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THE BOSTON SUN

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SERVING BACK BAY - SOUTH END - FENWAY - KENMORE



Jimmy Taylor (center) is seen with District 8 City Councilor Sharon Durkan (left) and Rep. Jay Livingstone (at right).

Back Bay's beloved newspaper vendor bids farewell to the neighborhood

By Dan Murphy

July 26 was the last day on the job for Jimmy Taylor, who had become a Sunday morning fixture in the Back Bay over the past 30 years as the Commonwealth Avenue Mall's faithful newspaper vendor.

Born in Somerville on June 7, 1957, Taylor spent his younger years in Revere, before relocating to Lynn to be near his wife's parents after he married.

Taylor had an approximately 20-year career with the Boston Herald, which began in the 1990s and found him driving

a truck to distribute bundles of papers to various independent newspaper vendors around the city.

After the Herald did away with this distribution model amid a rapidly shrinking print-circulation, Taylor moved inside the office, where he helped process surplus newspapers that came off the loading trucks.

(Taylor later worked at the meat counter at Whole Foods Market in Lynnfield from around 2016 until he was injured on the job about five years ago.)

Around 1993, via his connections at the Herald, Taylor was

able to install his son, Jimmy Jr., now a 43-year-old carpenter living in Maine, as an independent newspaper vendor at the coveted Sunday morning spot at the corner of Exeter Street on the Commonwealth Avenue Mall.

By 1996, Jimmy Jr., who was then also working fulltime at Woodworkers Warehouse in Lynn, had grown tired of getting up on Sunday mornings to vend newspapers, so his father stepped in to take over the de facto family newsstand.

The elder Taylor had already

(JIMMY TAYLOR, Pg. 5)

Boston Groundwater Trust leads tour of the Back Bay

By Dan Murphy

As part of Boston Groundwater Trust's 40th anniversary this year, Christian Simonelli, the BGWT's executive director, led more than 40 guests on a walking tour of the Back Bay on Saturday, July 18.

The tour began at Trinity Church in Copley Square, where guests caught a glimpse of three notable buildings mounted on

wood pilings: Trinity Church, the Copley Branch of the Boston Public Library, and Old South Church.

Most of the Back Bay was created by filling in former tidelands, so many buildings in the neighborhood depend on wood-pile foundations driven into the filled land and capped with granite blocks.

Only a handful of guests were previously aware of this fact, so

the revelation to most provided a good starting-point for the tour, said Simonelli.

Guests visited an observation well, where they learned how an automatic reader works.

The tour then crossed to the other side of Boylston Street, where guests saw firsthand the porous pavement that helps replenish groundwater levels in the neighborhood.

Simonelli also showed guests

archival photos to illustrate how some of the Back Bay's noteworthy buildings were constructed and are now supported.

"There were a lot of good questions and thoughtful conversation on how homeowners and organizations like NABB [Neighborhood Association of the Back Bay] help drive home our mission and how valuable the work that we do is," said Simonelli, noting that Serge Savard, NABB's new

board chair, was among those in attendance on the tour.

The financial ramifications of BGWT's work was a popular topic of conversation on the tour, since maintaining groundwater levels is so crucial to preserving property values in the neighborhood, said Simonelli, who previously led a well-attended groundwater walking tour of

(GROUNDWATER TRUST, Pg. 3)

EDITORIAL

OUR SOX ARE ON FIRE!

With all of the excitement of the World Cup, the Tall Ships, and the Revere Beach Sand Castle Festival in the rearview mirror, we were ready to settle in for a relatively-nonchalant second half of the summer season.

With the Red Sox hopelessly wallowing in the mire of mediocrity (if that), even the Sox' front office seemed to have a, "Wait 'til next year," mindset, ready to trade away some top players by the July 31 trade deadline for future prospects.

But just when everyone was ready to give up on the 2026 season, the unexpected happened -- the Sox caught fire. A four-game sweep of the Yankees in late June was satisfying (because it was the Yankees), but at the time we could hardly have imagined that it would provide the spark that would jump-start the Sox into playoff contention.

Those of us who had written off the Sox in 2026 now are jumping on the bandwagon after the Sox' historic 15-game winning streak, which included sweeps of the AL Central-leading White Sox and the AL East-leading Rays, a skein that has propelled the Red Sox into the second spot in the Wild Card race.

What has been most impressive about the Sox' success is that they have accomplished it without the two players, ace pitcher Garrett Crochet and young slugger Roman Anthony, and coach Alex Cora, who were seen in the pre-season as essential to their hopes for reaching the playoffs.

The 15-game streak equals the legendary 1946 team for the longest in Red Sox history. And for those of us who are long-time Sox fans (though not quite old enough to have been around in 1946!), the recent streak recalls the 10-game streak of the 1967 Impossible Dream team and the 12-game streak that was known as "Morgan Magic" in 1988.

All three of those teams achieved great success, winning the pennants in 1946 and 1967 and the division in 1988, though they all fell short of a World Series championship.

So whether history will repeat itself in 2026 -- or whether this streak was just a mid-season fluke -- remains to be seen. But at least the streak has given us hope that this young Sox squad will remain in contention throughout the rest of the summer and has given us a reason to take a peek at the sports pages every day.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

IT'S A SHAME

Dear Editor,

I was very pleased when the North Washington Street (now Bill Russell) Bridge reopened after much anticipation, many delays and years of inconvenience. One of the special aspects of the new bridge was the landscaping: the daffodils in the spring, the trees in the middle of the walkway and the various grasses and shrubs that line both sides of the span.

On a recent walk to the North

End, I noticed that the plantings are uncared-for: the vines that were meant to climb the cables are all dead. Almost all of the low-lying juniper shrubs are dead as well and need to be replaced. The blue grasses have survived but some of the other grasses are doing poorly. There is no mulch in the planters and they are filled with weeds which are smothering and overcoming the plants which are struggling to survive. It is clear that the landscaping for the bridge is not

being cared for and maintained.

It is a shame to see the plants and a vision of a beautiful bridge die after such a major investment. Is there a plan in place and were funds allocated to maintain the landscaping once the bridge was finished? Who is responsible for the landscaping now that construction is completed? My efforts to get answers to these questions have been unsuccessful but I would truly like the vision for the landscaping to succeed.

Joe Caruso

NEWS IN BRIEF

OVERNIGHT CLOSURE OF SUMNER TUNNEL

The Massachusetts Department of Transportation (MassDOT) is announcing that the Sumner Tunnel / Route 1A southbound will close to all traffic tonight, Friday, July 31, at 11 p.m. and will reopen to traffic at 6 a.m. the following morning. Travel through the Ted Williams Tunnel (I-90) and Callahan Tunnel (Route 1A northbound) will remain available. A signed detour will be in place during the closure.

This closure is necessary for crews to safely conduct repairs and maintenance activities.

Appropriate signage, law

enforcement details, and messaging will be in place to guide drivers through the work area.

Drivers traveling through the affected areas should expect delays, reduce speed, and use caution.

All scheduled work is weather dependent and subject to change without notice.

For more information on traffic conditions, travelers are encouraged to:

- Download the Mass511 mobile app or visit www.mass511.com to view live cameras, travel times, real-time traffic conditions, and project information before setting out on the road. Users can subscribe to

receive text and email alerts for traffic conditions.

- Dial 511 and select a route to hear real-time conditions.

- Follow @MassDOT on X, (formerly known as Twitter), to receive regular updates on road and traffic conditions.

