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PANORAMA

May 22–June 4, 2006

The Official Guide to BOSTON

THE Spring Issue

PLUS:
Where to see Ben Affleck, Bruce Springsteen and live music under the stars

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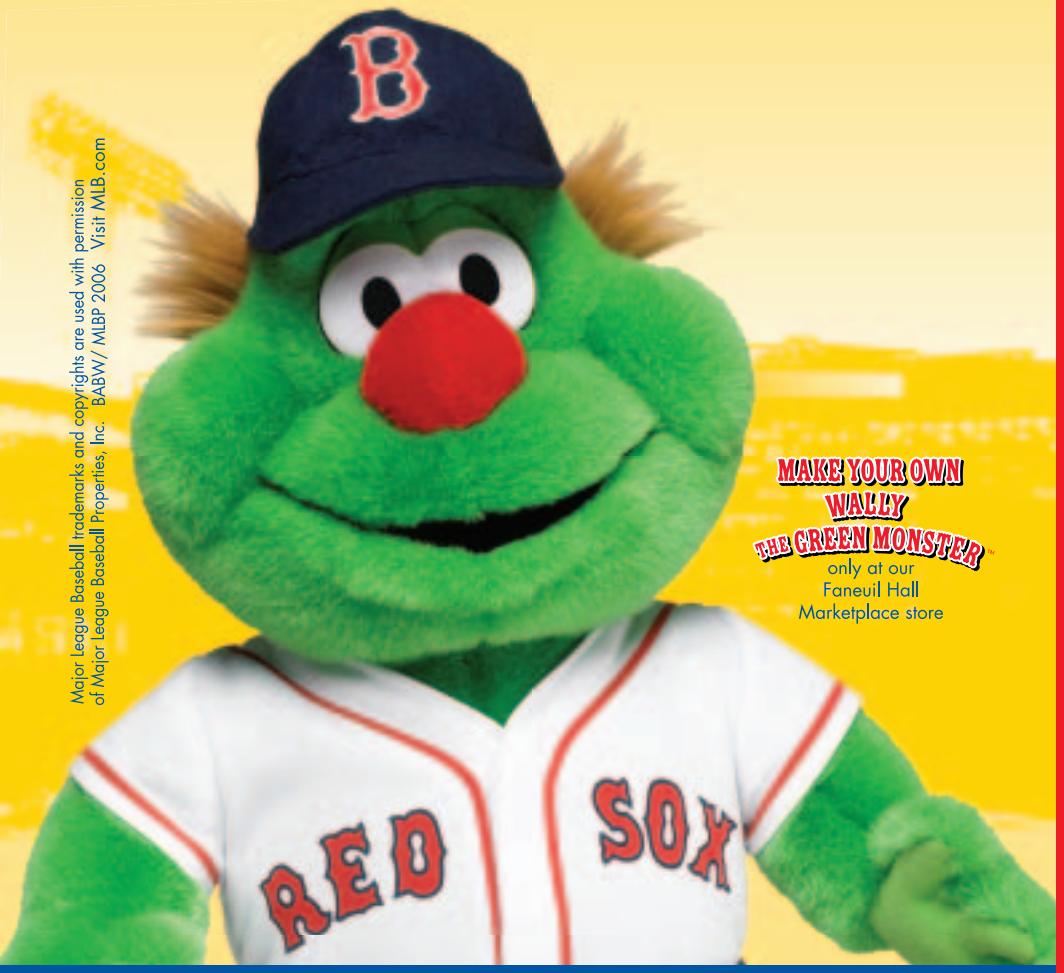

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Author JODI PICOULT

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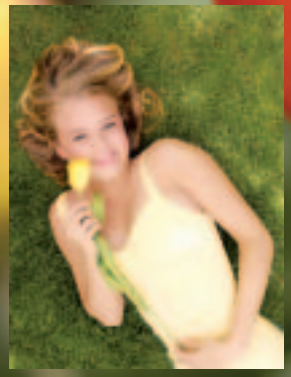
From riding the Swan Boats to shopping on Newbury Street, Panorama gives its best bets for fun springtime activities in the Hub



on the cover:
Samantha of Maggie Inc. enjoys some splendor in the grass at Boston's Public Garden.
Photo: Bob Perachio.
Hair and Make-up: Rachael Berkowitz.
Produced by Heather Burke.

IN BLOOM: Tulips blossom in the Public Garden, the nation's first public botanical garden. *Refer to story, page 18.*
PHOTO BY BOB PERACHIO

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aroundthehub

news&notes

by Josh B. Wardrop

Affleck Gets "Gone" Going in Boston

At a relatively young age, Cambridge native **Ben Affleck** has already played a lot of roles—and not just the ones he's brought to life onscreen. After all, he's been an actor (*Daredevil, Chasing Amy, Armageddon,* (ahem) *Gigli*), a favored target of gossip columns, political activist, husband and father, and let's not forget Academy Award winner (for the *Good Will Hunting* screenplay with buddy Matt Damon.)

Now, Affleck has returned home to Massachusetts in a new role—first-time movie director—as he shoots a big-screen adaptation of mystery author Dennis Lehane's *Gone, Baby, Gone*. Reports of Affleck scouting locations in the Hub have been flying for months, and filming on the flick starts for real on **May 22**. A number of spots in Dorchester and South Boston have been floated as possible locations for the movie—which stars Casey Affleck, Michelle Monaghan and Ed Harris—but one confirmed spot has been the historic **Chart House** on Boston's Long Wharf (*refer to listing, page 70*).

And, apparently *Gone, Baby, Gone* is going to be a family project for Affleck. In addition to the role for younger brother Casey, reports have come in of sightings of Ben's famous missus, Jennifer Garner, in Boston to spend time with her hubby. Garner (who gave birth to the couple's first daughter, Violet, six months ago) recently completed her five-year run on ABC's "Alias," and is apparently taking some downtime and has been seen working out at Boston University and shopping in Harvard Square.

So, chalk it up to just another family spending a vacation in Boston this spring!

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ARE YOU READY TO ROCK?

The Paradise, The Orpheum, The Middle East—Boston and Cambridge have some great indoor venues for catching live rock 'n' roll. But come May, the average concert fan feels that primal need welling up inside of them to venture into the great outdoors to see their favorite bands play.

Luckily, the Boston area is pretty well-covered in that regard, too, with a couple of prime venues for catching great live music under the stars. And both the **Tweeter Center** (located 30 minutes or so southwest of Boston in Mansfield) and the **Bank of America Pavilion** (found right on Boston's waterfront at 290 Northern Ave.) are kicking off their 2006 concert schedule with a bang this month.

At the Pavilion, Jewish rapper/reggae artist **Matisyahu** kicks the concert slate off **May 25**. On **May 27**, perennial country favorite **Willie Nelson** delves into his diverse

cont. on page 8 >>

calendar of events

ONGOING

The **Huntington Theatre Company** presents Shakespeare's comedy ***Love's Labour's Lost***—about the difficulties faced by four gentlemen who've taken a vow of chastity—set in pre-WWI Europe. *Refer to listing, page 33.*

PHOTO BY DEREK KOUYOUMJIAN

MONDAY, MAY 22 AND TUESDAY, MAY 23

Baseball's ultimate rivalry is renewed once more when the **Boston Red Sox** take on the visiting **New York Yankees** at Fenway Park, both games beginning *at 7:05 p.m.* Expect to pay a scalper through the nose, but there's a chance to witness history every time these teams get together. *Refer to listing, page 32.*

PHOTO COURTESY OF THE BOSTON RED SOX

TUESDAY, MAY 23–SATURDAY, MAY 27

The first-ever **Boston Pops Jazz Fest** sees the classical ensemble exploring jazz from big-band to lounge, with help from renowned guitarist and singer John Pizzarelli (***May 23–25***) and sultry vocalist Jane Monheit (***May 26–27***, pictured). *Refer to listing, page 26.*

THURSDAY, JUNE 1

A 1970s megastar returns to Boston when country-rock singer **Linda Ronstadt** performs at the Opera House *at 7:30 p.m. Refer to listing, page 30.*

SUNDAY, JUNE 4

Call it the biggest outdoor barbeque of the year—the **2006 Hot Dog Safari** at Suffolk Downs racetrack lets you eat all the hot dogs, sausages and ice cream you can to benefit The Joey Fund. Festivities include live horse races and children's entertainment. *Refer to listing, page 31.*

<< cont. from page 7

catalogue, while jam band fans will delight to a **June 2** show by **Govt. Mule**, accompanied by **Michael Franti** and **Spearhead**.

On **June 3**, western Massachusetts natives and chart-toppers **Staind** come to the Pavilion for a performance, with opening acts **Three Days Grace**. And **June 4 and 5** finds one of the hottest tickets of the summer—English rock quintet **Radiohead**—arriving in Boston for the first time in several years, delivering a stripped-down and less bombastic concert than usual, in which they're expected to debut a number of songs from their next album. *Refer to listing, page 29.*

Meanwhile, out at the Tweeter Center (pictured above), the season tends to get off to a later start, but there's one show taking place **May 27**, and it's a biggie. The Boss himself, **Bruce Springsteen**, is kicking off his national acoustic tour, in which he and members of his hand-picked "Seeger Sessions" band perform the classic folk songs of legendary American songwriter Pete Seeger. Always a favorite in these parts, a Springsteen ticket will be harder to find than box seats at Fenway Park, but that should just allow you to acquaint yourself with one of the truisms of the summer concert season: if you're willing to pay, there'll always be someone willing to sell. *Refer to listing, page 30.*

And if you're the thin-skinned type that doesn't cotton to heading outdoors to rock until July, don't worry, you needn't be left out. Over at **TD Banknorth Garden**, May sees the long-awaited return of one of rock's most passionate outfits, **Pearl Jam**. Eddie Vedder and gang arrive to rip things up in the Hub on **May 24 and 25**. *Refer to listing, page 30.*

AND THE WINNER IS...

The Boston theater scene celebrates its own version of the Tony Awards in May, as the **24th annual Elliot Norton Awards** are distributed **May 22**, at the Cutler Majestic Theatre. The awards—named for the venerable longtime Boston area theatre critic Elliot Norton, who passed away in 2003 at the age of 100—are given out to recognize excellence in touring and regional productions staged in Boston in the past year.

This year's nominees include: *Forbidden Broadway: Special Victims Unit, Monty Python's Spamalot* and Billy Crystal's *700 Sundays* (pictured right), in the category of Outstanding Visiting Production; *Falsettos* (Huntington Theatre Company), *On the Twentieth Century* (Overture Productions) and *Urinetown* (Lyric Stage Company) for Outstanding Musical Production; and *Five by Tenn* (SpeakEasy Stage Company), *The Goat, or Who Is Sylvia?* (Lyric Stage Company) and *King Lear* (Actors' Shakespeare Project) for Outstanding Production by a Midsized Resident Company.

Actors receiving individual performer nominations include: Alvin Epstein (*King Lear*), Sandra Shipley (*Long Day's Journey Into Night*), Jefferson Mays (*I Am My Own Wife*), Aiden Dooley (*Tom Crean, Antarctic Explorer*) and Leslie Lyles (*The Hopper Collection*).

Refer to listing, page 31.

SHOW YOUR PRIDE

Finally, **June 2** is the beginning of Boston's annual **Pride Week**, celebrating the gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender community. The festivities kick off with a noon flag-raising at City Hall Plaza by Mayor Thomas Menino, followed by **Pride Day** at Faneuil Hall on **June 3** *from 10 a.m.–5 p.m.* Gay activists and advocacy groups will be on hand to distribute information, along with live musical entertainment. The kickoff weekend culminates on **June 4**, with the annual **AIDS Walk**, in which hundreds will walk 6.2 miles through Boston and Cambridge, raising funds to benefit the AIDS Action Committee and other AIDS charities. *Refer to listing, page 30.*

by Marketa Hulpachova

Hot Happenings

Some might argue that every season is a good season for shopping, but as spring hits full swing Bostonians seem to celebrate by throwing their credit cards into high gear. This month, a few style-minded events will give shopaholics ample chances to do just that.

REJUVENATE AND GLOW FOR SPRING
Pyara Spa and Salon • 104 Mount Auburn St., Cambridge • 617-497-9300 • *May 24 from 3–8 p.m.*

This time of year, you're ready to bare some skin, but after a tough winter, your skin might not be ready to be bared. Thankfully, Pyara Salon in Harvard Square is doing us a public service by exfoliating, polishing and bronzing our roughed-up populace at this one-day-only "sale." The head to toe skin-smoothing body treatment costs $45, not the usual $200. Appointments are encouraged.

JOHNNY CUPCAKES NEWBURY STREET STORE LAUNCH PARTY
The Middle East Downstairs • 472 Massachusetts Ave., Cambridge • 617-492-9181 • *May 26 at 9 p.m.* • *Tickets: $10*

Underground fashion legend Johnny Cupcakes is the designer of a line of cupcake-adorned couture vastly popular among local trendsetters. To celebrate the grand opening of his first Boston store (at 279 Newbury St.), Johnny is hosting an 18+ blowout that features a fashion show, an art installation and a live performance by The Chinese Stars and other bands.

SUMMER STYLE CELEBRATION
The Shops at Prudential Center
800 Boylston St.
617-236-2419
June 1 from 6–9 p.m.

Finally, for those already dreaming of summer and that perfect new dress or pair of strappy sandals, the Shops at Prudential Center host this free "girls' night out" event featuring discounts at retailers like Ann Taylor, Arden B. and Saks Fifth Avenue, a book signing at Barnes & Noble by author Jodi Picoult (*The Tenth Circle*), and best of all, Stoli and Kahlua summer cocktails.

TURNING JAPANESE

SHU UEMURA
130 Newbury St.
617-247-3500

Between rushed morning applications and required mid-day touch-ups, make-up can be a chore. Thank heavens, then, for clear-minded aestheticians like Japanese pioneer Shu Uemura, who's come to rescue Boston with his third U.S. boutique right on Newbury Street. Tastefully decorated by kimono designer Mamechiyo, the shop showcases a palette of bedazzling beauty products that are all the rage in the world of high fashion. Modeled after its "twin store" in Kyoto, the Newbury Street Shu features atelier services including make-up application, brow shaping and an eye-opening "Tokyo lash bar" designed to help you unveil your inner geisha.

BOTTOM LEFT PHOTO BY JULIANN RUBIJONO

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www.prudentialcenter.com

SAKS FIFTH AVENUE
The Cheesecake Factory

by Scott Roberto

Frank Benson, *Summer*, 1909

Summer Breeze

PAINTING SUMMER IN NEW ENGLAND
Peabody Essex Museum
Through September 4

Summer may not yet be here officially, but in Salem, it's gotten off to an early start. The Peabody Essex Museum, the oldest continually operating museum in the country, recently unveiled its delightful Painting Summer in New England exhibit, a collection of more than 100 paintings from the mid-19th century to the present by 83 artists. Works by painters including Winslow Homer, Edward Hopper, Norman Rockwell and three generations of Wyeths offer unique takes on what summer in the six New England states is all about, from the the breezy, sunny coastline to the gritty, sweltering streets. *Refer to listing, page 41.*

INTO THE WEST

LAURA McPHEE: RIVER OF NO RETURN
Museum of Fine Arts
Through September 17

Rivaling the great landscape painters of the 19th century, Boston-based photographer Laura McPhee uses traditional techniques to create monumental images as big as the American West. At the Museum of Fine Arts, in her first major museum exhibit, McPhee dazzles viewers with 40 large-scale photographs taken over a period of more than two years in the remote Sawtooth Valley area of Idaho. But rather than romanticizing the American West, McPhee instead poses thought-provoking questions about man and his relationship to the environment. *Refer to listing, page 39.*

Gallery Round-up

Katherine Cummings, *Rhinoceros*, 2005

2006 PRC MEMBERS' EXHIBITION, Photographic Resource Center, *through July 2* (pictured above). This 11th annual show presents 36 works by 12 area photographers, depicting subjects from wildlife to family life. *Refer to listing, page 43.*

TIPPING POINT: HEALTH NARRATIVES FROM THE SOUTH END, Mills Gallery, *through May 28*. A team of artists collaborated with an anthropologist to create these seven interactive, robotic sculptures based on the lives of local artists which move as visitors walk through the gallery. *Refer to listing, page 43.*

STRUCTURE OF HARMONY, Axelle Fine Arts Galerie Newbury, 91 Newbury St., 617-450-0700, *through June 3*. This relative newcomer to the Newbury Street scene introduces Boston to the evocative architectural spaces in the work of French painter Jean-Daniel Bouvard.

MAY FLOWERS, Martin Lawrence Galleries, 77 Newbury St., 617-369-4800, *through May 31*. Colorful screen prints and unique works—from flowers to celebrities to endangered species—by iconic Pop artist Andy Warhol populate this lively show.

bottom left: Laura McPhee, *Mattie with a Bourbon Red Turkey, Laverty Ranch, Custer County, Idaho, November, 2004*

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Raising the Bar

33 RESTAURANT & LOUNGE
33 Stanhope St.
617-572-3311

Once college is through, one loses patience with wall-to-wall crowds, lack of ambiance, limited seating and sticky beer floors. Back Bay nightspot 33 Restaurant understands this, and that's why they recently renovated their downstairs lounge, building a bigger and better spot for schmoozing. The lounge boasts a 40-foot blue steel bar with LED-illuminated acrylic shelves (so you can see what you're ordering), as well as a new dining menu featuring Kobe mini-burgers and tuna tartare. As DJs spin Hip-hop, House and Latin tunes, a new "music visualization" sound system sets the mood with colorful video art. So, when you're looking to party like a grown-up, consider 33 your new lucky number. *—Jinnie Lee*

COCKTAIL OF THE WEEK

LA NOCHE LOCA
Azure • 61 Exeter St.
617-933-4800

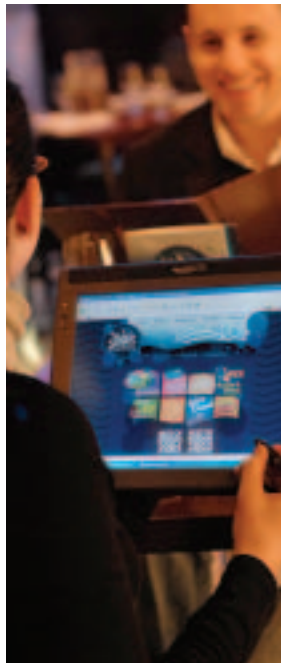
This being New England, it's probably too early to start dreaming of the late sunsets and warm nights of summertime. But stylish eatery Azure is trying to jumpstart the season with a variety of delightful exotic cocktails like the Watermelon Mojito and Ginger-Peach Martini. But, in our opinion, it's La Noche Loca (pictured)—a concoction blending house-infused tequila, mango puree, mint and champagne—that's most likely to lead to crazy nights all summer long. *—Alex Harris*

Black Humor

MICHAEL IAN BLACK
Paradise Rock Club
May 23 at 8 p.m.

Even if you don't know the name Michael Ian Black, you know the face. From his recent Comedy Central comedy series "Stella," to his Sierra Mist commercials, to his status as a "talking head" on VH1's "I Love the '70s/'80s/'90s" series, Black seems to pop up everywhere. Now, he's popping up in the Hub as he brings his brand of droll and sarcastic stand-up to the Paradise Rock Club. No word on whether Black will riff on Slinkys or Rainbow Brite, but expect to laugh, pop cultural commentary or not. *Refer to listing, page 26.* *—Alex Harris*

Wine Online



SKIPJACK'S
199 Clarendon St.
617-536-3500

Selecting the perfect wine is a sophisticated and classy way to enhance any meal—but we're not all connoisseurs. For those uncomfortable with giving waiters the third degree, Skipjack's introduces **The Wine Skipper**, a handheld Internet wireless device that allows patrons to peruse the restaurant's full wine list directly from Skipjack's website. The Wine Skipper provides extensive information on each wine's taste, recommended food pairings and even a "Big Names You Should Know" feature, making the wine selection process interactive, educational and just a point and click away. *—Jinnie Lee*

Just for the Halibut

MCCORMICK & SCHMICK'S
Faneuil Hall Marketplace, North Market Building
617-720-5522

KINGFISH HALL
188 Faneuil Hall Marketplace
617-523-8862

GREAT BAY
500 Commonwealth Ave.
617-532-5300

The word halibut is derived from the Scandinavian word hallifundra, which means "a fish that can be found in deep holes." This month, though, is halibut's peak season, so the tasty fish can also be found all over Hub restaurant menus. Those fishing for the perfect plate of halibut can check out McCormick & Schmick's, who spice things up with macadamia nut crusted halibut and poached halibut in mushroom broth. Meanwhile, Todd English's Kingfish Hall is offering a mustard crusted halibut (pictured) and over in Kenmore Square, Great Bay does their "hallifundra" poached in olive oil and topped with oyster sauce. *—Alex Harris*

A SLICE OF HEAVEN

UPPER CRUST
222 Newbury St.
617-262-0090
Other locations

The eternal conflict: you want a slice of pizza pie to take on the run, but you don't want to suffer the generic greasiness of the local "house of pizza." Enter Boston's upscale pizza chain The Upper Crust, who serve their pizzas Neapolitan-style (crispy thin crust and chunky sauce), made with the finest ingredients and in unique configurations such as The Uncommon Pizza, topped with bacon, pineapple and jalapeno peppers. The growing chain just opened its newest location on Newbury Street, where patrons can sit and dine while they take a break from boutique shopping or grab a slice for the road. *—Jinnie Lee*

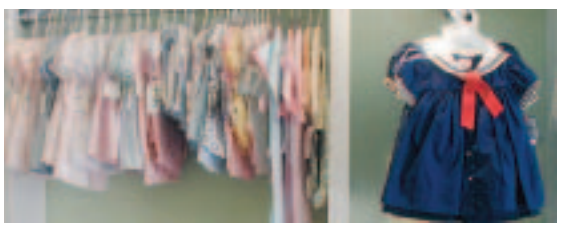
TOP RIGHT PHOTO BY ALEX HARRIS; BOTTOM RIGHT PHOTO BY MATT KALINOWSKI

by Jinne Lee

Small Steps

BOSTON BY LITTLE FEET WALKING TOUR
Begins at Samuel Adams statue, in front of Faneuil Hall

Everyone knows that Boston is not just a historical city, but a very walkable one, too. But take the kids on a regular tour of the Freedom Trail and you may find yourself tending to impatience and tired feet. That's why Boston By Foot guided tours offers Boston By Little Feet. This tour for ages 6–12, specially-designed to present a child's-eye view of Boston's famed route, lasts about one hour and still gives plenty of time for learning and play. A free Explorer's Map is also included, and since true exploration never requires reservations, simply show up and the fun begins. *Refer to listing, page 52.*



THE GREAT BAMBINA

BELLA BAMBINA
425 Hanover St.
617-722-6060

In Italian, "bella bambina" means "beautiful child," so it couldn't make a more apropos appellation for the new North End children's boutique of the same name. The cozy, pastel-colored shop resembles a baby's closet, filled with designer domestic and imported clothing for boys and girls from birth to age 7, with European labels such as Mirtillo, Pampolina, Cakewalk and Confetti lining the racks. Owner Michelle Flanagan keeps outfits for all occasions in stock—from "Sunday's best" to baby's denim pants durable enough for the playground—so your little rugrat is always red carpet ready.

