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The Patriot Ledger

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6 of the oldest roads in Massachusetts



Leyden Street, the oldest street in Plymouth, was first used by the Pilgrims in 1620. GREG DERR/THE PATRIOT LEDGER

Catherine Messier
USA TODAY NETWORK - New England

Looking to go on a road trip in Massachusetts this fall? As one of the 13 original colonies, Massachusetts does not only offer breathtaking autumn foliage, but also plenty of historic roads to see it on. In fact, many of the state's roads originated as Indigenous trails, meaning some of the roads you drive on today may have existed before the country even did. Wondering where to find some? Here

are six of the oldest roads in Massachusetts that you can still drive down today.

1. Leyden Street

Originally named "First Street," Leyden Street was established by the Pilgrims to build houses in 1620, according to The Mayflower Society. Still active in Plymouth today, the street is regarded as one of the oldest continuously inhabited streets in the country. While the street does not currently have any surviving buildings from the colonial period, plaques on each resi-

dence tell the story of the historic figures who once lived there, including Governor William Bradford, deacon Samuel Fuller and Mayflower Compact signer Peter Browne.

2. Old Sandwich Road

Old Sandwich Road, connecting Plymouth and Sandwich, is regarded as the oldest continuously used unpaved road in the country. Wicked Local reports that the road was once a

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Paramedics to offer field blood transfusions

Peter Blandino
The Patriot Ledger
USA TODAY NETWORK

QUINCY – Quincy paramedics could soon begin administering blood transfusions before patients reach the hospital under a new program designed to improve survival rates for severe blood-loss victims, according to Quincy Police and the Brewster Ambulance Service.

The program is not yet in place. Known as the Whole Blood Response Program, the initiative would give Brewster Ambulance paramedics working in Quincy the training and resources necessary to "administer whole blood and plasma transfusions at the point of injury," a Quincy Police press release states. "The greatest potential advantage is time," said Chris DiBona, chief clinical officer with Brewster Ambulance Service. "Instead of simply transporting a patient toward definitive care, our goal is to begin lifesaving hemorrhage resuscitation while that patient is still in our care and continue it during transport."

Why whole blood can improve survival after severe injuries

Unlike regular blood transfusions, whole blood transfusions restore red blood cells, plasma and platelets simultaneously, making them ideal for heavy and rapid blood loss, according to the American Red Cross. The model was first employed by the Canton Fire Department, which operates the town's ambulance service internally, unlike Quincy, which contracts with Brewster. In their partnership with Boston Medical Center, Canton paramedics administer

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New Toys 'R' Us standalone store is back on the South Shore

Maria DeVito
The Patriot Ledger
USA TODAY NETWORK

Toys 'R' Us has a new location on the South Shore as the chain expands its U.S. retail footprint nearly a decade after filing for bankruptcy and closing stores nationwide.

The iconic toy store chain has opened a new location at South Shore Plaza, the Braintree mall shared on social media. The store is located on the upper level between Tilly's and Forever Flawless. This Braintree location is the only standalone Toys 'R' Us store in Massachusetts. The South Shore location opens as

the chain is expanding its U.S. retail footprint with 120 new standalone stores set to open across the country this holiday season, Patriot Ledger sister paper USA Today reported. The standalone stores will carry toys and collectibles from major brands and entertainment properties, including LEGO, Barbie, Hot Wheels, Pokémon,

"KPop Demon Hunters" and more, according to Toys 'R' Us. The chain's expansion, which takes Toys 'R' Us from 40 standalone stores in the U.S. to 160, comes as it continues to rebuild its nationwide presence through standalone stores as well as locations in

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