BOSTON WARD 5 DEMS MAKE ENDORSEMENTS

The Boston Ward 5 Democratic Committee last week made the following political endorsements: State Sen. Will Brownsberger for reelection to the Suffolk and Middlesex State

(NEWS BRIEFS, Pg. 4)

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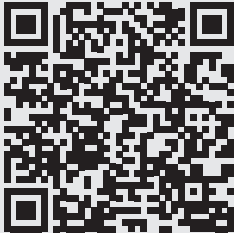
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SEND YOUR NEWS

The Boston Sun encourages readers and residents to submit their local news! Engagements, weddings and birth announcements, news releases, business and education briefs, sports stories and photos for publication. Submitting does not guarantee publication that week. Content will be printed on a space available basis. Items should be e-mailed to stephen.quigley@thebostonsun.com or deb@thebostonsun.com

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Suspect in last week's murder on the Common previously arrested on gun charge

By Sun staff

A suspect in the murder of a man last Wednesday, July 22, on the Boston Common had been previously arrested on a gun charge, according to published reports.

Ashlie Jeremie, age 27, of Bedford is charged with murder, assault and larceny in connection with two seemingly random, consecutive attacks last week.

Jeremie allegedly attacked a man on the Common at the

corner of Boylston and Tremont streets, near the Boylston MBTA station, just after 5 a.m. on July 22, before fleeing the scene. The victim, identified Friday as 35-year-old Jonathan Sanon of Norwood, was rushed to Tufts Medical Center, where he died.

About four hours later, Jeremie was arrested a few blocks away on Beach Street for allegedly hitting another victim with a metal pole. That victim was then hospitalized.

Jeremie appeared briefly

on July 23 in Boston Municipal Court, where he pleaded not guilty to the charges. The judge ordered him held without bail and sent him to Bridgewater State Hospital for a mental health evaluation. Jeremie is due back in court on Aug. 11.

Meanwhile, Jeremie was also arrested on May 18, after he allegedly tried to bring a loaded handgun in a backpack into the Tip O'Neill federal building in Boston. He was released on \$2,500 bail on July 6.

GROUNDWATER TRUST *(from Page 1)*

lower Beacon Hill on June 20.

Meanwhile, BGwT is tentatively planning additional groundwater walking tours of

the Fenway and the South End for the fall, and afterwards, Simonelli said he would even consider returning to the Back Bay and

Beacon Hill to lead encore tours of those neighborhoods..

To learn more about BGwT, visit: bostongroundwater.org



SCOTT METZGER/BGWT PHOTO

Christian Simonelli, executive director of Boston Groundwater Trust, leading a groundwater walking tour of lower Beacon Hill on June 20.



VANESSA KAHN/NEW ENGLAND AQUARIUM

Rehabilitated Kemp's ridley sea turtle "Gigi" enters Nantucket Sound on July 22, 2026.

New England Aquarium releases five more endangered Kemp's ridley sea turtles off Cape Cod

Special to the Sun

Turtles were treated for seven months at the Aquarium's Sea Turtle Hospital before returning to the ocean

Five rehabilitated Kemp's ridley sea turtles are back in the ocean waters off Cape Cod after the New England Aquarium's fourth sea turtle release of the summer Wednesday morning.

For the past seven months, staff at New England Aquarium's Sea Turtle Hospital in Quincy, Mass., treated the hypothermic turtles for a variety of

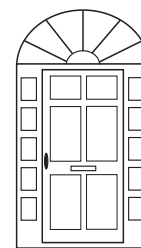
life-threatening medical conditions, including pneumonia, dehydration, and trauma. Staff veterinarians cleared the sea turtles, including "Papyrus" and "Times New Roman," to return to Nantucket Sound.

"Our team tracks each turtle's progress closely and adjusts care as needed throughout recovery," said Dr. Melissa Joblon, Director of Animal Health at the New England Aquarium. "These five turtles are now strong enough to survive entirely on their own in

(TURTLES, Pg. 6)

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ABCD, Harvard Pilgrim Health Care and the Boston Red Sox celebrate community partnerships

Special to the Sun

Action for Boston Community Development (ABCD) President and CEO Sharon Scott-Chandler threw out the first pitch for Harvard Pilgrim Health Day at the July 19th Red Sox game where the Sox beat the Tampa Bay Rays 6-1. ABCD Foster Grandparent Marylyn Johnson joined Scott-Chandler at the pitcher's mound. ABCD is a long standing nonprofit partner of Harvard Pilgrim Health Care — the Official Health and Wellness Partner of the Boston Red Sox.

A Title X grantee since 1973, ABCD Health Services offers access to reproductive health services through its Family Planning Partnership Program in collaboration with 13 partner agencies with services at 27 sites — community health centers, school-based health centers, and hospital pri-

mary care programs to support comprehensive family planning and sexual health counseling, education and medical care for residents in Boston, Brighton, Dorchester, Hyde Park, Jamaica Plain, Mattapan, Roxbury, South Boston and Worcester.

Healthy Fact: ABCD in partnership with Tufts University, established the Geiger Gibson Community Health Center in 1965 — the first in the United States, which is still providing service today in Dorchester.



ABCD President and CEO Sharon-Scott Chandler and Marylyn Johnson, a Foster Grandparent at ABCD's Dorchester Head Start, are shown with Harvard Pilgrim Health Care President of Commercial Markets and Specialty Products Jake Biscoglio at Sunday's game.

NEWS IN BRIEF Continued from Page 2

Senate; U.S. Sen. Ed Markey for reelection to the U.S. Senate for Massachusetts; Latoya Gayle for election to the First Suffolk State Senate; Suffolk District Attorney Kevin Hayden for reelection to the Suffolk District Attorney ; Councilor Mara Dolan for reelection to the Governor's Council District 3; and Councilor Terrence Kennedy for reelection to the Governor's Council District 6.

SOWA ARTISTS GUILD TO OFFER AUGUST EVENTS

SoWa First Friday will be held on Aug. 7 beginning at 5 p.m., and SoWa Sundays will be held Aug. 2, 9, 16, 23, and 30, starting at 11 a.m.

SoWa Artists Guild events, which are free and open to the public, are held at 450 Harrison Ave.

NICHOLS HOUSE MUSEUM OFFERING SUMMER PROGRAMMING

The Nichols House Museum at 55 Mt. Vernon St. will offer a Brahmins & Bohemians Beacon Hill walking tour on Aug. 13 at 6 p.m.

Summer evenings are perfect for exploring the neighborhood. Join the Nichols House Museum for a relaxed ramble around the Hill. Enjoy the charming details of our beautiful neighborhood as we chat about some of the artists and writers who lived on the Hill when the Nichols family was in

residence at 55 Mount Vernon St.

Also, the Nichols House is open for guided tours Tuesday through Sunday, with expanded hours on the weekends. The museum is fully air conditioned.

For more information and tickets, visit: nicholshousemuseum.org

FOSEL TO OFFER JAZZ & BLUES CONCERTS IN LIBRARY PARK

Friends of the South End Library (FOSEL) is again sponsoring free Jazz & Blues concerts with Pat Loomis & Friends every other Tuesday through Aug. 18 starting at 6:30 p.m. in Library Park.

Concerts will include "Saxophone Colossus: A Salute To Sonny Rollins," with Brett Walberg (tenor sax), Adonis Martin (piano), Daniel Day (bass), Zeke Martin (drums) on Aug. 4; and A Funky Dance Party, with Ivory Jones and White Chocolate, featuring Joey Mazzarella (keyboards), Daniel Day (bass), and Zeke Martin (drums) on Aug. 18.

OPEN NEWBURY STREET ANNOUNCES AUGUST DATES

The popular Open Newbury Street series continues this August, transforming the iconic Back Bay thoroughfare into a pedestrian-only walkway. The street will be closed to vehicle traffic starting at 10 a.m. on Sunday, August 2, Sunday, August

Can't beat this heat.

August 1 - 15, 2026

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JIMMY TAYLOR *(from Page 1)*

filled in for his son on a number of Sundays, and before then, he had filled in for an absent independent newspaper vendor many times along his distribution route over his years with the Herald.

