

South End Crash That Injured Four Children Renews Pedestrian Safety Debate

BY SOUTH END NEWS STAFF

Four children and one adult were struck by a vehicle at the intersection of Harrison Avenue and East Brookline Street in the South End on the morning of April 23, according to the Boston Police Department.

Officers responding to a radio call around 10:29 a.m. found the group had been hit while crossing the street. Boston EMS treated all five at the scene before transporting them to a local hospital for evaluation of possible minor injuries, police

said. The driver remained at the scene and is cooperating with the investigation. No charges have been announced.

The crash renewed concerns about pedestrian safety at one of the South End's busiest intersections and revived debate over Boston's use of "concurrent" traffic signals, where pedestrians and turning drivers may receive a green signal at the same time. Police have not publicly identified the cause of the

Continued on page 3

City Council Presses Wu Admin Over Stalled Street Safety Projects

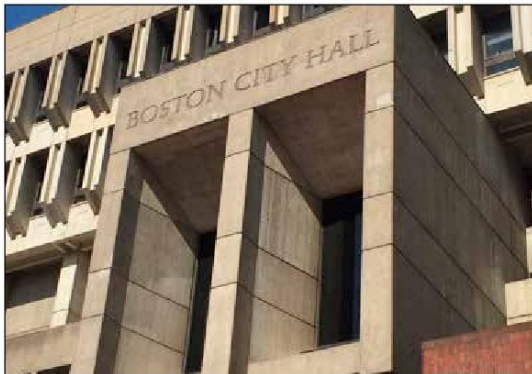


Photo by CommonKnowledgeCreator, via Wikimedia Commons.

BY SOUTH END NEWS STAFF

Pedestrian advocates and residents packed a Boston City Council hearing April 23 seeking answers from the Michelle Wu administration on the status of road safety projects across Boston, according to reporting from the Boston Globe and Universal Hub.

About 50 people testified during the lengthy hearing, with many citing the mayor's reported policy requiring her personal approval for nearly all street projects involving major redesigns, including lane removals, parking changes and traffic flow adjustments — a change first

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South End Bids Farewell to Cathedral's Msgr. O'Leary After 18 Years

BY SOUTH END NEWS STAFF

Monsignor Kevin J. O'Leary celebrated his final Mass as rector of the Cathedral of the Holy Cross on Sunday, April 26, after 18 years leading the mother church of the Archdiocese of Boston.

The Mass at 1400 Washington St. was attended by parishioners, clergy and public officials, including Mayor Michelle Wu and former Mayor Raymond Flynn. An outdoor reception followed at the Cathedral entrance on Washington Street.

Archbishop Richard G. Henning, who announced the transition last month, credited O'Leary with overseeing the Cathedral's major restoration and expanding its



Continued on page 4

Photo by Patrick O'Connor.

Croft School: London Buyer Emerges After Fraud Scandal

BY SOUTH END NEWS STAFF

London-based education company Dukes Education has emerged as the lead bidder in a court-supervised sale of The Croft School's two Boston campuses in the South End and Jamaica Plain, GBH News reported April 22.

The development comes after weeks of turmoil following the school board's March 17 disclosure that founder and executive director Scott Given had hidden roughly \$13 million in debt by keeping two sets of financial records, according to the Boston Globe and GBH.

Given was suspended without

pay on March 13 after the owner of a South End building sought to cash a \$500,000 letter of credit tied to a planned Croft expansion into the former Foodie's Market space on Washington Street. Bank employees identified the document as fraudulent.

Continued on page 6

South End Library: Mayor Pledges Commitment, Community Meetings Set For May

BY SOUTH END NEWS STAFF

Mayor Michelle Wu recently met with community members, Neighborhood Services staff and City Operations officials to discuss the long-delayed South End Branch of the Boston Public Library, according to the Friends of the South End Library.

The mayor expressed her commitment to getting the new building constructed and addressed concerns about city service vehicles being able to access homes adjacent to the proposed new branch between West Newton and Rutland Streets. A physical vehicle test has been



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Photo via Boston.gov.

