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JP HISTORY SPECIAL SECTION — PAGES 4 AND 5

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Jamaica Plain GAZETTE

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WELCOME TO THE NEIGHBORHOOD, JADU COFFEE SHOP

MAYOR'S OFFICE PHOTOS BY MIKE MEJIA

On Jan. 13, Segun Idowu and Alia Forrest, of the Office of Economic Opportunity and Inclusion held a ribbon cutting ceremony for Jadu, a coffee shop located at 767 Centre St. in JP. Jadu was recipient of a SPACE grant. The SPACE (Supporting Pandemic Affected Community Enterprises) Grant Program in Boston prioritizes helping small businesses, with a priority for industries that were most affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. These prioritized businesses include, but are not limited to: food service and production, restaurants, childcare, repair and maintenance and laundry services (i.e., laundromats, dry cleaning), retail, art, entertainment, creative economy, and fitness, wellness (including spas and salons), and recreation.



Mayor Wu, Healey-Driscoll Admin. announce plan to protect affordable housing at The Forbes Building

SPECIAL TO GAZETTE

Mayor Michelle Wu and the Healey-Driscoll Administration last week announced a significant step forward in the preservation and rehabilitation of the

Forbes Building, a major 147-unit rental property in Jamaica Plain. Originally built in 1976 with funding from the Massachusetts Housing Finance Agency's 13A mortgage program, the property has been a vital source

of affordable housing for nearly 50 years. The announcement underscores the City and State's commitment to protecting existing affordable housing while

Continued on page 2

BPDA Board okays Washington Street project

BY MICHAEL COUGHLIN JR.

A project that would bring a new building and several units to 3458 Washington Street was approved by the Boston Planning & Development Agency (BPDA) Board at a meeting last week.

The proposal includes the construction of a five-story building containing 36 units, eight of which are income-restricted at 30% to 70% area median income (AMI).

Additionally, the project is slated to contain around 800 square feet of ground-floor commercial space and seven parking spaces, one of which will be dedicated to a shared electric vehicle for building residents.

During last week's Board meeting, Jason McDonald, a Planner on the Planning Review team, outlined how the project aligns with the zoning in the area.

McDonald indicated that the project was designed to align with PLAN: JP/ROX; however, he did note that the plan had not been codified into zoning.

"Although the plan was not codified in zoning, it provides use, dimensional, and design

guidance for the proposed site and the local industrial zoning subdistrict," he said.

Regarding use, residential uses are forbidden in the local industrial zoning subdistrict — the zoning subdistrict where the site is located. However, McDonald stated that the use was consistent with what is recommended in PLAN: JP/ROX.

As for affordability, McDonald indicated the proposed eight income-restricted units align with the plan's recommendations and surpass the old inclusionary development policy (IDP) requirements.

Regarding dimensions, the project exceeds the height and floor area ratio (FAR) maximums under current zoning and complies with the yard and open space requirements. However, McDonald mentioned the dimensions are consistent with PLAN: JP/ROX.

In terms of other aspects of the project, McDonald said, "The project will widen the sidewalks along Kenton [Road] and Washington [Street] pending public

Continued on page 3

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Forbes Building

Continued from page 1

making critical investments in sustainable, modernized living spaces for residents.

“For years, the Forbes Building has been an anchor in our community keeping long-time residents rooted in Jamaica Plain as civic leaders, activists, and neighbors,” said Mayor Michelle Wu. “I’m delighted and grateful to join Governor Healey and her administration in marking a big step toward the stability that we have been fighting for here. Preserving the affordability of these housing units means not only protecting the stability of these residents, but also the vitality of our larger community.”

“As we work to create more housing across the state and lower costs for Massachusetts residents, we must also work to preserve the affordable housing we already have,” said Governor Healey. “We’re grateful to Mayor Wu and her team for their strong partnership to ensure that the nearly 150 families who call the Forbes building home can continue to afford to live there.”

“From day one, housing has been a top priority for our administration,” said Lieutenant

Governor Driscoll. “That means not only creating new pathways to affordability but ensuring people continue to have access to affordable housing.”

The Forbes Building is currently at risk of being converted to market-rate housing as the ownership, led by The Jamaica Plain Company, nears the expiration of its general partnership in 2026. The building’s conversion to market-rate housing could have displaced more than 100 low-income residents. Recognizing the urgent need for action, the Mayor’s Office of Housing (MOH), in collaboration with the Executive Office of Housing and Livable Communities (EOHLC) and the Community Economic Development Assistance Corporation (CEDAC), have been working with the owner to develop a long-term solution.

The plan for the Forbes Building includes a comprehensive refinancing and rehabilitation strategy aimed at ensuring long-term affordability and enhancing the property’s sustainability and livability for residents. Key elements of the plan include:

- Establishing long-term affordability for current and future residents, with \$11 million in soft debt financing and \$7 million in LIHTC awarded by EOHLC, along with \$10 million

in City funding.

- Buying out the limited partnership interests to prevent conversion to market-rate housing.

• A 24-month rehabilitation project will significantly upgrade the building and its units while minimizing disruption to residents. Temporary accommodations within the building will ensure no residents are displaced during construction.

- Achieving passive house sustainability standards through extensive updates, including exterior cladding, new heating and cooling systems, and improved ventilation.

• Adding green space to the property by reducing parking, creating a Zipcar system for residents, along with the development of a food forest to provide fresh food and programming.

- Upgrading all units with energy-efficient appliances, new flooring, and modern fixtures.

• Activating common spaces to foster community engagement.

- 110 Massachusetts rental vouchers are available for residents of the building.

“Together, the City and the State, working closely with nonprofit partners and the residents of the Forbes Building, have come together to preserve this important Boston asset as

affordable housing for decades to come,” said Sheila A. Dillon, Chief of Housing and Director of the Mayor’s Office of Housing. “This partnership preserves the tenancies of many vulnerable residents while also allowing for vital improvements to the property that will enhance the quality of life for current and future residents.”

“The Executive Office of Housing and Livable Communities is proud to partner with the city of Boston in preserving the affordability of these 147 units,” said Secretary of the Executive Office of Housing and Livable Communities Ed Augustus. “We are committed to using every tool in our toolbox to ensure that places like the Forbes Apartments remain an affordable place for people to call home.”

The Forbes’ residents have organized and worked closely with the Mass Alliance of HUD Tenants to ensure that the property remained affordable and resident voices were heard throughout the process.