When Taylor took over the newsstand from his son, he sold hundreds of newspapers each Sunday. But as print circulation for newspapers dwindled over the years, he saw the number of Sunday papers gradually fall to an estimated 50 to 75 combined print editions of The Boston Globe, the Herald, and the New York Times.

Taylor missed few Sundays on the Commonwealth Avenue Mall over the years. He worked, often masked, throughout the pandemic to continue providing newspapers to the neighborhood, which was viewed by many as an essential service during those uncertain times.

For his last day on the job, Taylor was feted by his friends and longtime customers at an informal 'going-away' party at the newsstand.

District 8 City Councilor Sharon Durkan presented Taylor with an Official Resolution from the city, declaring him "a cher-

ished member of the Back Bay community."

"More than a familiar face delivering the day's headlines, Jimmy became a valued neighbor whose kindness and genuine community spirit helped make the neighborhood feel like home," the resolution read in part.

Taylor, whose blue tent was

always well stocked with dog treats, "formed special bonds with the dogs that stopped by" as the resolution also aptly noted.

Rep. Jay Livingstone, who was also on hand for Taylor's send-off, offered a letter of congratulations to him from the House of Representatives.

Reflecting on Taylor's long-term contribution to the neigh-

borhood, Rep. Livingstone said: "Jimmy was incredibly reliable and friendly. Whether it was a freezing January day or the dog days of summer or the days in between, he was there every Sunday morning with a smile. People have counted on him to have a paper available for them for 30 years, and he became good friends with many residents who

relied on him. He was greatly appreciated and will be missed."

Rep. Livingstone recalled when he first ran for office, his predecessors, Marty Walz and Paul Demakis, had both suggested that Taylor's newsstand might be a good place to meet potential voters, which turned out to be some very sage advice.

"Jimmy was always gracious about me talking to his customers, too," added Rep. Livingstone.

Taylor made a lot of good friends while vending papers on the Commonwealth Avenue Mall over the years. He saw many of his longtime customers eventually leave the area, although he still keeps in touch with a few of them via email and expects that will be the case with his friends here after he relocates to Florida.

"Nothing's etched in stone, really," Taylor told this reporter of his impending retirement move.

On the time he spent as the Back Bay's beloved Sunday newspaper vendor, Taylor thanked his many loyal customers and simply said: "It's been a pleasure. It's been a lot of fun."



Pictured, left to right, are Back Bay resident George Lewis; District 8 City Councilor Sharon Durkan; Jimmy Taylor; Rep. Jay Livingstone; and Back Bay residents Lina Krina and Vivian Li.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Continued from Page 4

9, and Sunday, August 23. Please note that the event will skip two weekends and will not take place on August 16 or August 30. While Newbury Street will be car-free, intersecting streets such as Arlington, Berkeley, Clarendon, Dartmouth, and Exeter will remain open to cross-traffic.

FENWAY PARK BRACES FOR BUSY CONCERT WEEKEND

Residents in the Fenway and Kenmore neighborhoods should prepare for increased foot traffic and localized street closures this weekend as Fenway Park hosts a series of major concerts. Drivers are advised to use caution, utilize public transit if possible,

and expect delays in the area. The upcoming concert schedule includes:

- Thursday, July 30: Tim McGraw
- Friday, July 31: Phish
- Saturday, August 1: Phish
- Sunday, August 2: Zac Brown Band

TITUS SPARROW PARK CONTINUES WEDNESDAY EVENING CONCERT SERIES

The Titus Sparrow Park Summer Concert Series continues to bring live, free music to the South End every Wednesday evening. Pre-show community gatherings and children's activities begin at

5:30 p.m., followed by live musical performances starting at 6:15 p.m. at 75 West Rutland Square. The summer lineup features a rotating cast of local artists performing reggae, jazz, funk, and rock. Attendance is free, with blanket and lawn chair seating highly encouraged.

ISABELLA STEWART GARDNER MUSEUM OFFERS FREE THURSDAY NIGHTS

As a reminder to Fenway residents and art lovers across the city, the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum continues to offer its weekly free admission program. Visitors can explore

the museum's historic galleries, courtyard, and contemporary exhibition spaces free of charge every Thursday evening from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. This weekly offering replaces the museum's previous "Free First Thursdays" model to make the collection more accessible on a regular basis. Advanced ticket reservations are highly recommended through the museum's website.

BOSTON POLICE TO HOST NATIONAL NIGHT OUT IN LOCAL NEIGHBORHOODS

The Boston Police Department will host its annual National Night Out community-build-

ing events on Monday, August 3, and Tuesday, August 4. The multi-day initiative promotes police-community partnerships through neighborhood block parties, cookouts, and a moving cavalcade of vehicles bringing city officials to different districts. For South End residents, localized activities and cavalcade stops will heavily impact the Castle Square area, prompting parking restrictions on the east side of Tremont Street between #470 and #482. Residents in the Back Bay, South End, and Fenway should anticipate increased pedestrian activity, food vendors, and tabling by local community partners to promote neighborhood camaraderie.

The Next One

American Idol sensation John Foster will perform at Kowloon Aug. 15

By Cary Shuman

The phrase, “The Next One,” comes from the National Hockey League to describe the exceptional rising stars hoping to match the incredible achievements of Wayne Gretzky, known as “The Great One.”

In the music industry, we have found “The Next One,” and he is 20-year-old John Foster, the incredibly talented singer, songwriter and guitar player, who garnered international acclaim as a runner-up on American Idol season 23 in 2025.

On Aug. 15, Foster will make his first Boston-area appearance for a live concert at the Kowloon in Saugus. Tickets are selling fast as many are lining up to join the rapidly growing “Foster Roster” of admirers.

American Idol fans cherished his unique country music-singing style, his dynamic stage presence, and ability to energize and inspire his audiences. They also learned that he is an impressive, articulate young man who was co-valedictorian of his high school class.

A native of Louisiana, Foster had his first music performance in July, 2022, at a local restaurant and bar that his family had frequented “since I was a small kid.”

“It was very special for me to do my very first gig there,” said Foster, who continued with three-hour acoustic shows in Louisiana venues.

In November, 2024, Foster auditioned for American Idol in Nashville and would go on to earn his “Golden Ticket” to Hollywood. Week by week, Foster showed tremendous range and built a national following. While some have compared Foster’s charm and appearance to 1970s teen idol David Cassidy, it was Foster’s Elvis-style performance of “Jailhouse Rock,” that had his fans craving for more. His original song, entitled, “Tell That Angel I Love Her,” written in tribute to his late friends Maggie Dunn and Caroline Gill, who passed away in a car crash, became immensely popular. The song continues to resonate well and elicit emotional responses

from audiences.

Currently on tour, Foster drew standing ovations for his July performances at the Grand Old Opry in Nashville, country music’s biggest stage.

“The tour’s going really great,” said Foster. “I enjoy every moment of it. It always great to see places that I probably would never have seen before.”

‘An amazing journey’

Foster understands the far-reaching magnitude of his successful run on American Idol, which continues to be the top star-discovering show of its kind.

“It’s been an absolutely, amazing journey,” said Foster. “I was talking to Amy Grant and Vince Gill last night at the Opry, and they were asking me how everything is going and I told them I just got back from Canada a couple of days ago and flew to Nashville, and I was tired, but this is the level of busy and tiredness that I’ve been praying for, for many years. So, it’s so good to travel the country, meet people, and play music for so many people.”



PHOTO COURTESY @FLETCHERMOORE

American Idol season 23 runner up and rising music star, John Foster.

Foster said he was “a late bloomer” when it comes to music.

“I’ve always been a very musical person and came from a musical family, but not in a creation sense, in a listening sense,” said Foster. “My family and I listened to music all the time, I really didn’t start making it or performing it until I was about 16.”

Foster said after high school, he matriculated at Louisiana State University (LSU) in pursuit of a degree in biology and an eventual spot in medical school specializing in oncology.

