

The Boston Globe

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THURSDAY, JANUARY 1, 2026

A NEW YEAR IN THE WORKS

First Night was a cold one, as usual, but the crowds didn't seem to care as people looked to the sky for the pyrotechnic display and greeted 2026.

More on First Night, B1.



DANIELLE PARHIZKARAN/GLOBE STAFF

With warm memories, skating club carries on after tragedy

By Spencer Buell
GLOBE STAFF

For the late Jinna Han, the Skating Club of Boston's annual First Night performance at Boston Common was a chance to show off the skills that had made her a rising star in competitive figure skating at just 13.

"She was born to captivate a crowd," recalled Mia Corsini Bailey, the club's director. "She was always a highlight performer."

This year, the show went on without her.

Han was among six members of the club who died in a plane crash in Washington, D.C., in January, devastating members of the decorated and tight-knit group. Also killed in the crash were Han's mother, Jin, fellow young skater Spencer Lane, his mom, Christine Lane, and coaches Evgenia Shishkova and Vadim Naumov.

All were on the minds of skaters as they took the ice Wednesday afternoon and evening for their Frog Pond Skating Spectacular for the first time since the tragedy — the latest show of resilience from a skating community still reeling from the sudden deaths.



DANIELLE PARHIZKARAN/GLOBE STAFF

Anthony Almanzar of the Skating Club of Boston performed during the First Night Spectacular.

"It's not really moving on, but we've got to move forward," said Jimmy Ma, 30, a competitive skater who trains at the club and was at the Common to celebrate First Night with his peers. "Just knowing that we're there for each other through all the bad times and through all the good times, it just goes to show how strong of a community we are."

The mood was far from somber as skaters dazzled a crowd of hundreds during the club's midafternoon show, which featured some of its young members gliding and twirling in brightly sequined outfits, some of whom could fling themselves into impressive airborne twists, against a backdrop of twinkling holiday lights hung on the trees around the rink.

Corsini Bailey, who skated with pupils during a finale performance and donned a light-up disco ball outfit with "2026 CLUB, Page A7

Tool for affordable housing faces a challenge

Developer sues over requirement new complexes include cheaper units

By Andrew Brinker
GLOBE STAFF

For decades, Massachusetts communities have relied on private developers to build much of their affordable housing.

The exchange goes like this: If a developer wants to build a fancy new

condominium building or a big new apartment complex, they must agree to set aside a certain number of units in their development at rates affordable to working- and middle-class residents, as a condition of receiving a building permit.

That policy, known as inclusion-

ary zoning, has generated thousands of affordable homes across a state that is starved for them.

But now, a developer in Cambridge has claimed the system may be illegal, in a lawsuit that seeks to do away with one of the leading tools used to create new affordable hous-

ing.

The developer — Patrick Barrett, a Cambridge zoning attorney who has well over 100 apartments and condominiums planned across several developments in the city — along with the Pioneer Legal Foundation, sued Cambridge in December over the city's inclusionary housing rule.

HOUSING, Page A6

Krafts' push for soccer stadium gets a big boost

Separate deals worked out with Boston and Everett

By Jon Chesto
GLOBE STAFF

The New England Revolution is a major step closer to getting a new stadium in Everett, after the Kraft Group and Boston Mayor Michelle Wu announced an agreement on Wednesday that aims to compensate Boston for the expected effects on traffic and transit.

The agreement is valued at nearly \$48 million, spread over 15 years, with most of the money going to infrastructure improvements and other projects in neighboring Charlestown — the Boston neighborhood that would be most affected by crowds coming to soccer games and concerts at the proposed stadium.

Meanwhile, in Everett, the Krafts reached a similar but separate community impact agreement with outgoing Mayor Carlo DeMaria, making it one of DeMaria's last big accomplishments in that role. Among other things, the Everett deal includes \$20 million to build a 4-acre

STADIUM, Page A6



THE KRAFT GROUP

An artist's rendering of the proposed stadium along the Mystic River in Everett.

President Trump said he's dropping for now his push to deploy National Guard troops in three cities. A2.

Peter Wolf has pulled out of his Kennedy Center event, joining other artists protesting the president's moves. C10.



JOHN TLUMACKI/GLOBE STAFF

UNWANTED NEWS — With Patriots defensive tackle Christian Barmore facing a domestic assault charge a day after wide receiver Stefon Diggs was accused of choking his personal chef, coach Mike Vrabel said the team will let the legal process play out. **C1.**

The theft of a massive shipment of lobster in Taunton is the third such seafood case in New England recently. B1.

Queen Camilla spoke for the first time about her experience fighting off an attempted sexual assault as a teen. A4.

Hi, resolution

Thursday: Sunny, breezy. High 29-34. Low 13-18.

Friday: More of the same. High 26-31. Low 17-22.

Sunrise: 7:13 Sunset: 4:22

Weather, D5. Obituaries, B5-6.

NUNO F.G. LOUREIRO
1977-2025

A scientist of accomplishment and humility, cut down

By Brian MacQuarrie
GLOBE STAFF

Nuno F.G. Loureiro pushed for revolutionary breakthroughs in the complex, arcane field of plasma science at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, where he served as director of one of the university's largest labs.

Described by colleagues as a brilliant "physicist's physicist," his promising work at MIT's Plasma Science and Fusion Center brought him and the lab global recognition as well as the hope of cheaper, cleaner, and more plentiful energy.

Inside and outside the lab, Mr. Loureiro also was known for a charismatic leadership style that combined warmth, humor, and personal engagement in the relentless pursuit of excellence.

Mr. Loureiro, 47, of Brookline, died Dec. 16 after being shot at his condominium complex. His suspected assailant, Claudio Manuel Neves Valente, was discovered Dec. 19 from a self-inflicted gunshot wound in a Salem, N.H., storage facility.

Neves Valente, who attended the same physics program as Mr. Loureiro in

LOUREIRO, Page B5

Devastating wharf fire could have been worse

Portland thanks firefighters for efforts, takes stock

By Shannon Larson
GLOBE STAFF

The day after Christmas, John Jabar was walking down Custom House Wharf in Portland, Maine, when he saw flames blow through the roof of a century-old building used by lobstermen and fishermen. Terrified, he quickly alerted the Fire Department and locals who work on the historic wharf, then rushed to evacuate dozens of panicked tourists and workers from businesses including the Sea Bags Factory Store and the restaurant he co-owns, The Porthole.

Within 15 minutes, the fire had engulfed a building and spread through several others.

"It's one of the scariest things that have happened in my life," said Jabar, who also co-owns the wharf with his two

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