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# Boston school panel to review proposals on water policy

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**By Jeremy C. Fox**

GLOBE STAFF MAY 25, 2016

The Boston School Committee is renewing discussions Wednesday night on a proposal for new drinking water policy, amid heightened concerns about lead levels found in some schools' water.

The policy would mandate annual testing of all active drinking water sources in district schools and could fast-track efforts to return students to drinking tap water instead of using water coolers.

Most city schools have used bottled water for drinking for nearly three decades, after testing in the 1980s found high lead levels. Last summer, the district budgeted \$300,000 for retrofitting six schools with new water fountains as part of a pilot program to return to drinking city water.

The project — which so far has gone \$120,000 over its budget — was intended to provide a road map to install fountains in dozens of other schools and to save money on bottled water. The district expects to spend \$415,000 this school year on bottled water.

The new fountains were not supposed to be used before they passed lead tests, but the district has revealed in recent weeks that some were put into temporary service, potentially exposing children to



tainted water.

Two district maintenance employees were placed on administrative leave amid an investigation into the premature activation of those fountains.

Across the district, several dozen water samples from eight schools have been found to have lead concentrations above 20 parts per billion, including two with levels more than 10 times higher.

Specialists who study lead poisoning recently told the Globe that a few drinks of water with lead concentrations such as those found in Boston schools were unlikely to cause a child's blood lead level to spike above 5 micrograms per deciliter of blood, the threshold for concern established by the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.



Kim Dietrich, an environmental health professor at the University of Cincinnati, said school fountains are “a relatively minor source of lead exposure,” and that even if a child's blood lead levels rise above 5 micrograms, it does not mean the child will experience health or developmental setbacks.


**Correction: An earlier version of this story incorrectly said the School Committee was poised to vote on the new water policy.**

*Matt Rocheleau of the Globe staff contributed to this report. Jeremy C. Fox can be reached at [jeremy.fox@globe.com](mailto:jeremy.fox@globe.com). Follow him on Twitter @jeremycfox.*

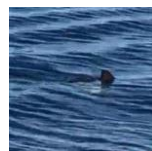
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## Cape Cod boaters spot great white off Sandy Neck Beach

The great white shark momentarily disappeared before jumping about 5 feet out of the water. [MORE...](#)



## Discovery could provide insight into life 2,100 years ago

Experts from Greece and the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution discovered a human skeleton aboard a shipwreck from 65 B.C. [MORE...](#)



## T could pour hundreds of millions into increasing Red Line capacity by 50 percent

An official said replacing 86 more cars — instead of overhauling them — and buying more vehicles could improve the quality of service. [MORE...](#)



## F. Gorham Brigham Jr., a mainstay among Boston banking executives, dies at 101

Mr. Brigham was the oldest living graduate of Harvard Business School and was described as “the classic Boston gentleman.” [MORE...](#)



## 14-year-old killed by train was ‘a true friend to people’

The ninth-grader was “a super-creative, super-smart kid,” his family said as they continue grieving his death. [MORE...](#)



## Man charged in fatal restaurant crash in Newton is released

Bradford Casler pleaded not guilty to charges after he drove into a popular Newton pizza restaurant in March, killing two people. [MORE...](#)

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## 'Mermaid' to go on display at Harvard museum — but she's no Ariel

The Peabody Museum's "FeeJee Mermaid" will be brought out to celebrate the institute's 150th anniversary next month. [MORE...](#)

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## Rejecting opioids, pain patients find relief with marijuana

But the world of medical marijuana bears little resemblance to usual medical care. [MORE...](#)

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## Kelly Ayotte's foe isn't just Maggie Hassan. It's also history

If the US senator loses reelection, she'll be able pinpoint when it happened: when she won her first term. [MORE...](#)

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KEVIN CULLEN

## Counting your fish — and your blessings

Travis Roy got a chance to go ocean fishing, despite being attached to a 600-pound motorized wheelchair. [MORE...](#)

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## Needing support from communities, builders pay for it

Local backing for a development project often comes with a price tag, bought as easily as lumber or drywall. [MORE...](#)

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DEBATING QUESTION 3 | TUESDAY, 3 P.M.

