



This Week's Poll

This Week's Poll on Page 8



SouthBostonToday



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A Message From State Representative Nick Collins

February 5, 2013

Dear Neighbors, Over the past several days I have spoken with many friends, colleagues, local residents and business leaders encouraging me to run for the State Senate. I am honored and humbled by this support and I want you to know that I will be a candidate for the State Senate in the 1st Suffolk District. I will make my formal announcement in the coming days. I ask you to kindly share this news with your friends, family and neighbors.

As your State Representative from South Boston and Dorchester, you know me and elected me as a hardworking and reliable leader. I have a track record of community and legislative accomplishments. It is that same reputation I will take to the doorsteps of Dorchester, Mattapan and Hyde Park as I seek their vote and ask again for yours.

As your elected Representative, I know the needs and issues facing the entire 1st Suffolk and that became the reason that I campaigned to be your State Committeeperson this past year.

I know firsthand that all of our communities in the district want and need the same things - better schools for our children, safe neighborhoods for our elderly and families, and economic opportunity for all of our hard working residents. I believe my experience of bringing people together from diverse backgrounds will benefit every corner of our district and the people who are proud to call this our home. I look forward to listening to your thoughts and concerns as I seek to gain your support, confidence and vote.

Sincerely,

Nick Collins, State Representative



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Editorial “Be Involved”

“One man’s terrorist is another man’s freedom fighter”, is an old expression that could be used to illustrate the divide in political philosophies. A legislative philosophy one side brands as ‘un-American’ is embraced by the other side as the ‘Fulfillment of the American Dream’. Whichever side of the divide you fall on, one must be aware of how crucial a time period this is, particularly in South Boston.

Massachusetts has an open United States Senate seat that Congressman Stephen Lynch is seeking to fill. A successful race would create an open congressional seat for our district. Our state Senator Jack Hart’s resignation has opened his State Senate seat. Representative Nick Collins is the early favorite to win the Senate race, thus opening the State Representative seat here.

Many people and groups may see the opportunity to put forth candidates who represent their point of view, which is a good thing. Unions, businesses, certain organized citizen groups and individuals will naturally want a seat at the table. No one group or special interest should ever outweigh the people and their best interest. Some of these upcoming elections may come down to that choice. The Washington, DC machine seems to already have anointed Ed Markey. We shall see. Locally, now former Senator Jack Hart’s departure creates a particular timing vulnerability that South Boston has never faced before.



Case in point: The removal of the hotel/motel prohibition is still being hammered out and questions remain over the Boston Convention and Exhibition Center abiding by the zoning and planning agreements, creating a renaissance zone between First and Summer Streets and the Haul Road and the Reserve Channel, it made with the South Boston community that bargained in good faith with all of its elected officials at the table. Creating a major hotel and entertainment zone in the middle of South Boston, without a fully functioning legislative complement of its senator and representative can result in a negative impact with nasty surprises on the community and perhaps tempt those with development schemes that benefit themselves at our expense.

Don’t be surprised. Be involved.

“They that would give up essential liberty for a little temporary safety deserve neither liberty nor safety” Benjamin Franklin

Last week’s poll asked:

Last week’s poll asked South Boston Today’s readers to rate the new South Rules show.

Here are the results:

Great- 3%
Good - 4%
Bad - 15%
Terrible - 78%



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The Information Center

As The Chess Pieces Move

SOUTH BOSTON TODAY John Ciccone



Every so often, the political dominoes fall and the chess game begins. Such is the case, as all of our readers are well aware in South Boston right now. John Kerry is no longer the Senator from Massachusetts. Some are sorry to see him go; others are saying 'Amen'. First up to try to take his place is Congressman Ed Markey. Markey, in the opinion of quite a few, is a leftist radical with a record of little accomplishment while in Congress for these last, what seems like 10 centuries. What stands out in the minds of many is the role he played in raising everyone's Cable TV rates. Oh, what a legacy. Gee, thanks congressman. It seems that when liberals can't find a tax to raise, they'll just increase what we all must pay on something, anything else. Like a drug, it's a habit they just need to feed.

