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PANORAMA

January 2–15, 2006

The Official Guide to BOSTON

THE EMPIRE STRIKES BOSTON

Star Wars **at the Museum of Science and 6 More Cool Ways to Geek Out**

PLUS:

>What's New in the New Year

>Q&A with Fashion Maven Nanette Lepore

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NANETTE LEPORE

USE THE FORCE: After a long day of suppressing the rebellion, Imperial Stormtroopers and bounty hunter Boba Fett of the 501st New England Garrison unwind with model Olga at J.J. Foley's downtown.
Refer to story, page 14.

PHOTO BY ANDREW SWAINE

on the cover:

Model Olga of Maggie Inc. takes a walk on the Dark Side at J.J. Foley's on 21 Kingston St. with "Storm Troopers" John Desmarais and Brian Anderson and "Boba Fett" Bob Gouveia of the 501st New England Garrison.

Photo: Andrew Swaine

Hair and Make-up: Rachael Berkowitz

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aroundthehub

news&notes

by Josh B. Wardrop

A New Home for Hub History?

Boston is justly proud of its history. And that history is everywhere in the Hub—along the Freedom Trail, in Charlestown where the *U.S.S. Constitution* is moored and the Bunker Hill Monument stands, or in any of the dozens of old buildings that were home to the first something-or-other in America. As a result, seeing it all can be quite a hike.

If the folks at **The Boston Museum Project and Gateway Center** have anything to say about it, however, visitors to Boston may someday be able to take in a concentrated dose of Boston history. The organization recently announced that they exceeded their fundraising goal for 2005, assembling private donations of more than $2 million for a proposed 40,000 square-foot museum devoted to the history of Boston.

Plans for the museum are still in their infancy, and it's expected that it will cost $90 million to make the proposal a reality. However, the foundation has already earned a building site on the Rose Kennedy Greenway (*refer to feature story, page 18*) and have commissioned a rendering of the project from architect Moshe Safdie (pictured above). Should fundraising continue at its current rate of success, future visitors to Boston can expect to experience the history of Boston in a whole new way.

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ILLUSTRATION COURTESY OF F.M. CONSTANTINO / MOSHE SAFDIE AND ASSOCIATES

CHARLIE RIDES AGAIN

In 1959, folkies The Kingston Trio sang a song about Charlie, a poor unfortunate soul who boarded one of Boston's subway trains but neglected to pack an extra nickel for his "exit fare," thus ensuring he'd be doomed to ride beneath the streets of Boston forever. The story of "Charlie on the M.T.A" was born.

A lot's changed since then—the M.T.A. is now the MBTA, folk music has been replaced by blogging as a means of social protest, and a nickel won't buy your way out of anything. And now, Boston's public transportation system is changing, as well—and Charlie's taking a central role.

This month, the MBTA begins eliminating tokens system-wide, as part of a yearlong conversion process

cont. on page 8 >>

calendar of events

THURSDAY, JANUARY 5
Tonight at the Comedy Connection, the brave and not easily embarrassed can be mesmerized by **Frank Santos, the R-Rated Hypnotist**, *at 8:30 p.m. Refer to listing, page 24.*

FRIDAY, JANUARY 6
The Huntington Theatre Company presents the seductive and witty ***Les Liaisons Dangereuses***, starring Michael T. Weiss of TV's "The Pretender," opening tonight at the Boston University Theatre *at 8 p.m. Refer to listing, page 29.*

TUESDAY, JANUARY 10
See recording star Maureen McGovern in ***Little Women***, the musical adaptation of Louisa May Alcott's classic novel, opening tonight at the Opera House *at 7:30 p.m. Refer to listing, page 29.*

THURSDAY, JANUARY 12–SATURDAY, JANUARY 14
The **Boston Symphony Orchestra**, led by James Levine, presents Schumann's *Symphony No. 4*, Berlioz's Romantic-era keystone *Symphonie Fantastique*, as well as Jonathan Dawe's *The Flowering Arts*, a work commissioned to celebrate the BSO's 125th anniversary. *Refer to listing, page 24.*

SUNDAY, JANUARY 15
Bluesy folk rocker **Michelle Shocked** performs *at 7:30 p.m.* at the legendary Club Passim in Cambridge's Harvard Square. *Refer to listing, page 27.*

MAUREEN MCGOVERN PHOTO BY DEBORAH FEINGOLD; JAMES LEVINE PHOTO BY MICHAEL LUTCH

<< cont. from page 7

that will make traveling the subways and buses of Boston fully automated. Monthly T passes have already been converted to **CharlieTickets** (pictured previous page) and soon T travelers will also have the opportunity to buy **CharlieCards**—rechargeable "smart cards" that can have value added to them. CharlieTickets will be available for different dollar values, beginning this month along the Blue Line, before eventually expanding to the various T lines.

CharlieTickets are part of a year of station improvements that will include the removal of old-fashioned turnstiles, installation of automated dispensing machines and the addition of customer service agents and improved security in Boston subways.

NEW LIFE FOR JIMMY'S

Before there was Legal Sea Foods, Skipjack's, Great Bay or any of Boston's renowned names for seafood, there was **Jimmy's Harborside**. Opened in 1924 as a hole-in-the-wall for fishermen called The Grotto, Jimmy's grew into a 300-plus seat landmark, complete with a towering neon sign beckoning seafood lovers from far and wide.

After 81 years, Jimmy's (which served meals to Bob Hope, John F. Kennedy and Pope John Paul II in its lifetime) shut its doors on Dec. 31, and will be demolished to make way for a smaller, modernized version of the restaurant on the same site. The reopening is scheduled for sometime in 2007, and purists, take heart: the neon signs will be staying.

ART OF STONE

The **Rolling Stones** are back in Boston, performing at TDBanknorth Garden on **January 13 and 15**. But if you want to really get up close to a Stone, guitarist Ronnie Wood is exhibiting his artwork at **Newbury Fine Arts** and anyone who purchases a piece (like the one pictured above) during a **January 12** public art sale will be invited to a VIP party with Wood during the Stones' visit. So, get off of your cloud and check it out! *Refer to listings, pages 28 and 37.*

Mess Around with Jim

THE JIM SHOW
Coolidge Corner Theatre
290 Harvard St., Brookline
617-734-2500
January 14 at 10:30 a.m.

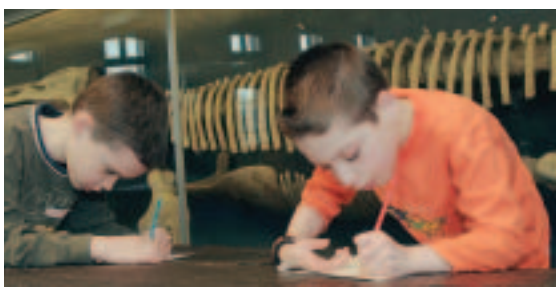
Finding family-friendly sidesplitting comedy that doesn't involve "profanity, chainsaws, or live animals" can be tough. Luckily, one-man stunt comedy act The Jim Show promises just that. Jim's back at the Coolidge Corner Theatre for his fifth appearance as part of the Coolidge's Kids Variety Show, delivering the same winsome comedy stunts and witty antics that have delighted audiences for years. The mysteriously agile Jim—clad, as always, in his trademark red socks—juggles, tumbles and cracks jokes as he captivates spectators young and old. *—James Sligh*

Beautiful Girls

WISHES FOR GIRLS
34 Main St., Concord
978-369-9699

If your little diva has a penchant for playing with lipstick, she'll love Wishes for Girls, a new all-ages beauty parlor in Concord. The charming salon is divided into three age-appropriate rooms—"Little Darlings," "Tweens" and "When I Grow Up," and offers hair styling and gentle nail treatments for girls under 13. Wishes also houses a photography studio and a full-service salon for grown-ups, so that both you and your princess can enjoy a royal treatment.

—Marketa Hulpachova



MINOR (IVY) LEAGUE

SATURDAY SCHOLARS
Harvard Museum of Natural History
Saturdays from 9:30 a.m.–noon

If you've been dreaming of the day your kids grow up and go to Harvard, we have to ask: Why wait? With Harvard Museum of Natural History's Saturday Scholars program, you can give your kids some fun, first-rate education from museum instructors. On **January 7**, preschoolers learn letters the fun way with the Dinosaur ABCs, while first-graders bone up on Super Skeletons. Then, on **January 14**, second and third graders test their hunting and escaping skills with Predators and Prey. And at just $35 per session, you can bypass the financial aid department altogether. *Refer to listing, page 34.* *—Kevin Spak*

BOTTOM RIGHT PHOTO BY ALLEGRA BOVERMAN

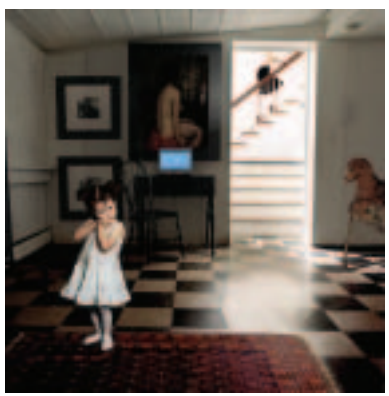
by Scott Roberto

Burning Legacy

FIGHTING THE FIRES OF HATE: AMERICA AND THE NAZI BOOK BURNINGS • Boston Public Library
Through January 19

Organized by the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington, D.C., Fighting the Fires of Hate at the Boston Public Library documents the organized book burnings in Nazi Germany and traces the United States' reaction to it. It also offers glimpses into how these acts of censorship continued to influence post-World War II popular culture—from novels such as Ray Bradbury's *Fahrenheit 451* to episodes of "The Waltons" and "M*A*S*H"—and also shows examples of modern-day book burnings, such as the 2001 burning of *Harry Potter* books in Alamogordo, N.M. that sparked the protest depicted above. *Refer to listing, page 43.*

ALL IN THE FAMILY



GROUP PORTRAIT
Photographic Resource Center at Boston University
Through January 22

Family pictures raised to the level of art? That's just what contemporary photographers Julie Blackmon, Ben Gest, Jessica Todd Harper, Amy Montali and Sage Sohier have done in the show Group Portrait. All of these artists use friends and family as their subjects, creating staged narratives—many of which have been digitally manipulated—that explore familial relationships and individuality and draw on influences from classical painting and photography to theater and film. *Refer to listing, page 37.*

An Artist's Twilight

WORKS BY WILLIAM UTERMOHLEN
Fogg Art Museum
Through January 8

Philadelphia-born, London-based artist William Utermohlen (pictured above with his wife and frequent model, Linda) made his name as a revivalist of figurative painting in the 1960s along with contemporaries David Hockney and Ron Kitaj. But more than a decade ago, his painting took on a decidedly disorienting, distorted perspective. This wasn't so much due to the evolution of a painter in the latter stages of his career, however, but the onset of Alzheimer's Disease. The new exhibit at Harvard University's Fogg Museum of a dozen of Utermohlen's works acts not only as a display of his talents, but also as a unique and important chronicle of the progression of Alzheimer's as it affects the perceptions of a still-vital artist. *Refer to listing, page 34.*

TOP RIGHT PHOTO BY DONALD LOZE; TOP LEFT PHOTO BY W. DAVID BUCKLEY
BOTTOM LEFT: JULIE BLACKMON, *PC*, FROM THE SERIES *DOMESTIC VACATIONS*, 2005

by Josh B. Wardrop

Long Live The King

SPIRIT OF THE KING
Berklee Performance Center
January 7 at 8 p.m.

Winchester native Steve Connolly gave up a career in art restoration to be a rock star—one particular rock star, actually. For 10 years, Connolly has dominated Vegas as one of the world's top Elvis "impersonators" in his revue, *Spirit of the King*, winning plaudits from Elvis contemporaries and famous fans like Aerosmith's Steven Tyler. Connolly returns home January 7 to play Berklee Performance Center.

Q: Biggest misconception people have about Elvis tribute performers?
A: That what we're doing isn't a legitimate craft, but some sort of weird obsession. I mean, there are some cats who are like "Elvis Trekkies," but some of us just like singing Elvis songs.

Q: Favorite Elvis song?
A: "Heartbreak Hotel." It's the first one I ever did, and the first song I really identified with Elvis.

Q: Hardest part, for you, of truly capturing Elvis?
A: It's achieving Elvis's stature, I think—that ability to walk into a room with attitude and make everybody look at you. Elvis had that, and it's tough for most guys to master. The King was one of a kind.

Q: Nice talking to you.
A: Thankyewverramuch.

Refer to listing, page 27.

SHOW STARTERS

HUNTINGTON THEATRE PAY-YOUR-AGE PREVIEWS
January 6–10

HUNTINGTON'S NIGHT CLUB
January 12 at 6 p.m.

Don't deny yourself a night out at the theater because of tight finances or a temporary dating dry spell. Huntington Theatre makes it easy to explore your cultural side with two special programs. If funds are low, try the Pay-Your-Age Previews, where theatergoers under 35 simply pay their age to view select performances of Huntington's current production, Christopher Hampton's *Les Liaisons Dangereuses*. And if you're flying solo, visit Huntington's Night Club, where for $35, theatergoers ages 21–35 enjoy a pre-play cocktail mixer and a backstage tour before taking in the show. *Refer to listing, page 29.*

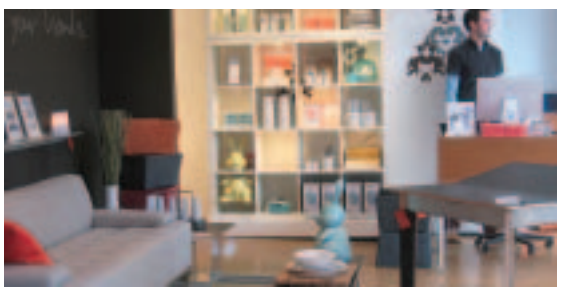
—Reshma Melwani

by Marketa Hulpachova

Let's Face It

CARRIAGE HOUSE SALON
33 Church St.
617-868-7800

Drastic dieting, frenzied exercise—you've done it all before. This year, why not just vow to be really, *really* good to yourself? A perfect place to start is the peaceful and secluded Carriage House Salon in Harvard Square. Staffers turn things upside down and treat you from toe to head—beginning with a sage lotion foot massage and culminating in the therapeutic and holistic "Dr. Haushka" facial, which promises to restore your natural balance. If attempting to keep your New Year's resolutions is stressing you out, a trip to the Carriage House could be the perfect solution.



FILL YOUR FLAT

VESSEL
125 Kingston St.
617-292-0982

If you—and your checkbook—are looking to go minimalist this year, sail on over to Downtown Crossing, where the mod online home furnishings and accessories vendor Vessel has opened its first retail store. Filled with versatile décor pieces such as the sleek all-purpose table/bench/shelf Squat furniture module ($148), Fusionware everyday dish settings ($58) and the acclaimed rechargeable Candela lamp sets ($49-399), Vessel is sure to help you outfit your home stylishly without needing a second mortgage to do it.

Dressed to Chill

Whether you're hitting the slopes or just braving the chilly streets of the Hub, you're sure to find something to keep you feeling—and looking—hot at one of these sporty depots.

- **SKI MARKET and UNDERGROUND, 860 Commonwealth Ave., 617-731-6100.** Based in Waltham, Ski Market is known for organizing ski trips and rental services. Come get your gear tuned up while shopping for ski duds, or check out the edgier sister shop, Underground, which offers snowboards, board shoes and garb from hotshots like Burton, Billabong and Airblaster.
- **PATAGONIA, 346 Newbury St., 617-424-1776.** Named after the Chilean mountain range, Patagonia uses organic materials to create element-braving apparel for all sorts of extreme sports—like winter walks in downtown Boston.
- **EASTERN MOUNTAIN SPORTS, 1 Brattle Square, Cambridge, 617-864-1540, other locations.** Besides offering hardcore outdoor sporting gear, this Wellesley-based store caters to snowboarders and ski bunnies alike. With brands like Avalanche and The North Face, you'll be ready for anything short of an Arctic rescue mission.

TOP RIGHT AND LEFT PHOTOS BY JULI RUBIJONO

by Kevin Spak

Brine & Brew

BEER PAIRING DINNER
Legal Sea Foods
26 Park Square
617-426-4444
January 17 at 6:30 p.m.

For centuries, fishermen have utilized harpoons to chase down their catches. Now, Boston's best-known seafood restaurant is encouraging diners to do the same. Legal Sea Foods' Park Square location hosts a special beer pairing dinner January 17, where executive chef Rich Vellante presents a four-course meal for $55 matched up with beers from local favorite Harpoon Brewery (including Old Salt Ale, a Legal exclusive) and served in Legal's 16,000 bottle wine cellar (pictured above).

—Josh B. Wardrop

Chocolate City

THE OLD TOWN TROLLEY BOSTON CHOCOLATE TOUR
Saturdays at 11:30 a.m. & 12:45 p.m., Sundays at noon

You can learn a lot about chocolate on the Old Town Trolley Boston Chocolate Tour: the location of the nation's first chocolate factory, the healing properties of chocolate, what "dutching" is, and much more. Fascinating stuff, but let's face it, we're mostly interested in the chance to scarf desserts. Thankfully, the tour delivers with trolley stops at the Top of the Hub (for a "Chocolate Surprise") and the Omni Parker House (home of the original Boston cream pie), all leading up to the Langham Hotel's all-you-can-eat Chocolate Bar Buffet, where even the most insatiable chocoholic will get his or her just desserts. *Refer to listing, page 45.*

A GOOD SQUARE MEAL

RENDEZVOUS IN CENTRAL SQUARE
502 Mass. Ave., Cambridge
617-576-1900

Moving from Whoppers to Morrocan-style lamb isn't a natural evolution for many restaurant spaces, but that's what's happened at Rendezvous in Central Square, a former Burger King converted into a classy, unpretentious restaurant specializing in Western Mediterranean-inspired food by owner Steve Johnson. Rendezvous serves everything from homemade cannelloni with kale, mushrooms, ricotta and sage to a toasted almond panna cotta with cranberry kumquat sauce (pictured). Chef Deepak Kaul's menu changes monthly, ensuring that this Rendezvous always features a touch of mystery.

BOTTOM RIGHT PHOTO BY JULI RUBIJONO

The Empire Strikes Boston

Star Wars: Where Science Meets Imagination thrills the masses at the Museum of Science

by Josh B. Wardrop

IF YOUR CHILD IS A *STAR WARS* FAN, HE or she might have had a lightsaber down on their holiday wish list last month. One trip to the toy store later, your young Jedi was probably happily chasing after the cat, swinging away, lost in a world of fantasy.

Or is it fantasy after all?

Star Wars: Where Science Meets Imagination, the newest exhibit at Boston's **Museum of Science**, brings the outlandish alien worlds and technology of George Lucas' beloved cinematic tales down to Earth, exploring how scientific principles of our real world are reflected in the devices used by Luke Skywalker and friends in their battle against the evil Empire. Visitors get to do hands-on work in the field of robotics and engineering—constructing their own rudimentary magnet controlled vehicles and robots—while those who are less scientifically-minded can simply thrill to the sight of spaceship models, costumes and props used in all six *Star Wars* films.

"We tried very hard to provide enough different types of experience to reward everybody," says Ed Rodley, exhibit planner for Where Science Meets Imagination. "Whether you want to build things hands-on or just stare at the models, there's a worthwhile educational experience for you."

Using a motion picture blockbuster as the inspiration for an exhibit isn't new to the Museum of Science—they hosted a *Lord of the Rings*-themed exhibit in 2004. However, where the *Rings* exhibit was more specifically about the science and special effects of movie-making, the *Star Wars* exhibit is, in Rodley's words, "not really about *Star Wars*, per se. It's about giving people an image of what our possible future might look like. We're taking the robots, the spacecraft, and such, as saying, 'That's the fantasy, now here's what it means for us.'"

Thus far, response to the Museum of Science exhibition has been consistent with just about anything else with the *Star Wars* name on it. Rodley says that the museum has sold more than 85,000 tickets since the exhibit opened at the end of October. "We're running well ahead of both of our last two separate-fee shows," says Rodley, who adds that since the exhibit opened the Museum of Science has had two of its top 10 busiest days in its history.

Getting people to learn during their leisure time can be a hard sell for any institution, and some may inevitably suggest the cynical view that the Museum of Science's embrace of the *Star Wars* brand is little more than a marketing ploy to seduce people into seeing the museum in a new light. In Rodley's opinion, though, developing an exhibit that utilizes the artifacts and imagery of the world's most popular motion picture franchise is less about jumping on a pop culture bandwagon and more about addressing the museum world's quest for relevance and for finding exhibit subjects that resonate with diverse audiences.

"The Museum of Science has a reputation, to some degree, of being a place you come to as a kid, then you stop when you become an adult, and then you come back when you have kids of your own," Rodley says. "We're always struggling with that. And that's what makes something like the

PHOTO BY ANDREW SWAINE

PHOTO BY ANDREW SWAINE

GET YOUR GEEK ON

Fancy yourself a sci-fi nut? MIT is a mere stone's throw from the Museum of Science, and it's not the only spot in town where the math/science obsessed can be found.

- **MIT MUSEUM.** MIT needs a whole museum to display 150 years worth of its scientific accomplishments. Exhibit highlights include an interactive look at the world of modern-day robots and the art of former MIT professor Richard Filipowski. *Refer to listing, page 35.*
- **MIRACLE OF SCIENCE BAR & GRILLE, 321 Massachusetts Ave, Cambridge, 617-868-2866.** Cozy up alongside MIT grads for a burger from the Periodic Table-inspired menu while attempting to calculate the effects of beer consumption on your fellow, laptop-toting patrons.
- **COLLISION COLLECTIVE.** Collision Collective specializes in art that incorporates technology including that of founding member Brian Knep, on display **January 5** *from 7–9 p.m.* at **Art Interactive** (130 Bishop Allen Drive, Cambridge, 617-498-0100). Knep actually won two Oscars for creating the CGI for *Jurassic Park* and also worked on the special edition of *Star Wars: A New Hope*.
- **THE ART OF SCIENCE.** Boston—birthplace of such legendary inventions as the telephone—celebrates technology with an art exhibit at the Mayor's Gallery at City Hall. The group exhibit features Boston artists and features everything from interactive projections to solar powered insect sculptures.
- **ARISIA 2006.** Science Fiction fans unite at this annual convention held at the Boston Park Plaza Hotel **January 13–15**. Peruse the latest in sci fi-themed computer games or catch screenings of such classics as *It Came from Outer Space*. For more information visit: 2006.arisia.org.
- **SCI-FI COLLECTABLES SHOPPING.** **Comicopia** (464 Comm. Ave., 617-266-4266) and **Comicazi** (380 Highland Ave., Somerville, 617-666-COMIX) specialize in comic books and sci-fi memorabilia and come highly recommended for those in search of their very own Boba Fett action figure.

I, ROBOT: The QRIO entertainment robot is just one of many science fiction-inspired, modern-day technologies on display as part of the *Star Wars* exhibit.

this *Star Wars* exhibit so important—because it appeals to such a wide audience."

Rodley, for his part, doesn't necessarily see the influence of pop culture on museum exhibits as such a new and exploding trend. "I know there's a perception that it's been happening more often, but as someone who's been in the industry for 20 years, I'm not sure that's true," he says.

In fact, Rodley adds, "pop culture," however one chooses to define it, has had its influence on museums for a very long time. "If you go back to the 1890s, art museums were full of impressionist shows," he says. "At the time, impressionism basically qualified as pop culture."

Actor Anthony Daniels, who portrayed faithful protocol droid C-3PO in all six *Star Wars* films, had a strong involvement with the Museum of Science exhibit, contributing narration for the accompanying planetarium film *Far, Far Away: The Worlds of Star Wars*, as well as writing the foreword for the book that accompanies the exhibit and appearing in-person at kick-off events for the show in October. Daniels, who has also worked with museums in Japan and Europe on *Star Wars*-themed exhibits, sees the Boston exhibition as much more than just a chance for *Star Wars* fans to indulge in nostalgia for the movies they loved.

"I love that we're not just talking about the movies," says Daniels. "We're dealing with the serious scientific inspiration behind them."

The *Far Far Away* film, for example, looks at the varied, exotic planets in *Star Wars*—such as the forest moon of Endor from *Return of the Jedi*, the ice planet of Hoth in *The Empire Strikes Back*, the lava world of Mustafar from *Revenge of the Sith* and others—and speculates, based on factual information scientists have learned about our solar system, whether similar worlds could exist in real life, and whether civilizations could grow out of these extreme conditions. Could the idea of Wookiees, Ewoks and the like be less far-fetched than we imagine?

Where Science Meets Imagination, the exhibit, is described by Rodley as "hard fun." "It's something that people are invested and interested in enough to stretch themselves [to get their heads around all of it]," he says, "and it's the *Star Wars* aspect of it that provides a positive association and makes them willing to do that."

Or, to put it another way, Rodley points out that simply mentioning an exhibit about alternative transportation technology might not mean much of anything to, or inspire excitement for, the average person. "But when you take it a step further and say that Luke Skywalker's landspeeder is an example of that," Rodley says, "you've given people a positive association from their childhood to go with that. Lots of people saw the films and thought it would be cool to have one of those. Our exhibit asks, and hopefully answers, the question, 'Well, *why* would it be cool to have one?'"

"The clever thing about the exhibition," Daniels says, "is that it suggests ways in which astronomy, robotics, real science… have been reflected in George's wild imagination. It's not this tremendously technical experience, but you'd be surprised what you can learn from it." Ⓟ

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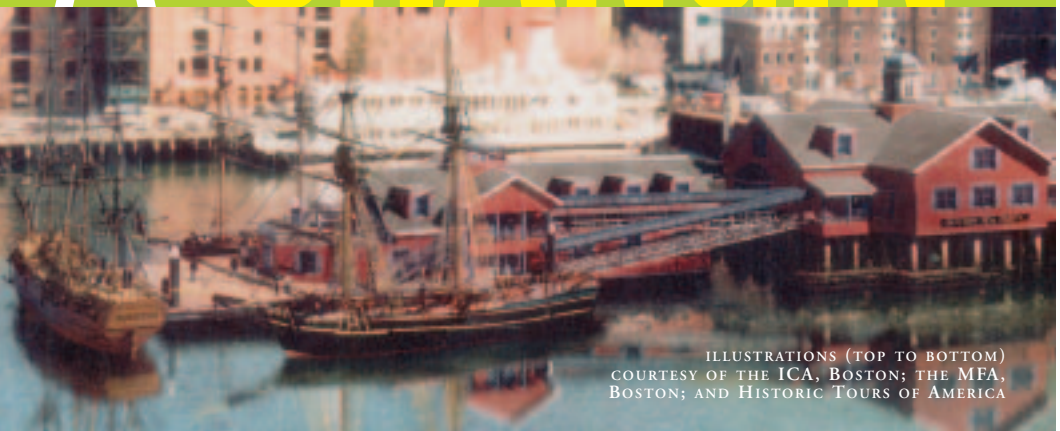
USING THE FORCE

Checking out Star Wars: Where Science Meets Imagination takes less time than, say, watching the six Star Wars *films back-to-back. But there's still a galaxy worth of cool exhibits and pieces of memorabilia to see. For those whose attention spans run at lightspeed, however, here's a guide to some of the must-see highlights.*

- **FLY LIKE A FALCON:** Many Gen-Xers grew up wanting to take a ride in Han Solo's battered but beloved starship, the *Millennium Falcon*, and the Museum of Science exhibit gives them the chance. Visitors enter a full-size replica of the *Falcon* cockpit and experience the "jump to lightspeed" in this flight simulation which also includes a multimedia presentation that Rodley describes as "a tour from the earth to the end of the universe, utilizing real, recent astronomical data."
- **BUILD YOUR OWN DROID:** You won't end up with anything that speaks 6 million languages, like C-3PO, but the interactive Robot Engineering Design Lab allows visitors to put together their own mini-robots—deciding whether to outfit them with wheels, treads or other features—and attempt to negotiate them from one end of a platform to the other. Rodley says the exhibit shows guests the complex thought process needed by real-world robotics experts to build mechanical men that can achieve the functions of "mobility, perception and cognition."
- **GIVE STAR WARS ITS PROPS:** The exhibit represents the motherlode for *Star Wars* fans—at least the ones that have never infiltrated George Lucas's bedroom closet. Included within the exhibit is an unprecedented collection of actual movie props, such as Luke's landspeeder from the original film (displayed publicly for the first time), lightsabers belonging to characters like Darth Vader, Obi-Wan Kenobi and Mace Windu, model starships, Jedi robes and even a rubberized Yoda puppet.