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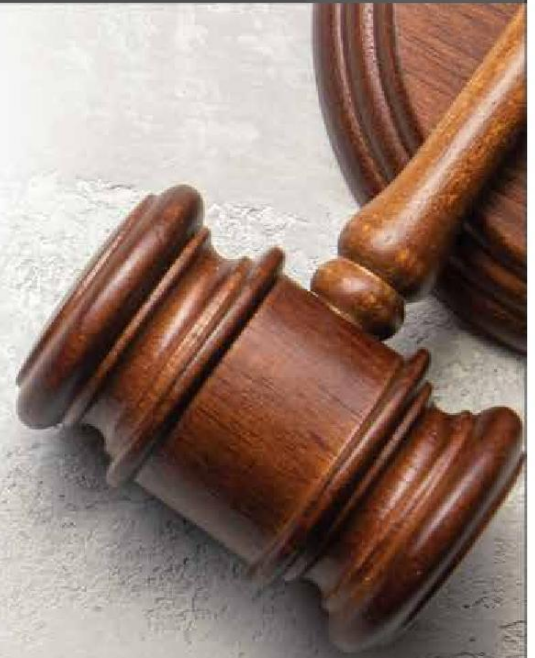
Donald E. Green, Esq., has been serving Boston for over four decades while leading a diverse, community-focused legal practice. He works alongside Annette Green, Esq., to deliver trusted legal guidance with a personal touch.

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'Love Your Block' Cleanups Set for May 2 in South End and Across Boston

Boston's annual "Love Your Block" neighborhood cleanup initiative will return this spring, with local events scheduled for Saturday, May 2, including sites in the South End.

Organized by the city's Office of Civic Organizing, the program invites residents, community groups and volunteers to take part in neighborhood cleanups aimed at improving streets, parks and public spaces.

Participants can either join an existing cleanup site or organize their own. City officials encourage groups to register early, as supplies and support are distributed on a

rolling basis. Cleanup tools will be available for pickup at designated neighborhood locations on the morning of the event and must be returned later that day.

The initiative, formerly known as Boston Shines, has grown into a citywide effort drawing thousands of volunteers each year. In 2025, more than 3,000 participants worked at over 150 cleanup sites across Boston.

Registration for both site organizers and volunteers opened March 10. Individuals and small groups without a designated site can sign up to be matched with a local cleanup.

SOME OF THE SOUTH END CLEAN UP LOCATIONS

Information provided by the Mayor's Office of Neighborhood Services

Harriet Tubman Park
Chester Square
Tremont Street & Shawmut Avenue
West Newton Street

Rutland Square
Blackstone Square & Franklin Square
Peters Park

MORE INFORMATION AND REGISTRATION DETAILS ARE AVAILABLE AT:

Boston.gov/Departments/Civic-Organizing/Love-Your-Block-2026



2026 DOG LICENSING AND LOW-COST RABIES CLINICS

DOG LICENSING FEES

- \$15 spayed/neutered (please provide proof)
- \$30 intact male/female
- No charge for seniors 70 and older

RABIES VACCINE FEES for cats and dogs

- Boston residents: \$5
- Boston residents over the age of 70: \$2
- Non-residents: \$10

• Three-year rabies vaccines will be given if you are able to show proof of previous rabies vaccines.
• All pets must be accompanied by a person 18 years or older. Dogs must be leashed, cats must be in a carrier.
For more info visit boston.gov/animals, call 617-635-1800, or find us on Facebook @bostonanimal

SATURDAYS | 10 A.M. - 2 P.M.

JAMAICA PLAIN | MAY 9 | BCYF Curtis Hall Community Center, 20 South St.

SOUTH BOSTON | MAY 30 | BCYF Condon Community Center, 200 D St.

ROXBURY | JUNE 6 | BCYF Tobin Community Center, 1481 Tremont St.



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Ward 4 Democrats Offer Scholarships to South End High School Students

The Boston Ward 4 Democratic Committee is offering \$400 scholarships to students currently enrolled in ninth and tenth grade who live in or attend school in Ward 4, including students at Melvin H. King South End Academy, Boston Latin School, and The Winsor School, according to a committee announcement.

Ward 4 includes the South End as well as parts of the Back Bay and Fenway. Additional information on eligibility requirements and the application process is available through the committee.

The scholarship program is one of several annual community outreach efforts by the Ward 4 Democrats, who represent one of Boston's most politically active and densely populated wards.



Photo via BostonWard4Dems.org

More information at bostonward4dems.org/scholarship-program

Crash

Continued from page 1

crash, and city officials have not said whether signal timing played a role.

City Councilor Ed Flynn, whose district includes the South End, has for years pushed the city to move away from concurrent signals in high-foot-traffic neighborhoods, arguing

they create unnecessary risks for pedestrians, particularly near schools and family centers.

Residents also raised concerns through 311 and neighborhood forums following the crash, calling on the city to reevaluate the signal configuration at Harrison Avenue and East Brookline Street. NBC10 Boston first reported the incident. The police investigation remains ongoing.