But into the race comes South Boston's own Congressman Stephen Lynch. Some say he's too Conservative to win in the Blue state of Massachusetts. If being pro life, in defense of the unborn and daring to insist that he read what was in the Obamacare fiasco before he agreed to support it, is being too Conservative then good for him. Being part of a mindless herd, like so many other Democrats in this state are, is no way to go through life and we are glad Stephen Lynch refused to be part of that herd. It would be nice to have someone with common sense and patriotism occupying the Senate seat

that Kerry has held for far too long. The good thing is that if Stephen is not successful, we still get to keep him as our Congressman.

If he wins, who will seek his Congressional seat, the one which includes South Boston? It's up to all of us to get active and make sure it will be someone who will be good for this town. With the departure of our state senator Jack Hart, our young state representative Nick Collins see's his opening. Go for it Nick. We need to keep that seat in South Boston but embrace our neighbors in Dorchester and Mattapan. You are a bridge builder, Nick, and a logical choice. You have proven that you are a tireless worker and are responsive to the needs and concerns of your constituents. I know it wasn't your plan to seek a different office so soon but times like these call for quick action by a good man.

If Collins is not successful, he's still our State Rep and that's good. But if he wins, who will seek his Rep. seat? There are several good local candidates out there who I'm sure are weighing their options right now. As the chess pieces start to get moved around, it's important the outcome is beneficial to the people of South Boston. Oh, speaking of elected officials let me add my voice in congratulating young Mr. Kyle Murphy. The New Mayor of the South Boston Boys and Girls Club along with the new Club council members: Lulu Cruz, Kanyiah Gang, Robert Hilliard, Sarah Mogen, Julia Ma, Julie Ann Perez and Amanda Talbot. May all your terms in office be productive and of course a lot of fun too.

A quick comment on now former Senator Kerry's confirmation hearings to become Secretary of State. Are there no standards in Washington any longer? Must everything be a staged political love fest of back slapping congratulations and phony rehearsed tributes? The man turned on his own troops when he returned from Vietnam; calling them murderers, rapists, baby killers and so much more. He gave a speech a couple of years back where he actually said that if you weren't smart and did not study

hard and succeed, you could wind up in Iraq. This was a direct slap at our brave men and women in uniform who felt it was their duty to fight for their country. He pulled rank and position consistently; feeling he is so much better than everyone else. Can we ever forget the time he had a fire hydrant removed from in front of his house in Boston so he could park his car? And the man, another liberal addicted to tax hikes, actually hid his yacht in Rhode Island so he wouldn't have to pay the Massachusetts tax on it; a tax he believes everyone else should have to pay. Yet there he was in Washington last week, receiving accolades and embarrassing, fawning praise from Democrats and Republican alike even though each and every one of them knows exactly what type of person Kerry is and how his defeatist, leftist views on world affairs will guide how he represents our country. He called the president of Syria, the man who butchers his own people, a great reformer. Is it any wonder most Americans are turned off by politics in Washington?

And finally, a comment to Mayor Menino. Last week in your State of the City address, you called NRA Executive Vice President Wayne LaPierre 'crazy' because he advocates putting armed guards in schools after the Newtown, Connecticut shooting. Well Mayor, just last week, the Newtown Board of Education, backed by a majority of parents there, voted to request that, yes, armed guards be put into their elementary schools - just like Wayne LaPierre wanted. Recent polls nationwide now show that a majority of Americans agree with LaPierre and the NRA and believe that, yes, armed guards in schools is the way to go. So now the question to ask is this: If, as the mayor thinks, LaPierre is crazy, because of what he believes is the best way to go to protect children in schools, are the officials and parents in Newtown, Connecticut as well as the majority of the American people also crazy because they agree with Mr. LaPierre? I'm just curious what the Mayor thinks.

Note: Talk back to John Ciccone by email at jciccone@southbostontoday.com

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Councilor Linehan to Host Annual St. Patrick's Day Breakfast

SOUTH BOSTON TODAY staff report

With the departure of State Senator Jack Hart, City Councilor Bill Linehan, the senior member of the South Boston delegation, will take over as the Master of Ceremonies for this year's annual roast. Since its inception, the breakfast has been hosted by the sitting State Senator from South Boston. Councilor Linehan praised Senator Hart's ability and efforts over his years as host. "Jack has done a great job bringing the breakfast to another level."