## Two sides of cage-free egg debate will face off

Representatives from the Humane Society and the New England Brown Egg Council will argue the merits of Question 3 Tuesday in a Globe-sponsored debate. [MORE...](#)

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## Can't wait to vote against [fill in blank here]? Your chance is soon.

The "Vote Early Boston" site on Boston.gov provides information on early voting, which runs Oct. 24 through Nov. 4. [MORE...](#)

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## In Colo., a look at life after marijuana legalization

In November, Massachusetts voters are likely to consider a ballot question legalizing recreational marijuana. [MORE...](#)

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## Somerville to offer tours of Prospect Hill Tower

A ribbon-cutting ceremony to celebrate the re-opening of the tower will take place Tuesday. [MORE...](#)

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## Big Papi gets an oceanic namesake

Add a 15-foot shark to the list of things fans have done to honor David Ortiz. [MORE...](#)

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## Two Mass. schools ranked among top 10 colleges in US

Move over Crimson; the Tigers are No. 1 on US News & World Report's 2017 university rankings. [MORE...](#)

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## Allston shooting leaves victim fighting for life

A man was shot Sunday night on Linden Street, according to Boston police. [MORE...](#)

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## The great rabbit pardon of 2016

A Buddhist gardener felt sorry for rabbits being raised for slaughter at Codman Community Farms, so she bought them — 135 rabbits in all. [MORE...](#)

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## 'I just saw cops rushing to the scene,' N.J. shootout witness says

Employees at the Linden Auto Body Shop in Linden, N.J., were sitting in their office when they suddenly heard gunshots. [MORE...](#)

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COLLEGE BOUND

## Do early birds catch the college acceptance?

Some high school seniors are better off nailing the fall grading period before they apply. [MORE...](#)

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## Cambridge aims to take pets out of pet stores

A proposed city ordinance would stop breeders from supplying animals to shops. [MORE...](#)

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## Howard E. Butt Jr., 89; left grocery empire for spiritual pursuits

Mr. Butt advocated a role for the laity in improving the world through personal renewal within the professions, the family, and the local church. [MORE...](#)

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## See the skeleton that researchers have discovered aboard an ancient Greek shipwreck

The skeleton was found on the Antikythera Shipwreck, a Greek ship from 65 B.C. [MORE...](#)

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## Parents of Justina Pelletier sue Boston Children's Hospital

The teen spoke out at a press conference to announce a lawsuit against Boston Children's Hospital over her care. [MORE...](#)

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## Beer, politics, and a whole lot of tech talk at HUBweek

HUBweek organizers are grappling with how to ensure the annual festival does not cater solely to the business and academic elite. [MORE...](#)

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## Obama grants federal protection to section of Atlantic

President Obama will designate a section off the Cape as a national monument, the first such classification in the Atlantic Ocean. [MORE...](#)

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## Strict opioids laws hit chronic pain sufferers hard

"I feel so trapped when I look at my bottle and see six pills left," said Jon Rodis, 57, who has a painful genetic condition. [MORE...](#)

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## Supporters of recreational use of marijuana fill the Common

Massachusetts voters will decide in November whether to legalize marijuana for recreational use. [MORE...](#)

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## Phillips Exeter sued over kicking out student who had sex

The N.H. school is being sued by the parents of a 15-year-old boy, saying it was wrong to withdraw their son after he had sex with another student. [MORE...](#)

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12/15/13 | FIRST OF TWO PARTS

## A medical collision with a child in the middle

Justina Pelletier has a metabolic disease. Or does she? With her parents and Children's Hospital deadlocked, she was placed in state custody. [MORE...](#)

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## Man freed after getting head stuck in R.I. jetty while fetching phone

A man who got stuck head-first between two rocks on a Rhode Island jetty while trying to retrieve his cellphone has been rescued with the help of olive oil. [MORE...](#)

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## How rich (or not) is your community?