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SOUTH END CALENDAR

NEIGHBORHOOD NOTE: The South End Branch of the Boston Public Library remains closed until further notice due to facilities issues. BPL programming continues at other branches and online. Info: bpl.org/locations/south-end

THURSDAY, APRIL 30

International Jazz Day Celebration

6:30–9 p.m. | Union Church, 485 Columbus Ave.
Free concert featuring Grammy-nominated saxophonist Godwin Louis and Puerto Rican saxophonist Jonathan Suazo. Info: eventbrite.com/e/international-jazz-day-celebration-feat-godwin-louis-jonathan-suazo-tickets-1985934004066

FRIDAY–SUNDAY, MAY 1–3

SoWa Art Walk

11 a.m.–5 p.m. | 450 Harrison Ave.
Members of the SoWa Artists Guild open their studios for the annual Art Walk — browse and shop directly from the artists. Free. Info: sowaboston.com/event/sowa-art-walk-2026

SUNDAY, MAY 3

SoWa Open Market — Opening Day

11 a.m.–5 p.m. | 500 Harrison Ave.
The market returns for the season every Sunday through November 15. Local artists, artisans, farmers, food trucks, and beer garden. Free. Info: sowaboston.com

May Day in Hayes Park

3–5 p.m. | Hayes Park
Spring celebration featuring treats and live music with Wayne Potash & the Music Fun Band.

THURSDAY, MAY 7

BPNA Theater Night — Swept Away

Calderwood Pavilion, 527 Tremont St.
Community night at SpeakEasy Stage Company with discounted tickets for neighborhood residents. Tickets from \$15. (Confirm production run dates with theater) Info: speakeasystage.com/shows/2026/04/swept-away

THURSDAY, MAY 8

USES Neighborhood Gala

Artists for Humanity Epicenter
Annual fundraiser supporting programs serving South End families and children. (Confirm date at uses.org) Info: uses.org

WEDNESDAY, MAY 14

Tropicaliente — Hurley School Fundraiser

Artists for Humanity Epicenter
Community celebration supporting enrichment programs and classroom resources for Hurley Dual Language School students. Info: cbo.io/app/public/bidapp/tropi26

TUESDAY, MAY 26

South End Forum

6–8 p.m. | AC Hotel, 225 Albany St.
Community forum bringing together South End neighborhood and business associations.

SATURDAY, JUNE 6

Boston Pride for the People Parade & Festival

Copley Square through the South End to Boston Common
Parade 11 a.m. | Festival noon–6 p.m. | Block party 2–8 p.m. Celebrating LGBTQ+ community, advocacy, and Pride Month. Free. Info: bostonprideforthepeople.org

SATURDAY, JUNE 20

31st Annual South End Garden Tour

10 a.m.–4 p.m. | Various South End locations
Self-guided tour through private and public gardens, presented by The Trustees Boston Community Gardens. Benefits 56 community gardens citywide. Info: eventbrite.com/e/2026-south-end-garden-tour-tickets-1978426512958

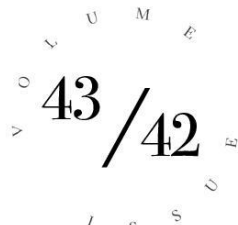
ONGOING

Swept Away at SpeakEasy Stage

Through May 23 | Wimberly Theatre, Calderwood Pavilion, 527 Tremont St.
Tickets from \$15 speakeasystage.com

SoWa Open Market

Every Sunday, May 3–Nov. 15, 11 a.m.–5 p.m. 500 Harrison Ave.
Free sowaboston.com



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LETTERS POLICY

To be considered for publication, letters must be no longer than 500 words; refrain from extreme personal attacks; be signed and include an address and daytime telephone number. Writers should refrain from making incorrect statements since they may be barred from future issues. Deadline is noon Tuesday for Thursday's paper. To send us letters: Mail to PO BOX E14, Boston, MA 02127; E-mail: letters@southendnews.com

O'Leary

Continued from page 1

role in the community. "Under his leadership, the cathedral has become a beacon of hope in the community providing a pastoral

home to Catholics and a place that serves the neediest and people from every walk of life," Henning said in a statement published by The Boston Pilot.

O'Leary, a South Boston native, was ordained in 1995 and was named Monsignor

by Pope Francis in 2019. He will transition to Senior Priest of the Archdiocese of Boston.

Father Christopher K. O'Connor has been appointed the next rector of the Cathedral and is expected to assume the role this summer.



Photos by Patrick O'Connor.



2026 LEAF AND YARD WASTE SCHEDULE

The City of Boston is dedicated to reducing our waste. You can help by participating in our waste reduction programs and by managing your waste responsibly. Learn more at boston.gov/zerowaste

EXAMPLE OF A PROPER CURBSIDE SETUP:



YARD WASTE
Large yard waste paper bags or open barrel with City issued Yard Waste sticker.