The three hour televised event, draws over 500 people to the sit down breakfast, where tickets go quickly and is quite a sight to see. There are hundreds of volunteers that help run the event every year. It draws political figures from all over the State. Mayor

Thomas M. Menino, Governor Deval Patrick, Senate President Therese Murray, and House Speaker Robert A. Deleo are regulars at the event. Many other local and state wide office holders usually participate in the event as well.

The collegial atmosphere of the event allows people to put aside their political differences for the day and laugh together. Former Senate President William Bulger told NECN that the breakfast is "a great opportunity get together and step aside from whatever the contentious items (of the day) are."

"I am looking forward to the opportunity to put a little Linehan stamp on it", says Linehan. As usual the people of South Boston are looking forward to the festivities.



Here We Go Again. Gas Price On The Rise

SOUTH BOSTON TODAY staff report

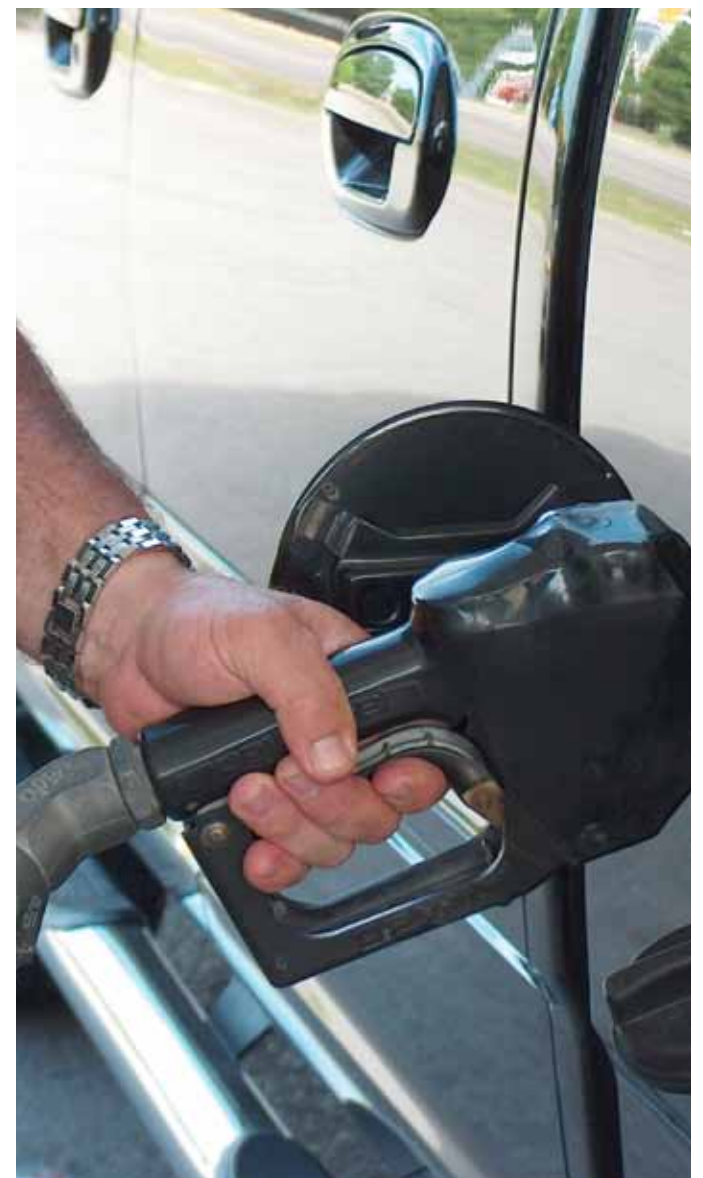
If you've filled up your car's fuel tank within the last 2 weeks, you don't need South Boston Today to tell you that prices are climbing fast. Yes folks, here we go again. The economy out there isn't quite bad enough, families now have to dig deeper yet again to fill the chariot.

We are so often told that every thing purchased is a matter of supply and demand. The less there is of something the higher the price paid for it. But according to economic experts, if there are such people any longer, the supply is high and demand is actually down right now. In fact, according to these same sources, the supply of domestic crude oil is so plentiful; the U.S. is currently exporting gasoline to other countries. Charts show that the prices at the pump do move up and down in concert with crude oil price but the fact that prices are rising at all is a mystery. Some blame it on a conspiracy among the big oil companies. Others are guessing that the seemingly apathetic attitude with the current leadership in the White House and its allies among radical environmentalist groups which are certainly known to be anti - fossil fuel is what encourages everyone from domestic producers to the Middle East OPEC Cartel to raise prices whenever and as high as they think they can get away with.

