

The conflagration that would consume Harvard? It began with a few words written in fear.

**By Mike Damiano and Hilary Burns**  
GLOBE STAFF

The first thing Israa Alzamli looked at when she woke up on the morning of Oct. 7 was a stream of news photos of a bulldozer breaking through a border fence — and Gazan men standing on the Israeli side. “Gaza literally broke out of prison,” she texted her fiancé just after 7 a.m.

“I’m so scared,” she wrote moments later, feeling certain of what would come next.

It was still early and the full details of the Oct. 7 attack were not yet clear. But Alzamli, a Harvard Law School student and a naturalized US citizen of Gazan descent, knew

Law student Israa Alzamli is deeply pained that the furor over her group’s statement on the Oct. 7 attack has crowded out attention to the carnage in Gaza

Hamas militants had killed Israelis on Israeli soil and she was sure the response would be ferocious.

“I feared that Gaza would not exist by the end of this,” she told the Globe.

She grabbed her laptop and ran out the door of her Somerville apartment in tattered sweat pants and a T-shirt. At the apartment of a Palestinian American friend, she started typing a message.

Alzamli revealed in a series of interviews with the Globe that she was one of the main authors of the Oct. 7 statement signed by more than 30 Harvard student groups that plunged the university into a

PALESTINIAN, Page A4



Those who are against a proposal to open key sections of Milton to more housing development made their feelings known at Glover Elementary School on Friday, while members of the yes camp gathered outside Pierce Middle School that day.



PHOTOS BY DAVID L. RYAN/GLOBE STAFF

For Milton, housing vote bares divisions over future

Risk of defying state law — and fallout among neighbors — on ballot with rezoning question

**By Mark Arsenault and Andrew Brinker**  
GLOBE STAFF

MILTON — Drivers in the rush-hour stop-and-go along Granite Avenue to Boston can’t miss it: a blazing red political sign from the most significant local campaign in years:

*Late For Work?*  
*Just Wait Until There’s 500+ Housing Units*  
*Vote No On Question 1*

The sign is partly the work of East Milton resident Andrea Doherty, who erected it in opposition to a contentious town zoning proposal. “We’re not against new housing,” Doherty insisted in an interview. “But it needs to be better dispersed throughout the town. We feel they’re just throwing it down here in East Milton.”

In the same part of town but on the other side of the roiling debate, Kathleen O’Donnell has been knocking on doors and pounding the message of Team YES: New

zoning will be good for the town, good for the region, and has the benefit of not breaking the law, as a no vote would do.

“I think most people get it,” said O’Donnell, a former member of the town’s Planning Board. “The 13th can’t come soon enough.”

That would be Tuesday, election day in Milton, when voters will decide whether to loosen local zoning to allow more apartments and condos, as commanded by state law.

Or not to.

“It’s so crazy right now — the town is so divided,” said Ian Grigorio, who runs the lo-

MILTON, Page A14

Trump stumps on a rosy revisionism

Tumult of his term is recast as era of equanimity

**By Jess Bidgood**  
GLOBE STAFF

WASHINGTON — In the last year of former president Donald Trump’s administration, the economy plummeted on the heels of a global pandemic, a historic calamity that Trump, at one point, suggested could be cured by injecting bleach. The biggest protests over racial injustice since the civil rights movement spread quickly across the country. The president was soundly defeated in his bid for reelection, tried to overturn the result, encouraged a mob to march toward the Capitol, and left office with an approval rating of just 29 percent.

But these days, when Trump talks about his time in office, he tells a story of historic economic growth, exquisite statesmanship, and unrivaled prosperity.

“We had,” he said last month at a campaign rally in Las Vegas, “among the greatest four-year periods in the history of the presidency.”

Trump’s extraordinary campaign for a second term has relied in part on a retelling of his first, one that sometimes exaggerates and misstates his accomplishments and is silent on his failures. His omissions are the headlines that shape how Democrats remember that period — the two impeachments, the chaotic pandemic response, the bid to overthrow the lawful election result. But some in their party, including those working on President Biden’s reelection campaign, have noticed that, ac-

TRUMP, Page A11



GLOBE STAFF PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY OMAR VEGA/ADOBE

**By Chris Serres**  
GLOBE STAFF

Marlene Warner suspected something was wrong when she spotted several mysterious money transfers on her teenage son’s bank account.

The amounts were relatively small — just \$50 each — but they were more than she thought her 18-year-old son could afford as a student with a part-time job at a YMCA.

When asked about the transfers, the teenager admitted he and several of his friends from the Boston area had been pooling money to make online sport bets in New Hampshire, where it’s legal for those 18 or older to gamble online, even if they live in another state.

“I was horrified,” said Warner, who lives in Salem and is chief executive of the Massachusetts Council on Gaming and Health, a nonprofit that helps people with gambling problems and advocates for protections. “If my own son is gambling, and he knows the risks, then how many other young folks are accessing these sites?”

Placing a bet on sports has never been easier, faster, and more al-

GAMBLING, Page A13

Young gamblers snared in vortex of sports betting

Tech-savvy youth find ways to circumvent age restrictions, but many are so hooked they are turning to counseling services

**For some, football offers a connection to their fathers.** For one man, this year’s Super Bowl is the same and different. **Globe Magazine.**

**Steward Health Care CEO Ralph de la Torre has two yachts,** not one. And that matters, writes Brian McGrory. **B1.**

**It’s misleading to say that conventional produce has a lot of**

**chemicals** while organic produce does not. The word organic doesn’t mean chemicals or no chemicals. **Ideas, K2.**

**A group of Massachusetts legislators and activists have drafted a bill that would distinguish between killer and accomplice,** changing the law to punish those who aid in a murder before it takes place with up to 25 years in prison, rather

than a life sentence. **B1.**

**Redecorating can put any relationship to the test,** but there are ways to keep the peace while upgrading your living space. **Address, H1.**

**Arghavan Khosravi, an Iranian painter in America,** explores life between two worlds in her show at the Newport Art Museum. **SundayArts, N1.**



**Gloves are off**

**Sunday:** Clouds and sun. High: 47-52. Low: 32-37.  
**Monday:** Partly sunny. High: 44-49. Low: 31-36.  
High tide: 12:01 p.m.  
Sunrise: 6:47 Sunset: 5:10  
Complete report, **A22.**  
Deaths, **A15-20.**