

New Bedford Police, Animal Control have a blast at Brooks Elementary School career fair

“SROs Reedy, Chevalier, Demello, and Rosie the comfort dog attended E. C. Brooks Elementary School’s career fair Friday along with New Bedford Animal Control.

They met with a diverse group of students who were enthusiastic to learn about their career paths and asked thoughtful questions.

We even met some future NBPD officers ♀♂”-City of New Bedford Police Department.

All photos by the City of New Bedford Police Department:



Southcoast Health, community partners awarded \$20,000 for stroke education across the region

"FALL RIVER and NEW BEDFORD, Mass. – Southcoast Health partnered with the City of Fall River Emergency Medical Services and the City of New Bedford Emergency Medical Services to host pop-up health events and promote stroke education across the South Coast region.

Throughout the month of May, which is nationally recognized as Stroke Awareness Month, these events and regional educational media promotion were made possible thanks to a \$20,000 grant awarded to this group from the Massachusetts Department of Public Health and Borderland Partners.

A stroke is a serious medical condition that requires emergency care. According to the CDC, every 40 seconds someone in the United States has a stroke, totaling to more than 795,000 people across the country annually. Strokes are also the leading cause of serious long-term disability nationally.



Southcoast Health photo.

“Stroke education is imperative to the health of our community. About 80 percent of strokes can be prevented by modifying risk factors such as hypertension, diabetes, smoking and alcohol intake and prioritizing exercise and a healthy diet,” said Daniel Sacchetti, DO, Stroke Director at Southcoast Health. “We are so thankful for the support of the Massachusetts Department of Public Health and Borderland Partners, as well as our community partners, to make our Stroke Awareness Collaboration Program a success.”

The grant awarded supports a multi-platform community engagement program to increase stroke education, awareness and screening. Positioning the pop-up screening events across the region, the health fairs strived to meet community members where they are, including those with language barriers in underserved neighborhoods.

Southcoast Health has implemented best practice workflows with emergency medical services and neighboring health systems to coordinate timely noninvasive and invasive stroke services.

All three Southcoast Hospitals received national recognition for the exceptional stroke care they provide to our community this year.

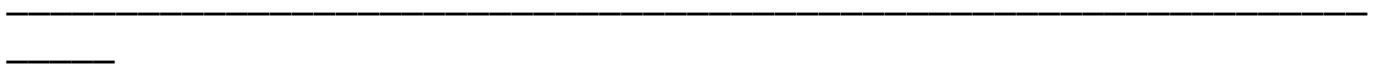


Southcoast Health photo.

Knowing the key signs and symptoms of a stroke and calling 911 immediately can save a life and help prevent disability. The F.A.S.T. acronym is an easy way to remember both.

- **Face:** Does the face look uneven? Ask the person to smile
- **Arm:** Does one arm drift down? Ask the person to raise both arms
- **Speech:** Does the speech sound strange? Ask the person to repeat a phrase
- **Time:** If you observe these symptoms, call 911

To learn more about Stroke Care at Southcoast Health, please visit [Stroke Care Services MA | Southcoast Health](#)



About Southcoast Health

Founded in 1996, Southcoast Health serves communities across southeastern Massachusetts and Rhode Island as the largest provider of primary and specialty care in the region. The not-for-profit, charitable system includes three acute care hospitals – Charlton Memorial in Fall River, St. Luke's in New Bedford (a Level II Trauma Center), and Tobey in Wareham, Massachusetts with a physician network of more than 675 providers.



Southcoast Health photo.

The system has established more than 55 service locations across the South Coast of Massachusetts and Rhode Island, including six urgent care locations, a Visiting Nurse Association, the Southcoast Health Cancer Center, the region's only Level II Adult Trauma Center, and numerous ancillary facilities.

Southcoast Health has been recognized consecutively for six years in a row by Newsweek as a World's Best Hospital from 2019-2024 and named a Maternity Care Access Hospital for 2023-2024 by U.S. News & World Report. The organization was recognized as the best place to work for the sixth consecutive year by Southcoast Media Group's community choice awards.

With upward of 7,500 employees, Southcoast Health is the largest employer in southeastern Massachusetts, and one of the largest employers in the Commonwealth, according to the Boston Business Journal. More information is available online at www.southcoast.org.”

[VIDEO] Multi-car accident causes massive, raging fire inside a ramp of Boston's Ted Williams Tunnel

“At approximately 4:00pm on Friday, Boston Police and Fire Departments received multiple 911 calls about a multi-car crash in the Ted William's Tunnel in Boston.

