

# Boston Sunday Globe

JANUARY 31, 2021

## By any other name, still an innovation

Mocked at the time, Menino's vision — if not his label — for the Seaport has come to pass

SHIRLEY LEUNG

COMMENTARY

Somewhere Tom Menino is smiling and saying, "I told you so." In 2010, when much of the Seaport District was a sea of forlorn parking lots, the long-serving mayor, in what would be his final inaugural address, rechristened the area the "Innovation District."

He laid out a new approach to developing the South Boston Waterfront, describing it as "one that is both more

deliberate and more experimental."

We humored him, even as banners proclaiming the rebranding were hoisted above sidewalks. The moniker never did stick, but don't think for a moment the most innovative companies would have found their way to the South Boston Waterfront on their own. The late mayor's aspirations have come to fruition, a transformation perhaps capped last week by Amazon's announcement of a major expansion in the Seaport that would fill a planned tower with 3,000 employees. That's on top of the

LEUNG, Page A10



DAVID L. RYAN/GLOBE STAFF

Amazon's announcement last week of a major expansion was the latest good news for the Seaport.

## GOP's message: Move on from riot

Before impeachment trial, some senators rejecting own words about Trump

By Liz Goodwin

GLOBE STAFF

WASHINGTON — As they walked the corridors that were overrun by rioters just three weeks earlier, Republican members of Congress spoke about that attack as if it were a long ago battle of a forgotten war.

"I'm really more focused on moving ahead," Senator Thom Tillis of North Carolina said.

"I think we ought to encourage people to move on rather than live in the past," said Senator John Cornyn of Texas, as if addressing a jealous ex after a bad breakup.

The Senate is careening toward its second impeachment trial of Donald Trump, which is scheduled to begin Feb. 8 and will provide a vivid reminder of the violent takeover of the Capitol that resulted in five deaths. But Republicans — some of whom initially showed willingness to push for consequences for Trump — have swiftly closed ranks around a new message: Let it go.

"I just think we need to move forward," said Senator Marco Rubio of Florida, before moving on to talk about the dangerous new COVID-19 mutations. "And I hope that we'll do that and that history will hold those responsible accountable."

And that may be exactly what happens, as neither Rubio nor members of his party appear willing to hold Trump accountable, underscoring the former president's continued hold over the party

IMPEACHMENT, Page A4



ERIN CLARK/GLOBE STAFF

Volunteers worked to distribute boxes of food at Prince Hall Grand Lodge in Roxbury last week. As the pandemic continues, public health and economic experts warn racial gaps that COVID-19 reinforced could widen.

## FOR BLACK PATIENTS, A LONG (FAMILIAR) ROAD BACK

Communities of color are often hardest hit by crises. Will it be the same with COVID?

By Dasia Moore

GLOBE STAFF

The Great Depression. The AIDS epidemic. The 2008 recession. Time and time again, health and financial crises that devastated the country as a whole have had uniquely disastrous and long-lasting effects on Black communities already subjected to racial and economic injustice.

All signs point to COVID-19, a combined economic and public health calamity, repeating this deeply unequal history, experts say, with Black Ameri-

cans likely to suffer elevated joblessness and poverty, vulnerability to infection, and poor health outcomes for many months to come.

For local leaders supporting their neighbors through the pandemic, it is evident that the fight for a comeback will be long and difficult, with full recovery anything but guaranteed.

"The devastation of COVID, it just exaggerated what Black communities have already been dealing with," said Frank Farrow, a Roxbury resident and

BLACK RECOVERY, Page A8

## NOTES OF PEACE AND CONSOLATION

After a lifetime of preparation, the iconic cellist Yo-Yo Ma is once more proving classical music's power to honor grief, catalyze hope, and connect us across isolation.

Globe Magazine.



### Solid cold

Sunday: Clouds arriving. High: 23-28. Low: 17-22.

Monday: Snow arriving. High: 33-38. Low: 29-34.

Complete report, B12.