THE HUB IT IS A-CHANGIN'



ILLUSTRATIONS (TOP TO BOTTOM) COURTESY OF THE ICA, BOSTON; THE MFA, BOSTON; AND HISTORIC TOURS OF AMERICA

Making New Year's resolutions? The City of Boston is making changes as well—from museum expansions to a growing green scene

by Josh B. Wardrop

BOSTON'S EXPANDING ART SCENE

Although there hasn't been a major art museum building constructed in Boston in a century, beginning this year an unprecedented round of construction and renovation to Boston's existing art museums will take the city by storm.

First out of the gate is the September '06 opening of the brand-new **Institute of Contemporary Art**, which sees the ICA relocating from a small facility in a converted firehouse (so small that the museum has never been able to house a permanent collection) to a $62 million, 650,000 square foot, state-of-the-art glass and metal structure on Fan Pier, overlooking Boston Harbor. Designed by architects Diller Scofidio + Renfro, the new ICA will be a true 21st century institution, complete with multiple galleries, two-story art lab and a 325-seat performing arts theater.

Meanwhile, the **Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum** has retained architect Renzo Piano to design their first addition since the Gardner opened in 1903—a multistory gallery that will triple the Gardner's special exhibitions space by the time it's completed in 2010.

Just down the road, the **Museum of Fine Arts** (the city's last newly built art museum, in 1909) is also looking toward the future, having broken ground in November for the newest phase of its $425 million expansion campaign—a plan that calls for a new multi-level gallery to house the MFA's extensive American art collections, a glass courtyard for public gatherings, and the reopening of an entrance facing the grassy Fenway area.

Boston's new trend of museum expansion isn't limited to simply art galleries. The **Boston Children's Museum** begins a $45 million expansion early this year that will add a 23,000-square-foot structure to the existing museum building, as well as a landscaped waterfront park along the Fort Point Channel. The **Museum of Science** also recently announced plans to expand, as have museums at several colleges and universities.

BOSTON GOES GREEN

The new year is set to be verdant for the Hub, as the city completes the long-awaited **Rose Kennedy Greenway**—a 30-acre string of public parks stretching from Causeway Street near the North End to Kneeland Street in the heart of Chinatown.

The project, named for the late matriarch of America's legendary political family, replaces the Central Artery roadway, done away with by Boston's infamous "Big Dig." By the end of this year, it's expected the series of public green spaces will be substantially complete, (with the exception of some greenery planting) providing space for new parks, ponds, performance spaces and more, including a proposed four-acre "Garden Under Glass" to be built by the Massachusetts Horticultural Society.

THE DRAWING BOARD: Projects to be started or completed in 2006 include (left, top to bottom) the new Institute of Contemporary Art, the expansion and renovation of the Museum of Fine Arts and the new Boston Tea Party Ship and Museum.

NEW NAMES IN RETAIL

In late 2005, Swedish home furnishing giant **IKEA** opened its first Massachusetts store in Stoughton, about 40 minutes south of Boston. Next up, **Barney's New York** will open a flagship store at the Copley Place mall in the spring, while popular clothiers **H&M** are allegedly expanding from their Downtown Crossing location into a major new spot on Newbury Street sometime this year.

The sad news for devoted shopaholics and diehard traditionalists is the impending loss of one Boston retail giant: **Filene's** at Downtown Crossing, which departs sometime

GREENER PASTURES: Boston's downtown becomes an oasis in this rendering of the waterfront parcel of the Rose Kennedy Greenway .

in the early part of the year. At this time, seven companies have put in bids to develop new uses for the building.

A WHOLE NEW BALLGAME

The **Boston Bruins** returned from a year's layoff following the NHL strike, and got off to such a rough start that they did what many considered unthinkable: trading the franchise's golden boy captain, Joe Thornton, to San Jose. Time will tell if the bold move creates a spark for the B's, or is the beginning of a total revamp for the black and gold.

Meanwhile, the **Red Sox** enter 2006 in as much of a state of flux as any time in their history. They've already lost homegrown GM, Theo Epstein (*see sidebar*). Team personnel is changing too, with the Sox trading away starting shortstop Edgar Renteria, losing free agent heartthrob/center fielder Johnny Damon to the hated New York Yankees, acquiring ace pitcher Josh Beckett and dealing with enigmatic slugger Manny Ramirez's annual trade request. When the dust settles, Sox fans can expect a very different team than the World Series champs of just two years ago.

In addition, **Fenway Park** itself continues to undergo physical changes geared at expanding capacity and enhancing the Sox experience. Ownership has removed the glass from the 406 Club seating behind home plate, with the existing seats being split into two levels and new standing room only and box seats added to bump capacity of the park to 38,805.

HISTORY GETS A FACELIFT

Let's face it—age takes its toll on all of us, eventually. That's why in 2006 some prominent area sights are undergoing cosmetic reconstruction intended to make them things of beauty for future generations to enjoy.

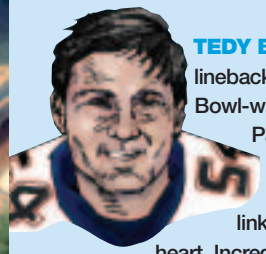
In Cambridge, the **Mount Auburn Cemetery**—final resting place of luminaries from the worlds of arts and science such as Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, B.F. Skinner, Mary Baker Eddy and many more—celebrates its 175th anniversary with new landscaping. Additionally, its historic Bigelow Chapel will undergo a major restoration, including a new exhibit detailing the cemetery's history.

For more than four years, the site of the old **Boston Tea Party Museum** has been derelict following a fire. This year, however, plans will move forward to erect a new, larger museum with interactive exhibits and memorabilia, to be flanked by three replica ships currently being restored. The new museum, expected to be complete by early 2007, promises to be a key attraction in the ongoing development of the Fort Point Channel. Ⓟ

COMPUTER RENDERING COURTESY OF NEOSCAPE, INC., BASED ON DESIGNS BY EDAW, INC. AND COPLEY WOLFF DESIGN GROUP

AND HOW WAS *YOUR* YEAR?

Some of Boston's most prominent names had an eventful 2005, with even more on their plate for 2006. Here's a look at what some of the city's notable figures were up to in the last 12 months.



TEDY BRUSCHI: The stalwart linebacker of three Super Bowl-winning New England Patriots teams suffered a mild stroke in February, which was linked to a tiny hole in his heart. Incredibly, after sitting out the first few months of the season, Bruschi returned to action in November after being cleared medically, and helped the Pats win a third straight divisional title.

MAYOR THOMAS MENINO: Also in November, Menino entered rarified air as he was elected to his fourth consecutive term at the helm of the Hub, beating out former City Councilor Maura Hennigan. Should he serve out his full term, Menino (affectionately known as "Mumbles" to many of his constituents) will become Boston's longest-serving mayor.

GOVERNOR MITT ROMNEY: Massachusetts' 2004 decision to allow gay marriage might have been a blessing in disguise for slicked-back Mormon Romney. Throughout 2005, Romney—who vehemently opposed the measure—stepped up his out-of-state appearances, trumpeting family values before Republican groups across the nation. Romney was also given a position of national authority in the GOP, being named chairman of the Republican Governors Association in November. Now, Romney has said he won't seek re-election in '06, further fueling speculation of a presidential run in 2008.

LARRY SUMMERS: Ever have one of those statements you wish you could take back the second it comes out of your mouth? Summers, the president of Harvard University, sure does: it came in January, when he remarked to the National Bureau of Economic Research that women may have a hard time excelling in the sciences because of "innate differences" between the sexes. The resulting uproar led to Summers receiving a no confidence vote from Harvard's Faculty of Arts and Sciences, and, one would imagine, a raised finger from a passing female motorist or two.

MATT AMORELLO: It's never easy being chairman of the Massachusetts Turnpike Authority, but it's safe to say that 2005 isn't a year Amorello will look back on as one of his professional high watermarks. In March, Romney filed papers trying to get Amorello removed from his position as chief of the Big Dig after it was revealed that the expensive new I-93 tunnel was full of leaks. Amorello vowed to fight to keep his position, has done so, and is no doubt hoping 2006 will bring a light at the end of the Big Dig tunnel.

THEO EPSTEIN: Perhaps miffed at being referred to as "Boy Wonder" one too many times, the 31-year-old general manager of the Boston Red Sox abruptly resigned his position with the Sox at the 11th hour of contract negotiations. Rumors persist that the Brookline native will return to baseball sooner rather than later (perhaps, in the oddest of twists, with the Sox—who have rather publicly left the door open for him), but thus far, Theo's lips have been sealed.

ILLUSTRATIONS BY JEREMIAH BROWN

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TOWERING ABOVE: Boston's oldest skyscraper, the Custom House cuts and elegant figure in the Hub's skyline. *Refer to listing, page 43.*

DAVID DEVEAU AND FRIENDS: The critically acclaimed pianist performs the works of Haydn, Liszt and Webern, a new piece by Peter Child, and the rarely performed chamber version of Beethoven's *Piano Concerto No. 4*. **Refer to listing, below.**

CLASSICAL

BOSTON CHAMBER MUSIC SOCIETY, 617-349-0086. ***Jan 13*** *at 7:30 p.m.,* at Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St. and ***Jan 15*** *at 7:30 p.m.,* at Sanders Theatre, Harvard University, 45 Quincy St., Cambridge. *Tickets: $17–46.* The BCMS performs works by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart.

BOSTON EARLY MUSIC FESTIVAL CONCERTS, First Church in Cambridge, Congregational, 11 Garden St., Cambridge, 617-661-1812. ***Jan 13*** *at 8 p.m. Tickets: $21–53.* Paolo Pandolfo, a master of the ancient instrument the viola da gamba, performs sonatas by Bach.

BOSTON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA, Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., 617-266-1200. *Tickets: $29–108.* Renowned throughout the world for its distinctive sound, impressive range and virtuosity, the Boston Symphony Orchestra celebrates its 125th year in a season that brings fresh perspectives to a well-known repertoire while offering insights into the future of classical music. ***Jan 5–7 & 10*** *at 8 p.m.*—The BSO is joined by guest conductor Kurt Masur and percussionist Christopher Lamb to perform works by Bruckner and Tan Dun; ***Jan 12 & 14*** *at 8 p.m.,* ***Jan 13*** *at 1:30 p.m.*—James Levine leads the BSO in a world premiere performance of a specially-commissioned work by Jonathan Dawe, as well as works by Schumann and Berlioz.

DAVID DEVEAU AND FRIENDS, Bank of America Celebrity Series, Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., 617-482-2595. ***Jan 14*** *at 8 p.m. Tickets: $25–35.* The acclaimed pianist performs pieces by Haydn, Lizst, Beethoven and others.

EMMANUEL MUSIC, Emmanuel Church, 15 Newbury St., 617-536-3356. *Admission: free will offering.* Conductor Craig Smith leads the Orchestra and Chorus of Emmanuel Music in the Weekly Cantata. ***Jan 8*** *at 10 a.m.*—Bach's *BWV 28;* ***Jan 15*** *at 10 a.m.*—Bach's *BWV 3.*

HANDEL AND HAYDN SOCIETY, Symphony Hall, 301 Massachusetts Ave., 617-266-4048. ***Jan 13*** *at 8 p.m.,* ***Jan 14 & 15*** *at 3 p.m. Tickets:* $15–63. Conductor Grant Llewellyn leads the Society in a violin concerto and a performance of Beethoven's *Symphony No. 5.*

PRO ARTE CHAMBER ORCHESTRA, Sanders Theatre, 45 Quincy St., Cambridge, 617-661-7067. ***Jan 15*** *at 3 p.m. Tickets:* $12–48. Pro Arte celebrates Mozart's 250th birthday with a performance of some of his greatest works, including guest pianist Alexander Korsantia's rendition of Mozart's *Concerto No. 27.*

COMEDY

THE COMEDY CONNECTION, Quincy Market, Faneuil Hall Marketplace, 617-248-9700. *Cover and times may vary. Call for full schedule.* Named "The Best Comedy Club in the Country" (*USA Today*), this venue has featured national and local stand-up acts such as Wendy Liebman, Chris Rock, Rosie O'Donnell and Dave Chappelle. *Tickets: $12–40.* ***Jan 2 & 9*** *at 8 p.m.*—Amateur Showcase; ***Jan 3 & 10*** *at 8 p.m.*—Paul Nardizzi; ***Jan 4*** *at 8 p.m.*—Jim Lauletta; ***Jan 5 & 12*** *at 8:30 p.m.*—Frank Santos, The R-Rated Hypnotist; ***Jan 8*** *at 7 p.m.*—Paul Keenan; ***Jan 11*** *at 8 p.m.*—Jim Dunn; ***Jan 13 & 14*** *at 8 & 10:15 p.m.*—Bob Marley.

THE COMEDY STUDIO AT THE HONG KONG, 1236 Mass. Ave., Harvard Square, Cambridge, 617-661-6507. *Doors open at 7:30 p.m.; nightly shows begin at 8 p.m. Call for complete schedule. Cover: $8-10.* A place where fresh talent is discovered and headliners experiment. ***Jan 3 & 10***—Magic Lounge!; ***Jan 4***—Rebecca Anderson, Shane Mauss, Eric Cheung and others; ***Jan 5 & 12***—The Dan Sally Show!; ***Jan 6***—Orlando Baxter, Shaun Bedgood, JJ Leslie and others; ***Jan 7***—Orlando Baxter, Shane Mauss, Rick Jenkins; ***Jan 8***—Erin Judge Presents; ***Jan 13***—Tim McIntire, Nicole Blizek, Joe Cronin and others; ***Jan 14***—Tim McIntire, Shane Mauss, Andrea Henry and others; ***Jan 15***—Erin Judge Presents.

DICK DOHERTY'S COMEDY VAULT, Remington Restaurant, 124 Boylston St., Boston, 617-482-0110. *Call for reservations and performance schedule. Shows Thu–Sat at 9 p.m.; open mic Sun at 9 p.m. Cover: $10–25.* Located in an actual bank vault downstairs in Remington's Eating and Drinking Exchange, this club features Boston's top comics.

IMPROV ASYLUM, 216 Hanover St., 617-263-6887. Showtimes: *Wed & Thu at 8 p.m.; Fri & Sat at 8 and 10 p.m. Tickets: $15–20, dinner packages available. Wed at 8 p.m.*—Lost in Boston, a "wicked pissah" show about Boston's unique character. *Thu–Sat*—Yankee Swap Death Match, audience-inspired improvisation mixed with sketch comedy; *Fri at midnight*—Local comedy troupes perform in The Night Shift; *Sat at midnight*—The Midnight Show. Special event: ***Jan 12*** *at 9:45 p.m.*—*Waiting for Ennis Cotter.*

IMPROVBOSTON, Back Alley Theater, 1253 Cambridge St., Cambridge, 617-576-1253. *Cover: $5–12.* This comedy troupe features sketch comedy, games, original music and audience participation. *Wed*—The Hump; *Thu at 8 & 10 p.m.*—UnNatural Selection and The Great & Secret Comedy Show; *Fri at 8 & 10 p.m.*—In the Garage and TheatreSports; *Sat at 6, 8 and 10 p.m.*—ImprovBoston Family Show and ImprovBoston Mainstage; *Sun at 7 p.m.*—Sgt. Culpepper's Improvisational Jamboree. Special event: ***Jan 4*** *at 10 p.m.*— Naked Comedy Showcase.

JIMMY TINGLE'S OFF BROADWAY, 255 Elm St., Davis Square, Somerville, 617-591-1616. *Call for reservations and complete schedule.* Founded by comic/actor/writer Jimmy Tingle, this multi-use venue features both established and aspiring performers. *Fri & Sat at 7:30 p.m., Sun at 3 p.m.—Stand Up and Sing, Harp Lady,* a one-woman show by Deborah Henson-Conant, *tickets: $18–20.*

NICK'S COMEDY STOP, 100 Warrenton St., Boston, 617-423-2900. *Shows Thu at 8:30 p.m.; Fri & Sat at 8:45 p.m. Cover: $15.* Nick's is Boston's largest and longest-running comedy club.

STEVE SWEENEY'S COMEDY CAFE, 711 Boylston St., 617-482-0110. *Shows Thu–Sat at 8 p.m. Cover: $20.* Local funny man Steve Sweeney teams with Beantown comedy fixture Dick Doherty for shows featuring comedy and late-night dancing.

THE TRIBE THEATRE, 67 Stuart St, 617-510-4447. *Shows Thu & Fri at 8 p.m. Tickets: $7–15.* Home of The Tribe, a collective of Boston comedic artists, with troupes focusing on improv, sketch comedy, theater, music and children's productions. *Thu*—New England Family, Improv Foundry and others, *Fri*—The Tribe Players and others.

CONVENTIONS & EXPOS

BAYSIDE EXPO CENTER, 200 Mount Vernon St., Columbia Point, 617-474-6000. ***Jan 6-8***—World of Wheels, a championship auto showcase featuring award-winning custom cars.

SEAPORT WORLD TRADE CENTER, 1 Seaport Lane, 781-455-1188. ***Jan 8***—Boston Wedding Show, featuring bridal fashion shows, a diamond-diving Battle of the Brides, and wedding vendors.

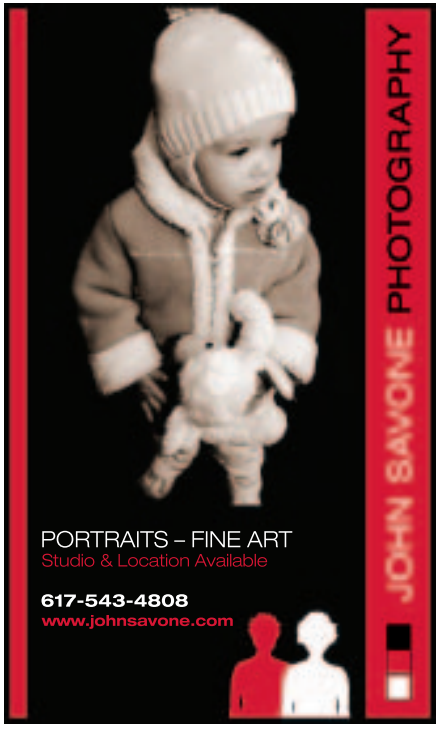
DANCE

DANCE ACROSS THE CITY DAY, Wang Theatre, 270 Tremont St., 617-532-1221. www.danceacrossthecity.org. ***Jan 7*** *from 9 a.m.–6 p.m. Free and open to the public.* Dance Across The City is an educational collaboration between Bank of America Celebrity Series and The Wang Center for the Performing Arts that showcases dance in the Boston community as a vital and enriching experience through a series of creative and interactive events—from belly dancing to ballet and Latin to break dancing.

EVERETT DANCE THEATRE, Zero Arrow Theatre, Arrow Street and Massachusetts Avenue, Cambridge, 617-876-4275. ***Jan 11 & 12*** *at 7:30 p.m.,* ***Jan 13 & 14*** *at 8 p.m.,* ***Jan 15*** *at 2 p.m. Tickets: $30.* The nationally recognized dance troupe presents the Boston premiere of *Home Movies*, a show that combines dance, theater, music and video in an artistic look at the modern American family.

FILM

THE BRATTLE THEATRE, 40 Brattle St., Cambridge, 617-876-6837. *Call for showtimes and complete schedule. Tickets: $9; students & matinees $7.50; seniors & children $6.* Classic, cutting-edge and world cinema with a different double feature almost every day. Special event: Muppet Movies x3. ***Jan 2*** *at 5:30, 7:30 and 9:30 p.m.—The Muppet Movie*; ***Jan 3*** *at 5:30,*



7:30 and 9:30 p.m.—The Great Muppet Caper; ***Jan 4*** *at 5:30, 7:30 and 9:30 p.m.—The Muppets Take Manhattan.*

COOLIDGE CORNER THEATRE, 290 Harvard Ave., Brookline, 617-734-2500. *Call for showtimes and complete schedule. Tickets: $8.50; members, seniors & children $5.50.* This independent movie house screens recent indie films, as well as the classics. Now showing: *Boys of Baraka, Brokeback Mountain, Memoirs of a Geisha.*

HARVARD FILM ARCHIVE, Carpenter Center for the Visual Arts, 24 Quincy St., Cambridge, 617-495-4700. *Call for showtimes, complete schedule and ticket prices.* With over 300 films shown per year, HFA is one of the most active art cinemas in New England. Screenings include: ***Jan 6 & 8*** *at 9 p.m.—The Condemned of Altona;* ***Jan 11*** *at 6:30 p.m.—Star Spangled to Death*; ***Jan 14*** *at 7 p.m.—The Proud Ones.*

LOEWS BOSTON COMMON, corner of Tremont and Avery streets, 617-423-3499 or 617-333-FILM. *Call for showtimes, complete schedule and ticket prices.* This state-of-the-art cineplex is the largest downtown movie theater in New England, featuring 4,500 stadium seats and 19 oversized screens spanning 100,000 square feet.

MUGAR OMNI THEATER, Museum of Science, 617-723-2500 or 617-333-FILM. *Call for showtimes and complete schedule. Tickets: $7.50; seniors $5.50; children (3–11) $6.50. Discounted admission for showtimes after 6 p.m.* This IMAX theater presents larger-than-life images on a five-story high, domed screen. Now showing: *Amazon; Fighter Pilot; Special Effects; Wired to Win, Surviving the Tour de France.*

MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS, 465 Huntington Ave., 617-267-9300. *Screenings Thu–Sun, call for showtimes and complete schedule. Tickets: $9; students & seniors $8.* The Museum of Fine Arts' Film Program has grown to become one of the nation's finest exhibitors of contemporary international cinema, restored classics and premieres of American independent films. ***Jan 4 and 14*** *at 6 p.m.,* ***Jan 5*** *at 4 p.m.*—Benoit Jacquot's *A tout de suite;* ***Jan 4–14*** *—Gilles' Wife;* ***Jan 7*** *at 3 p.m.—Murderball;* ***beginning Jan 12****—Genesis.*

SIMONS IMAX THEATER, New England Aquarium, Central Wharf, 866-815-4629. *Sun–Wed 9:30 a.m.–9:30 p.m.; Thu–Sat: 10 a.m.–9:30 p.m. Call for showtimes and complete schedule. Tickets: $8.95; seniors & children (3–11) $6.95.* This recent addition to the New England Aquarium is the first large-format theater in Boston to have 3D viewing capability. Now showing: *The Polar Express; Wild Safari; Sharks 3D; Magnificent Desolation.*

KIDS CORNER

BOSTON CHILDREN'S MUSEUM, Museum Wharf, 300 Congress St., 617-426-8855. *Refer to listing in Museums.* Daily organized activities in the Art Studio, Play Space and KidStage, such as music and movement, finger puppet making and kitchen science. Special events: ***Jan 6***—Three Kings Day; ***Jan 6 & 13*** *from 5:30–8:30 p.m.*—Spirit of the Season; ***Jan 14*** *from 11 a.m.–2 p.m.*—Home Depot Workshops; ***Jan 15*** *from 11 a.m.–4 p.m.*—Japanese New Year Celebration.

BOSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY, 700 Boylston St., Copley Square, 617-536-5400. *Refer to listing in Sightseeing section.* The first publicly supported municipal library in the world hosts many activities and special programs for children, including live performances, storytelling, interactive computer activities and films. Special event: ***Jan 6*** *at 10:30 a.m.*—Kids Cinema, for children ages 3–7 accompanied by an adult.

EVERETT DANCE THEATRE: The nationally recognized dance troupe presents the Boston premiere of *Home Movies* at Zero Arrow Theatre in Cambridge. **Refer to listing, page 25.**

COOLIDGE CORNER THEATRE, 290 Harvard St., Brookline, 617-734-2500. *Refer to listing in Film section.* This independent movie theatre, a restored Art Deco movie palace, hosts kids screenings and performances on a regular basis. Special events: ***Jan 7 & 8*** *at 11 a.m.*—Kids' First Film Series: *Creature Comforts*; ***Jan 14*** *at 10:30 a.m.*—Kid's Variety Show, featuring the Jim Show; ***Jan 15*** *at 11 a.m.*—Kids' First Film Series: *Blues Clues.*

MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS, 465 Huntington Ave., 617-267-9300. *Refer to listing in Museums.* The fine arts are not just for adults. Special activities: *Mon–Fri at 3:30 p.m.*—Children's Room, free gallery and workshop program for children ages 6–12, offering active exploration of the MFA's collection through art projects, drama, poetry and music; *Tue & Wed at 3:30 p.m.*—Books Bring Art Alive explores the MFA collections using picture books, gallery activities and adult/child art projects.

PUPPET SHOWPLACE THEATRE, 32 Station St., Brookline, 617-731-6400. The first puppetry center in New England presents the magical world of puppet theater to a broad community, enlightening audiences of all ages. *Tickets: $8.50.* ***Jan 7 & 8*** *at 1 and 3 p.m.—Aesop's Fables;* ***Jan 14 & 15*** *at 1 and 3 p.m.—Gulliver's Travels.*

LIVE MUSIC

AVALON, 15 Lansdowne St., 617-262-2424. This popular nightclub hosts rock and pop music acts prior to evening dance nights with DJs.

AXIS, 13 Landsdowne St., 617-262-2437. *Call for full schedule.* This popular nightclub hosts rock, punk and alternative music acts prior to evening dance nights with DJs.

BERKLEE PERFORMANCE CENTER, 136 Massachusetts Ave., 617-747-2261. ***Jan 7*** *at 8 p.m.*—Elvis impersonator Steve Connolly, *tickets: $27.50–47.50.*

CLUB PASSIM, 47 Palmer St., Cambridge, 617-492-7679. *Call for full schedule.* This intimate coffeehouse in Harvard Square was a starting place for legendary folk icons such as Joan Baez and Bob Dylan. ***Jan 5*** *at 8 p.m.*—Jason Myles Goss and Devon Sproule, *tickets: $10;* ***Jan 6*** *at 8 p.m.*—Kate Klim and Anais Mitchell, *tickets: $12;* ***Jan 13*** *at 7:30 p.m.,* ***Jan 14*** *at 11:15 a.m. and 8 p.m.*—BCMFest (Celtic music festival), featuring Tullochgorum, Emerald Rae, Fabian Joyce and many others, *tickets: $18 (Fri), $10 (Sat morning), $15 (Sat night);* ***Jan 15*** *at 7:30 p.m.*—Michelle Shocked, *tickets: $25.*

HARPERS FERRY, 156 Brighton Ave., Allston, 617-254-9743. *Shows start at 8 p.m. Call for complete schedule.* This club is renowned for showcasing local classic rock and rhythm 'n' blues cover bands. ***Jan 6***—The Knot, *tickets: $5;* ***Jan 7***—Chris Trapper and the Wolverine Jazz Band, *tickets: $15;* ***Jan 13***—Appetite for Destruction (Guns 'N' Roses tribute band), *tickets: $10.*

THE MIDDLE EAST, 472 Mass. Ave., Cambridge, 617-864-EAST. *Doors open at 8 p.m., show starts at 9 p.m. unless otherwise noted. Call for complete schedule. Cover: $8–20.* Whether Upstairs, Downstairs or in the Corner, this entertainment club showcases the best alternative and indie rock bands in town. ***Jan 6***—Era for a Moment, Jaded, Ravage, Official and Offset, *tickets: $10;* ***Jan 7***—Electric Sugar, String Theory, The Vital Might and Audrey Can't Die, *tickets: $10;* ***Jan 13***—Camper Van Beethoven with Trampled by Turtles, *tickets: $20;* ***Jan 14***—Cart Blanch, Medina Sod, Haverchuck and Vette, *tickets: $10.*

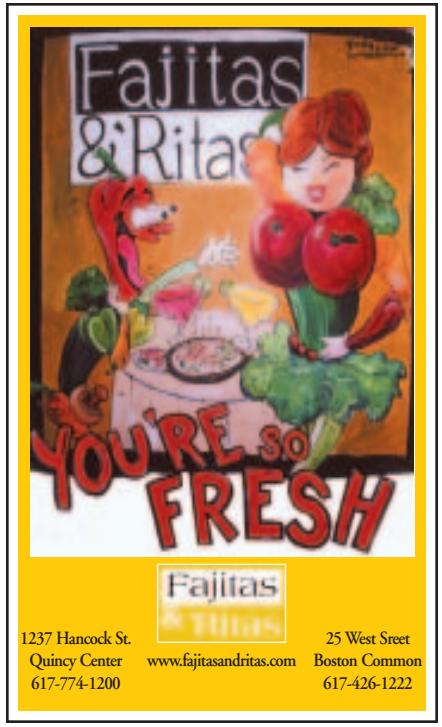
PARADISE ROCK CLUB, 967 Commonwealth Ave., 617-562-8800. *Call for complete schedule.* An intimate setting with a big sound, Paradise is one of Boston's favorite rock clubs. *All shows 18+ unless otherwise noted.* ***Jan 6*** *at 9 p.m.*—The Wailers with Jah-N-I, *tickets: $25;* ***Jan 8*** *at 7 p.m.*—Hot Stove, Cool Music benefit, featuring Kay Hanley, Buffalo Tom with Theo Epstein, The Gentlemen, The Peter Gammons All Stars and others, *tickets: $40.*

PIANO LOUNGE, Hampshire House, 84 Beacon St., 617-227-9600. *Wed–Sat, from 9 p.m.–midnight, tickets: $5 Wed, $10 Thu, $15 Fri and $20 Sat.* Broadway favorites and other classic songs performed by pianist/vocalist Bobby Wetherbee.

