



TRUMP SHOWS LIMITS OF COURTS

A scholar of the federal courts expects the judiciary will be of limited help in navigating through President Donald Trump's barrage of executive orders and policy statements. Page A9

TODAY'S MUST-READS

SPRINGFIELD

2 new assistant school chief posts added

The school administration team will now include two assistant superintendent positions, a change from the way the department has been run over the past three years.

Last week, the School Committee voted 7-0 to create the positions of assistant superintendent of community engagement, family empowerment and partnerships, and assistant superintendent of curriculum, instruction and professional development.

Full story, Page A3

BOSTON

Corporate tax shelters targeted

An influential coalition is launching a push this session for a "corporate fair share" policy that targets global businesses that hide their money from taxation.

Raise Up Massachusetts, which earlier shepherded passage of the income surtax on wealthier Massachusetts residents, is working to build momentum for legislation addressing "offshore tax havens." Full story, Page A5

STATE

Gun law foes challenge rules on young adults

Firearms owners added another prong to their campaign against a sweeping Massachusetts law, filing a new federal lawsuit late last week challenging its constitutionality.

A coalition of industry groups on Friday sued over firearm age restrictions included in the wide-reaching package Gov. Maura T. Healey signed in July.

Full story, Page A5

WEATHER

Mostly sunny and cold.

High: 26°; Low: 4°

EXPANDED WEATHER, A10

CERAMIC COATING
1/2 THE DEALER COST

Rick's
AUTO BODY

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REGION

'People are getting tired'

Ukrainians in Western Mass. continue relief efforts, skeptical of talks with Russia

By **JIM KINNEY**
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Tables in area church social halls were stacked three years ago with donated supplies for Ukraine.

Shelf-stable food. Warm clothing. Military-style first aid kits. All destined for collection points where it'd get packed into shipping containers and sent to Ukrainians straining under the weight of Russia's Feb. 24, 2022, invasion.

Bethesda Ukrainian Pentecostal Church in West Springfield raised

INSIDE

U.S. and Russia to create team to negotiate Ukraine peace, Page A9

and donated \$90,000 for Ukraine in just the first year of the war, buying relief supplies and even military equipment like night vision goggles and two drone aircraft.

"But now people are getting tired, more than anything else," said Bethesda Senior Pastor Peter

Mosijchuk.

Tired and worried that America's support for Ukraine will falter amid talks Tuesday in Saudi Arabia between Russia and officials of the Trump administration.

"Behind Ukraine's back," Mosijchuk said. "He makes Putin as a peacemaker."

Mosijchuk and members of his congregation are still in contact with family back home. He talks about ruined cities. He talks about lives lost.

"Why would you talk to dictators? Aggressors?" Mosijchuk said. "Try to make it like they want peace."

"Ukraine is going to keep fighting." Russia and the U.S. agreed Tuesday to start working toward ending the war in Ukraine and to improving their diplomatic and economic ties. Russia and the U.S. agreed to return staffing to each others' embassies and to start working toward ending the war in Ukraine and improving their

SEE **UKRAINE**, PAGE A9



The age of ice

This mailbox on Holyoke Road in Westfield was covered with ice on Tuesday. (SEAN HURT / SPECIAL TO THE REPUBLICAN)

REGION

WMass continues to dig out, deice

By **JEANETTE DEFORGE**
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Western Mass continues to try to shovel and chop its way out of a winter storm that left roads covered with ice and sidewalks buried in piles of frozen slush.

Although temperatures hovered in the teens and 20s on Tuesday doing little to help melt the ice, officials from different cities said they are making progress in clearing roads.

In Springfield about 20% to 25% of the streets are still "a big problem" but most main roads are clear two days after the storm, said Christopher Cignoli, head of the Springfield Department of Public Works.

While the city has had past problems hiring enough independent plow drivers to supplement the department to clear all the streets, this wasn't the problem over the weekend. This time it simply was the nature of the storm.

With as much as 8 inches of snow predicted, the city aggressively pre-treated the roads on Saturday, hitting many side streets as well as the main thoroughfares, which are usually the only ones salted before a storm, Cignoli said.

Plowing started around 8:30 p.m. Saturday and by noon Sunday, 92% of streets were finished. By 3 p.m.



Snow and ice storms in Western Massachusetts left roads covered in ice. (JOHN BEATTIE / MASSLIVE.COM)

all the streets, even the tiny side streets, had been plowed out, he said.

"All our trucks were done sanding and salting and we peeled off and had to handle flooding complaints and unclog storm drains," he said.

At the same time when a plow driver encountered a street that had a layer of slush, it was cleared to try to keep it from freezing, creating the huge ice boulders and frozen slush piles on sidewalks and at the end of driveways that so many people have complained about on social media.

"Once it turns to slush, you can't go 5 miles an hour to plow it,"

Cignoli said. "You have to go faster and it gets thrown farther."

Later Sunday night temperatures dropped, the rain turned back to snow and everything froze solid and has been like that ever since, Cignoli said.

"We are actively sanding and salting on the side streets," he said. "They all need attention in some way, shape or form," he said.

Agawam Department of Public Works Superintendent Mario Mazza agreed with Cignoli that it was the nature of the storm, not a lack of planning, too few plow drivers or incompetence that left Agawam

SEE **SLUSH**, PAGE A2

STATE

Mass. judge fired in Trump purge

By **HADLEY BARNDOLLAR**
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The Trump administration has fired a Massachusetts immigration judge as part of its continued purge of federal workers. The judge contends her firing was "political."

More than two dozen immigration judges, managers and new hires have been fired since the start of the new administration, according to the International Federation of Professional and Technical Engineers, the union representing immigration judges. Several of those termination notices went out on Friday.

Receiving one was Kerry Doyle, a seasoned Boston immigration attorney who had recently been appointed to the new immigration court in Chelmsford. Doyle previously served as the top prosecutor for U.S. Immigration Customs and Enforcement under the Biden administration, despite being a vocal critic of the federal agency and having led several lawsuits against it, GBH previously reported.

Doyle announced her own firing in a LinkedIn post, writing she was terminated by email on Feb. 14 by the acting director of the Executive Office for Immigration Review at the Department of Justice, which oversees immigration courts.

"I had not publicly posted that I had started working as an (immigration judge) in the hope of keeping my head down and just getting to work and avoiding having a bullseye on me," Doyle wrote. "Unfortunately, I was unable to avoid the political pink slip."

SEE **JUDGE**, PAGE A2



