

The Boston Globe

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TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 21, 2023

Hospitals across Gaza battered, officials say

Another struck, killing patients; premature babies evacuated to Egypt

GLOBE NEWS SERVICES

CAIRO — Heavy Israeli bombardments struck both north and south Gaza, killing more civilians and once again bringing hospitals into the crossfire on Monday as the World Health Organization warned that the enclave's devastated health system had largely collapsed, with none of its functioning hospitals capable of handling complicated medical cases.

The dire conditions were compounded by storms that raged across the seaside strip and dumped cold rain on the hundreds of thousands of displaced people who have been living in makeshift shelters and tents to escape the fighting.

In a rare moment of positive news amid the grinding conflict, more than two dozen very sick premature babies, 11 of them in critical condition, left the Gaza Strip in ambulances for hospitals in Egypt.

The plight of babies trapped in Shifa Hospital, Gaza's largest, had garnered global attention as the lack of food, water, and electricity threatened their lives until they were finally evacuated.

Hospitals have become a focal point of the fighting, with Israel accusing Hamas of using the buildings as strategic hubs and the residents inside as human shields. Hamas has denied the claims, and hospital directors and doc-

MIDEAST, Page A4

Retired doctor facing more rape claims

24 former patients now accuse Norwell man

By Travis Andersen

GLOBE STAFF

Twenty-two former patients of a retired Norwell pediatrician have accused him of misconduct since he was charged earlier this month with sexually assaulting two girls during their annual checkups, prosecutors said during his arraignment Monday.

Dr. Richard A. Kauff, 68, pleaded not guilty in Hingham District Court to four counts of rape of a child by force and a dozen counts of indecent assault and battery under 14, charges that stemmed from alleged encounters with the two girls, according to court records.

"Since the first two alleged adult victims came forward, 22 more patients of this doctor have come forward," two of whom are juveniles, Assistant District Attorney Jeremy Beth Kusmin said during the arraignment.

The number of accusers "has been growing exponentially since" the charges against Kauff were brought earlier this month, Kusmin said. Kauff could be sentenced to life in prison if convicted of any of the child rape charges, Kusmin said.

"Let alone the fact that we anticipate dozens of more, similar-type charges," Kusmin said.

KAUFF, Page A6

Transit office to house migrants

State converts Park Plaza building to an overnight shelter for homeless families

By Samantha J. Gross, Matt Stout, and Taylor Dolven

GLOBE STAFF

In an effort to protect homeless migrant families as temperatures dip, Massachusetts officials are converting conference rooms in the state transportation building in Boston into congregate shelter sites.

State emergency assistance director General L. Scott Rice said in a statement Monday that the space at 10 Park Plaza is being used "to ensure that families eligible for Emer-

gency Assistance shelter have a safe and warm place to sleep at night when there is not a shelter unit immediately available."

The second-floor space is outfitted with cots and limited amenities, officials said, and will be used only in the evening and overnight hours. It is available to families that have already been determined to be eligible for emergency shelter.

In an email to staff Monday morning that was obtained by The Boston Globe, MBTA general manag-

er Phillip Eng said the rooms in the state transportation building will serve as a "short-term shelter" for around 25 families. The temporary shelter is expected to operate for up to two weeks, or until "a more permanent location can be identified," Eng wrote.

The accommodations are a response to the "rapidly rising numbers of migrant families arriving in the state and a severe lack of shelter availability," Eng said.

The temporary shelter space will be set up by the Massachusetts National Guard, Eng wrote, and managed by an unnamed service provider, typically a nonprofit, to help

homeless families access medical care, find transportation, or organize food deliveries.

The shelter will be open from 6 p.m. to 6 a.m., and there will be portable playpens available for young children.

For decades, homeless families have been guaranteed shelter under a 1980s-era law in Massachusetts, the only state with a so-called right-to-shelter requirement. But Governor Maura Healey recently decided to limit how many people could live in the shelter system, pushing those beyond the 7,500-family cap to a newly created wait-list. And recently,

SHELTER, Page A7

A HOME FOR THE HOLIDAYS?