Massachusetts ranks in the top tier nationally when it comes to median household income. [MORE...](#)

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## Firm with spotty past regains state's car inspection contract

Applus Technologies Inc. was selected to provide testing equipment to more than 1,900 Mass. inspection stations. [MORE...](#)

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## Our winters are getting shorter — and warmer

Scientists say the impending changes — a result of human-caused global warming — are deeply troubling and will have major impacts on ecosystems and economies. [MORE...](#)

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## Marathon bombing victim John Odom returns home

John Odom today will do something he once thought might never happen: return home to California — the last of the Marathon bombing victims to do so. [MORE...](#)

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## Charmian Carr, 73; portrayed Liesl in 'The Sound of Music'





Ms. Carr fully embraced audiences' reverence for the musical, frequently appearing at sing-a-long performances. [MORE...](#)

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EVAN HOROWITZ | QUICK STUDY

## Heroin, prescription opioids form especially toxic mix in Mass.

A substantial and spiking number of overdoses in Massachusetts involves both heroin and prescription drugs. [MORE...](#)

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JFK: 50 YEARS LATER

## Robert F. Kennedy saw conspiracy in JFK's assassination

Robert F. Kennedy took on some of the Kennedy Administration's hardest tasks, ones that created dangerous foes, and after the assassination, RFK wondered if one of them had done it. [MORE...](#)

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## Pair in Snapchat sex assault get 4-5 years in prison

The two were convicted of assault to rape, indecent assault and battery, and kidnapping in the attack that was carried out in the woods and shared on Snapchat. [MORE...](#)

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## Could \$22.3m budget gap threaten UMass Boston's growth?

Several construction projects have been plagued by unexpected setbacks that will cost the university extra millions. [MORE...](#)

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## As outcome of Boston Latin inquiry looms, Chang meets with US attorney's office

The School Department said the superintendent has been part of "ongoing discussions." [MORE...](#)

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## Legal pot brownies: delicious or pernicious?

Marijuana edibles, the cutting edge of the burgeoning pot industry, are at the center of the legalization debate. [MORE...](#)

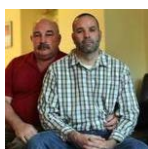
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## Families of murder victims seek help moving

There is no formal program to assist families of homicide victims who want to move because they fear for their own safety. [MORE...](#)

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## Gay married man says Catholic school rescinded job offer

Matthew Barrett of Dorchester said Fontbonne Academy in Milton withdrew a job offer within two days after he listed his husband as emergency contact. [MORE...](#)

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## 10 graphics that explain gun violence in the US

What do we know about mass shootings and gun violence? Here are 10 charts and maps to help understand. [MORE...](#)

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## In Greater Boston, a lopsided geography of affordable housing

Relatively little subsidized housing has sprouted in places like Lexington. [MORE...](#)

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YVONNE ABRAHAM

## Few options for domestic violence victims

Like so many domestic violence victims, Wanda Rosa was powerless to separate herself from the abuser who murdered her. [MORE...](#)

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**Let the debate begin, for candidates and cocktails**



Three bars in Somerville are holding presidential debate events, complete with election-themed drinks. [MORE...](#)

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## Chasing Bayla



Biologist Michael Moore had waited all day — really, all his life — for the whale to surface, the suffering giant he thought he could save, that science had to save. It had come down to this. [MORE...](#)

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## Emerging scandal in evidence room puts hundreds of drug cases at risk

An audit revealed missing drugs, guns, and money from a Braintree evidence room, and cases may have to be thrown out. [MORE...](#)

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ADRIAN WALKER

## Developers buying community support is an insider game



Civic groups should not be able to take money from developers looking to buy support, much less solicit payment. [MORE...](#)

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## Drugs, guns, and \$400,000 missing from Braintree police



An audit found that heat-sealed drug bags were cut, bags of cash were sliced open, and at least 60 guns had disappeared. [MORE...](#)

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## Boy hit by car that drove around school bus with stop sign activated

The 6-year-old boy, who “sustained some bumps and scrapes,” was taken to a hospital. [MORE...](#)

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## One man dead after triple shooting in Dorchester

One person is dead and two more are injured following an early morning shooting in Dorchester. [MORE...](#)