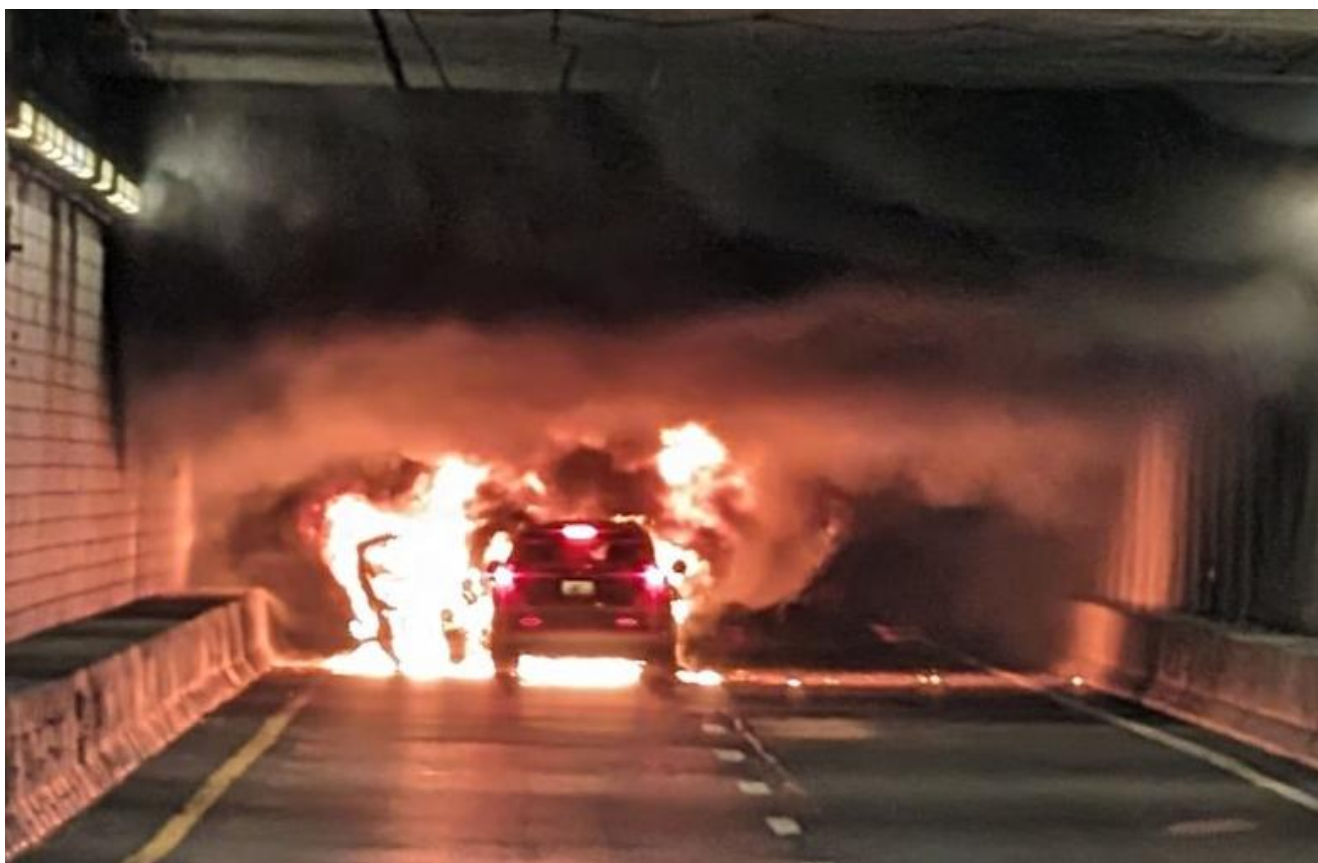
Upon arrival, first-responders found multiple damaged cars fully engulfed in flames.

“Exceptional work by Local 718 Firefighters under extreme conditions. The value of a well-trained and properly-staffed professional Fire Department cannot be understated or undervalued; our members are the difference between life and death for the citizens of Boston.”-Boston Firefighters Local 718 IAFF.