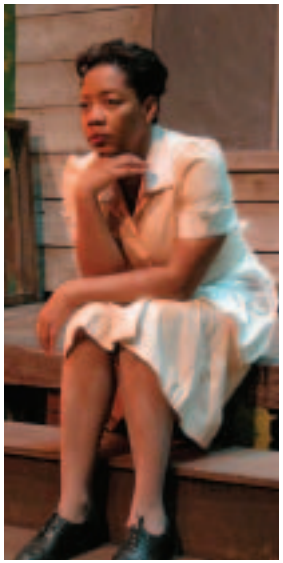
Raise the Woof

BINGO THE CIRCUS DOG
Puppet Showplace Theatre
May 31 & June 1

In a world full of computer-animated entertainment, it's refreshing to know some people are still devoted to the art of live puppetry. On May 31 & June 1, the Puppet Showplace Theatre presents *Bingo the Circus Dog*, a family-friendly show about Bingo's dog-napping at the hands of the magician villain Fargo the Fantastic, and the beloved circus star pup's clever escape. Included in the show are two shorter pieces, *Fantastic Fandango* and *Jojo and the Orange Ball*, guaranteed to thrill audiences of all ages—no strings attached. *Refer to listing, page 28.*

BOTTOM LEFT PHOTO BY JINNIE LEE

Not-So-Sweet Caroline



CAROLINE, OR CHANGE
SpeakEasy Stage Company
Calderwood Pavilion at the BCA
Through June 3

Tony Award-winning playwright Tony Kushner (*Angels in America*) examines issues of race and class in the civil rights era in the musical *Caroline, or Change*. In early 1960s Louisiana, Caroline—a gruff and hard-edged black maid working in a Jewish home to support her four children—becomes the object of fascination for Noah, an eight-year-old boy whose mother just died. The musical explores the duo's ups and downs as their relationship—and, indeed, the very world they live in—are buffeted by that most powerful of forces: change. *Refer to listing, page 32.*

—Josh B. Wardrop

Ballet and Billy

MOVIN' OUT
The Opera House
Through May 28

When pop star Billy Joel teamed up with choreographer Twyla Tharp to create *Movin' Out* in 2002, the result was a show that appealed to classic rock fans and ballet aficionados alike. Now, the show—which follows a group of friends through the tumultuous '60s and the aftermath of Vietnam—makes its return to Boston at The Opera House. Unlike conventional musicals, dialogue is minimal and emotions are expressed through Tharp's energetic choreography while a "piano man" perched high above the stage drives the show musically, performing Joel classics like "Captain Jack," "She's Got a Way," "Angry Young Man," "Uptown Girl" and many others. *Refer to listing, page 33.*

—Alex Harris

HOT HOT HEAT

PROMETHEUS DANCE SPRING REPERTORY CONCERT
Boston Conservatory Theatre
May 25–28

Legend tells us Prometheus was a rebellious Greek god notorious for giving fire to mortal men. Appropriately, the Boston-based dance company named for Prometheus brings fiery passion to its every production. The critically lauded ensemble uses dance as a medium for encouraging discourse on social issues—in past seasons, artistic directors Diane Arvanites-Noya and Tommy Neblett have applied their provocative, theatrical choreography to pieces commenting on the widespread refugee crisis, hunger and homelessness and living with Tourette's Syndrome. With Prometheus' latest repertory program springing to life in May, this blaze isn't going out any time soon. *Refer to listing, page 27.*

—Alex Harris

TOP RIGHT PHOTO BY JOAN MARCUS;
BOTTOM RIGHT PHOTO BY DIANE ARVANITES-NOYA

Spring is in the Air

From riding the Swan Boats to shopping on Newbury Street, Panorama guides you through **18** best bets for springtime fun in the Hub

by Alex Harris and Jinnie Lee

PHOTO BY BOB PERACHIO; HAIR AND MAKE-UP: RACHAEL BERKOWITZ; TOP COURTESY OF NANETTE LEPORE, 119 NEWBURY ST., 617-421-9200

FUN IN THE SUN: Our cover model Samantha of Maggie Inc. relaxes by the banks of the lagoon in the Public Garden, home to the world-famous Swan Boats (background).

1 CATCH A BASEBALL GAME

Although the Boys of Summer are knockin' balls over the Green Monster, it may be expensive to catch the action within the walls of Fenway (home games tend to sell out sometime in January). But if you've got a car, you're never far from great New England baseball action. Head south to Pawtucket, R.I. to cheer on the **PawSox**—the Red Sox's Triple-A affiliate, where the next batch of All-Stars play—at McCoy Stadium (401-724-7300). Or head northwest to see the youngest Sox prospects play for the **Lowell Spinners** (LeLacheur Park, 450 Aiken St., Lowell, 978-459-1702). If you can't make it to the minors, enjoy hot dogs and peanuts at a **Brockton Rox** (*refer to listing, page 32*) or **North Shore Spirit** (Fraser Field, Stetson Street, Lynn, 781-592-0007) game, two of Massachusetts' independent baseball teams.

2 EXPLORE THE EMERALD NECKLACE

Landscape architect Frederick Law Olmsted did us Bostonians a huge favor when he sought to create a ring of green spaces around Boston. Because of him, we have an abundance of parkland to explore when the weather is right. The actual necklace is comprised of six parks: the **Back Bay Fens**, **the Riverway**, **Olmsted Park**, **Jamaica Pond**, **Arnold Arboretum** and **Franklin Park**. They stretch five miles from the Charles River to Dorchester, and if you're up for it, the Boston Park Rangers will take you on a walk through all six parks. Not to be missed, but not technically part of the Emerald Necklace, is historic Boston Common and the Public Garden, the nation's first botanical garden.

3 RIDE THE SWAN BOATS

Perhaps the most toy-like and beloved fixture in the Public Garden are the world-famous **Swan Boats**. Owned and operated by the Paget family since 1877, the stately paddle wheel-pro-

pelled vehicles take passengers on short jaunts around the central Lagoon. The trip, one of the best bargains for visitors in town (only $2.75 for adults, $1.25 for kids), is unquestionably the most relaxing way to take in the Garden and the surrounding skyline. *Refer to listing, page 53.*

4

SEE WILDLIFE

Franklin Park Zoo, founded in 1911 as part of Frederick Law Olmsted's legendary Emerald Necklace, is home to more than 200 species of animals—including giraffes, lions and kangaroos. And spring tends to be the time of year when that number increases as the park welcomes the birth of new furry friends. This year is no exception, as the Zoo has recently welcomed tiger cubs Anala and Luther, baby giraffe Autumn and baby gorilla Kimani. *Refer to listing, page 53.*

5

EAT HOT DOGS AT CASTLE ISLAND

William J. Day Blvd., South Boston, 617-268-5744. This free, family-friendly destination is perfect for spending a sunny afternoon. Kids will love exploring Fort Independence or cavorting on the playground, while the whole family can enjoy chowing down on the famous foot-long hot dogs served at Sullivan's Snack Bar. After the kids work up an appetite running around, order up enough eats for the whole gang and dig in while watching planes take off and land at Logan Airport across the Harbor. Or make like a local by getting in some fishing while basking in the afternoon sun.

6

LICK AN ICE CREAM CONE

Bostonians eat more ice cream per capita than anyone else in the country, so it's no surprise that the Hub boasts some of the best ice cream parlors of any city. Try the delectable delights of **Lizzy's** (29 Church St., 617-354-2911) and **Ben & Jerry's** (*refer to listing, page 68*) in Harvard Square, or **Emack & Bolio's** (290 Newbury St., 617-536-7127) and **JP Licks** (352 Newbury St., 617 236-1666) in the Back Bay, who include such offerings as Cherry Ortiz—vanilla ice cream with chocolate chips and cherries, named after Red Sox designated hitter David Ortiz—among their many flavors. And since Newbury Street provides so many great people-watching opportunities, it's the perfect way to spend an afternoon licking and looking.

7

EXPERIENCE HOLLYWOOD IN THE HUB

If you're looking for something a bit more modern-day than the many historical tours Boston has to offer, you may want to consider the **Boston Movie Tours**. This walking tour follows the same steps as some of Hollywood's biggest stars, leading visitors to the famous park bench from *Good Will Hunting*, to a stroll past where the runaway car crash scene from *Blown Away* was shot, to a refreshing drink at the Bull & Finch Pub, the inspiration for the TV classic "Cheers." The 2-hour tour covers more than 30 filming locations within 1.25 miles, getting you one step closer to Hollywood, while still enjoying all Boston has to offer. *Refer to listing, page 52.*

8

EXPLORE THE CHARLES RIVER ESPLANADE

The Esplanade is perfect for all sorts of outdoor activities, including kayaking, sailing and jogging. The picturesque, tree-lined asphalt paths that run along the Charles River are especially great for bicycling. Try renting a bike from **Back Bay Bikes** (366 Commonwealth Ave., 617-247-2336). And when you need a break, catch a free concert or flick at the DCR Hatch Shell.

9

WANDER THE SCULPTURE GARDENS

The Victorian landscaping of **Forest Hills Cemetery** provides an elegant backdrop for its nationally recognized 19th- and 20th-century memorial sculptures. You can visit the final resting spots of everyone from Anne Sexton and e.e. cummings to playwright Eugene O'Neill in this 275-acre cemetery founded in 1848. In addition, you can

WILD, WILD LIFE: See the baby gorilla, a recent addition to the menagerie at Franklin Park Zoo (left); enjoy the outdoor sculpture garden at the DeCordova Museum in Lincoln (above).

attend poetry readings recited in the spirit of the literary giants who are buried here. Be sure to also check out the contemporary sculpture path with its ever-changing free exhibits. Walking tours are offered *Sundays at 2 p.m.* for $8. Nearby Lincoln, Mass. is home to another striking outdoor sculpture park at the **DeCordova Museum**. The 35 acres of rolling woodlands and lawns boast an exhibition of large-scale, contemporary American sculpture that can be explored free of charge. *Refer to listings, pages 41 & 50.*

10

CHALLENGE THE CHESS MASTER

Au Bon Pain, 1360 Massachusetts Ave., Harvard Square, Cambridge, 617-497-9797. Every May for more than two decades now, chess master and Harvard dropout **Murray Turnbull** takes his place at the table nearest the sidewalk in front of the Au Bon Pain in Harvard Square. For $2 a game, you can attempt to checkmate him. We wish you luck, but our money's on Murray.

11

TRY THE LOCAL BREW

What better way to enjoy the arrival of warm weather than with barbecue, live music and locally-brewed beer at **Harpoon Brewstock**, the annual spring celebration that takes place at the Harpoon Brewery. The fest kicks off **June 2**, serving up a variety of Harpoon brews and food from local restaurants to the sounds of up-and-coming bands from Boston, such as Hot Like Fire and El Gringo. Saturday morning, run off that hangover during the Harpoon 5-Miler Road Race around the waterfront—the proceeds of which go toward Lou Gehrig's disease research. Then, enjoy Brewstock anew into the evening. *Refer to listing, page 31.*

12

CRUISE BOSTON HARBOR

Springtime weather may be too temperamental for a day at the beach, but it's the perfect time to get out on the water. **Boston Harbor Cruises** (*refer to listing, page 54*) offers various tours of Boston Harbor, including visits to the harbor islands and the *U.S.S. Constitution*. If you have the time to spare, they also offer that New England favorite—whale watching.

13

SHOP 'TIL YOU DROP

If you're looking to update your fair weather wardrobe, look no further than **Newbury Street**. The Rodeo Drive of Boston features an array of fashionable boutiques, including the casual menswear of **Relic** (116 Newbury St., 617-437-7344),

TOP RIGHT PHOTO BY JOHN SAVONE

MUSIC AL FRESCO: Los Lonely Boys headline WBOS's Earthfest at the Hatch Shell on the Esplanade.

designer denim at **G-Star Raw** (348 Newbury St., 617-421-9555), hip, high-end fashion from designer **Nanette Lepore** (119 Newbury St., 617-421-9200) and popular and affordable Swedish retailer **H&M** (100 Newbury St., 617-859-3192). Others shops along this shopaholic's dream street include Urban Outfitters, Marc Jacobs, NikeTown, Chanel and Louis Boston. And best of all, instead of being cooped up inside a mall while you shop, you can be out under the sun, strolling past the brownstones of the Back Bay. *Refer to listings beginning on page 58.*

14 CELEBRATE EARTHFEST

Earth Day may have been in April, but it's never too late to celebrate our planet. Local FM station WBOS, along with Whole Foods Market, hosts the 13th annual **Earthfest** at the DCR Hatch Shell on the Charles River Esplanade, the largest free radio station concert in the country, on **May 27**, *from noon to 6 p.m.* Listen to Texan rockers Los Lonely Boys, quavering English crooner James Blunt, Denver-based rockers the Fray and other performers while taking in scenic Boston and learning how to clean up the environment from the Sierra Club, Charles River Watershed Association and other environmental groups. Magician Peter Boie, as well as children's entertainers Ben Rudnick and friends, will be on hand to entertain the kids throughout the day. *Refer to listing, page 31.*

15 HAVE A (CANNONS) BALL

With all the attention the Red Sox and Patriots get, another of Boston's winning pro teams sometimes gets overlooked. Boston's Major League Lacrosse team, the **Boston Cannons**, has qualified for the playoffs every year since 2001 and won its division in 2004 and 2005. Cheer for these stick-wielding gladiators when they play their first home game of the season on **June 3** at Boston University's Nickerson Field versus the Long Island Lizards. *Refer to listing, page 31.*

16 ENJOY A NORTH END CELEBRATION

From late spring throughout the summer, Boston's traditional Italian enclave, the North End, is home to joyful weekend feasts and processions paying tribute to different saints. These celebrations kick off **June 3** honoring **Santa Maria Di Anzano**, as food vendors, parades and revelers fill Hanover and Prince streets. *Refer to listing, page 31.*

17 DINE BY THE SEA

As the warmer weather approaches and New England enters prime seafood season, there's no better place to enjoy both than on the outdoor patios at Boston's seaside restaurants overlooking Boston Harbor. Enjoy a romantic meal under the stars, or an afternoon lunch amid the company of seagulls, at spots like **Tavern on the Water** (Charlestown Navy Yard, 617-242-8040), **Tia's on the Waterfront** (200 Atlantic Ave., 617-227-0828) and **Intrigue** (Boston Harbor Hotel, 70 Rowes Wharf, 617-856-7744), all of which specialize in fresh seafood like lobster and shrimp cocktails. Ⓟ

18

TAKIN' IT TO THE STREETS

Boston can be considered a very European city in many regards, but one area where we lag behind our neighbors across the pond is in regards to street performance. "Busking," as it's commonly known, is quite commonplace throughout the world, but the city of Boston has had a hot and cold relationship with those troubadours who make their living on the street.

Local newspapers from as far back as the 18th century, as well as historical writings by the author Nathaniel Hawthorne, make reference to Massachusetts streets once being filled with musicians and storytellers plying their trades on the streets for pocket change and ale money.

Today, though, the streets of Boston are mostly lacking when it comes to such performers. The city engaged in some ugly battles with street performers over the last two decades, culminating in a kind of harmony reached in 2003, when entertainers were given the right to obtain performer licenses and play in designated areas at underground MBTA stops, including Downtown Crossing on the Orange Line, and Park Street, Alewife, South Station and Harvard Square on the Red Line. If you explore Boston by subway, particularly at heavy commuter hours, you're likely to encounter all sorts of talented musicians playing all genres of music.

Above ground, it's a different story—except at popular tourist attraction Faneuil Hall Marketplace, where street performers have been welcome and plentiful for more than three decades. (The influx of entertainers originally came to the spot as a way of entertaining and diverting construction workers who were renovating Quincy Market at the time.) Today, you can see comedians, jugglers, daredevils and musicians everyday—and the best of the best will gather ***May 27–29*** at the **21st annual Street Performers Festival.** Throughout Memorial Day weekend, expect to be wowed and amazed by diverse and talented performers who make it their business to put smiles on the faces of audiences of all ages. And, remember—if you enjoy what you see, throw a little something in the hat, and know you'll be contributing to the continued existence of an artform with a long and illustrious history in Boston and worldwide.

—Josh B. Wardrop

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OUR GUIDE TO WHAT TO DO, SEE, BUY AND EAT IN BOSTON

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TOWERING ABOVE: At 62 stories, the heralded, I.M. Pei-designed John Hancock Tower dominates its Copley Square locale, not to mention Boston's skyline. *Refer to listing, page 51.*

IMPROVBOSTON: The local comedy troupe presents its uproarious takes on the life stories of historical figures in *Unauthorized Biography* on May 26 and June 2. **Refer to listing, right.**

CLASSICAL

BOSTON POPS, Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., 617-266-2378. *Tickets: $17–74.* The Boston Pops were created in 1885 by Boston Symphony Orchestra founder Henry Lee Higginson, who wanted to provide a lighter musical concert for the summertime. Led by Keith Lockhart, now in his 12th season as conductor, the Pops are a quintessentially American tradition. ***May 23–25*** *at 8 p.m.*—Pops Jazz Fest, featuring guitarist John Pizzarelli; ***May 26 & 27*** *at 8 p.m.*—Pops Jazz Fest, featuring vocalist Jane Monheit; ***May 30*** *at 8 p.m.*—Swing Night; ***May 31*** *at 8 p.m.*—Classical Countdown, featuring Mozart night; ***June 1*** *at 8 p.m.*—Gershwin Celebration, featuring guest vocalists from the Boston Conservatory; ***June 2 & 3*** *at 8 p.m.*—Salute to Oscar and Tony, an evening of award-winning songs from Hollywood and Broadway.

ROBERT KAPILOW AND GUESTS, Bank of America Celebrity Series, Sanders Theatre, Harvard University, 45 Quincy St., Cambridge, 617-482-2595. ***June 2*** *at 8 p.m. Tickets: $15–30.* The conductor and educator presents an installment of his family-friendly "What Makes It Great?" series, exploring the songs of Broadway composer Stephen Sondheim.

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 Chris Rock, Dane Cook and Dave Chappelle. *Tickets: $15–30.* ***May 22 & 29*** *at 8 p.m.*—Amateur Showcase hosted by Kevin Knox; ***May 23 & 30*** *at 8 p.m.*—Paul Nardizzi; ***May 24*** *at 8 p.m.*—Jim Lauletta; ***May 25 & Jun 1*** *at 8:30 p.m.*—Frank Santos "the R-Rated Hypnotist"; ***May 26*** *at 8 and 10:15 p.m., **May 27** at 6, 8:15 and 10:30 p.m.*—Pablo Francisco; ***May 28*** *at 7 p.m.*—Tony V.; ***May 31*** *at 8 p.m.*—Frank Santorelli; ***June 2 & 3*** *at 8 and 10:15 p.m.*—Greg Giraldo; ***June 4*** *at 7 p.m.*—Dan Miller.

THE COMEDY STUDIO AT THE HONG KONG, 1236 Mass. Ave., Harvard Square, Cambridge, 617-661-6507. *Doors open at 7:30 p.m.; shows begin at 8 p.m. Call for complete schedule. Cover: $8–10.* A place where fresh talent is discovered and headliners experiment. ***May 23 & 30***—The Magic Lounge; ***May 24***—Sarah Blodgett, Jimmy Wahl, The Glow, Baratunde Thurston and others; ***May 25 & June 1***—The Dan Sally Show; ***May 26***—John Lincoln, Eric Riley Moore, Shaun Donovan and others; ***May 27***—Pat O'Shea, Paul Gonvalves, Matt Demko and others; ***May 28 & June 4***—Erin Judge and guests; ***May 31***—Amanda Beales, Jim Blumenthal, Joe Cronin and others; ***June 2***—Dr. MaGoGo, Alvin David, Shane Mauss, Kris Earle and others; ***June 3***—Dr. MaGoGo, Anne Maneikis, Dan Hirshon Tom Liszanckie and others.

DICK DOHERTY'S COMEDY VAULT, Remington's 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: $12–15.* Located in an actual bank vault downstairs in Remington's Eating and Drinking Exchange, this club features Boston's top comics. ***May 25 & June 1***—Greg Howell and friends; ***May 26 & June 2***—Outtakes sketch and stand-up show; ***May 27***—Mike Kourtobis; ***May 28***—EJ Murphy hosts Open Mic Night; ***June 3***—Danny Kelly and friends; ***June 4***—Courtney Cronin hosts Open Mic Night.

IMPROV ASYLUM, 216 Hanover St., 617-263-6887. *Wed & Thu at 8 p.m.; Fri & Sat at 8 and 10 p.m. Tickets: $15–20, dinner packages available.* ***May 24 & 31***—Vanity Project; ***May 25–27*** and ***Jun 1–3***—Monkey Trial & Error...or, You Say You Want an Evolution; ***May 22***—Student Jam.

IMPROVBOSTON, Back Alley Theater, 1253 Cambridge St., Cambridge, 617-576-1253. *Cover: $5–15.* This comedy troupe features sketch comedy, games, original music and audience participation. ***May 23 & 30*** *at 10 p.m.*—Zebro; ***May 24 & 31*** *at 8 p.m.*—The Hump; *at 10 p.m.*—Rendition; ***May 25 & June 1*** *at 8 p.m.*—UnNatural Selection; *at 10 p.m.*—The Great and Secret Comedy Show; ***May 26 & June 2*** *at 8 p.m.*—Unauthorized Biography; *at 10 p.m.*—TheatreSports; ***May 27 & June 3*** *at 6 p.m.*—Family Show; *at 8 and 10 p.m.*—Mainstage; ***May 28 & June 4*** *at 7 p.m.*—Sgt. Culpepper's Improvisational Jamboree; *at 9:30 p.m.*—South City Theatre Ensemble's MOSAIC.

JIMMY TINGLE'S OFF BROADWAY, 255 Elm St., Davis Square, Somerville, 617-591-1616. Cover: $10-30. *Call for reservations and complete schedule.* Founded by actor/comic/writer Jimmy Tingle, this venue features established and aspiring performers. ***June 1*** *at 7:30 p.m.*—*Mortified;* ***June 3*** *at 3 p.m.*—*Jimmy Tingle's American Dream.*

MICHAEL IAN BLACK, Paradise Rock Club, 967-969 Commonwealth Ave., 617-562-8820. ***May 23*** *at 8 p.m. Tickets: $15.* Black, one-third of the comedy troupe Stella and also known for his commentary on VH1's *I Love the '70s/'80s/'90s* series, brings his quirky antics to the stage.

NICK'S COMEDY STOP, 100 Warrenton St., 617-423-2900. *Fri & Sat at 8:45 p.m. Cover: $15.* Nick's is the city's longest-running comedy club. ***May 26 & 27***—John David; ***June 2 & 3***—Jim Coliton.

STEVE SWEENEY'S COMEDY CAFE, 711 Boylston St., 617-482-0110. *Shows Thu–Sat at 9:30 p.m. Cover: $20.* Local funny man Steve Sweeney teams with Beantown comedy fixture Dick Doherty and special guest comics for hilarious stand-up. ***May 25***—Comedy Dodgeball with Steve Sweeney and Dick Doherty; ***May 26 & 27***—Tony V., Steve Sweeney and Mike Kaplin; ***June 2***—Steve Sweeney, Mike Kourtobis and Dan Kelly; ***June 3***—Dick Doherty, Mike Kourtobis and John Joyce.

THE TRIBE THEATER, 67 Stuart St, 617-510-4447. *Shows Thu–Sat at 8 p.m. Tickets: $7–15.* The Tribe, a collective of Boston comedians, boasts troupes focusing on improv and sketch comedy. ***May 25***—Too Darn Hot; ***May 26***—The Tribe Players and The Rumble; ***June 1***—Ten Union Robots and The Rumble; ***June 2***—The Tribe Players and I'm the Rhoda.

CONVENTIONS & EXPOS

HYNES CONVENTION CENTER, 900 Boylston St., 617-954-2000. ***May 26–28***—Anime Boston 2006, New England Anime Society's annual anime convention includes special Japanese guests, character designers, industry professionals, voice actors and a special live performance by Kaiju Big Battel. *Tickets: $50 for full 3-day pass, $30 for Fri or Sat, $25 for Sun.*

DANCE

PROMETHEUS DANCE, Boston Conservatory Theatre, 31 Hemenway St., 617-912-9222. *Performances **May 25–28**: Thu-Sun at 8 p.m. Tickets: $30, seniors and students $20.* The acclaimed modern dance troupe performs its spring repertory concert.

