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1 donor, 2 candidates, a few questions

Wealthy heir gives millions to groups supporting both Kennedy and Trump

By Lissandra Villa de Petrzelka
GLOBE STAFF

WASHINGTON — On the left of the billboard, a smiling Robert F. Kennedy Jr. appears to be speaking into a microphone. On the right, a

scowling former president Trump looks out into the distance. The words “Powered by MAGA” are written in bold letters between them followed by, “Same biggest donor Timothy Mellon.”

The ad, paid for by the Demo-

cratic National Committee, was put up in Grand Rapids, Mich., in early February ahead of a Kennedy campaign swing in the state to highlight Mellon, a wealthy heir and political donor, and his multimillion dollar contributions to outside groups backing Kennedy, an independent candidate for president, and Trump, the likely Republican nominee. The donations prompted Democrats to

accuse Mellon of propping up Kennedy as an obstacle for President Biden in the presidential election.

Mellon declined to comment for this article.

Mellon once owned New England-based Pan Am Systems Inc. and its subsidiary Pan Am Railways. A member of a storied family and fortune, he has quietly played an in-

MELLON, Page A7

MOVE MADE TO OVERHAUL MASS. PROSTITUTION LAWS



SUZANNE KREITER/GLOBE STAFF

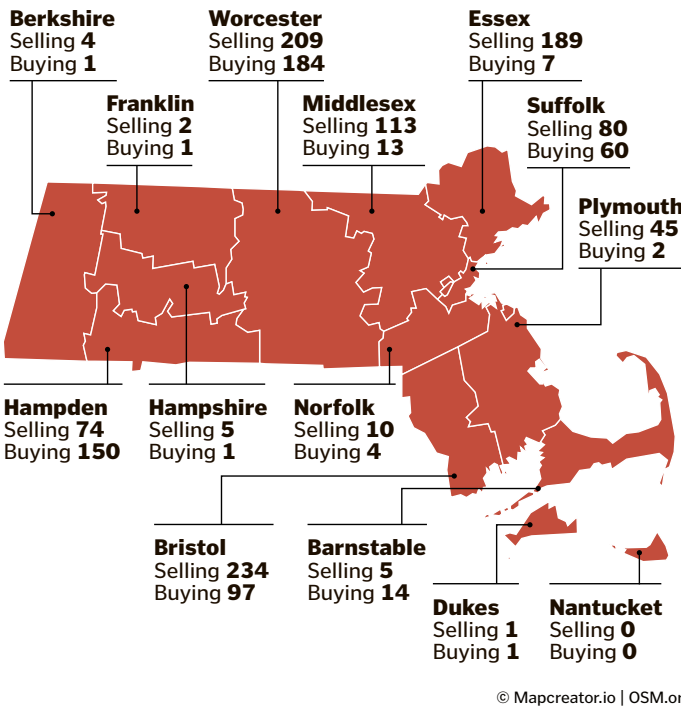
Jacquelyn Chenard said she has charges of sexual conduct for a fee on her record that have made earning a living difficult.

New bill would put onus on those who purchase sex — not on sex workers

Who gets charged in Massachusetts prostitution cases

Charges for selling or offering sex (971) are nearly double those for buying sex (535) across Massachusetts from July 2018 through June 2023. Bristol led all counties in the state with 234 charges for selling sex, but only 97 for buying.

Source: Massachusetts Trial Court
GLOBE STAFF



By Sean Cotter
GLOBE STAFF

Authorities in Massachusetts have charged nearly twice as many people with selling sex as buying it over the past five years, according to state court data, often using what advocates say are particularly archaic “common nightwalker” and “common streetwalker” laws.

Advocates for survivors of the sex trade are rallying around a bill that would repeal the state laws against sex workers — but keep prohibitions on paying for it and trafficking — and create a process to expunge the records of people who have been charged with prostitution-related offenses.

In the wake of arrests connected to an alleged brothel ring in Cambridge and Watertown, proponents say this “partial decriminalization” would shift responsibility to those most responsible for perpetuating the sex trade.

“It would codify into law what we know

PROSTITUTION, Page A7

Resistance grows to rules tying T, housing

Residents, officials push back on state mandate

By Andrew Brinker
GLOBE STAFF

ROCKPORT — On a brisk Wednesday a few weeks ago, residents filed into a meeting room on the second floor of the public library in this seaside town.