“I only did one full semester in person at LSU (he is a big and knowledgeable Tigers’ foot-

ball fan),” said Foster. “It was in November of that semester that I auditioned for Idol. The next semester, I studied online because I was in Los Angeles. Then I made the decision to pause my college career for a little bit. I will go back and get my degree at the right time.”

Foster said his American Idol experience was memorable and impactful, enjoying the opportunity to meet legendary host Ryan Seacrest and Idol’s superstar judges, Lionel Richie, Luke Bryan, and Carrie Underwood, the 2005 Idol winner.

“They’re all great people,” said Foster. “They were the first

(JOHN FOSTER, Pg. 8)

TURTLES (from Page 3)

the wild. That’s the goal every time.”

Scientists from the Aquarium’s research arm, the Anderson Cabot Center for Ocean Life, worked with the Rescue team to tag the turtles for post-release monitoring. The tags collect information about the turtles’ behavior, habitat use, and survivorship, which helps inform sea turtle conservation and protection efforts, especially in New England where little is known about these species. This season, the team is using a combination of satellite tags for real-time data and acoustic tags for longer-term

tracking; some of the turtles will be added to the Aquarium’s Sea Turtle Tracker for the public to follow their journey. This sea turtle work is permitted by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service through Permit Number ES69328.

During the 2025 cold-stunning season, the Aquarium treated nearly 500 live sea turtles, most of them Kemp’s ridleys, that were rescued from the shores of Cape Cod from November to December by staff and volunteers with Mass Audubon’s Wellfleet Bay Wildlife Sanctuary. Getting these turtles back to full

health requires a collaborative effort between biologists, veterinarians, and researchers. Under the U.S. Endangered Species Act, Kemp’s ridley sea turtles are endangered, facing threats including climate change, ocean pollution, and degradation of their habitats. Rescue and rehabilitation efforts help to conserve the species.

The Aquarium has now released 35 turtles off Cape Cod this summer. A handful of turtles remain at the Aquarium’s Quincy facility, continuing treatment until they are medically cleared to return to the ocean.

Aquarium staff, volunteers, and interns have a tradition of naming the turtles receiving long-term care, with this year’s theme being font-inspired names. More details on the released Kemp’s ridley sea turtles:

- “Times New Roman” (#512)
Stranded Dec. 3, 2025, in Dennis, MA
- “Papyrus” (#579)
Stranded Dec. 5, 2025, in Wellfleet, MA
- “Gigi” (#590)
Stranded Dec. 5, 2025, in Brewster, MA
- “Walter Turncoat” (#644)
Stranded Dec. 10, 2025, in

Truro, MA

- “Punk Kid” (#659)

Stranded Dec. 11, 2025, in Truro, MA

The New England Aquarium is a nonprofit research and conservation organization that has protected and cared for our ocean and marine animals for more than 55 years. We provide science-based solutions and help shape policies that create measurable change to address threats the ocean faces. We inspire action through discovery and help create engaged, resilient communities.

Dine Out Boston returns August 1-15

The annual culinary event will include three Saturdays for the first time

Special to the Sun

Dine Out Boston® is back for its summer edition from August 1-15, 2026. Presented by Meet Boston, and in partnership with the Massachusetts Office of Travel & Tourism and new sponsor Toast, this two-week culinary celebration features close to 200 participating restaurants, providing diners an opportunity to enjoy delicious deals and restaurateurs the chance to bring in new patrons to their establishments.

For the first time, this year's summer program spans three Saturdays. The new Toast sponsorship will create opportunities for diners to discover and support their favorite local restaurants through Toast Local, the neighborhood app that helps guests find new restaurants, book a table, and get rewarded. Patrons can also order ahead for pickup, customize and pay in seconds. Toast Local makes it easy to enjoy the best of Boston.

This summer's Dine Out Boston comes on the heels of one of the most historic summers ever, with FIFA World Cup 2026, America's 250th celebrations, and Sail Boston generating global attention for Boston and all of its great culinary and cultural assets. The MICHELIN Guide's inaugural Northeast Cities edition launched last November, and this summer's Dine Out Boston will include several Michelin-recognized establishments. The program will also feature many first-time Dine Out Boston participants, with Rosa y Mari-gold, Maple & Ash, and Fallow Kin all set to make their Dine Out debuts. Also joining for the first time are all five Fuji locations, F1 Arcade in the Seaport, and World Cup favorite The Haven in Jamaica Plain.

Diners across Back Bay, the South End, and Fenway/Kenmore will find a robust lineup of local participating spots right in

their neighborhood, including:

- **Back Bay:** Abe & Louie's, Atlantic Fish Co., The Banks Seafood & Steak, Bistro du Midi, Capital Grille, Davio's Back Bay, Grill 23 & Bar, Rochambeau, Ramsay's Kitchen, Sonsie, and STK Steakhouse.

- **South End:** Atlantico, B&G Oysters, and South End Buttery.

- **Fenway / Kenmore:** Blue Ribbon Brasserie, DW French, Shu Daxia Hot Pot, and Tsurutontan Udon Noodle Brasserie.

"Boston's culinary scene is receiving the recognition it deserves. We are a premier dining destination and we want residents and visitors alike to experience it through our Dine Out Boston program," said Martha J. Sheridan, President & CEO of Meet Boston. "With three Saturdays on the table, Dine Out Boston is perfect for a family excursion, date night, or a gathering with friends or colleagues. Diners can explore specially priced menus at restaurants across Greater Boston, with a wide range of cuisines to choose from throughout all 23 Boston neighborhoods, Cambridge, Somerville, Brookline and beyond. Pair your Dine Out experience with a concert, museum visit, outdoor movie, or a trip to Fenway to see the red-hot Red Sox."

Meet Boston recently became the first destination partner to launch Mindtrip's WhatsApp integration, extending AI-powered destination discovery and trip planning to one of the world's most widely used messaging platforms. While designed to help visitors explore Greater Boston year-round, the tool is also a valuable resource during Dine Out Boston, helping diners discover participating restaurants, make reservations, and plan an itinerary around their meal. Meet Boston is also introducing a new Dine Out Boston Bandwango pass: a free, browser-based mobile passport that allows diners to check in

at participating restaurants and local attractions, redeem special offers, and earn prizes while exploring Greater Boston.

Meet Boston invites all diners to experience Boston's diverse restaurant scene in new ways. Explore more about Boston's culinary scene at www.meet-boston.com/culinary and please view our Summer 2026 Dine Out Boston montage.

Participating restaurants will offer prix fixe menus for lunch and dinner, with many offering takeout and delivery options as well. Restaurants select one of three price points and customize their lunch and dinner menus: lunch at \$27, \$32 or \$36 and dinner at \$38, \$46, or \$55. Restaurants can offer as many courses as they desire at their selected price. A full list of participating restaurants is here.

Visit DineOutBoston.com to

browse menus and make reservations. Extend your Dine Out Boston experience and sleep in with an overnight getaway package at a selection of participating hotels.

As always, Dine Out Boston includes an important charitable component and this summer's program will benefit Blue Hill Observatory, Revere Beach Partnership, and the Veronica Robles Cultural Center. Diners are encouraged to participate in the Dine Out Boston auction in which they can bid on \$100 participating restaurant certificates; more information at DOBauction.com.

Follow Dine Out Boston social channels to learn more: @dineoutboston on Facebook and Instagram.

Dine Out Boston is a bi-annual value-driven dining program founded by Meet Boston.

Formerly known as Restaurant Week Boston®, the program is now in its 26th year of offering special savings throughout some of the region's top restaurants. During Dine Out Boston diners can enjoy a chef-customized lunch or dinner for a fraction of the normal dining cost. Due to high demand, reservations during Dine Out Boston are encouraged and can be made in advance at www.DineOutBoston.com.