REGATTABAR, third floor of The Charles Hotel, 1 Bennett St., Cambridge, 617-661-5099. ***Jan 6*** *at 7:30 and 10 p.m.*—Johnny A., *tickets: $16;* ***Jan 12*** *at 7:30 p.m.*—Boston Horns CD release party, *tickets: $15;* ***Jan 14*** *at 7:30 and 10 p.m.,* ***Jan 15*** *at 4 and 7 p.m.*—The Kenny Garrett Quartet, *tickets: $24.*

SCULLERS JAZZ CLUB, DoubleTree Guest Suites Hotel, 400 Soldiers Field Road, 617-562-4111. *Showtimes: Tue–Thu at 8 and 10 p.m., Fri & Sat at 8 and 10:30 p.m., Sun at 7 and 9 p.m. unless otherwise noted. Combination tickets include dinner and show.* ***Jan 5 & 6***—Shawnn Montiero with Clark Terry, *tickets: $24, $64 with dinner;* ***Jan 12***—Alex Bugnon, *tickets: $20, $60 with dinner;* ***Jan 13 & 14***—New York Voices, *tickets: $25, $65 with dinner.*

SOMERVILLE THEATRE, 55 Davis Square, Somerville, 617-625-4088. ***Jan 13*** *at 8 p.m.*—Huun Huur Tu, a throat singing ensemble from Tuva, *tickets: $22 & 28.*



TD BANKNORTH GARDEN, 100 Legends Way (Causeway Street), 617-624-1000. The former FleetCenter not only hosts Celtics and Bruins home games, but is the premier indoor concert arena for the city of Boston. ***Jan 13 & 15*** *at 7:30 p.m.*—The Rolling Stones, *tickets: $60–450.*

T.T. THE BEAR'S PLACE, 10 Brookline St., Cambridge, 617-492-BEAR. *Shows start at 8:30 p.m. Call for complete schedule. Cover: $8–14.* ***Jan 5***—Kay Hanley, Scamper, Hilken Mancini and Chris Colbourn and The Knee-Hi's; ***Jan 6***—The Queers, Downbeat 5, The Arsons, The Steinways and Whoa Babies; ***Jan 7***—The Shills, Last Week and Baker; ***Jan 11***—The Jody Grind; ***Jan 14***—Rocketscience, Pure Fiction, Rebecca Nurse and The Ferns.

TOP OF THE HUB, Prudential Tower, 52nd floor, 617-536-1775. Enjoy food, drink and the best view in Boston as you swing to live jazz and classics from the Great American Songbook. ***Jan 2, 8, 9 & 15*** *at 8 p.m.*—Marty Ballou Trio; ***Jan 3–5*** *at 8:30 p.m.*—Bob Nieske Trio; ***Jan 6 & 7*** *at 9 p.m.*—Bob Nieske Group with vocalist Maggie Galloway; ***Jan 8 & 15*** *at noon*—Lee Childs Group; ***Jan 10–12*** *at 8:30,* ***Jan 13 & 14*** *at 9 p.m.*—Stan Strickland Group.

SPECIAL EVENTS

BOSTON BRUINS WIVES' CHARITY CARNIVAL, TD Banknorth garden, 100 Legends Way, 617-931-2222. ***Jan 8*** *at noon and 3:30 p.m. Tickets: $7–25.* This annual charity event allows Bruins fans young and old the opportunity to tour the Bruins locker room, attend autograph sessions and more. The entire Boston Bruins team will be in attendance, and visitors will even have a chance to take their shots against the team's goalies. Proceeds benefit the Boston Bruins Foundation.

WORLD OF WHEELS 2006, Bayside Expo & Conference Center, 200 Mount Vernon St., 617-474-6000. ***Jan 6–8****: Fri from 5–11 p.m., Sat from 10 a.m.–11 p.m., Sun from 10 a.m.–8 p.m. Tickets: $14, children $5.* The show boasts 300 custom vehicles created or restored by local auto enthusiasts—ranging from hot rods to antiques. Other attractions include BMX extreme team high action bike demonstrations, an auto memorabilia show, Orange County Choppers displays and appearances by sports celebrities including NASCAR driver Rusty Wallace and Boston Bruin Patrice Bergeron.

SPORTS

BOSTON BRUINS **NATIONAL HOCKEY LEAGUE**
TD Banknorth Garden, 100 Legends Way, 617-624-1000

Jan 5 *at 7 p.m.*	vs. Ottawa Senators
Jan 7 *at 7 p.m.*	vs. Tampa Bay Lightning
Jan 10 *at 7 p.m.*	vs. San Jose Sharks
Jan 12 *at 7 p.m.*	vs. Los Angeles Kings
Jan 14 *at 7 p.m.*	vs. Dallas Stars

BOSTON CELTICS **NATIONAL BASKETBALL ASSOCIATION**
TD Banknorth Garden, 100 Legends Way, 617-523-3030

Jan 4 *at 7:30 p.m.*	vs. Charlotte Bobcats
Jan 6 *at 7:30 p.m.*	vs. Atlanta Hawks
Jan 9 *at 7:30 p.m.*	vs. Dallas Mavericks

NEW ENGLAND PATRIOTS **NATIONAL FOOTBALL LEAGUE**
Gilettte Stadium, One Patriot Place, Foxborough, 800-543-1776.
Call for playoff schedule and ticket information

HUUN HUUR TU: The throat singers from the independent republic of Tuva, which borders Mongolia, perform at the Somerville Theatre on January 13. **Refer to listing, page 27.**

THEATER

AFRICAN AMERICAN THEATRE FESTIVAL 2006, Our Place Theatre Project, Roberts Studio Theatre, Calderwood Pavilion at the Boston Center for the Arts, 527 Tremont St., 617-933-8600. *Performances* ***Jan 10–14*** *at 7:30 p.m,* ***Jan 14*** *at 2 p.m.,* ***Jan 15*** *at 3 p.m. Tickets: $22.50–42.50.* This year's edition features *Rhythm of the People*, a collection of African dance, song and scenes from favorite plays, and *Dark As A Thousand Midnights*, a world premiere by Jacqui Parker that follows the trials, triumphs and love of the Riley family as they deal with the disappearance of their child in the racially charged climate of 1955 Mississippi.

BLUE MAN GROUP, Charles Playhouse, 74 Warrenton St., 617-931-2787 or 617-426-6912. *Performances: Wed & Thu at 8 p.m., Fri at 7 p.m., Sat at 4, 7 and 10 p.m., Sun at 2 and 5 p.m. Tickets: $46–56.* This giddily subversive off-Broadway hit features three muted, blue-painted performers who spoof both contemporary art and modern technology through wry commentary and bemusing antics. The show has been updated to include new performance pieces, new music and alterations to the sound and lighting design.

CHARLOTTE THE DESTROYER, My Fair Heathen Productions, Plaza Theatre, Boston Center for the Arts, 539 Tremont St., 617-933-8600. *Performances* ***beginning Jan 11****: Wed–Sat at 8 p.m., Sat & Sun at 2 p.m. Tickets: $20.* This original, dark comedy written by Megan O'Leary and directed by Janet Bobcean centers around a washed-up, 30-year-old female writer whose drinking problem and death anxiety sabotage her ability to finish her novel. The writer's poisoned thoughts manifest in the twisted behavior of her characters with every attempt to finish her work.

FLOWERS OF RED, Playwrights' Theatre at Boston University, 949 Commonwealth Ave., 617-358-PLAY. *Performances* ***beginning Jan 5****: Thu–Sat at 8 p.m., Sun at 4 p.m. Tickets: $20.* This three-character play by Eliza Wyatt concerns young people in the grip of political passion who meet in Rafah, Gaza. It is a fictional look at the factors involved in the death of a young American peace activist in 2003.

HOME, Queer Soup Theater, Plaza Black Box Theatre, Boston Center for the Arts, 539 Tremont St., 617-426-2787. *Perfomances* ***beginning Jan 13****: Wed–Sat at 8 p.m., Sun at 2 p.m. Tickets: $24.* This world premiere written by award-winning Boston playwright Jess Martin delves into the story of a minister whose faith is rocked by the death-bed revelation that her grandfather was born biologically female. Dealing with issues of sex and gender identity, the play explores the question of just what it takes to make a man or a woman.

LES LIAISONS DANGEREUSES, Huntington Theatre Company, Boston University Theatre, 264 Huntington Ave., 617-266-0800. *Performances* ***beginning Jan 6:*** *Fri & Sat at 8 p.m., Sun at 7 p.m., and Tue & Thu at 7:30 p.m. Tickets: $16–65.* Desire and deceit have powerful consequences in Christopher Hampton's seductive and fiercely witty look at games of love and lust in 18th century France. The beautiful and cunning la Marquise de Merteuil enlists her partner-in-crime Valmont, played by Michael T. Weiss (from last season's *Burn This*), to seduce a former lover's young bride-to-be in this thrilling adaptation of the classic novel by Choderlos de Laclos.

LITTLE WOMEN: THE MUSICAL, The Opera House, 539 Washington St., 617-931-2787. *Performances* ***beginning Jan 10****: Tue–Thu at 7:30 p.m., Fri at 8 p.m., Sat at 2 and 8 p.m., Sun at 2 and 7:30 p.m. Tickets: $25–87.50.* Join the remarkable March sisters—Jo, Meg, Beth and Amy—as one of America's most beloved books soars to the stage. Starring Maureen McGovern direct from Broadway, this dazzling new musical—based on Louise May Alcott's timeless tale about the power of family, friendship and romance—is capturing the hearts of a new generation.

MENOPAUSE THE MUSICAL, Stuart Street Playhouse, Radisson Hotel, 200 Stuart St., 800-447-7400. *Performances: Wed–Fri at 8 p.m., Sat & Sun at 2 and 5 p.m. Tickets: $42.50.* This hilarious celebration of women and "the change" starts with four ladies at a Bloomingdale's lingerie sale who bond over their menopausal ailments—memory loss, brain skips, hot flashes, night sweats, not enough sex, too much sex and more. The joyful musical parodies 28 classic Baby Boomer songs.

NO EXIT, American Repertory Theatre, Loeb Drama Center, 64 Brattle St., Cambridge, 617-547-8300. *Performances* ***beginning Jan 7****: Tue–Thu at 7:30 p.m., Fri at 8 p.m., Sat at 2 and 8 p.m., Sun at 2 and 7:30 pm. Tickets: $37–74.* Jean-Paul Sartre's classic thriller—part philosophical melodrama, part farce—revolves around three recently deceased strangers who find themselves locked in a drawing room, trapped together for eternity in an endless love triangle that forms their own private hell. Imago Theatre's stylish production sets the stage in a maddeningly unstable world—where the three inmates must literally fight to retain their footing with every step.

A PRAYER FOR OWEN MEANY, Stoneham Theatre, 395 Main St., Stoneham, 781-279-2200. *Performances* ***beginning Jan***

***12**: Thu at 7:30, Fri at 8 p.m., Sat at 4 and 8 p.m., Sun at 2 p.m. Tickets: $18–36.* This New England premiere, adapted from John Irving's novel by Simon Bent, tells the unforgettable story of one incredible boy with a "wrecked voice" who believes he is God's instrument.

THE RITALIN READINGS, The Theatre Cooperative, 277 Broadway, Somerville, 617-625-1300. ***Jan 6 & 7** at 8 p.m., Tickets: $10.* This annual festival of 10-minute plays by emerging New England playwrights presents readings of some of the best local talent, and includes such provocative tales as the story of an altar boy caught between his gum and a crisis of faith, a heterosexual woman who discovers she's in love with her female best friend who turns out to be a former man and a prisoner on death row who can only escape his fate if he can fail the literacy test he's struggled to pass.

SHEAR MADNESS, Charles Playhouse Stage II, 74 Warrenton St., 617-426-5225. *Performances: Tue–Fri at 8 p.m., Sat at 6:30 and 9:30 p.m., Sun at 3 and 7:30 p.m. Tickets: $34–50.* Boston's hilarious whodunnit where the audience takes a stab at catching the killer. Become an armchair sleuth in the longest-running non-musical play in U.S. history.

TWELFTH NIGHT, Actors' Shakespeare Project, Cambridge Multicultural Arts Center, 41 Second St., Cambridge, 866-811-4111. *Performances **through Jan 8**: Thu & Fri at 7:30 p.m. Tickets: $23–40.* In a comedy of mischief, madness and merry-making, Viola, one of Shakespeare's most delightful heroines, must disguise herself as a boy. Mistaken identities, unrequited love and the pursuit of happiness abound, leavened with music and the occasional sharp edge.

UNACCUSTOMED TO MY NAME, Wellesley Summer Theatre, Ruth Nagel Jones Theatre, Alumnae Hall, 106 Central St., Wellesley, 781-283-2000. Performances ***beginning Jan 12**: Thu at 7 p.m., Fri at 8 p.m., Sat at 2 and 8 p.m. Tickets: $20, students and seniors: $10.* This bittersweet comedy written and performed by Marta Rainer tells the story of Sofie, a young woman who creates a new persona, Sonya, in order to spice up her dreary existence. With this exciting alter ego (and her new poetry professor beau), she suddenly has a new lease on life—but how long will it be before her lies catch up with her?

THE UNDERPANTS, Lyric Stage Company, 140 Clarendon St., 617-437-7172. Performances ***beginning Jan 6**: Fri at 8 p.m., Sat at 4 and 8 p.m., Sun at 3 p.m., Wed at 2 and 7:30 p.m, Thu at 7:30 p.m. Tickets: $20–45.* Comic mastermind Steve Martin's sidesplitting adaptation of this classic 1910 German farce confronts the vagaries of fleeting celebrity. When a housewife becomes an instant celebrity when her unruly undergarments accidentally fall down as she watches a parade, her newfound fame scandalizes her priggish husband, thrills her upstairs neighbor and brings out a string of odd suitors hoping to rent a room in their apartment.

TICKETS

BOSTIX, Faneuil Hall Marketplace and Copley Square, 617-723-5181. *Mon–Sat 10 a.m.–6 p.m. (Faneuil Hall closed Mon); Sun 11 a.m.–4 p.m.* Information and tickets, including half-price seats on day of event, for the best performing arts around Boston. Subject to availability.

BOSTON CITYPASS, www.citypass.com. Visit six of Boston's best attractions for one low price. Save 50% and avoid ticket lines. *Booklet price: $39; youth (3–11) $19.50.* Ticket booklets are available at the first attraction visited and are valid for a year. The CityPass ticket booklet includes admission to six major attractions: the John F. Kennedy Presidential Library and Museum, New England Aquarium, Museum of Fine Arts, Museum of Science, Skywalk Observatory at the Prudential Center and Harvard Museum of Natural History.

EXPLORERS PASS, Available at 60 Rowes Wharf, 800-887-9103. *Pass price: $35.* The pass offers admission to 10 top Boston attractions—including the New England Aquarium, JFK Presidential Library and Boston Harbor Cruises—over a two-day period. Card holders are also entitled to preferred entry at select attractions and savings of up to 20% at shops and restaurants around the city.

GO BOSTON CARD, Available at Bostix locations at Faneuil Hall Marketplace and Copley Square and at the Visitor Information Center on Boston Common, 617-742-5950. *Cards can be purchased in one, two, three, five and seven day increments, and range from $45–135 for adults, $25–65 for children.* The GO Boston card offers unlimited free admission to more than 60 area atttractions, as well as savings up to 20% at local shops and restaurants.

TRANSPORTATION

BOSTON TOWN CAR, 617-782-4000. Downtown to Logan: *$20;* Back Bay to Logan: *$25.* Lincoln Town Car executive sedans available at reasonable rates. Professional, courteous drivers for tours, airport, getting around town and long distance runs. All major credit cards accepted.

COURTESY OF IMAGO THEATRE

***NO EXIT*: The existential drama by Jean-Paul Sartre is staged at Cambridge's American Repertory Theatre, in conjunction with Oregon's Imago Theatre. Refer to listing, page 29.**

PUBS AND BARS

THE BELL IN HAND TAVERN, 45 Union St., 617-227-2098. *Daily 11:30 a.m.–2 a.m.* Opened in 1795, the Bell in Hand is the oldest tavern in the U.S. This casual pub, offering pints, food and live music, attracts locals, students, and tourists alike. *Tue*—Karaoke night.

THE CACTUS CLUB, 939 Boylston St., 617-263-0200. *Sun–Wed 11:30 a.m.–10 p.m.; Thurs 11:30 a.m.–11 p.m.; Fri–Sat 11:30 a.m.–midnight; bar open 'til 2 a.m. daily.* Famous for its margaritas, this restaurant and bar offers a full lunch and dinner menu. *Sun 10 p.m.–midnight*—Free taco bar; *Tue*—Build-your-own margarita night; *Wed 6–8 p.m.*—Margarita and massage night.

CASK 'N FLAGON, 62 Brookline Ave, 617-536-4840. *Sun–Wed 11:30–1 a.m., Thu–Sat 'til 2 a.m.* A hangout for Red Sox fans since the days of Yastrzemski and Fisk, this classic bar boasts tons of TVs for watching the Sox—if you get shut out of Fenway Park across the street—and is loaded with photos depicting the histories of Fenway and the Sox. Weekend nights DJs spin hits from the '70s and '80s, as patrons enjoy foosball, pinball and video games.

CHEERS, 84 Beacon St., 617-227-9605. *Daily 11 a.m.–midnight.* Also: Faneuil Hall Marketplace. The model for the late sitcom, this Back Bay pub is one of the top tourist attractions in Boston. Live weekend entertainment.

DAISY BUCHANAN'S, 240 Newbury St., 617-247-8516. *Daily 11:30 a.m.–2 a.m. No cover.* Cash only. Located on Boston's hopping Newbury Street, this casual singles spot attracts college students, businessmen and women, and even the occasional professional athlete, and remains one of the city's most popular bars. Full kitchen serves pub-style food seven nights a week.

DICK'S LAST RESORT, Quincy Market, Faneuil Hall Marketplace, 617-267-8080. *Daily 11 a.m.–1:30 a.m.* Live music seven nights a week. No cover, no dress code and certainly no class. Seventy-four kinds of beer for the novice or serious sudster, and a full bar for the hardcore. This restaurant (of sorts) features buckets of messy ribs, shrimp, lobster, chicken, catfish and crab legs.

JULIEN BAR, Langham Hotel, 250 Franklin St., 617-451-1900. Enjoy cocktails and piano entertainment in this historic lounge, voted Boston's "Best Fancy Bar." *Mon–Sat from 11 a.m.–1 a.m.*—Dance to the rhythm of pianist Jeffrey Moore. *Sun from 11 a.m.–3 p.m.*—Sunday Jazz Brunch in Café Fleuri. No cover.

THE OAK BAR, Fairmont Copley Plaza Hotel, 138 St. James Ave., Copley Square, 617-267-5300. A favorite among the fine scotch and cigar crowd, The Oak Bar is a Boston favorite for upscale lounging. *Sun–Thu 11 a.m.–midnight and Fri & Sat 11 a.m.–1 a.m.*—Diane Fischer performs. No cover.

THE PURPLE SHAMROCK, 1 Union St., 617-227-2060. *Daily 11:30 a.m.–2 a.m.* Located on the Freedom Trail, The Purple Shamrock offers an escape from the nearby activity of Quincy Market. Menu items include burgers, sandwiches, hearty pastas, fresh seafood, tender steaks and more. After dark, The Purple Shamrock has nightly entertainment, including a mix of live music, karaoke and DJs.

THE ALLEY: This hotspot off Boylston Street offers entertainment at four different clubs, including karaoke at The Alley Cat, pictured above. Refer to listing, below.

TOP OF THE HUB, 800 Boylston St., 617-536-1775. Listen to the sounds of live jazz seven nights a week while experiencing the breathtaking view atop Boston's Prudential Center. Featuring a midnight menu, *Sun–Wed 'til 1 a.m.; Thu–Sat 'til 2 a.m.*

NIGHTCLUBS

THE ALLEY, One Boylston Place, 617-351-7000. *Fri–Sat 10 p.m.–2 a.m. Cover: $5–10.* Located in the famous Boylston Street alleyway, this one-stop nightspot includes the Big Easy Bar, The Alley Cat, Sweetwater Cafe and the Liquor Store, where you can ride Boston's only mechanical bull. Party Mardi Gras-style on Boston's version of Bourbon Street.

ARIA, 246 Tremont St., 617-338-7080. *Tue–Sat 11 p.m.–2 a.m. Cover: $5–15. Call for age restrictions.* Located in the basement of the Wilbur Theatre, this nightspot features chic decor with plush red couches and dance music—from International to House. Dress to impress.

AVALON, 15 Lansdowne St., 617-262-2424. *Thu–Sun 10 p.m.–2 a.m. Cover: $10–20. 19+ on Thu & Fri; 21+ on Sat & Sun.* One of Boston's premier nightclubs featuring Euro and Top 40 dance nights. It's also the city's largest club venue for live music acts. *Thu*—Hip-hop night; *Fri*—renowned DJs from around the world at Avaland; *Sat*—Tease with DJ Adilson; *Sun*—Gay Night.

AXIS, 13 Lansdowne St., 617-262-2437. *Mon & Thu–Sun 10 p.m.–2 a.m. Cover: $5–20. 19+. Mon*—Static, gay night; *Thu*—International College Night, featuring house music;

"The Original"
84 Beacon Street
Beacon Hill
617-227-9605

"The Replica"
Faneuil Hall Marketplace
Downtown
617-227-0150

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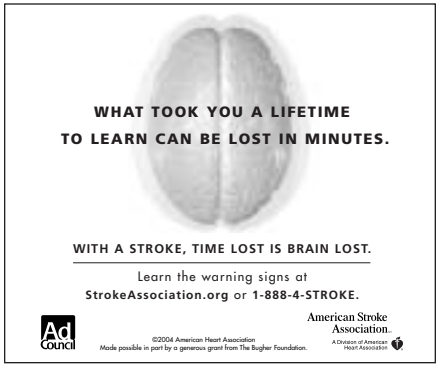


Fri—Flavor Fridays, hip-hop, Top 40, reggaeton; *Sat*—Seductive Saturdays, featuring reggae, R&B.

BOSTON BILLIARD CLUB, 126 Brookline Ave., 617-536-POOL. *Daily 11:30 a.m.–2 a.m.* Ranked Number One Billiard Club in the country by *Billiards Digest*, this nightspot is perfect for pool aficionados and novices alike. *Mon*—free lessons; *Wed*—Ladies' Night: each lady gets 25 percent off table time. Four ladies per table play for free; *Mon, Tue & Thu*—League Night.

GAME ON, 82 Lansdowne St., 617–351-7001. *Daily 11:30 a.m.–2 a.m.* The ultimate for any sports club enthusiasts: a bar/restaurant/nightclub built inside Fenway Park. The newest jewel in the renovation of the Fenway area, this nightspot offers a cool, sleek spot in which to sample a full menu and watch the Sox, and other sporting events, on any number of big-screen TVs.

JILLIAN'S BOSTON, 145 Ipswich St. (behind Fenway Park), 617-437-0300. www.jillianstoston.com. *Mon–Sat 11 a.m.–2 a.m, Sun noon–2 a.m.* One of Boston's largest entertainment complexes, this fun and diverse club features 50 pool tables, 200 high-tech games, blackjack for fun and six full bars. Lucky Strike Lanes bowling is located on the third floor, and there's late-night dancing at Tequila Rain ("spring break 52 weeks a year") on the first floor. Proper dress required.

SAINT, 90 Exeter St., 617-236-1134. *Mon –Sat 5 p.m.–2 a.m; Sun 10 pm. –2 a.m. Table reservations available.* One of Boston's hottest nightclubs, Saint offers gourmet dining, nightly DJs, and the chance to lounge on overstuffed couches (and even beds) in private and public rooms. *Sun*—Spice Sundays; *Mon*—Sin Mondays; *Thu*—Plush Thursdays; *Fri*—Pure Fridays; *Sat*—B&T Saturdays.

GAY AND LESBIAN

CLUB CAFE, 209 Columbus Ave., 617-536-0966. *Thu–Sat 9 p.m.–2 a.m. No cover.* In the back of the 209 restaurant, you'll find the Moonshine and Satellite lounges, voted "Best of Boston" by *Boston* magazine and *The Improper Bostonian* for best gay and lesbian nightspot.

JACQUES CABARET, 79 Broadway St., 617-426-8902. *Mon–Sat 11 a.m., Sun noon–midnight. $ 6 Sun; $5 Mon, $6 Tue–Thu, $10 Fri–Sat. Cash only.* Featured in *Modern Bride* as the "best place for a bachelorette party," Jacques Cabaret allows its patrons to mingle and disco-dance with drag-queens. Live music every weekend. *Mon*—Cabaret drag show; *Tue*—Karaoke.

MACHINE, 1254 Boylston St., 617-536-1950. *Mon–Sat 10 p.m–2 a.m. Cover varies. Cash only.* With two dance floors, four bars, six pool tables, pinball machines, video games and theme nights, this club offers Boston's gay and lesbian party-goers a plethora of nightlife options. *Mon*—Stroke Mondays, Strip-Pool tournament; *Thu at 10 p.m.*—Karaoke with Eve Adams; *Fri*—VJ Tom Yaz and DJ Darrin Friedman; *Sat*—DJ Dovah and International night featuring DJ J.R. Vega.

RAMROD, 1254 Boylston St., 617-266-2986. *Daily noon–2 a.m.* This is no place to bring your mom. The largest leather bar on the East Coast, Ramrod enforces a strict dress code (leather required for the back room on weekends). *Wed*—new-wave and dance beats with DJ Mac; *Thu*—Mandance with DJ Jason Taylor; *Fri*—Bear NIght with DJ Danae Jacovidis in the backroom; Sat—Leather Night; *Sun*—Muscle featuring DJ Duo Freespace.

BOSTON

BOSTON CHILDREN'S MUSEUM, Museum Wharf, 300 Congress St., 617-426-8855. *Open daily 10 a.m.–5 p.m., Fri 'til 9 p.m. Admission: $9; children (2–15) & seniors $7; children (one-year-olds only) $2; children (under 1) free; Fri 5–9 p.m. (Family Night) $1.* The museum features a plethora of interactive exhibits that allow children to learn about science, history and culture firsthand. Special exhibits include: Construction Zone, a child-sized work site with miniature skyscrapers inspired by the Big Dig; Amazing Castles, an immersive and fantastical medieval world; Pattern Wizardry, a wonderland of colors, shapes, and sounds that fuses science and art; Boston Black, celebrating Boston's Caribbean, African and African-American cultures. *Refer to Kids Corner for special events.*

COMMONWEALTH MUSEUM, Massachusetts Archives Building, 220 Morrissey Blvd., 617-727-9268. *Mon–Fri from 9 a.m.–5 p.m., second and fourth Sat of the month 'til 3 p.m. Free admission.* Across from the JFK Presidential Library, this museum houses the collection of the Massachusetts Archives and is ideal for fans of history or genealogy. Special exhibits: Archaeology of the Big Dig; Atlas of American Independence, the political philosophy of John Adams.

GIBSON HOUSE MUSEUM, 137 Beacon St., 617-267-6338. *Open Wed–Sun for guided tours at 1, 2 & 3 p.m. Admission: $7; students & seniors $5; children $2.* A National Historic Landmark, the Gibson House, completed in 1860, is an unspoiled, single-family Victorian row house in the Back Bay. Now a museum offering guided tours of its four floors, the house retains a perfectly preserved 19th century kitchen, scullery, butler's pantry and water closets, as well as formal rooms and private family quarters filled with the Gibsons' original furniture and personal possessions. Special exhibit: Treasures from the Gibson House Museum, drawings by Nan Freeman.

INSTITUTE OF CONTEMPORARY ART, 955 Boylston St., 617-266-5152. *Open Tue, Wed & Fri noon–5 p.m., Thu 'til 9 p.m.; Sat & Sun 11 a.m.–5 p.m. Admission: $7; students & seniors $5; children (under 12) free; Thu 5–9 p.m. Free.* Installations of contemporary paintings, sculptures and photographs change regularly. Special exhibits: Utopia, Utopia=One World, One War, One Army, One Dress, works by Swiss artist Thomas Hirschhorn; Momentum 5, video works, digital animation and drawings by Hong Kong-born artist Paul Chan.