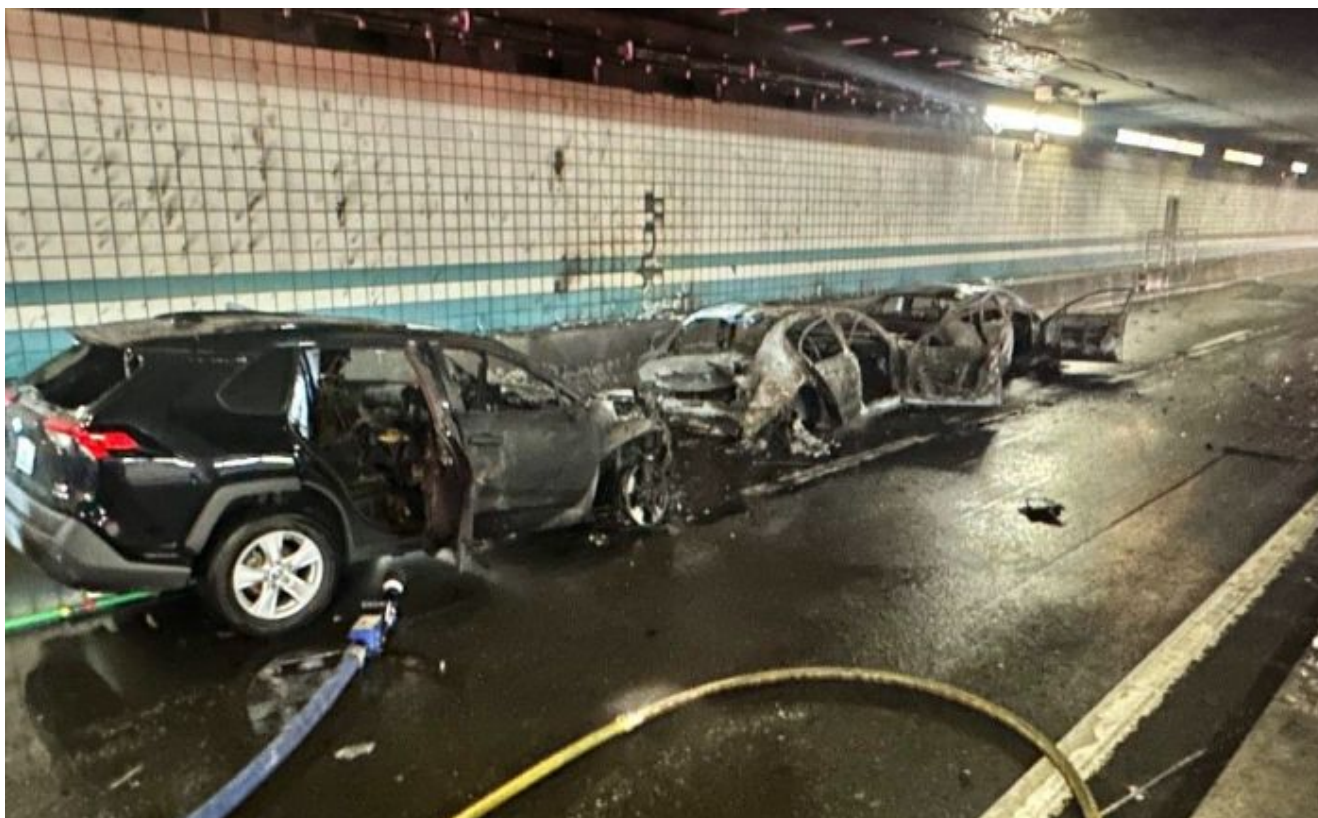
The fire happened in the tunnel connecting Interstate 93 northbound with the Mass Pike eastbound, just before the Ted Williams Tunnel. No word yet on the injured and their condition.

This is a developing story and more information will be added

in the coming hours.



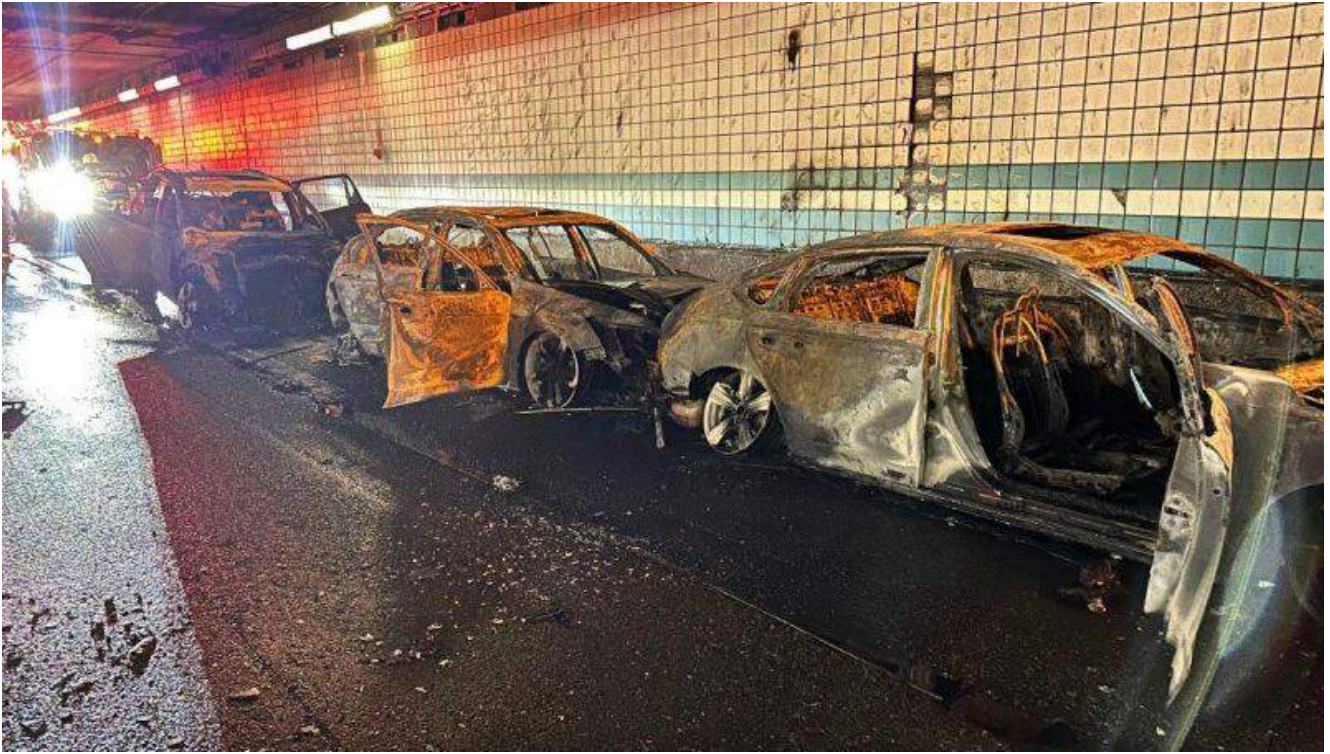
Michael Cram, Boston Fire Department photo.