“We are thrilled that the Forbes Building has been approved for 110 low income rent subsidies,” said David Nollman, a leader of the Forbes Building Tenants Association and Board member of the Mass Alliance of HUD Tenants. “This will achieve our long-standing goal to save our homes as mixed income housing affordable to current and future elderly or disabled households. We thank Mayor Wu and Governor Healy for their critical leadership and support.”

“We are delighted that the resources committed by the Commonwealth and the City will preserve long-term affordability of all 147 units at the Forbes building, which has been home to many residents who are elderly or individuals with disabilities. The proposed rehabilitation will also ensure critical climate and sustainability goals are met to Passive House standards. CEDAC has been proud to partner with the Executive Office of Housing and Livable Communities and the Mayor’s Office of Housing in this collaborative effort and recognizes the hard work of the tenant association, whose consistent advocacy led to this positive preservation outcome,” said Roger Herzog, Executive Director, CEDAC.

Today’s announcement is a major step in making Boston a city for everyone. Mayor Wu has focused on making Boston

more affordable for all residents since she assumed office. The Wu administration has created more affordable housing than in a generation, ensured more families become homeowners than ever before, and implemented policies to reduce home energy costs for residents over time. This plan, in partnership with the State, builds on Mayor Wu’s new innovative initiatives to address housing affordability across neighborhoods and keep residents in their communities. Mayor Michelle Wu today introduced an expanded residential tax relief package aimed at providing financial assistance to Boston residents impacted by sharp increases in their Fiscal Year 2025 third-quarter property tax bills that were sent out on January 1st. This refiling expands on Mayor Wu’s relief package that passed the City Council and House of Representatives last year. Last month, Mayor Wu filed an \$110 million appropriation with the City Council to create the City’s Housing Accelerator Fund, a new fund aimed at kickstarting production of housing by closing financing gaps for approved projects.

The Healey-Driscoll Administration has also made housing a top priority, starting with the creation of the Executive Office of Housing and Livable Communities in 2023. Since then, the administration has initiated a comprehensive approach that includes passage of the Affordable Homes Act, implementation of the MBTA Communities Law and sizable increases in housing tax credits and subsidies, making this project possible. The \$5.12 billion Affordable Homes Act, in addition to record spending authorizations on housing, created nearly 50 new policy initiatives, including authorizing accessory dwelling units under 900 square feet by right, creating a Seasonal Communities designation and the creation of a commercial property conversion program.





City of Boston
Planning
Department

VIRTUAL PUBLIC MEETING

FEB

6

6:00 PM - 8:00 PM

ROGERSON-BEAUFORT

Register: bit.ly/40y57Nf

Toll Free: (833) 568 - 8864

Meeting ID: 161 875 8189



DESCRIPTION:
Rogerson Communities is proposing a two-phased redevelopment of the 3.2-acre site located on the Jamaica Way. The first phase of development will occur while the existing Assisted Living community and Social Day program remain fully operational. On an undeveloped portion at the rear of the property, the Rogerson-Beaufort project will develop a single building that will replace the memory care community and the Social Day program and will add affordable housing for seniors. In the first phase, we are planning 67 affordable independent living senior apartments that will benefit from Rogerson Communities’ full offerings of supportive services for seniors.

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Close of Public Comment Period:
2/13/2025

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Teresa Polhemus, Executive Director/Secretary

Wu announces 2025 Day of Celebration in honor of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

SPECIAL TO THE GAZETTE

Mayor Michelle Wu announced that in partnership with Boston University, the City of Boston will present "A Day of Celebration in Honor of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr." on Saturday, January 25 at 12:00 p.m. at Metcalf Hall on the second floor of the George Sherman Union at Boston University, located at 775 Commonwealth Avenue in Boston. The event will be live-streamed on <https://www.bu.edu/thurman/programs/mlk-day-2025/>, and air on Boston City TV, Comcast/Xfinity: channel 26, RCN: channel 13, and Fios: channel 962.

"As we reflect on Dr. King's unwavering commitment to equity, justice, and unity, Boston lifts up our special connection to Dr. King and the tangible impact he left here with a legacy we continue to strive for. His dreams and values set the stan-

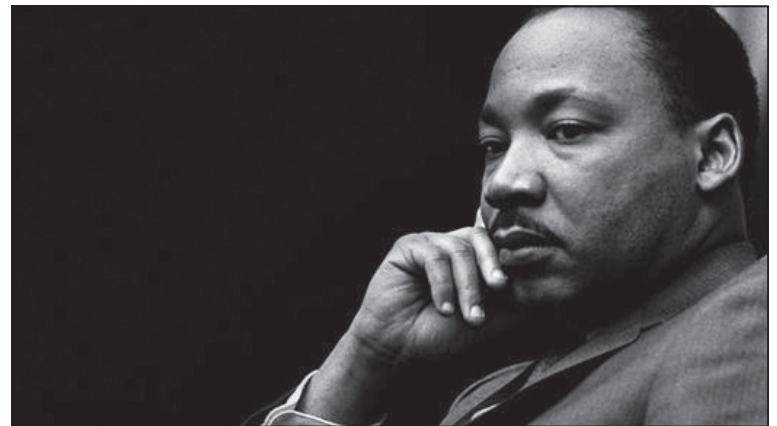
dard for building a city where every voice is heard and every community is empowered," said Mayor Michelle Wu. "Thank you to Boston University for your partnership in celebrating the Kings' legacy, honoring their impact, and allowing us to reaffirm our dedication to creating a more inclusive and prosperous city for all our residents."

This year's program will include remarks from the President of Boston University Dr. Melissa L. Gilliam, and a keynote conversation with author and poet Cole Arthur Riley facilitated by Boston University's Dr. Shively T.J. Smith, the director of the Doctor of Philosophy program at the School of Theology. Riley is the author of the New York Times bestsellers, *This Here Flesh: Spirituality, Liberation, and the Stories That Make Us* and *Black Liturgies: Prayers, Poems, and Meditations for Staying Human*.

Her writing has been featured in *The Atlantic*, *Guernica*, and *The Washington Post*. Cole is also the creator and writer of *Black Liturgies*, a project that integrates spiritual practice with Black emotion, Black literature, and the Black body.

The program will also include readings from Boston residents attending Boston University and musical selections performed by the Hamilton-Garrett Youth Choir.

"Martin Luther King, Jr. is one of Boston University's most esteemed alumni," said Boston University President Melissa Gilliam. "Dr. King championed communities rooted in equity and belonging, where conflict is resolved peacefully, through dialogue and reconciliation. These ideals are ones that we aspire to emulate here at Boston University. We are honored to celebrate Dr. King's legacy with the City



Martin Luther King, Jr.

of Boston, and we will continue to work closely with Mayor Wu and her office to help further his commitment to human dignity."