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 double features almost every day. Now showing: ***May 24 & 25*** —Shall We Dance? Starring Fred Astaire and Gene Kelly featuring *Swing Time* (***May 24*** *at 7:15 p.m.*), *Royal Wedding* (***May 24*** *at 5:15 and 9:30 p.m.*) and *Ziegfeld Follies* (***May 25*** *at 5 p.m.*); ***beginning May 26***—Altered States: The Films of Ken Russell featuring *Altered States* (***May 26 & 27*** *at 5 and 9:30 p.m.*), *The Devils* (***May 26*** *at 7:15 p.m.* and ***May 27*** *at 2:45 and 7:15*), *Tommy* (***May 28*** *at 2:30 and 7:15 p.m.*), *Lisztomania* (***May 28*** *at 5 and 9:45 p.m.*), *The Music Lovers* (***May 29 & 30*** *at 7 p.m.*), *Mahler* (***May 29 & 30*** *at 4:30 and 9:30 p.m.*), *Women In Love* (***May 31*** *at 7 p.m.*), *The Rainbow* (***May 31*** *at 4:30 and 9:30 p.m.)* and *The Boy Friend* (***June 1***

at 5 and 8 p.m.); ***June 4*** *at 8 p.m.—Tristram Shandy: A Cock and Bull Story; at 10 p.m.—Kiss Kiss, Bang Bang.*

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: *Mardi Gras: Made in China, Shakespeare Behind Bars, Thank You For Smoking;* ***beginning June 2****—An Inconvenient Truth.*

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 more than 300 films shown per year, HFA is one of the most active art cinemas in New England. Now showing: ***through May 31****—*Seven Comedies, the Films of Luc Moullet, featuring: ***May 26*** *at 7 p.m.,* ***May 30*** *at 9 p.m.—A Girl is a Gun;* ***May 26*** *at 9 p.m.,* ***May 30*** *at 7 p.m.—Anatomy of a Relationship;* ***May 27*** *at 7 p.m.,* ***May 31*** *at 9 p.m.—The Comedy of Work;* ***May 28*** *at 7 p.m.—Brigitte & Brigitte.*

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.

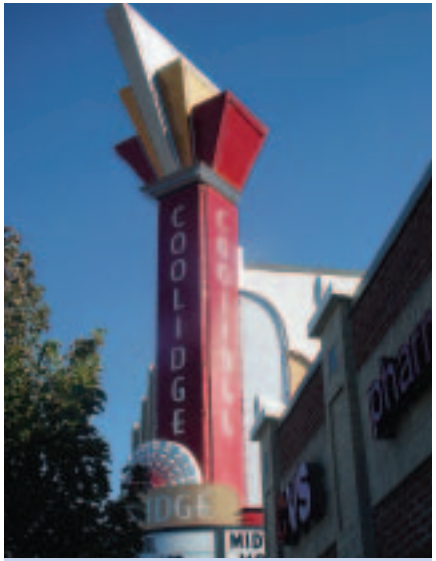
MUGAR OMNI THEATER, Museum of Science, 617-723-2500 or 617-333-FILM. *Call for showtimes and complete schedule. Tickets: $9; seniors $8; children (3–11) $7. Discounted admission for showtimes after 6 p.m.* This IMAX theater presents larger-than-life images on a five-story high, domed screen. Now showing: *Greece: Secrets of the Past; Wired to Win: Surviving the Tour de France; Dolphins and Fighter Pilot.*

MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS, 465 Huntington Ave., 617-267-9300. *Screenings Thu–Sun, call for showtimes and complete schedule. Tickets: $6–9.* 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. Now showing: ***May 23****—Drawing Restraint 9;* ***beginning May 25****—Spirit of the Beehive;* ***beginning May 25****—*Tribute to Elem Klimov and Larisa Shepitko featuring *Heat, Wings, The Ascent, You and I, Farewell to Matyora, Adventures of a Dentist* and more; ***beginning May 28****—*Boston Jewish Film Festival Encores, featuring *Fateless, Little Jerusalem, Only Human and the First Time I Was 20;* ***through May 27****—Stone Rising: the Work of Dan Snow.*

SIMONS IMAX THEATER, New England Aquarium, Central Wharf, 617-973-5200. *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: $9.50; seniors & children (3–11) $7.50.* The Simons is the first large-format theater in Boston to have 3D viewing capability. Now showing: *Sharks 3D; Aliens of the Deep; Wild Safari; Deep Sea 3D.*

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. ***May 27–29*** *from 11 a.m.–1 p.m., 2–4 p.m.*—Arthur's 8th Birthday, make party hats, dance and play games; ***June 3 & 4*** *from 11 a.m.–4 p.m.*—Adventures with Arthur, a Scavenger Hunt and games with Arthur the aardvark.



COOLIDGE CORNER THEATRE: The independent movie house in Brookline presents an array of new releases, classic films and midnight cult movies. **Refer to listing, left.**

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.

PEABODY ESSEX MUSEUM, East India Square, Salem, 978-745-9500, ext. 3011. *Refer to listing in Museums.* ***June 4*** *at 3 p.m.*—Milk to Ice Cream, a storytelling activity that explains how cows produce milk and the process of how ice cream is made. Then, children can create their own ice cream cone art and take home an ice cream treat. *Free with museum admission, reservation required.*

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–Thu 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, enlightening audiences of all ages. Weekday morning shows are appropriate for ages 3 to 6. Weekend matinee shows are appropriate for ages 4 to 9. *Tickets: $9.50.* ***May 24 & 25*** *at 10:30 a.m.—Funny Bone Tales;* ***May 27 & 28*** *at 1 and 3 p.m.—Puss in Boots;* ***May 31 & June 1*** *at 10:30 a.m.—Bingo the Circus Dog;* ***June 3 & 4*** *at 1 and 3 p.m.—Jack and the Beanstalk.*

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. ***May 22*** *at 8 p.m.*—Alice in Chains, *tickets: $25;* ***May 31*** *at 8 p.m.*—Dark Star Orchestra, *tickets: $22;* ***June 2*** *at 6:30 p.m.*—Snow Patrol with Augustana and The Duke Spirit, *tickets: $22.50.*

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. ***May 27*** *at 6:30 p.m.*—Bullet for My Valentine with Walls of Jericho and Roses Are Red, *tickets: $12;* ***June 3*** *at 6:30 p.m.*—The (International) Noise Conspiracy, *tickets: $12.*

BANK OF AMERICA PAVILION, 290 Northern Ave., 617-931-2000. This open-air waterfront venue features world-class rock, pop, blues and country performers set against the backdrop of the Boston skyline. ***May 25*** *at 7:30 p.m.*—Matisyahu with Atmosphere and Apollo Sunshine, *tickets: $32;* ***May 27*** *at 7:30 p.m.*—Willie Nelson with the Nitty Gritty Dirt Band, *tickets: $35–55;* ***June 2*** *at 7 p.m.*—Govt. Mule with Michael Franti and Spearhead, *tickets: $30;* ***June 3*** *at 7 p.m.*—Staind with Three Days Grace and Hurt, *tickets: $35 & 37.50;* ***June 4*** *at 8 p.m.*—Radiohead, *tickets: $41.*

BERKLEE PERFORMANCE CENTER, 136 Mass. Ave., 617-747-2261. ***May 18*** *at 7:30 p.m.*—Traditional Puerto Rican music by Grupo Mapeye, *tickets: $10–15.*

CLUB PASSIM, 47 Palmer St., Cambridge, 617-492-7679. *Call for full schedule.* This intimate Harvard Square coffeehouse was a starting place for folk icons like Joan Baez and Bob Dylan. ***May 25*** *at 8 p.m.*—Paddy Keenan, *tickets: $16;* ***May 26*** *at 4 p.m.,* ***May 27–29*** *at noon*—Cutting Edge of the Campfire Festival, *tickets: $15–25;* ***June 2*** *at 8 p.m.*—Larry Coryell, *tickets: $30;* ***June 3*** *at 7 and 10 p.m.*—Chris Trapper, *tickets: $15.*

DANIEL O'DONNELL, Wang Theatre, 265 Tremont St., 800-447-7400. ***June 4*** *at 7 p.m. Tickets: $45–85.* The Irish-born music superstar brings his combination of standards, rock, country and traditional Irish ballads to Boston.

HARPERS FERRY, 156 Brighton Ave., Allston, 617-254-9743. *Shows start at 8 p.m. Call for complete schedule.* This club offers live music daily and is renowned for showcasing local classic rock and rhythm 'n' blues cover bands. ***May 25 & 26****—*The New Deal, *tickets: $20;* ***May 27****—*Playin Dead (Grateful Dead tribute band), *tickets: $5;* ***May 30****—*Chuch, *tickets: $5;* ***June 1****—*The Ramoniacs with Ricky Valente,

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- **Visitor Information Centers**
  - Boston Common *(Park St. T Station)*
  147 Tremont Street, 888-SEE-BOSTON
  - Prudential Center *(Prudential T Station)*
  800 Boylston Street, 888-SEE-BOSTON
- **Boston Irish Visitors Center**
  (Haymarket T Station)
  across from the Holocaust Memorial
  25 Union Street, Boston 617-723-5252

tickets: $7; ***June 3****—*Appetite for Destruction (Guns N' Roses tribute), *tickets: $12.*

THE MIDDLE EAST, 472 Mass. Ave., Cambridge, 617-864-EAST. *Doors open at 8 p.m., shows start at 9 p.m. unless otherwise noted. Call for complete schedule.* Whether Upstairs, Downstairs or in the Corner, this club showcases the best in alternative/indie rock bands. ***May 23****—*Mute Math, Action Action and New London Fire, *tickets: $10;* ***May 27****—*Dick Dale with Eli "Paperboy" Reed, *tickets: $20;* ***June 3****—*Reverend Glasseye with Humanwine and Campaign for Real Time, *tickets: $15;* ***June 4****—*Southern Culture on the Skids, *tickets: $15.*

OPERA HOUSE, 539 Washington St., 617-259-3400. This recently refurbished magnificent venue for opera and musical theater also hosts pop and rock concerts. ***Jun 1*** *at 7:30 p.m.*—Linda Ronstadt with Livingston Taylor, *tickets: $38.50–76.50.*

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.* ***May 26*** *at 9 p.m.*—The Panic Channel with Bullets & Octane, *tickets: $15;* ***May 29*** *at 8 p.m.*—The Twilight Singers (featuring Greg Dulli) with Afterhours and Jeff Klein, *tickets: $25;* ***May 30*** *at 8 p.m.*—Mike Gordon and Ramble Dove with Grace Potter and The Nocturnals, *tickets: $25;* ***May 31*** *at 8 p.m.*—Wolfmother with Psychic Ills, *tickets: $15.*

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. ***May 24*** *at 7:30 p.m.*—The Sofia Koutsovitis Group, *tickets: $14;* ***May 25*** *at 7:30 and 10 p.m.*—Guy Davis, *tickets: $15;* ***May 26*** *at 7:30 and 10 p.m.*—Bruce Gertz/Jerry Bergonzi Quartet, *tickets: $18;* ***May 27*** *at 7:30 and 10 p.m.*—David Maxwell's Maximum Blues, *tickets: $16;* ***May 31*** *at 7:30 p.m.*—Natraj, *tickets: $14;* ***Jun 2*** *at 7:30 p.m.*—Ellen O'Brien, *tickets: $16.*

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. Combination tickets include dinner and show.* ***May 25****—*Dane Vannatter, *tickets: $18, $58 with dinner;* ***May 26 & 27****—*T.S. Monk Jr. featuring Rachael Blake, *tickets: $22, $62 with dinner;* ***May 31****—*Bud Shank with The Bill Mays Trio, *tickets: $20, $60 with dinner;* ***June 1****—*Fourplay, *tickets: SOLD OUT;* ***June 2 & 3****—*James Moody, *tickets: $27, $67 with dinner.*

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. ***May 24 & 25*** *at 7:30 p.m.*—Pearl Jam, *tickets: $51.*

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. ***May 22, 28 & 29, June 4*** *at 8 p.m.*—Marty Ballou Trio; ***May 23–25, 30 & 31, June 1*** *at 8:30 p.m.*—Bob Nieske Trio; ***May 26 & 27, June 2 & 3*** *at 9 p.m.*—Bob Nieske Group with Maggie Galloway; ***May 28 & June 4*** *at noon*—Lee Childs Group.

HARPOON BREWSTOCK 2006: The local beermaker unveils its summer brew at its annual festival at its plant on the Boston waterfront June 2 and 3. **Refer to listing, page 31.**

TRUE MUSIC THURSDAYS AT FELT, 533 Washington St., 617-350-5555. This popular and stylish nightclub brings real live rock and pop concerts to Downtown Crossing each Thursday. ***May 25*** *at 9 p.m.*—Adam Deitch Project with Audible Mainframe, *tickets: $10.*

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.* ***May 26****—*Kings of Nuthin, Ducky Boys and The Welch Boys; ***May 27****—*Say Hi to your Mom, Age Rings, Duresse and Auto Interiors; ***June 2****—*Rocketscience, Wide Iris, AM Stereo and Dave Alpert; ***June 3****—*Porsches on the Autobahn, The Appreciation Post and On the Surface.

TWEETER CENTER, Routes 140 and 146, Mansfield (45 minutes south of Boston), 617-931-2000. The concerts at this outdoor amphitheater are a hallmark of summer and boast some of pop music's biggest acts. ***May 27*** *at 7:30 p.m.*—Bruce Springsteen and the Seeger Sessions Band, *tickets: $42–92.*

SPECIAL EVENTS

AIDS WALK BOSTON, The Hatch Shell on the Esplanade, 617-424-WALK. ***June 4*** *at 10 a.m.* After a group aerobic warm-up, join a record crowd on this 6.2-mile walk through Boston, Brookline and Cambridge to benefit the AIDS Action Committee and 23 other AIDS service groups.

BEACON HILL ART WALK, various Beacon Hill locations, starting from 135 1/2 Charles St., www.beaconhillartwalk.org. ***June 4*** *from noon–6 p.m. rain or shine. Tickets: $25 ($30 day of tour).* Art lovers are encouraged to spend the afternoon exploring the nooks and crannies of Beacon Hill's historic buildings, as more than 100 local artists display their paintings, sculpture and photography over several city blocks.

ELLIOT NORTON AWARDS, Boston Theater Critics Association, Cutler Majestic Theatre at Emerson College, 219 Tremont St., 800-233-3123. ***May 22.*** This 24th annual event named for Boston's own esteemed dean of American drama critics, Elliot Norton, who passed away in May 2003 at the age of 100, continues to recognize excellence in local and regional theatre.

HARPOON BREWSTOCK 2006, 306 Northern Ave., 888-HARPOON. ***June 2*** *from 5:30–11 p.m.;* ***June 3*** *from 2–9 p.m. Tickets: $12, includes a souvenir cup; 21+, ID required.* Harpoon Brewery's indoor/outdoor festival at their waterfront location promises flowing suds, live music and great barbecue fare. Free shuttles offered from South Station on Summer Street. Ample parking also available.

HOT DOG SAFARI, Suffolk Downs racetrack, East Boston, 800-966-0444. ***June 4****. Tickets: $15–50.* Local radio personality Eddie Andelman's annual event benefiting The Joey Fund and the battle against cystic fibrosis manages to pair charity with gluttony, with delicious results. Safari participants chow down on all the hot dogs, sausages and ice cream sundaes they can eat, while enjoying live horse races, appearances by local Boston athletes, balloons, clowns, face painters and a mechanical bull for the kids, and even a hot dog eating contest.

NORTH END FEASTS AND PROCESSIONS, The North End. www.northendboston.com. Boston's "Little Italy" honors patron saints and the neighborhood's culture with weekend festivals featuring Italian delicacies, streetside bands playing Sicilian melodies and vendors offering authentic wares on the cobblestoned paths dressed with garlands. ***June 3 & 4****—*101st Santa Maria Di Anzano celebration and procession.

STREET PERFORMERS FESTIVAL, Faneuil Hall Marketplace, 617-523-1300. ***May 27–29,*** *11 a.m.–7 p.m. Free and open to the public.* The 21st annual Memorial Day celebration of street performance acts boasts Kazoo parades at the West End of Quincy Market near historic Faneuil Hall. Spectacular solo and group shows showcase daring feats, magic acts, jugglers and puppet shows performed by New England's most accomplished street talent.

WBOS EARTHFEST, DCR Hatch Shell, 617-822-9600. www.wbos.com. ***May 27*** *from noon–6:30 p.m. Free and open to the public.* This annual festival celebrating the planet we live on features music from Los Lonely Boys, James Blunt, Brandi Carlisle, The Fray and other acts. Attendees can visit over 100 environmental exhibits and displays prior to the festival or take the kids to enjoy music and entertainment in the family area and in between acts.

SPORTS

BOSTON CANNONS — **MAJOR LEAGUE LACROSSE**
Nickerson Field, Boston University, 888-847-9700
June 3 *at 7 p.m.* — vs. Long Island Lizards

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Fenway Park, 4 Yawkey Way, 617-482-4SOX.
May 22 & 23 *at 7:05 p.m.* vs. New York Yankees
May 24 *at 5 p.m.* vs. New York Yankees
May 25–27 *at 7:05 p.m.* vs. Tampa Bay Devil Rays
May 28 *at 2:05 p.m.* vs. Tampa Bay Devil Rays

BROCKTON ROX CAN-AM LEAGUE PROFESSIONAL BASEBALL
Campanelli Stadium, One Lexington Ave., Brockton, 508-559-7070.
May 25–27 *at 7:05 p.m.* vs. New Haven County Cutters
May 28 *at 1:05 p.m.* vs. New Haven County Cutters
May 29 *at 1:05 p.m.* vs. Nashua Pride
May 30 & 31 *at 7:05 p.m.* vs. Nashua Pride

NEW ENGLAND REVOLUTION **MAJOR LEAGUE SOCCER**
Gilette Stadium, One Patriot Place, Foxborough, 800-543-1776 or 877-GETREVS.
May 27 *at 7:30 p.m.* vs. Houston Dynamo

THEATER

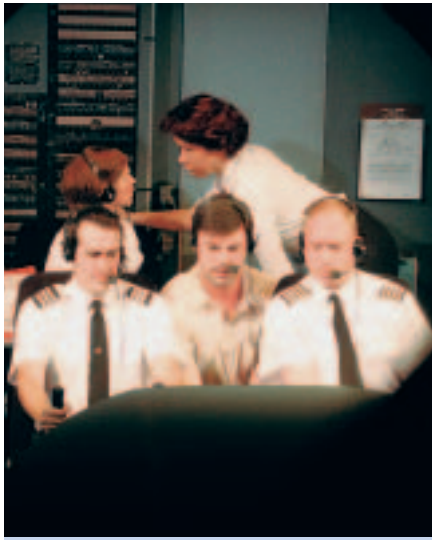
AIN'T MISBEHAVIN', North Shore Music Theatre, 62 Dunham Rd., Beverly, 978-232-7200. *Performances **beginning May 30**: Tue & Thu at 7:30 p.m., Wed at 1:30 and 7:30 p.m., Fri at 8 p.m., Sat at 2 and 8 p.m., Sun at 2 p.m. Tickets: $40-75.* This rollicking, swinging, finger-snappin revue evokes the delightful humor and infectious energy of Thomas "Fats" Waller and the Golden Age of the Cotton Club as a versatile cast struts, strums and sings the songs Waller made famous in a career that ranged from uptown clubs to downtown Tin Pan Alley to Hollywood and concert stages all over the world.

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: $48–58.* 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.

THE BLUE ROOM, Theater 4, Plaza Theatre, Boston Center for the Arts, 539 Tremont St., 617-933-8600. *Performances **May 25–June 3**: Wed–Sat at 8 p.m. Tickets: $18.* A dark reflection on sexuality and society, this provocative work is an honest, unflinching account of power, desire and seduction in our time in which, through a daisy chain of sexual encounters, the search for love unfolds. This production contains nudity and is recommended for adult audiences only.

CAROLINE OR CHANGE, Speak Easy Stage Company, Boston Center for the Arts, Roberts Studio Theatre, Calderwood Pavilion at the Boston Center for the Arts, 527 Tremont St., 617-933-8600. *Performances **through June 3**: Thu at 7:30 p.m., Fri and Sat at 8 p.m., Sun at 3 p.m.* Around the time of JFK's assassination, Caroline, a black maid who works for a Southern White Jewish family, struggles to raise her family amidst the country's turbulent social changes.

CHARLIE VICTOR ROMEO, American Repertory Theatre, Zero Arrow St., Cambridge, 617-547-8300. *Performances **through May 28**: Wed and Thu at 7:30 p.m., Fri at 8 p.m., Sat at 2 and 8 p.m. and Sun at 2 p.m. Tickets: $30.* This live performance documentary of six major real-life airline emergencies—culled from actual "black box" transcripts—is an acclaimed and tension-filled production staged with great realism and intensity.



***CHARLIE VICTOR ROMEO*:** The American Repertory Theatre and crashARTS present this gripping docudrama about real-life air crises at Zero Arrow Theatre through May 28. **Refer to listing, left.**

THE CHURCHYARD MOTEL, The Flying Lings Presents, Cambridge Family YMCA Theatre, 820 Massachusetts Ave., Cambridge, 866-811-4111. *Performances **through June 3**: Thu & Fri at 8 p.m. Tickets: $15, seniors and students $12.* In this modern twist on an old fable, Sir Robin Hood is a street-wise teenage girl battling more than your average growing pains. Orphaned to the streets of the Big City, Poor Annette plays hostess to the homeless in her "Churchyard Motel." But when life takes a Cinderella-like turn, her pickpocket philanthropy gets put to the test in this new play written and directed by Marc Frost.

CLEOPATRA THE MUSICAL, Gold Dust Orphans, Theater Machine, 1256 Boylston St., 617-265-6222. *Performances **through May 27**: Fri & Sat at 8 p.m. Tickets: $25.* Afrodite stars in Ryan Landry's musical about the epic journey of one girl's fight for power. This drag farce follows the adventures of a young queen as she attempts to claim her throne, win the love of an emperor and save her country—all while singing, dancing and looking absolutely fabulous!

GUYS AND DOLLS, Turtle Lane Playhouse, 283 Melrose St., Newton, 617-244-0169. *Performances **through June 4**: Thu–Sat at 8 p.m., Sun at 2 p.m. Tickets: $24.* This classic Broadway hit about gamblers and their gals in New York City has been delighting audiences with such showtune standards as "Luck Be a Lady," "You're Rocking the Boat" and the title tune, since its debut in 1950.

HINTERLANDS, SEASON ONE, Rough & Tumble, Hall A, Boston Center for the Arts, 539 Tremont St., 617-933-8600. *Performances **through May 27**: Thu & Fri at 8 p.m., Sat at 4 p.m. and 8 p.m. Tickets: $15.* The complete "boxed set" of an imaginary television show about a misfit band of acrobats, jugglers, dancers, declaimers, hand-balancers, fire-eaters and balancerinos traveling through the hinterlands of a long-ago America (with never before seen footage and special features!) includes a limited edition director's cut of the pilot episode, "The Lost Art of Getting Lost." Winner of three Emmy Awards (not actually)!

HEADING FOR EUREKA, Centastage, Plaza Black Box Theatre, Boston Center for the Arts, 539 Tremont St., 617-933-8600. *Performances **beginning May 26**: Thu at 7:30 p.m., Fri and Sat at 8 p.m. and Sun at 3 p.m. Tickets: $29.* George and Martha, their teenage children (Dick and Jane), and their family pet ToTo are on a traditional trip across the country. Whenheir SUV explodes in the desert and they strike it out on foot, the true nature of their journey to Eureka becomes apparently in this world premiere by George Sauer.