When you factor the price in with high taxes federal and state taxes on each gallon of gas purchased at your local filling station, it all adds up to being a real hardship to the average working class family. And certain states, like Massachusetts of course, are actually trying to add even more taxes; as high as a 19 cent increase per gallon on top of everything else.

The burden of rising fuel prices goes far beyond just shelling out more at the pump. It sets off a chain reaction that is far reaching and hurts everyone. When gas prices rise, the cost of food items and groceries, which are transported mostly by truck also must rise as markets, in an effort to make a profit and stay in business must pass the increase along to the consumers. The price of clothing and building material also goes up, driving up the cost of doing business every where. Often, this leads to workers losing their jobs as companies must cut their overhead costs. It's a cycle that affects every part of the economy and benefits no one.

The bottom line here is this. When politicians and some environmentalists say that rising energy prices are a good thing because people will use less, they are not looking at the big picture. And that picture is one that brings a negative effect on just about every American.



Reading Between The Lines

“The Invisible Man”

SOUTH BOSTON TODAY Brian R. Mahoney



“I was still eating baby food when that guy first showed up”, responded my friend when I told him Ed Markey was running for U.S. Senate. Truth be told my friend graduated before I did but it certainly seems some presence has been, allegedly, a congressman from Malden for what seems like forever.

It's especially amazing for me because, over thirty years ago, I was a Capitol Police officer in Washington D.C. and even then I only knew what Markey looked like from the congressional photo book issued to all Capitol Police officers to help them recognize congressional members, a truly 'invisible' presence.

A look at his career highlights perhaps explains his low, or no, profile. In 2003, he launched a crusade to have 100% of all air cargo screened and in 2007 that became a new regulation. He is a lifelong critic of the Nuclear Regulatory Committee (NRC). In 2007, he used the communication medium of “Second Life” to address delegates to a “one climate” conference in Bali. This may have saved as much as 5.5 tons of

carbon dioxide from being released from Markey's jet travel into the atmosphere. In 2010, he succeeded in having British Petroleum provide an underwater TV link of the leak on the “deep horizon” drilling site. Also in 2010, he declared that global warming skeptics should all be placed on an iceberg. In 2011, the “Global Warming Congressional Committee”, of which he was the chairman, was eliminated. That's it. That's his career. At least that's how Google has his career listed.

It may seem a bit underwhelming, but, using a phone and a computer to reach someone in a different place like Bali is a great idea. Why Alexander Graham Bell and Al Gore are probably saying “why didn't I think of that”? It's obvious why the congressman prefers this low key, virtually invisible, appearance; It works so well. So well in fact, that his 30 year next door neighbor in Malden is not sure what Markey looks like, or if she has actually ever seen him. He'd probably be better suited as CIA director, in charge of the nation's spies, than a U.S. Senator.

Imagine, his career in Congress began in 1976 and his first listed “achievement” is 2003. Only 27 years. What he could achieve as Senator boggles the mind. Can't you just see the headline? “Senator Markey Bill Outlaws Plastic Water Bottles on Capitol Hill.” Ten years after that, after recovering his strength, he could tackle the scourge of plastic shopping bags. Best of all, Markey is the choice for Senator of the Washington power brokers, the same folks who have been doing such a bang up job for decades. They know better than us what we need. And that's just what Senator Markey will do. Whatever they tell him.

While Markey has been doing his Claude Rains impersonation, Congressman Stephen Lynch has been the “visible” man. He hasn't hid behind politically safe

positions, and he has refused to be pigeon holed into any one ideology. A union man to the core and the Ironworker's youngest president ever, he went to court against his own National Council to rewrite a contract he felt unfair to his membership. He was the only member of the Massachusetts Delegation who said he would like to read the health care bill before deciding to support or oppose it. This position resulted in SEUI picketing his office. These are just two of several times Lynch has taken a principled, reasoned approach to tough issues.