Deaths, A14-26.

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Suggested retail price  
\$6.00



There's no farm left to be found at Brook Farm in West Roxbury, but this one painting by little-known artist Josiah Wolcott captures the farm at its idealist height. **SundayArts, N1.**

You're supposed to go to the dentist at least once a year. Why not get mental health checkups too? **Ideas, K1.**

Three State Police lieutenants are suing the department, claiming a recent promotional exam was rolled out improperly. **Metro, B1.**

## For restaurants, an inside-the-box solution

Subscription meals keep kitchens busy

By Devra First

GLOBE STAFF

Restaurants have been trying everything they can think of to stay afloat throughout the pandemic. One of the latest ideas arrives fresh from the farm.

**PROJECT TAKEOUT**

Chef Ana Sortun, of Oleana, Sofra, and Sarma, believes so deeply in serving local, seasonal produce that she fell in love with the

farmer growing her vegetables. Her husband, Chris Kurth, owns Sudbury's Siena Farms, named for their daughter. The farm is known for glorious sunflowers, a vibrant presence at local farmers' markets, and CSA shares stocked with high-quality produce.

CSA stands for "community supported agriculture," and if you haven't yet participated in a program, you've probably heard of the concept. Consumers invest in a local farm, purchasing a share of the season's harvest. The benefits are many: The cus-

RESTAURANTS, Page A11



LANE TURNER/GLOBE STAFF PHOTOS

Oleana's offerings, at \$85 a week, are all vegetarian.





"Things will never be as they were before."

Dirk Singer, an airline marketing consultant

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## COVID-era air travel trends and predictions

HOLLIE ADAMS/GETTY IMAGES

The future of air travel could mean continued testing, health passports, and extended travel bans

CHRISTOPHER MUTHER



As vaccines slowly roll out, there's hope that by summer and fall air travel will make a healthy and welcome comeback. If countries are able to re-open borders and lockdowns become less prevalent, a return to pre-pandemic travel could become more reality than fantasy.

However one airline marketing consultant who has worked with several major airlines, and since the spring, has devoted his time to analyzing COVID-19 and flying, doesn't see normal travel in our future. In a report released earlier this month, Dirk Singer of SimpliFlying said there are new practices that have gone into effect since the pandemic began, including testing, that are likely here to stay.

"We found that things will never be as they

were before," Singer said on the phone from England. "And the age of the pandemics is here. I'm sure you saw the report from the World Health Organization that said this isn't the big one, and the big one, whatever it is, will be more deadly. When the worst of COVID is over, whenever that is, the issues of health and safety will not disappear from travel."

Based on what has emerged since the pandemic began, Singer and SimpliFlying put together a list of a dozen trends and predictions of what travelers can expect.

1

### THE NEW FLIGHT SHAMING

Up until last year, flight shaming was strictly focused on the aviation industry's impact on the environment. Now it's about the impact of spreading the virus.

"You can look back to the middle ages and see that disease is spread by the mobility of infectious people," Singer said. "There's obviously been a growing awareness of travel and the spread of

coronavirus, so what you're starting to see is a broad majority of people who think that international travel during a pandemic is not an acceptable thing to do."

In Canada flight shaming has been intense. A number of political officials resigned after it was discovered they traveled, including one who traveled to address a family medical emergency in Greece.

2

### THE NEW STRAINS CHANGE EVERYTHING

When a more contagious COVID-19 variant emerged in England late last year, borders were quickly shut to UK visitors and testing requirements for those arriving from England became more rigorous. Mutations from South Africa, Brazil, and now California are also causing additional border closures as countries struggle to keep ahead of the pandemic. Israel, which leads the world in vaccinating its population, closed its two

AIR TRAVEL, Page N14

## Traveling with dogs



ADOBE

By Diane Bair and Pamela Wright  
GLOBE CORRESPONDENTS

Pet adoptions and sales soared during the pandemic. No wonder: a host of scientific studies show that interactions with animals may help with depression, anxiety, and stress. And we were stuck at home, with few places to go. The perfect time to welcome and care for a new companion.