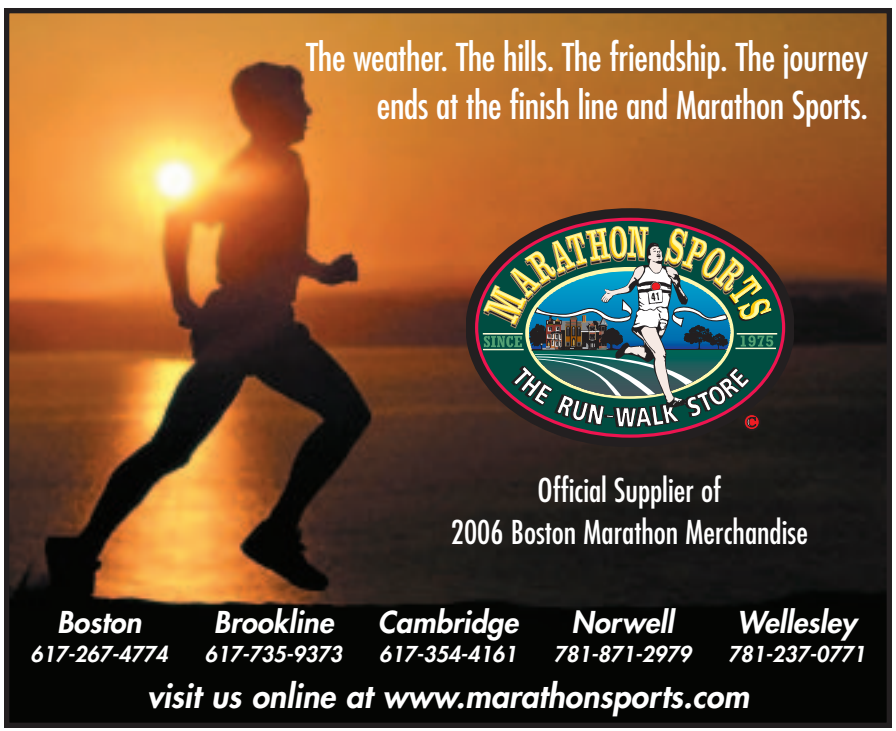
ISLAND OF SLAVES, American Repertory Theatre, Loeb Drama Center, 64 Brattle St., Cambridge, 617-547-8300. *Performances **through June 4**: Sun at 2 and 7:30 p.m., Tue, Wed & Thu at 7:30 p.m., Fri at 8 p.m. and Sat at 2 and 8 p.m. Tickets: $37–74.* Four shipwreck survivors stumble onto a remote beach, two servants and two masters. Once the trappings of wealth have been dashed, however, power and love are up for grabs in this new translation of Pierre Marivaux's (*La Dispute*) masterpiece directed by Robert Woodruff.

KONG'S NIGHT OUT, Lyric Stage Company, 140 Clarendon St., 617-437-7172. *Performances **through June 3**: Wed & Thu at 7:30 p.m., Fri at 8 p.m., Sat at 4 and 8 p.m., Sun at 3 p.m. Tickets: $20–45.* It's opening night of Broadway producer Myron Siegel's *Foxy Felicia*, but for some reason, advance sales have dwindled to just 16 ticket holders. Is it because of the special new attraction nature-filmmaker Carl Denham has to unveil? From local favorite Jack Neary (*Beyond Belief*), this world premiere is from Growing Voices, the Lyric Stage's program for nurturing the local playwriting community.

LOVE'S LABOUR'S LOST, Huntington Theatre Company, Boston University Theatre, 264 Huntington Ave., 617-266-0800. *Performances: Mon, Tue & Thu at 7:30 p.m., Fri at 8 p.m., Sat at 2 and 8 p.m. and Sun at 2 p.m. Tickets: $15–60.* King of Navarre and three young lords take a three-year vow of chastity in order to focus on their academic studies. Their oaths are tested almost immediately by the unannounced visit of the Princess of France and her three beautiful ladies-in-waiting. Covert meetings, misdirected love notes and battles of wits ensue as the men try hilariously to keep their promise in Shakespeare's timeless comedy.

MANIFEST DESTINY, The Theatre Cooperative, 277 Broadway, Somerville, 617-933-8600. *Performances **through May 27**: Fri and Sat at 8 p.m. and Sun at 3 p.m. Tickets: $20.* This world premiere by Vladimir Zelevinsky traces the story of immigrants as they come to America and then melt into the American landscape.

MOVIN' OUT, The Opera House, 539 Washington St., 617-931-2787. *Performances **through May 28**: Wed, Thu at 7:30 p.m.,*



Fri at 8 p.m.,Sat at 2 and 8 p.m. and Sun at 2 and 7:30 p.m. Tickets: $25–87.50. The spectacular musical by Twyla Tharp and Billy Joel, is back by popular demand. Don't miss this critically acclaimed show that brings 24 Billy Joel classics to life as it tells the story of five life-long friends over two turbulent decades. It all adds up to one unforgettable musical *The New York Times* calls "even better the second time around."

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.

TWO ROOMS, SouthCity Theatre Company, The Piano Factory, 791 Tremont St., 781-724-0316. *Performances **beginning June 1**: Thu–Sat at 8 p.m., Sun at 3 p.m. Tickets: $10–15.* Less Blessing's play is a moving depiction of a wife's reaction when her husband, a professor, is abducted by terrorists in the Middle East. Her dedication to her husband in the midst of pressure from the State Department and media paints both a beautiful picture of love in a time of crisis and a disturbing picture of the impact of international politics on the innocent bystander.

TICKETS

BOSTIX, Faneuil Hall Marketplace and Copley Square, 617-723-5181. *Mon–Sat 10 a.m.–6 p.m. (Faneuil Hall location 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 entitled to preferred entry at select attractions and savings of up to 20% at shops and restaurants.

***KONG'S NIGHT OUT*:** Lyric Stage Company presents the world premiere farce about a Broadway producer whose new show debuts the same night as King Kong's infamous rampage, through June 3 . **Refer to listing, page 33.**

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.

AREA COLLEGE COMMENCEMENTS

College/University	Date	Speaker(s)	Title/Company
Boston College	May 22	Condoleezza Rice	Secretary of State
Framingham State College	May 28	Peter Meade	Executive V.P., Blue Cross Blue Shield of Massachusetts
Harvard University	June 8	Jim Lehrer	News Anchor
MIT	June 9	Ben S. Bernanke	14th Chairman of the Federal Reserve
UMass-Boston	June 2	Barack Obama	U.S. Senator (Illinois)
Wellesley College	June 1	Ophelia Dahl	Director, Partners in Health

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*Not a member of Show of the Month Travel Club? No problem! You can join when you make your reservation for only $15.

CLUBS & BARS

CHEERS: The place where everybody knows your name offers top pub grub and plenty of brew at the original location on Beacon Street and at its newer site at Faneuil Hall Marketplace (pictured above). **Refer to listing, right.**

PUBS AND BARS

AUDOBON CIRCLE, 838 Beacon St., 617-421-1910. *Daily 11:30 a.m.–11 p.m.; bar open 'til 1 a.m.* This stylish but welcoming bar and restaurant offers great drinks and food in a hip, minimalist setting.

THE BELL IN HAND TAVERN, 45 Union St., 617-227-2098. *Daily 11 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.

BILL'S BAR, 5.5 Lansdowne St., 617-421-9678. *Wed–Sat 9 p.m.–2 a.m.; Sun 10 p.m.–2 a.m. Call for cover and age restrictions.* A laid-back, no frills, no fuss bar with music entertainment nightly. *Sun*—Reggae Sundays.

THE BLACK ROSE, 160 State St., next to Faneuil Hall Marketplace, 617-742-2286. *Daily 11:30 a.m.–2 a.m.* Enjoy live Irish music nightly and on select afternoons in an authentic pub setting.

BRISTOL LOUNGE, Four Seasons Hotel, 200 Boylston St., 617-351-2052. Jazz entertainers create sounds as lush as their setting on a Boston-made, antique Steinert piano. Live music *Thu–Sat.*

BUKOWSKI'S TAVERN, 50 Dalton St., 617-437-9999. *Mon–Sat 11:30 a.m.–2 a.m.; Sun noon–2 a.m. Cash only.* Traditional pub-style food and more than 100 types of beer characterize this cozy and unpretentious hole-in-the-wall space near the Prudential Center Mall.

THE CACTUS CLUB, 939 Boylston St., 617-236-0200. *Sun–Wed 11:30 a.m.–10 p.m.; Thu 'til 11 p.m.; Fri–Sat 'til 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.

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. Recently given a major facelift, the Cask boasts a new back room with a dance floor and second bar.

CHEERS, 84 Beacon St., 617-227-9605. *Daily 11 a.m.–12:30 a.m.* 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.–2 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.

GRAND CANAL, 57 Canal St., 617-523-1112. This Faneuil Hall area restaurant and pub transports the authentic style of the Victorian Irish pub scene to Boston with high ceilings, antiques, red wallpaper, a grandfather clock rising over the bar, photos of Dublin's Grand Canal, a balcony, an alcove and a working fireplace. Cover varies.

THE GREEN DRAGON TAVERN, 11 Marshall St., 617-367-0055. Boston's premier 18th-century tavern on the Freedom Trail. Serving lunch and dinner daily with lobster specials *Mon–Thu.* Entertainment nightly with a traditional Irish 'seisiun' every *Sat from 4–8 p.m.*

JAKE IVORY'S, 9 Lansdowne St., 617-247-1222. *Open Thu–Sat. Cover: $5–8, table reservations available.* Come join the crowds who marvel at (and sing along with) the dueling pianists at this club in the heart of nightlife central, Lansdowne Street. Great for a casual night out, after work parties or friendly get-togethers.

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

KINSALE IRISH PUB AND RESTAURANT, Two Center Plaza, Cambridge Street, 617-742-5577. The city's only Irish pub and restaurant built in Ireland and shipped to Boston. There is never a cover charge. Live Irish music *Mon–Wed at 7:30 p.m.; Sat at 9:30 p.m. Sun* brunch features Irish musicians *from noon–3 p.m.*

MR. DOOLEY'S BOSTON TAVERN, 77 Broad St., Financial District, 617-338-5656. *Open nightly. Fri & Sat $3 cover.* This authentic Irish pub features a charming ambiance, 13 imported drafts on tap and live music six nights a week. Journalists, politicians and young professionals find Mr. Dooley's to be "a great place for a pint and a chat."

THE OAK BAR, Fairmont Copley Plaza Hotel, 138 St. James Ave., Copley Square, 617-267-5300. *No cover.* A favorite among the fine scotch and cigar crowd, The Oak Bar is a Boston favorite for upscale lounging. *Sun–Thu 10:30 a.m.–midnight, Fri 'til 12:30 a.m. and Sat 'til 1 a.m. Tue & Wed*—Pianist Rebecca Cline; *Thu*—Pianist Steve Heck; *Fri & Sat*—The Bill Laughlin Quartet.

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, Tuesday karaoke and DJs.

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. *Thu–Sat 11 p.m.–2 a.m. Cover: $5–20. 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+ Thu & Fri.* 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*—Fling 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. *Daily 10 p.m.–2 a.m.; closed Tue & Wed. Cover: $5–20. 19+. Mon*—Static, gay night; *Fri & Sat*—Hip-hop and R&B.

BOSTON BILLIARD CLUB, 126 Brookline Ave., 617-536-POOL. *Mon–Sat 11:30 a.m.–2 a.m.; Sun noon–2 a.m. 18+ Sun–Thu.* Ranked Number One Billiard Club in the country by *Billiards Digest*, this nightspot is perfect for pool aficionados and novices alike. Free parking. *Mon*—free lessons; *Wed*—Music Trivia Night & Ladies' Night: each lady gets 25% off

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table time, four ladies per table play for free; *Mon, Tue & Thu*—League Night.

BOSTON ROCKS NIGHTCLUB, 245 Quincy Market (near Faneuil Hall), 617-726-1110. *Thu–Sat 9 p.m.–2 a.m. Cover varies. 21+.* Where Boston comes to rock. Live music every Friday and Saturday. No hats allowed.

GAME ON, 82 Lansdowne St., 617-351-7001. *Mon–Fri 11:30 a.m.–2 a.m.; Sat & Sun 10 a.m.–2 a.m.* The ultimate for any sports club enthusiast: 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. *Mon–Sat 11 a.m.–2 a.m, Sun noon–2 a.m. Sun–Thu 18+.* 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, Copley Square Hotel, 90 Exeter St., 617-236-1134. *Daily 5 p.m.–2 a.m.; closed Tue & Wed. 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. Proper dress required.

SANCTUARY, 189 State St., 617-573-9333. *Open nightly until 2 a.m.* Spread out over three floors, Sanctuary bills itself as "Boston's premiere dining and lounge experience," featuring a full menu, outdoor seating for lunch and dinner, and resident DJs *Thu–Sat.* Voted one of the sexiest bars in Boston by *Boston* magazine.

GAY AND LESBIAN

CLUB CAFE, 209 Columbus Ave., 617-536-0966. *Thu–Sat 11 a.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. *Wed–Sat at 8 p.m.*—Moonshine Video Bar.

JACQUES CABARET, 79 Broadway St., 617-426-8902. *Mon–Sat 11 a.m.–midnight, Sun noon–midnight. Cover: $6, $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. *Mon*—Tranny show; *Tue*—Karaoke; *Wed*—Delightful Divas; *Thu*—Jacques Angels; *Fri & Sat*—Miss Leading Ladies; *Sun*—Amateur Talent Night.

MACHINE, 1254 Boylston St., 617-536-1950. *Fri & 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.

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. Exhibits include: Construction Zone, a child-sized work site with miniature skyscrapers inspired by the Big Dig; Arthur's World, settings of the popular book series where children can write and star in their own Arthur adventures; Boston Black, celebrating Boston's Caribbean, African and African-American cultures; ***beginning May 26***—Play It By Ear, create and interact with works of sound art. *Refer to Kids Corner in Current Events for special events.*

COMMONWEALTH MUSEUM, Massachusetts Archives Building, 220 Morrissey Blvd., 617-727-9268. *Mon–Fri from 9 a.m.–5 p.m., Sat '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; Le Grand Derangement: The Acadian Exile in Massachusetts, 1755–1766.

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: ***through May 29***—Community Creations, annual student art exhibition.

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: A Journey Home, John F. Kennedy and Ireland explores President Kennedy's relationship to his ancestral homeland; Handmade and Heartfelt, Folk Art from the collections of the John F. Kennedy Presidential Library.

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. Special exhibit: L'automobile: A Century of Innovation and Style, history of the French motor car. Lawn event: ***June 3***—Japanese Motorcycle Day.

THE MARY BAKER EDDY LIBRARY, 200 Mass. Ave., 888-222-3711. *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. Special exhibit: Young Photographers' Exhibit.

JOHN F. KENNEDY PRESIDENTIAL LIBRARY AND MUSEUM: The exhibit A Journey Home: John F. Kennedy and Ireland explores President Kennedy's relationship to his ancestral homeland. **Refer to listing, below.**

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: ***through June 3***—Soul Cinema: Black Films and Black Stars (1919–1963).

THE MUSEUM OF THE NATIONAL CENTER OF AFRO-AMERICAN ARTISTS, 300 Walnut Ave., Roxbury, 617-442-8614. *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.

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; 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 the most comprehensive collection of Asiatic art in the world. Special exhibits: Degas to Picasso: Modern Masters; Tradition and Transformation: Japanese Art 1860–1940; Light My Fire: Rock Posters from the Summer of Love; Laura McPhee: River of No Return.

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. At the Mugar Omni Theater: *Refer to Film listings in Current Events for complete schedule.* Showing at the Planetarium: *Far, Far Away: The Worlds of Star Wars; Countdown to Supernova.* At the Wright 3D Theater: *AnimalVision; 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, 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. Admission: $7.50, seniors & college students $6; children (under 18) free; Sat 10 a.m.–noon, free.* A museum devoted to Central and Northern European artists, with an emphasis on German-speaking countries. Special exhibits: German Art of the 1980s from the Heliod Spiekermann Collection; Extra Ordinary Every Day: The Bauhaus at the Busch-Reisinger; 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: The Western Tradition, art since the Renaissance; American Watercolors & Pastels, 1875–1950; Modern Art, 1865–1965.

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: The Miracle Bird: The Story of the Ivory-billed Woodpecker; Dodos, Trilobites and Meteorites; Climate Change: Our Global Experiment; Looking at Landscape, environmental puzzles from three photographers.

JUDI ROTENBERG GALLERY: The Newbury Street gallery presents Aya Baya Bazaar, a collection of paintings by local artist Jennifer Amadeo-Holl. **Refer to listing, page 42.**

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. Special exhibit: Nine Evenings Reconsidered: Art, Theatre and Engineering, 1966; The Choreographic Turn, works by Daria Martin and Peter Welz in collaboration with choreographer William Forsythe.

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; Shipbuilding in Massachusetts 100 Years Ago. Special exhibits: Pia Lindman: Embodiments; Finding Form, the art of Richard Filipowski; Scopes, Station Wagons and Solder, unexpected images from the Rad Lab and RLE Collections.

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; Alexander's Image and the Beginning of Greek Portraiture; Tablet and the Pen, drawings from the Islamic World.

ABOVE: JENNIFER AMADEO-HOLL, *MONKEY'S UNCLE,* 2006

BEYOND BOSTON

CONCORD MUSEUM, 200 Lexington Road, Concord, 978-369-9763. *Mon–Sat 9 a.m.–5 p.m.; Sun noon–5 p.m. Admission: $8; seniors & students with I.D. $7; children (6–17) $5; 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. Special exhibit: The Purse and the Person, a century of women's purses. Special event: ***May 25***—Emerson's Birthday, visit the recently renovated Emerson's Study at the Museum; ***June 2*** *from 9 a.m.–4 p.m.*—Garden Tour, self-guided tours of nine gardens in the Concord area, *tickets: $20 advance, $28 at doors, $10 box lunches by pre-reservation.*

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: Great Buys: Museum Purchases, celebrating 10 years of the Art Acquisition Fund; 2006 DeCordova Annual Exhibition featuring 12 regional artists. Special events: ***June 1*** *at 5:30 p.m*—Twilight Sculpture Park Tour; ***June 3*** *at 3 p.m*—Artist Jen Simms discusses her work.

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: Gershwin to Gillespie, portraits in American music; Collection Gems, rare books and maps from the Van Gorden-Williams Library; American Family Treasures, decorative arts from the D.J. and Alice Shumway Nadeau collection; Journey Out of Darkness, American heroes in Hitler's POW camps. Special event: ***June 3*** *at 8 p.m.*—Heritage Music Series: Wanda Jackson, *tickets: $27.*

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: Painting Summer in New England; Exposing the Source, paintings of Nalini Malani; Carved by Nature, untamed traditions in Chinese decorative art; Owls in Art and Nature; All of My Life, contemporary works by Native American artists; Taj Mahal: The Building of a Legend; Yin Yu Tang, the 16-bedroom home of a prosperous Chinese merchant of the Qing Dynasty (1644–1911), *ticketed separately: $4;* The Yachting Photography of Willard B. Jackson.

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 exhibits: Paintings by Sarah Walker; I Love My Time, I Don't Like My Time, works by Erwin Wurm. Special events: ***May 27*** *at 10 a.m.*—Family Workshop: Sweaters, Markers and Grandmothers, hands-on program where families draw and perform their own "one-minute sculptures," *tickets: $25 per family, reservation required.*

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 accu-

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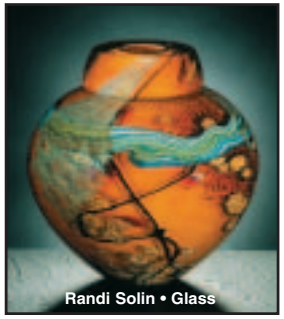

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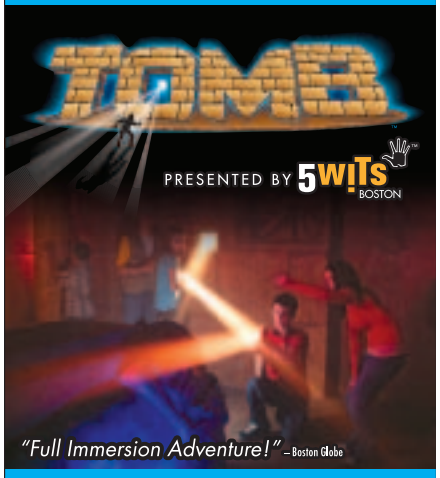

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rate narration recreate the hysteria of the Salem Witch Trials and executions of 1692. Translations available in Japanese, French, German, Italian and Spanish. Special exhibit: Witches: Evolving Perceptions.

GALLERIES

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: ***through May 30***—Seascapes by Anne Packard; ***beginning June 2***—Redefining Boundaries, works by Sharon Booma.

ART INTERACTIVE, 130 Bishop Allen Drive, Cambridge, 617-498-0100. *Sat & Sun noon–6 p.m.* This non-profit experimental art space in Central Square offers a venue for Boston's cutting-edge and imaginative artists in all media to display their works, and for viewers to take an active and participatory role in relating to the pieces themselves. Special event: ***June 1*** *at 7 p.m.*—The Upgrade Boston, spotlighting works by Eryk Salvaggio.

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: Works by Michael Mazur.

BERNARD TOALE GALLERY, 450 Harrison Ave., 617-482-2477. *Tue–Sat 10:30 a.m.–5:30 p.m.* This gallery, established in 1992, specializes in cutting-edge contemporary art by both rising and established, internationally known artists. Special exhibits: Silent Steps, works by Laura McPhee; Spectrum Analysis, works by Monique Johannet.

BOSTON SCULPTORS GALLERY, 486 Harrison Ave., 617-482-7781. *Tue–Sat noon–6 p.m.* A sculptors' cooperative that has served as an alternative venue for innovative solo sculpture exhibitions since 1992. Special exhibits: ***beginning May 23***—works by Michelle Lougee and Kitty Wales.

CHASE GALLERY, 129 Newbury St., 617-859-7222. *Wed–Sat noon–5 p.m.* Since 1990, Chase Gallery has been one of the city's top galleries for the exhibition of contemporary artists, both representational and abstract. Special exhibits: ***through May 27***—works by Marcia Myers; ***beginning June 1***—works by Michael Zigmond.

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 one of the largest inventories of oil paintings, drawings, watercolors, and prints in the U.S. Special exhibits: 500 Years of Printmaking; Erik Desmazieres, Prints by a New Master; The Symbolic and the Surreal.

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: Viva Italia, a decade of Italian poster discoveries.

JUDI ROTENBERG GALLERY, 130 Newbury St., 617-437-1518. *www.judirotenberg.com. Tue–Sat 10 a.m.–6 p.m.* The Judi Rotenberg Gallery is one of the longest standing independent galleries in Boston and is committed to both established and emerging talent in all media. Special exhibit: ***through June 3***—Aya Baya Bazaar, paintings by Jennifer Amadeo-Holl.

KIDDER SMITH GALLERY, 131 Newbury St., 617-424-6900. *Mon–Sat 11 a.m.–5:30 p.m.* The Kidder Smith Gallery represents contemporary abstract and representational artists, displaying works in media ranging from painting to photography. Special exhibit: ***through May 27***—Pulse by David Moore.

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 exhibits: Beyond a Landscape: Abstractions in Glass by Yolanda Adra; ***through May 31***—Outer Dimensions, outdoor sculptures by Rob Lorenson.

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 exhibits: Parade Swag, photos by Amber Davis Tourlentes; ***through May 28***—The Tipping Point, health narratives from the South End.

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: Quilts and portraits by Sedrick Huckaby.

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. Special exhibit: New Works by Marcus Kenney.

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 wither aesthetic, professional and critical discourses. Special exhibit: ***beginning May 26***—PRC Members' Exhibition.

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 exhibit: The Beauty of Imperfection, Korean ceramics by Kang Hyo Lee.

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: Old Friends, New Work, 25 years of studio furniture at SAC.

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.