This columnist has not always

agreed with the Congressman but certainly recognizes it takes a certain kind of courage to sometimes antagonize your loyal original base and sometimes upset your new Washington friends. Neither occasion necessarily wins friends, but it establishes the refreshing fact that you are willing to actually take a stand.

Our next US Senator should be chosen on what we know or can see about him or her. On what is 'visible'; Not by some faraway unseen presence pulling the strings on an 'invisible' puppet.

Take care till next week.

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Promising Boost for the Arts and Entertainment Sector

SOUTH BOSTON TODAY staff report

Real estate development in the South Boston community is taking place all around the area, and the South Boston Waterfront is marketing itself as Innovation Mecca. Meanwhile, the arts and entertainment sector of Boston has been quietly trying to grow not only its array of theater, comedy, concert and other offerings, but its attractiveness as a venue option for major productions, just as the film industry sector has done.

In order to help boost the prospects of that happening, Rep. Nick Collins and his colleague, Rep. Paul McNulty of Dedham have filed legislation proposing a tax credit for producers who bring shows to Massachusetts before heading to Broadway. The credit would grant up to \$3 million to a production that plays in Boston, for example, before opening in New York or a touring show that originates here, reimbursing up to 35% of its labor costs. Unlike the somewhat controversial film tax credit, there is an overall ceiling of \$10 million being spent.

The challenge for Boston's entertainment sector is the ability to attract audiences consistently and with high enough attendance for the production to be sustained during the month long period of time that the shows need to be tweaked and improved.

The Boston Globe reported on this initiative in detail this past Sunday. Josiah Spaulding, President of the Citi Center and Richard Jaffe of Broadway in Boston pointed out that the distinction between the theater credit and the film credit is that while the film credit typically goes to out of state producers distributing to a national market, the theater credit will go to local theaters and venues with hundreds of workers hired whenever there is a pre-Broadway show run here. These promoters are developing a case study on economic impact using 'Tuck Everlasting' a pre-Broadway show to be performed this summer at the Colonial Theater and presented by Broadway in Boston.

Rep. Collins stated, "This is a tangible economic opportunity with local theaters, their workers, nearby restaurants and other vendors directly benefiting from it."

Other States like Louisiana, Illinois and Rhode Island have similar tax credit programs and the State Agencies that administer and promote the credits boast that they are seeing those tangible results. The legislative proposal has a long way to go. South Boston's Arts Community may benefit with various artists and suppliers living and working here.

South Boston Today will periodically provide updates as they occur.



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This Week's Poll

The debate over the changes to the Boston Public Schools this past fall included many issues that parents care deeply about.

School Quality, Choice, Close to Home Options, Magnet Schools, Transportations Cost savings, Increase in school hours, better special programs.

This week's poll asks the readers of South Boston Today what they feel is the most important issue that needs to be addressed with the new changes that are coming:

- Overall School Quality
- Available Choices
- Close to Home Options
- More Access to Magnet Schools
- Transportations Cost savings
- Increase in school hours
- More funding for special needs programs

Brian's Beat

SOUTH BOSTON TODAY Brian P. Wallace



Wow! That is about the only word I can say when faced with the proposition of so many political races, so many changing faces and offices, so many goodbyes; And so many hello's and so many times I should have gone into the bumper sticker and sign business like I wanted to thirty years ago with my cousin Jack. This year alone would have been enough to buy not only a Cape house but a boat to go with it. And the races, the names, the stories, seem to change every day.

At first, Scott Brown was definitely running as a Republican candidate for John Kerry's seat in the Special Election. Now, he's not, which really angered many of the Republicans who are left holding their wallets with no formidable candidate to support. Brown is said to be focusing on the open Governor's seat in 2014. Where does that put Charlie Baker? Many people had conceded the Republican nomination to Baker no matter who the Democrats put up, and by the way, who will that be? Lt. Governor Timmy Murray, who is a real nice guy, has decided that he's not going to run for Governor in 2014. Deval Patrick is out. Now they are talking Steve Grossman, Martha Coakley, where's Billy Galvin? This reminds me of Hollywood where instead of coming up with new ideas for movies they just re-run sequels. How many Rocky movies have there been? How many Friday the 13th's?