Michael Cram, Boston Fire Department photo.



Michael Cram, Boston Fire Department photo.



Michael Cram, Boston Fire Department photo.

A little after 4:00 companies working 3 cars involved in an accident are on fire inside the Ted Williams tunnel. A 2nd alarm was ordered. pic.twitter.com/Zt81jCy8rQ

– Boston Fire Dept. (@BostonFire) May 24, 2024

62-year-old New Bedford Man charged with \$92,582 in Social Security fraud

“BOSTON – A New Bedford man was charged today in federal court in Boston with fraudulently receiving Social Security disability benefits.

Anthony Patterson, 62, was charged with one count of theft of government money. Patterson will make an appearance in federal court in Boston at a later date.

The charging document alleges that, from May 2013 to May 2023, Patterson stole approximately \$92,582 in Social Security disability benefits.

The charge of theft of government money provides for a sentence of up to 10 years in prison, three years of supervised release and a fine of \$250,000 or twice the gross gain or loss, whichever is greater. Sentences are imposed by a federal district court judge based upon the U.S. Sentencing Guidelines and statutes which govern the determination of a sentence in a criminal case.

Acting United States Attorney Joshua S. Levy and Bradley Parker, Acting Special Agent in Charge of the Social Security Administration, Office of the Inspector General, Office of Investigations, Boston Field Division made the announcement today. Special Assistant U.S. Attorney James J. Nagelberg of the Major Crimes Unit is prosecuting the case.

The details contained in the charging document are allegations. The defendant is presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt in a court of law."-U.S. Department of Justice.

**Pregnant mama opossum
fighting for life at**

Massachusetts Wildlife Rescue succumbs to injuries

"Their mother succumbed to her injuries last night. She was hit by a car this weekend and we tried everything we could to save her.

We extracted the babies from her pouch and are caring for them now. At least we can make sure these ten lives have a second chance. That's what their mother would have wanted.

We are at max capacity, with 80 injured and orphaned wild animals in our care. One day we will have a wildlife clinic and be able to take more animals in need.

For now, we are full and there is no where else in my private home or property to put any more intakes. Our voicemail says we are full and so does the automatic response to our messages. Those calling and messaging don't think it's fair to the animals they have found in need.

We don't think it's fair either....

Please know, we are doing all we can to find a home for our wildlife clinic so we can help more animals. There continues to be many hurdles with finding land for it, but we won't give up.... "-Newhouse Wildlife Rescue.

Earlier message:



Newhouse Wildlife Rescue photo.

Our mama opossum is very lethargic. After being hit by a car, she doesn't have any energy to care for her babies. Most mammal infants rely on mom to stimulate them to use the bathroom. She will lick them to help them go. Without this stimulation, they are not able to urinate or defecate. We are tending to the babies in her pouch by stimulating them for her. The babies look a little dehydrated this morning so we also administered some subcutaneous fluids to each of her 10 joeys.

Mama's milk supply may have been affected by the trauma she recently experienced. Just like with people, stress can affect the amount of milk produced. We are hoping this will be a temporary thing. We will continue to stimulate the babies and check the color of their urine to help assess their

hydration. If it becomes clear her milk supply is not returning, the babies will be removed from the pouch.