Fast forward a few months (post pandemic, thank you vaccine), and experts are predicting a pent-up desire to hit the road, get out of town, have a real vacation. But what about assies? Should she go or should she stay? Here's some advice from the American Kennel Club's chief veterinary officer, Dr. Jerry Klein. One thing to remember, Klein says, "Bringing dogs with you on vacation will dictate how you travel, the type of vacation and location, your place of lodging, and the amount of time and types of activities spent away from your hotel room."

### CONSIDER THE DOG

Dogs do not travel equally well. Very frail or elderly dogs, or dogs with significant underlying conditions may have special needs. Also, "Some breeds of dogs are more sensitive to extreme temperatures," Klein says. "Older dogs or hairless breeds are sensitive to very cold weather and some of the brachycephalic breeds are sensitive to very warm weather."

If you cannot guarantee that your dog will be safe and comfortable for most of the trip, don't take her along.

### PREPARE

All dogs traveling should be healthy and free of communicable disease. Dogs should be current on their vaccinations, and up to date on heartworm prevention and flea and tick prevention. In case of any possible accident or escape, either during the trip or while at a distant location, dogs should have adequate permanent identification such as a microchip in place with current, updated

DOGS, Page N13

## When travel resumes, politics is 'absolutely' likely to affect where people want to go and where they'll feel welcome

By Jon Marcus

GLOBE CORRESPONDENT

The man at the bar in Winston-Salem, N.C., looked up from his reading to ask the newcomer where he was from.

When he had his answer, he turned and gestured toward the locals enjoying their dinners.

"There's some people in here wouldn't be happy to hear that you're from Boston," he said.

"Would they be happy to know that you're reading The New York Times?" the visitor responded.

"Ah read it," the man said. "But ah don't believe it."

The conversation over some outstanding Southern food continued civilly, but with an undercurrent of guardedness. And that was in the good old days, before the rifts in America grew even wider and yet another election divided the map into swaths of red and blue and alternate universes of truth. Before protesters occupied cities and armed insurrectionists in militia gear breached the US Capitol.



ADOBE

Now, when travel resumes, politics is "absolutely" likely to affect where people want to go and where they'll feel welcome, said Jan Jones, coordinator for hospitality and tourism management at the University of New Haven business school — and how Americans of any political stripe will be received abroad.

"In the past we could come to some common ground," Jones said. "Now it's become so black and white that you avoid those conversations. And it's too bad because one of

POLITICS, Page N14

## Inside

WELCOME SPOT

FOR THE ENTIRE FAMILY

Pet-friendly places to stay in New England

N13





# The Concierge

TIPS FOR TOURING HERE AND ABROAD



THE VIP LOUNGE | IMARI K. PARIS JEFFRIES

## On Chinese food around the world, a love of snacks, and the wonder of planes

While going to Africa is on Imari K. Paris Jeffries' bucket list, he has much more pressing travel plans at hand: a destination wedding next year on Isla Mujeres, an island off the coast of Cancun. "It's very much Mexican, but it's on the Mayan coast so it has a very strong indigenous feel to it. We love it there," he said. "Both of us have the travel bug, so the idea of combining a wedding and a vacation feels compelling." In addition to wedding plans, Paris Jeffries, executive director of King Boston, is busy leading the nonprofit's efforts to install a memorial on Boston Common next year honoring Martin Luther King Jr., Coretta Scott King, and Boston civil rights leaders, as well as many other projects — including an annual music festival — that contribute, he said, "to being an active participant in the fight for Boston's racial equity future." Paris Jeffries, 47, was born in Fayetteville, N.C., and, since his dad was in the Army, moved often. He attended high school in Clarksville, Tenn., after which he joined the Army and was stationed at Fort Devens. When he left the military in 1996, he attended UMass Boston, where he is currently working on a doctorate. The father of three — daughters Imani, 25, and Mia, 17, and son Gael, 15 — lives in Hyde Park with his fiancée, Miriam Ortiz, who is head of programming at a community development corporation. We caught up with Paris Jeffries to talk about all these travel.

