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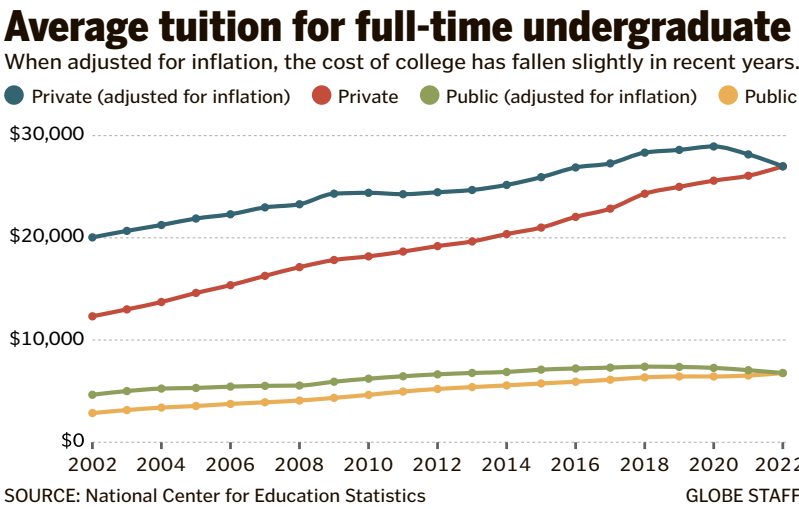
THURSDAY, APRIL 11, 2024

What's behind BU's eye-popping sticker price

Inflation is a big factor, as is income inequality. But labor issues aren't so clear.

By Diti Kohli and Aidan Ryan
GLOBE STAFF
and Esha Walia
GLOBE CORRESPONDENT

When graduate student workers at Boston University walked off the job last month, Michael Maloney's daughter saw her academic life interrupted. Her discussion sections for



biology and anthropology courses, typically run by graduate teaching assistants, were canceled outright, as was her freshman introductory writing course. Of her four courses this semester, only chemistry is running as planned.

It makes Maloney wonder what BU's \$66,670 undergraduate tuition actually pays for, and why those who actually teach his daughter are paid so little. (She receives a merit-based scholarship that covers less than one-third of the annual cost.)

"What portion of her tuition should be going toward paying peo-

COLLEGE COSTS, Page A8

State Police left records behind

Boxes of case evidence abandoned at closed Fernald center over a year

By Elizabeth Koh and John Hilliard
GLOBE STAFF

The sprawling ruins of the former Fernald Developmental Center in Waltham look like the setting of a low-budget scary movie, crumbling buildings strewn with trash, doors kicked in, broken windows and graffiti everywhere — and until recently, no fencing to keep out the vandals and urban explorers who ignore the no trespassing signs.

Hardly a secure place to store confidential files, including evidence from murder investigations and other criminal cases.

Yet for more than a year the State Police kept material for criminal cases on the forsaken grounds, the Globe has learned, including graphic evidence for homicide investigations and at least one unsolved murder, accessible to any trespasser who had breached the campus.

Those materials included rape kit components and tubes of blood-like liquid, even a baseball bat used in an assault, some boxes with identifying information piled up haphazardly, and others with their contents scattered on the

FERNALD, Page A9



BRYAN PARCIVAL

A box left on the floor of the former Fernald center in 2016 included a rape kit.

House budget far short of Healey's plan for shelters

Calls for \$500m, half of what she says is needed

By Matt Stout and Samantha J. Gross
GLOBE STAFF

Preaching the need for fiscal restraint, the Massachusetts House on Wednesday unveiled a nearly \$58 billion budget proposal that would dedicate \$500 million to the state's strained emergency shelter system — roughly half of what Governor Maura Healey's administration says the program will need next fiscal year to stay afloat.

The state's ability to shelter a stream of migrant and homeless families has become a growing political and fiscal challenge, and, for the second budget cycle in the row, is likely to force hard choices for the Democrats who control Beacon Hill.

Amid ever-growing numbers of new arrivals fleeing poverty and political upheaval in Haiti and elsewhere, Healey has projected it will cost \$915 million to run the emergency shelter system at current levels during the fiscal year that begins July 1. The program is quickly eating through the roughly \$700 million allocated for this fiscal year, and will need another temporary infusion to survive through June.