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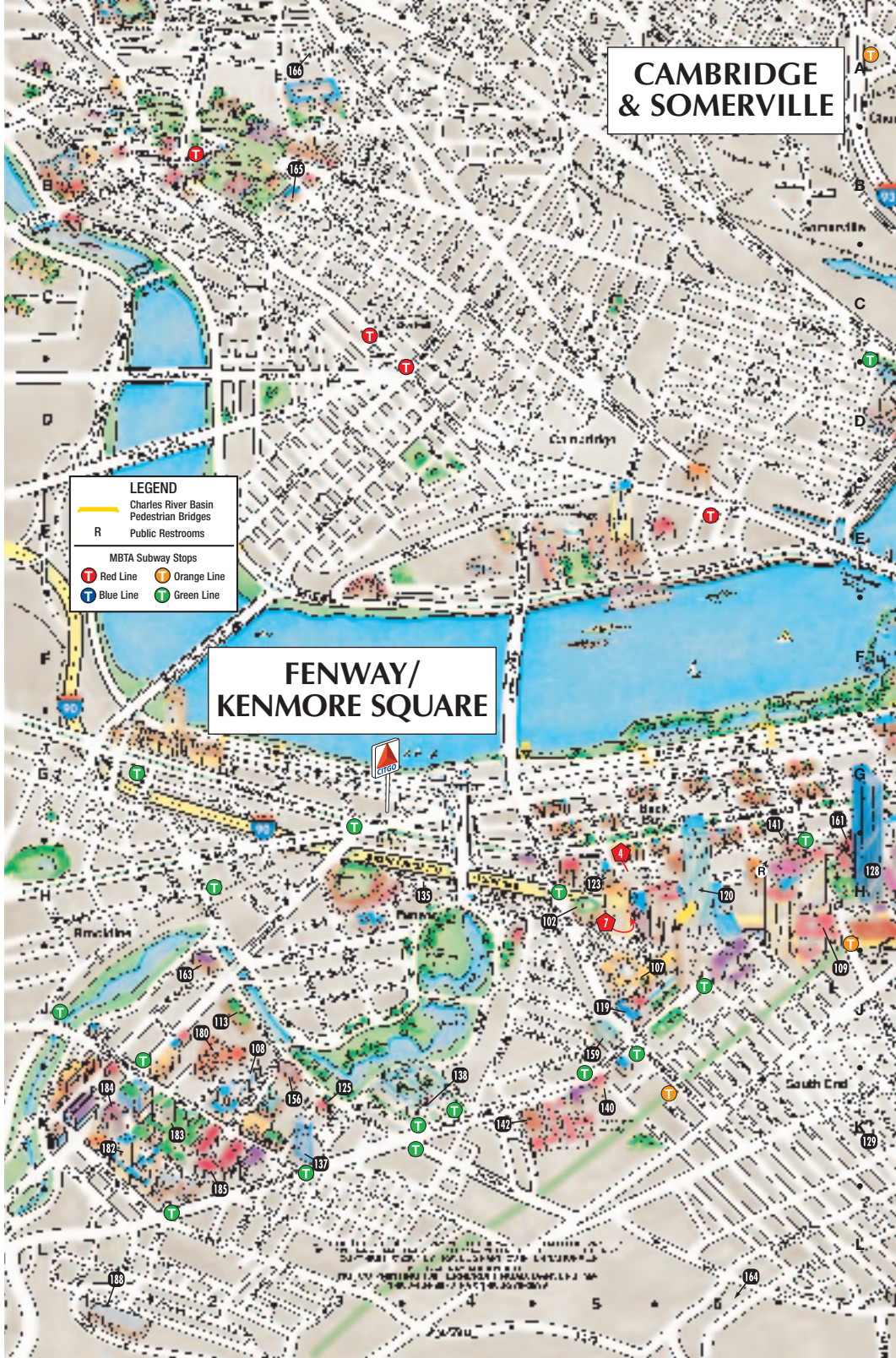

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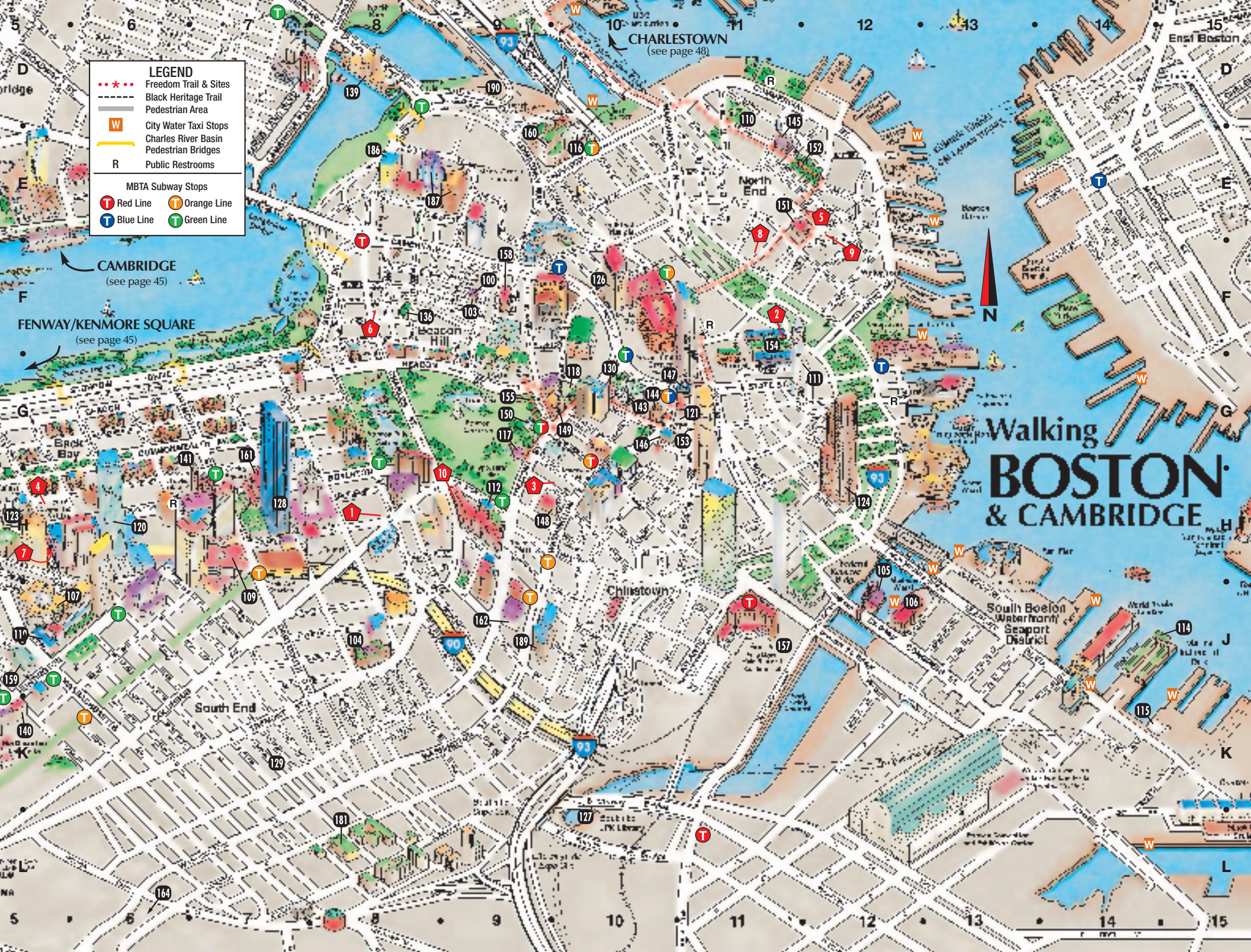
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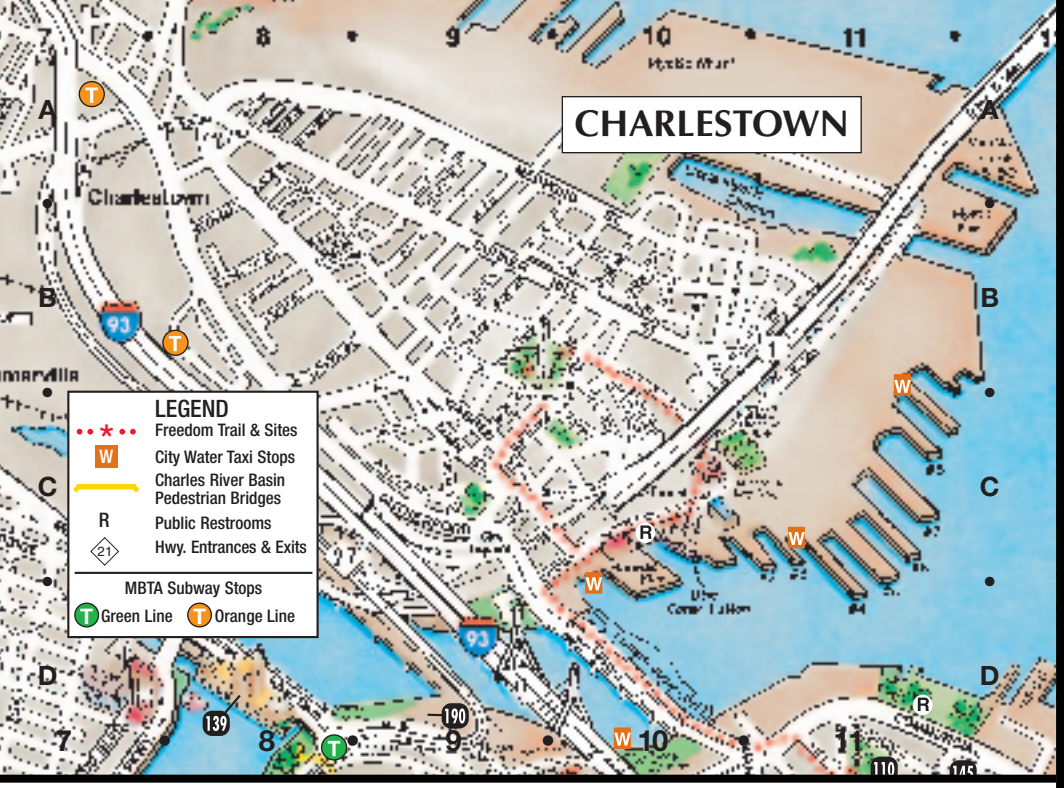
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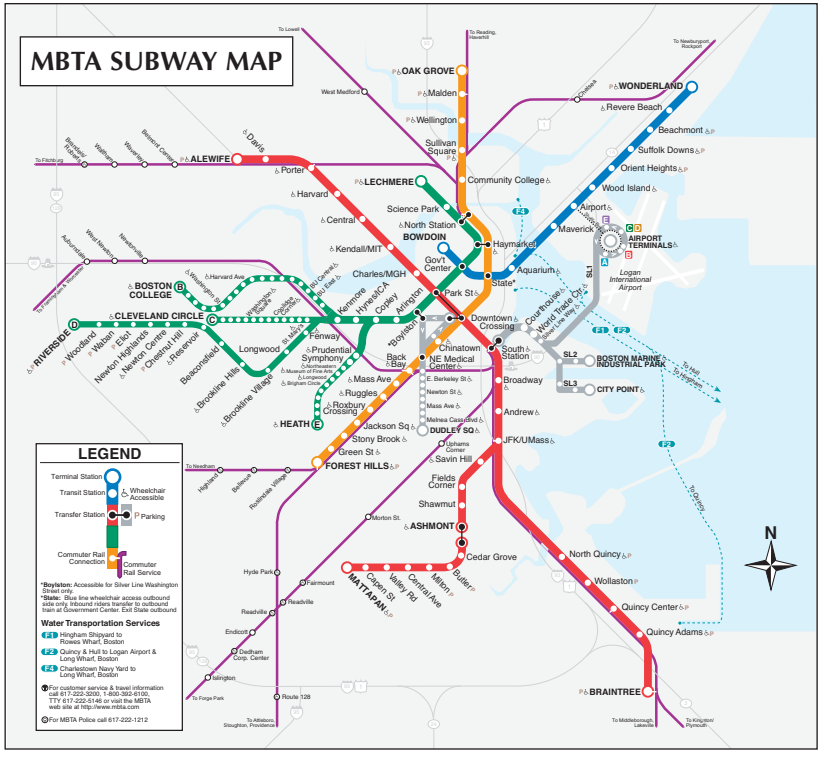
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Terminal Station
Transit Station
Transfer Station
Commuter Rail Connection
Wheelchair Accessible
Parking
Commuter Rail Service
Water Transportation Services
F1 Hingham Shipyard to Rowes Wharf, Boston
F2 Quincy & Hull to Logan Airport & Long Wharf, Boston
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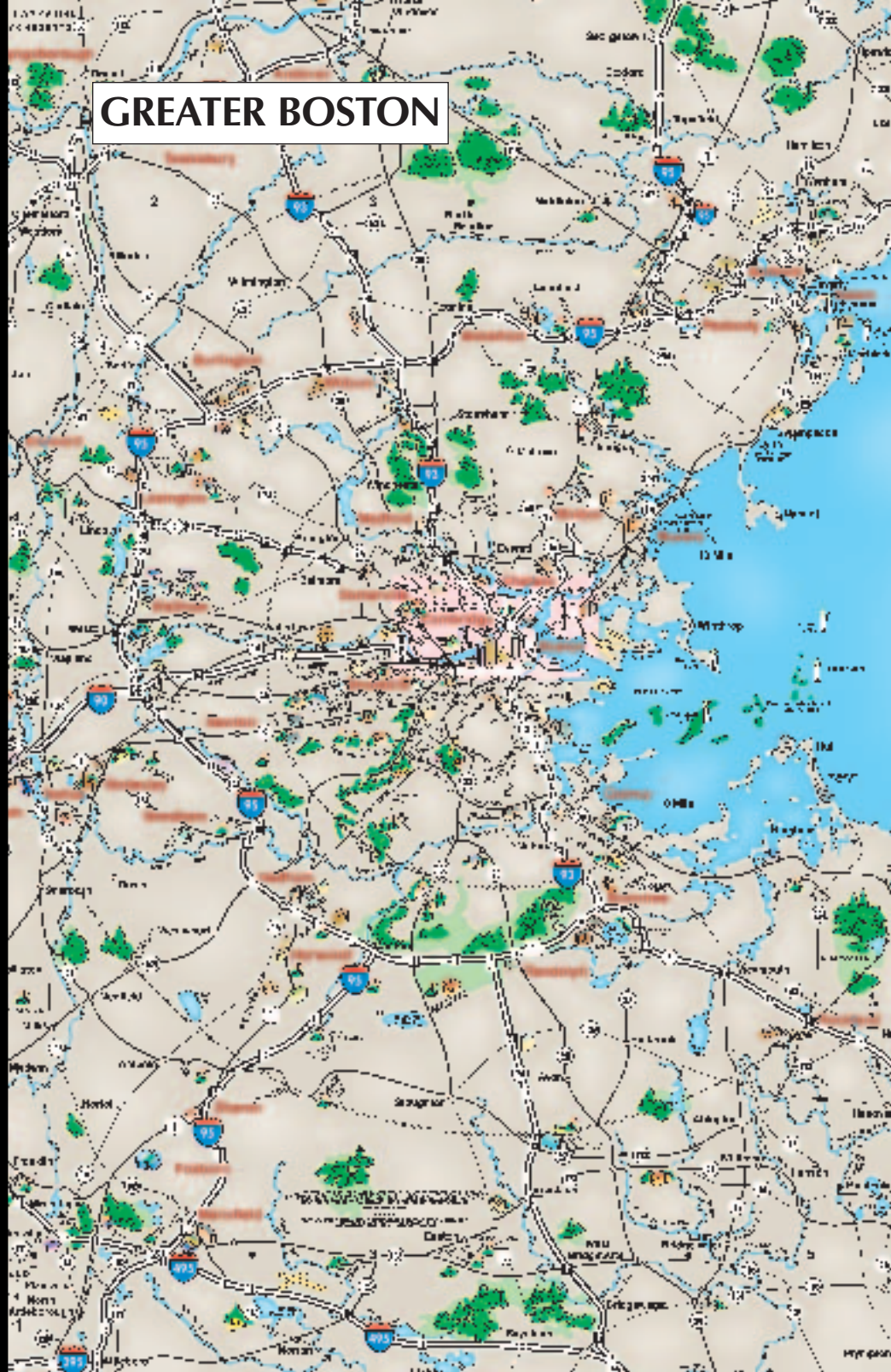

GREATER BOSTON

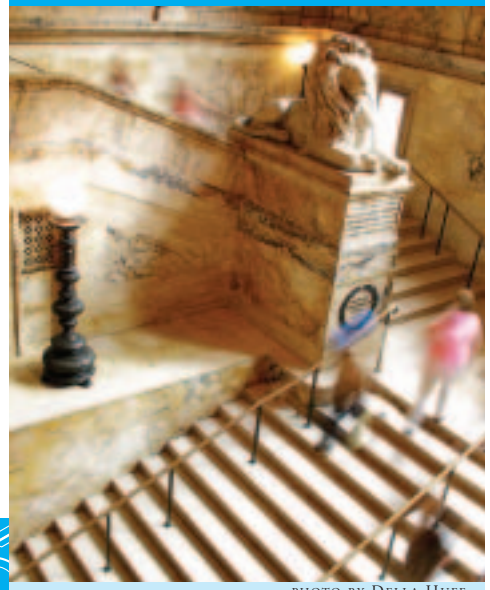


PHOTO BY DELLA HUFF

BOSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY: Offering more than books, this venerable institution is home to striking architectural details. **Refer to listing, right.**

SIGHTS OF INTEREST

ADAMS NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK, 1250 Hancock St., Quincy, eight miles south of Boston, 617-770-1175. Take the "T" to the Quincy Center stop on the Red Line. *Visitor Center is open daily from 9 a.m.–5 p.m. Trolley tours: depart every 30 minutes from 9:15 a.m.–3:15 p.m. Tickets: $5; children (under 16) free.* This oft-overlooked historical gem offers insight into the lives of U.S. presidents John Adams and son John Quincy Adams. Tour the birthplaces of both presidents, as well as "The Old House," which was home to five generations of the Adams family.

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 for your perusal.

BOSTON ATHENAEUM, 10½ Beacon St., 617-227-0270. *Member hours: Tue–Fri 8:30 a.m.–5:30 p.m., Mon 'til 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 the world's smallest suspension 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 closed* ***through Aug 27*** *for renovations.* 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.

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.

THE FIRST CHURCH OF CHRIST SCIENTIST, 175 Huntington Ave., 617-450-2000. *Free tours of The Mother Church Thu–Sat 12–4 p.m. every half hour, 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 in Museums.*

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.–4:30 p.m., tours every half hour. 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, this grand mansion is a example of high-style Federal elegance. Tours offer insight into the social, business and family life of the post-Revolution American elite.

JOHN F. KENNEDY NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE, 83 Beals St., Brookline, 617-566-7937. *Open Wed–Sun 10 a.m.–4:30 p.m. Admission: $3; children (17 and under) free. Guided tours every half-hour.* This modest frame house is the well-preserved 1917 birthplace and childhood home of the 35th president of the United States, and also the first home shared by the president's father and mother, Joseph P. and Rose Fitzgerald Kennedy. Includes a collection of household furnishings, photographs and significant mementos personally collected and arranged by the president's mother.

JOHN HANCOCK TOWER, 200 Clarendon St., 617-572-6000. 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 world's most beautiful skyscrapers. The building houses the headquarters of its namesake, insurance giant John Hancock Financial. The 60th floor observatory was closed after September 11, 2001.

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.

THE SKYWALK OBSERVATORY AT THE PRUDENTIAL CENTER, 617-859-0648. *Open daily 10 a.m.–9:30 p.m. Skywalk kiosk closes at 6 p.m. Admission (including a headset audio tour of points of interest): $10.50; seniors $8.50; children (under 12) $7. 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. Displays include "Dreams of Freedom," about the Boston immigrant experience; an exhibit overlooking Fenway Park dedicated to the legendary Red Sox slugger Ted Williams; and a theater showing "Wings Over Boston," a spectacular aerial tour of the entire city.

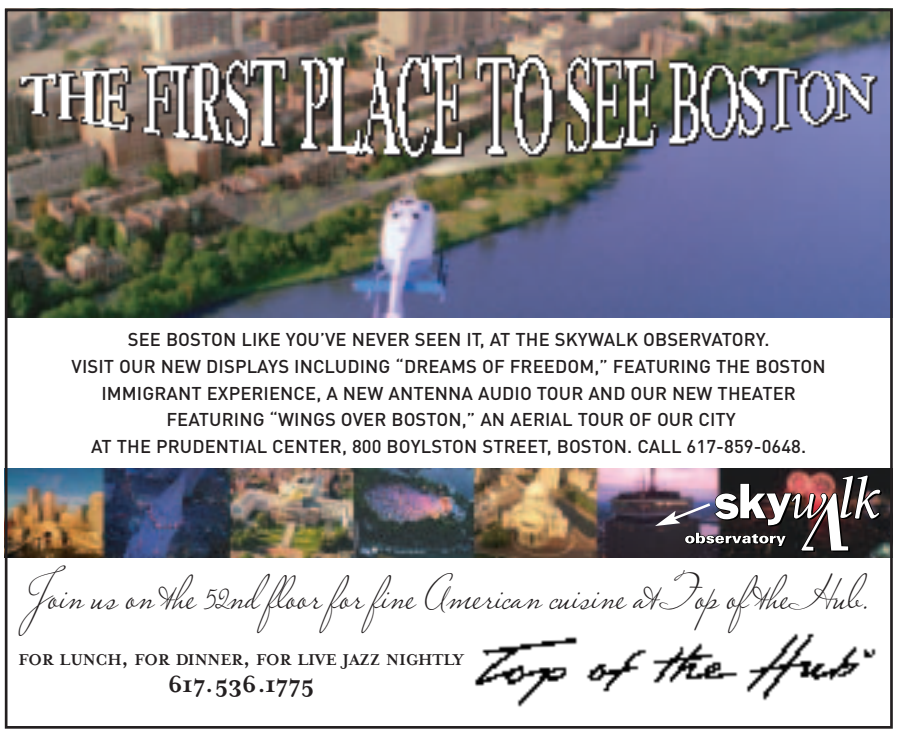
TRINITY CHURCH, Copley Square, 617-536-0944. *Open daily from 8 a.m.–6 p.m.; tours available for $5, children under 12 free.* Built in 1877, this house of worship, a combination of Victorian, Gothic and French Romanesque styles, is one of the great masterpieces of American church architecture. The building is located in Copley Square adjacent to the I.M. Pei-designed John Hancock Tower.

TOURS AND TRAILS

BEACON HILL WALKING TOURS, 617-227-3957, Ext. 256. *Tickets: $10; reservations recommended.* Guided tours highlighting the richly European section of Boston along the Freedom Trail.

BLACK HERITAGE TRAIL, 46 Joy St., 617-742-5415. *Free tours: 10 a.m., noon and 2 p.m. 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 Visitor Center, 617-426-3115. www.audisseyguides.com. *MP3 version $12.95, CD version $19.95.* Boston Audissey is a unique MP3/iPod walking tour of Boston, presented with sound effects and music by 14 Bostonian narrators who unlock hidden secrets of the city, from slave meeting houses, to duels on the Common, to the former headquarters of the Boston Mafia.

BOSTON BIKE TOURS, 617-308-5902. *Tours: Sat & Sun at 11 a.m. Tickets: $25 (w/o bike rental, $20).* Tours make stops at various sites while your guide shares history and pokes fun at the city and its heritage. Tours leave from the Boston Common Visitor Center at Park Street Station (bikes and equipment are provided).