ISABELLA STEWART GARDNER MUSEUM, 280 The Fenway, 617-566-1401. *Open Tue–Sun 11 a.m.–5 p.m. Admission: $10; weekends $11; seniors $7; students with I.D. $5; children (under 18) free. Visitors named Isabella are admitted free.* Commissioned by Boston aristocrat Isabella Stewart Gardner and modeled after a 15th-century Venetian palace, the museum exhibits 2,500 objects, including the works of Rembrandt, Botticelli, Raphael, Titian and Matisse. Special exhibit: Gentile Bellini and the East.

JOHN F. KENNEDY PRESIDENTIAL LIBRARY AND MUSEUM, off Morrissey Boulevard, next to UMass Boston, Dorchester, 866-535-1960. www.jfklibrary.org. *Open daily 9 a.m.–5 p.m. Admission: $10; students & seniors $8; children (13–17) $7; children (under 12) free; library forums free.* This museum portrays Kennedy's life, leadership and legacy in 21 exhibits, three theaters, 20 video presentations and more. Special exhibits: JFK in World War II, featuring a selection of materials from JFK's military service in the South Pacific; Handmade and Heartfelt, Folk Art from the collections of the John F. Kennedy Presidential Library.

JOHN F. KENNEDY PRESIDENTIAL LIBRARY AND MUSEUM: The local shrine to the late president hosts the exhibit Handmade and Hearfelt, a display of folk art given to JFK during his presidency. **Refer to listing, below.**

LARZ ANDERSON AUTO MUSEUM, Larz Anderson Park, 15 Newton St., Brookline, 617-522-6547. *Open Tue–Sun 10 a.m.–5 p.m. Admission: $5; students, seniors and children (6–18) $3; children (5 and under) free. Admission to the Lawn events: $7; children $5. Fee includes admission to all museum exhibits.* The oldest collection of historic automobiles in the nation is displayed in the owner's original home.

MCMULLEN MUSEUM OF ART, Boston College, 140 Commonwealth Ave., Chestnut Hill, 617-552-8100. *Mon–Fri 11 a.m.–4 p.m., Sat & Sun noon–5 p.m. Free admission.* Gallery tours held every *Fri at 12:30 p.m.* This museum is lauded for presenting interdisciplinary exhibits that spark new questions and renowned for its European, Asian and American collections.

THE MUSEUM OF AFRO-AMERICAN HISTORY, African Meeting House, 46 Joy St. (corner of Smith Court), Beacon Hill, 617-725-0022. www.afroammuseum.org. *Open Mon–Sat 10 a.m.–4 p.m. Free admission; donations welcome.* Explore the history of Boston's 19th-century African-American community at the African Meeting House, the oldest African-American church still standing in the United States. In addition, there are tour maps available for the Black Heritage Trail. Special exhibit: Words of Thunder, William Lloyd Garrison and the Ambassadors of Abolition.

THE MUSEUM OF THE NATIONAL CENTER OF AFRO-AMERICAN ARTISTS, 300 Walnut Ave., Roxbury, 617-442-

ABOVE: WOODEN SCULPTURE BY JAMES RIKOS OF LAVA HOT SPRINGS, IDAHO; COURSTEYS OF JFK PRESIDENTIAL LIBRARAY

8614. *Open Tue–Sun 1–5 p.m.; by appointment for groups. Admission: $4; students & seniors $3.* Housed in the former Oak Bend Mansion, a neo-Gothic structure built in the early 1870s, this museum holds a slide archive and an extensive collection of African artifacts, prints and drawings; it also hosts national and international traveling exhibits. Special Exhibits: ***through Jan 8***—The Beaded Prayers Project; Painting With Fabric, quilts by Michelle David.

MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS, 465 Huntington Ave., 617-267-9300. *Open Sat–Tue 10 a.m.–4:45 p.m., Wed–Fri 10 a.m.–9:45 p.m. (Thu & Fri after 5 p.m., west wing only). Admission (includes two visits in a 10-day period): $15; college students & seniors $13; Thu & Fri after 5 p.m., $2 discount; Wed after 4 p.m., pay as you wish; children (under 18) $6.50 on weekdays before 3 p.m., free at all other times. Separate ticketing for Gund Gallery exhibit.* The museum houses an outstanding collection of paintings, prints, sculptures, furnishings and other artwork from ancient times through the present, and boasts the most comprehensive collection of Asiatic art in the world. Special exhibits: A Much Recorded War, the Russo-Japanese War in history and imagery; Facets of Cubism; ***through Jan 4***—Ansel Adams, American photographer; ***through Jan 5***—Sounds of the Silk Road, musical instruments of Asia; ***through Jan 8***—American West, Dust and Dreams.

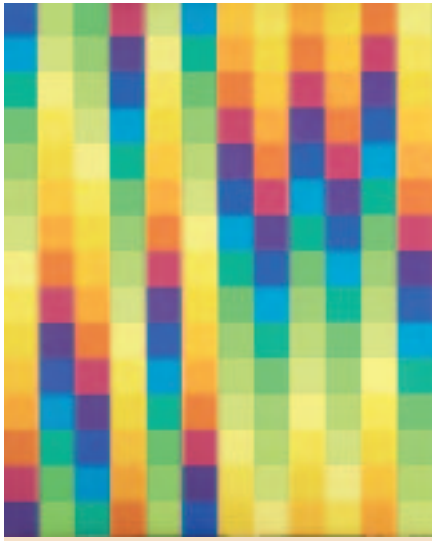
MUSEUM OF SCIENCE, Science Park, 617-723-2500. *Open daily from 9 a.m.–5 p.m., Fri 'til 9 p.m. Admission: $14; seniors $12; children (3–11) $11; children (under 3) free. Planetarium, laser show and Omni theater tickets: $8.50; seniors $7.50; children (3–11) $6.50. Combination ticket prices and evening discounts available.* Interactive science exhibits, plus laser and astronomy shows in the Charles Hayden Planetarium. Special exhibits: Star Wars, Where Science Meets Imagination, *ticketed separately: $20, $18 seniors, $17 children;* Dinosaurs, Modelling the Mosaic; Playing by the Rules, Fish, Fads and Fireflies. At the Mugar Omni Theater: *Refer to Film listings in Currently for complete schedule.* Showing at the Planetarium: *Far, Far Away, The Worlds of Star Wars; Countdown to Supernova; The Sky Tonight.* At the Wright 3D Theater: *Mars!; Bugs!*

SPORTS MUSEUM OF NEW ENGLAND, 5th and 6th floor premium seating levels, TD Banknorth Garden, Causeway Street, 617-624-1234. *Open daily 11 a.m.–5 p.m. Admission on the hour only, until 3 p.m. Hours altered during TD Banknorth Garden events, call ahead. Admission: $6; seniors & children (6–17) $4; children (under 6) free.* The Sports Museum showcases New England's rich sports heritage through an unparalleled collection of artifacts, multimedia and artwork. Exhibits include the Boston Bruins Hall of Fame portraits, the Boston Garden Penalty Box, New England's Olympic Heroes and much more.

U.S.S. CONSTITUTION MUSEUM, Charlestown Navy Yard, Charlestown, 617-426-1812. *Open daily 10 a.m.–5 p.m. Free admission.* The museum preserves the treasures of "Old Ironsides," the U.S. Navy's flagship and the world's oldest commissioned warship. Includes weapons, documents, journals and more. Interactive exhibits allow visitors to load and fire a cannon, try out a sailor's sleeping quarters and virtually command the *Constitution* in battle.

CAMBRIDGE

Due to limited parking, it is best to take the Red Line when traveling to Harvard, Central or Kendall squares. The Cambridge Discovery Booth located at the Harvard Square "T" entrance provides additional information.



BUSCH-REISINGER MUSEUM: The Harvard University Museum presents Stratification, an exhibit featuring works by Germanic artists that explore the idea of layering. **Refer to listing, below.**

BUSCH-REISINGER MUSEUM, Werner Otto Hall, 32 Quincy St. (enter through the Fogg Art Museum), 617-495-9400. *Open Mon–Sat 10 a.m.–5 p.m., Sun 1–5 p.m. Tours: Mon–Fri at 1 p.m. Closed January 2. Admission: $6.50; seniors & college students $5; children (under 18) free; free Sat 10 a.m.* A museum devoted to Central and Northern European artists, with an emphasis on German-speaking countries. Special exhibits: Stratification, an installation of works since 1960; Objects for a Kunstkammer, early European collecting, 1550–1700.

FOGG ART MUSEUM, Quincy and Broadway streets, 617-495-9400. *Tours: Mon–Fri at 11 a.m.; see Busch-Reisinger Museum for hours and admission fees.* The museum displays European and American masterpieces from the Middle Ages to the present and hosts concerts and guided tours. Special exhibits: American Art at Harvard; 18th Century European Ceramics Painting; To Delight the Eye, French drawings and paintings from Harvard's Dunlap Collection; ***through Jan 8***—Works by William Utermohlen.

HARVARD MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY, 26 Oxford St., 617-495-3045. *Daily 9 a.m.–5 p.m. Admission: $7.50; college students & seniors $6; children (3–18) $5; free Sun 9 a.m.–noon and Wed 3–5 p.m.* Among the museum's 17 galleries is the internationally acclaimed Ware Collection of Blaschka Glass Models of Plants, a unique collection of over 3,000 glass flower models created between 1886 and 1936. Special exhibits: Dodos, Trilobites and Meteorites; Climate Change, Our Global Experiment.

MIT LIST VISUAL ARTS CENTER, 20 Ames St., 617-253-4680. *Tue–Sun noon–6 p.m.; Fri 'til 8 p.m. Free admission.* One of Boston's premier showcases for contemporary art, the List Center reflects MIT's position as a cutting-edge research institution by presenting works from the world's leading contemporary artists.

THE MIT MUSEUM, 265 Mass. Ave., 617-253-4444. *Mon–Fri 10 a.m.–5 p.m., Sat & Sun noon–5 p.m. Admission: $5; students, seniors & youth (5–18) $2.* Exhibits interpret themes and ideas related to MIT research and activities. Ongoing exhibits: Mind and Hand: the making of MIT scientists and engineers; Holography, The Light Fantastic; Robots and Beyond, exploring artificial Intelligence at MIT; Gestural Engineering, the sculpture of Arthur Ganson. Special exhibit: Finding Form, the art of Richard Filipowski.

SACKLER MUSEUM, Quincy and Broadway streets, 617-495-9400. *Tours: Mon–Fri at 2 p.m.; see Busch-Reisinger Museum for hours and admission fees.* Designed by James Stirling, Britain's famous post-modernist architect, the museum houses ancient Oriental and Islamic collections. Special exhibits: Evocative Creatures: animal motifs and symbols in East Asian Art; Silver and Shawls: India, Europe and the Colonial art market.

BEYOND BOSTON

CONCORD MUSEUM, 200 Lexington Road, Concord, 978-369-9763. *Mon–Sun 9 a.m.–5 p.m. Admission: $12.50; seniors & students with I.D. $10; children (6–17) $6.50; family rates available. Ample free parking on Cambridge Turnpike.* Relive Concord's history, from Native American habitation and European settlement to the days of Emerson, Thoreau, the Alcotts and Hawthorne.

DECORDOVA MUSEUM AND SCULPTURE PARK, 51 Sandy Pond Road, Lincoln, 781-259-8355. *Admission: $9; seniors, students & children (6–12) $6. Sculpture Park: open sunrise to sunset, free admission.* Tour one of the largest contemporary art museums and the only permanent public sculpture park in New England. Special exhibits: ***through Jan 8***—Killing Ground, photographs of the Civil War and the changing American landscape by John Huddleston; Zeno's Paradox, by Robert Arnold; Saga, the journey of Arno Rafael Minkkinen, photographs 1970–2005.

NATIONAL HERITAGE MUSEUM, 33 Marrett Road, Lexington, 781-861-6559. *Mon–Sat 10 a.m.–5 p.m.; Sun noon–5 p.m. Free admission.* Devoted to presenting exhibitions on American history and popular culture as a way of preserving our national heritage. Special exhibits: Blue Monday, Doing Laundry in America; Teenage Hobos in the Great Depression, Materials from the Uys Family Collection.

PEABODY ESSEX MUSEUM, East India Square, Salem, 866-745-1876. *Daily 10 a.m.–5 p.m. Admission: $13; seniors $11; students $9; children (16 and under) free.* The nation's oldest continually operating museum boasts a brand-new wing with a 190-seat auditorium and a glass-covered atrium. The collection showcases African, Asian, Pacific Island and American folk and decorative art; a maritime collection dating back to the museum's earliest days; and the first collection of Native American art in the hemisphere. Special exhibits: All of My Life, contemporary works by Native American artists; Air Lines; Taj Mahal, the Building of a

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ABOVE: RICHARD PAUL LOHSE, *15 SERIAL ROWS OF EQUAL AMOUNTS OF COLOR WITH BRIGHT EMPHASIS*, 1958/1987

Legend; The Artful Teapot; Yin Yu Tang, the 16-bedroom home of a prosperous Chinese merchant of the Qing Dynasty (1644–1911), *ticketed separately: $4.*

THE ROSE ART MUSEUM, Brandeis University, 415 South St., Waltham, 781-736-3434. *Tue–Sun noon–5 p.m. Admission: $3; museum members and children (under 16) free.* The Rose boasts a collection of modern and contemporary art by artists including de Kooning, Rauschenberg and Warhol. Special exhibit: "Post" and After, Contemporary Art from the Brandeis University Collection.

SALEM WITCH MUSEUM, 19½ Washington Square North, Salem, 978-744-1692. *Daily 10 a.m.–5 p.m. Admission: $6.50; seniors $6; children (6–14) $4.50.* Life-size stage settings and historically accurate narration recreate the hysteria of the Salem Witch Trials and executions of 1692. Translations available in Japanese, French, German, Italian and Spanish. Special exhibit: Witches, Evolving Perceptions.

GALLERIES

ALLSTON SKIRT GALLERY, 450 Harrison Ave., Storefront #65, 617-482-3652. *Wed–Sat 11 a.m.–5 p.m.* This South End art space, part of the Galleries at Thayer complex, represents more than two dozen area artists. Special exhibit: Suara Welitoff.

ARDEN GALLERY, 129 Newbury St., 617-247-0610. *Mon–Sat 11 a.m.–5:30 p.m.* Arden specializes in contemporary oil paintings and sculpture by nationally and internationally renowned artists, whose styles range from super realism to abstraction. Special exhibit: ***beginning Jan 4***—Jean Larson, New Works.

BARBARA KRAKOW GALLERY, 10 Newbury St., 617-262-4490. *Tue–Sat 10 a.m.–5:30 p.m.* The Barbara Krakow Gallery attracts top contemporary artists from around the world, showcasing work that focuses on minimalism and conceptualism. Special exhibit: Bronlyn Jones.

BOSTON SCULPTORS GALLERY, 486 Harrison Ave., 617-482-7781. *Tue–Sat 11 a.m.–6 p.m.* A sculptors' cooperative that has served as an alternative venue for innovative solo sculpture exhibitions since 1992. Special exhibits: ***beginning Jan 4***—Leslie Wilcox; Pat Shannon.

BOSTON UNIVERSITY ART GALLERY, 855 Commonwealth Ave., 617-353-3329. *Tue–Fri 10 a.m.–5 p.m.; Sat & Sun 1–5 p.m.* This non-profit gallery is geared toward an interdisciplinary interpretation of art and culture and features exhibitions incorporating the rich talent and resources found on campus as well as throughout the the Boston area and beyond. Special exhibit: Syncopated Rhythms, 20th century African American art from the George and Joyce Wein Collection.

BROMFIELD ART GALLERY, 27 Thayer St., 617-451-3605. *Wed–Sat noon–5 p.m.* Boston's oldest artist-run gallery features shows by members of the cooperative, while exhibitions by visiting artists are selected by current members. Special exhibits: ***beginning Jan 4***—Chris Lee, 1/2 Heidigger's Dozen; Jason Fiering, Implicit Perception.

CHILDS GALLERY, 169 Newbury St., 617-266-1108. *Tue–Fri 9 a.m.–6 p.m.; Mon & Sat 10 a.m.–5 p.m.* The longest-running of the commercial Newbury Street galleries, Childs has

DONALD BRUN, *RHEINBRÜCKE, BASEL*, C. 1955

INTERNATIONAL POSTER GALLERY: The Newbury Street gallery features its holiday-themed Deco the Halls! exhibit from through January 15. Refer to listing, below.

one of the largest inventories of oil paintings, drawings, watercolors, prints and sculpture in the United States. Special exhibits: ***through Jan 7***—19th Century American Landscapes; Laurent Schkolnyk, Mezzotints; On the Move, transportation in art; ***beginning Jan 10***—I.M. Gaugengigl, The Meissonier of Boston; Irwin D. Hoffman, Paintings, Watercolors & Etchings; The Etchings of John Taylor Arms.

HOWARD YEZERSKI GALLERY, 14 Newbury St., 3rd Floor, 617-262-0550. *Tue–Sat 10 a.m.–5:30 p.m.* Features contemporary art, including photography, sculpture and prints. Special exhibits: ***beginning Jan 6***—Domingo Barrenes, Scales of Spin; Sue Yang, Butterfly Series.

INTERNATIONAL POSTER GALLERY, 205 Newbury St., 617-375-0076. www.internationalposter.com. *Mon–Sat 10 a.m.–6 p.m.; Sun noon–6 p.m.* This internationally recognized fine art poster gallery displays original vintage posters from the 1890s through to post-World War II modern masters. Special exhibit: ***through Jan 15***—Deco the Halls!, the 12th annual holiday poster show.

L'ATTITUDE GALLERY, 218 Newbury St., 617-927-4400. *Tue–Sat 10 a.m.–6 p.m.; Sun & Mon noon–5 p.m.* Features contemporary sculpture, crafts and art for the home, garden and commercial environments. The gallery also boasts an outdoor sculpture garden. Over 75 U.S. and international artists are represented in various mediums, including glass, ceramics, wood, stone, mixed media and textiles. Special exhibit: Off the Wall: New works by Gail Taylor, Bernice Koff, and Paula DeSimone.

MILLS GALLERY, Boston Center for the Arts, 539 Tremont St., 617-426-8835. *Wed & Thu noon–5 p.m., Fri & Sat noon–10 p.m., Sun noon–5 p.m.* The BCA presents exciting contemporary works by established and emerging local, regional, national and international visual artists, mounting approximately six large-scale exhibitions in the 2,200 square foot Mills Gallery each year. Special exhibit: ***through Jan 8***—The 19th Drawing Show, artists create wall drawings for the gallery.

NEWBURY FINE ARTS, 29 Newbury St., 617-536-0210. *Mon–Sat 10 a.m.–6 p.m.; Sun noon–5 p.m.* This renowned gallery features and ever-expanding list of contemporary artitsts who work in a variety of media. Special exhibit: ***beginning Jan 6***—The Art of Ronnie Wood, featuring original works and prints by the famed Rolling Stones guitarist.

NIELSEN GALLERY, 179 Newbury St., 617-266-4835. *Tue–Sat 10 a.m.–5:30 p.m.* Renowned for its fine collection of contemporary paintings, drawings and sculptures. Special exhibit: John Imber.

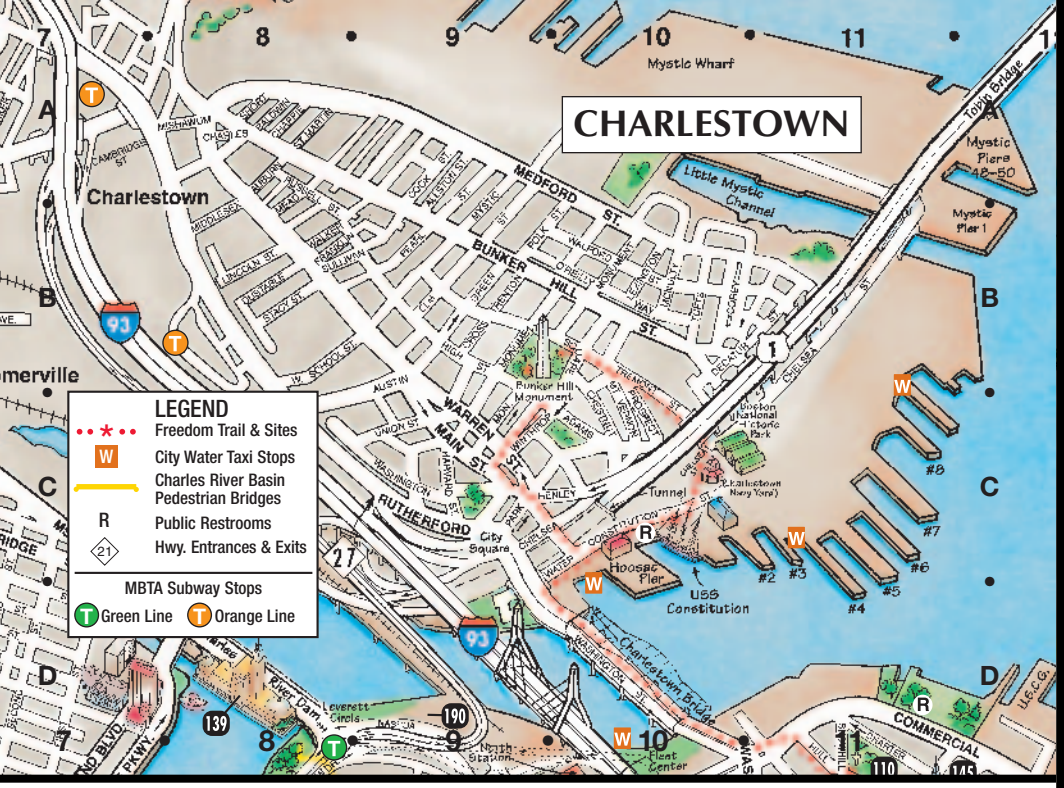
PEPPER GALLERY, 38 Newbury St., 617-236-4495. *Tue–Fri 10 a.m.–5:30 p.m.; Sat 11 a.m.–5 p.m.* Committed to presenting contemporary representational and abstract works by living artists, the gallery rotates its exhibitions every five weeks to represent different members of the artistic community, both established and up-and-coming.

PHOTOGRAPHIC RESOURCE CENTER, Boston University, 832 Commonwealth Ave., 617-353-0700. *Tue, Wed, & Fri 10 a.m.–6 p.m., Thu 10 a.m.–8 p.m., Sat & Sun noon–5 p.m. Admission: $3.* PRC exhibitions and educational programs are guided by a philosophical inquiry into the intersection of photography with other aesthetic, professional and critical discourses. Special exhibit: Group Portrait.

PUCKER GALLERY, 171 Newbury St., 617-267-9473. *Mon–Sat 10 a.m.–5:30 p.m.; Sun 1–5 p.m.* Features work by Israeli, American and internationally known contemporary artists. The *Boston Phoenix* writes, "You can make a case for the Pucker Gallery as Boston's best gallery—though it's really more like a wonderful miniature museum." Special exhibits: ***beginning Jan 7***—Meditational Forms, Contemporary Korean Ceramics by Sung Jae Choi; Gunnar Norram, A Tribute.

SOCIETY OF ARTS AND CRAFTS, 175 Newbury St., 617-266-1810. *Mon–Sat 10 a.m.–6 p.m.; Sun noon–5 p.m.* The oldest non-profit crafts organization in the country specializes in contemporary American crafts. The jewelry, furniture, glass and ceramics range from cutting edge to traditional, from functional to sculptural. Special exhibit: Artcessorize, featuring 25 artists who create funky, eclectic and innovative jewelry, scarves, belts, hats, shoes and other accessories.