There were seafood industry workers, retirees, small business owners from all over Cape Ann, using words like “sovereignty,” “invasion,” and “blackmail.”

It sounded like the rumblings of a revolution. And in a sense it was: The meeting that night was another spark in the fast-growing resistance against the state’s ambitious new housing law, which will require towns like Rockport to find room for waves of new apartments and condos by the end of this year. On the heels of Milton’s vote last month to shoot down that town’s version of the plan, those sparks are multiplying rapidly.

The law, known as the MBTA Communities Act, requires cities and towns served by transit to zone for more multifamily housing, in a bid by state lawmakers to tackle the region’s deep housing crisis. But it does so by challenging the state’s long, proud history of letting towns control their own zoning. And some residents are very unhappy.

“How close does this come to quid pro quo, ex-

HOUSING, Page A10

Families stuck as asthma drug dropped

Company stops making popular treatment for kids

By Jason Laughlin
GLOBE STAFF

A commonly prescribed medication for children’s asthma is disappearing from pharmacists’ shelves, forcing parents and pediatricians to scramble for alternatives just as allergy season is about to start.

In a move unusual for such a widely used drug, GlaxoSmithKline discontinued Flovent HFA, the brand name of its corticosteroid treatment fluticasone propionate, at the end of December. Critics, including Massachusetts Senator Elizabeth Warren, say the decision helps the company avoid new Medicaid penalties going into effect this year for medications with price increases that outpace inflation.

“It was all very confusing, and we were left scrambling, trying to find out what we could do,” said Simone Fung, whose 5-year-old son, David, endured worse asthma symptoms over the past two months as the Cambridge family navigated confusing insurance policies and shortages of alternative medications to find a replacement for Flovent.

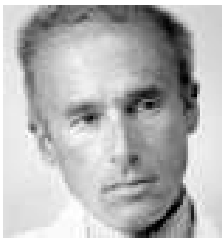
ASTHMA, Page A10

HOWARD HIATT 1925-2024

Renowned researcher and medical mentor

By Bryan Marquard and Joseph P. Kahn
GLOBE STAFF AND GLOBE CORRESPONDENT

The topic could not have been more profound. The setting was the pinnacle of power: the Oval Office.



Dr. Hiatt focused on critical public health issues.

In graphic terms, Dr. Howard Hiatt, then dean of the Harvard School of Public Health, described to President Ronald Reagan the consequences of a one-megaton bomb exploding over Washington, D.C. Such a blast would instantly kill about 400,000 people, he said, and leave no hospitals to treat the wounded.

Dr. Hiatt battled away suggestions that his December 1981 meeting with Reagan and public health experts was a political gambit. His mission, Dr. Hiatt said, was to convey the peril to the president, who two months before had revealed plans to arm Europe with intermediate-range nuclear missiles and add thousands of war-

HIATT, Page C9

The Supreme Court signaled that it would rule Monday on former president Donald Trump’s eligibility for Colorado’s primary ballot. **A2.**

The Boston School Committee is set to discuss a \$1.5 billion proposed budget, which sees substantial investment from the city paired with cuts in federal aid. **B1.**

Governor Maura Healey will seek \$1 billion over the next decade to reauthorize the state’s 16-year-old life sciences initiative. **D1.**

CELTICS TAME WARRIORS AT GARDEN PARTY



DANIELLE PARHIZKARAN/GLOBE STAFF

Against the Golden State Warriors at TD Garden on Sunday, the Celtics played one of their most dominant games in recent memory, roaring to a 140-88 win, their 11th in a row. Guard Jaylen Brown (right) had 29 points to lead the Celtics. Golden State’s Steph Curry (left) finished with 4 points on 2-of-13 shooting. **Sports, C1.**

Inside game

Monday: Drizzle early, clouds. High: 43-48. Low: 37-42.

Tuesday: Drizzle early, rain. High: 45-50. Low: 43-48. High tide: 5 a.m. 5:46 p.m. Sunrise: 6:14 Sunset: 5:38 Comics and Weather, **D4-5.** Obituaries, **C9.**

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