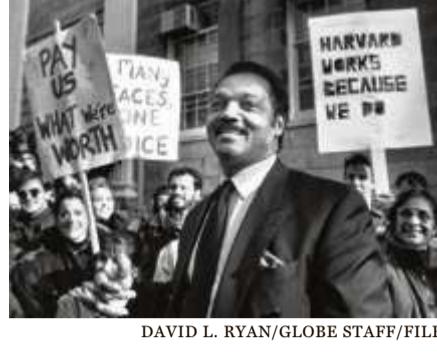


The Boston Globe

Serving our community since 1872

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 2026

JESSE JACKSON
1941-2026



DAVID L. RYAN/GLOBE STAFF/FILE

Reverend Jackson, shown speaking at Harvard in 1992, ran for president twice, in 1984 and 1988.

A powerful voice for justice and inclusion

By Peter Applebome

NEW YORK TIMES

The Rev. Jesse Jackson, whose impassioned oratory and populist vision of a "rainbow coalition" of the poor and forgotten made him the nation's most influential Black figure in the years between the civil rights crusades of the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. and the election of Barack Obama, died on Tuesday at his home in Chicago. He was 84.

His death was confirmed by his family in a statement, which did not give a cause.

Reverend Jackson was hospitalized in November for treatment of a rare and particularly severe neurodegenerative condition, progressive supranuclear palsy, according to the advocacy organization he founded, the Rainbow PUSH Coalition. In 2017, he announced that he had Parkinson's disease.

He had picked up the mantle of King after his assassination in 1968 and ran for president twice, long before Obama's election in 2008. But he never achieved either the commanding moral stature of King or the ultimate political triumph attained by Obama.

Instead, through the power of his language and his preternatural energy and ambition, he became a moral and political force in a racially ambiguous era, when Jim Crow was still a vivid memory and Black political power more an aspiration than a reality.

With his gospel of seeking common ground, his pleas to "keep hope alive," and his demands for respect for those seldom accorded it, Reverend Jackson enunciated a progressive vision that defined the soul of the Democratic Party, if not necessarily its policies, in the last decades of the 20th century.

It was a vision, animated by the civil JACKSON, Page A10

Push is on to let traffic cameras do their thing

Tech to cite speeders is here, but so far, the will is not

By Matt Stout
GLOBE STAFF

Surveillance cameras have become ubiquitous, allowing police to tap into private feeds to solve crimes, track who's taking a Cape Cod holiday, or follow the path of a mass shooter through a leafy neighborhood.

Why then, some argue, shouldn't they be able to give you a speeding ticket, too?

Road safety advocates, Democratic lawmakers, and Governor Maura Healey are pushing varying bills that would allow local and state officials for the first time to install cameras to catch heavy-footed motorists around Massachusetts.

The plans vary widely in scope and detail, and in some cases, are revised versions of traffic camera proposals that have previously failed on Beacon Hill. But as lawmakers grow more open to other forms of automated enforcement, supporters see a disconnect: Law enforcement can already track cars, and yet, the state doesn't allow using cameras to actually keep speeding drivers in check.

"We can track everybody [and] that's perfectly fine, right within the law," said Representative Steven Owens, referring to the widespread use of license plate readers that police employ to track the cars that zoom by them, though not to enforce traffic laws.

CAMERAS, Page A10

R.I. shooter had history of struggle

Killed ex-wife, son and wounded former in-laws

By Alexa Gagosz, Steph Machado, Christopher Gavin, and Amanda Milkovits
GLOBE STAFF

NORTH PROVIDENCE, R.I. — While authorities have not said what prompted Robert Dorgan to shoot and kill family members during a hockey game in Pawtucket on Mon-

day, court records and interviews with friends and family members paint a picture of a complicated life marked by legal disputes and family conflict.

Dorgan's daughter, Ava Dorgan, 20, told the Globe Tuesday that her mother, Rhonda Dorgan, and older brother, Aidan Dorgan, were killed when her father opened fire at the Dennis M. Lynch Arena. Her mother's parents were also injured, as was her mother's friend Thomas Geruso, 54, an assistant principal of a Pawtucket high school. All three are still

hospitalized in critical condition, she said.

The family was at the ice rink Monday afternoon to watch her younger brother play hockey for the Blackstone Valley Schools co-op hockey program, said Ava Dorgan, who was not at the game. The younger brother was not injured in the shooting.

Pawtucket Police Chief Tina Goncalves said during a press briefing on Tuesday that several bystanders attempted to stop the shooting, but Dorgan took out a second firearm

and shot himself. Video taken during the game captured the sounds of multiple gunshots, followed by an 11-second pause as people scrambled for the exits, and then another single shot.

Aidan Dorgan died at the hospital; Rhonda Dorgan succumbed to her injuries at the arena, said Goncalves.

