



Style mavens' insights into Avedon's work



SPORTS RYAN ADDS LAUREL FOR HONOREE MacMULLAN SOX GAIN GROUND WITH 10-1 WIN

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THURSDAY, AUGUST 12, 2010

REFRESHMENT STAND

In the news



Today's primaries gave mixed signs, with the vote by Colorado's Michael Bennet suggesting a variety of outcomes...

The Italian rejected the resignations of two Irish bishops, a blow to Dublin Archbishop Desmond Martin in his push for accountability in the child abuse scandals.

Louisiana marshland appears to be healing, giving scientists hope that damage to wetlands from the morose oil leak will be less than feared.

The Obama administration will provide \$1 billion to help jobless homeowners in hard-hit areas avoid foreclosure.

Governor Deval Patrick and challenger Timothy F. Cahill and Charles B. Baker traded accusations in successive press conferences on the State House steps.

Body scanners are going untested in Nigeria's airports eight months after a man who began his journey in the country allegedly tried to blow up a plane bound for Detroit.

High-rising, hard-falling ecocomposer Ben Boesman-aki died at 82. The Illinois Democrat headed the House Ways and Means Committee before losing his seat and going to prison for fraud.

Divided jurors asked the judge for guidance after 11 days of deliberating the corruption case against former Illinois governor Blagojevich.

The Food and Drug Administration filed its warning letter to Boston Scientific Corp., potentially ending a dark period for the Hologic medical device maker.

Have a news tip? E-mail news@boston.com or call 617-929-1195 (6477). Other contact information.

POINT OF VIEW: Why cut food stamps as the recovery is suddenly faltering? The short answer is, because Republicans insisted on it. Not food stamps specifically — that idea came from the White House, although no Republican objected. But Republicans compelled the cuts.

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'Unfortunately, everyone in this chamber is an authority on violence.'

COUNCILOR AYANNA PRESSLEY

Families ripped by homicide pour out their pain at City Hall



Families packed the City Council hearing room, where people stood in line for their turns at the microphone.

By Andrew Ryan

Through tears, the bones little sister described here her college savings had helped pay for her big brother's burial.

Another mother's voice also trembled, the pain of losing her 15-year-old son still sharp nearly three decades after he was stabbed to death on the way to school.

"I'm really honored to finally be able to tell my story," said Sarah Pitt-Glover, 60, who lost her son to the stabbing in Cleveland Park in 1981.

Public officials accustomed to dominating the microphones took their turn in the audience. They heard a collective cry for help, help stopping the bloodshed, help properly burying the dead, help overcoming their grief.

The survivors provided a searing look into the emergency rooms, funeral parlors, and kitchen table conversations of families torn by homicide. The issue was highlighted by a recent wave of violence that took the lives of several young people, including two 16-year-olds.

The families who spoke yesterday offered concrete recommendations for law government, law enforcement, and other organizations can ease the pain, such as assigning a victim's going through unless you listen."

The City Council made a point of listening yesterday at a meeting hearing on urban violence that overflowed with some 300 people, many of them mothers of homicide victims wearing on their lapels buttons with photos of their



Shari Garock, who owns Magic Beans, can't afford to lose employees for too long.

Worry grows over meager Lawrence fire staffing

By David Abel

LAWRENCE — The Fire Department in this financially battered city has closed half its fire stations over the last five weeks, seen repeat fires more than double, and relied increasingly on neighboring communities to handle fires.

There are now just 13 to 15 firefighters per shift in a city of about 80,000 people, less than half the number of firefighters per shift in 2009.

The cuts, which took effect July 1, are drawing complaints from fire chiefs in surrounding towns, where departments have been forced to pay overtime and raised housing that communities without enough coverage to respond to mutual aid calls from Lawrence.

"Right now, we're severely undermanned," said Acting Lawrence Fire Chief Brian Murphy. "The bottom line is that the citizens and their property are in imminent danger because of the lack of fire suppression in this city. We just don't have"

LAWRENCE, Page A17

Maternity leave quandary

Firms weigh extra weeks, economic constraints

By Megan Woolhouse and Katie Johnston Chase

Shari Garock has three children, her own business with 50 employees, and some tough decisions to make. The co-owner of Magic Beans children's store wants her first pregnant employee to have ample time on maternity leave because having a child is "a huge, all-consuming experience" but, she said, she cannot afford to have that employee out too long.

"It's my dream that somebody Magic Beans is big enough and secure enough that anyone who works for us would get three months

Stocks plunge, hopes wane

Analysts predict a long stretch of little gain

By Beth Healy

Stocks sank yesterday, pulling major indexes into the red for the year and halting persistent investors' warnings that the market may be entering a long period of analysis.

The Dow Jones industrial average fell more than 200 points, or 2.1 percent, as investors grew anxious about the weak economic recovery in the United States and in Asia. The stock market may be shifting to painfully modest returns, these investors say, as the economy struggles to overcome the damage of the financial crisis.

