# The Boston Blobe

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SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 25, 2023

# A test for **Brookline's** tobacco rule

Challenge to ban on sales to anyone born in 21st century heard by Mass. high court

> **By Matt Stout** GLOBE STAFF

During the depths of the pandemic, Brookline adopted a public health measure unlike any in the country. Massachusetts' highest court could now determine whether it can stay.

Currently, no one born in the 21st century is allowed to buy tobacco in the Boston suburb of 60,000 people after Town Meeting voters adopted a first-in-the-nation bylaw in 2020. The rule went into effect about a year later, gradually prohibiting tobacco or e-cigarette sales to anyone born on or after Jan. 1, 2000.

That means that at some point far into the future, literally no one would be allowed to buy tobacco in Brookline, regardless of his or her age. Currently, the legal age to purchase tobacco statewide is 21.

The Brookline rule has been hailed as a novel effort to curb youth tobacco use by going far beyond setting a minimum age, effectively banning future generations from ever purchasing tobacco. New Zealand last year adopted a similar policy,

**BROOKLINE, Page B4** 

### When it comes to lift passes, freestyling is out

The options are dizzying, with lots of money at stake

> By Beth Teitell GLOBE STAFF

Skiing has gotten so complicated. Not the going downhill part. That's the same as it's always been, for better or worse. It's figuring out which advance-purchase pass to buy. Such is the madness that it has come for even casual skiers, those who want to ski maybe a couple of weekends and a few days on a vacation, not just the hard-core.

In the old days, buying a ticket was straight forward. First of all, it was a ticket. Not a pass. You'd go to the booth, turn over your cash, and hit the slopes. You were not laying out thousands of dollars a year in advance so you could take advantage of an "early bird" special.

But over the past 15 years, in a bid to fight off competition and lock up your money before the ski season even starts, the ski companies have introduced so many different options — season passes, quad pack passes, stay-and-ski deals, seven-day passes, six-day passes, and decide soon be-

SKI PASS, Page A7

#### Glovely weather

Saturday: Sunny, some wind. High: 36-41. Low: 28-33 Sunday: Sun and clouds. High: 45-50. Low: 39-44. Sunrise: 6:46 Sunset: 4:15 Comics and Weather, **D4-5.** Obituaries, C10.

VOL. 304, NO. 148 Suggested retail price

\$3.50



A minority share**holder at Tree House Brewing** has sued two majority sharehold-

ers for behavior he says caused the brewery financial damage.

The number of police chases across Texas has gone up sharply since the start of a program that sent thousands of police to patrol near the border.



Vehicles with the International Committee of the Red Cross believed to be carrying hostages released by Hamas headed through the border crossing with Egypt in Rafah, in the southern Gaza Strip on Friday,

# First captives freed in cease-fire

Hamas releases 24 hostages; Israel returns nearly 40 Palestinian prisoners



JAAFAR ASHTIYEH/AFP VIA GETTY IMAGES

Palestinian prisoners who were released from the Israeli Ofer prison in exchange for hostages waved flags in Baytunia in the West Bank on Friday.

By Patrick Kingsley, Christina Goldbaum, Rami Nazzal, and Alan Yuhas

NEW YORK TIMES

JERUSALEM — Hamas freed two dozen hostages held in the Gaza Strip and Israel released nearly 40 imprisoned Palestinians on Friday, completing the first exchange in a tense, temporary truce that halted the fighting after seven weeks of war.

► In Massachusetts, joy tempered by fear on news of hostage and prisoner release. B1.

The cease-fire, reached after weeks of painstaking negotiation with the help of Egypt, Qatar, and the United States, had held for a few hours before word emerged that anyone had been released. Then came a flurry of announcements from Egypt, Qatar, and the International Committee of the Red Cross, which helped receive hostages after their weeks in captivity in Gaza.

The hostages released included 13 Israelis, several children among them, as well as 10 Thais and one MIDEAST, Page A5

## A sentence served not just by the convicted

Incarceration and parole bring limits to partners, relationships

> By Ivy Scott GLOBE STAFF

This story was written as part of a collaborative project with the Globe's Love Letters podcast.

It doesn't happen often anymore, but even after 26 years, every now and then Sharlene Blake finds herself standing outside her car, waiting for police to finish questioning her husband.

The whole ordeal used to enrage her, but now, she just sighs. At 60, she feels too old for this.

When the officer is finished with his traffic-stop-turned-interrogation, she says, he inevitably approaches her and asks surreptitiously, "Ma'am, do you know who you're with?"

She responds yes, that's her husband, 64-year-old DeWayne Allen Blake. And yes, she's well aware that he was convicted of second-degree murder in 1981. She's the one who picked him up on his first day of parole, 26 years ago.

"It's very degrading, and he's used to it ... but I'm not, so it does put a lot of stress on our marriage," she said in an interview at the corner table of a Jamaica Plain café.

**COUPLES, Page A7** 



SUZANNE KREITER/GLOBE STAFF

Sharlene and DeWayne Blake embraced in their home in Worcester. The couple met while he was incarcerated.







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