



Slain man’s wife not asked to ID husband’s alleged killer

LOCAL, 3A

TELEGRAM & GAZETTE

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DOJ’s antitrust probe targets TV news outlets

Zac Anderson
USA TODAY

WASHINGTON – The Justice Department is conducting an antitrust investigation into a group of television networks after they suspended their White House pool coverage in solidarity with CNN following President Donald Trump’s decision to ban the news organization, and two other media outlets, from the White House.

“Members of the television press

pool have proudly boycotted covering White House events,” the department said in a statement. “Group boycotts among commercial competitors can violate the Sherman Act. The Antitrust Division is investigating to determine whether these news organizations have violated the antitrust laws.”

The investigation further ratchets up the administration’s efforts targeting the White House press corps. The five networks that make up the television press pool – which distributes broad-

cast feeds of White House events to other outlets – are ABC, CBS, NBC, Fox News and CNN.

The probe also puts legal and potentially financial pressure on media outlets to continue coverage of the president even when they disagree with how the White House handles them. Trump has repeatedly called the mainstream media “fake news” and often has clashed with reporters.

On Sept. 21, the television pool announced the decision to suspend cover-

age, with the pool’s chair saying in an email that it followed “the White House’s position preventing CNN from fulfilling its assigned pool duties.” The television networks have since resumed pool coverage.

Trump said Sept. 18 that he was banning CNN, MS NOW and Politico from the White House complex, complaining about their coverage of him. The White House said covering the president was a

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Nicotine is the primary driver of tobacco addiction in the form of cigarettes, vapes and most other forms of commercial tobacco. The greatest health risks arise when tobacco is burned, which generates thousands of toxic substances.

PHOTOS BY GETTY IMAGES

Movement touts addictive drug as beneficial, but dangers persist

Hasmeena Kathuria
University of Wisconsin-Madison
THE CONVERSATION

An ironic development emerging alongside the “Make America Healthy Again” movement is the portrayal of nicotine as a wellness and performance-enhancing product. Across social media, podcasts, wellness communities and tech startups, prominent wellness personalities and other influencers are portraying nicotine as a misunderstood compound whose potential benefits have been overshadowed by its negative association with cigarette smoking.

As a result, nicotine is being repositioned from an addictive substance linked to tobacco use to a natural product that can be used for everything

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Nicotine, in products such as nicotine pouches, is being repositioned from an addictive substance linked to tobacco use to a natural product that can be used for everything from improving focus to protecting against cognitive decline.

Bay Path meeting ends with police escort

Teachers objected after school committee removed public comment

Jesse Collings
Worcester Telegram & Gazette
USA TODAY NETWORK

CHARLTON – A school committee meeting was halted as police were called to escort the public, including a group of teachers, out of the room.

During a meeting of the Southern Worcester County Regional Vocational School Committee on Monday night, Oct. 5, members of the public were escorted out of the committee meeting, which was held at Bay Path Regional Vocational Technical High School.

Police were called in due to a vocal dispute between Bay Path teachers and members of the school committee, escalating what has been a long-standing issue regarding the next labor contract between Bay Path staff and the school district.

“The police came in and asked everyone to leave,” Robin Fedora, a Spencer resident, said. “There were parents and taxpayers that came there to speak, some had even gotten babysitters, and they got to the meeting and found out that there was no public comment and the police were called to escort them out.”

Bay Path serves approximately 1,180 students and the member communities of Auburn, Charlton, North Brookfield, Dudley, Oxford, Paxton, Rutland, Southbridge, Spencer and Webster.

The tension on Monday’s meeting began when it was revealed on the school committee agenda that there would be no public comment period during the meeting. For several months, the public comment period

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