In previous years, leaders such as Mayor Michelle Wu, U.S. Representative Ayanna Pressley, Beverly Morgan-Welch, Sonia Sanchez, Dr. Alvin Pous-saint, Ernest Green of the Little Rock Nine, Judy Richardson of Eyes on the Prize, and civil

rights activist and filmmaker Topper Carew served as keynote speakers. Governor Deval Patrick, Chief Justice Roderick Ireland, Boston Poet Laureates Sam Cornish, Danielle Legros Georges, Porsha Olayiwola, and WGBH Radio host Eric Jackson are among those who have served as readers in previous years.

BPDA

Continued from page 1

improvement commission review, construct a raised crosswalk across Kenton, and close curb cuts along Washington."

Later, Philip Sima, the project architect, outlined plans, elevations, renderings, a shadow study, and more. He also spoke about other aspects of the proposal, such as plans to introduce new street trees in the area.

Following Sima's presentation, City Councilor Ben Weber expressed his support for the project. He cited the developer's work with abutters who are now supporting the proposal, the number of income-restricted units, and the alignment with PLAN: JP/ROX as reasons for his support.

After a few BPDA Board Members commented, complimenting the developer and the project, the proposal was unanimously approved.

To view a recording of the presentation to the BPDA Board and the decision, visit <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=F-N8s-31YOvY> and skip to 1:24:30.

JP CHILDREN'S SOCCER

For kids 3.5-6.5. Online Registration is NOW OPEN

Volunteers needed to assure our ability to hold a Spring 2025! See details on our website at <https://bit.ly/jpcsoccer>

Regular season registration ends on April 18, 2025

The Spring season runs from Wednesday April 30th through Sunday June 29th, 2025

Registration costs \$25.00 — discounts are available.

The spring season is 8 weeks long, every week we hold one 45 min practice for each team, with available sessions on Wednesdays at 4pm, Saturdays at 9, 10 or 11am or Sunday at 10am.

Volunteer Activity Leaders are needed to support every team - no experience needed! See our Website for more details or contact us directly at: contact@jpchildrensoccer.org.

Para niños 3.5-6.5. El registro en línea ya está abierto en <https://bit.ly/jpcsoccer>

El registro de la temporada regular finaliza el 18 de Abril de 2025

La temporada de primavera se extiende desde el miércoles el 30 de Abril hasta domingo el 29 de Junio de 2025.

La inscripción cuesta \$25.00 — hay descuentos disponibles.

La temporada de primavera tiene una duración de 8 semanas, cada semana realizamos una práctica de 45 minutos para cada equipo, con sesiones disponibles los miércoles a las 4 p.m., los sábados a las 9, 10 & 11 a.m., o los domingos a las 10 a.m.

Necesitamos líderes voluntarios para apoyar a cada equipo, ¡no se necesita experiencia! Visite nuestro sitio web para obtener más detalles o contáctenos directamente en: contact@jpchildrensoccer.org.

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JP HISTORY

Former Jamaica Plain Post Office for sale

SPECIAL TO THE GAZETTE

At 74 Green Street -at the corner of Green and Cheshire-

stands a one-story brick and frame building close to the street. Its façade is mostly unassuming,

the repurposed face punctuated with an unmarked door.

Begun in 1908, 74 Green was built to house both a retail store and the new location for the Jamaica Plain Post Office. When, in the early 20s, the post office made its final move to Centre Street, the space was taken over by the Shawmut Paper Box Company.

Cardboard boxes were popularized just before the turn of the century and mercantile companies were now in need of what today seems almost like a pestilence. Cardboard boxes are now everywhere, from our front porches to our attics. It was no surprise that large companies took over their manufacture and the Shawmut Paper Box Company closed.

In the late 1970s, two artists living in an apartment on Green Street, noticed the building was for sale and bought it. Their vision of building a recording studio would be realized over the ensuing years.

Janice Weber, fiction writer and concert pianist of international acclaim, had made a name for herself by performing one of the most difficult classical pieces, Liszt's Nocturnal Concertos. Catching the attention of John Newton, they soon became life partners.

John Newton, a sound engineer and inventor, was a major participant in the conversion of sound recording from analog to digital. He and his studio, Soundmirror, have recorded and mastered the most renowned symphony orchestras from around the world. In so doing they have won many Grammys and an Emmy and were nominated for many more.



The Old Jamaica Plain Post Office.



74-76 Green St. at Cheshire Street.



A look into the apartment.



A view inside the apartment.



The sound studio.

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JP HISTORY

A Brief Accounting of the history of Jamaica Plain

BY GAZETTE STAFF

Jamaica Plain, often affectionately called “JP,” is a vibrant and diverse neighborhood in southwest Boston with a rich tapestry of history stretching back to the colonial era. From its roots as a rural hamlet to its evolution into a bustling urban neighborhood, Jamaica Plain has played an integral role in Greater Boston’s development.

Early Settlement and Colonial Roots

The area now known as Jamaica Plain was first settled by English colonists in the 1630s as part of the town of Roxbury. Its name, “Jamaica Plain,” is subject to various folk etymologies. Some historians believe it could be derived from “Jamaica End,” referencing local agricultural ties to the Caribbean rum trade. Others point to early landholders who were associated with West Indian commerce. Despite uncertain origins, the name “Jamaica Plain” gradually came into common usage by the late 17th century.

Agricultural Community

During the colonial period, the neighborhood’s fertile soil made it a center for small-scale farming and orchards. These family farms provided goods such as fruits, vegetables, and dairy products that supplied nearby markets in Roxbury and Boston proper. The rolling landscape, coupled with the presence of what is now known as Jamaica Pond, ensured abundant natural resources for its early inhabitants.

Rise of Country Estates and 19th-Century Development

By the late 18th and early

19th centuries, Jamaica Plain’s idyllic setting and proximity to Boston began to attract wealthy Bostonians. Influential families built country estates where they could spend summers away from the crowded city. Stately mansions and expansive gardens dotted the pastoral landscape, laying the foundation for a more residential character.

As the 19th century progressed, improvements in transportation hastened Jamaica Plain’s shift from farmland to a streetcar suburb. The extension of rail lines and horse-drawn streetcar routes connected JP to Boston’s commercial heart, making it accessible for commuters. With faster travel times, large estates gave way to subdivisions, and the neighborhood grew more densely populated.

