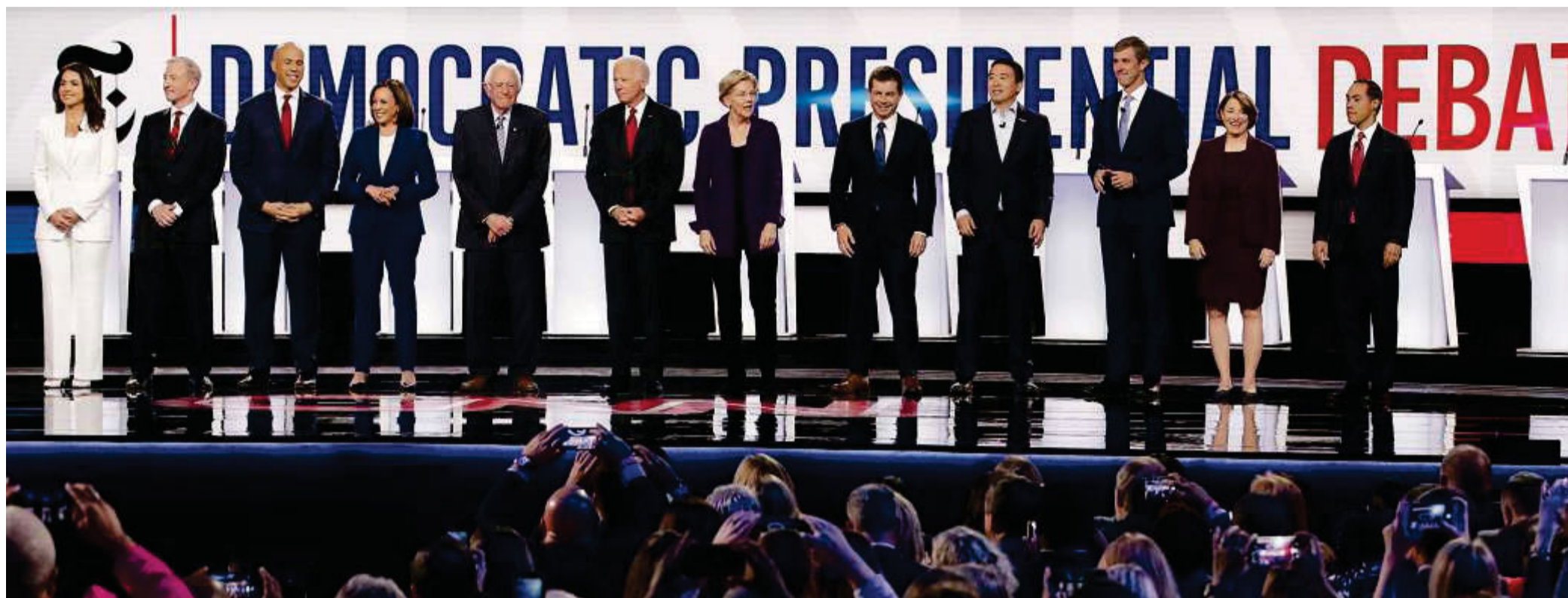


The Boston Globe

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 16, 2019



WIN MCNAMEE/GETTY IMAGES

In the fourth round of debates, 12 Democratic presidential hopefuls shared the stage — a record number — Tuesday night in Westerville, Ohio.

In crowd of Democrats, Warren is focus

Rivals attack on funding Medicare for All plan

By Jonathan Martin and Alexander Burns
NEW YORK TIMES

WESTERVILLE, Ohio — Senator Elizabeth Warren of Massachusetts, an emerging front-runner in the Democratic presidential race, battled sustained criticism from her Democratic rivals over her position on health care in a debate Tuesday night, squeezed by a combination of moderate and progressive opponents who pressed her to

describe in plain terms how she would fund a “Medicare for All”-style system.

Warren, who has endorsed a proposal by Senator Bernie Sanders of Vermont for single-payer care, has consistently refused to say that she would embrace middle-class tax increases to finance the plan. She maintained that practiced position on the stage in Ohio, vowing that she would lower health care costs for all but the wealthy yet repeatedly sidestepping the question of whether she would enact a broad-based tax increase.