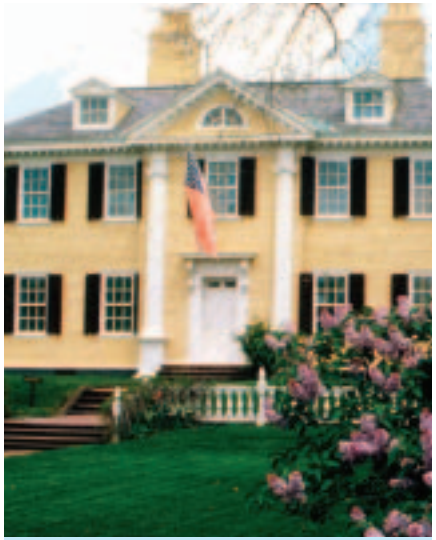
BOSTON BY FOOT, 617-367-2345. *Tickets: $10, children (6–12) $8, unless noted. Call for tour locations.* Guided 90-minute tours highlighting the rich architecture and history of the city, led by trained volunteers. The Heart of the Freedom Trail, *every day at 10 a.m.;* Victorian Back Bay, *Thu at 5:30 p.m., Fri & Sun at 10 a.m.;* Literary Landmark Tour, *Sat at 2 p.m.;* Beacon Hill, *Mon–Fri at 5:30 p.m., Sat at 10 a.m., Sun at 2 p.m.;* North End, *Fri & Sat at 2 p.m.;* Boston Underfoot, *Sun at 2 p.m., tickets: $12;* Boston By Little Feet, *Mon & Sat at 10 a.m., Sun at 2 p.m., tickets: $8.*

BOSTON DUCK TOURS, Prudential Center and Museum of Science. www.bostonducktours.com. *Tours: seven days a week, 9 a.m. 'til one hour before sunset. Tickets: $26; seniors, students & military $23; children (3–11) $17; (under 3) $5; special needs $12. Group discounts available.* Experience the city in an amazing vehicle that rides on land and water. The 80-minute tour visits most of Boston's famous sights. And just when you think you've seen it all, your Duck splashes into the Charles River for a spectacular water view.

BOSTON MOVIE TOURS, departs from the Shaw Memorial in front of the State House on Beacon Street. 866-MOVIE-45. www.bostonmovietours.net. *Tours daily at 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. Tickets: $20; seniors and students $17; children (6–12) $10. Reservations strongly encouraged.* Experience the city of Boston the way Tinseltown has through such films as *A Civil Action, Good Will Hunting, Mystic River* and others. This 90-minute walking tour takes movie buffs to 30 spots where some of Hollywood's biggest stars have come to film. Tour guides also offer up behind-the-scenes stories and Hollywood gossip.

FENWAY PARK TOURS, 4 Yawkey Way, 617-226-6666. *Tours daily from 9 a.m.–4 p.m. or three hours before game time. Tickets: $12, seniors $11, children and military personnel $10.* 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.



LONGFELLOW NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE: The former home of poet Henry Wadsworth Longfellow in Cambridge is open for tours and occasionally hosts music and poetry events. **Refer to listing, page 53.**

GHOSTS AND GRAVESTONES TOUR, 617-269-3626. *Tours **beginning June 1**: daily at 6, 7, 8 and 9 p.m. Reservations required. Tickets: $32; children: $19.* Step aboard the trolley of doom for a tour of the dark side of Boston. Your host, a 17th century gravedigger, tells the tales of the Angel of Death, the Boston Strangler and other infamous characters from Boston's past. After completing your sojourn into the macabre, step off the trolley for a walk through two of the oldest burying grounds in the city.

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

HISTORIC PUB CRAWL, BosTix Booth, Faneuil Hall, 617-357-8300. ***May 23 & 30** at 5:30 p.m. Reservations required. Private tours for groups are available on most days. Tickets: $39.* The Freedom Trail Foundation's 18th-century costumed guide takes you on a tour of Boston's historic pubs where treasonous events were hatched 250 years ago. Enjoy plenty of beer and light fare along the way.

NORTH END MARKET TOUR, 64 Cross St., take the "T" to Haymarket, 617-523-6032. *Wed & Sat 10 a.m. and 2 p.m., Fri 10 a.m. and 3 p.m. Reservations required. Custom tours for groups available. Tickets: $48.* Michele Topor, an 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 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 tales of Boston's oldest neighborhood, like the disastrous Great Boston Molasses Flood of 1919 that devastated much of the historic city sector.

OLD TOWN TROLLEY TOURS OF BOSTON, 617-269-7150. *Departs every 25–30 minutes daily from 9 a.m.–5 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, times vary either 10 a.m. or 1 p.m. depending on tour. Call for reservations and departure locations. Tickets: $25; students $20; children (ages 10–17) $12.* Explore Boston with your choice between two photographic journeys that reveal the scenic treasures of Beacon Hill or the Freedom Trail. Each walking tour provides fascinating historical information and simple 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 11 a.m., noon, 1 and 2 p.m.; one-hour tours include samples (ID required). Tickets: $2 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.

SWAN BOATS, Public Garden Lagoon, 617-522-1966. Rides: *daily, 10 a.m.–4 p.m., weather permitting. Tickets: $2.75, seniors $2.25, children (2–15) $1.25.* One of Boston's oldest and most treasured traditions, these pedal-powered boats glide around the Public Garden and under the smallest suspension bridge in the world.

WILDLIFE

FRANKLIN PARK ZOO, One Franklin Park Road, Franklin Park, 617-541-LION. *Open weekdays 10 a.m.–5 p.m., weekends 'til 6 p.m. Admission: $9.50; seniors $8; children (2–12) $5.50; children (under 2) free.* Home to more than 210 species, many of them endangered. 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: $17.95; children (3–11) $9.95; 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, Stellwagen Bank. 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 weekdays 10 a.m.–5 p.m., weekends 'til 6 p.m. Admission: $7.50; seniors $6.50; children (2–12) $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."

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 in 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.

LONGFELLOW NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE, 105 Brattle St., Cambridge, 617-876-4491. *Tue–Sat 10 a.m.–4:30 p.m. Park ranger-guided tours: 10:30 and 11:30 a.m., 1, 2, 3 and 4 p.m. Admission: $3, children (under 16) free.* This 1759 Georgian mansion was home to Henry Wadsworth Longfellow from 1837 to 1882 and a central gathering place for writers and artists in the 19th century. It also served as George Washington's headquarters during the siege of Boston in 1775–76. Original furnishings, books and art from around the world are on display.

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.

EXCURSIONS

PROVINCETOWN: This quaint town on the tip of Cape Cod, accessible from Boston via high-speed ferry, offers beaches, art galleries, restaurants and a host of cultural activities. **Refer to listing, page 55.**

AMUSEMENT PARKS

5W!TS, 186 Brookline Ave., 617-375-WITS. *Sun–Tue 10 a.m.–7 p.m., Wed & Thur 'til 10 p.m., Fri & Sat 'til 11 p.m. Tickets: $14–20.* Combining the appeals of theme parks, museums and haunted houses, 5W!ts provides visitors with action-packed interactive game-play and puzzle-solving activities. Current show: Tomb, which allows players to journey to the center of a buried pharaoh's final resting place, facing challenges and obstacles along the way.

SIX FLAGS NEW ENGLAND, 1623 Main St. (Rte. 159 South), Agawam, 413-786-9300. *Open Fri, Sat & Sun (open daily **beginning May 29**); call for hours of operation. Tickets: $49.99, seniors $26.99, kids $29.99; after 4 p.m., $24.99.* Part of one of the nation's top amusement park chains, Six Flags New England is the region's largest option for thrills and chills from humongous roller coasters, water rides and more—including the Superman: Ride of Steel and the brand-new Catapult.

CRUISES

BAY STATE CRUISE COMPANY, 200 Seaport Blvd. at the World Trade Center, 877-PT-FERRY. *Visit www.provincetownfastferry.com or call for ticket prices, reservations and departure times.* Enjoy fast or traditional ferry service daily from Boston to Provincetown aboard the new and sleek Provincetown III.

BOSTON HARBOR CRUISES, One Long Wharf, 617-227-4321. *Call for reservations and departure times.* Boston's oldest and largest cruise company has something for everyone. Whether it's New England's only three-hour, high-speed catamaran whale watch, a sunset or lunch cruise, a historic sightseeing tour or a visit to Boston's unique Harbor Islands, BHC's variety of cruises and convenient scheduling make it easy to fit a harbor cruise into your plans.

CHARLES RIVER BOAT TOURS, depart from CambridgeSide Galleria and The World Trade Center, 617-621-3001. *Call for full schedule and ticket prices.* Enjoy daily 60-minute sightseeing tours of Boston and Cambridge along the Charles River, or venture out into Boston Harbor for a view of the city. Private charters also available.

MASSACHUSETTS BAY LINES, depart from 60 Rowes Wharf, 617-542-8000. *Call for full schedule and ticket prices.* Take a tour of the harbor as the captain narrates a 55-minute cruise. Observe the colorful Boston skyline on a sunset cruise, dance the night away on a music cruise Thu–Sat, or swoon under the stars on a moonlight cruise Fri–Sat. Private charters also available.

ODYSSEY CRUISES, departs daily from Rowes Wharf, 888-741-0281. *Brunch: Sat & Sun daily noon–2 p.m. Tickets: $42–48. Lunch: Mon–Fri noon–2 p.m. Tickets: $37. Dinner: Mon–Thu 7–10 p.m., Fri & Sat 8–11 p.m., Sun 6–9 p.m. Tickets: $78–92.* Boarding begins one hour prior to departure. Prices include meal. Midday and moonlight cruises also available. Cruise historic Boston Harbor while enjoying lunch, brunch or dinner aboard this elegant cruise ship. Three lavish decks offer a myriad of entertainment choices, from jazz to contemporary music, and every on-deck stroll reveals the glorious Boston skyline.

SIGHTS OF INTEREST

MINUTE MAN NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK, Concord and Lexington, 978-369-6993. *Park grounds open sunrise to sunset, North Bridge Visitor Center is at 174 Liberty St., Concord, open 11 a.m.–3 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. Special event: ***May 29** at 2 p.m.*—Memorial Day Gala Concert Featuring the Air Force Band of Liberty.

PLIMOTH PLANTATION, 137 Warren Ave., 978-369-6993. *Henry Hornblower II Visitor Center, open 9 a.m.–5 p.m., Nye Barn, Hobbamock's (Wampanoag) Homesite, 1627 Pilgrim Village, Crafts Center, 9:30 a.m.–5 p.m. Tickets: $24, seniors $21, children $14.* When the Pilgrims landed in America during the 17th century, they landed at Plymouth Rock. But they built their settlement three miles south of the rock and named it Plimoth Plantation. Today, visitors can tour the Plantation and see how the Pilgrims went about their daily lives, hunting, gathering and making crafts.

OLD STURBRIDGE VILLAGE, 1 Old Sturbridge Village Rd., 508-347-3362. *Tue–Sat 9:30 a.m.–5 p.m. Tickets: $20, seniors $18, children $6 (under 3 free).* Take a trip back in time at this recreation of an early-19th century New England village, where costumed educators show visitors what life in the early days of America was really like. Visit a tin shop, a cider mill, and a blacksmith, while touring restorations of early New England homes and marveling at authentic remnants from a long-gone age.

ABOVE PHOTO COURTESY OF MASS. OFFICE OF TRAVEL & TOURISM

WHALE WATCHES

NEW ENGLAND AQUARIUM, Central Wharf, 617-973-5206. *10 a.m. Tickets: $29, seniors $26, children $20.* Discover the history of Stellwagen Bank aboard the Aquarium's whale watch vessel, the 111-foot catamaran Voyager III. Search for a variety of whales, including humpback, finback and minke. Interactive exhibits include microscope stations, electronic navigation, computer whale programs, meteorological instruments and movies.

DESTINATIONS

THE BERKSHIRES. These mountains located roughly three hours west of Boston are Massachusetts' answer to New York's Catskills. Part of the Appalachian Trail, the Berkshires are considered a top cultural resort location, home to numerous antique shops, art galleries, spas, spots for boating, scenic biking and hiking, as well as Tanglewood, the Boston Symphony Orchestra's summer home and a venue for jazz and popular concerts.

CAPE COD AND THE ISLANDS. Henry David Thoreau said "(Cape Cod is)…a vast morgue, where famished dogs may range in packs—the most uninviting landscape on earth." Apparently, Thoreau didn't know everything, because today Cape Cod is one of the nation's most beloved tourist destinations. The Cape has 559.6 miles of coastline for swimming, kayaking, sailing and snorkling. There's also the uber-wealthy islands of Martha's Vineyard and Nantucket which provide the perfect balance of ritzy indulgence and traditional old New England whaling and merchant culture.

NORTH SHORE. Just north of Boston, the North Shore encompasses Cape Ann, Gloucester, Peabody, Salem, Swampscott, Marblehead, Newburyport and some of Massachusetts' other well-kept secrets. The area is filled with sandy beaches, deep sea fishing trips, clambakes, historic houses and art festivals. Just an hour away from the city of Boston, the North Shore is a relaxing region where visitors can sample Massachusetts' rich maritime heritage.

PROVINCETOWN. Located on the tip of Cape Cod, Provincetown marches to its own beat. This New England fishing village and prominent art colony is home to a thriving gay community, and is also where playwright Eugene O'Neill penned some of his best work and Thoreau completed his walk around the Cape. Provincetown boasts miles of beaches, a charming and eclectic shopping district, trails for hiking and biking and whale watches for those looking to escape the busy city.

SALEM. This North Shore town will always be known for the Salem Witch Trials of 1692, but Salem also boasts a bustling wharf with many bars and restaurants, and is regarded today as an up-and-coming enclave for the young and trendy. Fans of the spooky stuff can visit the New England Pirate Museum to see what life was like when Blackbeard roamed the high seas, or tip-toe through The Salem Witch Museum or Witch Dungeon Museum. At Halloween, the city transforms into one giant party for ghosts and ghouls, but 365 days a year, Salem is a charming place to explore and enjoy.

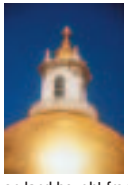
FREEDOM TRAIL

PHOTO BY DELLA HUFF

OLD NORTH CHURCH: The tower from which Paul Revere hung his famous lanterns stands tall in the North End. **Refer to listing, page 57.**

The Freedom Trail begins at the Boston Common Information Kiosk, where you can obtain a guide map for $2 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. Park ranger-guided tours depart from the Boston National Historical Park Visitors Center at the corner of State and Devonshire streets, Mon–Fri at 11 a.m. and Sat & Sun at 11 a.m. & 2 p.m. First come, first serve. Arrive 30 minutes prior to tour. Call 617-242-5642 for more information.

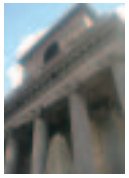
BOSTON COMMON. Set aside in 1634 as a military training field and grazing pasture, the Common is the oldest public park in America. The park served as quarters for British as well as Colonial troops, and later housed Civil War regiments. The British Army set out for the start of the Revolutionary War 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. Samuel Adams laid the cornerstone, and the building stands on land bought from John Hancock. The red brick portion was designed by legendary architect Charles Bulfinch.

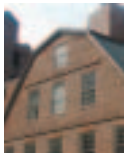
PARK STREET CHURCH. Corner of Park and Tremont streets, 617-523-3383. *Sunday services at 8:30 and 11 a.m. and 4 and 6 p.m. Morning services are traditional, evening services are contemporary.* Built in 1809, this church was described by Henry James as "the most interesting mass of brick and mortar in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

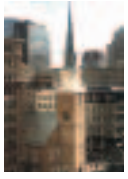


KING'S CHAPEL AND BURYING GROUND. Tremont and School streets, 617-227-2155. Services: *Sun at 11 a.m., Wed at 12:15 p.m. Burying Ground open daily 9 a.m.–5 p.m. Tours are usually Sat 9:30 a.m.–4:30 p.m., but may not be led due to construction.* Visitors are reminded that King's Chapel is a house of worship. 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.



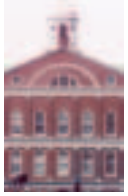
SITE OF THE OLD CORNER BOOKSTORE. School and Washington streets. Constructed as an apothecary in 1718, the ground floor was later used as a bookstore that became the center of literary Boston and the meeting place of such notables as Emerson, Hawthorne and Thoreau.



OLD SOUTH MEETING HOUSE. 310 Washington St., 617-482-6439. *Open daily 9:30 a.m.–5 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 9:30 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.

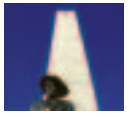


FANEUIL HALL. Merchants Row and Faneuil Hall Square, 617-242-5689. *Open Mon–Sat 10 a.m.–9 p.m. and Sun noon–6 p.m.* Historical talks given every half hour from *9:30 a.m.–4:30 p.m., when hall is not in use.* "The Cradle of Liberty" combines a free marketplace on the first floor with the town meeting 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–5:15 p.m. Admission: $2.50; students & seniors with I.D. $2; 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. Two lanterns were hung here 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. *Monument closed until **Aug 27**. 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 Tue–Sun from 10 a.m.–6 p.m. Tours until 3:50 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.

PHOTO BY CHRISTINE CELLI

A KNIT AND NEEDLEPOINT STORE BY MARY JO COLE: Get all your knitting and needlepoint supplies or buy pre-made, hand-sewn art at this unique store on Newbury Street. **Refer to listing, below.**

ART & ANTIQUES

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 JO 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.

BOOKS

BARNES & NOBLE, 395 Washington St., 617-426-5184; 800 Boylston St. (Prudential Center), 617-247-6959. Washington Street: *Mon–Sat 9 a.m.–8 p.m., Sun 11 a.m.–6 p.m.* Prudential: *Mon–Sat 9 a.m.–11 p.m., Sun 10 a.m.–9 p.m.* One of America's largest booksellers boasts all the best-sellers, plus an extensive selection of back titles, audiobooks, magazines, CDs and more.

BORDERS, 10–24 School St., 617-557-7188; CambridgeSide Galleria, Cambridge, 617-679-0887. School Street: *Mon–Fri 7 a.m.–9 p.m., Sat 8 a.m.–9 p.m., Sun 10 a.m.–8 p.m.* Galleria: *Mon–Sat 10 a.m.–9:30 p.m., Sun 11 a.m.–7 p.m.* This major retailer provides readers with seemingly limitless options regarding books and periodicals, as well as an extensive music section.

THE COOP AT HARVARD SQUARE, 1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge, 617-499-2000. Harvard Book Building: *Mon–Sat 9 a.m.–10 p.m., Sun 10 a.m.–9 p.m.* Brattle/Palmer Building: *Mon–Sat 9 a.m.–9 p.m., Sun noon–7 p.m.* Founded by Harvard students a century ago, this behemoth landmark offers a massive selection of books, reference materials and Harvard merchandise.

CLOTHING

ANTHROPOLOGIE, 799 Boylston St., 617-262-0545; 300 Boylston St., Chestnut Hill, 617-559-9995. Boylston: *Mon–Sat 10 a.m.–8 p.m., Sun noon–6 p.m.;* Chestnut Hill: *Mon–Sat 10 a.m.–9:30 p.m., Sun 11 a.m.–6 p.m.* With stores in more than 20 states and around the world, Anthropologie specializes in inspiring, upscale clothing, accessories and home decor with a vintage and global flair.

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.

KARMALOOP, 160 Newbury St., 617-369-0100. *Mon–Wed 10 a.m.–7 p.m., Thu–Sat 'til 8 p.m., Sun 11 a.m.–6 p.m.* Street style pairs with urban chic to create this trendy Newbury boutique. Karmaloop features fashions by Paul Frank, Puma, Triple 5 Soul and Soul Rebel as well as magazines and toys. The boutique also works to spread the word about street art and culture.

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.

PARLOR, 1248 Washington St., 617-521-9005. *Tue–Sat 1–7 p.m., Sun noon–5 p.m.* The South End boutique is a fashionista's paradise, featuring all the latest "it" jeans from designers such as Landlubber, as well as big names like Free People and Nicholas K.

PATAGONIA, 346 Newbury St., 617-424-1776. *Mon–Thu 10 a.m.–7 p.m., Fri & Sat 'til 8 p.m., Sun noon–6 p.m.* This outdoor apparel store sells a variety of clothing for all conditions. The Newbury Street store also regularly invites outdoorsmen to talk about their latest trips and experiences.

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.

DEPARTMENT STORES

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; 501 Boylston St., 617-859-3192. *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.–9:30 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.

EYEGLASS SALES & REPAIR

VISION HOUSE, 7 JFK St., Harvard Square, Cambridge, 617-661-3676. *Mon–Sat 10 a.m.–6 p.m., Sun 1–5 p.m.* Known for its stylish selection and superior service, Vision House has been a fixture in Harvard Square for more than 30 years. Its

Timeless Teas & L'Aroma Cafe
85 Newbury Street

Timeless Teas on the 2nd floor offers more than a hundred varieties of tea from all over the world:
- Green Tea from China and Japan
- Black and our most popular White Tea from Sri Lanka
- Yerba Mate from South America
- Large assortment of exotic flavored teas such as mango, rose, blueberry, pineapple and more!

L'Aroma Cafe on the 1st floor offers delicious Italian coffee and assorted teas. Try our tasty soups and sandwiches as well as our mouth-watering European pastries and desserts. Spacious indoor seating area for breakfast, lunch or enjoy our desserts. Outside seating April 1st~October 31st.

L'Aroma CAFE
www.laromacafe.com
L'Aroma
(617)412.4001

timeless teas
www.timelessteas.com
Timeless Teas
(617)236.5772

vast selection of eyewear includes such designers as Gucci, Dolce & Gabbana, Vera Wang, Burberry, Oliver Peoples, Oakley and Maui Jim. One-hour service is available, as well as an on-site optometrist for eye exams and contact lens fittings. Walk-in appointments are welcome.

FURNITURE & HOME GOODS

ADESSO, 200 Boylston St., 617-451-2212. *Mon–Sat 10 a.m.–6 p.m., Sun noon–5 p.m.* One of America's leading resources for beautiful furniture, lighting and accessories. Adesso imports a vast range of Europe's finest designer products—such as Ligne Roset, renowned for its beds, sofas and comfortable seating, and Alessi, known for stainless-steel teakettles and serving pieces.

CRATE & BARREL, 777 Boylston St., 617-262-8700. *Mon–Sat 10 a.m.–8 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.

RESIDE, 266 Concord Ave., Huron Village, Cambridge, 617-547-2929. *Thu–Fri 10 a.m.–8 p.m., Sat 10 a.m.–6 p.m., Sun noon–6 p.m.* Specializing in vintage, mid-20th century furniture and accessories, this eclectic store has quickly gained a following for its unique inventory of the best in European and American modern design.

RESTORATION HARDWARE, 711 Boylston St., 617-578-0088. *Mon–Sat 10 a.m.–8 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.

GIFTS & STATIONERY

BLACK INK, 101 Charles St., 617-723-3883; 5 Brattle St., Cambridge, 617-497-1221. *Mon–Sat 11 a.m.–7 p.m., Sun noon–6 p.m.* Trendy knick-knacks, from silk change purses to sensual candles to sushi-eating accessories, and nostalgic memorabilia, such as tin lunch boxes, can be found at this quirky, fun gift shop.

PAPER SOURCE, 388 Boylston St., 617-536-3444; 1361 Beacon St., Brookline, 617-264-2800; 1810 Massachusetts Ave., Cambridge, 617-497-1077. *Mon–Fri 10 a.m.–7 p.m., Sat 'til 6 p.m., Sun 11 a.m.–6 p.m.* Like its motto says, "Do something creative every day." For those with an excess of creative juices, this paper store offers a variety of papers from around the world and offers suggestions for using the paper as well as workshops.

GOURMET FOOD & BEVERAGE

CARDULLO'S GOURMET SHOPPE, 6 Brattle St., Harvard Square, Cambridge, 617-491-8888. *Mon–Fri 9 a.m.–8 p.m., Sat 'til 9 p.m., Sun 11 a.m.–7 p.m.* www.cardullos.com. Since opening in 1950, Cardullo's has offered the best gourmet products the world has to offer, including a deli featuring a wide variety of imported meats and specialty wines, chocolates, teas and other unique items that make Cardullo's a must-see stop in Harvard Square.