Jamaica Plain, which was part of the town of West Roxbury after it separated from Roxbury in 1851, was annexed to the City of Boston in 1874. This administrative change brought modern municipal services to Jamaica Plain and solidified its status as an integral part of the growing metropolis.

The Emerald Necklace and Green Spaces

One of Jamaica Plain’s most distinctive features is its green space, shaped significantly by landscape architect Frederick

Law Olmsted in the late 19th century. Olmsted designed Boston’s “Emerald Necklace”—a connected system of parks and waterways intended to provide urban dwellers with accessible natural refuges. In Jamaica Plain, this included scenic roads like the Jamaica Way and the conservation of Jamaica Pond as a key recreational asset.

Jamaica Pond is the largest body of fresh water in Boston. A glacial kettle pond, it has served many roles over the centuries: as a source of ice in the 19th century, a popular site for boating and fishing, and a focal point for community events. Its clear waters and tree-lined shores remain a cherished local landmark.

Diverse Communities and Social Activism

Over the 20th century, Jamaica Plain became home to various immigrant communities, adding linguistic and cultural diversity to the neighborhood’s fabric. Irish, German, and Italian immigrants settled in the area in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. Later, Latin American immigrants, particularly from the Caribbean and Central America, arrived, bringing vibrant cultural traditions and influencing local businesses and restaurants.

Jamaica Plain has long been known for its tradition of civic

engagement and social activism. In the mid-to-late 20th century, residents led grassroots efforts to protect green spaces, advocate for affordable housing, and preserve the neighborhood’s distinct character. Local organizations championed improvements to public transit and infrastructure, helping maintain the neighborhood’s livability and charm.

Today, Jamaica Plain balances its historical legacy with a contemporary sense of community. Stately Victorian homes, brick rowhouses, and triple-deckers share streets with modern developments, reflecting centu-

ries of architectural and social change. The neighborhood’s lively commercial corridors—Centre Street, South Street, and others—showcase independent shops, restaurants, and cultural institutions that draw visitors from around Boston.

Jamaica Plain’s rich history is woven into everyday life: residents still stroll through Olmsted’s parks, gather at the pond for festivals, and enjoy the fruits of community activism. At every turn, one can see the layers of time that have shaped Jamaica Plain into one of Boston’s most unique and beloved neighborhoods.

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MassDOT, consultants begin study process for potential Tobin Bridge replacement

BY ADAM SWIFT

The Tobin Bridge is not going to disappear any time soon, but MassDOT has begun the process of studying potential future replacement options for the bridge.

Last week, MassDOT and its team of consultants held its second working group meeting at the Charlestown Library on its plans for the Maurice J. Tobin Bridge Long-Term Strategic Planning Study.

The study aims to develop and analyze options for the eventual replacement of the Tobin Bridge, while also exploring alternatives for the bridge, according to MassDOT officials. The study will focus on ways to reconnect surrounding communities in Chelsea and Charlestown.

Public and working group meetings on the long-term study are expected to take place over the next 18 months, with the draft and final reports anticipated to be released in the summer of 2026.

During the working group meeting, MassDOT officials and consultants reviewed the current conditions of the Tobin Bridge, as well as discussed the goals of the study.

“We are taking a holistic point of view with this study, and I want to emphasize that equity is an overarching focus of the study as well ... as we consider long-term potential changes to the Tobin Bridge to reconnect communities and consider how these elements of the transportation network itself tie into the surrounding community,” said MassDOT project manager Patrick Snyder.

Mike Regan, the project manager for the study from engineering firm VHB said nine evaluation criteria have been selected to measure the effectiveness of any recommendations that come as a result of the study. Those criteria include social equity, mobility and accessibility for transportation modes, safety for roadway users, economic and land use impacts, climate change resilience and mitigation, health and environmental effects, cost and cost effectiveness, and feasibility of construction.

A detailed assessment of the existing conditions has been completed to help set the stage for a future conditions analysis, said Regan.

“We’ve completed a really detailed and exhaustive existing

details assessment, especially for transportation and mobility that includes traffic patterns, traffic operation, safety, ... and transit conditions, locally and regionally,” said Regan.

A study of the current land use in the areas near the bridge shows that there is a critical need for housing, along with a pandemic-weekend office market, an oversupply of lab space, and urban development around transit hubs, said Jon Tremontozzi, and land use and economic development consultant.

Niki Hastings of VHB said the study of the existing transportation conditions of the Tobin Bridge and Chelsea and Charlestown show that active transportation facilities do not extend into neighboring communities. She also noted that the existing Tobin Bridge lacks sidewalk and bicycle facilities, creating a significant gap in the regional pedestrian and bicycle networks. Hastings said the Tobin Bridge is a vital regional corridor and part of a larger system that serves commuter populations between the North Shore and Boston. The majority of the vehicle trips are from or to Route 1 North of Route 16, Hastings added.



PHOTO BY ARNIE JARMAK

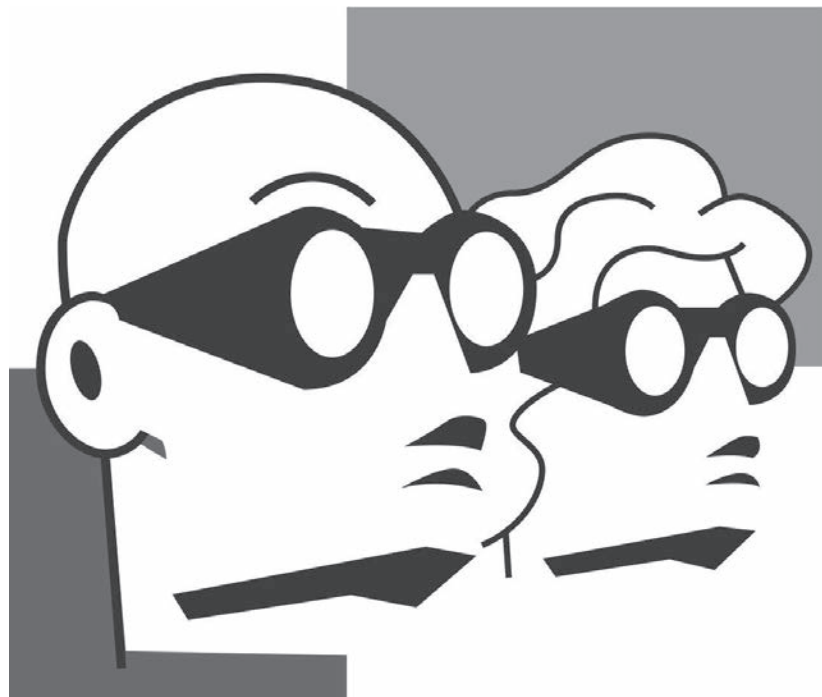
The Tobin Bridge as seen from the streets of Chelsea during the Blizzard of 1978.

