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Calls for outsider to lead police

Healey is urged not to promote within agency

> By Dan Glaun, Sean Cotter, and Shelley Murphy GLOBE STAFF

The scandals seem to keep piling up. A dozen Massachusetts State Police troopers convicted for overtime fraud. Troopers indicted in an alleged bribery scheme involving commercial driver's licenses. The former head of the troopers union sentenced to prison for taking kickbacks.

In the most recent embarrassment, the disclosure that the lead investigator in Karen Read's murder case sent crude and degrading text messages about her to friends and family prompted Governor Maura Healey to weigh in. She said she was "disgusted," and that the blunder "does harm, frankly, to the dignity and the integrity of the work of men and women across the State Police and law enforcement."

The accumulation of scandals has led to a growing chorus of critics calling for Healey to flex new powers granted by the state's 2020 police reform law and choose a new leader for the State Police from outside the agency's

STATE POLICE, Page A12

What is your Tanglewood type?

Whether you are a firsttimer or a serial lawn lounger, our guide has you covered. SundayArts N1.



A visit to the oyster hatchery and farm at Island **Creek in Duxbury starts** with a tour and ends with a feast. SundayTravel, N11.

The Globe Magazine is not publishing today. The puzzles can be found on B4.

A New Bedford drug trafficking case collapsed after what a judge called "gross misconduct" by a former police detective. **B1.**

A shore thing

Sunday: Sunny, humid. High: 85-90. Low: 71-76. Monday: Sun and clouds. High: 84-89. Low: 70-75.

Complete report, A20.

Deaths, A14-18.

VOL. 306, NO. 7 Suggested retail price



Housing permits in Greater Boston

15,000 10000 5,000

2003 2008 2013 2018 2023 SOURCE: US Census Building Pemit Survey
DAIGO FUJIWARA-SMITH/GLOBE STAFF

High hurdle for new housing

Thousands of approved units are stalled by rising costs, financing struggles

By Andrew Brinker GLOBE STAFF

REVERE — If one image could summarize the state of housing construction in Greater Boston right now, it might be the vast open space at Suffolk Downs.

At 10,000 units, the former horse racing track on the Boston-Revere border will be the single largest housing development in the region's history when it's done. The first

building will open this summer, an eightstory, 475-unit, blue-and-red apartment building with a modern look near the Beachmont Blue Line station.

But no more housing is underway here. There are no hammers clanging or cement trucks rumbling, just a sea of open land, mounds of dirt, materials, and equipment sitting unused.

Three years after Suffolk Downs won city

approvals, there was supposed to be a lot more going on by now on the nearly four dozen other buildings that will eventually rise at the 161-acre property. But housing construction at the site is on hold until developer HYM Investment Group can hash out a complicated financing deal that has been pushed off balance by an out-of-whack economy.

HOUSING, Page A12



JESSICA RINALDI/GLOBE STAFF

CLIMATE WOES

Many culverts, bridges won't be able to withstand intensifying storms

By Erin Douglas

HANCOCK — In this lush corner of the Berkshires, a 6-foot-wide drainage pipe beneath a country road is an unassuming weak link in our ability to withstand increasingly destructive storms as climate change intensifies.

This humble culvert, which carries a small stream beneath the road, is essential for managing the potentially destructive impact of rushing water during storms. If not properly controlled, overflowing streams and rivers can easily wash out roads and cause millions of dollars in



There are more than 25,000known culverts, as well as small bridges, that are now inadequate, according to state environmental officials and climate advocates.

damage to downstream communities.

Yet, a warming climate has brought more intense bouts of rain across New England, meaning this massive pipe is now actually much too small — and a potential danger at that.

Nate Maynard, a high school science teacher clad in dark green waders, volunteers his time to assess the dangers. He bushwhacks through plants to get to the streambed, then climbs on top of the old pipe with a measuring stick. His mission that day, along with others from the Berkshire Clean, Cold, and Connected partner-

STREAMS, Page A11

Nate Maynard, a **Berkshire Environmen**tal Action Team volunteer, surveyed a Hancock culvert as director Chelsey **Simmons** recorded data.

A buttress of calm takes a stand against election hysteria

With his job on the line, Republican official in key Arizona county seeks to bat down denialism

> **By Sam Brodey** GLOBE STAFF

PHOENIX — On paper, Stephen Richer's job is hard enough. As Maricopa County recorder, he is responsible for running the mail voting process for the largest and most important swing county in the country.

But for Richer, a Republican, it's impossible to do that job without also taking on a weighty burden with national significance: countering the spread of election denialism and misinformation that has taken hold of his party, especially in Arizo-

Since November 2020, virtually no one has made the case in the way Richer has. Naturally, it might cost him his job, with two Trump-aligned Republicans seeking to oust him in the upcoming July 30 primary election.

"If I were to play smart politics, I would have gone along with it or just stayed quiet," he said.

On X, Richer is hardly quiet — he's prolific, frequently replying to vitriolic posts that propagate false or misleading information with patient, even cheerful, explanations.

Beyond that, the 39-year-old former corporate lawyer and elections wonk personally responds to emails voters send to his office. He leads tours of the county's cavernous vote tabu-

ARIZONA, Page A8

'What other tools do we have? The alternative is just throw our hands up in the air and say, "This sucks."

STEPHEN RICHER,



Beyond Biden's resolve, growing disquiet in party

Fears rise that his bid dims Democrats' chances

By Katie Glueck, Nicholas Nehamas, and Lisa Lerer

Numerous officials, lawmakers, and strategists in President Biden's own party increasingly see his candidacy as unsustainable - and their private anxieties are slowly but steadily spilling into public view, interviews with more than 50 Demo-

crats this past week showed. Growing swaths of Democrats now believe that by remaining on the ticket, the president is jeopardizing their ability to maintain the White House and threatening other candidates up and down the ballot. The moment is setting up an extraordinary clash between a defiant president of the United States who insists he is not abandoning his reelection campaign and members of his party who are beginning to suggest that he should.

"I have less and less confidence in this campaign's ability to win this race," Representative Scott Peters, Democrat of California, said in an interview. "If we know we're going to lose, we would