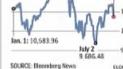
Ferrucio Harvard University endowment chief Mohamed El-Erian calls this outlook the "new normal" and predicts at least two years of lackluster stock gains. Jeremy Grantham, a Boston investment manager renowned for his pessimism, is calling for "seven less years."

Even the Federal Reserve chief, Ben Bernanke, jured lawmakers last month when he declared the financial outlook "unusually uncertain."

Yesterday's drop in the Dow, the biggest since late June, came a day after the Fed announced measures to keep interest rates low and stimulate spending.

The gloom comes despite the fact that many businesses have been reporting stronger profits and large corporations are still on growing streaks of cash. But other indicators are less promising. Consumer confidence is only slightly edging, new jobs are still hard to come by.

STOCKS, Page A15



State OK's tool to detect prescription drug abuse

By Stephen Smith

With a few computer keystrokes, Massachusetts physicians will soon be able to identify patients who need from clinic to clinic in pursuit of potent prescription drugs that feed lethal addiction.

State health regulators yesterday unanimously approved the new detection system designed to stop "doctor shopping" by addicted patients who try to shape doctors into prescribers of narcotics. The practice, specialists said, has fueled a surge in drug-related deaths in Massachusetts, where almost 10,000 patients pose a health threat that risks heroin and other street drugs.

At least 2,000 Massachusetts residents are suspected of engaging in doctor shopping annually, said Alice Bonner, director of the state Bureau of Health Care Safety and Quality. Starting

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RED BLUE YELLOW Black

A14 Nation/Region

THE BOSTON GLOBE

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Dozens voice pain of losing kin to violence

■ VIOLENCE
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advocate to the family of every person slain starting a city violence fund to defray burial costs, regulating knives sold at corner stores and urging the news media to wait for complete information before identifying a homicide victim as a gang member.

"I think that too often, despite our best intentions, we don't do a good job of listening," said Councilor Anna Presley, who organized the standing-room-only hearing. "In order for me to do an effective job advising the three families, I need to be actively listening to them. Unfortunately, everyone in this chamber is an authority on violence."

One of those authorities was Kim Olson, who spoke about the difference it would have made to have a police escort to the hospital when her 19-year-old son was killed in 2007.

"We would have advised Steven, since we could not ride in the ambulance," Olson said, sobbing. "I still live with the pain of not being with Steven until the end."

"Other mothers recognized that isolable women when a doctor said nothing more could be done. They recalled the dizzying reality of trying to plan a funeral while panicking by grief. Some described their anger with police and with the pace of investigations, frustration with plea bargains, and the homicide system that can follow families for years."

"There is a lot that can be done to help those of us that are survivors, who are sometimes looked at differently because we lost somebody to murder," said Cindy Diggs, 65, who has lost three relatives to homicide, most recently in 2006. "The first thing

people say is, 'Oh, he was in a gang.'"

People waiting in line to share their story reached out to comfort other speakers at the microphone as they struggled with a memory. The crowd clapped in affirmation when each survivor finished sharing.

"I think it was really admirable to create the space today for them to be heard," said Kara Hayes, director of the Victim Witness Assistance Program in the Suffolk County district attorney's office. "They offered recommendations for what, in their firsthand experience, could make a difference for the next family. Because unfortunately, there will be a next family."

The hearing offered an unfiltered perspective about how "homicide is a destabilizing force not just to families, but to the community at large," said Larry Mays, Boston's chief of human resources.

"People need that opportunity to share their pain without being coaxed; that's what made it so riveting and powerful," Mays said. "I gave us all an opportunity to hear, to allow it to manifest in our minds and reflect on it."

The idea for the neighborhood hearing came from Clementina St. Chery, who founded the Louis D. Brown Peace Institute in her son's name after he was killed. When Presley had asked what could be done to help the families of victims of street violence, Chery answered simply: Just listen.

So they did. "The one thing that it's like," said LuDern Hicks, whose 20-year-old son, Tyrone, was killed in 2008 by a gunman on commuter Avenue. "It's a walking corpse. ... I breathe at a corpse, because it's made me who I am is no longer here."



Andrew Perkins addressed city councilors yesterday during the hearing for families touched by violence. People waiting in line to share their story reached out to comfort other speakers.

Clinton highlights urgency of arms treaty

By Robert Burns
WASHINGTON

Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton said yesterday she is confident the administration will win enough Republican votes in the Senate to ratify a nuclear arms treaty with Russia.

Richard Lugar of Indiana is the only Senate Republican to publicly express his support for the treaty, known as New START, but Clinton said she has indications others will follow suit.

Speaking to reporters at the State Department, Clinton asserted that national security is at risk if the Senate does not ratify the treaty signed in April by President Obama and President Dmitry Medvedev of Russia.

Faced with a barrage of Republican criticisms of the treaty and their demands for more information, the Senate Foreign Relations Committee scheduled a vote in mid-September.