There are congestion and travel time reliability issues, especially southbound, where 43 percent of trips from the Tobin Bridge are destined for I-93, according to the analysis. In addition, much of the local study area in Chelsea experiences higher crash rates in comparison to the region. Charlestown State Representative Dan Ryan noted that the lack of a direct connection to Rte. 93 North on the Tobin has been a major issue in his district for decades. “It doesn’t matter what signs you put on the other side of the North Washington Bridge, human na-

ture is that people will not drive south to go north,” said Ryan. “You can put all the signs in the world you want, people are just not going to do that.” Ryan said any alternative needs to have an option to get people who are on the other side of the North Washington Bridge to have access to 93 North and South. As a long-term strategic planning study, the consultants said the key next step is to project the existing conditions to a 2050 future condition, with alternatives

Continued on page 9

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Marvin Mathelier announces campaign for Boston City Council At-Large

SPECIAL TO THE GAZETTE

Marvin Mathelier, a Marine Corps veteran, small business owner in Jamaica Plain, and community advocate, has officially announced his candi-

dacy for Boston City Council At-Large. With a campaign focused on affordable housing, improving public schools, and public safety, Mathelier will bring bold, long-term solutions to the challenges facing Boston's neighborhoods.

"I'm not a politician—I'm a Marine, a small business owner, and a father who understands the struggles Boston families face every day," said Mathelier. "From skyrocketing rents to unsafe streets and underfunded

schools, our city needs leadership that puts people first, not special interests. I'm running to ensure that every Bostonian has the opportunity to thrive."

Marvin's career in the Marine Corps took him to Afghanistan in 2010, and more recently across Latin America and the Caribbean. He co-owns Ula Café in Jamaica Plain, where he creates jobs and fosters community connections. Most recently, Marvin served as Deputy Chief Engagement Officer at the Massachusetts Executive Office of Veterans Services, where he worked to help veterans access benefits and resources, ranging from housing to health care.

Born in New York and raised in a family of immigrants, Mathelier's life has been defined by service. He earned a Bachelor of Arts in Criminal Justice from Norwich University, an MBA from Loyola University Chicago Quinlan School of Business, and a Master of Public Administration from Columbia University School of International and Public Affairs.

Mathelier lives in Roxbury

with his wife, Beth, and their 3 children.

Mathelier's campaign will emphasize the need for collaboration and integrity in addressing Boston's most pressing issues. His priorities include:

- Making Boston Affordable: Tackling rising rents and creating more affordable housing.
- Fixing Our Schools: Ensuring every child has access to quality education.
- Safer Streets: Addressing violence and prioritizing public safety for all.

Mathelier's deep commitment to Boston stems from his belief that every resident deserves a fair shot at success. "Boston is a city of promise and potential," he said. "But too many families feel left behind. Together, we can build a stronger, better Boston where everyone has a voice."

For more information about Marvin Mathelier's campaign, visit <https://marvinforboston.com>. Follow the campaign on most social media platforms at @MarvinForBoston.



Marvin Mathelier with his wife, Beth, and their three children.

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MFS PRO-AM SQUASH DOUBLES CHAMPIONSHIP

DEREK KOUOYUMJIAN PHOTOS

Top men and women squash players from all over the world came to the University Club in Back Bay to compete in the 33rd annual MFS Pro-Am Squash Doubles Championship January 8-12. Spectators who attended

the five-day event were witnesses to some of the best squash playing. A special feature of the tournament, is that many local amateur squash players were privileged to play with the pros.



Lauren West is ready to hit the ball.



The winning team in the Men's Finals was James Stout and Scott Arnold.



The winning team of Maria Elena Ubina and Kayley Leonard holding the Leonard Bernheimer Trophy.



The champions of the ProAm were Ashley Davies and Will Ahmed.



Dedicated sponsor of the tournament Amrit Kanwal (center) Executive Vice President MFS Investment Management with James Stout and Scott Arnold.

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Sign the petition for an independent investigation



Tobin Bridge

Continued from page 6

for the bridge replacement being evaluated using those conditions. Part of those conditions include determining major planned infrastructure projects and transit service improvements in place by 2050 based on available documentation.

Those potential projects will then set the baseline for the alternatives that are considered, according to the consultants.

Revere City Councilor Ira Novoselsky questioned why the study area for the existing conditions did not extend north to Copeland Circle in Revere. He stated that the noise level and environmental factors from the traffic affect residents in the city. Regan stated that there are both local and regional study areas for the project, with the local study area focusing on Chelsea and Charlestown, and the regional area extending out into Revere and other communities.

“The reason we didn’t do the in-depth existing conditions analysis ... for the entire regional study area is because our likely Tobin Bridge alternative will likely not extend that far north,” said Regan. “We are talking about what to do about future replacement of the bridge and extending that type of infrastructure that far north is not anticipated, so we did not do that analysis up to that area.”

The future analysis also includes looking at demographic growth and environmental factors, Snyder said.

One of the goals of the working group, Snyder said, is to discuss options for four key future considerations, including future roadway and transit conditions, the future travel demand forecast, future land use and demographic projects, and future climate change and sea level rise forecast.

Chelsea Deputy Director of Housing and Community Development Emily Granoff said she would like to have further conversations about the initial future housing demand demographic analysis. She added that the city is working on a comprehensive planning process that

will also touch upon some of the analysis within the Tobin Bridge study.

When it comes to future sea level rise and climate change, the consultants stated that the future preliminary design will determine exact bridge height based on a combination of sea level rise, storm surge, and required marine vessel height clearances. “We’re establishing baselines, future baselines for analysis and comparison,” said Regan. “The next step is really brainstorming and coming up with alternatives and building those with the working group and really refining that.”

The next working group and public meeting on the study is anticipated for the late spring/early summer, Snyder said.

“We are anticipating that this study is going to run into the summer of 2026, when we hope

to present our results and findings and recommendations as well as the summary,” he said.

WILLIAM RAVEIS



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Please include address and telephone number for verification purposes. Anonymous letters will not be published.