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## John Wilson, at 92; artist spurred by social realities

Mr. Wilson, who grew up in Roxbury, painted, sculpted, and made prints out of his home studio in Brookline. [MORE...](#)

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## Longtime UNH librarian leaves \$4 million to school

While Robert Morin was known to live simply, he quietly amassed the fortune that was left to UNH following his death. [MORE...](#)

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## Something new in the chill, salt air: Hope

The demise of the Grand Banks fishery left tens of thousands out of work, desperate, and angry, but there's been a renaissance. [MORE...](#)

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## Harvard gives humanitarian award to Myanmar leader Aung San Suu Kyi

The activist urged people to go out into the world and prove for themselves that hatred is rooted in fear. [MORE...](#)

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## In this Boston court, chains are a familiar sound

Advocates for immigrants say the pervasive use of shackles is demeaning to detainees who face charges of civil infractions, not crimes. [MORE...](#)

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## Donald Trump cited the Boston Globe's coverage of immigration. Here's the backstory.

Donald Trump singled out a June Globe article in a speech in Phoenix. [MORE...](#)



## Death toll mounts for bicyclists on Boston's streets

At least 13 people have been killed while bicycling on city streets in the last five years, ranging in age from 8 to 74. [MORE...](#)

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## For Republicans, Connolly is the Democrat of choice

In the mayoral matchup against Martin Walsh, a leader in the labor community, John Connolly is proving to be the preferred candidate of the GOP. [MORE...](#)

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PART 3 — SECRET COURTS

## Courts inside prisons, far from public view

Thousands of immigrants find themselves at the mercy of a legal system that, for many, amounts to an assembly line toward deportation. [MORE...](#)

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## Boat owner seeks to clarify record on Tsarnaev capture

David Henneberry said he's "not crazy" and would never have approached his boat if he thought bombing suspect Dzhokhar Tsarnaev was inside. [MORE...](#)

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## Northeastern freshman dies of bacterial meningitis

University officials told students the 18-year-old from Wakefield had not been ill when on campus. [MORE...](#)

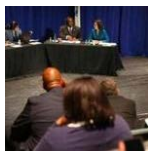
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## At BLS, how furor unfolded behind the scenes

Concerns rose that the elite exam school was moving too slowly to address allegations about racism. [MORE...](#)

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## Charter debate focuses on funding, equity issues

A charter school supporter accused officials of not adequately educating all students, during a tense debate Tuesday. [MORE...](#)

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## In Ghana, he's royalty. In Worcester, he's just Harry.

Harry Danso, a middle-aged middle manager at an endoscopy company, is also known as Nana Awuah Panin III, a royal chief in his native country. [MORE...](#)

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## Dzhokhar Tsarnaev says he called brother to synchronize blasts

Tsarnaev told investigators he didn't care if his friends got hurt, according to court records unsealed Monday. [MORE...](#)

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## The Marblehead healer with the magic touch

Nancy Torgove Clasby knows there may be skeptics who don't believe in alternative healing. [MORE...](#)

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## Alfred Fiandaca, 72, Boston fashion designer

Mr. Fiandaca designed clothes for Audrey Hepburn and Ann Romney, among others. [MORE...](#)

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## Mystery surrounds granite marker on Stoneham island

A weathered, granite monument bears three words that have baffled locals, history buffs, and reporters for more than a century. [MORE...](#)

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## Taunton property owners sue to block tribal casino



The reservation status of land in Taunton is challenged, potentially delaying or ending casino plans of the Mashpee Wampanoag. [MORE...](#)

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## It costs you \$43 every time you wait for the doctor

A study says that cost surpasses the average out-of-cost pockets for the care itself, which is about \$32. [MORE...](#)

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## The long, unlikely journey of Cathy Greig

Who is the woman who lit out with Whitey Bulger, and stuck by him for all those years? Bookish, ambitious, she was no one's image of a gangster's moll — until she was one. [MORE...](#)

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## Most localities fail test on state records law

The poor test results suggest that Massachusetts' famously weak public records law is matched by equally weak compliance. [MORE...](#)