It should be up to Friday the 22nd by now. Let's get original, guys. And it is even worse for the Republicans

They are talking about running Bill Weld, again, or Rep Dan Winslow? Now there's a household name, one of the Romney's, who like the Kennedys can keep the candidates coming, Kerry Healey has been mentioned. Doctor Keith Ablow? Come on. Is Ali Fumadoro still around? Former Rep Karyn Polito, whom I served with, is a real dark horse here, as is, of course, Charlie Baker. Now here is where the plot thickens.

I have a feeling, and it is just a feeling, that Charlie Baker might be the Republican nominee for the Kerry seat and Scott Brown the nominee for Governor in 2014. The challenging party to the President always does well in mid-term elections. The Republicans might just put up a straw candidate, which saves their marquee candidates a divisive fight and a lot of money for the full term Senatorial Election in 2014? You really have to keep a scorecard here! How about Bennet for Senate?

On the other side and on the other race, I don't care who the Republicans put up, none of them are going to beat Steve Lynch. Take it from someone who has seen the man campaign, firsthand. He is a force. No games. He looks you right in the eye and tells you about himself, his background, his accomplishments and his vision. My father used to say, "A man's a man who looks at a man right between the eyes." That is Steve Lynch. You don't have to like him, but you will always respect him and what he has accomplished. I have never seen a better campaigner.

My coach John "Injun" Horan" used to say "this is a layup." Wait until they get a load of Steve Lynch in Springfield, New Bedford and Worcester. They are going to love him. He is them. If he goes to the Senate, they go to the Senate. I thought one of Steve's better quotes was when he said, "When Ed Markey got elected to Congress, I was in the ninth grade." Boy, does that hit home with people who are tired of lifetime Washington politicians. Get those bagpipes ready Kevin.

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CITY OF BOSTON
 To the Public Safety Commission
 Committee on Licenses
 Building Department
 Boston, January 8, 2013

APPLICATION

For the lawful use of the herein-described building and other structure, application is hereby made for a permit to erect a private-10 vehicle parking garage and also for a license to use the land on which such building or structure is/are or is/are to be situated for the STORAGE of: **200 Gallons of Gasoline**

Location of land **537 East First Street, South Boston, MA Ward 6** Owner of land **537 East First Street, Inc.** Address **509 East First Street, PO Box 15 South Boston, MA 02127** Dimensions of land: Ft. front **68** Ft. deep **187.5** Area sq. ft. **12,750** Number of buildings or structures on land, the use of which requires land to be licensed **1** Manner of keeping **Store gasoline in gas tanks of 10 cars**

City of Boston. In Public Safety Commission February 27, 2013 In the foregoing petition, it is hereby ORDERED, that notice be given by the petitioner to all persons interested that this Committee will on Wednesday the 27 day of February at 10 a.m. o'clock, A.M., consider the expediency of granting the prayer of said petition when any person objecting thereto may appear and be heard; said notice to be given by the publication of a copy of said petition with this order of notice thereon in the South Boston Today and by mailing by prepaid registered mail, not less than 7 days prior to such hearing, a copy to every owner of record of each parcel of land abutting on the parcel of land on which the building proposed to be erected for, or maintained as, a garage is to be or is situated. Hearing to be held 1010 Massachusetts Ave, Boston, Ma 02118.

Gary P. Moccia, Chairman
 Roderick J. Fraser, Jr.
 Thomas Tinlin
COMMITTEE ON LICENSES
 02/07/13, 02/14/13, 02/21/13

CITY OF BOSTON
 To the Public Safety Commission
 Committee on Licenses
 Building Department
 Boston, January 17, 2013

APPLICATION

For the lawful use of the herein-described building and other structure, application is hereby made for a permit to erect a private-garage 6 vehicle parking garage and also for a license to use the land on which such building or structure is/are or is/are to be situated for the KEEPING-STORAGE of: six passenger motor vehicles, 120 Gallons of gas in the tanks of vehicles.

Location of land **115 B Street, Ward 06, Owner of land 115 B Street LLC.** Address **836 East Third Street, South Boston, MA 02127** Dimensions of land: Ft. front **43** Ft. deep **73** Area sq. ft. **3139.00**. Number of buildings or structures on land, the use of which requires land to be licensed **One (1)** Manner of keeping in the tanks of vehicles.