STAN GROSSFELD/GLOBE STAFF

A traveler headed for the gates at South Station's bus terminal. The terminal, along with those at Logan Airport, will soon be packed with Thanksgiving travelers. Yet, in the days leading up to the holiday, they are refuges for those with no homes. **B1.**

For candidates in N.H. GOP primary, Sununu a big prize

Governor's popularity has hopefuls seeking his endorsement

By Emma Platoff

GLOBE STAFF

MERRIMACK, N.H. — Like many of the other New Hampshire Republicans out shopping for a presidential candidate one recent Thursday night, the man in the blue shirt and blazer sat quietly for most of Chris Christie's town hall, laughing and nodding at the appropriate moments, occasionally whispering to the person next to him.

But the 49-year-old in the front row — with a youthful smile, a microphone in his hands, and a pin on his lapel — also got some special attention from the pres-

idential candidate.

"You got anything to add to that, gov?" Christie asked after answering a voter question, turning to Chris Sununu.

Once seen as a potential presidential contender himself, the New Hampshire governor has become the state's most sought-after undecided voter, as well as its most prominent booster. As the remaining Republican candidates jostle for position in a primary still dominated by former president Donald Trump, Sununu — who has made it no secret he doesn't think Trump should be the nominee — is touring the former president's rivals around New Hampshire shops, diners, and banquet halls, advertising them to voters while remaining coy about whom he plans to vote for himself.

Sununu appeared Monday with both

SUNUNU, Page A6



RUTH FREMSON/NEW YORK TIMES

OpenAI's fiasco

OpenAI, the company that gave the world ChatGPT, is in crisis mode. It was led by Sam Altman (above) until his board fired him on Friday. Altman was said to be joining Microsoft, leaving OpenAI's future in doubt. **D1.**

Bruins forward Milan Lucic was set to be arraigned Tuesday on a charge of assault and battery on a family member, after being accused of pulling his wife's hair and trying to choke her on Saturday. **C1.**

A federal appeals court moved to drastically weaken the Voting Rights Act, ruling that citizens and groups can't file lawsuits under a central provision of the landmark civil rights law. **A2.**

Advocates have advanced a ballot measure to end the \$6.75-an-hour tipped minimum wage, stating that they have collected 108,000 signatures, more than the number necessary to keep the group's 2024 bid alive. **D1.**

JOHN WALSH 1958-2023

‘He was the best grass-roots strategist in America’



JOSH REYNOLDS FOR THE BOSTON GLOBE/FILE

Mr. Walsh, seen making phone calls to reporters as state Democratic Party chairman in 2010, was widely praised for his political acumen and ability to connect with people.

Engineered wins for Deval Patrick, other Democrats

By Bryan Marquard

GLOBE STAFF

For the cup of coffee that changed their lives, John Walsh and Deval Patrick met at a Dunkin' Donuts.

Patrick, who wanted to be governor, arrived first and glanced up to see Mr. Walsh, a former college football lineman who stood a few inches north of 6 feet tall, fill the doorway with his frame and his smile.

Already a master of grass-roots campaigning, Mr. Walsh was frank with Patrick, a first-time candidate who for the most part was a household name in only his own household. "By any traditional measure, you can't win," Mr. Walsh cautioned him.

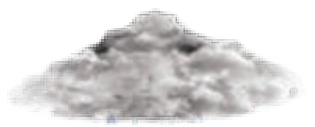
So together, they defied tradition. As campaign manager, Mr. Walsh recruited a network

of volunteers to spread Patrick's message of inviting back into civic life those who felt left out or left behind. By propelling Patrick to victory in 2006, Mr. Walsh gave Massachusetts its first Black governor and its first Democratic leader in 16 years, and he created a campaign template that Barack Obama would build upon during his road to the White House two years later.

A son of Irish immigrants who grew up in an Abington home where John F. Kennedy's photo was on the wall next to the pope's, Mr. Walsh died in hospice care Monday. He was 65, had been diagnosed with stomach cancer earlier this year, and divided his time between Boston and Falmouth.

"He was the best grass-roots strategist in America, and yet without an ounce of cynicism,"

WALSH, Page A7



Gray area

Tuesday: Becoming cloudy.

High 41-46, low 36-41.

Wednesday: Stormy.

High 48-53, low 37-42.

Sunrise: 6:42. Sunset: 4:18.

Obituaries, **C9.**

Weather and comics, **D5-6.**

VOL. 304, NO. 144

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Suggested retail price
\$3.50