“I will not sign a bill into law that does not lower costs for middle-class families,” Warren said, declining to go into detail. But

the answer failed to keep her foes at bay, and for the first time in the race Warren found herself assailed from multiple sides over an extended period in the debate. Mayor Pete

►James Pindell’s scorecard, A6.

Buttigieg of South Bend, Ind., accused her of evading “a yes-or-no question,” while Senator Amy Klobuchar of Minnesota called the single-payer proposal backed by Warren and Sanders a “pipe dream.”

Klobuchar reserved her sharpest words, however, for only one of those two progressives. “At least Bernie’s being honest here,”

Klobuchar said, challenging Warren to tell voters “where we’re going to send the invoice” for single-payer care.

Warren was not alone in facing scrutiny early in the debate: former vice president Joe Biden was quickly pressed on the issue of his son Hunter and his work for a Ukrainian gas company while his father was vice president. Biden responded to a question about his son’s overseas work in narrow and repetitive terms, saying several times that he and his son had done “nothing wrong.”

The drawn-out argument over health care, in a debate sponsored by CNN and The

DEBATE, Page A6

Students say sexual assault still widespread

Quarter of women in survey report unwanted contact

By Deirdre Fernandes
GLOBE STAFF

More than one in four undergraduate women nationwide have been sexually assaulted by force or couldn’t give their consent because they were incapacitated due to alcohol or drugs, even as campuses stepped up their efforts to curb sexual misconduct, a new survey has found.

The survey of 33 leading colleges and universities, including three in the Boston area, found that nearly 26 percent of undergraduate women and 10 percent of female graduate students have experienced unwanted kissing, groping, or penetration since they arrived on campus.

The report, released by the Association of American Universities on Tuesday and billed

HARASSMENT, Page A9

‘I know one meal a week isn’t going to do it. But it lets people know a group of us care.’

CELSEA TIBBITT, a public health nurse

On the streets, where they need it most, she’s here to serve

JENEÉ OSTERHELDT
COMMENTARY

Under the Boston Medical Center passageway every Sunday night, a group of cars pulls up, hazard lights blinking.

“As” by Stevie Wonder is playing from someone’s speakers.

Just as hate knows love’s the cure

You can rest your mind assure That I’ll be loving you always

They’re not here because of a medical crisis — not in the way emergency rooms define it. There are no wounds to be tended or surgeries to be performed. There is hunger, addiction, and homelessness along Methadone Mile.

A half-dozen twentysomethings get out of the car and get to work. They hand out bottled water, ripe bananas, and freshly cooked protein pasta primavera.

“Are you hungry?” “You want some pasta?”



ERIN CLARK FOR THE BOSTON GLOBE

Celsea Tibbitt (right) distributed food with Cynthia Orofo to the homeless in Boston. Tibbitt has handed out more than 1,800 meals.

“How about a banana?” Every Sunday since June, Celsea Tibbitt has cooked and delivered a couple hundred meals each week.

She’s given out more than 1,800 in four months with just a few friends.

OSTERHELDT, Page A9

Special-ed funds should have been shared, US finds

Mass. districts, state may owe private schools millions

By James Vaznis
GLOBE STAFF

The US Department of Education has found that public school districts across Massachusetts and state education officials have violated federal law for years by denying services and government aid to students with disabilities who attend Catholic, Jewish, and other private schools, according to a copy of the decision obtained by the Globe.

Consequently, local districts and the state could wind up owing private schools millions of dollars in services they failed to provide over the past five years. Under federal law, public districts must spend federal special-education aid on children with disabilities attending all schools in their communities, including private and religious ones.

The amount owed to private schools could be as much as \$120 million, according to a coalition of Catholic and Jewish schools, which filed the complaints that led to the federal ruling. State education officials disagreed with that estimate, noting the amount hasn’t been calculated. Any money owed would have to come in the form of special-education services provided by the school systems.