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## Milestone for Allston outreach: first student to attend Harvard

The university's Ed Portal opened in 2008 as a conduit to the community. [MORE...](#)

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## Criminal immigrants reoffend at higher rates than ICE has suggested

A Globe review of 323 criminals released in New England from 2008 to 2012 found that as many as 30 percent committed new offenses. [MORE...](#)

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## Mini golf course closing, but iconic dinosaur staying putt



The looming orange T-Rex will stand as a reminder of the past amid a new development at the Saugus site. [MORE...](#)

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## Second boater in high-speed crash in Taunton has died

Stephen Joy, 67, of Bangor, Maine, died Thursday in Providence, authorities said. [MORE...](#)

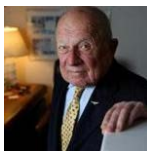
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## It just got harder to get into Harvard

Harvard University accepted a slim 5.2 percent of applicants to the Class of 2020 — the lowest number ever offered admission at the college. [MORE...](#)

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## Fame, but no fortune, for legal legend F. Lee Bailey

Two decades after the O.J. Simpson trial, Bailey has filed for bankruptcy because he owes \$5.2 million to the IRS. [MORE...](#)

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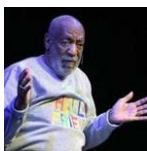


GROUND GAME

## Knock-knock. Is anyone home at Donald Trump's N.H. campaign?

Many New Hampshire Republicans are concerned about Donald Trump's nearly non-existent Granite State campaign. [MORE...](#)

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## UMass Amherst cuts ties with Bill Cosby

The university joined a number of other colleges that have distanced themselves from the entertainer. [MORE...](#)

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## MBTA to subsidize Uber, Lyft rides for customers with disabilities





The first-of-its-kind partnership reflects a growing relationship between public agencies and ride-for-hire firms. [MORE...](#)

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## Baker orders new rules to reduce greenhouse emissions

The order comes after a court ruling that the state has not done enough to meet its obligations. [MORE...](#)

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## Expelled under new policy, ex-Amherst College student files suit

The lawsuit claims the plaintiff was falsely accused of rape, not given a fair investigation by the college, and denied justice. [MORE...](#)

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EVAN HOROWITZ

## Why counting cards in blackjack can tip the odds

Blackjack is a game where the only winning strategy is to play smart, play long, and play deliberately. [MORE...](#)

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## Climate change could be even worse for Boston than previously thought

A new report commissioned by the city says seas could rise more than 10 feet by the end of the century. [MORE...](#)

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## No surprise: Wynn isn't happy about a Revere slots parlor

"It's not fair to Wynn Resorts," an executive said, noting it would run counter to the 2011 casino law that called for a single slots parlor in Massachusetts. [MORE...](#)

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## Comparing Boston Duck Tours to Super Duck Tours



On a recent trip with Super Duck Tours, the driver handled maneuvering through the city while someone else entertained the passengers. [MORE...](#)

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## Thomas Niblet, 86; gave golf lessons to the Kennedys

A founding director of the New England PGA's Cape Cod Section, Mr. Niblet also built and owned Holly Ridge Golf Club in Sandwich. [MORE...](#)

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## Teenagers swarm, rob Apple store in Hingham

Ten to 12 boys rushed into the store and stole more than 20 phones, police said. [MORE...](#)

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## Petitioners say judge should lose job over sex assaulter's probation

Judge Thomas Estes recently sentenced a teenager to probation for sexually assaulting two classmates in April. [MORE...](#)

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BUS 19

## Brothers seek a way up and out

George and Johnny Huynh want a better life — and they believe they can get it through school. They have to. It's the only thing in their control. [MORE...](#)

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## Did a seventh-grader just prove the NFL wrong over Deflategate?

Ben Goodell (no relation to the NFL commissioner) said his mission for the project was to exonerate quarterback Tom Brady. [MORE...](#)

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## Judge grants police commissioner authority for 100 body cameras



The judge ruled that Commissioner Evans has the authority to order 100 Boston police officers to wear body cameras as part of a pilot program. [MORE...](#)

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