RECYCLING & COMPOST
No Plastic Bags inside recycling or compost bins.



HOUSEHOLD TRASH
Barrels larger than 32 gallons must have wheels and grab bar.



SPECIAL ITEMS
Not all items can go in the trash. Check the **Trash Day App** to learn how to properly dispose of materials.

YARD WASTE COLLECTION GUIDE

DO:

- Place leaves and yard debris in large paper bags or open barrels with City issued Yard Waste sticker.
- Tie branches with string (3-foot max length and 1-inch max diameter)
- Place barrels, bags, and branches curbside by 6 a.m.

DON'T:

- No plastic bags
- No dirt, mulch, or invasive species

NOTE:

- If you have **two trash days per week**, yard waste will be collected on your **first trash day of the week**.
- We don't collect leaf and yard waste curbside on non-scheduled weeks

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ZERO WASTE DAYS
Learn more at boston.gov/zero-waste-day

■ Leaf and yard waste collection ■ Zero waste drop-off ■ Christmas Tree collection

APRIL							MAY							JUNE							JULY							AUGUST								
SU	M	TU	W	TH	FR	SA	SU	M	TU	W	TH	FR	SA	SU	M	TU	W	TH	FR	SA	SU	M	TU	W	TH	FR	SA	SU	M	TU	W	TH	FR	SA		
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ZERO WASTE DROP-OFF LOCATIONS | 8:30 A.M. - 12 P.M

May 16 | Roxbury
Central PWD Facility
400 Frontage Road. 02118

June 27 | West Roxbury
W. Roxbury PWD
315 Gardner St. 02132

August 15 | West Roxbury
W. Roxbury PWD
315 Gardner St. 02132

September 26 | Roxbury
Central PWD Facility
400 Frontage Road. 02118

LEGAL NOTICES

CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL APPOINTMENT OF SUCCESSOR PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE		Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court Probate and Family Court	
		Docket No. SU17P1101EA	
Estate of: Richard Stephen Field Date of Death: 05/05/2017		Suffolk Probate and Family Court 24 New Chardon Street Boston, MA 02114 (617)788-8300	
To all interested persons: A petition has been filed by: Sophia J Martin of Little Elm, TX requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order that Gabriel W. Bell, Esq. of Franklin, MA be appointed as Successor Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve With Personal Surety on the bond and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.			
You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: 10:00 a.m. on 05/21/2026 .			
This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an Affidavit of Objections within thirty (30) days of the return date, action may be taken without further notice to you.			
The estate is being administered under formal procedure by the Personal Representative under Massachusetts Uniform Probate Code without supervision by the Court. Inventory and accounts are not required to be filed with the Court, but recipients are entitled to notice regarding the administration from the Personal Representative and can petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including distribution of assets and expenses of administration.			
WITNESS, Hon. Janine D Rivers, First Justice of this Court. Date: April 07, 2026 Stephanie L. Everett, Esq., Register of Probate			

CITATION GIVING NOTICE OF PETITION FOR APPOINTMENT OF GUARDIAN FOR INCAPACITATED PERSON PURSUANT TO G.L. c. 190B, §5-304		Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court Probate and Family Court	
		Docket No. SU26P0751GD	
In the matter of: Ernest Joseph Of: Boston, MA		RESPONDENT Alleged Incapacitated Person	
To the named Respondent and all other interested persons, a petition has been filed by Boston Medical Center of Boston, MA in the above captioned matter alleging that Ernest Joseph is in need of a Guardian and requesting that (or some other suitable person) be appointed as Guardian to serve on the bond.		Suffolk Probate and Family Court 24 New Chardon Street Boston, MA 02114	
The petition asks the court to determine that the Respondent is incapacitated, that the appointment of a Guardian is necessary, and that the proposed Guardian is appropriate. The petition is on file with this court and may contain a request for certain specific authority.			
You have the right to object to this proceeding. If you wish to do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance at this court on or before 10:00 A.M. on the return date of 05/14/2026 . This day is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline date by which you have to file the written appearance if you object to the petition. If you fail to file the written appearance by the return date, action may be taken in this matter without further notice to you. In addition to filing the written appearance, you or your attorney must file a written affidavit stating the specific facts and grounds of your objection within 30 days after the return date.			
IMPORTANT NOTICE The outcome of this proceeding may limit or completely take away the above-named person's right to make decisions about personal affairs or financial affairs or both. The above-named person has the right to ask for a lawyer. Anyone may make this request on behalf of the above-named person. If the above-named person cannot afford a lawyer, one may be appointed at State expense.			
WITNESS, Hon. Janine D Rivers, First Justice of this Court. Date: April 21, 2026 Stephanie L. Everett, Esq., Register of Probate			

