

The Boston Globe

Serving our community since 1872

SATURDAY, JULY 27, 2024

Steward to close Carney, Nashoba Valley

Bankrupt health care system, state, and creditors make plans to sell 6 hospitals

By Aaron Pressman
and Jason Laughlin
GLOBE STAFF

Steward Health Care plans to close Carney Hospital in Dorchester and Nashoba Valley Medical Center in Ayer, the latest blow to Massachusetts’ medical system as a result of financial troubles at the bankrupt

company.

The closures are part of a rescue plan coming together between the bankrupt hospital operator and its many creditors and state regulators that should pave the way for the sale of six other Steward hospitals in Massachusetts to new owners. Carney and Nashoba were the only

Steward hospitals in Massachusetts that did not receive qualified bids during the sale process.

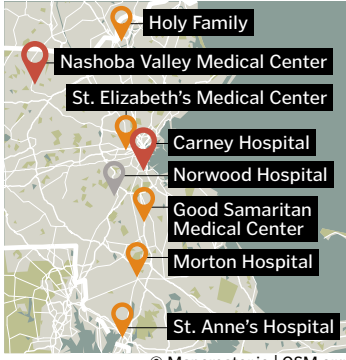
While the loss of Nashoba and Carney will further strain already busy hospitals in Eastern Massachusetts, the outcomes would be even more catastrophic if Steward were unable to sell its other facilities and had to close them.

“This hospital chain is in bankruptcy and could close at any minute,” Kate Walsh, Massachusetts’ sec-

retary of health and human services said in an interview. “What we’ve been seeking ... is to stabilize the health care system in Eastern Massachusetts as part of this and we are looking for operators who can do that.”

The hospitals slated to remain in operation are St. Elizabeth’s Medical Center in Brighton, Good Samaritan Medical Center in Brockton, Morton Hospital in Taunton, St. Anne’s Hos-

STEWARD, Page A10



Steward medical facilities in Mass.

● Closing planned
● Bids entered
● Already closed

2024 PARIS OLYMPICS

FRENCH RAIL LINE ATTACKED | Arsonists attacked France’s high-speed rail network early Friday, paralyzing train travel to Paris for some 800,000 people across Europe, including athletes heading to Paris. **C6.**



NATACHA PISARENKO/ASSOCIATED PRESS

A laser show flashed past the Eiffel Tower in Paris during the Opening Ceremony of the 2024 Summer Olympics.

PARIS AGLOW AS THE GAMES BEGIN

A rain-dampened homage to art and culture in the City of Light

TARA SULLIVAN
COMMENTARY

PARIS — Under the majestic shadow of the Eiffel Tower, amid the raindrops of a chilly Paris night, the 2024 Summer Olympics officially began Friday. An Opening Ceremony unlike anything the world has ever seen floated its way down the River Seine, with an explosion of color, of light, of dancing and singing taking place along the river’s banks, all of it designed to greet the thousands of international athletes who floated

past, nation by nation, in their assigned boats.

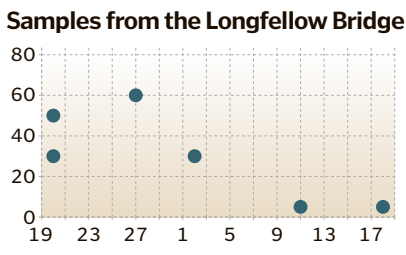
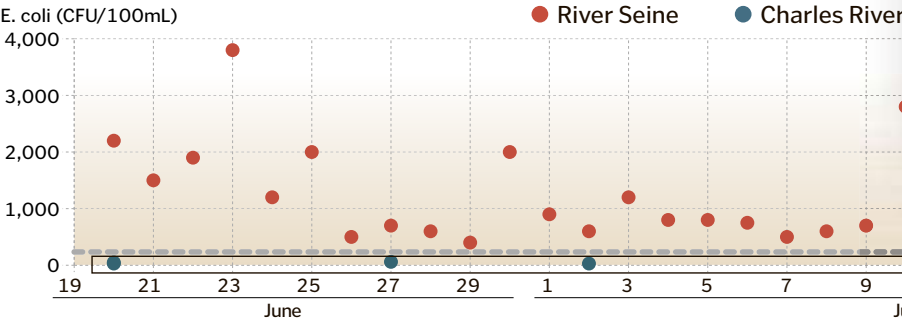
The years of planning, the months of rehearsal, the money, the manpower, the belief, all of it came together in the extraordinary effort to stage the first Opening Ceremony outside the traditional stadium setting, and the images that flashed across television screens certainly reflected the pageantry, joy, fun, and high camp silliness the French love so well.