For more information or to inquire about having your restaurant involved in Dine Out Boston® please visit DineOutBoston.com. Check out Dine Out Boston on Facebook at www.facebook.com/dineoutboston and Instagram at instagram.com/dineoutboston.

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FRESH & LOCAL

We love Affogatos

By Penny & Ed Cherubino

We’ve always been surprised that dining spots that serve espresso drinks and ice cream don’t have affogatos on their desert or after-dinner drink menus. We hope that as these traditional Italian drinks gain traction on social media, the hospitality industry will recognize that this can be a welcome and profitable add-on to a meal tab.

Affogato Ingredients

Let's begin with translation. In Italian, an espresso is called “un caffè.” Affogato means “drowned,” and “correcto”

means corrected. Finally, gelato is the ice cream traditionally used in these drinks. Therefore, an affogato, in its simplest form, is gelato or ice cream drowned in espresso.

An affogato corretto adds a small amount of an alcoholic spirit. For what it's worth, there is also a “un caffè corretto,” which is an espresso with a spirit added.

Your choice of spirit (usually about half an ounce) can take the drink two ways. Liquors like Amaretto, Frangelico, Sambuca, Kahlúa, or Cream Liqueurs make the drink sweeter. Dry spirits like Grappa, Rum, Bourbon,

Irish whiskey, or Brandy can add flavor without added sweetness. Remember, the base flavor you are adding to is coffee. Try to choose additions that complement the strong, bitter taste of espresso.

Affogato History

The website Tasting Table offers the following history of affogato. “While most of us can probably agree that affogato is delicious, where it came from is disputed. According to Porte, some believe that the affogato dessert gained prominence only in the 1950s in Italy, around the same time the ice cream indus-



Here’s the setup for pour-your-own affogato corretto: vanilla ice cream in the cup, espresso in the tiny pitcher, and a shot of amaretto in the glass.

try became modernized. However, some say that a medieval friar called Angelico from the Piedmont region of Italy spontaneously blended ice cream with espresso, creating affogatos.”

While the origin is in Italy, the world soon caught on, and it was added to cafe and restaurant menus worldwide. However, Tasting Table also points out that the word affogato was not added to the Merriam-Webster

Dictionary until 1992.

Elaborate Affagato

The springboard for this column was a video by David Lebovitz featuring Margot Lecarpentier of Combat Bar in Paris. She prepared an elaborate affogato using a chocolate sorbet David had made. She combined a cocktail of liquors, an espresso, and then added toppings. Her method became modernized. However, some say that a medieval friar called Angelico from the Piedmont region of Italy spontaneously blended ice cream with espresso, creating affogatos.”

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(FRESH & LOCAL, Pg. 9)



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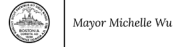




BOSTON.GOV/OPEN-STREETS



CITY of BOSTON



Mayor Michelle Wu

JOHN FOSTER (from Page 6)

encounters that I had with really big stars like that, so just to see them with my own eyes and to meet them, it was very interesting to me. I had been watching them on TV and seeing them on their albums and CDs for my entire life. The whole Idol experience was tremendous. They put in so much effort and so much work into the show to make as many people entertained as possible, and it was a true treat to be a part of something like that.”

Next month, “The Next One” – John Foster - comes to the nation’s most famous Chinese restaurant, Kowloon, to perform - and as they say, get your tickets early, because this show will certainly be sold out.

John Foster is a country singer and songwriter from Addis, Louisiana, known for his rich, classic sound and honest songwriting. The American Idol Season 23 runner-up has been mentored by some of music’s most respected artists and continues to be a recurring guest on the Grand Ole Opry stage, earning praise for keeping traditional country alive with a fresh, heartfelt style.

Grounded in his strong Christian faith and Louisiana roots, he’s paving his own path while honoring the legends who came before him.

Visit www.johnfmusic.com and follow @officialjohnfoster for music, tour dates, and updates.

Mayor Wu highlights traffic and pedestrian safety plans for streets

By Adam Swift

In the wake of the death of Boston transportation planner Louisa Gag earlier this month, Mayor Michelle Wu has released plans to make city streets safer.

Gag was killed on her bicycle when she was riding near Roxbury Crossing and was fatally struck on Tremont Street by the driver of a truck.

Following the fatal accident, District 5 Councilor Enrique Pepén and Council President Liz Breadon brought forth two measures to the council pushing for safer streets.

“Louisa was killed on her bicycle blocks from an intersection your administration has studied and stalled,” an open letter to the Mayor signed by the two councilors and 4,000 others stated. “She was not the first. We have been losing neighbors

to these streets for years, and we have been warning you, specifically and repeatedly, that more deaths were coming.”

On July 22, the council unanimously approved a measure that calls on the mayor and her administration to pursue infrastructure projects that protect people walking, biking, riding transit, using mobility devices, and traveling with children.

Pepén and Breadon also introduced an ordinance requiring the city to report publicly on its street projects each year.

On Friday, July 24, Wu released a six page letter detailing the city’s approach to delivering street safety improvements for all roadway users.

“Residents deserve clarity about our vision for streets that are safe, beautiful, and family-friendly,” Wu stated. “I am writing today to detail our immediate

response to the crash that took Louisa’s life, our approach to delivering street safety improvements for all roadway users, and the work ahead.”

The immediate response outlined by the mayor includes supporting the administration’s Streets Cabinet staff. Chris Osgood, Senior Advisor for Infrastructure and former Chief of Streets, and Tali Robbins, Deputy Chief of Policy, will support the Streets Cabinet full-time.

“They started in these roles on Monday, July 13th, providing guidance and direction on policy, planning, and major capital projects, and they will meet monthly with leaders of advocacy organizations to facilitate ongoing, direct dialogue,” Wu wrote. “Over the coming weeks, I am also convening a group of advisors to assess the Streets

Cabinet’s organizational structure, staff capacity, and resource needs. This group will advise on ways to improve and accelerate the delivery of safer streets and critical services. In close coordination with the ongoing law enforcement investigation, the City will conduct a comprehensive safety and urban design evaluation of the Tremont Street corridor in Mission Hill to identify important fixes.”

The team has been reviewing bike lanes that use or previously used flex posts to determine where cast-in-place or other more durable barriers will be installed.

“We will expand the use of more durable protective barriers

wherever feasible, including by coordinating upcoming resurfacing with installations later this year,” the mayor stated. “And we are installing quick-build barriers in priority locations where more permanent construction is not possible this year, such as the cycle tracks around the Boston Common and the Public Garden, and along Western Avenue.”

The Boston Police Department has determined that a large truck was involved in the crash that took Gag’s life. Wu noted that trucks and other heavy commercial vehicles have been involved in the majority of fatal crashes involving cyclists over

(STREET SAFETY, Pg. 10)

FRESH & LOCAL (from Page 8)

od was to put the sorbet into a metal dish, pour her liquor mixture, then the espresso, and top it with shaved chocolate, cocoa nibs, and salt.

This is the type of recipe on social media that is bringing affogatos to a new audience. But there is still a place for the simplest version that we make at home.

Size Matters

Penny has used a small, simple affogato made with a 2-ounce scoop of ice cream and one shot of espresso from our Nespresso machine. She can vary the flavor by using different espresso capsules. This treat comes in at around 150 calories, and she uses it when she’s craving something special. The ritual of making the drink and savoring it is part of the experience.

Final Thoughts

Choose the container for your affogato carefully to ensure the combination of cold and heat does not cause the glass to crack

from temperature shock. At home, we make ours in bone china cups that are exceptionally strong and stable across a range of temperatures.

And if a place you love has

espresso and ice cream, ask them to make an affogato for you. We asked, and soon it became a menu item and frequent order at our favorite pub.



