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The Enterprise

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'An amazing experience'



Heather Viana, from Taunton, seen here during the April 15 episode of Wheel of Fortune. PROVIDED BY SONY PICTURES TELEVISION

MA woman competes on Wheel of Fortune

Daniel Schemer
The Taunton Daily Gazette
USA TODAY NETWORK

Taunton resident Heather Viana appeared on Wheel of Fortune this week, competing on the April 15 episode.

How did she do? Not too shabby. "It was an amazing experience," said Viana, speaking to the Gazette Thursday afternoon after dropping her daughter Elliott off for gymnastics class. Though she didn't win the game, she made off with a little extra cash to bring

home. \$3,800 to be precise. She won that amount by solving two puzzles.

Early in the game, she solved the category of "song lyrics" with the verse "Everyone's got a hungry heart" from the Bruce Springsteen song "Hungry

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Plastic bag ban passes Senate

Margie Cullen
USA TODAY NETWORK - NEW ENGLAND

A newly Senate-passed bill would ban plastic bags and implement a fee for paper bags at stores across Massachusetts.

Under the bill, stores would not be allowed to provide a customer with a bag unless it is a recycled paper bag or a reusable bag. Stores would also have to charge at least 10 cents per recycled paper bag, 5 cents of which would go to the retailer and 5 cents would go to a state Plastics Environmental Protection fund, with an exception for some small stores.

The Massachusetts Senate passed the ban as part of the Mass Ready Act, a sweeping \$3.94 billion environmental bond bill based on legislation filed by Gov. Maura Healey. It passed in a vote of 36 to 3 on April 15.

The bill will next head to the House, where the fate of the plastic bag ban is unclear. While the Senate has approved such a ban before, most recently in 2024, it has never passed the House.

It's not just about plastic bags, though: the bill spans a range of environmental topics that could affect Massachusetts residents, from infrastructure for climate change and severe weather to protections for drinking water.

How the environmental bond bill could affect you

The bill authorizes millions of dollars for items like infrastructure for climate change and severe weather, protections for drinking water and trail accessibility. The full bill can be found on the Massachusetts legislature's website.

Besides a plastic bag ban, here are some impacts you could see if it becomes law:

Steps to address PFAS

The bill dedicates \$450 million to

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Residents rally around pig on loose in Bridgewater

Janson McNair
The Enterprise
USA TODAY NETWORK

Ever heard of a wild pig chase? Bridgewater residents are reporting sightings of a large pig in the area, with many seeing it in backyards, driveways and select roads.

Sightings have been popping up for the past few weeks. Along the way, the pig seems to have earned some sway in the community.

Cassidy Ando, a Bridgewater resident, said the pig, whom she and her neighbor refer to by the name "Penny," has become something of a local

celebrity. "I feel like it's bringing the community together, in a way," she said. "I look forward to opening Facebook and seeing if there's a new post about her, and I know there are other people who feel the same way."

'I'm kind of rooting for her right now'

Ando said she first spotted Penny about a year ago, and she's resurfaced in the area in the past few weeks.

"We kind of just thought the owner found her, and then a few weeks ago, my boyfriend and I pulled into our drive-

way, and we just saw her," she said. "Our trash had been getting rummaged through a lot recently, so we figured it was like squirrels in the yard, because we always see them running around, and one day my boyfriend's mom looked out the window, and the pig was going through our trash."

"We think she's been bouncing between Main Street and High Street," Ando added. "There have been neighbors on Miranda Way also confirming (sightings) of her."

Ando said she's seen a video of Penny being chased by animal control, and

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Bridgewater residents are reporting sightings of a large pig wandering in the area. PROVIDED BY CASSIDY ANDO

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