

The Boston Globe

Serving our community since 1872

THURSDAY, MAY 16, 2024

A pitch for a six-story solution in Cambridge

2 councilors see building up as a way to create more housing

By Andrew Brinker
GLOBE STAFF

Picture the best of what Paris has to offer, a vibrant street life in densely packed neighborhoods. One of the secrets to the city's charm is the size of most of those graceful buildings: six stories.

That idea — dense, six-story hous-

ing in abundance — is the inspiration behind a proposal from two Cambridge city councilors that amounts to something of a moonshot on the biggest challenge facing Boston's neighbor to the north: the acute shortage of housing.

Councilors Burhan Azeem and Sumbul Siddiqui want to legalize six-

story apartment buildings by-right citywide, meaning any housing development up to that height that fits other zoning parameters would not need city zoning approval.

In effect, the proposal would essentially scrap the city's current neighborhood-by-neighborhood zoning scheme for anything six stories or

smaller. From tight-packed East Cambridge to leafy Strawberry Hill, six-story buildings could rise largely unencumbered.

It would also, at least symbolically, make Cambridge the first city in the state to end single-family zoning as the default for housing construction. That does not mean single-family homes wouldn't be allowed any-

CAMBRIDGE, Page A9

Steward takes toll on other hospitals

Nearby ERs fear an influx of patients switching care

By Robert Weisman and Jessica Bartlett
GLOBE STAFF

The crisis at Steward Health Care is squeezing other hospitals in Eastern Massachusetts as some patients avoid the bankrupt hospital system and state health officials scramble to contain the fallout.

Nearby hospitals are finding that even as Steward's eight hospitals in the state remain open, certain lines of specialized care there are "clearly declining," Dr. Eduardo Haddad, a member of the state's Public Health Council and chief of medical affairs at Lawrence General Hospital, told fellow council members Wednesday.

Some patients are being admitted, evaluated, and transferred out of Steward hospitals due to a lack of vital support services, Haddad said. "It's important for the state to be aware of this," he said. "At some point, an injection of capital or a new operator will need to come on."

Dr. Robbie Goldstein, commissioner of the state Department of Public Health, assured the

STEWARD, Page A9

Warren goes extra mile on airline refunds

By Jim Puzzanghera
GLOBE STAFF

WASHINGTON — The Biden administration infused some fanfare into an announcement last month of its latest effort to crack down on hidden consumer costs — a requirement that airlines give passengers automatic refunds if their flights were canceled or significantly delayed.

The White House provided reporters with advance details as long as they agreed not to publish them until the official news release at 6 a.m. on April 24. Transportation Secretary Pete Buttigieg held a news conference at a Washington-area airport that morning. Later in the day, he appeared in a video with President Biden touting the new rules.

"We all know what it's like when airlines drag their feet on refunds or surprise us with junk fees," Biden said in the video posted on social media.

But when a major bipartisan airline bill was

WARREN, Page A8

CELTICS ROLL ON



DANIELLE PARHIZKARAN/GLOBE STAFF

With veteran Al Horford leading the way in Game 5 Wednesday night, the Celtics finished off the Cleveland Cavaliers in a 113-98 win at TD Garden to take the series 4-1. Next up: the Eastern Conference finals, against either New York or Indiana. **C1.**

Inflation moderated slightly in April after three months of rapid price increases. **D1.**

President Biden and Donald Trump have agreed to two debates, one on June 27 on CNN and one on Sept. 10 on ABC News, their first clashes in more than three years. **A2.**

Governor Maura Healey announced a first-of-its kind fund to support workforce training in the climate tech sector in an address to world leaders at the Vatican. **B1.**

No fry zone

Thursday: Cloudy and cool. High 57-62. Low 51-56.

Friday: Ditto.

High 60-65. Low 47-52.

High tide: 6:31 a.m., 7:13 p.m.

Sunrise: 5:21 Sunset: 8:00

Weather and Comics, D5-6. Obituaries, C11.

VOL. 305, NO. 137

*

Suggested retail price
\$4.00



0 947725 4

Taking cruise ships to the next level

Boston architectural firm keeps going bigger and better

By Christopher Muther
GLOBE STAFF

Looking back, it seems like a small innovation and not a particularly exciting one: an ice rink on a cruise ship.

But when Royal Caribbean's Voyager of the Seas debuted 25 years ago, an ice rink on a cruise ship had never been attempted. At the time of its 1999 launch, Voyager was the world's largest cruise ship, with 3,600 passengers, and the company needed fresh entertainment options to set it apart.

The ice rink idea was pioneering but not without its

issues. Chief among them was creating and preserving ice for the rink while at sea and then keeping it level when nothing on a ship stays level. A cruise ship is essentially rattled by a constant series of small earthquakes as waves batter it. The answer to the ice rink problem came from an unlikely source: a small architectural firm in Boston called Wilson Butler Architects, which had never worked on cruise ship design before.

Since that first ice rink, Wilson Butler can lay claim to a long list of innovative cruise ship firsts and superlatives. (One trick to the rink at sea, the firm deter-

SHIP, Page A8

As campus divisions deepen, some Israelis no longer feel welcome

By Mike Damiano
GLOBE STAFF
and Lila Hempel-Edgers
and Ava Berger
GLOBE CORRESPONDENTS

An Israeli American student at Northeastern University was dropped by a close-knit group of friends who now consider her "right wing." An MIT student from Israel who wears a kippah said people shout "Free Palestine" at him when he crosses campus. Another Israeli American undergraduate at Northeastern said she fears her classmates' judgment any time she reveals her nationality.

At the end of a school year marked by campus tumult over the Israel-Hamas war, some Jewish Israeli students at local colleges and universities have come to wonder if they still belong.

►Pro-Palestinian protesters march to MIT president's home. **B5.**

They fear some classmates and professors will always view them as personally compromised by the actions of their country's government, complicit in a war they say they did not want.

Those students say they're on the un-

STUDENTS, Page A7



JOHN TLUMACKI/GLOBE STAFF

Eitan Moore, an MIT student, said, "There's been vilification of Jewish, but mostly Israeli, students on campus to the extent that no other group has faced,"



TICKETS ON SALE TODAY!

Scan to Buy Tickets:





All characters and elements © & TM Warner Bros. Entertainment Inc. M8-SHIELD © & TM WEI Publishing Rights © 2024