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CREATIVITY POWERS INNOVATION IN NEW INSTALLATION AT BOSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY

LEXICON demonstrates how artists, makers, and researchers are shaping Boston's future economy

Special to the Sun

The Center for Bits and Atoms (CBA) at MIT, in collaboration with the Mayor's Office of Arts and Culture, and the Boston Public Library, announced today a new installation by designer and engineer Alfonso Parra Rubio with Erik Strand, both researchers at MIT Center for Bits and Atoms. Titled LEXICON, the project centers on a 23 ft suspended installation in Deferrari Hall, the atrium at the center of the Boylston Street building, and is coupled with a free workshop that brings cutting-edge design, fabrication, and creativity into one of the city's most iconic civic spaces, the Central Library in Copley Square.

Created using custom design tools for computerized cutting of folded aluminum sheets to form geometric structural cells rather than traditional construction methods, the large-scale sculpture demonstrates how innovative approaches to design and fabrication can create lighter, stronger, and more sustainable structures.

"The Boston Public Library has always been a place where ideas are meant to be shared and built upon. LEXICON is both a public art and a new materials demonstration project, coupling MIT's research in design and fabrication with our region's creative industry," said David Leonard, President of the Boston Public Library. "This work is in the tradition of the McKim Building's vaulted ceilings, by Rafael Guastavino, themselves a legacy of beauty and geometry-driven architecture and engineering."

LEXICON launched during FAB26 Boston, the international Fab Lab Conference hosted with the Fab Foundation, returning to the movement's birthplace. Born from conversations between MIT's Neil Gershenfeld and Boston civil rights leader Mel King, the Fab Lab movement was established after the founding of the South End Tech Center (SETC) in 1997, which built on King's conviction that everyone deserves access to the digital tools of innovation.

This year marks the 22nd



PHOTO BY VIKRAM VALLURI

LEXICON installation at the Deferrari Hall in the Central Branch of the Boston Public Library. This is a project of the Center for Bits and Atoms (CBA) at MIT, in collaboration with the Mayor's Office of Arts and Culture, and the Boston Public Library by designer and engineer Alfonso Parra Rubio with Erik Strand, both researchers at MIT Center for Bits and Atoms.

edition of the annual Fab Lab Conference & Symposium (July 27–31, 2026). Spanning six days, the conference presents practical and theoretical content for a diverse group of individuals united by a passion for digital fabrication, technology, and innovation. LEXICON honors this legacy by bringing cutting-edge fabrication and design directly into a public space. The installation invites residents and

visitors to explore how artists, designers, engineers, and makers are reimagining the future of manufacturing, architecture, and innovation.

CBA's Director Prof. Neil Gershenfeld comments that "We're thrilled to have this opportunity to bring Alfonso's research at the frontiers of aerospace engineering to this spectacular installation at BPL, a few blocks from where the global fab lab move-

ment began. There is a wonderful feedback loop between engineering advances advancing art, and vice versa."

"Too often, research lives in journals or behind the walls of universities. LEXICON shows what's possible when public institutions believe that knowledge belongs to everyone," said Alfonso Parra Rubio. "My research explores geometry as

(LEXICON, Pg. 12)

STREET SAFETY *(from Page 9)*

the past decade and a significant share of fatal pedestrian crashes.

"The City's truck side-guard ordinance applies to City vehicles and those contracted for City projects, but we need protections for all trucks and large commercial vehicles on Boston's streets," Wu said. "In the coming months, we will work to advance more comprehensive truck safety legislation, strengthen side-guard enforcement, review City routes used by heavy commercial vehi-

cles, and assess additional safety measures to prevent future crashes."

More than a decade ago, Boston became a Vision Zero city, committing to eliminate fatal and serious traffic crashes, according to Wu. Since then, she said the city has made significant progress to make streets safer, that there is still much work to do. The City's Vision Zero dashboard is currently updated with data through June 2026. Going

forward, Wu said the city will update the dashboard monthly and expand its analysis to target locations and conditions for needed interventions.

Wu said the administration will use that data to keep streets reliable, well maintained, and resilient. She also pledged to protect and connect Boston's cycling network and improve school zone and pedestrian safety.

"Investing in safe sidewalks, curb ramps, crosswalks, and

roadways improves safety and mobility for everyone—particularly for residents with disabilities, seniors, and other pedestrians," Wu stated.

There will also be a focus on targeted, effective enforcement and the use of technology to tackle traffic issues.

Wu also pointed to a number of recently completed infrastructure projects as well as others that are in progress or the planning stages that will improve

safety for pedestrians, motorists, and cyclists.

"Boston should be a city where every resident and visitor can move comfortably and confidently, enjoy beautiful public spaces, and feel part of a community that is home for everyone," Wu stated. "We will carry forward Louisa's legacy by working to make this vision a reality. There is much more work ahead. I look forward to getting it done together."

Healey-Driscoll admin. expands firefighter survival training with new Mobile SCBA Maze

Special to the Sun

The Massachusetts Department of Fire Services (DFS) today announced the expansion of firefighter survival training at the Massachusetts Firefighting Academy (MFA) with the addition of a new mobile self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA) training maze. The new training system will increase access to realistic, hands-on instruction for recruit and veteran municipal firefighters across the Commonwealth.

“One of DFS’s most important responsibilities is ensuring firefighters across Massachusetts have access to the highest-quality training possible,” said Public Safety and Security Secretary Gina Kwon. “That means continually investing in modern equipment and training environments that reflect the dangerous and unpredictable conditions firefighters face in the field. Better training builds more confident, better prepared firefighters, and better prepared firefighters help make communities across Massachusetts safer.”

The new mobile training maze

expands the MFA’s ability to deliver firefighter survival training both on campus and directly to local fire departments. Combined with the Academy’s existing mobile training resources, it will increase access to realistic, hands-on SCBA training for recruits and experienced firefighters alike. The unit also replaces the Academy’s original Stow-based SCBA maze, ensuring this critical training remains available for years to come.

This year, DFS marks 30 years of training Massachusetts firefighters through the MFA. Since 1996, the Academy has prepared thousands of firefighters for the challenges of the job while continually evolving its training programs to reflect new technologies, emerging hazards, and best practices. The addition of the new mobile SCBA training maze builds on that legacy by giving more firefighters the opportunity to train in realistic, high-pressure environments that build the skills and confidence they need to respond safely and effectively when lives are on the line.

“The SCBA Training Maze is one of our most frequent-

ly requested training tools,” said State Fire Marshal Jon M. Davine. “This new mobile unit allows us to deliver critical survival training to more firefighters in more communities while strengthening the MFA’s ability to prepare recruits and veteran firefighters for the dangerous and unpredictable conditions they face. Providing firefighters with realistic training is one of the best investments we can make in their safety and the safety of the communities they serve.”

Inside the maze, firefighters navigate dark, confined, and unfamiliar environments while wearing full turnout gear and SCBA. The training is designed to build confidence under stress, improve air management, and reinforce the skills firefighters rely on during searches, rescues, and self-extrication.

Last year, the MFA’s Springfield-based mobile SCBA maze supported training for more than 500 municipal firefighters. The addition of a second road-worthy mobile unit will expand training opportunities for fire departments across Massachusetts while continuing to support



The Massachusetts Firefighting Academy’s new SCBA Maze Trailer will provide vital firefighter safety training at the MFA’s Stow campus and at local fire departments. It replaces a 40-year-old permanent installation that is at the end of its useful lifespan.

recruit training at the Stow campus.

The new mobile maze is one of several investments that have strengthened training at the MFA in recent years, alongside a forcible entry trailer, flashover training prop, search and rescue buildings on the Bridgewater and Springfield campuses, a hazardous materials leak prop, and a Mobile Extraction Unit used to

decontaminate firefighting gear.

DFS invested approximately \$500,000 in the new training system, supported in large part by a \$435,000 FEMA Assistance to Firefighters Grant. The investment reflects DFS’s continued commitment to providing firefighters across Massachusetts with access to realistic, state-of-the-art training.