VOSE GALLERIES, 238 Newbury St., 617-536-6176. *Mon–Fri 8:30 a.m.– 5:30 p.m.; Sat 10 a.m.–5:30 p.m.* Established in 1841, Vose Galleries—the oldest family-owned art gallery in the United States—specializes in American artists from the 18th, 19th and early 20th centuries. Its new contemporary wing, expanding the collection to living artists, opened in 2001. Special exhibit: Bernard Lamotte (1900–1983), Exhibition IV, Everyday Inspirations.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Little Mystic Channel
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Mystic Pier 1
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CHELSEA ST.
Bunker Hill Monument
City Square
Tunnel
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Charlestown Navy Yard
Hoosac Pier
USS Constitution
Charlestown Bridge
Leverett Circle
North Station
Fleet Center
COMMERCIAL
Somerville
LEGEND
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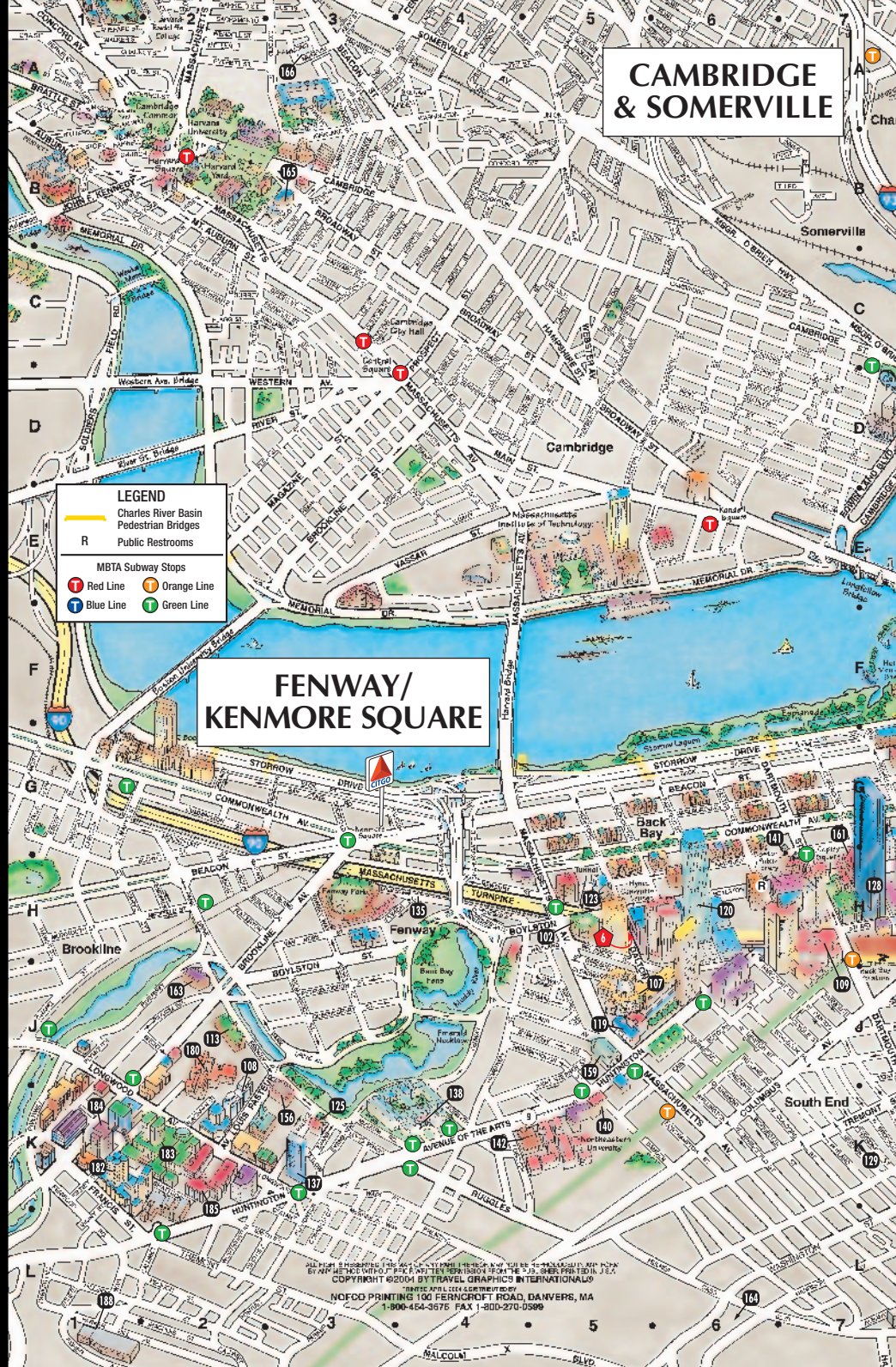
Charles River Basin Pedestrian Bridges
Public Restrooms
Hwy. Entrances & Exits
MBTA Subway Stops
Green Line
Orange Line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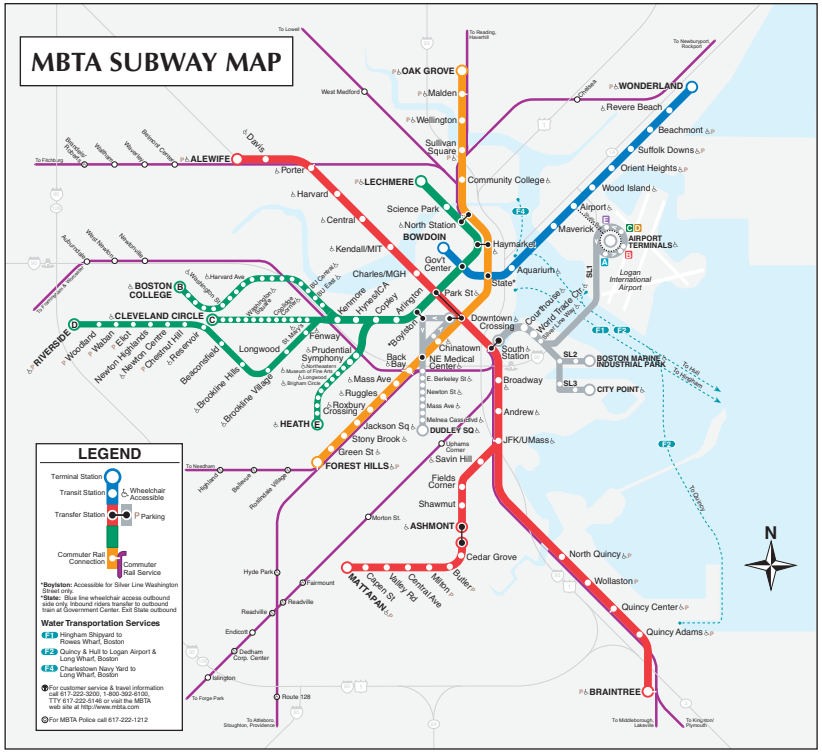
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Orient Heights
Wood Island
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Central
LECHMERE
Science Park
Community College
North Station
BOWDOIN
Haymarket
Government Center
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Park St
State
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NE Medical Center
South Station
Broadway
Andrew
JFK/UMass
Savin Hill
Fields Corner
Shawmut
Ashmont
Cedar Grove
North Quincy
Wollaston
Quincy Center
Quincy Adams
BRAINTREE
BOSTON MARINE INDUSTRIAL PARK
CITY POINT
DUDLEY SQ
Jackson Sq
Stony Brook
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FOREST HILLS
Hyde Park
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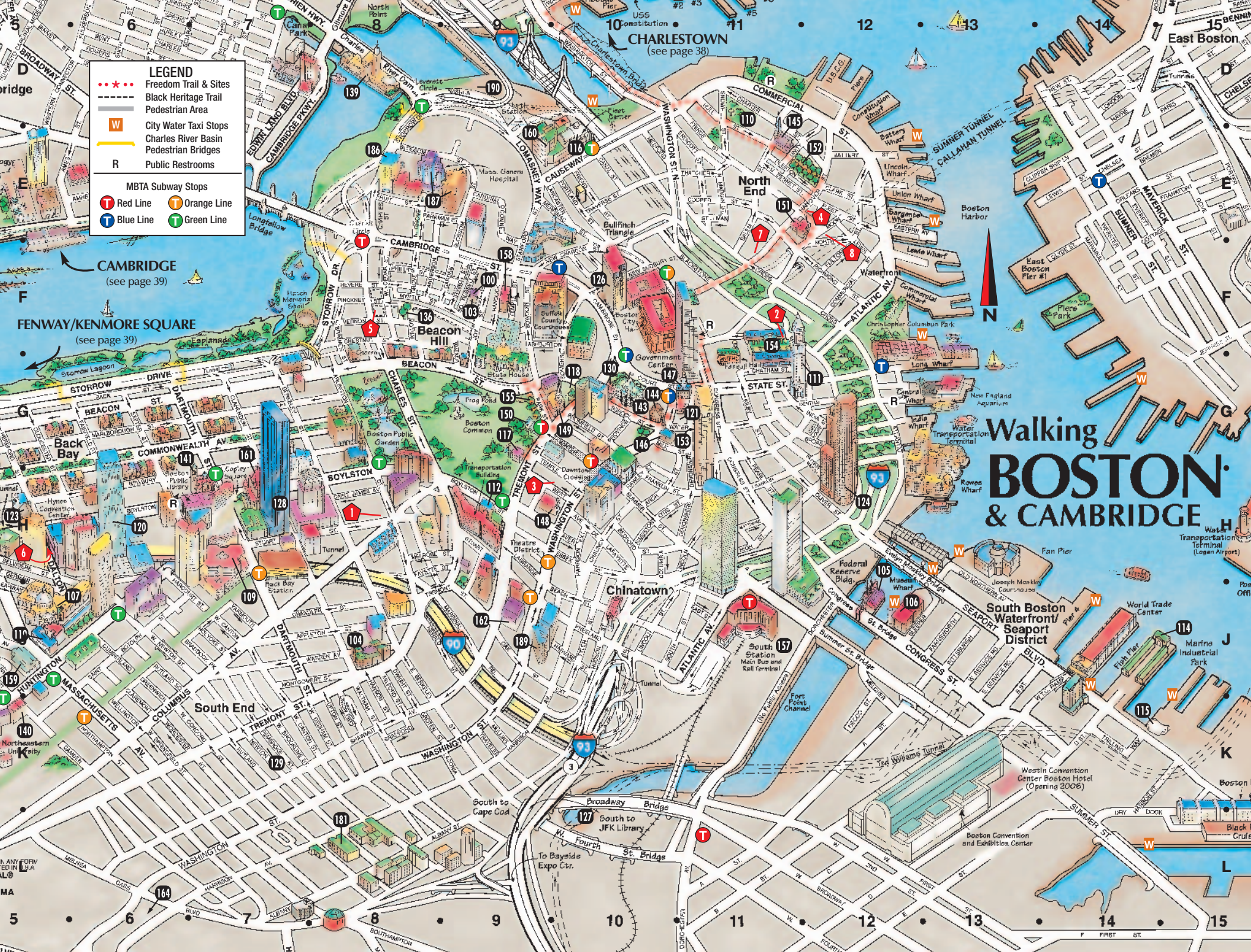
LEGEND
Freedom Trail & Sites
Black Heritage Trail
Pedestrian Area
City Water Taxi Stops
Charles River Basin Pedestrian Bridges
Public Restrooms
MBTA Subway Stops
Red Line
Orange Line
Blue Line
Green Line
CHARLESTOWN
(see page 38)
CAMBRIDGE
(see page 39)
FENWAY/KENMORE SQUARE
(see page 39)
Walking
BOSTON
& CAMBRIDGE
North End
Beacon Hill
Back Bay
South End
Chinatown
Waterfront
East Boston
South Boston Waterfront/ Seaport District
Boston Harbor
Boston Common
Public Garden
Faneuil Hall
Quincy Market
Government Center
Theatre District
Downtown Crossing
South Station
Logan Airport
Fan Pier
Seaport Blvd.
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Congress St.
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Boylston St.
Beacon St.
Tremont St.
Washington St.
Charles St.
Dartmouth St.
Columbus Ave.
Massachusetts Ave.
Huntington Ave.
Storrow Drive
Commonwealth Ave.
Broadway Bridge
Mt. Fourth St. Bridge
Summer St. Bridge
Congress St. Bridge
Ted Williams Tunnel
Sumner Tunnel
Callahan Tunnel
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Boston Convention and Exhibition Center
Marine Industrial Park
Fish Pier
World Trade Center
Federal Reserve Bldg.
Joseph Moakley Courthouse
New England Aquarium
Christopher Columbus Park
Long Wharf
Central Wharf
Lewis Wharf
Union Wharf
Lincoln Wharf
Battery Wharf
Constitution Wharf
Commercial Wharf
Sargent's Wharf
Rowes Wharf
Piers Park
Harborwalk
Fort Point Channel
Fort Point Channel (No Public Access)
Boston Public Library
Copley Square
Back Bay Station
Hynes Convention Center
Prudential Center
Mass. General Hospital
Bulfinch Triangle
Suffolk County Courthouse
Boston City Hall
State House
Frog Pond
Transportation Building
Tunnel
To Bayside Expo Ctr.
South to Cape Cod
South to JFK Library
Northeastern University
Esplanade
Storrow Lagoon
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Charles River Dam
Leverett Circle
Canal Park
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maps

SIGHTSEEING

ICE SKATING

CHARLES HOTEL ICE SKATING RINK, 1 Bennett St., Cambridge, 617-864-1200. *Mon–Fri from 3–8 p.m., Sat & Sun from 10 a.m.–8 p.m. Fees: $5; skate rental, $5, children (under 12) $3.* This 2,900-square-foot, illuminated outdoor ice skating rink marks boasts rink-side refreshments from the New England-influenced restaurant Henrietta's Table, including hot toddies and vanilla-infused hot chocolate.

FROG POND ICE SKATING RINK, 617-635-4505. *Mon 10 a.m.–5 p.m.; Tue–Thu and Sun 10 a.m.–9 p.m.; Fri & Sat 10 a.m.–10 p.m. Fees: $3; children (under 13) free; rental skates $5; skate sharpening $5; lockers $1.* Ice skating on Boston Common's Frog Pond has become a staple of wintertime in Boston. The heated skate house offers hot chocolate, snacks and music.

SIGHTS OF INTEREST

ARNOLD ARBORETUM, 125 Arborway, Jamaica Plain, 617-524-1718. *Grounds open year-round, sunrise to sunset. Free admission. Visitor Center open Mon–Fri 9 a.m.–4 p.m., Sat 10 a.m.–4 p.m., Sun noon–4 p.m.* This 265-acre tree sanctuary designed by Emerald Necklace architect Frederick Law Olmsted opened in 1872. Now a National Historic Landmark, the arboretum and its gardens contain more than 7,000 varieties of trees, shrubs and flowers, all labeled for your perusal.

BOSTON ATHENAEUM, 10 1/2 Beacon St., 617-227-0270. *Member hours: Tue–Fri 8:30 a.m.–5:30 p.m., Mon 8:30 a.m.–8 p.m., Sat 9 a.m.–4 p.m. Public tours: Tue & Thu at 3 p.m.* Reservations required. One of the oldest and most distinguished private libraries in the United States, the Athenaeum was founded in 1807. For nearly half a century, it was the unchallenged center of intellectual life in Boston, and by 1851 it had become one of the five largest libraries in the country.

BOSTON PUBLIC GARDEN, bordered by Arlington, Charles, Beacon and Boylston streets. Open daily dawn to dusk. Established in 1837, the Public Garden is the nation's first public botanical garden. Its 24 acres are filled with scenic and diverse greenery, as well as sculptures, including one that commemorates the popular children's book *Make Way for Ducklings.* Other fixtures include the Lagoon, home to the famed Swan Boats from April through Labor Day, and a suspension bridge designed as a miniature replica of the Brooklyn Bridge.

BOSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY, 700 Boylston St., Copley Square, 617-536-5400. *Mon–Thu 9 a.m.–9 p.m., Fri & Sat 'til 5 p.m., Sun 1–5 p.m. Free admission. Art & Architecture tours offered Mon at 2:30 p.m., Tue & Thu at 6 p.m., Fri & Sat at 11 a.m., Sun at 2 p.m.* The first publicly supported municipal library in the world hosts one million visitors a year, who come to view this architectural masterpiece and its collection of more than five million books. Film festivals, exhibits and children's programs run throughout the year.

BUNKER HILL PAVILION, Boston National Historical Park Visitors Center, Charlestown, 617-242-5601. Located yards from the *U.S.S. Constitution. Visitor center and bookstore open daily 9 a.m.–5 p.m. Monument open daily from 9 a.m.–4:30 p.m. Free admission.* Check out "Whites of Their Eyes," a dramatic multimedia presentation of the Battle of Bunker Hill, one of the first major battles of the Revolution. Or climb the nearby Bunker Hill Monument, a 221-foot granite obelisk.

PHOTO BY SCOTT ROBERTO

FROG POND ICE SKATING RINK: Enjoy wintery fun at this outdoor venue on Boston Common, which offers skate rentals, sharpening and hot chocolate at the snack bar. Refer to listing, left.

CHARLES RIVER ESPLANADE, 617-635-4305. This tree-lined park along the Charles River basin is a popular spot for leisurely strolls and picnics as well as recreational activities. Sports enthusiasts are drawn to the 17-mile biking, jogging and walking path between the Museum of Science and Watertown, while others flock to the water to sail, windsurf, canoe or kayak. The nearby DCR Hatch Shell frequently hosts concerts and films, as well as performances by the world-famous Boston Pops.

CUSTOM HOUSE TOWER, 3 McKinley Square, 617-310-6300. *Free historical tours offered Mon–Thu 10 a.m. and 4 p.m., Fri & Sat 4 p.m. Tours may be cancelled due to weather conditions, call ahead.* Boston's first skyscraper, the Custom House stands high over Boston Harbor as one of the city's most impressive landmarks. Crowned by its distinctive clock tower and restored with modern luxuries, the building epitomizes the preservation of Boston's historic architecture. Today, the Marriott Corporation operates this landmark.

EMERALD NECKLACE, parks throughout Boston, 617-232-5374. *Free guided tours by appointment only.* This world-famous string of parks that runs through the city was the brainchild of renowned landscape architect Frederick Law Olmsted, and took almost 20 years to complete. The six green spaces—Back Bay Fens, Riverway, Olmsted Park, Jamaica Pond, Arnold Arboretum and Franklin Park—stretch

sightseeing

five miles from the Charles River to Dorchester and make up over 1,000 acres of parkland. Although not officially part of the Emerald Necklace, Boston Common and the Public Garden are sometimes considered the starting points, and are connected to the Necklace by the Commonwealth Avenue Mall.

THE FIRST CHURCH OF CHRIST SCIENTIST, 175 Huntington Ave., 617-450-2000. *Services: Sun at 10 a.m. and 7 p.m., Wed at noon and 7:30 p.m.* The original Mother Church built in 1894 is at the heart of the Christian Science Center, situated on 14 acres in the Back Bay. The Romanesque structure is made from New Hampshire granite with stained glass windows illustrating Biblical events. *Also see listing for the Mary Baker Eddy Library.*

FOREST HILLS CEMETERY, 95 Forest Hills Ave., 617-524-0128. *Open daily from dawn to dusk.* Created in 1848, this cemetery serves as the final resting place of Eugene O'Neill, Anne Sexton, e.e. cummings, William Lloyd Garrison and former Boston Celtic Reggie Lewis. The 275 acres of twisting paths also contain sculptural treasures, an arboretum, a "library" of life stories and an open-air museum.

HARRISON GRAY OTIS HOUSE, 141 Cambridge St., 617-227-3956. *Open Wed–Sun 11 a.m.–5 p.m., tours every 30 minutes. Admission: $8; seniors $4; students $2.50; free for kids, Historic New England members and Boston residents. $24 maximum per family.* Built in 1796 for Harrison Gray Otis and his wife, Sally, this grand mansion is a brilliant example of high-style Federal elegance. Tours offer insight into the social, business and family life of the post-Revolution American elite.

JOHN HANCOCK TOWER, 200 Clarendon St., 617-572-6429. Rising 62 stories into the sky, this I.M. Pei-designed, sliver-of-glass skyscraper is New England's tallest building and is considered by many to be one of the most beautiful skyscrapers in the world. The building houses the headquarters of its namesake, insurance giant John Hancock Financial. Unfortunately, the observatory on the 60th floor was closed after September 11, 2001.

THE MARY BAKER EDDY LIBRARY, 200 Mass. Ave., 617-450-7000. *Open Tue–Sun from 10 a.m.–4 p.m. Admission: $6; seniors, students with ID and youth (6–17) $4; children (under 6) and members free.* Home to the world-famous Mapparium, a three-story stained-glass globe depicting the world as it existed in 1934, which guests can walk through. Visitors to the library can follow Mary Baker Eddy's quest for insight and embark on one of their own through interactive exhibits in the Quest Gallery, or try out a "desk job" at the Pulitzer Prize-winning Christian Science Monitor.

MINUTE MAN NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK, Concord and Lexington, 978-369-6993. *North Bridge Visitor Center is at 174 Liberty St., open 9 a.m.–4 p.m.* Created in 1959 to preserve the sites associated with the opening battles of the American Revolution, Minute Man Park consists of over 900 acres of land along original segments of the Battles of Lexington and Concord, including Lexington Green and Concord's North Bridge. The park also preserves The Wayside, the 19th-century home of literary greats Nathaniel Hawthorne, Louisa May Alcott and Margaret Sidney.

NEW ENGLAND HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL, Congress Street near Faneuil Hall. This haunting memorial features six luminous glass towers etched with the six million prisoner numbers of those who perished in the Holocaust. Visitors can walk under the towers and read the dramatic stories of the victims and heroes of this tremendous human tragedy.

PHOTO BY DELLA HUFF

FIRST CHURCH OF CHRIST SCIENTIST: The Romanesque Mother Church in the Back Bay stands at the heart of the Christian Science Center. **Refer to listing, left.**

THE SKYWALK OBSERVATORY AT THE PRUDENTIAL CENTER, 617-859-0648. *Open daily 10 a.m.–8 p.m. Skywalk kiosk closes at 6 p.m. Admission (including a headset audio tour of points of interest): $9.50; seniors $7; children (under 12) $6.50. Observatory may be closed due to weather conditions, please call ahead.* Enjoy spectacular 360-degree panoramic views of Boston and beyond and learn about the city's 375 years of culture and history on the new Antennae Audio Tour. Recently added displays include "Dreams of Freedom," featuring the Boston immigrant experience; an exhibit overlooking Fenway Park dedicated to the legendary Red Sox slugger Ted Williams; and a new theater showing "Wings Over Boston," a spectacular aerial tour of the entire city.

TRINITY CHURCH, Copley Square, 617-536-0944. *Open daily from 8 a.m.–6 p.m.; tours available.* Built in 1877, this house of worship, a combination of Victorian, Gothic and French Romanesque styles, is one of the great masterpieces of American church architecture. The building is located in Copley Square adjacent to the I.M. Pei-designed John Hancock Tower, itself a contemporary architectural masterpiece.

TOURS AND TRAILS

BLACK HERITAGE TRAIL, 617-742-5415. *Tours by request. Call at least 24 hours in advance for reservations.* A guided tour through the north side of Beacon Hill, including the homes of politicians and entrepreneurs; the African Meeting House, built in 1806; the oldest standing house built by an African-American (1797); and the home of Lewis and Harriet Hayden, who harbored runaway slaves. Maps are available at the Museum of Afro-American History.

BOSTON ART TOURS, 617-732-3920. *Call for full tour schedule. Tickets: $25; teens $15; children (under 12) free.* Boston Art Tours offers various excursions to area museums and galleries that highlight different historical time periods. Families may choose from age-appropriate tours offering lively descriptions of works to help further the understanding of art.

BOSTON AUDISSEY, Boston Common Visitors Center, 617-426-3115. www.audisseytours.com. *MP3 version $12.95, CD version $19.95.* Boston Audissey is a unique MP3/iPod walking tour through the city of Boston, presented with sound effects and music by 14 Bostonian narrators who lead you to the hidden secrets of the city, from slave meeting houses, to duels on the Common, to the former headquarters of the Boston Mafia.

BOSTON CHOCOLATE TOUR, departs from the corner of Boylston and South Charles streets, 617-269-3626. *Tours: Sat at 11:30 a.m. and 12:45 p.m., Sun at noon. Tickets: $65. Reservations required.* Old Town Trolley takes chocoholics on a delicious tour of some of Boston's most decadent chocolate creations, including desserts at the glamorous Top of the Hub restaurant, authentic Boston Creme Pie at the Omni Parker House, and the piece de resistance, the Chocolate Bar Buffet at the Langham Hotel.

FENWAY PARK TOURS, 4 Yawkey Way, 617-226-6666. *Tours daily each hour from 9 a.m.–4 p.m. Tickets (prices reduced due to construction): $8; children (under 14) $5.* Tours originate at the Souvenir Store located on Yawkey Way across from Service Gate D, rain or shine. Have you dreamt of walking across the field where Red Sox legends spent their glory days? This tour offers a behind-the-scenes look at America's oldest active Major League ballpark, including a glimpse behind the famed "Green Monster."

THE FREEDOM TRAIL FOUNDATION'S FREEDOM TRAIL PLAYERS, departs from the Visitor Center on Boston Common, 617-357-8300. *Tours daily at 11 a.m., noon and 1 p.m. Tickets: $12; children (12 and under) $6.* Explore the Freedom Trail with costumed actors portraying famous patriots such as James Otis, Abigail Adams and William Dawes in this 90-minute tour. Stops include the Park Street Church, the Boston Massacre Site, the Old State House and Faneuil Hall.

HARPOON BREWERY TOUR, 306 Northern Ave., 1-888-HARPOON ext. 522. *Tours: Tue–Sat at 3 p.m., Fri & Sat at 1 p.m. Free admission.* This waterfront institution was the first brewery in 25 years to be granted a permit to brew and package beer commercially when it opened in 1987. Visitors gather at the Tap Room, which overlooks the brewery, for 30- to 45-minute tours of the plant.

NORTH END MARKET TOUR, 64 Cross St., take the "T" to Haymarket, 617-523-6032. *Reservations required. Custom tours for groups available. Tickets: $48.* Michele Topor, an

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authority on Italian cuisine and culture, hosts award-winning culinary walking tours through one of the nation's oldest Italian-American communities.

NORTH END SECRET TOURS, North Square (across from The Paul Revere House), 617-720-2283. *Fri & Sat 10 a.m., 1 p.m. and 4 p.m. Reservations required. Tickets: $30 per person.* This two-hour guided walking tour explores some of the hidden courtyards and passageways of the North End, visits the birthplace of Kennedy matriarch Rose Fitzgerald Kennedy, and tells unusual tales of Boston's oldest neighborhood, like the disastrous and tragic Great Boston Molassas Flood of 1919 that devestated much of the historic city sector.

OLD TOWN TROLLEY TOURS OF BOSTON, 617-269-7010. *Departs every 15–20 minutes daily from 9 a.m.–4 p.m. Tickets: $29; seniors & students $26; children (under 12) free.* With 16 stops throughout the city, including the New England Aquarium, U.S.S. Constitution Museum, the Trolley Stop Store on the corner of South Charles and Boylston streets, and most major hotels (see your concierge), patrons can enjoy a 100-minute, fully narrated sightseeing tour of more than 100 points of interest aboard the orange-and-green, all-weather trolley.

PHOTO WALKS, 617-851-2273. *Tours: daily (except Wed) at 1 p.m; Tue, Wed, Fri & Sat at 10 a.m. also. Call for reservations and departure locations. Tickets: $25; students $20; children (ages 10–17) $15.* Explore Boston on a photographic journey that reveals the scenic treasures of the Public Garden, Beacon Hill, the Freedom Trail and the waterfront. Each walking tour provides fascinating historical information and simple, creative tips on composing artistic photographs of area attractions.

SAMUEL ADAMS BREWERY TOUR: DRINK IN A LITTLE HISTORY, 30 Germania St., Jamaica Plain, 617-522-9080. *Tours: Thu at 2 p.m.; Fri at 2 and 5:30 p.m.; Sat at noon, 1 and 2 p.m.; one-hour tours include samples (ID required). Tickets: $1; donation given to a local charity. Call for complete hours, special events and closings.* Learn about the art of brewing beer and taste rich malts and spicy hops on this tour of the original Samuel Adams brewery.

WILDLIFE

FRANKLIN PARK ZOO, One Franklin Park Road, Franklin Park, 617-541-LION. *Open daily 10 a.m.–4 p.m. Admission: $9.50; seniors $8; children (2–15) $5.50; children (under 2) free.* Home to more than 210 species, including many endangered animals. Roam the Australian Outback Trail with wallabies and kangaroos; explore the Tropical Forest and see the gorillas; marvel at the lions at Kalahari Kingdom; and visit zebras, ostriches, ibex and wildebeests at Serengeti Crossing.

NEW ENGLAND AQUARIUM, Central Wharf, 617-973-5200. *Open Mon–Fri 9 a.m.–5 p.m.; Sat & Sun 9 a.m.–6 p.m. Admission: $15.95; seniors $13.95; children (3–11) $8.95; children (under 3) free. Refer to Currently section under Film for IMAX theater listings. Combination ticket prices available.* Dedicated to advancing knowledge of the world of water, this outstanding aquatic zoo features a 187,000-gallon Giant Ocean Tank containing a Caribbean coral reef with sharks, sea turtles, moray eels and other aquatic life. Be sure to check out the popular penguin habitat. Special exhibit: Amazing Jellies. The adjacent Simons 3D IMAX Theater is the first theater of its kind in the Boston area.

STONE ZOO, 149 Pond St., Stoneham, 781-438-5100. *Open daily 10 a.m.–4 p.m. Admission: $7.50; seniors $6.50; children (2–15) $4.50; children (under 2) free.* Highlights include Snowy Owl creek, Mexican gray wolves, snow leopards, jaguars, reindeer, river otters, llamas and miniature donkeys, as well as educational programs at the Animal Discovery Center. The Zoo is also home to the nation's first "Earth Park." Special exhibit: Lord of the Wings: Birds of Prey, an ongoing educational show.

CAMBRIDGE

Due to limited parking, it is best to take the Red Line when traveling to Harvard, Central or Kendall squares. The Cambridge Discovery Booth located at the Harvard Square "T" entrance provides additional information.

CAMBRIDGE COMMON/OLD BURYING GROUND. A grazing pasture and cemetery for Puritan Newtowne, as well as a favorite meeting spot for public figures and a tent site for the Continental Army. Early college presidents and town residents were buried in "God's Acre" across from the Common.

CHRIST CHURCH. This 1761 Tory house of worship was utilized as a Colonial barracks during the American Revolution.

FIRST CHURCH UNITARIAN/UNIVERSALIST. Harvard College provided the pews for its students in this 1833 building erected for the then-newly founded Unitarian Church.

HARVARD AND RADCLIFFE YARDS. The centers of two institutions that have played major educational roles since Harvard's founding in 1636.

HARVARD SQUARE/OLD CAMBRIDGE. The center of Cambridge activity since the 17th century, the Square is home to Harvard University, historic buildings, bookstores, cafes, restaurants and shops.

MOUNT AUBURN CEMETERY, 580 Mount Auburn St., Cambridge, 617-547-7105. *Open daily from 8 a.m.–5 p.m.* Founded in 1831 by the Massachusetts Horticultural Society, Mount Auburn was the first landscaped cemetery in the country. Many prominent Americans are buried here, including Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, Isabella Stewart Gardner and Winslow Homer. The cemetery is also an arboretum, sculpture garden and wildlife sanctuary.

TORY ROW (BRATTLE STREET). One of the nation's most beautiful residential streets, Tory Row is the site of Loyalist mansions and their elegant neighbors from every period of American architecture.

FREEDOM TRAIL

THE FREEDOM TRAIL FOUNDATION'S FREEDOM TRAIL PLAYERS: Step back in time and explore the Freedom Trail with costumed actors portraying famous patriots such as James Otis, Abigail Adams and William Dawes in this 90-minute tour covering the sites listed below. **Refer to listing in Sightseeing, page 45.**

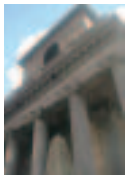
The Freedom Trail begins at the Boston Common Information Kiosk, where you can obtain a free guide or rent a handheld self-guided audio tour complete with sound effects and anecdotes for $15, $12 for each additional adult and $10 for children. Free 90-minute, park ranger-guided tours depart from the Boston National Historical Park Visitors Center at the corner of State and Devonshire streets, Mon–Fri at 2 p.m., Sat & Sun at 10 & 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. First come, first serve. Arrive 30 minutes prior to tour. Call 617-242-5642 for more information.

BOSTON COMMON. Set aside in 1634 as a military training field and grazing pasture, the Common is the oldest public park in America. The park served as quarters for British as well as Colonial troops, and later housed Civil War regiments. The British Army set out for the start of the Revolutionary War from what is now Park Square.

THE STATE HOUSE. Beacon Street, top of Beacon Hill facing Boston Common, 617-727-3676. *Open Mon–Fri 10 a.m.–4 p.m., except holidays. Guided tours by reservation.* The famous golden dome of the State House marks the government seat of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. The cornerstone was laid by Samuel Adams, and the building stands on land bought from John Hancock. The red brick portion was designed by the legendary architect Charles Bulfinch.

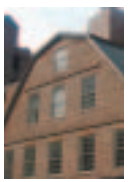
PARK STREET CHURCH. Corner of Park and Tremont streets, 617-523-3383. *Sunday services at 8:30 & 11 a.m. and 4 & 6 p.m. Morning services are traditional, evening services are contemporary.* Built in 1809, this church was described by Henry James as "the most interesting mass of brick and mortar in America."

OLD GRANARY BURYING GROUND. Tremont Street next to Park Street Church, 617-635-7389. *Open daily 9 a.m.–5 p.m.* This historic cemetery, formerly the town granary, is the final resting place of John Hancock, Paul Revere, Robert Treat Paine, Samuel Adams, Peter Faneuil, and the victims of the Boston Massacre. A stone inscribed "Mary Goose" (a.k.a. Elizabeth Goose) allegedly marks the grave of Mother Goose.