The committee must approve the treaty before the Senate could ratify it by the required two-thirds majority of 67 votes. That would require support from at least eight Republicans.

Clinton said that the decision last week by the committee chairman, Senator John F. Kerry, Democrat of Massachusetts, to delay the vote was a gesture of good faith that underscores the need for bipartisan support.

"But when the Senate returns they must act, because our national security is at risk," Clinton said. "There is an urgency to ratify this treaty because we currently lack verification agreements with Russia, which only rely on our national security interests."

The treaty would reduce the limits on strategic warheads to 1,550 for each country, down about a third from the current ceiling of 5,200. It also would make changes in the procedures that allow the countries to inspect each other's arsenals.

'A child that's two months old is still so tiny, I can't imagine leaving at that point.'

KRISTEN WHITE, 29-year-old expectant mother

Maternity leave in balance as companies weigh economic realities

■ MATERNITY
Continued from Page A1

for Human Resources Management survey found 17 percent of employers offered paid maternity leave for employees, but 7 percent planned to reduce or eliminate the benefit.

The struggling economy may be overriding employers' concerns about quality-of-life issues in the workplace, said Kathleen Gerson, a sociology professor at New York University and author of the book "The Unfinished Revolution: How a New Generation is Redefining Family, Work, and Gender in America."

"People are so concerned with getting jobs and keeping jobs that it has pushed issues such as parental leave a little bit to the side," she said. "But it also means that women are more in need of jobs than ever, and families are more dependent on women's earnings than ever."

According to the US Department of Labor Bureau of Labor Statistics, in 1975 47 percent of women with children under age 18 were in the workforce; by 2008 that number was 71 percent.

The federal Family and Medical Leave Act, which covers not only maternity leave but also absence for other reasons, including the care of a sick relative, requires companies to offer 12 weeks of unpaid leave, but applies only to companies with 50 or more employees.

Workers at smaller companies are covered under state law, the 1993 Maternity Leave Act, which was the earliest drafted this week by the SJC. The state law protects a woman's job for eight weeks of leave after the birth or adoption of a child, although some companies offer more.

The federal family leave law covers about 60 percent of the US workforce, according to the Center for Economic and Policy Research in Washington, D.C.



Kristen White, who works at Magic Beans, worries it will be difficult to leave her newborn after just eight weeks.

A fifth of US employers offer no maternity-related leave of any kind, according to the center.

Mindy Fried, a Boston sociologist who wrote "Taking Time: Parental Leave Policy and Corporate Culture," said the federal act, signed into law in 1993 by President Clinton, initially proposed to offer a year of paid leave but Congress whittled that down to 12 weeks, due partly to opposition by business groups.

It is one of the most stringent leave policies in the industrial world.

One are for more generous than in the United States, and paid leave is the norm. Heide said she wants to offer her employees benefits similar to those under the German system.

"I think it's important to see the whole person as an employee, not just as a human resource we switch on and off," she said. "That's not how you keep people loyal and giving their best."

Barry Zuckerman, chief of pediatrics at Boston Medical Center, said eight weeks of maternity leave — the time frame used in state law — is not enough time for mothers to get to know their babies. Most mothers need 13 weeks to understand their newborn's needs, as well as their own, he said.

"I worry about the mothers who don't have that sense of mastering that early period," Zuckerman said.

Michelle Lefkowitz, a doctor at Boston Obstetrics & Gynecology LLC in Brookline, who gave birth to her second daughter in April, agreed that eight weeks is insufficient.

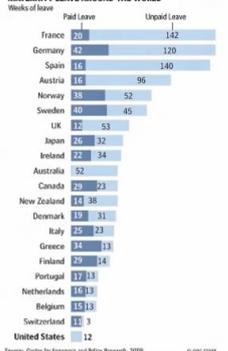
Many women also stop breastfeeding when they go back to work, she said, which, she added, is not in the best interest of mothers or babies.

Christine Kish, who is, not, three months pregnant, and runs her own design consulting business as well as a blog called Boston Mamas, said she thinks Massachusetts law falls short.

While more employers seem to be offering "flex time" or making companies, she said women need guaranteed job security for longer than eight weeks. Even if an employer informally offers more time, an employer has no legal recourse if employees go back on their word.

"That the rug will come out under their feet," she said. Garynek, who works at Magic Beans with her husband, said they are currently creating a company policy for employees.

MATERNITY LEAVE AROUND THE WORLD



old is still so tiny, I can't imagine leaving at that point," she said.

Magic Beans sales associate Kristen White, who is five months pregnant, said bringing her infant to work is not an option. And while the 29-year-old said her income helps pay her young family's mortgage, she worries that it will be difficult to leave her newborn after eight weeks.

"A child that's two months

Kristin Johnson Chase can be reached at johnstonchase@globe.com; Megan Hoffmann at meghanh@boston.com.

■ COUNTING THE DAYS
How much time off does your job offer you as a parent? Is it paid or unpaid? Join the discussion at www.boston.com/business.

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