### Favorite vacation destination?

I have had a few places that are seriously printed in my memory: Cuba, Korea, and New Orleans. Cuba, because it was/is this forbidden place that people always romanticized and a place that can only be

experienced. [There's] a combination of old world, new culture, and a Caribbean vibe outside of Havana. Korea, because it was a trip I took with my family — nine of us went. We got to experience culture, people, food, and nightlife. I cannot overstate how fun and amazing Seoul is as a city. A must visit place for everyone. New Orleans is hot — hot in all the ways that hot is good: the food, drinks, sites, and temperature. This is one of the most musical cities I have ever experienced in my life — from street bands to nightclubs and concerts. ... This city has a soundtrack.

### Favorite food or drink while vacationing?

While these are not necessarily my two favorite foods and drinks, one of my vacation traditions is to eat Chinese food and buy a cup of coffee from Starbucks. I have had Chinese food from Spain to Colombia, and in China. I try to eat the same few dishes. Believe me, they are indeed different and cater to the palate of the country. The best Chinese food I have had has been in Paris ... amazing! Same can be said for Starbucks; there is a shop in almost every place. The most interesting has been in Malaysia. The coffee over there is known locally as Kopitiam and has a strong flavor while being aromatic.

### Where would you like to travel to but haven't?

2019 was the "year of return." Many friends of mine had the opportunity to go to Africa. Many folks went to Ghana, or even Egypt, or South Africa in that year. I would have loved to go, but I am in a PhD program and have to limit the time that I am away on vacation so I could not get away to travel in 2019. It is on my agenda soon!

### One item you can't leave home without

### When traveling?

I take a lot of things with me including medication (such as) aspirin, cough (reliever), etc. ... my phone, and hand wipes.

### Aisle or window?

Aisle. I think you can sneak some extra legroom when you are sitting there and can get up and walk around without disturbing your neighbors.

### Favorite childhood travel memory?

When I was a kid my dad was in the Army and we moved to Germany when I was 5. ... The airport, the ground transportation, the hotel, the snacks, and watching the plane pick up speed and taking off. ... I remember the sites, smells, and vibrations in my bones. I think this first experience is where I caught the travel bug and lost any fear of the unknown. It is an unexplainable feeling as a child to get in a plane, have that plane drive fast, and five minutes later find yourself in the clouds. Anything seems possible after that.

### Guilt pleasure when traveling?

I am already known for eating snacks, so when I go on vacation, it is like a new world of treats has just opened up. From the flight, to the hotel, to the little markets. ... There isn't a snack I won't try at least once. The most crazy has been chapulines — grilled little grasshoppers you eat like popcorn — in Mexico.

### Best travel tip?

Don't plan everything out and try to do everything or see everything. It is OK if you don't see all the museums or shops.

JULIET PENNINGTON

## TRAVEL TROUBLESHOOTER

### Can I get a refund instead of a credit on United Airlines?

By Christopher Elliott  
GLOBE CORRESPONDENT

Q. My wife and I booked a trip for the whole family to celebrate our 50th wedding anniversary on the Norwegian Cruise Line Pride of America last summer. After that, we had plans to fly to Maui for a week, where we would meet our daughter.

We canceled five flights on United Airlines to Honolulu for the NCL cruise that was canceled. On May 18, the governor of Hawaii extended the state's mandatory 14-day quarantine order through at least June 30, and later extended it to Sept. 1. So we could not fly to Hawaii at all without quarantine.

We filed a claim with Travelers, our travel insurance company, but have not heard anything back. United responded that our tickets were nonrefundable but offered us a voucher for future flights. I would like to get our \$10,112 back that we spent on our plane tickets instead of a voucher. Can you help?

WILLIAM BOUCEK,  
Frankfort, Ill.