City of Boston. In Public Safety Commission February 27, 2013 In the foregoing petition, it is hereby ORDERED, that notice be given by the petitioner to all persons interested that this Committee will on Wednesday the 27 day of February at 10:00 a.m. o'clock, A.M., consider the expediency of granting the prayer of said petition when any person objecting thereto may appear and be heard; said notice to be given by the publication of a copy of said petition with this order of notice thereon in the South Boston Today and by mailing by prepaid registered mail, not less than 7 days prior to such hearing, a copy to every owner of record of each parcel of land abutting on the parcel of land on which the building proposed to be erected for, or maintained as, a garage is to be or is situated. Hearing to be held 1010 Massachusetts Ave, Boston, MA 02118.

Gary P. Moccia, Chairman
 Roderick J. Fraser, Jr.
 Thomas Tinlin
COMMITTEE ON LICENSES
 02/07/13, 02/14/13, 02/21/13

Development Update - 815 East Fifth Street

SOUTH BOSTON TODAY staff report

Jenna Fitzgerald worked for the Boston public schools in the early 1970s. By 1979, after years of demanding fairness for her coworkers, she was elected as the first union representative for paraprofessionals and substitute teachers within the Boston teachers union. It is a position she still holds. Shortly thereafter, in the early 1980s, she led the successful battle of neighbors against gasoline being stored in the garage at 815 E. 5th St. She is very proud and protective of the neighborhood that her six children were raised in. This is a feeling and spirit that seems to be present in all of the residents,

who are challenging the intrusive development project proposed at that very same location.

She is the first to point out that she is not alone in these battles and the status of the development proposal at 815 proves the point. Most of the neighborhood people who have been attending meetings have raised opposition to the present proposal. Mark and Amy, new homeowners and direct abutters, are rightfully concerned at what the anticipated tremors from excavation for underground parking will do to their foundation. Fran and Gail Moran and Paul Manning, 5th Street neighbors, whose care for their homes is so



evident, question the height and density. In other words, they are concerned about the sheer number of people who will be plunked down in the middle of their quiet and well-kept up block.

The developer has attempted to change the project and make it more acceptable to the neighbors. The proposal has been reduced to 22 units, which neighbors agree is not enough. The question of roof decks and balconies are other points

of contention with 'inset roof decks' being suggested. On E. 6th Street, Barbara is concerned about where the car exhaust contained in the garage will be pumped to. One suggestion that was more appealing was the idea of building townhouses rather than a single apartment building.

Jenna Fitzgerald, the Morans and Mannings and all of the neighbors stressed that they are not against development. What they are against is any plan that does not fit and in and respect the neighborhood they love. Local attorney, George Morancy, has assured them that there will be more meetings until the majority of neighbors are in support of a project that is respectful to all concerned. Though all the concerns have not been fully addressed, the direction of this process demonstrates how a neighborhood and a developer should work together to accomplish mutual goals.



One of Southie's Most Historic Days in History

SOUTH BOSTON TODAY staff report

Last Thursday January 31, 2013 will go down in the annals of South Boston history as one of the most memorable and significant politics events, I guess, in the annals of events. It was on that day that our esteemed State Senator Jack Hart stood in front of his colleagues in the Massachusetts Senate and bade farewell in a heartfelt, heart wrenching speech that raised Kleenex stock two points. As they say in sports, "Jack left it all on the field that day." I worked with Jack for eight years and I can honestly say that he is, by far, one of the most truly liked Senators in the building. There is a story that is framed in his office and the title

of the story is "Gentleman Jack" and that captures it about as well as it can be captured. With Jackie Hart, what you see is what you get. There are no pretenses. There is no agenda, other than to do as much for his constituents as he can possibly do, and that is an admirable way to live your life. Those shoes are going to be pretty big to fill, as were those of his predecessors, Steve Lynch, Bill Bulger, Joe Moakley, and Johnny Powers. You are talking some big time names there and Jackie fits right in with them.

It's more than a little ironic that as Jack was saying good bye, our Congressman over at Local #7 was saying hello to a state-wide

audience. I can remember his first Congressional campaign and the crowds that filled that very hall. They were back and there were more of them this time.

