

FAMILY MATTERS



PHOTOS BY JOHN TLUMACKI/GLOBE STAFF

Families celebrated National Adoption Day Friday at the George N. Covett Courthouse in Brockton, where 20 children and teens were officially adopted into families. Across the state 116 adoptions from foster care were completed. Clockwise from top left, Lutinana Alcindor, 6, from Stoughton, smiled as her mother, Niya, applauded. Noah Caffrey, 2, was all dressed up as he waited in the courthouse lobby. Brian Maule from Brockton held his soon-to-be grandchild, Harper, 6 months, as they waited for the ceremony to start. Currently, 2,460 children are waiting to be adopted in Massachusetts, according to MARE, a nonprofit organization that works to find adoptive homes for children and teens in foster care.

Gloucester reaches deal with educators

Teachers and paraprofessionals will get raises

By Christopher Huffaker and Deanna Pan
GLOBE STAFF

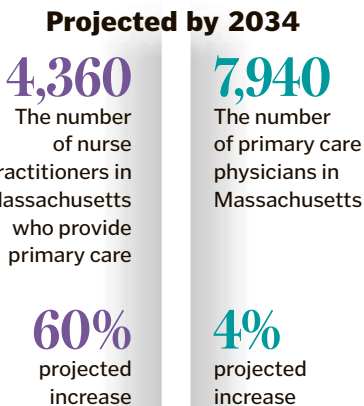
Gloucester officials and the city's teachers union reached a tentative agreement to end a 15-day strike Friday afternoon, concluding one of three long-running walkouts that have kept 10,000 North Shore children from school for nearly two weeks.

The agreement gives teachers a nearly 16 percent pay increase over four years and raises salaries for paraprofessionals by nearly 40 percent over five years. The two sides also agreed on a new parental leave policy, ensuring all educators are guaranteed seven weeks of paid leave.

Over the course of their four-year contract, salaries for teachers at the top of the salary schedule will increase to \$113,000, from \$97,500 currently. The union's highest-earning paraprofessionals, meanwhile, will see their wages rise from \$26,155 to \$36,600 over five years. New paraprofessionals will start out at \$30,236 in fiscal year 2028, up from the current starting salary of \$22,016.

"This contract fight was about the working-class educators, community members, students versus those who have the power and wielded it to maintain a broken system," said biology teacher Rachel Salvo Rex, co-president of the Union of Gloucester Teachers.

TEACHERS, Page A7



Surge seen for nurse practitioners

Economics drives shift from primary care doctors

By Jonathan Saltzman and Scooty Nickerson
GLOBE STAFF

As many patients have come to learn, the modern doctor's office often doesn't have a doctor available, either right away if you're sick, or for weeks or months if you need a physical or a new primary care physician.

Instead, it's usually much faster to see a nurse practitioner. And that is increasingly going to become the norm, as workforce data from the US Department of Health and Human Services forecasts a massive metamorphosis in the face of front-line medicine: Over the next decade, the number of nurse practitioners in Massachusetts who provide primary care is projected to surge by more than 60 percent, to 4,360, while the count of primary care physicians is expected to increase by less than 4 percent, to 7,940.

The paltry growth in primary care physicians, which include internal medicine and family physicians, pediatricians, and geriatricians, is largely

NURSE PRACTITIONERS, Page A7

At Bentley University, the trading room floor is a launching pad

By Diti Kohli
GLOBE STAFF

WALTHAM — Bentley University freshman Stella Case does not spend most of her time in the classroom, the cafeteria, or even the dorms. Noon or night, the finance major is likely in the trading room.

It's a sea of computer monitors and swivel chairs that mirrors a Wall Street floor but sits in the basement of the Smith Academic Technology Center. There, traders learn the intricacies of the stock market with the student-run

Bentley Investment Group, or BIG. And they're playing with real money. On the wall, a live tracker tallies the portion of Bentley's endowment overseen by the students: roughly \$1.4 million.

"The trading room is better than the library," said Case, a member of BIG. "It's home."

Around 400 students regularly attend meetings to assess investment options and vote on whether to put money down, and 1,600 students in total — more than one-third of Bentley's under-

BENTLEY, Page A10

Healey to seek 6-month limit on shelter stays

Also calls for ending state's use of hotels

By Matt Stout
GLOBE STAFF

Governor Maura Healey said Friday she will seek to cap stays in emergency shelters for homeless and migrant families to six months, marking her latest effort to contain spending within a strained shelter system that is projected to cost the state nearly \$1.1 billion this fiscal year.

If approved by the Legislature, Healey's proposal would slice three months off the maximum time families are allowed in shelters, which itself was among the first restrictions the state put on shelter

stays since the inception of Massachusetts' right-to-shelter law four decades ago.

The proposal is one of several dramatic changes Healey's administration will impose — or try to impose — in the coming weeks and months. State officials said Friday they intend to "phase out" the use of hotels and motels to shelter homeless families, a task that proved a years-long effort for Healey's predecessor. Healey said she will also ask lawmakers to increase subsidies available to families looking for long-term housing to help move more of them out of shelter.

More immediately, state officials said they are creating a new, two-track system for eligible homeless and migrant families.

SHELTERS, Page A10

ALICE BROCK 1941-2024

Restaurant owner who inspired Arlo Guthrie's Thanksgiving epic

By Bryan Marquard and Brian MacQuarrie
GLOBE STAFF

To Alice Brock, the song that immortalized her name and her long-ago Stockbridge restaurant stirred memories of the best parts of the 1960s.

And she remained friends with folk singer Arlo Guthrie, who based his rambling, 18½-minute "Alice's Restaurant" on his 1965 arrest for littering. Guthrie had dined that year at a Thanksgiving dinner she prepared. Then he and a friend tossed the garbage in a ditch upon finding that the local dump was shuttered for the holiday. The rest, he would say, was history — and a memorable tale.

"Well, the song is great," Ms. Brock told The Boston Globe in 2018. "And it's very funny. Arlo is very clever. It's a lot of fun, and it has a message of all the right things: of hope and music."

Fame, though, she could have done without. "I don't feel very good about having people point at me and say, 'That's her,'" she said in 1978, after opening a Lenox restaurant far fancier than the Stockbridge eatery that was, in Guthrie's song, "around the back/Just a half a mile from the railroad track" — a place where "you can get anything you want."

An artist and author who left restaurants and the Berkshires behind more than four decades ago, Ms. Brock died Thursday afternoon. Ms. Brock was 83 and lived in Prov-

ALICE BROCK, Page C10



MARTI GUTHRIE

Ms. Brock with Rick Robbins (center) and Arlo Guthrie on Thanksgiving 2022, three of the main characters in Guthrie's song "Alice's Restaurant."

The state's public defender agency is suing the Massachusetts State Police for allegedly withholding the internal affairs record of a trooper accused of tampering with evidence. **B1.**

Voters in Needham will be asked to weigh in on a plan to allow dense

multifamily housing in key commercial areas near the commuter rail. **D1.**

The number of deaths caused by alcohol-related diseases more than doubled among Americans between 1999 and 2020, according to new research. **A2.**

Splash dance

Saturday: Rainy. High: 44-49. Low: 42-47.

Sunday: Sunny. High: 51-56. Low: 34-39.

High tide: 5:01 a.m. 5:13 p.m.

Sunrise: 6:45 Sunset: 4:16

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