

As US subsidy ends, families risk losing their internet

COVID funds dwindle for 368,000 Mass. households

By Esmy Jimenez
GLOBE STAFF

When Wendy Patricio signed up for a federal program to receive affordable internet at her Jamaica Plain home, life got a little easier. The service wasn't the fastest, but it served its purpose.

Her two children could watch cartoons on a tablet, and she was able to connect to a speech pathologist via telehealth for the older one.

MONEY, POWER, INEQUALITY

Closing the racial wealth gap

Even a small discount off of her \$178 bundled bill, Patricio said in Spanish, is helpful for a single mother working as a home health aide.

The initiative that connected Patricio's family to the internet is the Affordable Connectivity

Program. Begun in 2021, it provides eligible low-income households with a \$30 discount with certain providers. For families who don't need a lot of data, that's enough to cover their entire internet service, while those who need greater capacity get a noticeable \$360 over the course of the year.

Now millions of households in the United States, including around 368,000 in Massachusetts, will be losing that subsidy as the connectivity program winds down.

Recipients of the pandemic-era program will receive only about half of their usual subsidy in May, as the Federal Communications Commission said Tuesday there is just enough money left to dole out partial payments before funding runs out entirely.

INTERNET, Page A12

Promised link is still missing for cities, bikers

Bridge over Mystic River stuck on drawing board despite high-level support

By Spencer Buell
GLOBE STAFF

SOMERVILLE — On this side of the Mystic River sits Assembly Row, the high-polish housing, business, and entertainment complex, ringed by riverfront parkland, paved paths, an MBTA Orange Line stop, and access to the city's bike lanes and trails.

Directly across the river in Everett is the glittering Encore Boston Harbor casino, fronted by a riverwalk and a car-free trail that stretches north to Lynn.

Between them sloshes about 500 feet of water. For those looking to cross it by foot or on two wheels, the closest route is a detour past a power plant on a busy commuter road that even seasoned cyclists dread.

Two governors have committed to build a footbridge across the Mystic to the Encore for pedestrians and cyclists, one of the largest such crossings in the Boston area.

But years later, it's become a very Massachusetts

BRIDGE, Page A12

An uneasy calm after attack

Israeli officials divided over next step after Iran's barrage of missiles

GLOBE NEWS SERVICES

Israel showed signs Sunday that it would not seek to immediately respond to the overnight attack by Iran, which fired hundreds of exploding drones and missiles in what was its first direct attack on Israel after years of a shadow war.

Israeli officials announced they would relax restrictions on

►Biden urges Israel not to retaliate. A9.
►For Israel and Iran, diverging strategies. A9.
►Mass. lawmakers pledge support for Israel. B2.

educational activities and large gatherings that were enacted before the attack, a possible indication they do not expect the con-

frontation to escalate for now. And Israel's war Cabinet concluded a meeting Sunday evening without deciding when and how it would respond to Iran's assault, according to an official briefed on the meeting, who spoke on the condition of anonymity to discuss the talks more freely. By nightfall, the military had yet to detail possible options, the official said.

President Biden urged Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu not to fire back at Iran, saying Is-

rael had emerged victorious after the attack because it was able to, with its allies, knock nearly all of the munitions out of the skies with its defense system. Biden and other world leaders appealed for calm and sought to avert a wider war.

Two Israeli officials said some war Cabinet members had urged a retaliatory strike while the attack was still ongoing, but it was called off after Netanyahu spoke by phone with Biden on Saturday.

MIDEAST, Page A8



AHMAD GHARABLI/AFP VIA GETTY IMAGES

Mohamad Hassouna, 49, stood outside the building where his 7-year-old daughter, Amina, was critically injured by an incoming projectile at their Bedouin village in the southern Negev desert.

‘Iran’s operation has a crystal-clear message that the rules of the game have changed.’

NASSER IMANI, a prominent analyst based in Tehran who is close to the Iranian government

Tehran’s strike: new phase in old war



HOSSEIN BERIS/MIDDLE EAST IMAGES/AFP VIA GETTY IMAGES

Iranians shouted anti-Israel slogans in Tehran in celebration of the country's early-morning attack on Israel on Sunday.

At this perilous juncture, calculus in long, bitter struggle remains unclear

By Steven Erlanger
and Farnaz Fassihi
NEW YORK TIMES

BERLIN — Iran has retaliated directly against Israel for the killings of its senior generals in Syria, with an onslaught of more than 300

NEWS ANALYSIS
drones and missiles aimed at restoring its credibility and deterrence, officials and analysts say. That represents a moment of great risk, with key questions still to answer, they say. Has Iran's attack been enough to satisfy its calls for revenge? Or given

the relatively paltry results — almost all of the drones and missiles were intercepted by Israel and the United States — will it feel obligated to strike again? And will Benjamin Netanyahu, the prime minister of Israel, see the strong performance by his country's air defenses as a sufficient response? Or will he choose to escalate further with an attack on Iran itself?

Now that Iran has attacked Israel as it promised to do, it will want to avoid a broader war, the officials and analysts say, noting that the Iranians targeted only

ANALYSIS, Page A8

‘It’s what everybody aspires to’

For runners, the Marathon — and the city — is world class

By John Hilliard
GLOBE STAFF

The region takes the world stage for the Boston Marathon on Monday — and for John Aikin, running the race that draws the finest athletes and winds its way to the city's heart has become part of his identity, he said.

►For runners, extreme physical toll is a ‘badge of honor.’ B1.
►Meb Keflezighi reflects on special 2014 victory. C1.

Aikin has run 24 Boston Marathons since 1997 — and Monday will mark number 25 for the 71-year-old from Orlando. The race's history, the challenge of qualifying, the course itself — all make Boston stand apart, he said following a service to bless Marathon athletes at Old South Church on Sunday.

“It's the oldest; the best runners in the world show up for this race. It's what everybody aspires to, [and] almost everyone considers Bos-

MARATHON, Page A12



JESSICA RINALDI/GLOBE STAFF

Marathon runner Fran De Angelis of New York (right) danced with friends Zelia Magliozzi of Stoneham and Melissa Belovich of Brookline on Sunday.



Rays to the finish

Monday: Much more sun. High 63-68, low 43-48.

Tuesday: Even more sun. High 61-66, low 43-48.

Sunrise: 6:03. Sunset: 7:26.

Weather and comics, **D4-5**.
Obituaries, **C11**.

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With their 132-122 win over the Wizards, the Boston Celtics closed out a remarkable regular season. **C1**.

The stories of workers hurt on the job and discouraged from reporting their injuries are constant, worker advocates say. A bill being considered by the state Legislature aims to target the issue. **D1**.

As the first criminal trial against Donald Trump opens, a potentially carnival atmosphere plus protests could equal security headaches. **A6**.

Several coastal New England states will receive federal grants to protect transportation infrastructure from climate change. **B1**.

Scottie Scheffler dominated the field at Augusta, taking his second Masters trophy in three years with a four-stroke victory. **C1**.