Mama opossums teats are not like regular nipples. They go far down the baby opossum's throats. Very young opossums only have a tiny opening in their mouths to hold on to the teat. Their mouths are not fully open until they are older. For this reason – once babies are removed from her pouch, they can not be returned to it. They will not be able to latch again.

We currently have 81 injured and orphaned animals in our care and our team is working hard both day and night to make sure they all receive the care they need. ♥️"-Newhouse Wildlife Rescue.

New Bedford High School JROTC cadets win big at Annual Raiders Competition

"CHAMPIONS!

New Bedford High School JROTC cadets demonstrated an award-winning performance at the Annual Raiders Competition held recently at Ft. Devens. Both male and female teams took home the Massachusetts Governor's Cup in their respective divisions.

They competed with 18 teams from across Massachusetts and New York. Justin Caverio, NBHS JROTC Army Instructor, noted, "The cadets won the Cup and defended New Bedford's title as overall Raiders Champions for the 7th year in a row!

In addition to the prestigious Governor's Cup, New Bedford

took home 11 other trophies from various events during the Raiders Challenge!" Great job NBHS Whaler Battalion!"-New Bedford Public Schools.



New Bedford Public Schools photo.



New Bedford Public Schools photo.



New Bedford Public Schools photo.



New Bedford Public Schools photo.

Massachusetts State Police Troopers arrest alleged interstate drug traffickers with illegal firearm

“Shortly after midday on Monday, May 20, 2024, Trooper Hunter Ratelle was on Route 91 in Deerfield observing northbound

traffic. While positioned at the roadside, Trooper Ratelle observed a grey sedan pass his position with a rear registration tag that was unreadable. Trooper Ratelle caught up to the sedan and conducted a traffic stop.

Trooper Ratelle approached the operator of the sedan, NICOL MURANO, 48, of Brattleboro Vt. and requested her license, however MURANO did not have an active license to operate a vehicle. With no valid license, Trooper Ratelle requested MURANO step out of the vehicle and placed her in handcuffs and secured her in the rear of his cruiser. Trooper Ratelle asked if either of the two passengers of the vehicle had a valid license, which they did not.

Now backed up by Troopers Curtis Bamberg and Stephen Shearer, Trooper Ratelle called for a tow of the sedan and turned to inventorying the contents of the vehicle. He had the two passengers step out of the vehicle and join Troopers Shearer and Bamberg away from the roadway. During the inventory, Trooper Ratelle discovered 224 grams of crack cocaine and a disassembled 9mm Smith and Wesson handgun with a 16-round magazine behind the driver's seat. None of the occupants of the sedan were licensed to carry a firearm.

Troopers placed MURANO, as well as the two passengers: KATIE BEAM, 36, of Brattleboro Vt. and NAJEE ROBERTSON, 35, of Bridgeport Conn. under arrest.

NICOL MURANO, KATIE BEAM, AND NAJEE ROBERTSON were transported to the Shelburne Falls barracks where they were booked, fingerprinted, and photographed. MURANO, BEAM, and ROBERTSON were arraigned in Greenfield District Court on charges of:

- Trafficking In Cocaine;
- Conspiracy To Violate Drug Law;
- Possession Of A Firearm Without FID;
- Possession Of A Firearm During A Felony Offense; and
- Possession Of A Large Capacity Feeding Device.

NICOL MURANO faces additional charges of:

- Unlicensed Operation Of A Motor Vehicle; and
- Number Plate Violation.

NAJEE ROBERTSON faces an additional charge of:

- Firearm Violation With One Prior Violent/Drug Crime.”-State Police Association of Massachusetts.
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New Bedford has roadwork sites for the upcoming week of May 27, 2024 – May 31, 2024

The City of New Bedford has roadwork sites for the upcoming week of May 27, 2024 – May 31, 2024, and they are as follows:

City offices will be closed on Monday, May 27th in observance for Memorial Day

Eversource will be working on gas main relays and services on:

- Main cutting and capping on Blacker St at County St
- Main cutting and capping on Delano St at County St
- Main relay on Acushnet Ave from Phillips Rd to Bowles St
- Main relay on Bayview St from W Rodney French to Point St
- Main relay on Acushnet Ave from Phillips Rd to 3082 Acushnet Ave
- Main relay on Church St from Belleville Rd to Park Ave
- Main relay on Hudson St from W Rodney French to Brock Ave
- Main tie in on Nelson St at County St

- Main tie in and service on Princeton St from Church St to Ashley Blvd
- Services on Central Ave from Church St to Conduit St

Eversource will be working on test pits and related work for future electric upgrades at the following locations:

- Pine St from MacArthur Dr to terminus
- MacArthur Dr from Pine St to Walnut St
- Walnut St from MacArthur Dr to S. Second St
- S. Second St from Walnut St to School St
- School St from S. Second St to County St
- County St from School St to Locust St

For more information about this project, please call the project information hotline at 1-833-836-0302 or email ProjectInfoMA@eversource.com to join the email list for regular construction and community updates.