House Speaker Ron Mariano said Wednesday that he's "always hopeful that something happens in Washington" to "tighten the immigration system" and ease the burden on states such as Massachusetts that have seen an influx in new migrants in recent months.

Yet, under the House approach, if Congress does not tackle the politically difficult issue, Massachusetts lawmakers would almost certainly have to return to pour more money into the system during next fiscal year — effectively

BUDGET, Page A9

PREPPING FOR PATRIOTS DAY



DAVID L. RYAN/GLOBE STAFF

A lot goes into the big day, for people taking part in reenactments and those getting things set up for the Marathon. At the Satin Butterfly shop in Maynard, seamstress Deb Barnes fitted Evan Brender (center) and Cy Beyer of the Concord Minute Men so their Colonial outfits would be just right. **B4.** In Boston, crews put the race finish line in place, 26.2 miles from the start in Hopkinton. **More on the Marathon in Sports, C1.**



SUZANNE KREITER/GLOBE STAFF

Putting them in the running

With bibs from BAA, cities and towns on route boost charities by giving residents a shot

By Billy Baker
GLOBE STAFF

The instructions for running the Boston Marathon go like this: Hopkinton, Ashland, Framingham, Natick, Wellesley, Newton, Brookline, Boston. Right on Hereford. Left on Boylston. Straight on to glory.

It's been that way for generations, and for those eight cities and towns along the route, Marathon Monday has become a defining day in their annual stories. It's a tradition to cheer, of course, but it is also a tradition for the people who live in those places to test themselves, to say "This is the year" and take on the world's most famous distance chal-

lenge, with the community watching.

The Boston Athletic Association has long allowed runners from those eight communities to pin on a bib and cross the start line in

►New sponsor Bank of America goes big to promote the race. **D1.**

Hopkinton through a program that awards each community a chunk of numbers to distribute to their residents each year. Each town has a slightly different method for how it distributes its numbers, but the bulk go to small charities that enlist local runners willing to fund-raise a set amount. It is also

common to set aside some entries for first responders.

Otherwise, getting a bib to run the Marathon is famously difficult. To qualify for a number, you need to be performing at nearly an elite level in your age bracket. Not just a regular marathoner, but a very good one. The BAA also runs its own charity program, which awards thousands of bibs to select nonprofits that recruit athletes willing to raise funds for their cause.

But the bibs awarded to the cities and towns are viewed as a way to reward and connect with the communities that have

MARATHON, Page A8

Letter of election law brandished to threaten Biden's ballot spot

By Lissandra Villa de Petrzelka and Jim Puzzanghera
GLOBE STAFF

WASHINGTON — The hardball tactics that have characterized national politics in recent years might now be plunging to their most base level: efforts to keep a presidential candidate's name off the ballot.

The Republican secretaries of state in Ohio and Alabama have notified Democratic officials in recent days that President Biden could fail to appear on their state ballots for the November election. The problem: the Democratic convention from Aug. 19-22 — where Biden will become the party's official

presidential nominee — takes place after their respective deadlines to qualify for their ballots.

The same deadline issue has occurred in the past when a party's convention has been held later than usual and did not result in a major party presidential candidate being kept off the ballot. The Biden campaign said it believes the problems will be resolved. But the moves have triggered accusations of weaponizing election law — the Alabama Democratic Party chair called it "partisan gamesmanship" — and raised concerns that it could be the next step in an arms race with reper-

BALLOT, Page A7



No clear alternative

Thursday: Showers at times. High 52-57. Low 49-54.
Friday: More of the same.
Weather and Comics, D5-6. Obituaries, C10-11.

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For the first time, the federal government is requiring municipal water systems to remove six synthetic chemicals linked to cancer and other health problems. A2.

The world's first recipient of a kidney transplant from a genetically modified pig experienced a rejection episode before recovering and leaving Mass. General last week. D1.

Former Holyoke city councilor Wilmer Puello-Mota, who fled to Russia, is not planning to return, his lawyer said. B1.

Israeli aircraft killed three sons of Hamas's top political leader in the Gaza Strip. A4.