L.A. BURDICK'S, 52-D Brattle St., Harvard Square, 617-491-4340. Sun–Mon 8 a.m.-10 p.m., Tue–Sat 'til 11 p.m. Located in the center of bustling Harvard Square, this chocolate shop attracts both students and corporate executives with rich pastries like the chocolate mousse cake and fruit tarts, as well as its rich hot chocolate and assorted beverages.

TEALUXE, 108 Newbury St., 617-927-0400; 0 Brattle St., Cambridge, 617-441-0077. Newbury Street: *Mon–Thu 7:30 a.m.–10 p.m., Fri & Sat 8:30 a.m.–11 p.m., Sun 'til 10 p.m.* Cambridge: *Mon–Fri 8 a.m.–11 p.m., Sat 9 am–11 p.m., Sun 'til 10 p.m.* Frozen, iced, or hot, Tealuxe puts a new spin on the world's favorite drink. With more than 80 different kinds of tea, from chais to herbal infusions, there is something for everybody, including the Frozen Matcha—its original "green tea milkshake"—as well as frozen chai and bubble teas.

TIMELESS TEAS, 85 Newbury St., 2nd floor, 617-236-5772. *Mon–Sat 10 a.m.–6 p.m., Sun noon–6 p.m.* This Back Bay tea shop offers more than a hundred varieties of tea from around the world, including green, black, white and Yerba Mate teas, as well as gift baskets, biscuits, gourmet jams and tea accessories.

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."

SHREVE, CRUMP & LOW, 440 Boylston St., 617-267-9100. *Mon–Sat 10 a.m.–6 p.m., Thu 'til 7 p.m., Sun noon–5 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. *Mon–Sat 11 a.m.–6 p.m.*

Just Published!

The 2006-2007 Newbury Street Map & Directory

YOUR GUIDE TO BOSTON'S "WORLD ON A STREET!"

Available at Visitor Centers, Hotels and Attractions throughout Boston

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 Shoes. In addition, the Corner Mall features an international food court to please every palate, including Cafe La Brioche, Sakkio Japan and India Express.

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.–9 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 p.m., Fri & Sat 'til 11 p.m.; Sun 11 a.m.–7 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.

HELEN'S LEATHER: Designer Western-style boots in a variety of exotic animals skins are a specialty at this store on Charles Street in the Beacon Hill area. **Refer to listing, below.**

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. *Mon 10 a.m.–12:30 a.m., Tue–Thu 'til 11 p.m., Fri & Sat 'til midnight, Sun 11 a.m–11 p.m.* 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–Fri 9:30 a.m.–7 p.m., Sat 'til 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

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 'til 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.

BILL RODGERS RUNNING CENTER, 353 North Market Bldg., Faneuil Hall Marketplace, 617-723-5612. *Mon–Sat 10 a.m.–9 p.m., Sun noon–6 p.m.* Owned by the four-time Boston Marathon winner, the Bill Rodgers Running Center boasts the most experienced running staff in Boston. Since 1977, they have been helping fellow runners to find the best shoes for them.

THE BOSTON RUNNING COMPANY, 121 Charles St., 617-723-2786. *Mon & Wed–Fri 11 a.m.–7 p.m., Tue 'til 3 p.m., Sat & Sun 11 a.m.–5 p.m.* www.bostonrunningcompany.com. Owned and operated by Mike Roche, 1976 U.S. Olympian, the BRC provides the most professional and thorough evaluation and fitting for runners and walkers of all abilities. Asics, Brooks, Saucony, Mizuno, Adidas, shoes, apparel and accessories available, as well as in-store Video-Gait Analysis.

MARATHON SPORTS, 671 Boylston St., 617-267-4774; 1638 Beacon St., Brookline, 617-735-9373; 1654 Massachusetts Ave., Cambridge, 617-354-4161; 255 Washington St., Wellesley, 781-237-0771; 134 Washington St., Norwell, 781-871-2979. *Mon–Fri 10:30 a.m.–7 p.m., ('til 7:30 in Boston), Sat 10 a.m.–6 p.m., Sun noon–6 p.m.* For more than 29 years, Marathon Sports has provided experience and knowledge in footwear solutions for walkers, runners and those in search of an active lifestyle with the widest selection of apparel, footwear and accessories.

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.

SPORTS MEMORABILIA

FENWAY SPORTSZONE, 306 Newbury St., 617-437-1010. *Open daily 11 a.m.–7 p.m., with extended hours on game days.* Boasting "The most balls in Boston," Fenway Sportszone is Boston's largest memorabilia shop, featuring the city's biggest selection of autographed items. They also have all your fan gear and souvenir needs as well as a huge selection of apparel from Majestic, Moonlight Graham, Homegirls, Sully's T's, and more. ***SEE LOCATOR #4 ON CENTER MAP.***

COWBOY BOOTS
MEN • WOMEN • CHILDREN
Boots • Lucchese • Justin • Nocona
Tony Lama • Dan Post • Frye • Liberty
STETSON HATS
Shirts • Belts • Buckles • Bolo Ties
HELEN'S LEATHER
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617.742.2077

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On Site for Your Wedding Day

RESTAURANTS

SMITH & WOLLENSKY: The legendary steakhouse, whose Boston outpost is situated at the striking, historic Park Plaza Castle, offers fine dry-aged steaks and fresh seafood. **Refer to listing, page 67.**

ALLSTON/BRIGHTON

BIG CITY RESTAURANT, 138 Brighton Ave., Allston, 617-782-2020. In this renovated, two-floor bank building, you'll find one-of-a-kind "retro-metro" decor featuring life-size murals, as well as 20 champion-size pool tables, 80 beers on tap and 12 wines by the glass. L, D, LS, Sat & SB. $

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 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. $$$

BARLOLA, 160 Commonwealth Ave., 617-266-1122. This Spanish newcomer ensures authenticity with not only prime ingredients imported directly from Spain, but also a culinary staff of either Spanish origin or Spanish/Latin descent. The tapas bar also offers an array of wines and specialty drinks to accompany the tapas frias and calientes. D, Sat & SB, C. $

BONFIRE STEAKHOUSE, 64 Arlington St., Park Plaza Hotel, 617-262-3473. This Todd English culinary triumph is an American steakhouse with European influences, boasting a delectable menu that spans all the regions of the world. A firewall is the main focus of the dining room, running along the back wall where the cooking becomes entertainment. D, C, LS. $$$$

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.–5:30 p.m.; D Sun–Thu 'til 10 p.m., Fri & Sat 'til 11 p.m.; Sat & SB 11 a.m.–2:30 p.m. C, LS, VP. www.cottonwoodboston.com. $$

DAVIO'S NORTHERN ITALIAN STEAKHOUSE, 75 Arlington St., 617-357-4810. Enjoy fine steaks, pasta and seafood, or lighter fare in the spacious bar. L Mon–Fri 11:30 a.m.–3 p.m.; D Sun–Tue

KEY		AVERAGE PRICE OF DINNER ENTREES	
B	Breakfast	**$**	Most less than $12
L	Lunch	**$$**	$12–18
D	Dinner	**$$$**	$19–25
BR	Brunch	**$$$$**	Most more than $25
SB	Sunday Brunch	*Many restaurants offer a wide range of entrees and prices; therefore, the classifications are only approximations.*	
C	Cocktails		
LS	Late Supper (serving after 10 p.m.)		
VP	Valet Parking		
NC	Credit Cards Not Accepted		
*	Entertainment		

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1

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2

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Smith & Wollensky
The Castle at Columbus & Arlington
617-423-1112

3

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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. $$$$

FINALE, One Columbus Ave., 617-423-3184; 30 Dunster St., Harvard Sq., Cambridge, 617-441-9797. One of the only dessert restaurants in America, Finale features items like the caramel carnivale and the "molten chocolate cake." Chef Nicole Coady's menu is complemented by a drink menu of ports, champagnes, cordials and "Finale Favorites." A light dinner menu is available. L & D. $$

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. $$$

***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: Sun–Wed 11:30 a.m.–10 p.m., Thu–Sat 'til 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 #7 ON CENTER MAP.***

L'AROMA CAFE, 85 Newbury St., 617-412-4001. This Italian cafe offers delicious soups, sandwiches and European pastries and desserts, as well as Italian coffee and assorted teas. Relax in its spacious interior or enjoy outdoor patio dining from April through October. B, L. $

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 out for a romantic evening. 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. $$

SMITH & WOLLENSKY, The Castle at Columbus & Arlington, 617-423-1112. Located in a spectacular setting where chef Tindaro Losurdo creates outstanding steakhouse fare, this legendary restaurant features USDA Prime dry aged steaks. The meticulously restored former armory, known simply as "The Castle," is accented by seven working fireplaces and dining rooms that span four floors to blend fun and formality. D, C. $$$$

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, creative takes on classic American cuisine and a colorful dining room. The restaurant's newest attraction is their downstairs candlelit wine bar, an intimate and lovely brick-walled spot in which to enjoy items from a 250-bottle menu. 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. $$$

***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 features seven-

foot-high French windows, swooping Hollywood banquettes, mahogany paneling and cobalt blue tile. Private dining rooms accommodate 10–140 guests. VP available on Dartmouth Street. B, L, D, C, LS. $$$

VIA MATTA, 79 Park Plaza, 617-422-0008. Radius owners Michael Schlow and Christopher Myers helm this Italian-style trattoria, named in 2002 as one of "America's Best New Restaurants" by *Esquire* and "One of America's Best Restaurants" by *Gourmet.* L, D, VP. $$$$

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 #6 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

BEN & JERRY'S, 20 Park Plaza, Ste. 14, 617-426-0890; 174 Newbury St., 617-536-5456; 36 JFK St., Cambridge, 617-864-2828. The Vermont-based premium ice cream purveyors offer such favorites as Chunky Monkey, Phish Food, Cherry Garcia and New York Super Fudge Chunk, as well as cookies, brownies and waffle cones lovingly baked each day in-house. Refreshing, fat-free fruit slushies are also available. $

DOLPHIN SEAFOOD, 1105 Mass Ave., Cambridge, 617-661-2937; 12 Washington St., Natick, 508-655-0669. These family-owned restaurants offer seafood hand-picked every morning from the Boston piers. Complement your dish with the famous "Dolphintini" cocktail. L & D Mon–Fri 11:30 a.m.–10 p.m. www.dolphinseafood.com. $$

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–Fri noon–3 p.m.; D daily 5:30–10 p.m. $

OM, 92 Winthrop St., Cambridge, 617-575-2800. Acclaimed chef Rachel Klein serves New American cuisine in a beautifully lit and stunning upstairs dining room, while mixologist Clif Travers prepares his signature Aromatherapy concoctions at the popular Om ultra-lounge downstairs. Om's signature creations include Steak & Eggs and Zen Te'. D, C. $$$

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 menu items such as pomegranate glazed skate with cauliflower, brown butter, sesame seeds and mint. D only. Reservations recommended. $$$$

RENDEZVOUS, 502 Massachusetts Ave., Central Square, Cambridge, 617-576-1900. Renowned Boston chef Steve Johnson uses regional products and the spices of Northern Africa, Italy, France and Spain to create his own twist on seasonal cuisine. Rotating entrees can include grilled Portuguese sardines with roasted peppers, fennel and capers or Moroccan style kofte with minted yogurt. D. $$

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 unparal-

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leled king of his endeavors. Sample English's multi-layered, ingredient rich, pan-Mediterranean creations. D. $$$$

CHINATOWN

CHAU CHOW CITY, 83 Essex St., Chinatown, 617-338-8158; 52 Beach St., Chinatown, 617-426-6266. The Chau Chow offers authentic Swatowese seafood dishes, such as clams in black bean sauce and lobster or crab with ginger and scallion. Superb service, and the daily dim sum attracts those with adventurous palates. Also great for an after-midnight meal. L, D, LS.$$

GINZA, 16 Hudson St., Chinatown, 617-338-2261; 1002 Beacon St., Brookline, 617-566-9688. This restaurant is a favorite of many sushi-loving Bostonians. Dine on the freshest raw fish and tempura with specialties like the Ginza Surprise, boasting a selection of exotic sushi rolls and sashimi. L, D, LS.$$$

NEW SHANGHAI RESTAURANT, 21 Hudson St., Chinatown, 617-338-6688. Specializing in Shanghai and Cantonese cuisine, this much-lauded Chinatown destination features a menu chock full of Chinese favorites, such as General Gau's chicken and Peking duck, as well as delectable seafood dishes, like the crispy whole fish and scallops with black peppercorn glaze. L, D, LS.$$

DOWNTOWN

AVENUE ONE, Hyatt Regency (near The Opera House and Downtown Crossing), 1 Ave. de Lafayette, 617-422-5579. Enjoy Boston's most extensive fondue menu in a relaxed atmosphere. B, L, D, C, VP. $$

***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. $$

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 Tue–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. Kennedy's offers all the comforts of a traditional pub, featuring prime aged steaks, seafood and classic pub fare 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. $$

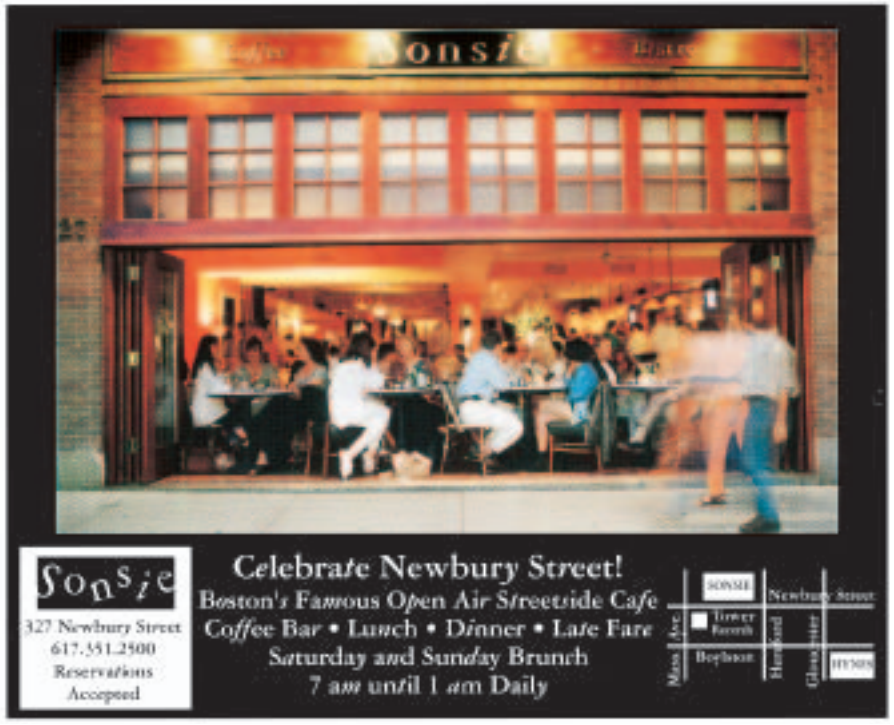
LOCKE-OBER, 3 Winter Place, 617-542-1340. Helmed by local culinary innovator Lydia Shire (Biba, Excelsior), this downtown landmark has been refurbished and restored to its former glory. The menu of this Boston Brahmin bastion has been updated, but Shire has kept many of its classics, including the steak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

RUTH'S CHRIS STEAKHOUSE, 45 School St., 617-742-8401. Housed in Boston's Old City Hall, Ruth's Chris Steakhouse offers the finest USDA prime steaks served sizzling hot, as well as fresh seafood and an award-winning wine list, all in a gracious environment with warm hospitality. L, D, C. $$$$

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. $$$$

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.unionoyster house.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. $$$

FANEUIL HALL

DICK'S LAST RESORT,** Quincy Market, Faneuil Hall Marketplace, 617-267-8080. Watch for the outrageous antics of Dick's sassy staff as they serve up buckets of sloppy ribs, succulent crab and shrimp, juicy steaks and chicken, two-fisted sandwiches, burgers and salads. If that isn't entertaining enough, there's live music every night with no cover. L, D, C. www.dickslastresort.com. $$. ***SEE LOCATOR #2 ON CENTER MAP.

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. $$$

EASTERN STANDARD, Hotel Commonwealth, 528 Commonwealth Ave., 617-532-9100. This brasserie in the heart of Kenmore Square resembles an old hotel dining room with its decor, but the restaurant attracts a diverse crowd, from businessmen to Red Sox fans seeking a pre-game bite. Its menu caters to both crowds, with offerings ranging from the Good Plate of Offal to veal shank to sandwiches. B, L, D. $$

THE GARDNER CAFÉ, Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, 280 The Fenway, 617-566-1401. Chef Peter Crowley offers casual-yet-elegant, French-infused fare with an artistic twist. The seasonal menu changes every few weeks, often inspired by current events at the museum as well as Mrs. Gardner's own recipe books. Warmer weather allows seating amongst the lush vegetation of the museum's Monks Garden. L, SB. $$

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 #5 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 #8 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 #9 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. $

SOMERVILLE

DALI, 415 Washington St. , Somerville, 617-661-3254. Authentic Spanish tapas are perfect for sharing, and with at least 40 offerings on the menu it's easy to find something for every taste—be it garlic potatoes, pork sausage with figs, roast duckling with berry sauce and saffron-battered shrimp. Entrees are also served, and it all can be washed down with a pitcher of sangria and the ubiquitous flan. D. $$

ANTONIO'S
CUCINA ITALIANA
288 Cambridge Street Boston (617) 367-3310
(Across from Mass. General Hospital on historic Beacon Hill)

SHALL WE DINE?

Julien

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www.langhamhotels.com

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Café Fleuri

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

TU Y YO, 858 Broadway, Somerville, 617-623-5411. This home-style Mexican eatery just outside Davis Square offers dishes made from family recipes that go back more than 100 years. From homemade salsas to meat sauces, each item is freshly made, lending an unparalleled authenticity to everything from the quesadillas to the pulpo pichirilo (octopus in red wine vinaigrette). D. $$

***REDBONES,** 55 Chester St., Davis Square, Somerville, 617-628-2200. Not only does this low-scale BBQ joint offer authentic Southern cooking like fried okra, Louisiana catfish and several styles of slow-cooked ribs, it also has approximately 20 different microbrews and plays host to a variety of beer fests and eclectic musical performers. L, D. $

SOUTH BOSTON WATERFRONT

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 performances by talented local jazz musicians which accent 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 or the roast chicken with garlic, lemon and parsley. Long regarded as one of the city's top tables. D. $$$$

TORO, 1704 Washington St., 617-536-4400. Chef Ken Oringer's latest restaurant aims for a highly social dining experience. The seating is a series of communal tables and the small, perfect-for-sharing tapas dishes—such as salt cod fritters, rainbow beet salad and salty fried chili peppers—blend a variety of vibrant styles and flavors. D, C. $$$

***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. $$

UNION BAR AND GRILLE, 1357 Washington St., 617-423-0555. This sleek, upscale American bistro in the SoWa District, features everything from gourmet comfort food like the Reuben sandwich and a beef-and-sausage burger to the award-winning $10K tuna in a roasted tomato vinaigrette. D, C, LS, SB. $$$

THEATRE DISTRICT

AVILA MODERN MEDITERRANEAN, One Charles Street South, 617-267-4810. Enjoy flavors of Spain, Portugal, France, Italy and Greece with a modern flair. The menu includes small plates of cod fritters, fried cheese and chicken livers, appetizers of tuna ceviche, onion soup and watercress salad, as well as the finest quality all natural beef and fresh seafood entrees, with breads, desserts and ice creams made fresh daily. L, D, C. $$$

***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 Theatre 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. $$. ***SEE LOCATOR #10 ON CENTER MAP.***

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 Theatre 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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FOUR SEASONS HOTEL
Boston

Boston's Tables

Your guide to dining out in the Hub

PHOTO BY CLYDE BAXTER PHOTOGRAPHY

ON THE MENU

STARTERS

Fried Tomatoes & Polenta
Eggplant and Boursin timbale
Baked Clams Venezia
Frog Legs Provencale

MAIN COURSE

Escalope of Turkey, layered with Mushrooms & Fontina in a Rose & butter reduction ♦ Filet of Sole, lightly egg dipped, quick fried in olive oil with Corn and Cucumber, splashed with Lemon and Chablis ♦ Venison au Poivre, sliced from the leg, dredged in crushed Black Pepper, sauteed with Burgundy, Cognac and Sour Cream ♦ Coquille St. Jacques: Scallops baked in a Potato bordered shell with Vermouth and Cream ♦ Canard Montmorency: Duck breast pan seared with Shallots, deglazed with dried Cherries in Port ♦ Medallions Diane: Tenderloins of Beef sauteed with Scallions and Mustard, sauced with Sherry

THE HUNGRY I

71½ Charles St.
617-227-3524
Open for lunch Thu & Fri noon–2 p.m.;
dinner daily 5:30–9:30 p.m.;
Sun brunch 11 a.m.–2 p.m.

Nestled on historic Beacon Hill, The Hungry i has often been called the most romantic restaurant in the city. With its French-influenced menu—changed seasonally by chef/owner Peter Ballarin—as well as its cozy, candlelit interior, three working fireplaces and lush outdoor patio for fair weather days, it's easy to see why.

The menu is small but varied, offering a mix of local ingredients flavored with various ethnic accents. Hungry i's most popular entree has to be the venison au poivre noir. Succulent slices of meat are coated in black pepper and served with a red wine reduction sauce enriched with sour cream. But beef is handled with equal aplomb, and top-notch seafood options are also available.

Because the atmosphere is so ideal, plan to linger over dessert and a good, strong cup of coffee. It's the best way to end a romantic evening in Boston's most European neighborhood.

ON THE MENU

RAW BAR
Crab, Avocado and Mango Stack ♦ Seared Peppered Ahi Tuna ♦ Shrimp Cocktail

APPETIZERS
Coconut Crunchy Shrimp ♦ Lobster Spring Rolls ♦ Jumbo Lump Crab Cake

SEAFOOD
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

PRIME RIB & STEAKS
Prime Rib ♦ Filet Mignon ♦ New York Strip ♦ Tenderloin Medallions

DESSERT
Hot Chocolate Lava Cake
Raspberry Crème Brulée

CHART HOUSE

60 Long Wharf • 617-227-1576
chart-house.com

Let Chart House take you to a place where time stands still, the historic Hancock Counting House. This Boston landmark once housed the offices of John Hancock, an American Patriot. Experience their million-dollar renovations while savoring a seamless blend of high quality seafood and steaks—including whole, steamed lobster, cracked for you right at your table, and prime rib rubbed with aromatic herbs and spices and slow roasted to succulent perfection.

ON THE MENU

APPETIZERS
Boneless Buffalo Tenders ♦ Scallops & Bacon ♦ Clam Chowder

STERLING® BEEF
Bourbon Street Sirloin ♦ Montreal Steak® ♦ "Hand-Cut" Filet Mignon ♦ Shepherds Pie

FRESH FISH
Fish & Chips ♦ Honey Bourbon Salmon ♦ Baked Seafood Casserole

PASTA & POULTRY
Chicken, Broccoli & Ziti ♦ Lobster Ravioli ♦ Classic Chicken Marsala

SANDWICHES
Kennedy's Sirloin Burger ♦ Mushroom Swiss Burger ♦ Dublin Chicken Sandwich ♦ Kennedy's Club

PHOTO BY BRETT SAIA

KENNEDY'S MIDTOWN

42 Province St. • 617-426-3333
www.kennedysmidtown.com

Warm and enchanting, Kennedy's Irish Pub & Steak House offers all the comforts of a traditional pub with a touch of class. Old World-style dining rooms accented with historic photos and soft candlelight provide a classic setting, while the mahogany bar offers a relaxed experience. An upbeat piano bar is featured select nights and during brunch. Just steps from Boston Common, theaters and shopping, Kennedy's is a welcome respite for all.