Other:

- Contractor (Indus) will be crack sealing various locations throughout the City.
- Contractor (K5 Corporation) will be working city wide repainting pavement markings. Work will take place between 7:00 PM and 6:00 AM Tuesday thru Friday.
- Contractor (PA Landers) will be working at the MassDOT road reconstruction project on County Street from Nelson Street to Rivet Street.
- Contractor (PA Landers) will be working on a road reconstruction project at West Rodney French Boulevard from Cove Street to George Street.
- Contractor (PA Landers) will be working on a road reconstruction project at Elm Street from JFK Memorial Highway (Route 18) to Purchase Street.
- Contractor (JH Lynch) will be working on the MassDOT road reconstruction project at the intersection of Rockdale Avenue at Allen Street. Traffic detours will be in place during

workday hours of operation.

- Contractor (PA Landers) will be working at the MassDOT road reconstruction project on Kings Highway from Mt. Pleasant Street to Oliver Street.
- Contractor (Various utility companies) will be working on utility pole transfers at the MassDOT road reconstruction project on Acushnet Avenue from Tobey Street to Pequot Street.
- MassDOT will be staging installation and beam end cleaning and concrete encasements at I-195 East and West bound lanes over Purchase Street, County Street and State Street. Work will take place Sunday – Thursday with overnight operations only.
- Contractor (SCR Constructors) will continue site work at the future South Coast Rail station platform locations in the city. (Church Street at Carlisle Street and Wamsutta Street at Acushnet Avenue.) and continue site work at the future pedestrian bridge across Rte. 18 impacting parking along Purchase Street between Willis Street and Pearl Street and at the Division of Career Services on Acushnet Avenue. If you have questions, please email the project team at SouthCoastRail@dot.state.ma.us
- MassDOT to continue pavement preservation and related work on Route 140 both northbound and southbound from mile marker 0.0 to mile marker 5.2. Work to be conducted during overnight hours. Police details and ramp closures with detours to be expected.

Project: Lead Service Line Replacement Program Phase II
General Contractor: C. Naughton Corp. (Monday-Friday 7:00am -5:00pm)

- The contractor will be working Lead Service Line Replacements. Tuesday on Mapleview Terrace between Hawthorn Street and Maple Street, Hawthorn Street between Gould Street and Brownell Street. Wednesday on Brownell Street between Maple Street and Hawthorn Street. Thursday on Hawthorn Street between Brownell Street and Palmer Street, Reed Street between Hawthorn Street and Maple Street. Friday on Hawthorn Street

between Rockdale Avenue and Palmer Street, Plymouth Street at Reed Street. At times during working hours, these locations may be closed to thru traffic with signs posted to detour traffic around work areas. Police details will be on-site allowing access to residents only and assisting with traffic management.

Project: Phase 4 Transmission Main Reinforcement Project
Contractor: C. Naughton Corp. (Monday-Friday 7:00 AM to 4:00 PM)

- The Contractor will continue replacing a section of the existing 48-in water transmission main north of the railroad crossing at Chipaway Road in East Freetown.

Project: Shawmut Avenue and Howland Street Pumping Station Improvements Project General Contractor: WES Construction Corp. (Monday-Friday 7:00 AM to 4:00 PM)

- The contractor is scheduled to continue installation of granite curb and concrete sidewalk placement along Nash Road between Shawmut Avenue and Mount Pleasant Street. Lane restrictions will be in place during working hours, with one lane of alternating traffic open. Police officers will be on-site to assist with traffic management.

Median Massachusetts Home Prices Rose 9.9% To \$610,000

Colin A. Young
State House News Service

There were 3,100 single-family homes sold in Massachusetts last month, and while that number alone may not mean much to those still looking for an affordable home here it may

represent a glimmer of hope – it was the largest year-over-year increase in sales since June 2021.

Real estate market analysts at The Warren Group said April's sales volume represented a 6.8 percent climb over the 2,902 sales recorded in April 2023 and just the third time in nearly three years that home sales were up from the same month a year prior (following tiny increases in January and February of this year). Cassidy Norton, The Warren Group's associate publisher, called April's sales "a positive sign for both buyers and sellers" but highlighted how sales volume alone can't tell the whole story.

The median single-family home sale price rose 9.9 percent compared to April 2023 to hit \$610,000 last month, a new all-time high for the month and the first time the median home price has crossed the \$600,000 ceiling this year.

"The market has been exceedingly tight in recent years as mortgage rates and building costs rose. More sales didn't move the needle on home prices, however; the median single-family home sale price in April rose nearly 10 percent," she said, adding that last month's median price was not far off the record high of \$615,000 set in June 2023.