But even as the Olympic flag made its way across the bridge to be raised at the Trocadero, even as it was pulled to the skies as the Olympic anthem was sung by

SULLIVAN, Page C7

The River Seine in Paris is still more contaminated than the Charles

Water samples near the Pont Alexandre III bridge in Paris over the last month show that E. coli levels are far above Massachusetts’ safe swimming threshold. However, the World Triathlon Federation’s threshold to be considered unsafe is much higher.



SOURCES: City of Paris Seine Water Quality Bulletin, data extracted by Max Rome, Stormwater Program Manager of the Charles River Watershed Association
• E. coli bacteria in the water is measured in colony forming units per 100 milliliters. Massachusetts does not consider water safe to swim in if any sample is above 235 CFU/100mL. However, the World Triathlon Federation’s criteria considers the water safe for the Olympic events so long as the highest 10 percent of E. coli water samples contain no more than 900 CFU/100mL.

DAIGO FUJIWARA-SMITH/GLOBE STAFF

The Seine is hosting swimmers. The Charles is cleaner.

By Erin Douglas
GLOBE STAFF

As Olympic swimmers this week prepare to dive into the River Seine in Paris, a long-polluted urban river, Boston’s Charles River is getting closer to making its own public debut.

“We’re not there yet,” said Max Rome, the stormwater program manager at the Charles River Watershed Asso-

ciation. “But we’re in the ballpark.”

For decades, the Charles has been a punch line, its “Dirty Water” memorialized in a rock song and known as something most would consider jumping in only on a dare. On the Esplanade Thursday, Jacob Casper, 20, who grew up in Brookline, joked that he might “grow a second head” if he took a plunge.

Will Spangenberg, 26, has more love

for the Charles, which flows through his hometown of Dover. Now a Beacon Hill resident, he visits the river three or four times a week to sail, paddle board, or just hang out. He regularly falls into the water or gets wet while boating.

Yet the water has “a hint of green that I’m not in love with,” Spangenberg acknowledged while sunbathing on a

CHARLES, Page A7

Media interns get a start in Cape Cod league

It is not just the players who gain experience

By Aidan Ryan
GLOBE STAFF

FALMOUTH — Roughly three hours before first pitch, the scene around Guv Fuller Field is quiet on this scorching and humid July afternoon, with the exception of a Falmouth Commodore launching balls across the outfield as batting practice winds down.

But the press box at the Cape Cod Baseball League venue is already humming be-

fore the Commodores face the Chatham Anglers, and it’s not just the giant floor fans laboring to cool the sweltering booth. Broadcasters are polishing off their game notes so they can cite statistics on-air, directors are typing away to construct the evening’s telecast, and videographers are gathering mics and cameras for the pregame show.

It’s a top-notch operation, but these are no professionals.

For 101 years, the Cape League has been a must-stop for the next generation of Major League Baseball players. But the league has also be-

CAPE LEAGUE, Page A7



DANIELLE PARHIZKARAN/GLOBE STAFF

Sam Landesman, a junior cinema and television arts major at Elon University, worked the camera from the broadcast booth during a Cape Cod League baseball game.

Drug lord duped in flight to US arrest

By Alan Feuer, Natalie Kitroeff, and Emiliano Rodríguez Mega
NEW YORK TIMES

It sounded like a story ripped from a narco thriller: One of the biggest drug lords in Mexico was lured onto an airplane, flown across the border, and presented to US federal agents by the son of his former partner in crime.

As improbable as it may seem, that is exactly what appears to have happened Thursday evening, when a Beechcraft King Air turboprop landed at a small municipal airport outside El Paso, and off stepped one of the most wanted men in Mexico: Ismael Zambada García, a founder of the notorious Sinaloa drug cartel.

Zambada García, known as El Mayo, had for decades evaded capture by both Mexican and US officials, living a life of luxurious simplicity in the mountains of Sinaloa — despite the \$15 million US bounty on his

CARTEL, Page A10

An enormous wildfire in Northern California has destroyed buildings and prompted evacuation orders for thousands. **A2.**

Broad changes to the nursing and long-term care industry passed the state Senate, moving closer to legislation allowing more state oversight. **B1.**

An Alzheimer’s therapy from Eisai and Biogen should be rejected, European regulators said. **D1.**



Shore to please

Saturday: Sunny, beautiful. High: 81-86. Low: 65-70.

Sunday: Mostly sunny. High: 78-83. Low: 63-68.

Sunrise: 5:32 Sunset: 8:09

Comics and Weather, **D4-5.** Obituaries, **C10.**

VOL. 306, NO. 27

*
Suggested retail price
\$4.00