Program Coordinator Dennis Ball of the Massachusetts Firefighting Academy’s Special Hazards program surveys the new SCBA Maze Trailer’s interior. The multi-level prop allows firefighters to navigate dark, confined, and unfamiliar environments while wearing full turnout gear and self-contained breathing apparatus.



Advanced Fire Skills Program Coordinator Al Beardsley stands in the new SCBA Maze Trailer’s control room, which features a digital audio and video feed from multiple cameras inside the training area. Instructors can communicate with trainees and control lights and sound at all times.



The new SCBA Maze Trailer replaces a 40-year-old permanent installation with obsolete electronics, seen here, that has exceeded its useful lifespan.

SETTING A SPARK AT CITY HALL



Photos by Mayor's Office Photos by Mike Mejia

Mayor Michelle Wu met with members of the SPARK Boston Council (formerly

ONEin3), which advises her on City policies and programs affecting 20- to 35-year-olds, on Monday, July 27, in the Eagle Room in City Hall.



LEXICON (from Page 10)

both a language and a method of making, and it's incredibly rewarding to share that work in one of Boston's great civic spaces." The project celebrates Boston's unique position as a global center for education, research and creativity, while making new ideas accessible to everyone. "Boston is one of the world's

great creative and innovative cities. LEXICON is about opening that innovation up to the public," said Joseph Henry, Chief of Arts & Culture, City of Boston. "It shows how artists, designers and engineers can work together to imagine, prototype and build the future and why creativity is one of the city's greatest economic strengths."

LEXICON reflects the Mayor's Office of Arts & Culture's broader vision for Boston's creative economy: connecting artists, makers, and researchers to strengthen the city's innovation ecosystem, create new opportunities for learning, and ensure creativity remains at the heart of Boston's future. LEXICON will be on view

until November 1. The installation can be viewed during the Library's regular operating hours. On August 1 from 2-4:30, MIT researchers will lead a free hands-on workshop for all ages exploring geometry, making, and digital fabrication, bringing the concepts behind the artwork directly to the public. For more

information on LEXICON and to register for the free workshop, visit: <https://bpl.bibliocommons.com/events/6a5fa79acca66c-2f00a4f766> <https://bpl.bibliocommons.com/events/6a4d02c820e06486019686d4>

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BACK BAY			
Cronin, Jessica	Sun, Kara	11 Albemarle St #3	\$831,000
Sullivan, Jennifer	Gabriele, Anne Marie	217 W Newton St #1	\$1,134,000
Alibert, Gianna M	Goon, Anna Y	256 Commonwealth Ave #6	\$850,000
Rispler, Aviram A	Kokoszyn, James M	26 Dartmouth St #1	\$1,275,000
Anderson, Carol Jane	Heritage 7023 Rt	300 Boylston St #702	\$5,499,000
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Velebit Wb LLC	M&R Boston Associates LL	4 Symphony Rd #4	\$1,050,000
Goemans, Michel X	Roth, Susan C	42 Boylston St #2	\$792,000
Maria Glanzer Curtis T	27Aaa LLC	430 Stuart St #27D	\$8,500,000
Andersen, Quentin	L Suzanne Bedell Ret	578 Massachusetts Ave #4	\$1,299,000
Weden, Brian	Jahmsem, Jessica	592 Columbus Ave #3	\$670,000
Koetting, Timothy Alan	Iparraguirre, Jorge A	9-11 Boylston St #3	\$870,000
BEACON HILL			
Bonalle, Anne	Fusaro, Nancy L	100-102 Charles St #C	\$980,000
Bos For Six LLC	Save, Caroline	103 Mount Vernon St	\$4,399,000
Clinton Savings Bank	33 35 Bowdoin Street LLC	35 Bowdoin St #35	\$5,859,000
Campbell, Mary C	Kapur, Paul K	36 Phillips St #36	\$482,400
Leamon, John H	Mccolgan Ft	49 Grove St #49A	\$525,000
Martin, Karen	54 Temple St Unit 1 LLC	54-1/2 Temple St #1	\$719,000
Mchale, David R	62 Chestnut St Nt	62 Chestnut St	\$7,000,000
Pg Boston Residential LLC	Kp Washington St LLC	659-665 Washington St	\$234,022,214
Smalla, Sabine	Oleary, Janice M	76 Phillips St #76A	\$665,000
John A Muller Spousal Life	Souza, Christopher De	82 Mount Vernon St #1	\$3,230,000
Wu, Claudia	Shamroth, Lori	9 Hawthorne Pl #11J	\$630,000
Etienne, Gianluca	Doocey, Sean	9 Joy St #2	\$715,000
DOWNTOWN/WATERFRONT			
Murray, Max	Hakeem, Loai	1 Franklin St #1208	\$1,715,000
Hwa, Lau Joo	Goel, Lisa	2 Avery St #27G	\$1,450,000
Diminico Ft	Philppen, Joanna Lee	2-1/2 Battery Wharf #3407	\$1,900,000
Zeissig, Anthony N	Shore Rt	3 Avery St #502	\$570,000
Venugopal, Ranganath	Shanti Development LLC	33 Copeland St #C	\$790,000
Provenzano, Audrey	Foote, Lauren R	54 Orchard St #2	\$1,460,000
Magjic LLC	Geraghty, Caitlin	9-15 Battery St #7	\$830,000
BAY VILLAGE/SOUTH END/KENMORE			
Callahan, Erin Moore	Winter, Benjamin G	26 Upton St #2	\$1,150,000
Honshideler, Kelsey	Handland, Scott Evan	36 Worcester Sq #5	\$830,000

Attention to Detail

PHOTOS AND TEXT BY PENNY CHERUBINO

THIS WEEK'S ANSWER



The metal stairs in the last clue are on 270 Commonwealth Avenue, specifically the door marked 272. Today this is a Berklee College dormitory. It was designed as a residence hotel by Mackay and Dunham, architects, in 1895. This may be the last set of metal front steps in the Back Bay Residential District. Let me know if you find others that have not been replaced.

You'll find the next clue in the Fenway.

Do you have a favorite building or detail you would like featured? Email Penny@BostonZest.com with your suggestion.

THIS WEEK'S CLUE



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'Fatal Firefighter Injuries in the U.S.' report shows 83 on-duty deaths in 2025

Special to the Sun

The National Fire Protection Association® (NFPA®) released its “Fatal Firefighter Injuries in the U.S. in 2025” report, which showed that a total of 83 U.S. firefighters died while on-duty, or as a result of heart attacks, strokes, or medical conditions within 24 hours of duty, in 2025. This number reflects a 17 percent increase over the 69 fatalities reported in 2024, with the majority of the on-duty fatalities (65, or 78 percent of the total) resulting from traumatic injuries, heart attacks, or medical conditions. The remaining 18

fatalities involved heart attacks while firefighters were off duty but occurred within 24 hours of on-duty activity. (Prior to 2022, deaths that occurred within 24 hours of duty were not included in this study unless the injury occurred while the victim was on duty or indicated not feeling well while on duty.)

“While we do see fluctuations in the number of firefighter fatalities each year, as we did in 2025, there has been a consistent downward trend in the number of annual fatalities since the study began nearly 50 years ago,” said Richard Campbell, a senior research analyst at NFPA

and the lead author of the report. Campbell indicated that because fatal heart attacks, strokes, and medical conditions within 24 hours of duty were only added to the study in 2022, they are reported separately from the on-duty fatalities in the report to facilitate historically consistent trend comparisons.

The vast majority (95 percent) of firefighter fatalities in 2025 were municipal firefighters: 34 career firefighters and 45 volunteer firefighters. The remaining four firefighters were wildland firefighters, including two federal wildland contract firefighters, one state forestry supervisor, and one seasonal state wildland firefighter.