CITATION GIVING NOTICE OF PETITION FOR APPOINTMENT OF GUARDIAN FOR INCAPACITATED PERSON PURSUANT TO G.L. c. 190B, §5-304		Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court Probate and Family Court	
		Docket No. SU26P0767GD	
In the matter of: Ruben Flores Of: Boston, MA		RESPONDENT Alleged Incapacitated Person	
To the named Respondent and all other interested persons, a petition has been filed by Boston Medical Center of Boston, MA in the above captioned matter alleging that Ruben Flores is in need of a Guardian and requesting that (or some other suitable person) be appointed as Guardian to serve on the bond.		Suffolk Probate and Family Court 24 New Chardon Street Boston, MA 02114	
The petition asks the court to determine that the Respondent is incapacitated, that the appointment of a Guardian is necessary, and that the proposed Guardian is appropriate. The petition is on file with this court and may contain a request for certain specific authority.			
You have the right to object to this proceeding. If you wish to do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance at this court on or before 10:00 A.M. on the return date of 05/21/2026 . This day is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline date by which you have to file the written appearance if you object to the petition. If you fail to file the written appearance by the return date, action may be taken in this matter without further notice to you. In addition to filing the written appearance, you or your attorney must file a written affidavit stating the specific facts and grounds of your objection within 30 days after the return date.			
IMPORTANT NOTICE The outcome of this proceeding may limit or completely take away the above-named person's right to make decisions about personal affairs or financial affairs or both. The above-named person has the right to ask for a lawyer. Anyone may make this request on behalf of the above-named person. If the above-named person cannot afford a lawyer, one may be appointed at State expense.			
WITNESS, Hon. Janine D Rivers, First Justice of this Court. Date: April 22, 2026 Stephanie L. Everett, Esq., Register of Probate			

Street Safety

Continued from page 1

reported by the Boston Globe last month. Among the projects of direct concern to South End residents, the city's spring construction list released the morning of the hearing included plans to redesign Harrison Avenue between Herald Street and East Berkeley Street. City Councilor Sharon Durkan, who chaired the hearing, said pedestrian deaths are rising and that Boston is falling behind its Vision Zero goal of eliminating traffic fatalities. She noted that eight pedestrians were killed in Boston last year and said the number of serious crashes has stopped declining.

Croft

Continued from page 1

lent, and police were alerted to possible fraud, according to court records and school board disclosures. A parent subsequently filed suit in Norfolk Superior Court accusing Given of operating a Ponzi-style scheme through the sale of "Croft bonds," which allegedly promised investors about 12% annual returns, the Globe reported.

Library

Continued from page 1

conducted, and City Operations has developed two options for the use of Alleys 510 and 529, which will be presented at community meetings scheduled for early May — one in person at Library Park and one virtual. The South End branch has been closed since April 2022 due to severe flooding damage. Rather than reopening the old building, the city plans to replace it with a new facility.

The administration's Neighborhood Services director told councilors that "nothing is on pause," arguing that projects were still moving through review rather than being canceled. That characterization drew sharp pushback from advocates and residents. Reggie Ramos, executive director of Transportation for Massachusetts, called it "the most inaccurate and disingenuous" statement he had heard. The hearing underscored growing frustration over whether Boston's Vision Zero commitments are translating into visible street safety improvements, particularly in neighborhoods like the South End where residents say dangerous intersections remain unresolved.

Parent groups at the South End campus then organized a nonprofit, South End Village Academy, and raised funds to keep the school open through the end of the academic year, according to GBH. The Croft School serves approximately 370 students across its two Boston campuses. The proposed sale to Dukes would not include the Providence campus, which serves an additional 220 students and whose future remains unclear. GBH reported the Boston sale is expected to close in conjunction with the end of the school year.

A full reopening is not expected until at least 2027, leaving the neighborhood without a branch library for years as residents continue pressing City Hall for progress. The Boston City Council took up the issue in February, urging faster action on reopening plans and recognizing neighborhood advocates who have continued pushing for the project. Mayor Wu's FY26–30 Capital Plan includes \$283 million for libraries citywide, with funding to advance a new South End branch among several neighborhood library projects.

LETTERS POLICY

The South End News welcomes letters to the editor.

All letters must be accompanied by a mailing address and phone number.

Because of space limitations, letters should not be more than 200 words.

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