KING'S CHAPEL AND BURYING GROUND. Tremont and School streets, 617-227-2155. Services: *Sun at 11 a.m., Wed at noon. Burying Ground open daily 9 a.m.–5 p.m. Tours: Sat 10 a.m.–4:00 p.m.* Visitors are reminded that King's Chapel is a house of worship. The chapel was established in 1687 as the first Anglican congregation in Boston. The second chapel, built in 1754, became the first Unitarian church in America after the Revolution.

SITE OF THE FIRST PUBLIC SCHOOL AND BEN FRANKLIN'S STATUE. On School Street, marked by a column and commemorative plaque. On April 13, 1635, the town voted to establish the first public school in the country (the forerunner of the Boston Latin School). Nearby is Benjamin Franklin's statue, built in 1856, the first portrait statue erected in the United States.



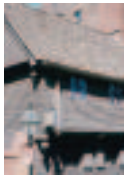
SITE OF THE OLD CORNER BOOKSTORE. School and Washington streets, 617-367-4000. Constructed as an apothecary in 1718, the ground floor was later used as a bookstore that became the center of literary Boston and the meeting place of such notables as Emerson, Hawthorne and Thoreau.

OLD SOUTH MEETING HOUSE. 310 Washington St., 617-482-6439. *Open daily 10 a.m.–4 p.m. Admission: $5; students & seniors $4; children (6–18) $1; children (under 6) free.* This building housed many town meetings, the most famous of which saw an outraged Samuel Adams give the signal to proceed with the Boston Tea Party.

OLD STATE HOUSE. Corner of Washington and State streets, 617-720-3292. *Open daily 9 a.m.–5 p.m. Admission: $5; students & seniors $4; children (6–18) $1; children (under 6) free.* Built in 1713, this seat of colonial government was the center of activity for such patriots as John Hancock and Samuel and John Adams. It was from the east balcony that the Declaration of Independence was first read in Boston.

BOSTON MASSACRE SITE. State Street in front of the Old State House. At the next intersection below the State House, a ring of cobblestones marks the site of the clash between a jeering Boston crowd and a British guard of nine soldiers on March 5, 1770.

FANEUIL HALL. Merchants Row and Faneuil Hall Square, 617-523-1300. *Open daily 9 a.m.–5 p.m. Historical talks given daily every half hour 9:30 a.m.–4:30 p.m.* "The Cradle of Liberty" combines a free marketplace on the first floor with the town meeting hall upstairs, the site of abolitionist speakers and fiery revolutionary debate.



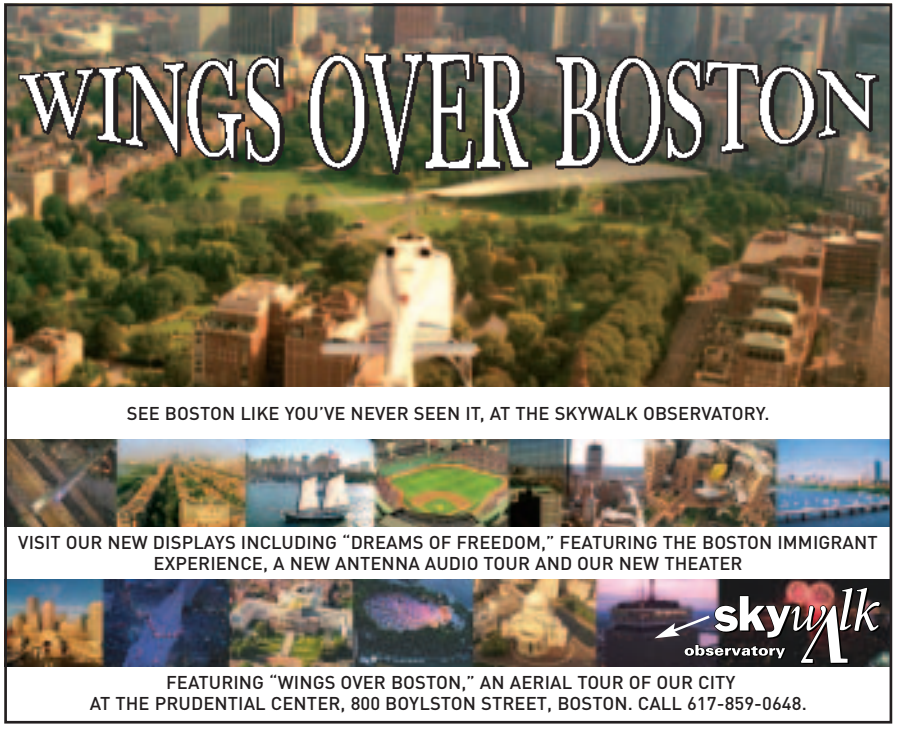
PAUL REVERE HOUSE. 19 North Square, Hanover Street, 617-523-2338. *Open daily 9:30 a.m-4:15 p.m. Admission: $3; students & seniors with I.D. $2.50; children (5–17) $1; (under 5) free.* The oldest home in Boston (built c. 1680), occupied by silversmith and patriot Paul Revere from 1770 to 1800.

OLD NORTH CHURCH. 193 Salem St., 617-523-6676. *Open daily 9 a.m.–5 p.m. Sun services at 9 and 11 a.m.* Known as Christ Church and erected in 1723, this is Boston's oldest standing church, where two lanterns were hung on April 18, 1775, signaling the Redcoats' departure by sea for Lexington and Concord.

COPP'S HILL BURIAL GROUND. *Open daily 9 a.m.–5 p.m.* Hull Street. Set out in 1660, Copp's Hill was Boston's second cemetery. Many remarkable people are interred here, including the Mather family of ministers and Edmund Hartt, builder of the *USS Constitution.*

BUNKER HILL MONUMENT. Breed's Hill, Charlestown, 617-242-5641. *Climb the monument from 9 a.m.–4:30 p.m. Lodge and museum open daily 9 a.m.–5 p.m.* The site of the historic battle of June 17, 1775.

U.S.S. CONSTITUTION. Charlestown Navy Yard, Charlestown, 617-242-5670. *Open Thu–Sun from 10 a.m.–4 p.m. Tours until 3:30 p.m.* This 44-gun frigate is the oldest commissioned warship in the world, christened 'Old Ironsides' during the War of 1812 when the cannonballs of a British warship literally bounced off her triple hull.



SHOPPING

SIMON'S MEN'S CLOTHING: This Back Bay institution has been providing residents and visitors with fine suits and casual wear for more than a century. **Refer to listing, right.**

ANTIQUES/ART/ COLLECTIBLES

PUCKER GALLERY, 171 Newbury St., 617-267-9473. *Mon–Sat 10 a.m.–5:30 p.m., Sun 1–5 p.m.* Founded in 1967 as a showcase for the talents of Israeli artists, the gallery has displayed and sold a wide range of art by international artists, including works by Chagall, Picasso and Hundertwasser.

ARTS & CRAFTS

A KNIT AND NEEDLEPOINT STORE BY MARY J. COLE, 11 Newbury St., 617-536-9338. *Mon–Sat 9 a.m.–5 p.m., Sun by chance.* The fine arts of handprinted needlepoint and gorgeous knitting yarns are showcased here. Instruction is available from the knowledgeable staff and lessons are free when the project is purchased here. Visit www.needlepoint-boston.com.

THE SOCIETY OF ARTS AND CRAFTS, 175 Newbury St., 617-266-1810. *Mon–Sat 10 a.m.–6 p.m., Sun noon–5 p.m.* The oldest nonprofit craft organization in the country, established in 1897. The Society specializes in contemporary American crafts, jewelry, furniture, glass and ceramics ranging from cutting edge to traditional, and from functional to sculptural.

CLOTHING/ACCESSORIES

CHANEL BOUTIQUE, 5 Newbury St., on the ground floor of the Ritz-Carlton Hotel, 617-859-0055. *Mon–Sat 10 a.m.–6 p.m.* Modeled after the famed Chanel Boutique in Paris, the Boston outpost of this storied franchise offers a range of Chanel products, including a line of clothing designed by Karl Lagerfeld, as well as shoes, accessories, handbags and fragrances.

ERMENEGILDO ZEGNA, 39 Newbury St., 617-424-9300. *Mon–Sat 10 a.m.–6 p.m., Sun noon–5 p.m.* A small, family-run textile business that evolved into a world leader in elegant men's clothing, this Italian design house has focused on quality since its founding in 1910. Today, Zegna boasts the finest in menswear and is known for a vast, first-rate necktie selection.

THE GARMENT DISTRICT, 200 Broadway, Cambridge, 617-876-5230. *Sun–Tue 11 a.m.–7 p.m., Wed–Fri 'til 8 p.m., Sat 9 a.m.–7 p.m.* A vintage lover's paradise, this two-level thrift warehouse sells everything from vintage Levi's to knock-off designer dresses and '70s go-go boots. The ambitious (or desperate) can sift through the heaping piles of the downstairs Dollar-A-Pound.

KIM'S FASHION DESIGN, Copley Place, Level 1 next to Neiman Marcus, 617-267-9299; 12 Kneeland St., Chinatown, 617-426-5740. Copley: *Daily 10 a.m.–9 p.m.;* Chinatown: *Daily noon–6 p.m.* Kim Pham has been a driving force in the Asian fashion industry for over 20 years. Kim's couture, Asian-inspired apparel for both genders uses only the finest silks, with painstaking attention to detail and fit.

LOUIS BOSTON, 234 Berkeley St., 617-262-6100. *Mon 11 a.m.–6 p.m., Tue & Wed 10 a.m.–6 p.m., Thu–Sat 'til 7 p.m.* Housed in a historic former Back Bay museum building, this Boston institution maintains its cutting-edge allure by offering upscale men's fashions by up-and-coming designers, as well as women's fashions, bed and bath items, and home accessories.

MAXMARA, 69 Newbury St., 617-267-9775. *Mon–Sat 10 a.m.–7 p.m., Sun noon–6 p.m.* Founded in 1951 and with more than 1,000 stores worldwide, MaxMara is Italy's largest women's ready-to-wear manufacturer. Known for luxurious fabrics, stylish silhouettes and hand detailing. MaxMara embodies the principles of truly great Italian fashion—classic design and top quality.

SIMON'S MEN'S CLOTHING, 220 Clarendon St., between Newbury and Boylston, 617-266-2345. *Mon–Sat 9 a.m.–6 p.m., Wed & Thu 'til 7 p.m., Sun noon–5 p.m.* The oldest family-run men's clothing store in Boston, Simon's sells business and casual wear in classic and updated styles and offers quick, expert alterations and even complete same-day tailoring.

STONESTREETS, 1276 Mass. Ave., Harvard Square, Cambridge, 617-547-3245. *Mon–Fri 10 a.m.–7 p.m., Sat 10 a.m.–6 p.m., Sun noon–6 p.m.* This sophisticated men's clothier offers a casual-yet-refined collection of Italian and American designers. The knowledgeable staff will make sure that you find the proper garment, superbly tailored to your specifications.

URBAN OUTFITTERS, 361 Newbury St., 617-236-0088. *Mon–Thu 10 a.m.–10 p.m., Fri & Sat 'til 11 p.m., Sun noon–8 p.m.* Also: 11 JFK St., Harvard Square, Cambridge, 617-864-0070. Where urban hipsters turn for funky men's and women's fashions. The store also features a wide array of housewares, shoes, accessories, gifts, books, cards and other bric-a-brac.

DEPARTMENT STORES

FILENE'S, 426 Washington St., 617-357-2100. *Mon–Sat 9:30 a.m.–8 p.m., Sun 11 a.m.–7 p.m.* New England's premier department store since 1851 offers six floors of the latest apparel from renowned designers such as Ralph Lauren and Tommy Hilfiger; cosmetics and fragrances from Chanel and Lancôme; and bed and bath products by Laura Ashley and Croscill.

FILENE'S BASEMENT, 426 Washington St., 617-542-2011. *Mon–Fri 9:30 a.m.–8 p.m., Sat 9 a.m.–8 p.m., Sun 11 a.m.–7 p.m.* For decades, the Basement has provided shoppers with huge deals, thanks to its automatic markdown system which guarantees greater discounts the longer an item remains on the selling floor. A "must-visit" for bargain hunters.

H & M, 350 Washington St., 617-482-7081. *Mon–Sat 10 a.m.–8 p.m., Sun 11 a.m.–7 p.m.* This youthful, cutting-edge department store opened its Boston shop in 2001. Its mission of "fashion and quality at the best price" translates to inexpensive, trendy clothes for men and women, as H & M boasts the freshest, most up-to-date fashion trends in color, material and style.

MACY'S, 450 Washington St., 617-357-3195. *Mon–Sat 9:30 a.m.– 8 p.m., Sun 11 a.m.–7 p.m.* This famous New York-based department giant features floor after floor of the latest culinary tools, bed and bath items, incredible gifts and hot fashions. Choose from your favorite designers—Polo, Liz Claiborne, Jones New York and DKNY—or Macy's exclusive labels.

MARSHALLS, 500 Boylston St., 617-262-6066. *Mon–Sat 9 a.m.–9 p.m., Sun 11 a.m.–7 p.m.*; 350 Washington St., Downtown Crossing, 617-338-6205. *Mon–Sat 9 a.m.–7:30 p.m., Sun 11 a.m.–6 p.m.* Its mantra "Brand name clothing for less" has made this discount retailer a bargain-hunter's dream come true. From Ralph Lauren to Calvin Klein, Marshalls features designer clothing for men, women and children.

SAKS FIFTH AVENUE, The Shops at Prudential Center, 800 Boylston St., 617-262-8500. *Mon–Sat 10 a.m.–8 p.m., Sun noon–6 p.m.* One of the country's premier upscale retail giants, Saks proffers a wide selection of high-end fashion apparel, accessories, cosmetics and home decor pieces from an assortment of unique and name-brand designers.

T.J. MAXX, 350 Washington St., 617-695-2424. *Mon–Sat 9 a.m.–7:30 p.m., Sun 11 a.m.–6 p.m.* This discount retailer offers brand name and designer fashions for men, women and kids, as well as accessories, fine jewelry and items for the home. Prices are slashed 20 to 60% off most department store rates. T.J. Maxx offers current trends of the highest quality.

HOME GOODS

CRATE & BARREL, 777 Boylston St., 617-262-8700. *Mon–Sat 10 a.m.–9 p.m., Sun 11 a.m.–6 p.m.* Also: Faneuil Hall Marketplace, 617-742-6025; 48 Brattle St., Cambridge, 617-876-6300. *Call for other location hours.* This fun yet sophisticated home fashions store features everything from kitchenware and furniture to flatware, glassware and bath and body accessories.

RESTORATION HARDWARE, 711 Boylston St., 617-578-0088. *Mon–Sat 10 a.m.–9 p.m., Sun 11 a.m.–6 p.m.* This hardware retailer features distinctive, high-quality items for the home—from home furnishings and lighting to kitchen accessories and garden supplies. Each product is imbued with the store's classic design, affordable pricing and whimsical product information.

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JEWELRY/ACCESSORIES

ALPHA OMEGA, 1380 Mass. Ave., Cambridge, 617-864-1227. *Mon–Sat 10 a.m.–6 p.m., Thu 'til 7 p.m., Sun noon–6 p.m.* Also: The Shops at Prudential Center, 800 Boylston St., 617-494-9030. Devoted to the art of timekeeping, Alpha Omega is an authorized agent for more than 20 prestigious watch brands such as Akteo, Breitling, Movado, Omega, Seiko, TAG Heuer and Raymond Weil.

CARTIER, 40 Newbury St., 617-262-3300. *Mon–Sat 10 a.m.–6 p.m.* If diamonds are forever, the House of Cartier is timeless. With more than 150 years of experience, Cartier is a symbol of prestige, glamour, and quality. The jeweler offers a dazzling display of diamonds, jewelry and accessories, including timepieces, silver, crystal, designer pens and leather accessories.

JOHN LEWIS, INC., 97 Newbury St., 617-266-6665. *Tue–Sat 11 a.m.–6 p.m.* John Lewis has been creating jewelry of imaginative design in Boston for more than 30 years. Using only solid precious metals and natural stones, Lewis's aim is "to make jewelry at a reasonable price, of excellent workmanship and uncommon beauty."

LUX BOND & GREEN, 416 Boylston St., 617-266-4747. *Mon–Sat 10 a.m.–6 p.m., Thu 'til 7 p.m.* Since 1898, Lux Bond & Green has provided its customers with diamonds, gold jewelry, watches and giftware from around the world. The store offers a corporate gift division, bridal and gift registry, a full-service repair department, gift certificates and elegant gift-wrapping.

SHREVE, CRUMP & LOW, 440 Boylston St., 617-267-9100. *Mon–Sat 10 a.m.–5:30 p.m.* Serving Bostonians since 1796, this Boston institution boasts of being the oldest continuously operating luxury business in the U.S. Its new location is filled with glittering diamonds, fine jewelry and watches. The galleries also offer silver, china, porcelain, stationery, antiques and more.

SMALL PLEASURES, 142 Newbury St., 617-267-7371; 92 State St., 617-722-9932. Newbury Street: *Mon–Sat 11 a.m.–6 p.m.;* State Street: *Mon–Sat 11 a.m.–6 p.m.* Specializing in antique jewelry and vintage watches, this unique store features Art Nouveau and Art Deco engagement rings from the 1920s, as well as custom design and repair services, all in an intimate Art Deco setting.

MALLS/SHOPPING CENTERS

CAMBRIDGESIDE GALLERIA, 100 CambridgeSide Place, Cambridge, 617-621-8666. *Mon–Sat 10 a.m.–9:30 p.m., Sun 11 a.m.–7 p.m.* This three-level mall features department stores such as Filene's, Sears and Best Buy, as well as more than 100 other stores and specialty shops including the largest Gap in Boston, Abercrombie & Fitch, J. Crew, Old Navy, Borders, Victoria's Secret and more.

COPLEY PLACE, Copley Square, 617-369-5000. The magnificent Copley Place features more than 100 upscale stores, including Neiman Marcus, Tiffany & Co., Gucci and Williams-Sonoma. A variety of restaurants, including Legal Sea Foods, offer shoppers numerous dining options. To receive a free Ultimate Shopping Excursions card, stop by one of the customer service kiosks.

THE CORNER MALL, corner of Winter and Washington streets. *Open daily.* One-stop shopping in Downtown Crossing. You'll find the latest styles at shops like Discovery Imports, Bath & Body Works and Aldo Shoe. In addition, the Corner Mall features an international food court to please every palate, including Cafe La Brioche, Sakkio Japan and India Express.

SMALL PLEASURES: This shop's two locations offer antique jewelry, including Art Nouveau and Art Deco engagement rings from the 1920s. **Refer to listing, left.**

THE HERITAGE ON THE GARDEN, 300 Boylston St., 617-426-9500. *Call for individual store hours.* This residential/office/retail complex located alongside the Public Garden features a handful of upscale retailers, including St. John Boutique, Sonia Rykiel, Escada, Hermes, Candela Spa and Anne Fontaine.

MARKETPLACE CENTER, located between Faneuil Hall and the Waterfront. Twenty-four distinctive shops surround an open court known as the Exedra, where you will always find a wide range of unusual pushcarts and entertainment events unique to this wonderful area. Within walking distance are literally hundreds of other shops, restaurants, pubs and nightspots.

THE SHOPS AT PRUDENTIAL CENTER, 800 Boylston St., 800-SHOP-PRU. *Mon–Sat 10 a.m.–8 p.m., Sun 11 a.m.–6 p.m.* The Shops at Prudential Center features over 75 shops and restaurants including The Cheesecake Factory, Saks Fifth Avenue, Ann Taylor, J. Jill and Alpha Omega. It is also the launch spot for the city's renowned tourist resource, the Boston Duck Tours.

MUSIC/VIDEO

NEWBURY COMICS, 332 Newbury St., 617-236-4930. *Mon–Thu 10 a.m.–10:30 p.m., Fri & Sat 'til 11 p.m.; Sun 11 a.m.–8 p.m.* Also: Government Center, 1 Washington Mall, 617-248-9992; 36 JFK St. (Garage Mall), Cambridge, 617-491-0337; 211 Alewife Brook Parkway, Cambridge, 617-491-7711. You'll have a "wicked good time" at this upstart local chain, which boasts the cheapest CD prices in town, including import, indie and major label releases, as well as T-shirts, comics, and other pop culture kitsch items.

TOWER RECORDS, 95 Mt. Auburn St., Harvard Square, Cambridge, 617-876-3377. *Sun–Thu 10 a.m.–10 p.m., Fri & Sat 'til midnight.* This music superstore features everything from CDs, tapes and records to videos, books and periodicals. Its music selection runs the gamut from classical to country to current pop, rock and soul sounds.

VIRGIN MEGASTORE, 360 Newbury St., 617-896-0950. *Daily 10 a.m.–midnight.* The British music retailer chose Boston for its 22nd North American location. Three levels and more than 40,000 square feet of space house thousands of books, CDs, videos and DVDs, as well as interactive listening kiosks.

SHOES

ALLEN-EDMONDS, 36 Newbury St., 617-247-3363. *Mon–Sat 9:30 a.m.–6 p.m., Sun noon–5 p.m.* Step out in luxurious style with Allen-Edmonds' collections of wing tips, capped toes and slip-on kilties and tassles. This world-class men's footwear retailer, famous for its 212-step construction process, features shoes made of top-quality leather and all-natural materials.

HELEN'S LEATHER, 110 Charles St., 617-742-2077. *Mon–Wed, Fri & Sat 10 a.m.–6 p.m., Thu noon–8 p.m., Sun noon–6 p.m.* For more than 35 years, Helen's Leather has supplied New Englanders with quality Western boots by makers like Lucchese, Tony Lama, Justin, Nocona and Frye. In addition, Helen's sells Western belts, buckles, shirts and Stetson hats, as well as leather jackets and bags.

JOHN FLUEVOG, 302 Newbury St., 617-266-1079. *Mon–Sat noon–8 p.m., Sun 1–6 p.m.* This funky footwear retailer features shoes created by the maverick designer, ranging from mind-bending platforms to the classic black boot and his tried-and-true "Angels." The Newbury Street locale is the only place in Boston to find a wide range of his cutting-edge styles.

SPORTING GOODS

BILL RODGERS RUNNING CENTER, 353 North Market Bldg., Faneuil Hall Marketplace, 617-723-5612. *Mon–Sat 10 a.m.–8:45 p.m., Sun noon–6 p.m.* Owned by the four-time Boston Marathon winner, the Center helps runners of all levels choose the most suitable shoes, not the most expensive. Boasts a vast selection of shoes and accessories and a knowledgeable staff.

CITY SPORTS, 1035 Commonwealth Ave., 617-782-5121; 480 Boylston St., 617-267-3900; 44 Brattle St., Cambridge, 617-492-6000; other locations. *Mon–Fri 10 a.m.–9:30 p.m., Sat 10 a.m.–9 p.m., Sun 11 a.m.–7 p.m.* City Sports sells athletic apparel by top brands like Nike, Adidas and Puma, as well as sporting equipment for all interests, and footwear from Saucony, Reebok and others.

NIKETOWN, 200 Newbury St., 617-267-3400. *Mon–Sat 10 a.m.–8 p.m., Sun noon–6 p.m.* An enormous temple to the Nike franchise, this sporting goods retailer proffers all things Nike, including footwear, apparel, equipment and accessories. The store features an homage to the Boston Marathon, seats from the old Boston Garden and autographed shoes from Marathon champ Uta Pippig.

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MIND & BODY

L'ELEGANCE ART ET COIFFURE: The Newbury Street salon offers not only hair cutting and coloring, but facials, waxing, pedicures and manicures as well. **Refer to listing, below.**

SPAS

POUR MOI, 105 Newbury St., 3rd Floor, 617-262-1448. *Mon, Wed & Sat 9 a.m.–5 p.m., Tue 9 a.m.–6 p.m, Thu & Fri 9 a.m.–7 p.m.* Skin care specialists offer facials, waxing, manicures and pedicures.

30 NEWBURY SPA, 30 Newbury St., 4th Floor, 617-266-7606. *Mon–Sat 9 a.m.–8 p.m., Sun noon–6 p.m.* Stylists, massage therapists, electrologists and aestheticians offer personalized half- or full-day spa treatments, including facials, manicures, pedicures, hair coloring, body scrubs, laser hair removal and hot stone massage.

HAIR AND NAILS

I SOCI SALON, 8 Newbury St., 3rd Floor, 617-867-9484. *Sun–Tue 11 a.m.–7 p.m., Wed–Fri 'til 8 p.m., Sat 9 a.m.–7 p.m.* This full-service salon offers a personalized variety of contemporary hair care, make-up, skincare and waxing services.

L'ELEGANCE ART ET COIFFURE, 105 Newbury St., 2nd Floor, 617-536-1290. *Mon 9 a.m.–5 p.m., Tue–Fri 8:30 a.m.–7 p.m., Sat 8:30 a.m.–5 p.m., Sun 11 a.m.–5 p.m.* Offering a broad range of beauty treatments, this salon specializes in hair coloring and cuts, Japanese thermal straightening, facials, waxing, manicures and pedicures.

SALON MARC HARRIS, 30 Newbury St., 3rd floor, 617-262-2222. *Mon 9 a.m.–3 p.m., Tue & Sat 9 a.m.–5 p.m., Wed–Fri 8:30 a.m.–8 p.m.* Voted "Best Woman's Haircut" and "Best Updo" in the 2005 *Improper Bostonian* Best of Boston poll, this recognized name in the salon industry offers a welcoming environment for his clientele.

RESTAURANTS

FLORENTINE CAFE: This North End institution offers some of the finest Italian dining in the city, as well as a prime location right on Hanover Street. **Refer to listing, page 62.**

ALLSTON/BRIGHTON

THE SUNSET GRILL & TAP, 130 Brighton Ave. (corner of Harvard and Brighton avenues), Allston, 617-254-1331. This popular Allston hangout features Boston's best beer selection, with more than 112 beers on tap and over 400 microbrews. Its food entices too, with award-winning steam beer burgers, famous curly fries, buffalo wings and giant nachos. L, D, C, LS, SB. $

BACK BAY

APROPOS, Sheraton Boston, 39 Dalton St., 617-375-6500. Drawing its influences from American regional cuisine with a strong New England flair, the menu at Apropos offers hearty, satisfying dishes ranging from pan-roasted Chilean sea bass to grilled New York sirloin and herbed roasted chicken. The menu, created by executive chef Joseph Nartowicz, exudes the flavors of Boston. B, L, D, SB. $$$

AUJOURD'HUI, Four Seasons Hotel Boston, 200 Boylston St., 617-351-2037. An elegant eatery with the Public Garden as a backdrop, and a perennial recipient of the AAA Five Diamond Award. Enjoy exquisite modern French cuisine, accompanied by a selection from an 1,800-bottle wine library. Reservations recommended. D Mon–Sat 5:30–10:30 p.m., Sun 6–10 p.m.; SB 11:30 a.m.–2 p.m. $$$$

AZURE, The Lenox Hotel, 61 Exeter St., 617-933-4800. Azure's menu and concept are designed to be as clear and understated as the color palette itself. Nationally recognized executive chef Robert Fathman, known for his innovation and playful risk-taking in the kitchen, creates contemporary American cuisine with a sophisticated edge and an emphasis on fresh seafood. B, D. $$$

BRASSERIE JO, The Colonnade Hotel, 120 Huntington Ave., 617-425-3240. The "sister" of chef Jean Joho's award-winning Chicago restaurant combines traditional favorites (coq au vin and steak frites) with unique specialties (Uncle Hansi's onion tart). Home-brewed beer, a wine list and desserts in the French tradition complete this Gallic experience. Seasonal outdoor patio. B, L, D. $$

CLIO, The Eliot Hotel, 370-A Commonwealth Ave., 617-536-7200. James Beard Award-winning chef Ken Oringer serves up French-American fare with some striking Asian influences in a sleek, sophisticated atmosphere that's styled after a Parisian supper club. Bacon-wrapped foie gras, caramelized swordfish au poivre and ginger-glazed oxtail keep customers coming back for more. D. $$$$

COTTONWOOD CAFE, 222 Berkeley St., 617-247-2225. Specialties include open-grill steaks, poultry, pasta and vegetarian dishes. Voted "Boston's Best Southwestern Restaurant" and "Boston's Best Margarita." Reservations recommended. Two hours free validated parking. L Mon–Fri 11:30 a.m.–2:30 p.m.; D daily 'til 11 p.m.; Sat & SB 11 a.m.–3 p.m. C, LS, VP. www.cottonwoodboston.com. $$

DAVIO'S NORTHERN ITALIAN STEAKHOUSE, 75 Arlington St., 617-357-4810; Royal Sonesta Hotel, 5 Cambridge Parkway, Cambridge, 617-661-4810. Enjoy fine steaks, pasta and seafood, or lighter fare in the spacious bar. The Cambridge Davio's boasts an outdoor patio and skyline view. L Mon–Fri 11:30 a.m.–3 p.m.; D Sun–Tue 5–10 p.m., Wed–Sat 'til 11 p.m.; C, VP. www.davios.com. $$$. ***SEE LOCATOR #1 ON CENTER MAP.***

EXCELSIOR, The Heritage on the Garden, 272 Boylston St., 617-426-7878. This culinary masterpiece delivers bold and contemporary American cuisine at this stunning Back Bay location. An impressive collection of 500 wines, representing all regions of the world, is displayed in Boston's only climate-controlled glass wine tower. Pre- and post-theater dining available. D, C, LS. $$$$

GOURMELI'S SEAFOOD, Marriott Copley Place, 110 Huntington Ave., 617-236-5800 ext. 6741. Enjoy the sushi bar or indulge in fresh lobster, swordfish and more at this eatery in the heart of the Back Bay. Gourmeli's offers an array of fresh New England seafood and entrees. B, L, D. $$$

KEY	
B	Breakfast
L	Lunch
D	Dinner
BR	Brunch
SB	Sunday Brunch
C	Cocktails
LS	Late Supper (serving after 10 p.m.)
VP	Valet Parking
NC	Credit Cards Not Accepted
*	Entertainment

AVERAGE PRICE OF DINNER ENTREES	
$	Most less than $12
$$	$12–18
$$$	$19–25
$$$$	Most more than $25

Many restaurants offer a wide range of entrees and prices; therefore, the classifications are only approximations.