ON THE MENU

ANTIPASTI
Fagottini ai Funghi di Bosco: Puff pastry stuffed with wild mushrooms and fontina cheese in a marsala sauce ♦ Capesante a Forno: Roasted scallops in a red pepper sauce with basil oil

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

DAVIDE

326 Commercial St., North End • 617-227-5745
www.daviderestaurant.com

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.

ON THE MENU

APPETIZERS
Salt and Pepper Soft Shell Crab
Jin's BBQ Spare Ribs

SUSHI
Crispy Tuna Spider Roll

NOODLES
Singapore Street Noodles

ENTREES
Filet of Salmon with Ginger or Lemon
Cantonese Roasted Duck
Green Thai Curry with Coconut Milk
Korean Style Grilled Beef Short Ribs

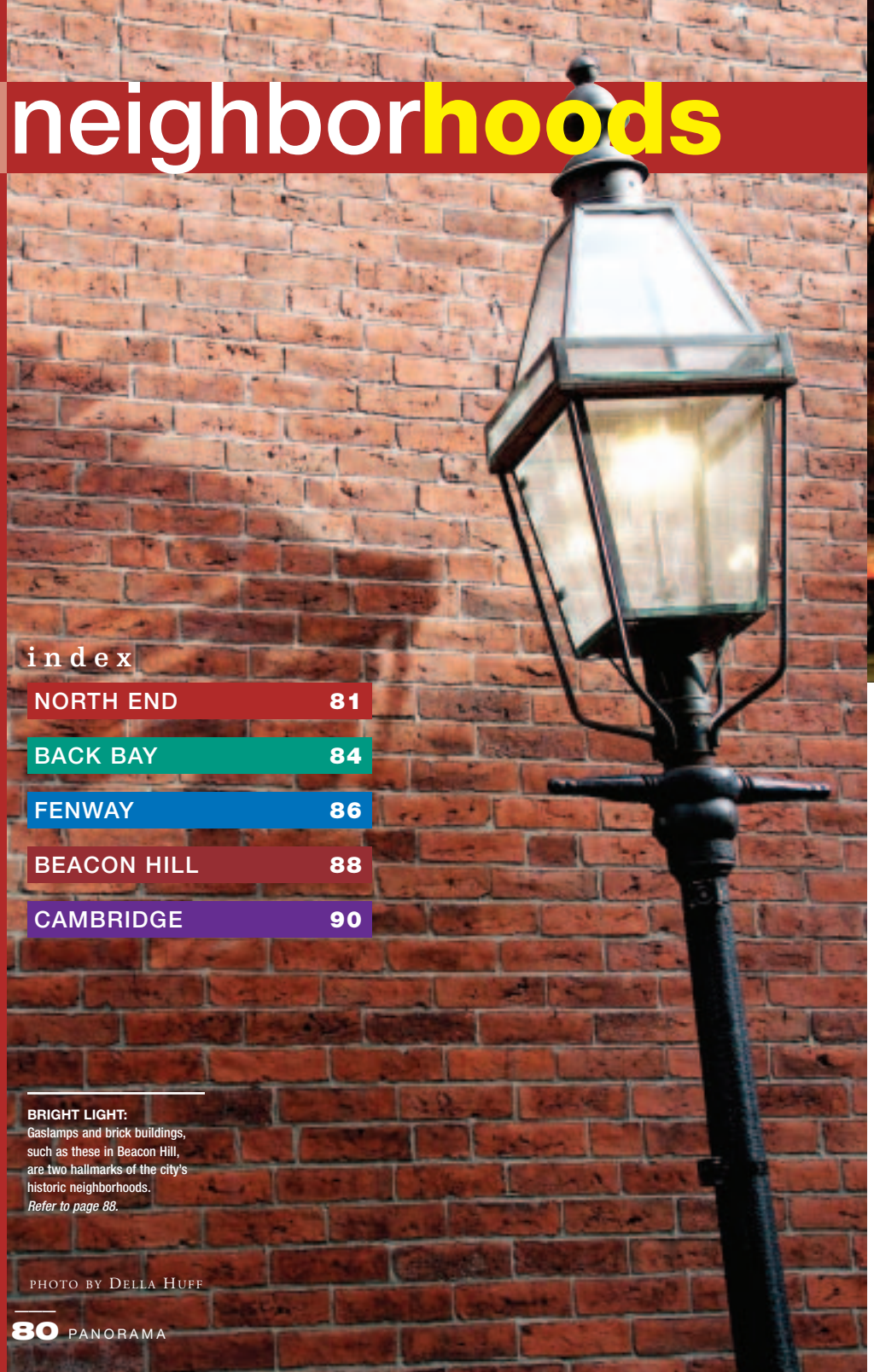
DESSERT
Great Wall of Chocolate Mousse Cake
Ginger Ice Cream

JIN RESTAURANT

Route 1 North, 20 Frank P. Bennett Hwy., Saugus
781-231-8888

This unique destination located high atop a hill along Route 1 in Saugus was designed after a Beijing palace to enhance your authentic Asian cuisine experience. Jin features four function rooms, pan-Asian cuisine and New England's largest buffet, as well as a full liquor license, entertainment and comedy shows.

neighborhoods



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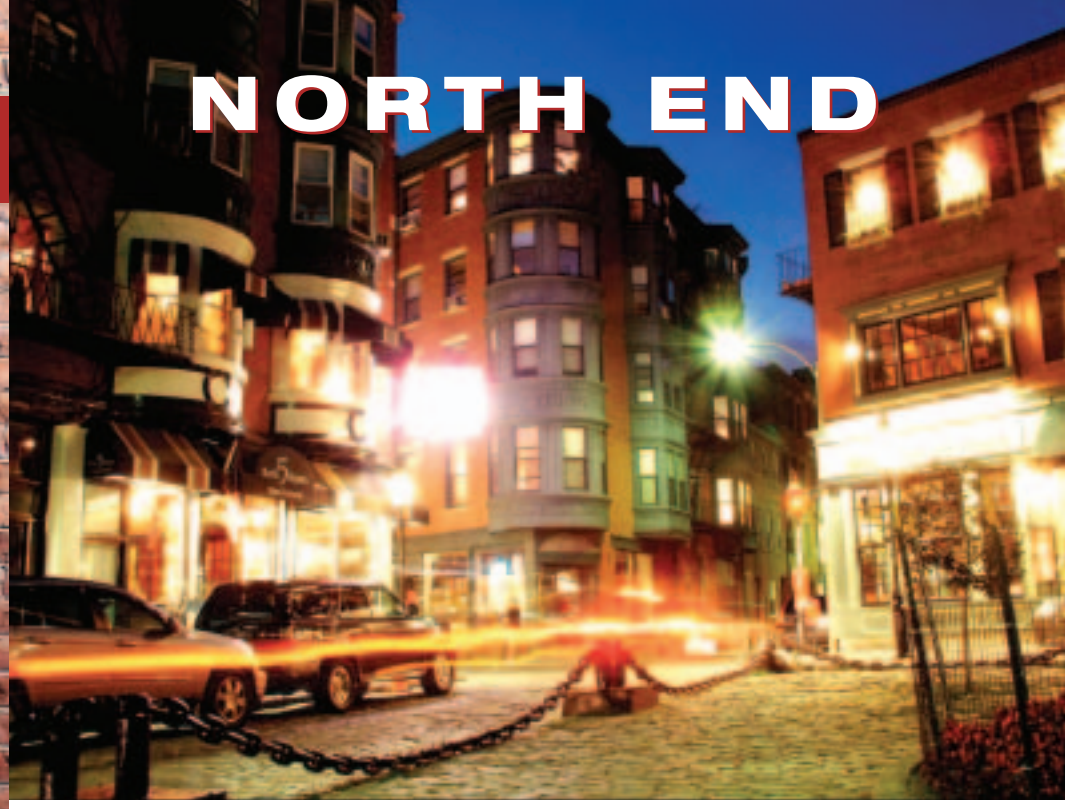
CAMBRIDGE 90

BRIGHT LIGHT: Gaslamps and brick buildings, such as these in Beacon Hill, are two hallmarks of the city's historic neighborhoods. *Refer to page 88.*

PHOTO BY DELLA HUFF

NORTH END



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.

ABOVE PHOTO BY DELLA HUFF

Old World Charm

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 owned 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, is Boston's oldest standing church (built in 1723) and 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 82 >>

MASSIMINO'S
CUCINA • ITALIANA
207 ENDICOTT STREET • BOSTON • 617 . 523. 5959
www.massiminosboston.com

mamma maria

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By far the best restaurant in the North End, Mamma Maria might be the best in town."
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three north square, boston (617) 523-0077
www.mammamaria.com

<< cont. from page 81

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.

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. Ⓟ

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

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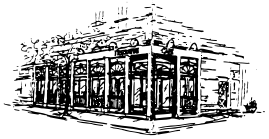

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grilled shrimp, housemade
lobster ravioli and Certified
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333 HANOVER ST., BOSTON
617.227.1777
www.florentinecafeboston.com

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.

NIGHT LIGHTS: The picturesque Back Bay skyline, appointed by the Hancock and Prudential towers, glitters after sunset.

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 and Chanel get your heart racing, then this is the place for you.

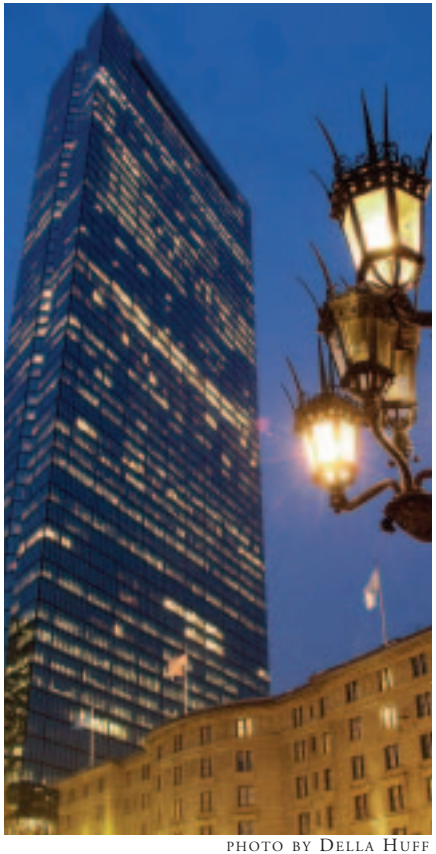


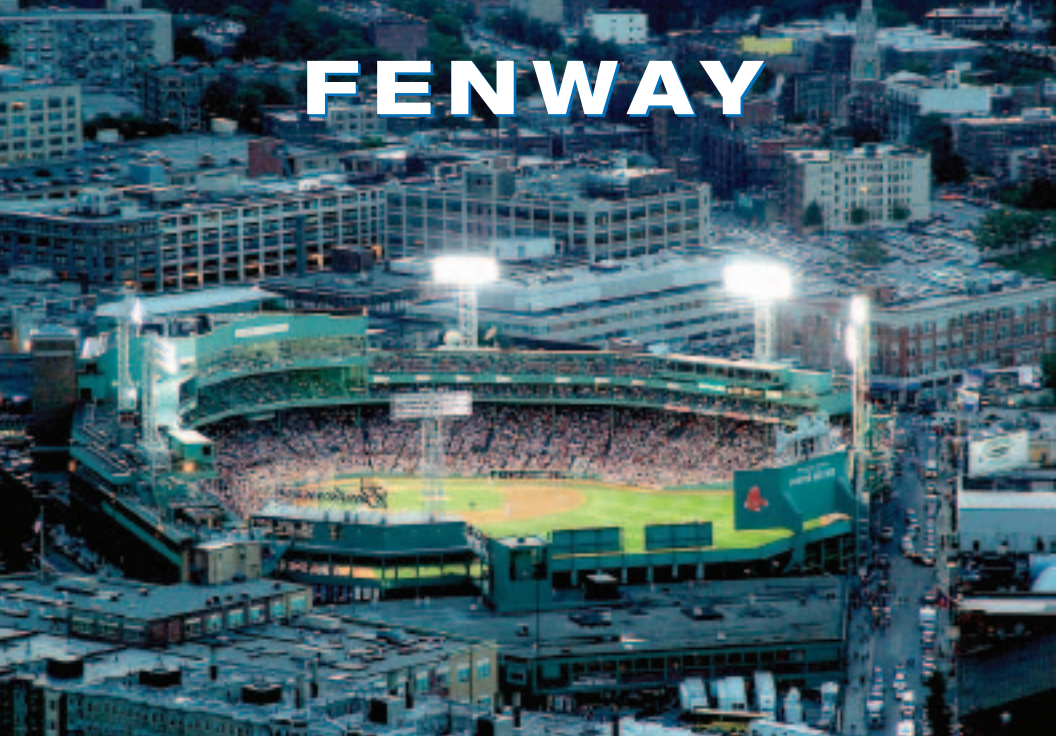
PHOTO BY DELLA HUFF

OLD AND NEW: Copley Square is home to some of the most prominent architectural landmarks in the city, including the striking Hancock Tower (above).

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 and Stephanie's on Newbury, great for outdoor dining.

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. Ⓟ

FENWAY



Fen-tastic

Perhaps no neighborhood in Boston combines as many disparate resources for its residents as The Fenway. Named for the Fens—the green parkland that winds its way through the neighborhood—the area combines the natural splendor of The Emerald Necklace with a heavy concentration of culture, education and recreation.

Two segments of the population are most often found in the Fenway: college students and Red Sox fans. With a large number of Boston's institutions of higher learning massed in or near the Fenway—including Northeastern University, Simmons College, Boston University, Wentworth Institute of Technology, Wheelock College and Emmanuel College—it's quite common to find yourself negotiating crowds of backpack-wearing students on their way to class during the daytime. And once darkness falls, those same youngsters are out in force to explore the Fenway's vital club scene—particularly on Lansdowne Street, which offers revelers everything from dance and music clubs to billiards and bowling.

Then of course, there's Fenway Park. Opened in 1912, it is the nation's oldest active Major League Baseball park, and it draws millions of people every year to cram into small seats, marvel at the 37-foot high wall in left field, (affectionately dubbed "the Green Monster") and share in the mystique of one of baseball's most enduring franchises.

PLAY BALL: Historic Fenway Park, built in 1912, serves as the home to the beloved Boston Red Sox and is surrounded by a multitude of sports bars and restaurants.

Kenmore Square itself is undergoing a renaissance of sorts today, with new shops, hotels and restaurants having replaced the raunchy, rock 'n' roll atmosphere of landmarks from past decades like the Kenmore Square Movie House and punk rock club The Rathskellar. Now the neighborhood is moving upscale with the presence of the glamorous Hotel Commonwealth and restaurants like Great Bay and Eastern Standard.

The roar of the crowd at Red Sox games hasn't overshadowed The Fenway's status as Boston's cultural mecca. The world-renowned Museum of Fine Arts on Huntington Avenue is the city's premier destination for viewing works of art from some of the most famous artists of all time. The Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum displays the lifelong artistic passions and collections of its namesake philanthropist in a beautiful building complete with central courtyard. And classical music lovers take abundant delight in the numerous performing ensembles, including The Boston Conservatory, New England Conservatory and most prominently, The Boston Symphony Orchestra and its performance venue, Symphony Hall. Ⓟ

ABOVE PHOTO BY DELLA HUFF

LET THE RIVER ROLL: The Fens, designed by Frederick Law Olmstead and part of his famed Emerald Necklace, follows the path of the Muddy River.

IT'S ALL UPHILL: Beacon Street near the intersection with Charles Street runs uphill along Boston Common towards the State House.

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. Ⓟ

SEAT OF POWER: The State House atop Beacon Hill is the legislative heart of Massachusetts.

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CAMBRIDGE

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. 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 The Cantab Lounge.

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.

HIGHER LEARNING: The Massachusetts Institute of Technology is not only one of the area's most prestigious schools, it is also home to some very striking architecture.

Inman Square

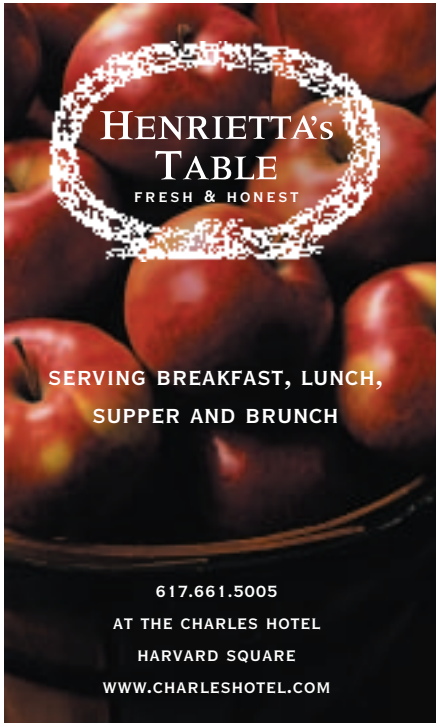
Just north of Central Square, the quieter, more residential Inman Square prides itself on its hometown sensibility, with a diverse working-class population, many of whom speak Portuguese. No elitism here: the area's only monument is the Cambridge Fireman's Mural. It is a place where food brings people 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 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. Ⓟ



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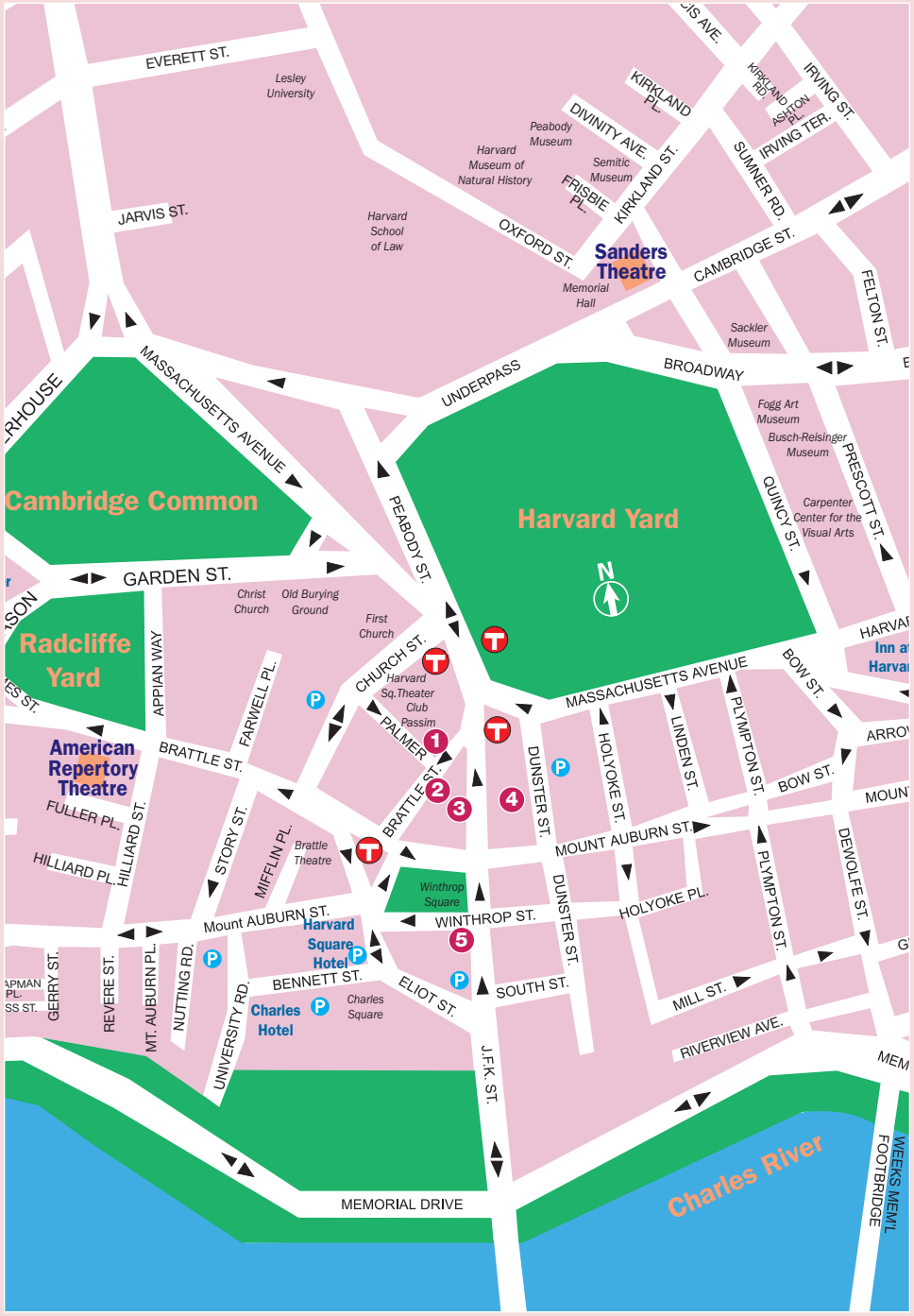

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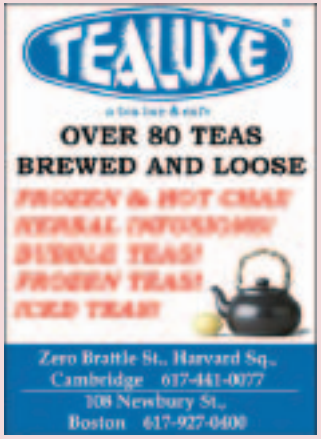

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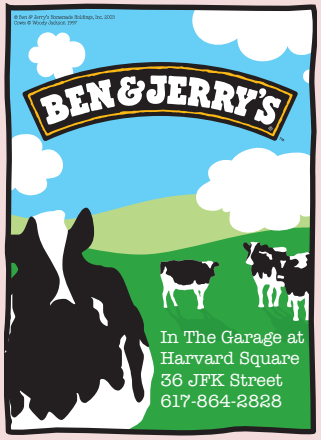

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To find out more about shopping and dining in Harvard Square please visit:

www.HarvardSquare.com

5 questions with...

Jodi Picoult by Josh B. Wardrop

Since 1992, New Hampshire author Jodi Picoult has produced 13 acclaimed and best-selling novels, including *Salem Falls, Vanishing Acts* and her latest, *The Tenth Circle*. On **June 1**, she'll be signing copies of her books at Barnes & Noble as part of The Shops at Prudential Center's "Summer Style" event. *Refer to listing, page 10.*

Q: What overriding themes do you come back to again and again in your books?
A: Two things: The idea that we never really know people as well as we think we do, and the question of how far would you go for someone you love.

Q: You're in Boston for what's described as a "girls night out" shopping event. Are you a shopaholic?
A: Put it this way—when I'm in Boston, I choose hotels within spitting distance of Filene's Basement! And I'm big on Girls' Nights Out—I'm even bringing a few girlfriends on this trip!

Q: Do you look forward to these opportunities to meet fans?
A: I think meeting fans is vital for any author. You give your stories to these people, and then when you meet them, they give back their stories…of how your books affect them. That's so important.

Q: As a Harvard grad and N.H. resident, you're no stranger to Boston. What do you most like to do when you come here?
A: Get dim sum in Chinatown. Take the kids to Quincy Market in Faneuil Hall. And, Newburyport makes a great daytime excursion, as does visiting Lexington and Concord to see the Revolutionary [War] history.

Q: What's next on your plate, professionally?
A: I'm doing final edits on next year's book, *Nineteen Minutes*—the story of a school shooting in a small New England town. And I'm also about a hundred pages into the book after that. I never stop, really! Ⓟ

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Left: Edgar Degas, ***Dancers in Rose***, (detail), about 1900. Pastel on paper. Museum of Fine Arts, Boston. Seth K. Sweetser Fund.
Right: Pablo Picasso, ***Woman at the Window***, 1952. Sugar-lift aquatint. Gift of Mrs. Frederick B. Deknatel in memory of Frederick B. Deknatel. © 2006 Estate of Pablo Picasso/Artists Rights Society (ARS), New York.