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7/11 Sstore.....	415 Center / Huntingtin Ave.	The Mission Pub.....	724 Huntington Ave.
Citgo Gas Station.....	914 Huntington Ave.	Stop & Shop.....	Tremont & Huntington
Nann's Hair Braiding.....	901 Huntintgton Ave.	Walgreens.....	Tremont & Huntington
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Levinson Bldg.....	835 Huntington Avenue	Bank Of America.....	Tremont & Huntington
Neville Building.....	Huntington Avenue	Citizens Bank.....	Tremont & Huntington
Rob.ther.parks Comm.bldg	Mission Park Drive	Puddingston Tavenen.....	1592 Tremont St.
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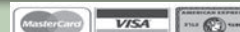
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LEGAL NOTICES

LEGAL NOTICE
COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS THE TRIAL COURT PROBATE AND FAMILY COURT Suffolk Probate And Family Court 24 New Chardon St. Boston, MA 02114 CITATION GIVING NOTICE OF PETITION TO EXPAND THE POWERS OF A GUARDIAN Docket No. SU19P1427GD In the Interests of: Louise E. Murray Of: Jamaica Plain, MA RESPONDENT Incapacitated Person/Protected Person

To the named Respondent and all other interested persons, a petition has been filed by George E. Murray, III of Boston, MA, Lutheran Home of Jamaica Plain of Jamaica Plain, MA in the above captioned matter requesting that the court: Expand the powers of a Guardian The petition asks the court to make a determination that the powers of the Guardian and/or Conservator should be expanded, modified, or limited since the time of the appointment. The original petition is on file with the court.

You have the right to object to this proceeding. If you wish to do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance at this court on or before 10:00 A.M. on the return date of 02/12/2025. This day is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline date by which you have to file the written appearance if you object to the petition. If you fail to file the written appearance by the return date, action may be taken in this matter without further notice to you. In addition to filing the written appearance, you or your attorney must

file a written affidavit stating the specific facts and grounds of your objection within 30 days after the return date. IMPORTANT NOTICE The outcome of this proceeding may limit or completely take away the above-named person's right to make decisions about personal affairs or financial affairs or both. The above-named person has the right to ask for a lawyer. Anyone may make this request on behalf of the above-named person. If the above-named person cannot afford a lawyer, one may be appointed at State expense.

WITNESS, Hon. Brian J. Dunn, First Justice of this Court. Date: January 15, 2025 Stephanie L. Everett Register of Probate 1/24 JP

LEGAL NOTICE
CITATION GIVING NOTICE OF PETITION FOR APPOINTMENT OF GUARDIAN FOR INCAPACITATED PERSON PURSUANT TO G.L. c. 190B, Section 5-304 Docket No. SU25P0013GD Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court

Suffolk Probate and Family Court 24 New Chardon Street Boston MA, 02114 In the matter of: Stephen Walker of: Jamaica Plain, MA RESPONDENT Alleged Incapacitated Person To the named Respondent and all other interested persons, a petition has been filed by Mass. Dept. Of Mental Health of Westborough, MA in the above captioned matter alleging that Stephen Walker is in need of a Guardian and requesting that (or some other suitable person) be appointed as Guardian to serve on

the bond. The petition asks the court to determine that the Respondent is incapacitated, that the appointment of a Guardian is necessary, and that the proposed Guardian is appropriate. The petition is on file with this court and may contain a request for certain specific authority. You have the right to object to this proceeding. If you wish to do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance at this court on or before 10:00 AM on the return date of 1/30/2025. This day

is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline date by which you have to file the written appearance if you object to the petition. If you fail to file the written appearance by the return date, action may be taken in this matter without further notice to you. In addition to filing the written appearance, you or your attorney must file a written affidavit stating the specific facts and grounds of your objection within 30 days after the return date. IMPORTANT NOTICE The outcome of this proceeding may limit or completely take away

the above-named person's right to make decisions about personal affairs or financial affairs or both. The above-named person has the right to ask for a lawyer. Anyone may make this request on behalf of the above-named person. If the above-named person cannot afford a lawyer, one may be appointed at State expense. WITNESS, Hon. Brian J. Dunn, First Justice of this Court. Date: January 3, 2025 Stephanie Everett, Register of Probate 1/24/25 JP

Professor Dr. Zebulon Miletsky delivers main address at MLK Breakfast in Everett

BY CARY SHUMAN

Returning to his Boston roots, Dr. Zebulon Miletsky was the guest speaker at the 19th Annual Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Scholarship Breakfast Jan. 20 at the Edward G. Connolly Center in Everett.

Dr. Miletsky, who grew up in Jamaica Plain, is an associate professor in the Department of Africana Studies at Stony Brook University (New York) specializing in recent African American history. He is the author of the book, "Before Busing: A History of Boston's Long Black Freedom Struggle" that was published in 2022.

At the breakfast, which was sponsored by the Zion Church Ministries, Miletsky delivered an inspiring speech about Dr. King, the outstanding civil rights leader, statesman, and orator. A charismatic educator and highly regarded writer and public speaker, Miletsky drew a warm and sustained ovation for his address to the gathering of area residents, state and city officials, and students.

Following his remarks, Dr. Miletsky recalled his early days in the Jamaica Plain neighborhood.

"I grew up in the Day Street/Hyde Square neighborhood – we were there since the early 1980s," said Miletsky. "My par-



Everett Mayor Carlo DeMaria (left) and Bishop Robert G. Brown of Zion Church Ministries (right) welcome Dr. Zebulon Miletsky to the 19th Annual Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. School Breakfast Jan. 20 in Everett. Dr. Zebulon, who grew up in Jamaica Plain, was the guest speaker at the event, drawing praise for his uplifting speech about Dr. King, the great civil rights leader for whom a federal holiday is observed on the third Monday of January each year.

ents are Marc Miletsky (who is deceased) and Veronica Anne Miletsky, whose maiden name was Deare and grew up in the South End. My father was from Brooklyn, New York. My mother is African American and my father's Jewish."

Miletsky attended Roxbury schools, the William Monroe Trotter Elementary School and the Phyllis Wheatley Middle School.

"The Wheatley School is no longer there but the Trotter is still there, and I have very good memories of the Trotter, especially, because that was a special school," related Miletsky. "My book is about the period leading up to busing, so it tells the history, and the book ends in 1974. That story continued

at the Trotter because that was a special, experimental school to implement a lot of the ideas about of desegregation. I didn't know that when I was a student there."

Miletsky has fond memories of the Jamaica Plain neighborhood.

"It's a very diverse neighborhood, and I had the benefit of having two cultures because there was a Spanish-speaking community there," said Miletsky. "It was a very close-knit community, and I enjoyed growing up in JP."