As in most years, heart attacks were the leading cause of death of firefighters in 2025, accounting for 45 fatalities. Twenty-seven of these deaths occurred while the firefighters were on duty; 18 occurred within 24 hours of duty. The on-duty heart attack victims included 16 career firefighters, eight volunteer firefighters, and three wildland firefighters. Volunteer firefighters accounted for 16 of the 18 heart attacks within 24 hours of duty.

“Sudden cardiac death remains a critical concern among firefighters. Fitness programs, annual medical evaluations, and medical monitoring continued to serve as preventative measures that support cardiac health for all firefighters and should be prioritized,” said Campbell. “It’s important to note that predominance of sudden cardiac deaths among volunteer firefighters within 24 hours of duty suggests the need for additional areas of intervention for this group.”

According to the study, age is an important risk factor for cardiac injury and an issue that is particularly relevant to the volunteer firefighter community.

“While education about symptoms of cardiac distress should be a component of risk reduction efforts for all firefighters, communicating these messages is of particular importance among volunteer firefighters, who may not return to the station following an alarm and may not have immediate access to medical treatment,” said Campbell.

Overexertion or strain injuries are regularly the leading cause of firefighter fatalities; they were responsible for 29 (45 percent of the total) of the on-duty firefighter deaths in 2025. An additional 13 fatal injuries (20 percent) were caused by crashes, while five firefighters (eight percent) sustained fatal injuries when they were caught or trapped in some way, and another five firefighters when they were struck by an object. Falls and assaults each caused four deaths. Two fatal injuries were contact-related, and three had an undetermined cause. All of the deaths within 24 hours of duty were considered to be overexertion or strain injuries.

Crash-related fatalities - the second-leading cause of fatal injuries in 2025 - represents another area of concern. Research has shown that driver error, excessive speed, lack of seatbelt use, inclement weather, and use of private vehicles are factors that are commonly associated with fatal crashes.

“Career and volunteer firefighters are increasingly called

upon to handle an ever-growing range of incidents in their communities, many of which present high-risk, high-stress situations,” said Jay Petrillo, research analyst at NFPA who co-authored the report with Campbell. “The data from this year’s study show that as the demands on career and volunteer firefighters continue to grow and evolve, the need for comprehensive injury prevention training and strategies remains critical.”

This firefighter fatal injuries study is made possible by the cooperation and assistance of the U.S. fire service, NIOSH, the United States Fire Administration, the Forest Service of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, the Bureau of Indian Affairs, and the Bureau of Land Management of the U.S. Department of the Interior.

For this release and other announcements about NFPA initiatives, research, and resources, please visit the NFPA press room.

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Commissioner rejects proposed rate increase from Fallon Community Health Plan, re-negotiated seven proposals to save \$72 million for 670,000 residents

Special to the Sun

Governor Maura Healey has announced that the Division of Insurance has negotiated down proposed rate increases from seven health insurers, saving Massachusetts residents and businesses a projected \$72 million in health care premiums for 2027.

The Division of Insurance re-negotiated lower rates with Blue Cross Blue Shield of Massachusetts HMO Blue, INC., Harvard Pilgrim Health Care,

Health New England, Mass General Brigham Health Plan, Tufts Health Public Plans, United Healthcare and WellSense Health Plan. These efforts will result in savings for the approximately 670,000 Massachusetts residents and businesses who are enrolled in these plans in the Massachusetts merged market.

Commissioner Michael Caljouw also rejected Fallon Community Health Plan's proposed 25.7% rate increase for being excessive and inconsistent with his responsibility to Massachu-

setts consumers and businesses. This disapproval is now subject to an administrative appeal process should the insurance company choose one.

"Massachusetts residents and businesses are already struggling with the high cost of health care. Nobody can afford massive increases in their health insurance premiums on top of that," said Governor Healey. "Commissioner Caljouw and his team are always looking for ways to lower people's costs – whether that's by capping co-pays and

deductibles or removing prior authorizations. Now, he's saving people tens of millions of dollars next year by negotiating with affordability as his focus."

Last year, Governor Healey signed legislation that increased the Division of Insurance's consideration of affordability during his review of the merged market rate filings. As a result, Commissioner Caljouw was able to initially save residents and businesses \$54 million in 2026 by re-negotiating rate increases.

Governor Healey has also taken action to cap health care co-pays and deductibles for the first time in Massachusetts history, and further lowered that cap this year to save people an estimated average of \$232 per year. She also eliminated prior authorization requirements for many routine and essential health care services, reducing delays and administrative costs for patients and providers, and prohibited medical debt from appearing on consumer credit reports.

Cambridge Breast Center earns national recognition for patient care

Special to the Sun

Cambridge Health Alliance (CHA), a community health system serving Cambridge, Somerville, and Boston's metro-north communities, has received a three-year reaccreditation from the National Accreditation Program for Breast Centers (NAPBC), a program of the American College of Surgeons.

Programs accredited by the NAPBC follow a model that facilitates multidisciplinary, integrated, and comprehensive breast cancer services. The NAPBC focuses on the spectrum of a patient's journey with breast cancer or breast disease, including prevention, screening, treatment, and survivorship. By setting high standards, NAPBC accreditation guides breast centers in providing comprehensive breast care based on the best available scientific evidence.

NAPBC accreditation shows that the Cambridge Breast Center meets the highest national standards for breast care. Following a rigorous survey process, the center was recognized for providing comprehensive breast care, access to the latest treatment options, a multidisciplinary approach to care, oppor-

tunities for clinical trial participation, and patient education and support services.

CHA was the first program in Massachusetts to receive accreditation in 2009, and has consistently been reaccredited during each cycle since. "Maintaining any NAPBC accreditation reflects the Cambridge Breast Center's commitment to delivering high-quality evidence-based and compassionate breast care," said Michelle Haslinger, MD, director of the Cambridge Breast Center. "National accreditation reinforces the importance of multidisciplinary collaboration, continuous quality improvement, and adherence to regular standards. This helps ensure that our patients receive comprehensive care—from screening and diagnosis through treatment and survivorship—from a team dedicated to achieving the best possible outcomes."

In addition to having a NAPBC-accredited Breast Center, CHA is also an ACS Surgical Quality Partner. Being a Surgical Quality Partner signifies dedication to consistently improving procedures and approaches, while maintaining a critical eye on process at every step. Patients can trust that the care

they receive at Surgical Quality Partner hospitals adheres to the most rigorous standards in surgical quality.

Cambridge Health Alliance is an academic community health system committed to providing high-quality care in Boston's metro-north communities. It includes two acute care hospital campuses, an inpatient child and adolescent psychiatry specialty campus, a network of primary care and specialty practices, and robust community programs through its regional Department of Community Health and the Cambridge Public Health Department. As the sole public hospital in Massachusetts, CHA has expertise in primary care, specialty care, and mental health and substance use services, as well as caring for diverse and complex populations. Its patients have seamless access to advanced care through system affiliations with Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center and Mass General Brigham for Children. CHA is a Harvard Medical School Teaching Hospital and is also affiliated with the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health, Harvard School of Dental Medicine, and Tufts University School of Medicine.

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Self Storage Sale

Please take notice Trunk Space Storage - Boston located at 235 N. Beacon Street, Boston, MA, 02135 intends to hold an auction to sell the goods stored by the following tenants at the storage facility. The sale will occur as an online auction via www.storage-treasures.com on 8/20/2026 at 11:00AM. Unless stated otherwise the description of the contents are household goods, furnishings and garage essentials. Mohamed Ahmed; Lynn Camargo; Paulino Ambiorix; Alan Tanner; Edwin Gonzalez. All property is being stored at the above self-storage facility. This sale may be withdrawn at any time without notice. Certain terms and conditions apply. See manager for details.

6/26, 7/3 TBS

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