call for early elections in what was shaping up to be one of the largest demonstrations against the government in Israel since the start of the war in the Gaza Strip.

Some protesters carried signs calling for Netanyahu's "immediate removal." Others wielded posters calling for elections, saying "those who destroyed can't be the ones to fix."

The protest came a day after thousands took to the streets of Tel Aviv, waving flags and carrying pictures of the Israeli hostages with signs reading, "Hostage deal now."

Elad Dreifuss, a 25-year-old university student demonstrating in Jerusalem on Sunday, said that protesting against the government at a time of war was a difficult decision but that "if the government can't live up to its responsibility, something has to change."

The protests in Jerusalem, which were planned to continue through Wednesday, came as in-person talks resumed in Cairo concerning a possible

MIDEAST, Page A5

HOPE ARRAYED ALONG HORIZON



JESSICA RINALDI/GLOBE STAFF

People prayed and sang with a rising sun as the backdrop at an ecumenical Easter dawn service on Conomo Point in Essex. The service was organized by the town's First Universalist Church and First Congregational Church. Throughout the day, church leaders tempered the joy of the holiday with reminders of the need for peace. **B1.**

The FBI joined an inquiry into the suicide of a woman who participated in a Stoughton police youth program. **B1.**

The crew of the container ship that destroyed the Francis Scott Key Bridge in Baltimore remained aboard, facing a barrage of questions over the accident while trying to keep the stuck vessel operable. **A2.**

From "The Step-boss" to "The Megaphone": a guide for navigating around difficult colleagues in your workplace. **D1.**

A widespread revolt among farmers threatens Europe's climate goals and its support for Ukraine, while benefitting right-wing populist parties. **A4.**



Play sun for a fool

Monday: Clouds creep in. High: 49-54; low 39-44.

Tuesday: Cool, pockets of rain. High 41-46, low 37-42.

Sunrise: 6:26. Sunset: 7:10.

Weather and comics, **D4-5.**

Obituaries, **C9.**

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"This was a deliberate propaganda campaign to lie to people."

DR. OXIRIS BARBOT, *former New York City health commissioner*

RFK Jr.'s vaccine alarms haunt NYC

Health aides fought misinformation on 2019 measles surge

By Emma Platoff
GLOBE STAFF

By spring 2019, the outbreak had fully set in.

Hundreds had fallen ill as the United States battled its worst mea-

sles outbreak in decades. New York City and nearby Rockland County, two of the country's worst hot spots, had declared public health emergencies and kept thousands of children out of school. Local officials were scrambling to contain both the disease and the misinformation that was spreading it. And in Albany, lawmakers were taking aim at a religious exemption to vaccine mandates that they feared was worsen-

ing the outbreak.

Robert F. Kennedy Jr. and his allies, meanwhile, were working on a very different track. At public rallies across New York, Kennedy and Del Bigtree — now the communications director on Kennedy's presidential campaign — were raising alarms about the measles vaccine, a shot that public health officials have long agreed is safe. Further, Kennedy was

RFK, Page A7

Delays turn financial aid into financial albatross

FAFSA morass has students struggling to choose colleges

By Hilary Burns
GLOBE STAFF

Ailine Rodrigues was accepted to all 11 colleges she applied to. An aspiring first-generation student, she still doesn't know if she can afford her top choice or other four-year institutions because of delays with the federal government's financial aid program.

"It's really frustrating," Rodrigues said. "My mom all the time [is] asking me if the college has said anything about how much we're going to pay, and I don't know how to answer her questions. So I come to my college counselor, and I ask them, but they don't know either."

The lengthy logjam in the financial aid program is disrupting the



JESSICA RINALDI/GLOBE STAFF

"It's really frustrating," Ailine Rodrigues said of not knowing how much financial aid she could receive. The Boston senior hopes to attend Northeastern University.

college acceptance season this spring just as colleges and applicants learn how the US Supreme Court's ban on affirmative action last year — and the schools' efforts to mitigate it — will affect diversity on campus. About one month before students are typically expected to secure their spots at universities, the federal government has not told many families how much aid they will get.

"This has been a disaster," said Jade Franco, program officer for the Boston Foundation's Pathways to Postsecondary Success, which helps prepare low-income students in the Greater Boston region for higher education and careers. "The students who are coming from backgrounds that have more obstacles to overcome — those students have really struggled, and feel very frustrated and broken by this year's financial aid process."

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