Investigators recovered the two firearms, a Glock 10 millimeter and a SIG Sauer P226 pistol, said Goncalves. Dorgan had a license to carry

PAWTUCKET, Page A6



ERIN CLARK/GLOBE STAFF

Vivian and Larry Perry stopped to tie flowers on a sign at First Encounter Beach in Eastham. They said they often chatted with the Bouchers.

Grief and disbelief after fall through ice

Relatives, friends of couple together over 50 years wonder what could have happened

By Camilo Fonseca and Chris Serres
GLOBE STAFF

EASTHAM — They were former high school sweethearts, married for more than five decades, taking a walk on Valentine's Day morning with their beloved black Labrador along a remote stretch of Cape Cod.

Then a bystander saw their dog, Casey, soaked and in distress, along a shoreline studded with 4-foot-high boulders of ice. When police arrived to help the animal, they heard cries for help, rising from somewhere among those jagged slabs that loomed above the swelling tide of the Bee's River.

Two hours later, a woman's body was found in the river, and authorities are still searching for her husband somewhere in the icy waters.

Now, communities up and down lower Cape Cod remain deeply shaken, as speculation swirls as to why a couple who were known to be avid outdoors people would venture onto such treacherous terrain and when, if ever, rescue crews would recover the husband's body.

Exactly what happened to Gerald and Kathleen Boucher, known as Jerry and Kit, both in their early 70s, on their Valentine's Day walk remains a mystery, and has come to dominate conversations,

from the Local Break Restaurant and Bar in Eastham to the animal rescue center in Hyannis where Kathleen had long volunteered, helping to rescue wounded and stranded mammals up and down the Cape.

All day Tuesday, a steady stream of cars wound their way down the narrow road along First Encounter Beach to the desolate spot where rescue divers discovered Kathleen's body Saturday. Many knew the couple and left bouquets of flowers on a mound of snow near the mouth of the Bee's River. Some broke down in tears as they described the

ICE, Page A7

'We got back as much as we could, and then we found that, gee, it's not going to be such an easy task.'

BILL MARTIN, *Italian American Organizations United*

Columbus statue gone to pieces will have its day

By Jim Puzzanghera
GLOBE STAFF

WASHINGTON — Word spread quickly through Baltimore's Italian American community on a hot night in the volatile summer of 2020: The Christopher Columbus statue in the city's Little Italy neighborhood had been toppled by racial justice protesters.

It was one of many monuments nationwide hauled down or vandalized in the aftermath of George Floyd's murder by Minneapolis police that spring. Protesters focused on Confederate figures, but also targeted Columbus as a symbol of colonialism and oppression. A few weeks earlier, a Columbus statue in Boston's North End had been beheaded.

But the story of Baltimore's statue is unique, bookended by the involvement of two presidents and likely concluding soon with a new home on the White House grounds.

Crafted with marble from a quarry used by Michelangelo, the 7-foot-tall statue of the Italian explorer was

dedicated by President Ronald Reagan on Columbus Day in 1984. Not only was it pulled down from its pedestal with a pair of ropes on July 4, 2020, it shattered into pieces that protesters dumped into the murky waters of the adjacent Inner Harbor.

"We're as proud as any culture is of their heritage, and we were angry," said John A. Pica, a Maryland lobbyist and president of Italian American Organizations United, a local group that owns the statue. "We just decided to react immediately."

At dawn two mornings later, Pica and dozens of other volunteers showed up at the water's edge with a crane, a flatbed truck, a team of divers, and a marble-solid resolve. They recovered most of the statue, then raised the money for Maryland artist Will Hemsley to recreate it.

Now, The Washington Post says that replica is headed for the White House, once again raising the complex issues surrounding Columbus as the nation approaches its 250th

STATUE, Page A5



ANTHONY TIPLER FOR THE BOSTON GLOBE

Soup's still on

Winter's easing up a bit, but a steaming bowl keeps hitting the spot. Devra First finds 12 of the best soups in the Boston area (above, Gantetsu shoyu at Ganko Ittetsu Ramen). **G1**

The US military said it carried out strikes on three boats accused of smuggling drugs in Latin American waters, killing 11 people in one of the deadliest days of the campaign. **A2**

State Auditor Diana DiZoglio is asking the SJC to allow Shannon Liss-Riordan, a former attorney general candidate, to represent her office in her fight to probe the Legislature. **B1**

Planned Parenthood League of Massachusetts is offering vasectomies for the first time, responding to requests. **B5**

Three-time US skating champion Amber Glenn made a double loop instead of a triple and lost her chance for a medal. **C1**



Slop sign

Wednesday: Snow, sleet, rain. High 41-46. Low 27-32.

Thursday: Sun is back. High 39-44. Low 23-28.

Weather and Comics, **G6-G7**.

VOL. 309, NO. 49

*

Suggested retail price

\$4.00



0 947725 4 07317