“It bothers me to think . . . how many kids

SPECIAL EDUCATION, Page A8



Raw string

Wednesday: Rain, wind late. High 61-66. Low 53-58.

Thursday: Very windy, damp. High 56-61. Low 46-51.

High tide: 1:21 a.m., 1:31 p.m.

Sunrise: 6:58 Sunset: 6:01

Comics and Weather, G8-9. Obituaries, C11.

For breaking news, updated stories, and more, visit our website:

BostonGlobe.com

VOL. 296, NO. 108

Suggested retail price \$3.00



Russia said its military is patrolling territory in Syria vacated by the United States, underscoring the loss of American influence in the area. A4. In Massachusetts, local Kurds and veterans criticized President Trump’s strategy. B1.

Gambling revenue in Massachusetts continued to fall short, with numbers down at Encore Boston Harbor. B6.

The Robert Gould Shaw and Massachusetts 54th Regiment Memorial will be taken down from its spot across from the State House for repairs. B1.

A senior State Department official in charge of Ukraine policy told investigators he was cut out of decisions after a White House meeting in May. A2.

The suspect in the shooting at a wedding in New Hampshire had been released from prison in Massachusetts last year. B1.

Staying power: luxury hotels on rise in Boston

CHRISTOPHER MUTHER

Behind the locked doors of the Langham Hotel in Post Office Square, a \$150 million transformation is well underway. When the last of the sawdust is swept away next summer, the hotel will reopen with a fresh, light look and an emphasis on the city’s heritage and history. More importantly, the once-fraying property will finally meet the standards of the Langham’s five-star portfolio.

While the Langham’s investment is significant, it’s just one part of Boston’s current luxury hotel boom. The opulent Singapore-based Raffles hotel broke ground on a 33-story, \$400 million building last month that will house a hotel, residences, and six bars and restaurants. The Back Bay high-rise is Raffles’ first foray in North America. Two new luxury hotels — the Whitney and a second Four Seasons — opened this summer. Three more new or newly renovated hotels are coming by 2022.

When all the construction, renovation, painting, and polishing are complete, the number of luxury hotel rooms in Boston will have doubled.

This will come as good news for those who don’t mind paying more to spend their nights sleeping in

HOTELS, Page A12



A rendering of Raffles, a 33-story hotel in Back Bay set to open in 2022.

Staying power: luxury hotels are on the rise around Boston

HOTELS
Continued from Page A1

sheets with a high thread count. According to Sebastian Colella, vice president of the Pinnacle Advisory Group, the luxury boom is being fueled by a shortage of posh hotel rooms, which currently make up just 5 percent of the city's hotel inventory.

Prior to 2019, the last luxury hotel to open in Boston was the Mandarin Oriental, and that was 11 years ago. Now, like its tony counterparts, the Mandarin is also gearing up for a refresh.

According to Colella, room revenue at luxury hotels in Boston is outpacing room revenue in all other hotel categories. This could explain why the Four Seasons opened a second Boston location at One Dalton. Rooms at the property start at upwards of \$1,000 a night. The 65-room boutique hotel the Whitney also opened this year and is bringing in guests despite prices that start between \$500 to \$600 a night.

There's no set definition of a luxury hotel, but these four and five star properties are often renowned for excellent service, beautiful decor, high-end amenities, and their location. If you're wondering who's filling these pricey rooms, look no further than the traffic at Logan Airport.

"We're an international destination with almost 60 non-stop international flights, including connections to high-spend emerging markets across the Middle East and Asia," said David O'Donnell, director of communications for the Greater Boston Convention and Visitors Bureau. "I think Boston is truly becoming a global, cosmopolitan city and the luxury hotel development underscores this movement."

While Boston is booming, it is by no means unique when it comes to the growth of the luxury sector.

"It's certainly happening at the national level, and an international level," said Rahim Kanani, an author who specializes in luxury hospitality. "Despite so many luxury hotels already in existence, the market keeps expanding."

Back at the Langham, the design team is working to combine the building's starched shirt history with a creamy, light, and elegant new look. The lobby and rooms will be bright and filled with natural materials. A new bar will architecturally connect the inward looking, fortress-like former bank to the outside neighborhood.