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***HARD ROCK CAFE,** 131 Clarendon St., two blocks from Boylston St., 617-424-ROCK (7625). HRC Boston serves up down-home American food, seasoned with a healthy dose of rock 'n' roll. Try the infamous "Pig" sandwich, and check out memorabilia including "The Aerosmithsonian," the "Boston Wall of Fame," Phish's vacuum, Jim Morrison's leather pants and Madonna's bustier. L, D, C, LS. $

JASPER WHITE'S SUMMER SHACK, 50 Dalton St., 617-867-9955; 149 Alewife Brook Parkway, Cambridge, 617-520-9500. Top-notch fare such as pan-roasted lobster, award-winning fried chicken and an impressive raw bar in a casual setting. Boston: Daily 11:30 a.m.–11 p.m., raw bar Thu–Sat 'til 1 a.m. Cambridge: Mon–Thu 11:30 a.m.–10 p.m., Fri & Sat 'til 11 p.m., Sun 3–9 p.m. $$$. ***SEE LOCATOR #6 ON CENTER MAP.***

L'ESPALIER, 30 Gloucester St., 617-262-3023. Situated in a historic Back Bay townhouse, this sophisticated French classic helmed by top chef Frank McClelland is a favorite of both power brokers and couples on a romantic night out. Widely acknowledged by critics and diners alike as one of the finest French restaurants in the nation, and the creme de la creme of acclaimed Boston eateries. D. $$$$

***THE OAK ROOM,** 138 St. James Ave., Fairmont Copley Plaza Hotel, 617-267-5300. This sophisticated spot offers a traditional steakhouse menu of prime steaks and chops and fresh seafood. Replete with stately wood paneling, rich draperies and wall ornaments for a comfortable yet elegant feel. B, L, D daily. Adjoining Oak Bar offers martinis, raw bar and full Oak Room menu. $$$$

***THE RITZ-CARLTON HOTEL,** 15 Arlington St., 617-536-5700. This 1927 culinary landmark offers award-winning contemporary French cuisine. The historic Dining Room is available for special events only. The Cafe: B, L, D, Sat & SB. The Lounge: L, D, C, LS. The Bar: L, D, C, LS. $$$$

SKIPJACK'S SEAFOOD EMPORIUM, 199 Clarendon St., Copley Square, 617-536-3500; other locations outside Boston. Enjoy a comfortable atmosphere and specialties such as blackened tuna sashimi, moonfish, Maryland crabcakes and lobster. Winner of Best of Boston 2003 award for seafood. Jazz Brunch Sun 11 a.m.–3 p.m. L & D Sun–Thu 11 a.m.–10 p.m., Fri & Sat 'til 11 p.m. $$

SONSIE, 327 Newbury St., 617-351-2500. Recommended by Boston magazine as the place to "see and be seen." The lively restaurant features a streetside cafe, 50-foot mahogany bar, brick oven and colorful dining room. The menu by award-winning chef Bill Poirier includes tempura tuna roll with avocado, mizuna and tobiko caviar and herb pappardelle with asparagus. L, D, C, LS, VP. $$$

SPEEDER & EARL'S, Copley Square Hotel, 47 Huntington Ave., 617-536-9000. Boston's "quirkiest" breakfast and coffee bar, serving traditional and innovative favorites such as eggs Benedict and malted waffles. Boston's best pastries and premium blends of gourmet coffee from Speeder & Earl's of Vermont are also featured. B, L, Sat & SB, D. $

STEPHANIE'S ON NEWBURY, 190 Newbury St., 617-236-0990. Lauded by *The New York Times*, chef/owner Stephanie Sidell's eatery showcases sophisticated cooking and classic comfort food. Casual elegance at its best with a sidewalk cafe, club-like bar and skylit dining space. Mon–Sat 11:30 a.m.–11 p.m., Sun 10 a.m.–10 p.m. L, D, SB 10 a.m.–3 p.m., C, VP Tue–Sat evenings. $$$

Theatre District Dining

Best Italian Restaurant 2003
–Boston Magazine
177 Tremont St., Boston
617.778.6841
www.teatroboston.com
reservations accepted
1

THEATRE CAFÉ PARK SQUARE
617.574.2752
200 STUART STREET
AT THE RADISSON HOTEL
2

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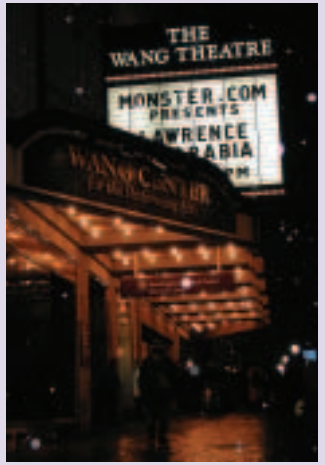
Faneuil Hall Marketplace (617) 720-5522
3

1237 Hancock St. Quincy Center 617-774-1200
Fajitas
25 West Sreet Boston Common 617-426-1222
www.fajitasandritas.com
4



***TOP OF THE HUB,** 800 Boylston St., Prudential Center, 617-536-1775. There is nothing like sitting 52 stories above Boston for dining and a spectacular view of the city. The magnificent cuisine complements the breathtaking views. L, D, LS, C. Live jazz seven nights a week. $$$$

TURNER FISHERIES, Westin Hotel Copley Place, Stuart and Dartmouth streets, 617-424-7425. Known for its fresh seafood and winner of several regional awards, Turner's features seven-foot-high French windows, swooping Hollywood banquettes, mahogany paneling and cobalt blue tile. Private dining rooms accommodate 10–140 guests. Discounted VP at The Westin Hotel Copley Place. L, D, C, LS. $$$

BEACON HILL

ANTONIO'S, 288 Cambridge St., 617-367-3310. One of Boston's finest Italian restaurants (across from Massachusetts General Hospital on historic Beacon Hill). Traditional Italian food with nightly specials and complementing wine list. Specials include homemade fusilli, shrimp margarita and chicken/sausage vinegar peppers and potatoes. L, D Mon–Thu 11 a.m.–10 p.m., Fri & Sat 11 a.m.–10:30 p.m. $

***CHEERS,** 84 Beacon St., 617-227-9605. Also: Faneuil Hall Marketplace, 617-227-0150. Both the original Beacon Hill pub and its spinoff offer a tasty selection of traditional fare and an abundant beverage selection, including their award-winning Bloody Mary and a variety of draft beers. Live entertainment Thu–Sat nights, and officially licensed Cheers merchandise sold on site. L, D, C, LS. $

THE FEDERALIST, Fifteen Beacon Hotel, 15 Beacon St., 617-670-2515. The menu at this elite spot brings artistic flair to dishes like Colorado rack of lamb and skillet-roasted French Dover sole, in an atmosphere evoking the stately class of the world's most private clubs. A rooftop herb garden and in-kitchen fish tanks help to ensure culinary perfection. B, D, Sat & SB, C, LS. $$$$

HUNGRY I, 71½ Charles St., 617-227-3524. In a two-story townhouse with three working fireplaces and an outdoor patio, Chef Peter Ballarin delights patrons with French country cuisine and creative desserts. Signature dishes include venison au poivre and braised rabbit a la moutard. L Thu and Fri only, noon–2 p.m.; D 5:30–9:30 p.m.; SB 11 a.m.–2 p.m. Private dining rooms available. $$$$. ***SEE LOCATOR #5 ON CENTER MAP.***

LALA ROKH, 97 Mt. Vernon St., 617-720-5511. Named for a legendary Persian princess, this elegant restaurant is owned by siblings Babak and Azita Bina. Using their mother's recipes, they've created a unique dining experience in the only restaurant of its kind in New England. L Mon–Fri noon–3 p.m.; D nightly 5:30–10 p.m. Reservations recommended. C, VP. www.lalarokh.com. $$

NO. 9 PARK, 9 Park St., 617-742-9991. Nationally acclaimed chef Barbara Lynch serves up French and Italian style dishes in a sophisticated bistro atmosphere atop Beacon Hill. Chef Lynch has a subtle hand in the kitchen, turning out inventive renditions of classic Italian and French fare such as fresh pasta and foie gras. L, D, LS. $$$$

CAMBRIDGE

GANDHI, 704 Mass. Ave., Central Square, Cambridge, 617-491-1104. Savor the scents and flavors of India and enjoy exceptional Indian cuisine in the heart of Central Square. Only the freshest produce, herbs and delicate spices are used to prepare the healthy fare. L daily noon–3 p.m.; D noon–11 p.m.; SB noon–3 p.m. L buffet daily noon–3 p.m., "All you can eat" $5.95. Beer & wine. $

HENRIETTA'S TABLE, The Charles Hotel, One Bennett St., Cambridge, 617-661-5005. Nothing but locally grown and organic produce are used to create a lively, textured menu of reinterpreted New England classics. Private dining room available. B Mon–Fri 6:30–11 a.m., Sat 7–11 a.m., Sun 7–10:30 a.m.; Sat and SB noon–3 p.m.; L Mon–Sat noon–3 p.m.; D daily 5:30–10 p.m. $

RIALTO, The Charles Hotel, One Bennett St., Cambridge, 617-661-5050. One of Greater Boston's top restaurants features fine wines and cuisine from France, Italy and Spain. Chef Jody Adams lends her creative talents to seasonal dinner menu items such as grilled pork tenderloin with Ligurian potato-cheese pie, pine nuts and basil. D only. Reservations recommended. $$$$

SHERATON COMMANDER RESTAURANT, 16 Garden St., Harvard Square, Cambridge, 617-234-1365. New England-style cuisine in a relaxed, elegant setting with a casual atmosphere. B, L, D, SB. $$

ZEPHYR ON THE CHARLES, Hyatt Regency Cambridge, 575 Memorial Drive, Cambridge, 617-441-6510. This restaurant serves small-portioned, tapas-like dishes, featuring eclectic fare like sushi-grade tuna tartare and wood-grilled tiger prawns. The setting features spectacular views of the Boston skyline. B, L, D, C. $$

CHARLESTOWN

OLIVES, 10 City Square, Charlestown, 617-242-1999. Celebrity chef Todd English got his start with this local eatery and the Charlestown flagship restaurant is still the unparalleled king of his endeavors. Sample English's multi-layered, ingredient rich, pan-Mediterranean creations. D. $$$$

DOWNTOWN

***AVENUE ONE,** Hyatt Regency, Financial District, 1 Ave. de Lafayette, 617-422-5579. Enjoy Boston's most extensive fondue menu in a relaxed atmosphere. Live jazz every Thu. B, L, D, C. $$

***CAFÉ FLEURI,** Langham Hotel Boston, 250 Franklin St., 617-451-1900. Enjoy what Boston magazine calls "the best Sunday brunch in Boston," or sample a la carte Mediterranean and American fare, and French desserts—all within a sunlit garden atrium. B Mon–Fri 6:30–11:30 a.m., Sat 7:30–11 a.m.; L daily 11:30 a.m.–3 p.m.; D Mon–Sat 6–10 p.m., Sun 4–10 p.m.; SB 11 a.m.–1:30 p.m. $$

CALITERRA, Wyndham Boston Hotel, 89 Broad St., 617-348-1234. Located in the heart of the Financial District, this casual, upscale restaurant features Cal-Ital cuisine with seasonal New England flavors. B, L, D. $$

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A National Historic Landmark

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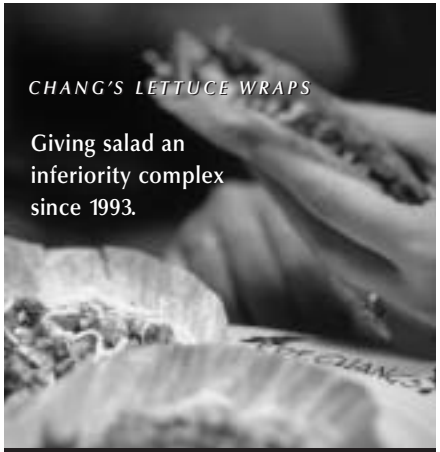


Reservations Accepted
P.F. CHANG'S CHINA BISTRO
In the Theatre District
8 Park Plaza • 617-573-0821
(at the Transportation Building)
pfchangs.com

CHART HOUSE, 60 Long Wharf, 617-227-1576. The Chart House boasts an impressive menu of fresh seafood, including specialties like the crab, avocado and mango stack appetizer; shrimp fresca; macadamia crusted mahi-mahi; slow roasted prime rib; and its signature dessert—hot chocolate lava cake. Private parties for 30 or more by reservation only. L, D, C. $$$

FAJITAS & 'RITAS, 25 West St., 617-426-1222. Established in 1989, Fajitas & 'Ritas features fresh, healthy Tex-Mex and barbecue cuisine. The restaurant stresses generous portions, affordable prices, open casual space and prompt, friendly service. Mon–Tue 11:30 a.m.–9 p.m., Wed, Thu & Sat 'til 10 p.m., Fri 'til 11 p.m., Sun noon–8 p.m. C, LS. www.fajitas andritas.com. $. ***SEE LOCATOR #3 ON CENTER MAP.***

INTRIGUE, Boston Harbor Hotel at Rowes Wharf, 617-856-7744. Casual elegance surrounds this unique cafe. Beautiful decor and breathtaking harbor views are perfect for those who desire a cosmopolitan, relaxed atmosphere. Enjoy a global menu created by renowned chef Daniel Bruce. B, L, D, LS. $

JER-NE RESTAURANT & BAR, The Ritz-Carlton Boston Common, 12 Avery St., 617-574-7176. Chef Jason Adams sets an uncharted course of adventure in contemporary cuisine, featuring American favorites, seafood and steaks, all artistically presented. The artful menu is created from a palette of lush local flavors. The restaurant also boasts an exhibition kitchen. B, L, D, SB, C, LS. $$$$

***JULIEN,** Langham Hotel Boston, 250 Franklin St., 617-451-1900. The award-winning Julien offers creative contemporary French cuisine in a formal dining room of unparalleled elegance and intimacy. An ideal setting for pre-theatre dining, a private business dinner or a romantic celebration. D Mon–Sat 6–10 p.m. Tapas menu available at bar Mon–Fri 4–7 p.m. $$$$

***KENNEDY'S MIDTOWN,** 42 Province Street, 617-426-3333. Featuring prime aged steaks, seafood, and traditional pub fare. Kennedy's offers all the comforts of a traditional pub, with a touch of class. Kennedy's upstairs location offers a relaxing dining atmosphere with a lively bar offering live piano music on Thu, Fri & Sun. Open daily; L 11 a.m.–4 p.m.; D Sun–Tue 4–10 p.m., Wed–Sat 4–11 p.m.; B Sat & Sun 9 a.m.–2 p.m. www.kennedysmidtown.com. $$

LOCKE-OBER, 3 Winter Place, 617-542-1340. Helmed by local culinary innovator Lydia Shire (Biba, Excelsior), this downtown landmark has been refurbished and restored to its former glory. The menu of this Boston Brahmin bastion has been updated, but Shire has kept many of its classics, including the steak tartar and the legendary lobster Savannah. L, D, LS. $$$$

MCCORMICK & SCHMICK'S SEAFOOD RESTAURANT, Park Plaza Hotel, 34 Columbus Ave., 617-482-3999; Faneuil Hall Marketplace, North Market, 617-720-5522. Renowned for fresh seafood and lively atmosphere, M & S also offers steak, chicken and pasta dishes. Daily 11 a.m.–11:30 p.m., Fri & Sat 'til midnight. Bar menu Mon–Fri 3:30–6:30 p.m., Sat & Sun 10 p.m.–midnight. $$$

MERITAGE, Boston Harbor Hotel at Rowes Wharf, 617-439-3995. Fresh, seasonal cuisine is carefully matched to an appropriate vintage from the 12,000-bottle wine collection. The restaurant's interior combines slate, marble, exotic wood and leather, creating a luxurious atmosphere to accompany a hearty meal. All menu items come in appetizer and entree sizes. D, LS. $$$$

MUSEUM OF SCIENCE, Science Park, 617-723-2500. Forget dinner and a movie—now it's brunch and a movie at the noontime Skyline Sunday Brunch. The package includes tickets to the Museum's newest IMAX film, admission to the exhibit halls and free parking. *Tickets: $32; seniors $31; children $30.* Reservations recommended. $

OCEANA, Marriott Long Wharf Hotel, 296 State St., 617-227-3838. One of Boston's premier seafood spots. Boasting a breathtaking view of the Harbor, Oceana offers uniquely prepared fresh seafood. B, L, D, SB. $$

PARKER'S RESTAURANT, Omni Parker House, 60 School St., 617-725-1600. Executive chef Jerry Tice celebrates nostalgic cuisine with a contemporary flair. The stately dining room reflects the rich culinary heritage that lives on at the birthplace of Boston cream pie and the Parker House roll. B, L, D. $$$$

RADIUS, 8 High St., 617-426-1234. James Beard Award-winning chef Michael Schlow churns out impeccably prepared nouveau French fare in an ultra-modern, minimalist setting. Pastry chef Paul Connors creates rapturously delectable desserts. The ambiance is powerbroker chic, and the service is top-notch. L, D, C, LS. $$$$

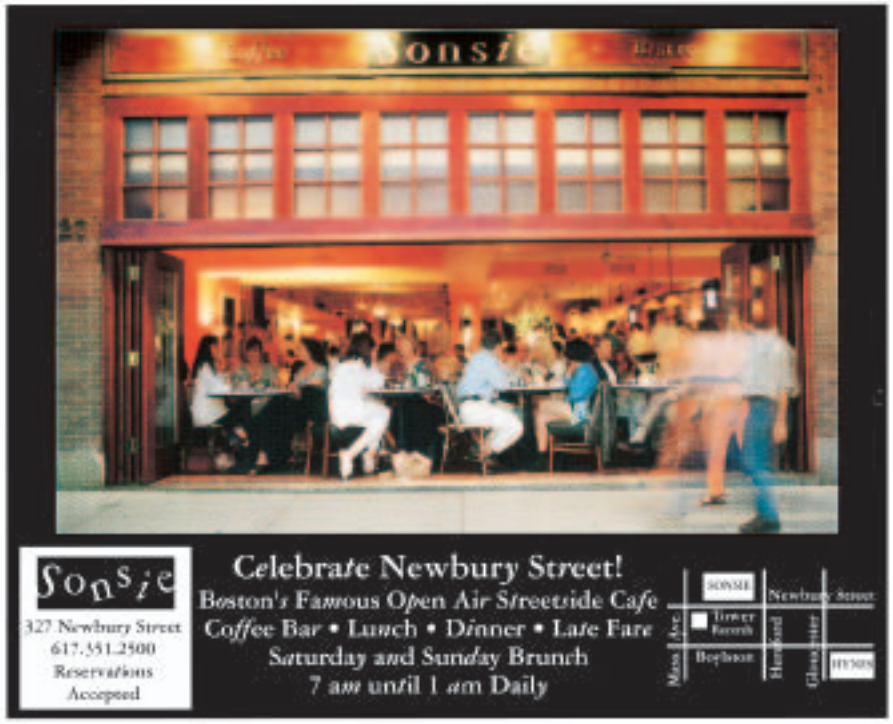
SPIRE, Nine Zero Hotel, 90 Tremont St., 617-772-0202. Alluringly ensconced in Boston's most fashionable luxury boutique hotel, Spire features a striking interior and chef Gabriel Frasca's cuisine, which combines flavors from France, Italy, Spain and Portugal with seasonal New England ingredients. Named one of "America's 50 Best Hotel Restaurants" by *Food and Wine.* B, L, D LS, VP. $$$$

TEATRO, 177 Tremont St., 617-778-6841. Teatro boasts a reasonably priced Italian-influenced menu by executive chef Robert Jean and owner/chef Jamie Mammano. The restaurant was named "Best Pre-Theatre Dining 2003" (*Improper Bostonian*) and "Best Italian Restaurant 2003" (*Boston* magazine). D Mon–Sat 5 p.m.–midnight; Sun 4–11 p.m. Reservations accepted. www.teatroboston.com. C, VP. $$$

YE OLDE UNION OYSTER HOUSE, 41 Union St., 617-227-2750. Steps from Quincy Market stands America's oldest restaurant, serving Yankee-style seafood, beef and chicken. Famed for its oyster bar where Daniel Webster dined daily. Specialties include clam chowder, swordfish, and fresh lobster. L, D Sun–Thu 11 a.m.–9:30 p.m., Fri & Sat 'til 10 p.m. VP. www.unionoysterhouse.com. $$$

EAST BOSTON/AIRPORT

HARBORSIDE GRILL, Hyatt Harborside, 101 Harborside Drive, 617-568-6060. The Harborside Grill offers panoramic views of the Boston skyline from every seat in the dining room. During the day, the Grill is a welcoming casual location for a bowl of chowder, and in the evening is transformed into a sophisticated seafood restaurant. Open daily 6 a.m.–10 p.m. B, L, D, SB, C, VP. $$$



SHALL WE DINE?

As day gives way to night's wonders, celebrate with splendid cuisine, an inspiring wine list, and attentive service. Come dine at Julien — the restaurant *Boston* magazine honors for creating "impeccably executed French food."

Julien

Langham Hotel, Boston (formerly Le Meridien)
250 Franklin Street, Boston
617.956.8752
www.langhamhotels.com

DECIDEDLY DELECTABLE

Over hollandaise or hazelnuts, brioche or biscuits, our guests have come to a clear consensus: Café Fleuri's Sunday brunch is decidedly delectable. *Boston* magazine has named it Boston's Best Brunch eight times. Come decide for yourself.

Prices range from $45.00 to $56.00
Children under 12, $17.50.
Sunday seatings: 11:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Café Fleuri

Langham Hotel, Boston (formerly Le Meridien)
250 Franklin Street, Boston
617.451.1900, ext. 7125
www.langhamhotels.com

FANEUIL HALL

***BLACK ROSE,** 160 State St., next to Faneuil Hall Marketplace, 617-742-2286. Located in the Faneuil Hall Marketplace area, this popular pub features aged beef, chicken, fresh native seafood, light fare, hearty sandwiches and other American and Irish classics from the grill served in a casual, jovial atmosphere. Live Irish music nightly and weekend afternoons. L, D, LS, SB. Traditional Irish breakfast served. $

DICK'S LAST RESORT,** Quincy Market, Faneuil Hall Marketplace, 617-267-8080. Dick's serves ribs and chicken by the bucket, 74 kinds of beer and more. SB 10 a.m.–3 p.m. includes Belgian waffles and a make-your-own Bloody Mary bar. Live music, no cover, no dress code and definitely no class. L 11:30 a.m.–4 p.m.; D Sun–Thu 4 p.m.–midnight, Fri & Sat 'til 1 a.m. www.dickslastresort.com. $$. ***SEE LOCATOR #2 ON CENTER MAP.

***DURGIN-PARK,** 340 Faneuil Hall Marketplace, 617-227-2038. A Boston landmark in historic Faneuil Hall (where your grandfather and great-grandfather may have dined) features steaks, chops and seafood in a New England tradition. Piano and oyster bars open late. L, D. $

FENWAY/KENMORE SQUARE

BRAVO, Museum of Fine Arts, 465 Huntington Ave., 617-369-3474. Chef Benjamin Cevelo brings his creative touch to an eclectic and contemporary menu. The restaurant's bold decor, created by famed restaurant designer Peter Niemitz, meshes with a rotating selection of the MFA's modern masterpieces. L daily 11:30 a.m.–3 p.m.; D Wed–Fri 5:30–8:30 p.m.; SB 11:30 a.m.–3 p.m. $$$

GREAT BAY, Hotel Commonwealth, 500 Commonwealth Ave., 617-532-5300. Christopher Myers and chef Michael Schlow (Radius, Via Matta) present their unique take on the seafood and raw bar concepts. This eclectic space in Kenmore Square serves delectable fare such as fish tacos and the acclaimed baked stuffed lobster. L, D, SB, C, LS. $$$

NORTH END

DAVIDE, 326 Commercial St., 617-227-5745. Boasts an upscale yet casual atmosphere with Northern Italian-inspired dishes. Accolades include the Zagat Award, The Five-Star Diamond Award and plaudits from *Wine Spectator.* All pastas and desserts made fresh on premises. Reservations recommended. L Mon–Fri 11:30 a.m.–3 p.m.; D daily 5–10 p.m. C, VP. $$$

FLORENTINE CAFE, 333 Hanover St., 617-227-1777. Revered by visitors and residents for decades, this historic cafe is one of Boston's culinary landmarks. Lobster ravioli with tomatoes and lobster cream sauce and seared veal with grilled shrimp in Frangelico mushroom sauce are just two of the Italian wonders awaiting you in this charming bistro setting. Daily noon–1 a.m. L, D, C. $$$. ***SEE LOCATOR #4 ON CENTER MAP.***

LUCCA RESTAURANT & BAR, 226 Hanover St., 617-742-9200. Winner of the Wine Spectator Award of Excellence 2002, Zagat Survey's "Top New Restaurant 2002" and winner of Best of Boston 2001, this eatery is racking up raves for its regional Italian cuisine, superb wine list, lively bar and elegant ambiance. D nightly 5–11 p.m.; Sat & Sun 'til 11:30 p.m.; bar menu 'til 12:15 a.m.; C 'til 1 a.m. VP. $$$. ***SEE LOCATOR #7 ON CENTER MAP.***

MAMMA MARIA, 3 North Square, 617-523-0077. "Mamma Maria stands for what Italian food is. Simplicity, quality ingredients and fun…the food of love." (Emeril Lagasse, 2004). Mamma Maria offers charming views of the neighborhood and city skyline, as well as a Wine Spectator Award-winning wine list. D Sun–Thu 5–10 p.m., Fri & Sat 'til 11 p.m. VP. www.mammamaria.com. $$$. ***SEE LOCATOR #8 ON CENTER MAP.***

MASSIMINO'S CUCINA ITALIANA, 207 Endicott St., 617-523-5959. Owner/chef Massimino was formerly head chef of Naples' Hotel Astoria and Switzerland's Metropolitan Hotel. His eatery's specialties include veal chop stuffed with arugula, prosciutto, smoked mozzarella and black olives, amongst other delights. L, D, LS, C. Mon–Thu 11 a.m.–10 p.m., Fri & Sat 'til 11 p.m.; Sun noon–9 p.m. $

SOUTH BOSTON WATERFRONT

ANTHONY'S PIER 4, 140 Northern Ave., 617-482-6262. For 37 years, this Boston institution has tempted diners with Maine lobster, fresh New England seafood, imported Dover sole, prime steaks and a huge wine list. The dining room offers a view of Boston Harbor and the city skyline. L & D Mon–Fri 11:30 a.m.–10 p.m., Sat noon–11 p.m., Sun noon–10 p.m. $$

AURA, Seaport Hotel, One Seaport Lane, 617-385-4300. Aura's seasonal menus showcase a passion for using fresh, local ingredients in his recipes. Chef John Merrill partners with local farmers and fishermen to select freshly harvested vegetables, seafood that is just off the boat and specially aged meats and cheeses to create his award-winning meals. B, L, D, SB. $$$

