

# The Boston Globe

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## In death of recruit, a question of jurisdiction

State Police training tragedy brings calls for fair, transparent inquiry process

By Sean Cotter  
GLOBE STAFF

In 1988, the shocking death of a police trainee and the hospitalization of at least 10 others from injuries they suffered at a State Police-run academy led the attorney general's office to turn to a rarely used legal process: a public judicial inquest.

Now, a week after trainee Enrique Delgado-Garcia died at the State Police Academy, advocates have urged

►State Police suspend boxing between trainees after death. B1.

state authorities to consider that type of investigation again, amid calls for transparency in the probe into how he suffered fatal injuries during training in a boxing ring.

State authorities said other options remain on the table as well, and the ACLU of Massachusetts called for federal investigators to in-



Enrique Delgado-Garcia

used to assure the public that there's been a thorough look into this and whether criminal charges can be brought," said Tom Merrigan, a re-

tervene. But legal experts said a judicial inquest, with hearings in open court led by a judge, could be a sure way to provide an accountable process.

"It can be used to assure the public that there's been a thorough look into this and whether criminal charges can be brought," said Tom Merrigan, a re-

tired District Court judge.

In an inquest into a death, a judge hears testimony and gathers evidence over what can be weeks of hearings, and then decides whether to recommend whether criminal charges should be filed.

Talks among local, state, and federal authorities continue over who should take control of the investigation into the 25-year-old Delgado-Garcia's death, according to the Worcester district attorney's office. That office has jurisdiction over deaths in New Braintree, where the

STATE POLICE, Page A7

## Fears rise of all-out war in Mideast

Hezbollah, Israel intensify attacks, spurring concerns as focus shifts from Gaza

By Adam Rasgon, Euan Ward, and Hwaida Saad

NEW YORK TIMES

JERUSALEM — Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and a top Hezbollah leader vowed on Sunday to increase the intensity of their cross-border attacks, raising fears that the renewed conflict could escalate into all-out war.

The Hezbollah official, Deputy Secretary-General Naim Qassem, said the Lebanese militia had entered "a new stage" of open warfare against Israel, while Netanyahu said his nation would take "whatever action is necessary" to diminish the threat posed by its adversary.

The statements came after a tumultuous week of hostilities.

Early on Sunday, Hezbollah launched about 150 rockets, cruise missiles, and drones, according to the Israeli military, targeting what appeared to be the deepest areas it has hit in Israel since the group began firing on it in October, a day after Hamas-led forces attacked southern Israel. Since

HEZBOLLAH, Page A5

## Flags spark a free-speech dispute in N.H.

Lawsuit pivots on meaning of poles in front of city hall

By Steven Porter

GLOBE STAFF

NASHUA — One of the flagpoles outside Nashua City Hall is the latest lightning rod in litigation over free speech.

The pole, which stands next to those flying the American and New Hampshire flags, features a rotating assortment of banners contributed by community members to acknowledge special occasions, cultural heritage, and worthy causes.

But the city's refusal to fly certain flags has sparked consternation, and a local couple, Stephen and Bethany R. Scaer, allege officials are infringing on their First Amendment rights.

One of their two rejected flags says "Save Women's Sports" and promotes awareness of people who no longer identify as transgender. The other, which features a pine tree and the slogan "An Appeal to Heaven," has historic roots in the American Revolution but recently has been co-opted by Christian nationalists.

Nashua's risk manager, Jennifer L. Deshaies, FLAGS, Page A10



KAYLA BARTKOWSKI FOR THE BOSTON GLOBE

Tony Mazzucco, Norwood's general manager, acknowledges it could take years but he feels confident that the region's overburdened health care infrastructure will dictate Norwood Hospital's return. "It's just a matter of time," he said.

## An impatient wait for patient care

Four years after flash flood, people in Norwood want their hospital back



DAVID L. RYAN/GLOBE STAFF

Norwood Hospital, owned by Steward Health Care, has been closed since floodwaters destroyed its electrical room during the pandemic.

By Robert Weisman

GLOBE STAFF

NORWOOD — It's been more than four years since Norwood Hospital was evacuated and closed to patients — temporarily, said owner Steward Health Care — in the aftermath of a flash flood.

Since then, Steward has collapsed into bankruptcy. Two of its Massachusetts hospitals, Carney in Dorchester and Nashoba Valley in Ayer, were shuttered at the end of August. A half dozen others, including St. Elizabeth's Medical Center in Brighton, are being steered into new ownership in deals on track to take effect by Sept. 30.

Through it all, the Norwood facility — once a bustling hive of patients and caregivers — has remained an empty shell. Amid months of bankruptcy proceedings, congressional hearings, and fretting over the Steward fallout, barely a word has been spoken about its fate.

The loss of Norwood Hospital and its 215 beds has aggravated a shortage of emergency room and inpatient capacity in the region. But finding a new hospital operator

NORWOOD HOSPITAL, Page A10

## Budget deal for Congress

Leaders from both parties unveiled a short-term agreement to fund the government. A2.

On the grounds of the historic Shirley-Eustis House in Roxbury, painted stones serve as markers honoring enslaved Africans. B1.

The Fed's rate-cut decision should help consumers seeking a mortgage or a new car, The Fine Print, D1.

The Sox season isn't over yet: Triston Casas muscled Boston to a double-header sweep of the Minnesota Twins. C1.

The Bruins preseason is just beginning: Boston lost 3-2 in its opener with the Rangers. C1.

## For BJs, a flip of the shopping script

Plans big expansion of brick-and-mortar stores far from Mass.

By Jon Chesto

GLOBE STAFF

For its first four decades, BJ's Wholesale Club kept its stores mostly along the East Coast, rather than pursuing the national ambitions of its rivals. But now, the Massachusetts-born discount chain is embarking on an aggressive expansion that could take it across the country.

The Westborough-based retailer's goal is nothing short of spanning the entire United States, as it faces off against the larger Costco and Sam's Club. BJ's also wants to make its mark in the broader grocery business, in which high inflation offers a new opportunity for a company that promises lower food prices. BJ's opened its 245th store in Palm Coast, Fla., on Friday, to be followed by 10 more openings through the end of its fiscal year in January. Another 10 to 12 are expected next fiscal year.



LANE TURNER/GLOBE STAFF

Customers shopped in the BJ's Wholesale Club store in Northborough. The chain eyes expanding westward to the Mississippi River and, perhaps, beyond.

An expansion of this size is unusual for any brick-and-mortar retailer, given the high borrowing rates and construction

costs — let alone for one whose typical store is roughly the size of two football fields. BJ's EXPANSION, Page A7



### Shades of gray

Monday: Mix of sun, clouds. High 63-68, low 54-59.

Tuesday: More clouds. High 62-67, low 55-60.

Sunrise: 6:33. Sunset: 6:39.

Weather and comics, D4-5.

Obituaries, B5-6.

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