



Whitman-Hanson twin wrestlers find strength in family ties

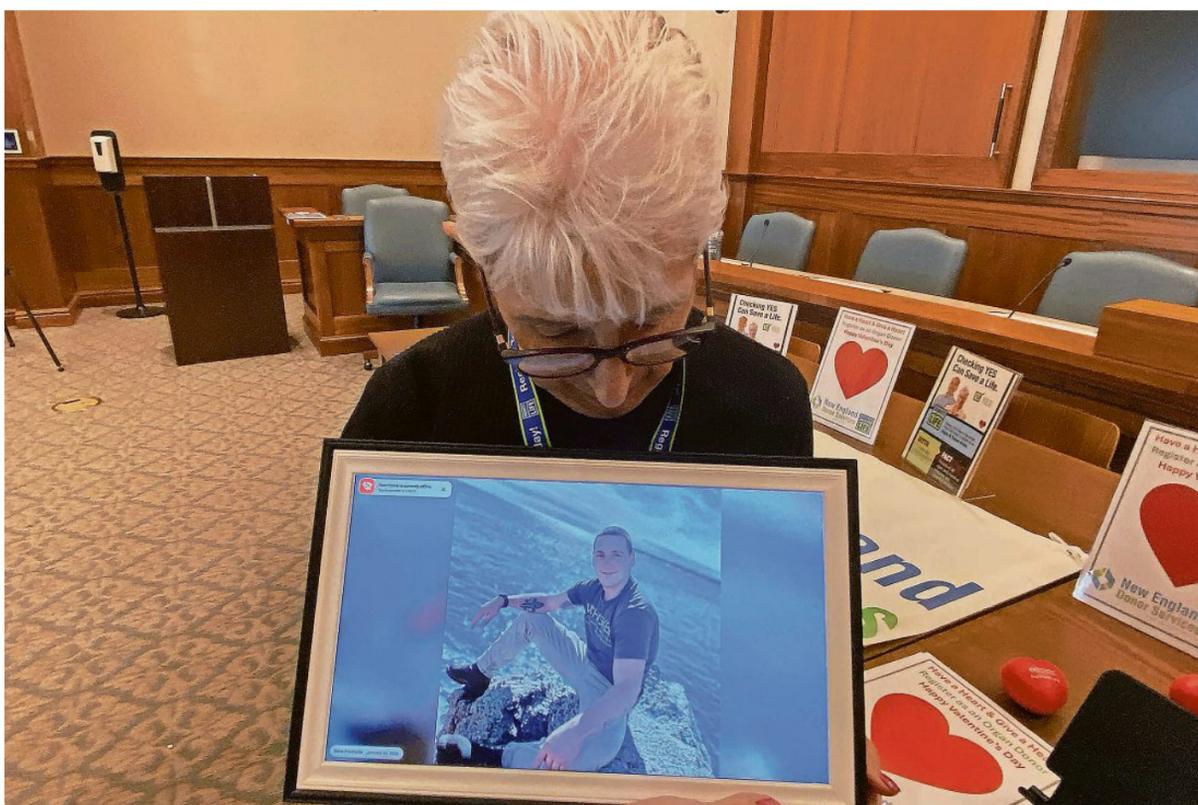
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The Enterprise

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'A donation has a ripple effect'



Irene Frechette, of Seekonk, holds a picture of her grandson, Timothy, who died in a motor vehicle crash in 2024. He was an organ donor and his heart was donated to save the life of another. Irene Frechette spoke at a Feb. 13 event in Taunton advocating for citizens to register as organ donors. DANIEL SCHEMER/TAUNTON DAILY GAZETTE

Woman whose grandson was organ donor shares powerful story

Daniel Schemer The Taunton Daily Gazette | USA TODAY NETWORK

TAUNTON

Kenny Laferriere, from Charlton, was only 8 when he was diagnosed with liver cancer. He underwent surgery and chemotherapy and remained on medication for it for much of his youth. • At age 17, he was diagnosed with cardiomyopathy, a disease that affects the heart muscle and makes it harder for it to pump blood throughout the body. • He told the *Gazette* doctors said his disease was the result of his chemotherapy and medication damaging his heart. • Laferriere needed a heart transplant to survive and, thankfully, received one in 2001. • Laferriere, now 42, works with New England Donor Services (NEDS), based in Waltham, which coordinates organ and tissue donation with medical centers across the region that perform transplants.

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Man killed in crash involving cop loved his son

Amelia Stern
The Enterprise
USA TODAY NETWORK

Alfredo "Freddy" Alves adored his one-year-old son more than anything, his cousin, Leila Canuto told The Enterprise Thursday, Feb. 19, three days after Alves was killed in a hit-and-run crash in Brockton.

"They really had a very special relationship," Canuto said. "He was very attentive. They used to laugh all the time. He used to play toys with him, even though he's only 1, playing soccer with a small ball."

Alves, 23, was found unresponsive in the snow near the intersection of Battles and Cross streets in Brockton early Monday morning, Feb. 16.

He was rushed to Boston Medical Center South in Brockton where he was pronounced dead at 1:39 a.m. from a severe skull fracture, according to a police report obtained by The Enterprise.

Hours later, an off-duty Hanover police officer was arrested on charges he struck and killed Alves before fleeing the scene, the Plymouth County District Attorney's Office said in a statement.

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Alfredo Alves, 23, pictured celebrating his son's first birthday party in October of 2025. PROVIDED BY LEILA CANUTO

Democrats calling for refunds after tariffs ruled illegal

Idea of rebate checks floated amid skepticism

Jeanine Santucci
USA TODAY

After the Supreme Court ruled against President Donald Trump's sweeping tariffs on imports, some Democrats are demanding that refunds be sent to Americans, the latest hypothetical plan to redistribute tariff income back to everyday Americans.

The nation's highest court on Feb. 20 ruled that Trump doesn't have the power to unilaterally impose the tariffs he enacted under an emergency powers law, which he has used as part of his foreign policy strategy with ever-



Newsom



Pritzker

changing rates on targeted countries.

Democrats including California Gov. Gavin Newsom and Illinois Gov. JB Pritzker have demanded refunds of at least \$1,700 per household, with Pritzker sending the Trump administration an invoice for that amount per family in his state.

"Donald Trump has been illegally taxing your groceries, furniture, and cars for over a year. Time for a refund," Newsom said.

Their idea follows months of speculation about Trump's long-floated plan

to send \$2,000 tariff rebate checks to some Americans. The fate of that plan remains unclear. Meanwhile, Trump announced plans to enact tariffs using different legal mechanisms.

Americans have felt the impact of tariffs, from higher costs for products they regularly buy to surprise tariff bills in the mail. The average American family has paid more than \$1,700 in tariff costs as of January, according to a report by Democrats on the congressional Joint Economic Committee.

The nonpartisan Tax Foundation said in a report earlier in February that the tariffs cost each household an average of \$1,000 in 2025.

When Trump first started referencing the idea of rebate checks for Americans, it seemed like a welcome relief

for some. Some said they would believe it when they see it.

The checks have never had a certain path forward, experts have said. Tax analysts have said the revenue generated by tariffs wouldn't have been enough to send \$2,000 to Americans, and the details of the checks, including how and when they would be sent, have been up in the air.

"It's not clear to me they were ever going to happen," said Steven Durlauf, an economist and director of the Stone Center for Research on Wealth Inequality and Mobility at the University of Chicago Harris School of Public Policy.

There's no precedent or clear legal basis for a president to distribute tariff

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