

The Boston Globe

Serving our community since 1872

FRIDAY, JUNE 21, 2024

Before they roll forward, a look back

From WWII landings to hallowed Boston tradition, duck boats deliver



JOHN TLUMACKI/GLOBE STAFF FILE

The last time the Celtics were feted and ferried on duck boats was in 2008. **Tips on Friday’s parade, B1.**

By Daniel Kool and Maddie Khaw
GLOBE CORRESPONDENTS

Minutes after the Boston Celtics claimed a historic 18th championship Monday night, the call rang out among fans: “Fuel up the duck boats!”

Sure enough, by Tuesday morning Mayor Michelle Wu and other officials were laying out plans for Friday’s victory parade, with the iconic boats — as tradition dictates — shuttling the victorious team through the city.

For more than two decades, the boats have been a hallmark of any major Boston sports celebration, carrying players

through throngs of adoring fans. The city’s first “Rolling Rally” was in 2002, when the New England Patriots won their first Super Bowl, with the boats included at the request of then-Mayor Thomas Menino.

Since then, the amphibious vehicles — also known for ferrying visitors on popular sightseeing tours — have become synonymous with championships during Boston’s enviable string of sports successes this century: 13 so far.

“This is a uniquely Boston thing,” said Richard Johnson, curator of the Sports Museum at TD Garden, which celebrates the history and character of Boston



Source: Office of Mayor Wu

GLOBE STAFF

sports. “The fans have always voiced vocal and public support. ... This is just the most recent manifestation of that. It’s a nice thing. You know, it’s a real community thing.”

Johnson cited some moments that he said cemented the

boats’ iconic status in Boston sports: Red Sox pitcher Jake Peavy buying the duck boat he rode on during the team’s 2013 victory parade for \$75,000; Celtics coach Doc Rivers taking the 2007-08 team on a duck tour

DUCK BOATS, Page A8



JESSICA RINALDI/GLOBE STAFF

Fire from inside a mishoon lit the face of George Bearclaw as he took the night shift to monitor the flames and continue to scrape and shape the vessel. Bearclaw is a member of the Hassanamisco Nipmuc, a tribe centered around Lake Quinsigamond.

Reconstructing a heritage

Tribe patches together its past through discoveries in muck, documents, eBay

By John Hilliard
GLOBE STAFF

SHREWSBURY — His massive arms moving in a steady motion, George Bearclaw labored in the twilight to reshape the white pine timber. There was a fire burning within the log, and Bearclaw used a staff to scrape away the char.

Slowly, a mishoon, a canoe large enough to carry four men, was emerging from the

wood. Bearclaw was among the Hassanamisco Nipmuc Band members working round-the-clock shifts earlier this month to create the mishoon — the first made on the shores of Flint Pond in more than three centuries.

“It’s inspiring,” Bearclaw said, his eyes brightened by light cast from the flames. “As a Native person, it touches you.”

Far from mere reenactment, the Hassanamisco Nipmuc’s canoe project is part of a

sweeping endeavor to preserve and reanimate the band’s heritage around Flint Pond and the nearby Lake Quinsigamond, which lies at the heart of its historic homeland in central New England, according to Cheryl Stedler, a tribal council member.

Stedler, 63, an educator in Belchertown, serves as the director of Project Mishoon, an archeological effort to find and preserve trib-

NIPMUC, Page A8

Sun brings the heat — and helps keep us cool

Increase in solar panels reduces chances of outages of power, officials say

By Sabrina Shankman
GLOBE STAFF

When the forecast calls for record-breaking temperatures, the kind that turn the weather app warnings deep red and push the limits of what a window unit air conditioner can do, those in the know brace themselves.

Extreme heat means extreme electricity demand, and that can lead to rolling blackouts or outages that leave thousands without electricity.

But even amid record high temperatures, that has not been the story this week.

As the demand for electricity has soared, the regional power grid has hummed along uneventfully, backed in part by a relatively new source of energy: thousands of solar panels on rooftops, over parking lots, and along highways. It’s not just helping make the grid more reliable, experts said, but proving that non-fossil fuel generated power is finally playing a significant role in the operation of the regional power grid, with even more due to come online from major wind farms and other large-scale resources under development.

This particular subset of solar is known as “behind-the-meter” solar, and it is distinct from industrial-sized solar fields. It’s provided as much as one-fifth of the region’s power demand during the sunniest, hottest parts of the heat wave. For context, that’s more than all of the nu-

SOLAR, Page A7

Trump judge rejected advice to step aside

Cannon’s inexperience, actions raise concerns on classified documents case

By Charlie Savage and Alan Feuer
NEW YORK TIMES

Shortly after Judge Aileen M. Cannon drew the assignment a year ago to oversee former president Trump’s classified documents case, two more experienced colleagues on the federal bench in Florida urged her to pass it up and hand it off to another jurist, according to two people briefed on the conversations.

The judges who approached Cannon — including the chief judge in the Southern District of Florida, Cecilia M. Altonaga — each asked her to consider whether it would be better if she were to decline the high-profile case, allowing it to go to another judge, the two people said.

But Cannon, who was appointed by Trump, wanted to keep the case and refused the judges’ entreaties. Her assignment has raised eyebrows because she has scant trial experience and had previously shown unusual favor to Trump by intervening in a way that helped him in the criminal investigation that led to his indictment, only to be reversed in a critical rebuke by a conservative appeals court panel.

The extraordinary and previously undisclosed

JUDGE, Page A6



Donald Sutherland has died. The actor had a remarkable career that spanned half a century and such wide-ranging roles as Hawkeye Pierce in “M*A*S*H” and President Coriolanus Snow in “The Hunger Games.” **C11.**

Roll ‘n’ rock

Friday: Cool for ducks, late storm High 79-84, low 63-68.

Saturday: Cloudy, late rain High 71-76, low 65-70.

Weather and comics, **G6-7.**

Obituaries, **C11.**

VOL. 305, NO. 173

* Suggested retail price \$4.00



0 947725 4

Pro-Palestinian student protesters say their work is far from done

Continue to plan for activism when fall semester starts

By Hilary Burns
GLOBE STAFF

College campuses have largely emptied out for the summer, and students have scattered. The pro-Palestinian encampments that threw commencement season into chaos are gone.

But protesters are continuing to organize in communities across the state this summer, and the college students leading them say they’re gearing up for another intense season of activism in the fall. United by their passion for the Palestinian cause, students from different campuses across New England are beginning to build a collaborative network of activism open to anyone who opposes Zionism, which some Jewish students, faculty, and alumni find problematic.

“Say it loud and say it clear! In-



PAT GREENHOUSE/GLOBE STAFF

Kate Pearce, a rising sophomore at MIT, participated in a protest last week outside Elbit Systems in Cambridge.

justice is not welcome here!” Kate Pearce, a rising MIT sophomore with bright green hair shouted into a megaphone on Bishop Allen Drive in Cambridge last week, where about 50 protesters, including many students, shut down traf-

fic for nearly two hours and then marched to City Hall to call for the eviction of a defense company with a location near Central Square that sells to the Israel Ministry of Defense.

PROTESTS, Page A7