The sales and price increases were roughly the same when looking just at the 139 communities inside the Interstate 495 belt, The Warren Group said. Greater Boston sales were up 8.8 percent to 1,517 in April as the median price shot up 10.1 percent to \$760,000.

Through the first four months of 2024, 10,113 single-family homes have sold in Massachusetts – eight more homes than were sold in the same span of 2023, or a 0.1 percent increase. But compared to the first four months of 2023, the year-to-date median single-family home price here is now 9.5 percent higher, at \$575,000, The Warren Group said.

Home sales across Massachusetts sank to a 12-year low in 2023

and housing here is inaccessible or unaffordable for many residents. Gov. Maura Healey last year identified housing as “the number-one issue facing this state” and said there is a shortage of 200,000 units across the state.

The five-year, \$4.12 billion housing bond bill (H 4138) she filed in the fall seeking to kickstart production of new housing units has not surfaced in the House, where it is stands as one of numerous significant pieces of legislation that lawmakers say they intend to pass into law by the time their formal work concludes for the year on July 31.

On Monday, Lt. Gov. Kim Driscoll and Housing and Livable Communities Secretary Ed Augustus participated in a roundtable discussion with residents who recently purchased a home through a state-sponsored first-time homebuyer program.

Sponsored by the Massachusetts Housing Partnership, MassHousing and the Mass. Affordable Housing Alliance, the event also promoted Healey’s bill. The administration said the bill would authorize \$50 million for “MassDreams” to create first-time homebuyer opportunities, authorize \$100 million for the Commonwealth Builder Program to spur construction of affordable single-family homes in Gateway Cities and similar markets, and create a Homeownership Tax Credit for first-time homebuyers.

“Affordable homeownership allows people to sink roots into a community and begin to accumulate equity and wealth from owning their own home that might eventually be passed on to future generations,” MassHousing CEO Chrystal Kornegay said. “Creating more opportunity for homeownership is a major part of addressing the housing and wealth disparities in Massachusetts.”

Another snapshot of the housing market and the struggles that homeowners and renters face is expected on June 20, when the Joint Center for Housing Studies of Harvard University plans

to release the “State of the Nation’s Housing 2024 Report.”

“On the for-sale side, millions of potential homebuyers have been priced out of the market by high home prices and interest rates, while the number of renters with cost burdens has hit an all-time high,” the center said in an advisory Tuesday. “However, a surge in new multifamily rental units is slowing rent growth and accelerated single-family construction is starting to life for-sale inventories.”

REPORT: Opioid overdose deaths more likely among Massachusetts residents injured at work

Workers in construction and other physically demanding industries disproportionately impacted.

“BOSTON (May 23, 2024) – Working-age Massachusetts residents who died between 2011 and 2020 were 35 percent more likely to have died of an opioid-related overdose if they had previously been injured at work, according to a new report released today by the Massachusetts Department of Public Health (DPH) that, for the first time, links the aftermath of work-related injuries to opioid-related overdose deaths.

Using the Public Health Data Warehouse, DPH compiled information about individuals’ employment and work-related injury status from their workers’ compensation claims and linked it with data from their death certificates. By linking these data sets, DPH found that of the 4,304 working-age

(16-64 years) Massachusetts residents who died and had at least one workplace injury claim, 741 (17.2 percent) died from an opioid-related overdose between 2011 and 2020. Previous analyses primarily relied on death certificate data, which have limited work-related information.

The data also show that injured workers who died from an opioid-related overdose were more likely to be male, between 25-44 years old, Hispanic, US-born, and have jobs in construction and extraction (e.g., quarrying and mining), as well as in food preparation and serving, compared with those who died of causes unrelated to substance use. Sprains and strains, particularly of the back, were the most common injury types among those who suffered fatal opioid-related overdoses – a significant finding that allows DPH to, for the first time, assess the correlation between acute and chronic pain from occupational injuries and opioid use and death.

“Occupational injuries can take both a physical and mental toll, and those who suffer injuries at work may be discouraged from seeking help because of stigmatization and fear of losing their jobs. Avoiding or delaying care can lead to a preventable overdose death,” said Secretary of Health and Human Services Kate Walsh. “In order for us to properly address the overdose crisis, we must eliminate the stigma that accompanies substance use disorder in all sectors of society, including the workplace. We are prioritizing investments in community support, prevention, and treatment programs and reducing any barriers to treatment, all of which can help prevent overdose deaths.”

“Overdose deaths are preventable, and we must continue to focus relentlessly on finding ways to prevent opioid addiction from stealing more lives,” said Department of Public Health Commissioner Robbie Goldstein, MD, PhD. “The data are clear: Individuals who suffer work-related injuries are at a heightened risk of substance use disorders – and overdose deaths. By recognizing and acting upon this association, we

can target interventions that can save lives and protect the well-being of workers, especially those in physically demanding occupations who are disproportionately affected by the opioid epidemic.”