A. United Airlines should have refunded your tickets.

You canceled your anniversary cruise to keep your family safe and because of government quarantines. The airline shouldn't punish you for that by keeping your money.

Your travel insurance company also might have helped you, depending on the type of coverage you had. Specifically, a "canceled for any reason" policy would have allowed you to cancel your cruise for any reason and receive anywhere from 50 percent to 75 percent of the cost of your trip refunded.

The good news: It looks like NCL refunded your cruise fare. That was the right call since it canceled the cruise.

Airlines treated pandemic-related cancellations no different than other cancellations. If the airline cancels, you get a full refund. If you cancel, you get an expiring credit. It doesn't matter why you cancel — your reasons might be excellent. You still get a credit. I disagree with this; I think that if you canceled your trip because of a government advisory, the airline should offer a full refund. But it doesn't have to, at least under current law.

I list the executive contacts for both United Airlines and Travelers on my consumer advocacy site at [www.elliott.org/company-contacts/](http://www.elliott.org/company-contacts/). You might have also reached out to one of them to make sure they didn't overlook anything.

But in the end, resolving this case came down to patience. It turns out Travelers was processing your claim, along with tens of thousands of others. And in the end, after four months of waiting, the travel insurance company cut you a check for \$10,112.

No one wants to wait for a refund, and frankly, no one should have to wait. But these are challenging times, and unfortunately, it takes time — sometimes a lot of time — to process everything. If you need help with a coronavirus-related refund, please contact me. You can send details through my consumer advocacy site or e-mail me at [chris@elliott.org](mailto:chris@elliott.org).

Christopher Elliott can be reached at [elliott@elliott.org](mailto:elliott@elliott.org) or [chris@elliott.org](mailto:chris@elliott.org).

## HERE

### CELEBRATE VALENTINE'S DAY IN NEWPORT

Take your sweetheart for a romantic getaway to Rhode Island's Brenton Hotel, a new luxury boutique hotel located in Newport harbor. The Suite for Your Sweet Romance Package features a stay in a 1,200-square-foot two-bedroom suite, daily in-room breakfast for two, a personally curated bar with your favorite drinks, and a \$200 credit for dinner at the White Horse Tavern — said to be America's oldest tavern. Rates start at \$879 per night. A bit too much? Enjoy the Gilded Age Romance Package (starting at \$270 per night), which includes a bespoke Gilded Age cocktail (the French 75), a copy of "Theophilus North" (Thornton Wilder's love letter to Newport), and late check-out. Both packages are good through Feb. 28, based on availability. The hotel has 57 rooms and suites that evoke the feeling of being on an extravagant yacht. 401-849-3100, [brentonhotel.com/special-offers](http://brentonhotel.com/special-offers)

### TAKE YOUR SWEETIE TO THIS BOSTON HOTEL

Enjoy an intimate dinner in your own suite or a romantic overnight stay with champagne and chocolates at Boston Harbor Hotel. The hotel offers two special packages from Feb. 11 to Feb. 18. The Valentine's Private Celebration includes accommodations for two, champagne and chocolate-covered strawberries delivered to your room upon arrival, an in-room three-course dinner (with a bottle of wine) by chef Daniel Bruce for two guests, a full American breakfast for two in bed, free overnight



parking, and a 4 p.m. check-out. The Romance Getaway package includes overnight accommodations for two, champagne and Seacoast Sweets chocolates, full American breakfast for two served in-room, and overnight parking. Rates start at \$625; parking for both packages include one vehicle up to 6 feet, 6-inches tall. 617-439-7999, [www.bhh.com](http://www.bhh.com)