"We've got this beautiful heritage building, which obviously most of the other hotels don't have," said Fiona Thomp-



The Langham, built in 1922, will feature a new look, with a more residential feel to the rooms (a rendering above).

son, principal at Richmond International, the hospitality firm overseeing the renovation. "This isn't some big shiny new tower. We have a great space to play with and a location that is unique."

The Langham, built in 1922

and previously home to the National Reserve Bank of Boston, was named a landmark in 1978. Le Meridien Hotels took over the space in 1981. It became a Langham Hotel in 2003. But while the Hong Kong-based Langham chain grew into a true luxury brand, the Boston hotel started looking a little ragged around the edges.

"Boston just didn't fit with the look and feel of what we did in Chicago, New York, or what we just did in Sydney," said Bob van den Oord, regional vice president of operations for the chain.

The changes aren't solely intended for guests. He said the bar will aim to draw locals and Financial District employees during the evening and on weekends.

"This needs to be a neighborhood bar where you can have a beer, have a glass of wine, or a gin and tonic and

some great snacks," van den Oord said. "This cannot be the least bit pretentious. It needs to be playful, it needs to be fun."

While the bar gets playful, Thompson said, the look of the rooms will become more residential, reflecting how people live. Hardwood floors in a chevron pattern with area rugs replace wall-to-wall carpets, and bathtubs will become walk-in showers.

"I think people expect something to feel and look residential rather than hard wearing," she said. "They want softer, lighter fabric so that it feels a bit more embracing and comfortable. It's a room where you actually want to stay, sink into the chair, and relax."

While we have a good idea of how the new Langham will look, developers of Raffles in Back Bay have yet to release renderings beyond the gleaming glass exterior of the high-

rise. The hotel, which will be located at the corner of Stuart Street and Trinity Place, will house 147 guest rooms, 146 residences, an indoor pool, and a rooftop terrace and lounge.

According to Heather McCrory, CEO of Raffles' parent company, Accor North and Central America, Boston was strategically chosen because the company sees it as a "key market and gateway city" into the United States.

And as for the inside look of the property? It seems we'll have to wait for that.

"Each Raffles is iconic in its own right, with its own story to tell and its own sense of place," said McCrory in an e-mail. "Raffles Boston Back Bay Hotel & Residences will be no different."

Christopher Muther can be reached at muther@globe.com. Follow him on Twitter @Chris_Muther.

\$50 OFF
1st Time Customers
with code: Sand Castle
Offer Expires 10/31/19



East Coast Auto Transport

You Fly, WE Drive!

Operating since 1992 • Fully Licensed & Bonded
Operating 30 Trucks • 8 Convenient Florida Locations



617.487.4364 • Visit us at eastcoastautotransport.com

Recycle your fridge or freezer, get \$100.

Let Eversource pick up and remove a working, inefficient fridge or freezer from your home at no cost, plus send you \$100 in return.

Only for a limited time.
Deal ends 10/31



Call 877-889-4761 or visit MassSave.com/Recycle to schedule your no-cost pickup today.



Proud sponsor of



Music Has Always Been Important To Us.

Now we can play CDs, internet radio & stream music too!



\$599*
in Walnut

Amazon's Choice 

	CD	Bluetooth	Integrated Internet Radio	FM Radio	Preset Buttons on Unit	Infrared Remote Control	furniture grade wood cabinetry	Color Display	Digital Optical Input (Better TV Sound)	Warranty
Como Audio	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	2 Years
Play5 Sonos	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	1 Year



Boston-based **Como Audio**, created by **Tom DeVesto**, has brought millions of great sounding, highly acclaimed, music systems to market at his Cambridge SoundWorks and Tivoli Audio



"For a truly versatile, stand-alone smart music system, the Musica is an incredible piece of technology."
MacDirectory

THIS WEEK'S SPECIAL

Solo Hickory
Use Code SHBG at checkout or call us.



SAVE \$100

800-913-4159 | 60-Day Free Trial | Free Shipping | Free Support
comoaudio.com | Available from Amazon