A graduate of Boston Technical High School, Miletsky holds an undergraduate degree from Boston College and a Ph.D from the University of Massachusetts Amherst.

Miletsky said he keeps in touch with his friends from Boston and he still has family living in the neighborhood. "A lot of my friends have done some great stuff in the Boston area," said Miletsky. "In fact, I'm staying with one of them who now lives in Hyde Park."

Miletsky, his wife, and their children reside in Brooklyn, a borough of New York City.

Miletsky's book about the Boston busing desegregation crisis has drawn acclaim from longtime Boston residents and book reviewers. Miletsky received the Civil Rights and Humanitarian Award for his book and social justice work at the Black Authors Festival in Sag Harbor, New York, in August, 2024.



Dr. Zebulon Miletsky (third from right) was the guest speaker at the Zion Church Ministries' 19th Annual Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Scholarship Breakfast Jan. 20 in Everett. Dr. Miletsky is pictured with Everett Mayor Carlo DeMaria and Bishop Robert G. Brown and other dignitaries at the breakfast.

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EDITORIAL

Our remarkably unremarkable weather

When the National Weather Service made its long-range forecast for the winter last fall, it was a good news/bad news scenario. They were predicting warmer-than-normal temperatures for our region, which was the good news (after all, who likes cold weather), but the bad news meant that this was further evidence of climate change and global warming. The past two winters in Eastern Mass. had been the warmest on record and that trend seemed poised to continue.

However, Ol' Man Winter has had other ideas. Instead of spinning his polar vortex in a nice tight loop around the North Pole (which keeps the cold air tightly-wound around the pole), he's been doing a sort of yo-yo effect with the vortex, allowing it to dip south and bring that frigid air to us.

The chronic instability of the polar vortex has been a relatively recent phenomenon. Climatologists tell us that the colder air that we experience when the vortex dips south ironically is a sign of overall global warming. The Arctic region has been among the fastest-warming places on the planet (four times faster than the rest of the world, which is why the polar bears don't have enough sea ice for hunting seals in the summer months) -- and that warming trend is upsetting the delicate balance of the vortex. According to some scientists, the warming Arctic is causing a weakening of the jet stream and ultimately sending cold air further south than usual.

So for us, what this has meant is that instead of having a warmer winter, we've had an unrelenting pattern of cold, dry, and windy days. This weekend's light snowfall notwithstanding, almost every day from the end of December through January has been pretty much the same -- temperatures in the 20s, brisk winds, and no precipitation. It's as if we're living a real-life version of the movie Groundhog Day. The only saving grace is that we've had lots of sunshine.

For those of us who have oil heat, prices thankfully are the lowest they've been in a few years, although natural gas prices are higher than in the recent past.

So yes, it would be nice if this winter were warmer -- but let's face it, as cold as the weather has been, it could be a lot worse (and yes, we're thinking of the Snowmageddon we experienced 10 years ago!).

This is the SAD-dest time of the year – so get outside

With the holiday season long in the rear-view mirror and the oppressiveness of a New England winter fully upon us, for many this can be the saddest time of the year -- quite literally. The medical community has long-recognized that the shortened days of winter affect all of us to a certain extent and have given it a name -- Seasonal Affective Disorder (SAD).

Scientists do not understand exactly how the lack of daylight works on our brains, but demonstrable symptoms of the syndrome include heightened anxiety, a decrease in energy, oversleeping, an increase in appetite, social withdrawal, and negative thoughts in general.

Treatments for SAD include light therapy (phototherapy), antidepressants, and vitamin D supplements, spending more time outside during daylight hours, and exercising regularly. In our personal experience, we've found the latter prescriptions -- exercising and going outside, even on the coldest days -- have proven the best antidote to winter's doldrums.

All of us can recall the exhilaration we felt as children when we went sledding, skating on a pond, and shoveling snow. Although we're a bit too old these days to do most of those things (plus, there's no snow anymore), we've found that taking on the wintry blasts that we've endured these past few weeks by jogging and walking (even when the wind chills are in the single digits) each and every day never fails to bring us that renewed sense of vitality that we experienced in our youth when we bravely embraced nature's harshest elements without a care.

Wu urges caution as bitterly cold weather remains

SPECIAL TO THE GAZETTE

Mayor Michelle Wu announced a cold weather advisory and winter safety tips for the bitterly cold temperatures forecast through Thursday, January 23. According to the National Weather Service (NWS), the forecast for Boston includes wind chills that will reach below zero through Thursday. Sub-zero temperatures are expected, with the lowest occurring between midnight and 6 a.m. during the cold weather advisory. Additionally, Boston is preparing for an anticipated six to eight inches of snowfall Sunday evening, continuing through the overnight hours, according to the NWS. Due to the anticipated frigid cold weather that will follow the snowfall, it's important to clear snow before it freezes to avoid dangerous conditions for vehicles and pedestrians. Mayor Wu is issuing these recommendations following a citywide meeting she held with the Office of Emergency Management Sunday morning to coordinate departments across the city to ensure proper preparedness ahead of the storm.

"As temperatures drop and winter weather arrives, I urge all residents to take necessary precautions to stay vigilant, prioritize their safety, and look out for your neighbors," said Mayor Michelle Wu. "Our teams are working around the clock to prepare the city, and we advise our residents to help protect each other during these harsh conditions. With snow expected tonight, we are reminding property owners to please remember to shovel sidewalks, especially before the bitterly cold weather arrives and snow freezes over."

Due to the anticipated weather, please see below the rules for clearing snow:

- Property owners must fully clear snow, sleet, and ice from sidewalks and curb ramps abutting the property within three hours after the snowfall ends, or three hours after sunrise if the snow ends overnight. Curb and pedestrian ramps to the street should be cleared fully and continually over the duration of the storm to ensure accessibility for individuals with disabilities. If the storm lasts for an extended period of time, property owners are asked to continually check and clear ramps abutting their property.

- Removal of snow and ice from private property to the street or sidewalk is prohibited.

- Failure to comply with these rules can result in fines issued by PWD's Code Enforcement Division. Fines associated with improper removal of snow can be found online.

- Residents are encouraged to sign up for emergency notifications through AlertBoston. Please follow @CityofBoston and visit boston.gov/snow for the latest updates.

Safety tips for shoveling:

- Keep catch basins and fire hydrants clear. You can assist in keeping hydrants clear of snow so the Boston Fire Department can access them quickly in case of emergency.

- Shoveling snow requires significant exertion; please be cautious and pay attention to signs of overexertion. Stop if you feel chest pain, shortness of breath, lightheadedness, nausea, or vomiting. Call 911 if those symptoms do not resolve quickly.