## THERE

### NEW KIDS' CAMPS ON TROPICAL ISLANDS

Amayara resort in the Turks and Caicos Islands has partnered with Miami's Phillip and Patricia Frost Museum of Science to offer new kids' camps that include hands-on science and guided experiences. The drop-in camps will run eight different weeks throughout the year beginning Feb. 11 and are geared to ages 5-10 and 11-14. In Coastal Conservation, participants will learn about mangroves, sand dunes, and local marine life, and enjoy kayaking and hiking adventures. Reef Rescue teaches kids about the science of corals and other marine life and includes snorkeling

or kayaking and building a coral reef. In Sun, Moon, and Stars, children will enjoy stargazing, constellation mapping, spectroscopy, and creating moon models. Daily camp rate runs \$95 per person (includes tote bag, reusable water bottle, and tickets to Miami's Frost science museum). Room rates start at \$1,750 per night. 649-941-5770, [www.aman.com/resorts/amayara](http://www.aman.com/resorts/amayara)

### BOOK A TRIP AROUND THE WORLD

Imagine a single trip that takes you over the equator four times, across three oceans and 14 seas, and to four continents, 33 countries, 27 islands, 61 UNESCO World Heritage sites, and 96 ports — all in six months. Not to worry, the trip doesn't depart until 2023, but you can book it starting this week. Oceania Cruises' 2023 Around the World 180 Days cruise departs San Francisco Jan. 15 and takes up to 684 passengers on an epic trip, stopping in South America, Africa, Asia, and Antarctica. It includes hands-on experiences and an opportunity to attend a cultural exposition in Buenos Aires, experience Bedouin music and dancing in the Arabian Desert outside Dubai, witness a sacred

Buddhist Donation Ceremony in Myanmar, and enjoy a candlelit evening at Vung Duc Cave in Vietnam's stunning Ha Long Bay. You'll get your choice of 64 shore excursions, a beverage package, or \$6,400 shipboard credit for free. Rates start at \$45,999 with the following free inclusions for all: first-class round-trip airfare from select North American gateways, pre-paid gratuities, onboard medical care, and unlimited Internet and laundry services. 855-623-2642, [www.oceaniacruises.com/2023-around-the-world-cruise](http://www.oceaniacruises.com/2023-around-the-world-cruise)

## EVERYWHERE

### SOOTHE STIFF OR TIRED MUSCLES

Whether you're tackling New Year's fitness resolutions or ramping up training for this year's adventures, recovery proves vitally important. Try the new HotRock heated foam roller made by Oregon-based MedRock. This portable foam roller heats up to 175 degrees in just under 10 minutes and can help with blood flow, stress relief, and soothing sore and tired muscles — or even stiff muscles from sitting in a car or on a plane. The heat promotes myofascial release and massage benefits, and it just plain feels great. The HotRock weighs 2.8 pounds and the long cord stores inside the roller for easy storage and for travel. Set the temperature between 125 degrees and 175 degrees and a timer for 30 minutes to 180 minutes, after which the roller automatically shuts off (a nice feature). \$179 (on sale for \$89 through Valentine's Day). 503-719-7775, [medrock.com/hotrock](http://medrock.com/hotrock)

### BIKE LIGHTS FOR DARKER DAYS

Daylight is hanging around slightly



longer these days, but you may still need strong and reliable lights for your commute, training rides, or nighttime mountain bike adventures. NiteRider's Lumina OLED 1200 Boost headlight mounts to your handlebars or helmet and runs for up to 18 hours (choose from five continuous light modes and four flashing modes). Set it for Walk mode (75 lumens) and you'll get 18 hours of light, up to Boost (1200 lumens) for one hour of high illumination. The 6-ounce light charges quickly and is water/dust-resistant so it can withstand your muddy adventures. The handy OLED display lets you keep tabs on battery power (so you can adjust settings to ensure you don't lose light midway through your activity), and view current settings, run time, and time of day. Add the Solas 250 USB taillight so you can be seen from behind. This light has two powerful LEDs that emit 250 lumens of light in four different flash or steady-state modes; it attaches to your saddle post using a durable quick-release mount. Both lights are USB rechargeable. \$149.99 for the OLED 1200 Boost; \$44.99 Solas 250. [www.niterider.com](http://www.niterider.com)

KARI BODNARCHUK