Workers in industries and occupations that require very physically demanding work and who have much higher rates of overall workplace injury than other workers continue to be disproportionately affected by the opioid epidemic, according to the report, which was created by DPH’s Occupational Health Surveillance Program. The majority (28.2 percent) of the 741 Massachusetts workers who were previously injured at work and who died of an opioid-related overdose between 2011 and 2020 worked in construction and extraction occupations, according to the data. This is followed by 11.2 percent who worked in transportation and material-moving, and 6.8 percent who worked in food preparation and serving-related occupations.

Work-related factors, such as lower rates of paid sick leave, low wages, and higher job insecurity (e.g., seasonal work, independent contractors, and temporary help), exacerbate the pressure on workers to work while ill or injured, and not seek crucial medical or substance use treatment for fear of losing income.

While the data indicate there were lower numbers of deaths among residents of color who were injured at work compared with white non-Hispanics, who made up the majority of the state’s workforce in 2011-2020, Hispanic workers in Massachusetts suffer the highest rate of death from workplace injury. Nationwide, both Hispanic and Black non-Hispanic workers disproportionately work in the most dangerous jobs that can lead to injury.

This report may not represent the full picture of injured workers who died from an opioid-related overdose in Massachusetts. The data do not include workers who were injured on the job but who did not file a workers’

compensation claim. This cohort may include immigrant and undocumented workers who may be less likely to file a workers' compensation claim or may experience barriers to filing one.

DPH continues to support worker-focused efforts that involve the expansion of prevention, intervention, treatment, and recovery services for substance use disorder in the Commonwealth. Using federal grant funding and in collaboration with Health Resources in Action, DPH has developed a comprehensive website with trainings and materials to increase opioid awareness and provide resources for Massachusetts employers to implement policies and practices aimed at prevention and recovery. This includes the implementation of recovery-supportive workplace initiatives that focus on injury prevention and providing employers with the tools to help employees seek and stay in recovery.

Additionally, DPH recently provided funding for research to UMass Lowell to evaluate and improve the Opioid Alternative Treatment Pathway program, run by the Massachusetts Department of Industrial Accidents, which oversees the state's workers' compensation system. The program uses a mediation process between insurers and injured workers who have been prescribed opioids for pain to provide alternative pain management and support services, including drug treatment, with the goal of reducing the workers' dependence on opioid pain medication.

The Healey-Driscoll Administration fiscal year 2024 budget invests more than \$700 million in substance addiction prevention and treatment programs to address the state's overdose crisis, including an expanded 24/7 overdose prevention helpline available by calling 800-972-0590 and at [safe-spot.me](https://www.safe-spot.me).

By establishing the strong link between work-related injuries and fatal opioid-related overdoses among Massachusetts workers, this report also underscores the role that employers, unions, employee assistance programs, and other entities play

in preventing fatal opioid-related overdose. This includes injury prevention, as well as creating a work environment that fosters communication to help remove the stigma surrounding substance use and asking for help, providing harm reduction strategies like naloxone training, and intentionally centering voices from Hispanic, Black non-Hispanic, and other communities of color in program-planning and outreach strategies.

Key findings from the report:

- From 2011 to 2020, there were 117,417 total deaths among working age (16-64 years) Massachusetts residents.
- Among these, 4,304 – about 4 percent – had at least one workers' compensation claim with the Massachusetts Department of Industrial Accidents for a work injury occurring from 2011 to 2020.
- Of this cohort, 741 died from opioid-related overdoses; 191 from other substance use/poisonings (including alcohol); and 3,372 from other causes.
- 87 percent of injured workers who died from opioid-related overdoses in 2011-2020 were male; 13 percent female.
- Working age residents who reported a prior work-related injury were 35 percent more likely to have died of an opioid-related overdose than all working-age adults (17 percent vs. 13 percent).
- 84 percent of injured workers who died from opioid-related overdoses in 2011-2020 were white non-Hispanic; 10 percent were Hispanic; 4 percent were Black non-Hispanic.
- 94 percent of injured workers who died from opioid-related overdoses in 2011-2020 were born in the United States.

Percent of injured workers who died from opioid-related overdoses in 2011-2020 by occupation:

- 28 percent – construction, extraction
- 11 percent – transportation, material moving
- 7 percent – food preparation, serving related

- 7 percent – production
- 6 percent – building and grounds cleaning, maintenance

Leading work-related injuries among workers who died from opioid-related overdoses in 2011-2020: strain/sprain (including to the back), crushing or contusion, laceration or puncture, and fracture.”-Massachusetts Department of Public Health.