- Snow piles can make navigating intersections dangerous for pedestrians and drivers. Please take extra care when turning corners with snow piles that might limit visibility.

- Carbon monoxide poisoning is a concern during winter weather, especially with the use

of generators. Residents should use their home heating systems wisely and safely, and have a working carbon monoxide detector on each floor of the home. Call 911 immediately if you suspect carbon monoxide poisoning.

- Sitting in a car while idling can be deadly if the tailpipe is blocked. Do not let children sit in an idling car while shoveling. Clear any household exhaust pipes (e.g. gas exhaust for heating systems or dryers) and vehicle exhaust pipes of snow.

- Have a contractor check the roof to see if snow needs to be removed. If roof snow can be removed from the ground with the use of a snow rake, do so with caution. Avoid working from ladders, and be mindful of slippery surfaces.

Due to the anticipated forecast next week, the City is issuing a cold advisory. The City of Boston issues a cold advisory when there is one day or more of 0°F or below observed wind chill. Due to the low temperatures and strong wind gusts, there is an increased risk of hypothermia and frostbite, especially for those experiencing homelessness, older adults, and young children. Cold weather may also exacerbate health issues in high-risk individuals.

Mayor Wu is advising res-

Continued on page 15

The opinions expressed on these pages are not necessarily those of this newspaper.

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Cold weather

Continued from page 14

idents to take precautions, reminding them to check in on older adults, people with disabilities, and people experiencing homelessness. If you see an individual experiencing homelessness and individuals out in the cold who appear immobile, disoriented or underdressed for the cold, please call 911. If residents are aware of anyone staying in a vehicle or a place not intended for living during these extreme cold temperatures, they are encouraged to call 911 as well.

While the temperature forecast does not reach the threshold for declaring a cold emergency, Boston Centers for Youth & Families' (BCYF) community centers will be open during their normal operating hours Tuesday - Thursday. The Boston Public Library will be open during normal operating hours Tuesday - Thursday and will be available for people in need of a place to warm up.

The Boston Public Health Commission's Southampton Street Shelter and Woods Mullen Shelter will remain open 24/7 for those experiencing homelessness. Amnesty is in effect and anyone with a non-violent restriction may come in. Other overnight shelters and day spaces can be found by calling 311.

The Boston Police Department (BPD) will make announcements on every shift for officers and all personnel to be on the lookout for people on the streets. BPD will conduct wellness checks or assist with transportation to available shelters and coordinate with emergency medical personnel for unsheltered homeless persons in distress. The BPD Street Outreach Unit will be available as a resource to assist the districts, outreach providers, and 911 dispatch as needed.

Boston Public Schools (BPS) is reminding families to dress their students appropriately so they are safe and comfortable traveling to and from school. Anyone in need of winter clothing items can reach out directly to their school's Family Liaison and School Leader. The BPS Facilities team will also monitor school building temperatures to ensure that classrooms are warm throughout the week.

Cold weather safety tips:

Dress for the weather:

- Wear several layers of loose-fitting, lightweight, warm clothing rather than one layer of heavy clothing.
- Outer garments should be tightly woven and water-repellent.
- Wear mittens over gloves; layering works for your hands as well.
- Always wear a hat and cover your mouth with a scarf to

protect your lungs.

- Dress children warmly and set reasonable time limits on outdoor play.
- Restrict infants' outdoor exposure when it is colder than 40 degrees Fahrenheit.

Watch for signs of frostbite:

• Signs of frostbite include loss of feeling and a white or pale appearance in extremities such as fingers, toes, ear lobes, and the tip of the nose. If symptoms are detected, get medical help immediately.

Watch for signs of hypothermia:

• These include uncontrollable shivering, memory loss, disorientation, incoherence, slurred speech, drowsiness, and apparent exhaustion. Contact a healthcare provider immediately if you or someone you know shows any of these symptoms. If symptoms are severe, call 911.

Heating guidelines for property owners and tenants:

- Following the Massachusetts State Sanitary Code, the heating season officially begins on September 15 and runs through June 15. Property owners must heat habitable spaces at a minimum temperature of 68 degrees between 7 a.m. and 11 p.m. and 64 degrees between 11:01 p.m. and 6:59 a.m.
- In case of emergency, property owners are encouraged to keep a list of licensed contractors (electrician, plumber, and general contractor) on file. Tenants experiencing problems with their heating system should check the thermostat, ensure the dial is turned on, and report insufficient or no heat problems to the property owner or manager immediately.
- If your landlord or property manager is unresponsive, call 311 to file a complaint.

Heating safety:

- Never try to heat your home using a charcoal or gas grill, a kitchen stove, or any other product not specifically designed as a heater. These can quickly cause a fire or produce dangerous levels of carbon monoxide.
- Have your heating system cleaned and checked annually.
- Install and maintain smoke alarms and carbon monoxide detectors on every level of your home. Carbon monoxide is an invisible gas produced whenever any fuel is burned. Common sources include oil or gas furnaces, water heaters, fireplaces,

stoves, and some space heaters. It has no smell, taste, or color, but it is poisonous and can be deadly.

- Keep space heaters at least three feet from anything that can burn, including people.
- Space heaters should be turned off and unplugged when you leave the room, or go to bed.

Tips to keep water flowing and pipes unfrozen during extreme cold:

- The Boston Water and Sewer Commission recommends homeowners locate their home's main water shut-off valve and learn how to use it. Should a frozen pipe burst, shutting the main valve quickly will minimize flooding and property damage.
- Homeowners should insulate pipes in unheated areas like basements, garages, and crawl spaces. Use inexpensive hard-

ware store materials to prevent pipes from freezing and to keep warm water flowing.

- Keep cabinet doors open to circulate warm air around pipes. A trickle of tap water through pipes during extreme cold can also help prevent them from freezing up.
 - Locate your water meter, protect it from drafts, and make sure basement doors and windows are shut tight.
 - If pipes freeze, thaw them slowly with a hair dryer, if possible. Never use an open flame to thaw pipes. If water is lost in all taps, call the BWSC 24-hour Emergency Assistance Line at 617-989-7000.
- For alerts, including cold-weather alerts, residents are encouraged to sign up for Alert Boston. More information can be found on boston.gov/snow and boston.gov/cold.

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Residents of Boston woke up Monday morning to a winter wonderland, as overnight snowfalls blanketed the city and the region with about 4-inches of snow. Shown above, Chestnut Street in Boston is covered with snow.

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