

T work incidents draw US warning

FTA notes number of vehicle derailments during recent repairs

By Shannon Larson
GLOBE STAFF

The MBTA has reported a total of 27 derailments of maintenance vehicles — equipment operated by workers repairing tracks — over the past year since the transit agency began its track improvement program. The growing number of incidents has raised alarm among federal regulators over the safety of employees involved in the ambitious initiative and the operation of equipment.

In a Sept. 12 letter to the transit agency, the Federal Transit Administration acknowledged the “unusual amount

► At Globe Summit, Eng says fare increases are not yet on the table. B1.

of track activity,” but also sent a warning to the T: the transit agency must ensure its repair work is “performed in a safe manner that does not endanger” — or risk facing consequences. FTA officials said the count of such derailments has surpassed the number for “the previous three years combined.”

In a response to the FTA, the T said there have been no injuries during re-

DERAILMENTS, Page A8

‘My day-to-day will not change.’

ERIC ADAMS, mayor of New York City

NYC mayor vows to stay on job



AFF VIA GETTY IMAGES

Prosecutors said Mayor Eric Adams accepted luxury travel worth well over \$100,000.

Charged with fraud, seeking illegal donations

By Dana Rubinstein,
William K. Rashbaum,
and Michael Rothfeld
NEW YORK TIMES

NEW YORK — Mayor Eric Adams of New York City, a former police captain who ran on a law-and-order platform, spent years accepting free airline tickets, lavish overseas accommodations, and illegal campaign donations from Turkey, federal prosecutors said Thursday.

In return for the gifts and donations, Adams used his influence as Brooklyn borough president and later as mayor to assist Turkish officials with issues they were facing in the city, prosecutors said

— most notably in obtaining safety clearances from the Fire Department for a new high-rise Turkish consulate building.

Thursday’s dramatic events began with the startling sight of federal agents marching into Gracie Mansion, the official residence of New York mayors since World War II. And shortly before noon, prosecutors unveiled the first federal indictment in the city’s modern history of a sitting mayor.

Adams was charged with five counts, including bribery, fraud, and soliciting illegal foreign campaign donations. He was ordered to appear in US District

ADAMS, Page A6

Senate hopeful’s taxes detailed

In ’22, Deaton paid nothing to IRS, charities

By Emma Platoff
GLOBE STAFF

John Deaton, the multi-millionaire attorney running as a Republican against Elizabeth Warren for US Senate this year, paid no federal income tax and donated \$0 to charity in 2022, a year when he reported no taxable income due to business losses, according to his tax returns.

That year, Deaton reported losses at both his law firm and on rental properties he owns, according to the documents from 2022, the most recent year available in roughly a decade’s worth of tax returns posted on Deaton’s campaign website earlier this month after he secured the GOP nomination. Those documents, along with other public records including a financial disclosure form Deaton filed earlier this year, shed new light on the personal finances of the lawyer and crypto advocate who is seeking to unseat Warren. The documents reveal as well that he holds more than \$10 million in bitcoin and real estate in five states.

Deaton told the Globe in an interview that he has been granted an extension on his 2023 taxes and will share the return publicly when it is complete. He also said he would provide state-level tax returns, not all of which are currently posted on his website.

In 2022 and 2021, Deaton’s law firm reported losses of about \$38,000 and \$807,000, respectively, figures he attributed to a downturn in business tied in part

DEATON, Page A6

STORM’S ARRIVAL



JOE RAEDLE/GETTY IMAGES

Tanner Flynn stood in shallow water near crashing waves as Hurricane Helene passed offshore Thursday in St. Petersburg, Fla. The storm, a Category 4 hurricane with winds of 130 mph as of Thursday evening, was predicted to make landfall in Florida before midnight, bringing a two-story-high wall of water to a large stretch of the Florida coastline. **A2.**

R.I. bridge closure saps time, upends livelihoods

Key span has been shut since December, with no relief in sight for commuters and businesses

By Steph Machado, Alexa Gagosz,
and Dan McGowan
GLOBE STAFF

PROVIDENCE — Rae-Anne Gray’s life looks a lot different now that the Washington Bridge on Interstate 195 west is closed.

The mother of two used to be a social worker, commuting a short 5 miles from her home in East Providence to her job in Providence. But after the bridge between home and work abruptly shut down in De-

cember, her commute time more than doubled, and she made an extraordinary decision.

She quit. “It was just too much to take my kids to school and then to get to work by 8:30,” said Gray. The traffic caused by the bridge was one of several factors that led her to resign.

Nine months later, the closure of the Washington Bridge westbound continues

to upend the lives of families, business owners, and commuters on both sides of the span.

And there is no end in sight. The bridge crosses the Seekonk River and is the primary connector from the East Bay and Southeastern Massachusetts to Providence and the rest of Rhode Island. It was shut down in the middle of the Monday evening commute on Dec. 11, 2023, after an engineer working on the bridge discovered the “critical” failure of tie-down rods the previous Friday. Commuters were left stranded for hours.

BRIDGE, Page A8

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said that the Israeli military would keep striking Hezbollah militants in Lebanon with “all our might.” **A3.**

Bevi, the Boston-based smart water cooler startup, announced Cathy Lewenberg as its new chief executive. **B5.**

A judge in Hong Kong sentenced two editors in a landmark press freedom case. **A4.**



Bright side up

Friday: Warmer, sunny. High: 74-79. Low: 57-62.
Saturday: Cooler, some sun. High: 64-69. Low: 55-60.
Comics and Weather, **G6-7.**
Obituaries, **C11.**

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JOHN TLUMACKI/GLOBE STAFF

On Tuesday, members of Extinction Rebellion locked themselves to an entrance of the State House to demand action on climate change.

With the earth as its stage, a political theater searches for attentive audience

By Erin Douglas
GLOBE STAFF

On Monday, Anna Pancoast, 37, an astrophysicist by training and mother of two, chained herself to the gates of the Massachusetts State House to protest climate inaction.

Then, about five hours later, she released the lock and let herself go.

Pancoast was prepared to be arrested, but police officers only watched the protesters that day. By about 7 p.m., the number of curious tourists

had dwindled and news crews had left. It was dark and cold. So, she and the remaining handful of activists from Boston’s chapter of Extinction Rebellion, an international grassroots climate activist group known for acts of civil disobedience, decided to pack up and go home.

“It’s about what will get attention,” Pancoast said prior to the protest. “When climate groups have not done something that sort of surprises people, they’re easily ignored.”

Attention, it seems, is hard to come by for climate advocates in Massachusetts lately. After the state Legislature failed to take action to advance the Commonwealth’s emissions goals, the climate movement is looking inward, questioning which tactics are most effective.

A major climate bill was close to the finish line in August. It would have overhauled regulatory processes to accelerate building clean energy in-

ACTIVISTS, Page A7