SOUTH END

B&G OYSTERS, 550 Tremont St., 617-423-0550. This sophisticated South End raw bar from James Beard Award-winning chef Barbara Lynch (No. 9 Park) and partner Garrett Harker features bivalves from Wellfleet to the West Coast, as well as signature dishes like the lobster BLT and the Maine lobster roll. L, D, LS, VP. $$

***BOB'S SOUTHERN BISTRO,** 604 Columbus Ave., 617-536-6204. Boston's premier soul food restaurant features a wide array of talented local jazz musicians as well as a delightful assortment of southern and Cajun cuisines to satisfy any palate. Live jazz SB. L, D, LS, C. $$

DELUX CAFE & LOUNGE, 100 Chandler St., 617-338-5258. This tiny South End pub has long been a local favorite for its inexpensive eats and rock-and-roll atmosphere. Don't expect typical bar food, however, as the eatery's monthly menu can include everything from pan-seared tuna to a grilled cheese sandwich featuring brie and chutney to chips and salsa made with seasonal fruit. D, C, LS, NC. $

HAMERSLEY'S BISTRO, 533 Tremont St., 617-423-2700. This pioneering French-American classic, helmed by the husband and wife team of Gordon and Fiona Hamersley, first put the South End dining scene on the map. Try the duck confit

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RESTAURANT & BAR

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PERDIX, 560 Tremont St., 617-338-8070. A New American bistro in the South End run with flair by chef Tim Partridge and his wife Nini Diana. Elegant and charming, this welcome newcomer has been acclaimed for such whimsical signature dishes as "Today's steak with whatever Tim wants" and the dessert staple, "Really freakin' good chocolate torte." D, SB. $$$

***209,** 209 Columbus Ave., 617-536-0966. This casual eatery serves a diverse menu of modernized comfort food with a Southwestern flair, and is also a favorite of the Sunday brunch crowd. L, D, LS, C, SB. $$

THEATRE DISTRICT

***JACOB WIRTH,** 37 Stuart St., 617-338-8586. Opened in 1868, Jacob Wirth is the city's second-oldest restaurant, serving traditional German fare, including wiener schnitzel, sauerbraten and a great selection of German beers. This Theater District mainstay still resembles an old-time saloon, complete with ancient mahogany bar, weathered floors and weekly piano sing-alongs. L, D, C, LS. $$

LEGAL SEA FOODS RESTAURANT, 26 Park Plaza, Park Square Motor Mart, 617-426-4444; 255 State St., Long Wharf, 617-227-3115; Prudential Center, 800 Boylston St., 617-266-6800; other locations. For more than 50 years, Legal Sea Foods has served the freshest seafood possible, including oysters, succulent New England lobsters and its famous clam "chowda." Extensive wine list. L & D. $$$

P.F. CHANG'S, 8 Park Plaza, 617-573-0821. Enjoy unforgettable Chinese cuisine, attentive service and delicious desserts all served in a stylish bistro setting. Featuring an award-winning wine list, P.F. Chang's offers an extensive wine-by-the-glass program as well as original cocktails like the Lucky Cat Martini. L, D & LS. Reservations accepted. Sun–Thu 11:30 a.m.–11 p.m., Fri & Sat 'til midnight. www.pfchangs.com. $$

PIGALLE, 75 Charles St. South, 617-423-4944. This welcoming bistro in Park Square brings exquisite French cuisine to the Theatre District via the inventive culinary artistry and personally charming service of co-owners and husband-and-wife team Marc Orfaly and Kerri Foley. D, VP. $$$

THEATRE CAFE, Radisson Hotel, 200 Stuart St., 617-574-2752. Located in the heart of the theater district, this restaurant features traditional American fare in a comfortable atmosphere and is a great location for pre- and post-theater dining. Seasonal outdoor dining and discounted parking at on-site garage is available. B, L, D. $$

WISTERIA, Doubletree Hotel Boston, 821 Washington St., 617-956-7900. This restaurant and bar with a nouveau Asian twist offers an innovative menu that synthesizes New England seafood and Asian cuisine. Impeccable service and attention to detail are apparent, from the unique presentation of entrees on signature china to the welcoming hotel towel offered upon being seated. L & D. $$$

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Coconut Crunchy Shrimp ✦ Lobster Spring Rolls ✦ Jumbo Lump Crab Cake

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Steamed Maine Lobster ✦ Dynamite Mahi Mahi ✦ Herb Crusted Salmon ✦ Spiced Yellowfin Ahi ✦ Pan Seared Sea Scallops ✦ Baked Stuffed Shrimp ✦ Alaskan King Crab Legs ✦ Dungeness Crab Clusters

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ON THE MENU

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PRIMI
Fusilli alla Boscaiola: Hand-rolled pasta with wild mushroom, prosciutto in a parmigiano cream sauce

PESCE
Tonno e Capesante Balsamico: Pan-seared tuna and scallop in a balsamic reduction with fresh diced tomato and basil

CARNI
Carre D'Angello all'Aglio e Rosmarino: Roasted rack of lamb with a roasted garlic and rosemary crust in Barolo wine

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326 Commercial St., North End • 617-227-5745
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An integral part of the North End's dining scene for over 20 years, Davide first opened in 1982. While reflecting the rich traditions of Northern Italy, the dishes amaze diners with their originality. Davide has earned numerous accolades over the years, including recognition as one of the nation's top 50 Italian restaurants, and boasts one of the finest wine lists in the city.

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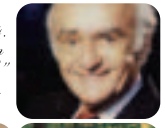

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Anthony's PIER 4

neighborhoods

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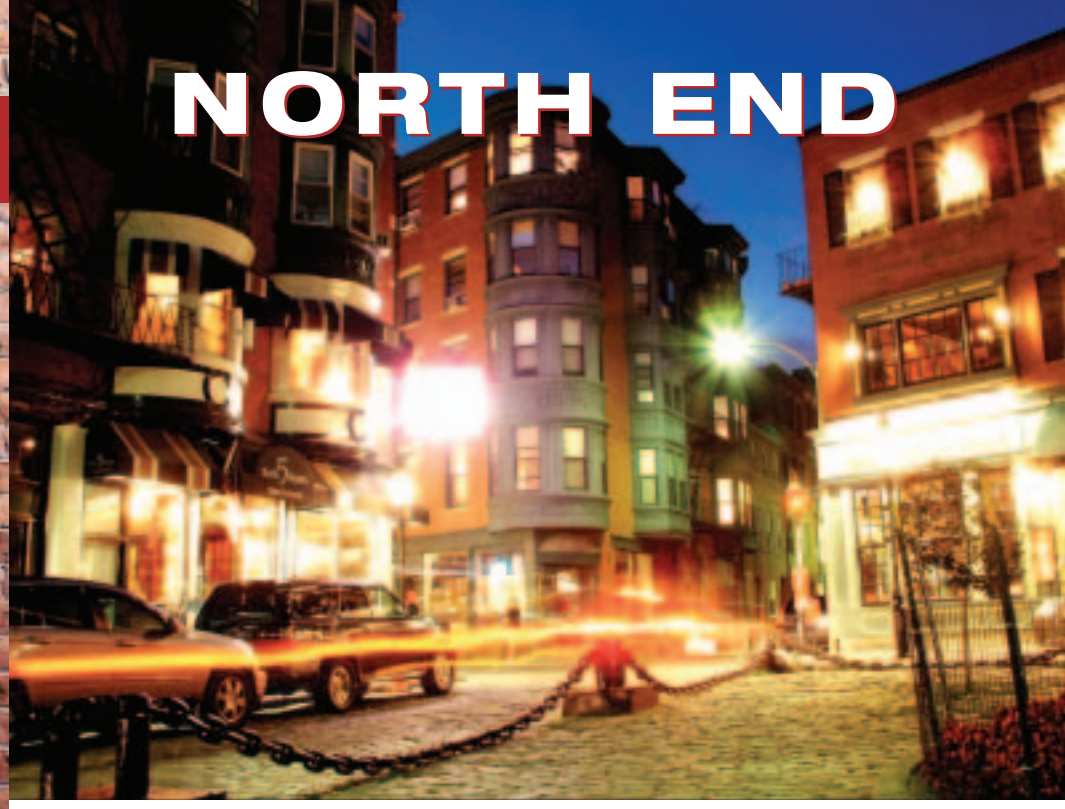
BRIGHT LIGHT: Gaslamps and brick buildings, such as these in Beacon Hill, are two hallmarks of the city's historic neighborhoods. *Refer to page 74.*

PHOTO BY DELLA HUFF



NORTH END

Old World Charm

TIME TRAVELING: North Square's cobblestoned streets play host to not only fine Italian eateries, but also to the historic Paul Revere House on the Freedom Trail.

Renowned as Boston's "Little Italy," the North End is constantly brimming with the aroma of garlic and freshly cooked cuisine. But much of the North End's charm comes from its storied history. The oldest neighborhood in the city, it gave birth to the American Revolution on its narrow cobblestone streets and has been home to wave after wave of new immigrants. Today, the North End remains one of the most European neighborhoods in America.

The North End is widely known for its abundance of Italian restaurants. The cuisine is authentic and consistently delicious, whether Old World Sicilian, traditional Northern Italian or Mediterranean fusion. And though the ambience can be boisterous, romantic or somewhere in between, the setting is usually intimate, with patrons rubbing elbows with one another in crowded dining rooms—it's all part of the European feel.

One of Boston's most well-known attractions is, of course, the Freedom Trail. Three of its sites are located in the North End. The Paul Revere House, Boston's oldest home (built circa 1680) was occupied by the famed silversmith/patriot/midnight rider and his family (including 16 children!) from 1770–1800. Christ Church, a.k.a. the Old North Church, Boston's oldest standing church (built in 1723) served as the signal tower that spurred Revere on his jaunt through the countryside. And Copp's Hill Burying Ground, founded in 1660 as the Hub's second cemetery, provided the final resting place of many famous colonials, such as the Puritan preachers of the Mather family, including

cont. on page 70 >>

ABOVE PHOTO BY DELLA HUFF

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NORTH END

<< cont. from page 69

Salem Witch Trial-era firebrand Cotton Mather, and Edmund Hartt, whose shipyard constructed the U.S. Navy's flagship *U.S.S. Constitution*.

In keeping with its Old World character, the North End observes many traditions imported from the shores of Europe. One such annual rite is the weekly Italian feasts and processions, kept alive by immigrants and their descendents, that take place throughout the summer and enliven this already spirited locale. These spectacles usually celebrate the patron saints of Italian villages and center around jubilant parades of the saints' statues through the North End's winding roadways. Food vendors, hawking everything from sausage to calamari, add their own flavor to the scene.

THE OLD NEIGHBORHOOD: Dozens of local shops offering authentic Italian goods, from coffee to cold cuts and pastry to pasta, line the streets of the North End.

CELEBRATE GOOD TIMES: Processions and festivals celebrating the feast days of various saints take over the streets of the North End throughout the summer.

ABOVE PHOTO BY DELLA HUFF

If you're looking for belly laughs instead of a full belly, have a seat at the Improv Asylum on Hanover Street to take in the wild antics of this innovative comedy troupe. The Asylum offers off-the-cuff fun and hilarity at its original North End venue.

And if you haven't had enough of good old Paul Revere, check out Paul Revere Tonight, which runs at the Old North Church during the summer and fall. Award-winning actor David Conner recreates this legendary figure and tells the oft-untold stories of Revere's upbringing and his midnight ride. Ⓟ

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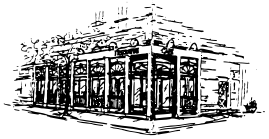
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BACK BAY

In Style

It's the great American success story: rising from the humblest of beginnings to achieve prestige and greatness. As such, Boston's chic Back Bay may well be the ultimate American neighborhood—classically beautiful brownstone residences, paired with block after block of high-end, glamorous retail space, on a stretch of land that was once a fetid marsh.

Between 1857 and 1882, what we know as today's Back Bay was a tidewater flat for the Charles River. Gradually it was filled in, the largest part of a project that would more than double the size of the city. Once the swamp was gone, architect Arthur Gilman drew up the plans to build a largely uniform series of three- and four-story brownstones.

Real estate is pricey in this highly desired neighborhood—bordered on the north by the Charles River, Arlington Street to Park Square on the east, Columbus Avenue to Huntington Avenue, Dalton Street and the Massachusetts Turnpike on the south, and Charlesgate East on the west—and it's easy to understand why when one strolls past the gorgeous old brick buildings, amply shaded by trees, and within short walking distance of picturesque Boston Common and the Public Garden. Another prominent feature is the alphabetical cross streets, which intersect the main residential thoroughfares of Beacon Street, Marlborough Street and Commonwealth Avenue, as well as the commercial boulevards of Newbury and Boylston streets.

RIVER VIEW: The picturesque Back Bay skyline, appointed by the Hancock and Prudential towers, overlooks the Charles River Esplanade.

The Back Bay draws a high number of visitors because of Newbury Street, which has been referred to as "the East Coast's own Rodeo Drive." If you're itching to rev up the charge cards, and names like Gucci, Cartier, Chanel and DKNY get your heart racing, then this is the place for you. Once your shopping is complete (or you just need to rest and reload), the street also boasts ice cream shops like JP Licks and Ben and Jerry's, and fashionable restaurants and bars like Sonsie, Stephanie's on Newbury and Ciao Bella, great for outdoor dining.

ABOVE PHOTO BY DELLA HUFF

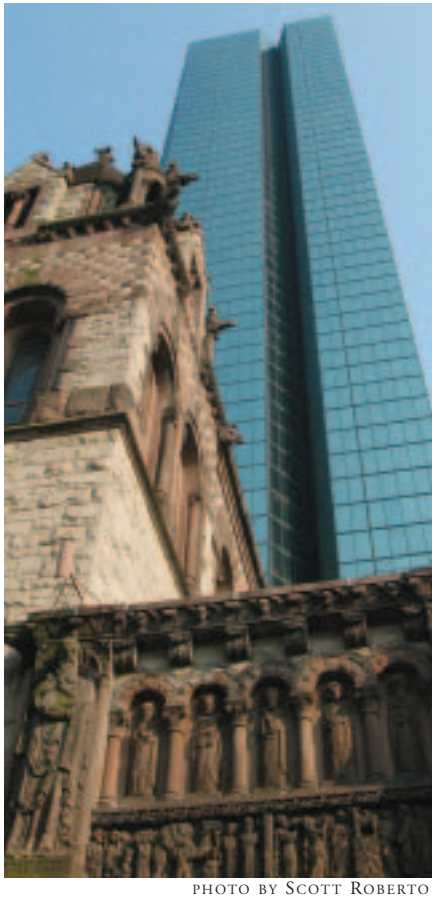


PHOTO BY SCOTT ROBERTO

OLD AND NEW: Trinity Church and the Hancock Tower, two of the city's most prominent architectural landmarks, stand side by side in Copley Square.

The Back Bay is also home to some of Boston's architectural standouts—from the classic beauty of Trinity Church (built in 1877) and the Boston Public Library, to Boston's largest and most impressive modern skyscrapers, the 62-story John Hancock Tower and the Prudential Center, which houses offices, restaurants and shops. Ⓟ

BEACON HILL

Heart of the City

As much as early Bostonians struggled to define themselves as members of a separate nation, and not English citizens, remnants of the Old World's culture, morality and, particularly, its physical architecture were bound to live on in Boston. Today, there's nowhere in Boston that this still holds true more than the historically upper-class environs of the Beacon Hill neighborhood.

Beacon Hill has traditionally been the home of leaders—Boston's first mayor, John Phillips, lived here, as well as instrumental figures in the formation of Boston, such as Harrison Gray Otis, William Scollay and Charles Bulfinch, who were all property owners here. Beyond that, Beacon Hill has remained the seat of political power in Boston. The Massachusetts State House was completed at the top of Beacon Hill in 1798, and in 1874 it received the gold leaf finish on its massive dome, which, thanks to diligent maintenance and renovations over the years, still shines brilliantly today.

It's here that visitors to the Freedom Trail begin their travels—passing by historical landmarks such as Park Street Church, the Old Granary Burying Ground (final resting place of John Hancock, Paul Revere, Samuel Adams and other Revolution-era luminaries), King's Chapel and, on School Street, the site of America's first public school (in 1856, a statue of Benjamin Franklin was erected near the site). One spot on the Trail not to be missed is the Old State House, at the corner of Washington and State streets. In 1776, the Declaration of Independence was first publicly read in Boston from the building's east balcony, and the building overlooks the site of the Boston Massacre in 1770.

Physically, the neighborhood still bears resemblance to its European roots—narrow cobblestone streets and gas-lit streetlamps still abound. While other areas of Boston are loaded with trendy restaurants and designer boutiques, visitors to Beacon Hill are more likely to find quaint antique shops along Charles Street and "local" restaurants, off the beaten path but beloved for generations. One exception is the original place "where everybody knows your name"—the Bull & Finch Pub, used as the inspiration for the classic sitcom "Cheers," can be found on Beacon Street and still draws in throngs of tourists annually.

And for those who cherish the outdoors, Beacon Hill shares the Boston Common with Downtown, offering visitors the opportunity to take advantage of a natural oasis upon which to throw a Frisbee, soak up some sun, ride a foot-pedaled Swan Boat through the Public Garden, or simply sit on a bench and watch the world go by, the way generations of Bostonians have done before. Ⓟ

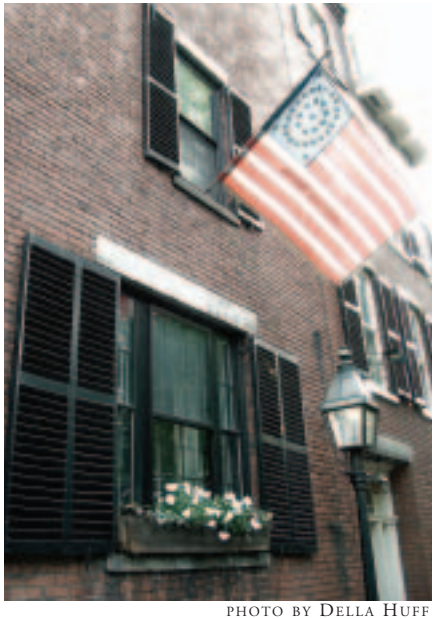
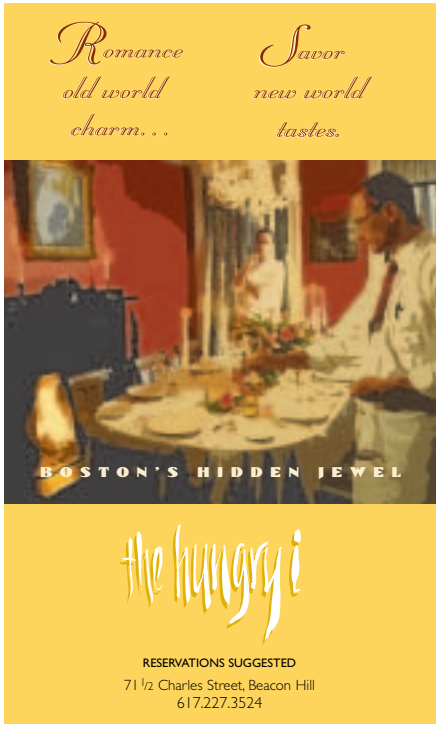
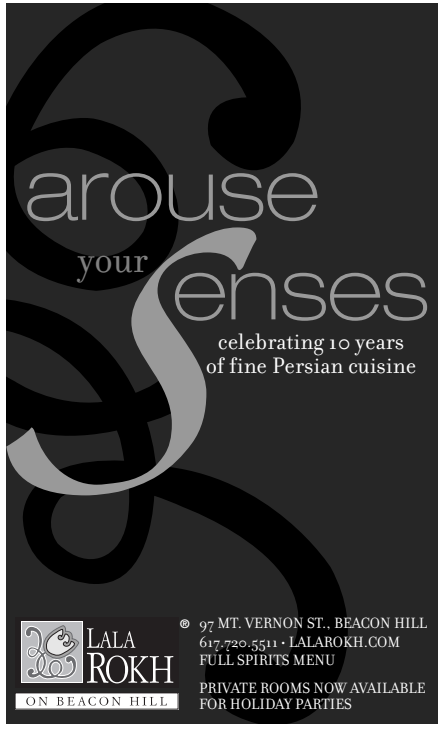


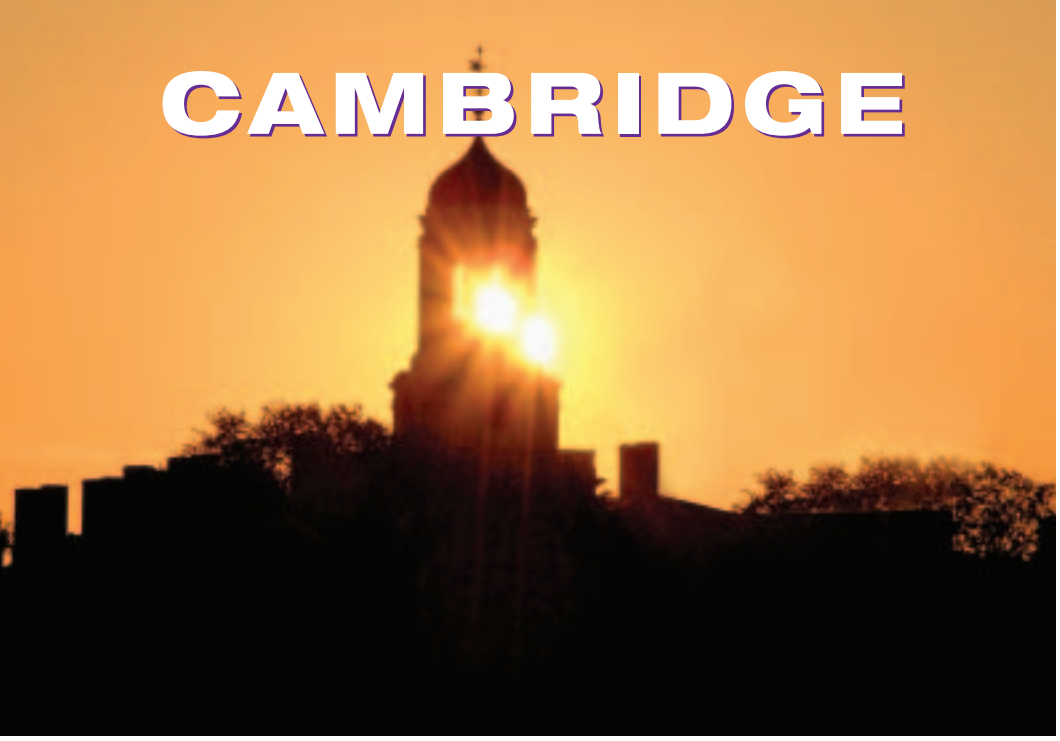
PHOTO BY DELLA HUFF

OLD WORLD CHARM: Residential Louisburg Square exemplifies the European character of Beacon Hill.

BRICK HOUSE: Colonial architecture, cobblestoned streets and gas lit streetlamps make many parts of Beacon Hill a throwback to the past.







NEW DAWN RISING: The distinctive buildings of Harvard University, the nation's oldest center for higher learning, stand out in Cambridge's Harvard Square.

Square Deal

The people of Cambridge would like to inform the world that their fine city is not a neighborhood of Boston. Although it often gets lumped together with Beantown, Cambridge stands alone with all the sustaining qualities of an international city center. Throughout Kendall, Central, Inman, Harvard and Porter Squares, nearly 100,000 residents share a spirited range of cultural influences.

Central Square

Central Square sets a swift pace as the social center for Cambridge professionals and is home to the annual Central Square World's Fair. It's lined with coffee shops, burrito joints, down-home music stores, and its own share of great restaurants like La Groceria, Gandhi and Cuchi Cuchi. Every night of the week, fans of rock, jazz, hip-hop and the blues line up at the doors of venues such as the Middle East Cafe, T.T. the Bear's Place and Green Street Grill.

Harvard Square

The grand cultural and geographical nucleus of Cambridge houses six performing arts theaters, three movie theaters, nine museums, over 100 restaurants and more than 400 retail stores. History is everywhere, including storied Harvard Yard, home of the homonymous Harvard University, which makes its quaint presence on the north side of the square. With all this intellectual energy flowing, it's no surprise that Harvard Square has been dubbed "the book mecca of the world." Not everyone here is a student, though. A walk along Massachusetts Avenue or JFK Street reveals musicians, magicians and street performers, who add color to the already bustling square. Diners flock to Harvard Square for the food as well, at favorites like Henrietta's Table, UpStairs on the Square and Rialto.

ABOVE PHOTO BY DELLA HUFF

Inman Square

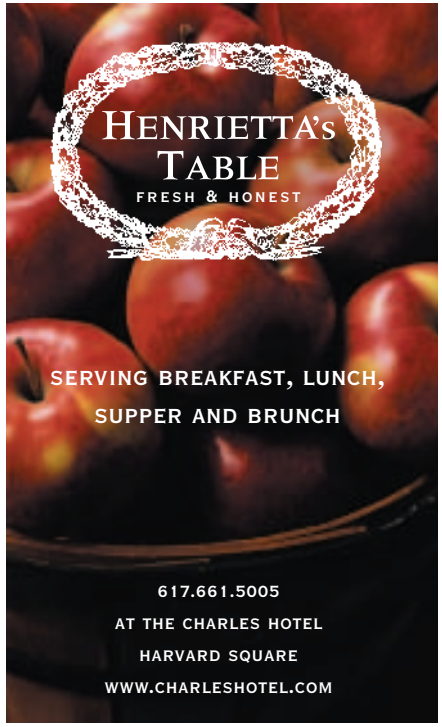
Just north of Central Square, the quieter, more residential Inman Square prides itself on hometown sensibility, with a diverse working-class population, many of whom speak Portuguese. No elitism here: the area's only monument is the Cambridge Fireman's Mural. It is a place where food brings people together, whether at a range of local ethnic markets or at restaurants known for their bold flavors, like Chris Schlesinger's East Coast Grill. It does get rowdy over at the ImprovBoston, where an acclaimed comedy troupe spoofs sports, mystery and pop culture with jamboree music and general "joyful chaos." Local and up-and-coming national jazz acts entertain music lovers at Ryles Jazz Club.

Kendall Square

Kendall Square, home to MIT—with its conspicuous concrete dome, the scene of many famous pranks—looks more like a high-brow business park than a neighborhood. Among the modern, sleek bio-tech firms and research labs, there are more than a few secret hiding places for fun. At the Kendall Square Cinema, movie buffs can check out foreign and independent films along with ice cream and espresso. And for shoppers, the CambridgeSide Galleria houses over 100 stores, including Banana Republic, J. Crew and Best Buy.

Porter Square

The young, artistic crowd influences the stretch of Cambridge just beyond Harvard Square. Porter Square, on the outskirts of Mass. Ave., is full of eclectic second-hand shops and home to restaurants like the Cambodian-French favorite Elephant Walk and the Temple Bar. For a feel of the avant-garde arts scene, head to the provocative Lizard Lounge for a poetry jam or live music. Ⓟ



5 questions with...

Nanette Lepore

by Christine Celli

Designer Nanette Lepore has dressed everyone from Courtney Love to Paris Hilton—even providing fancy duds for Reese Witherspoon's character in *Legally Blonde*. Her fifth boutique recently opened at 119 Newbury St., making her full line of feminine, vintage-inspired clothing available to Boston-area fashionistas.

Q: How did you end up choosing Boston as the location of your latest boutique?
A: We were getting a lot of e-mails from Boston customers saying they wanted to see more of the line. We also sell to Saks 5th Avenue, Neiman Marcus and Wish [in Beacon Hill]. But it's not until you see the full line in the store that you realize how extensive it is. And we ship every month, so there's always something new in the store.

Q: Does Boston have any particular fashion sense you've picked up on?
A: The Boston customers seem more chic than some of the New York and L.A. customers I've had. I was really impressed with who came into the store. It was all women who had a really great sense of style and were very with it as far as clothing went. I was happy to see we were already tapped into a very fashion-astute customer base.

Q: Where does your design inspiration come from?

"There's always something new in the store."

A: I look to myself in a lot of ways to try and determine "what am I wearing and what am I missing?" Like when I get dressed in the morning, if I want to look ethnic, do I have all the right pieces so I don't feel too over the top.

Q: Are there any fashion trends right now you don't like?
A: I get sad when I realize that a trend can get ruined because before you know it, it's everywhere from high-end to Forever 21. I feel like you have to keep reinventing things and changing things so that the customer feels justified in paying more for something and doesn't just think, "Oh, I'll just go to H&M."

Q: Who was the first celebrity you saw wearing your clothes?
A: Early on we had Courtney Love wearing things and J. Lo was the first big one that I saw wearing my clothes. It definitely raises our awareness. There's a shot right now of Paris Hilton in one of our dresses that's been in 12 publications. It's crazy. I never expected it. Ⓟ

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