"If I can fill one of Joe Moakley's shoes, I'll be happy," Steven said that day back in 2000. Well, he did and he continued to make us all proud of the tireless work he, and his staff did in the past thirteen years. Pretty soon, the rest of the State will know what we already know; Stephen Lynch is no ordinary politician. You can tell that the first time you meet him. I can remember the first time he knocked on my door when he was running for State Rep. I had met him a couple of times before but

we weren't close. He asked me for my vote and I told him that I had already committed to Rep. Paul Gannon. He shook my hand and thanked me for my honesty. He beat Paul Gannon that year and I have been with him ever since and I have been proud to be with him.

But the irony of last Thursday cannot be lost as Jackie Hart says good bye and Steve Lynch says hello. Two great men, both of whom served as State Rep, both of whom served as State Senator, both of whom live on G Street, both of whom have a bunch of sisters, both of whom have represented this town as well as anybody before them and both of whom I am happy to call my friend.

Depp Movie Proposed

SOUTH BOSTON TODAY staff report

The hits just keep on coming. The latest news has South Boston residents shaking their collective heads as if it the weatherman had just announced the fourth snowstorm in a month and a half. That news is that Johnny Depp is going to play the part of Whitey Bulger. Why not, he looks just like him. We can be sure that the town and its residents, new and old, will be treated equally. Just look at the latest production, called Southie Rules. They took a stereotype of Southie residents, lifelong and new arrivals, and managed to insult both.

The movie is based on the novel 'Black Mass'. Residents since that time who were involved or had intimate knowledge of many of the incidents noted in the book will tell you that this book is one of the more accurate telling of those days, compared to the slew of a self-serving and outright false books and movies that have been written and filmed. This book too is tinged with an air of self-service.

Those, in the know, point to the scene where John Connolly meets Whitey on Tenean Beach to proposition him into being an informant. Folks with the knowledge will tell you, if John Connolly had to speak to or see Whitey, he would call or go to his

house. They were friends since they were children.

The book's casting of a 1975 Connolly meeting with Whitey, in the performance of his FBI duty, as if for the first time, is clearly intended to put Connolly in a good light. It suggests to me the probability Connolly himself was the source of this first meeting story which casts doubt on other parts of the book, where the author accepted Connolly's doctored version.

Depp himself is a curious pick. While establishing himself as an actor in extreme role, he hasn't had much success in portraying normal roles. If portraying an accused murderer can be considered normal. Depp lives now in France, moving there after the financial success of his Pirates of the Caribbean series. Upon taking residence, he said, "Americans were too childlike" for him to continue to live there. A statement made doubly curious by the American public's very embrace of these childish fantasy movies of gold and dead, talking pirates that made Depp his fortune.

NFL Hall of Famer and Charlestown native Howie Long's words come to mind. When commenting on the movie "The Town" that portrayed Charlestown as filled with bank robbers, Long said the following, "I'd like to



see those tough street kids from Cambridge do a movie about the good people from Charlestown."

As for Black Mass, it would be nice to see the proper respect paid

to the victims of that period but be prepared for Whitey as some Hollywood Hero and the residents as 'props' to be vilified and ridiculed. We shall see.

Councilor Linehan announces Property Tax Hearing

SOUTH BOSTON TODAY staff report

Councilor Bill Linehan and Council President Stephen Murphy have worked with City hall staff to resolve concerns from constituents regarding their recently issued property tax bills. The Councilors called for a hearing during last week's City Council meeting to discuss the possibility of creating new exemptions to keep taxes fair across the board for property owners.

A hearing has been scheduled on Thursday, February 21, 2013 at 3:00pm in the City Council Iannella Chambers, 5th floor of Boston City Hall. Please contact Councilor Linehan's office with any questions at 617-635-3203.

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Jack Hart's Letter to the Editor

Madame President, members of this Senate, friends and family. No one, but perhaps those who serve here, can appreciate my feelings of deep affection, gratitude, and a real sense of melancholy at this parting. To this historic place, and the kindness of many, many people, I owe so much. And I love this place more than you can imagine.

This place, this Senate chamber, remains one of the most extraordinary institutions in the world and it has been such a tremendous honor and the thrill of a lifetime to have represented the Senate's First Suffolk District for more than 11 years.

But there will come a time when each of you, in this body, stands here as I do and bids farewell. So, yes there is a good deal of sadness in leaving. But there is also great joy for me and my family as I enter the next phase, the next challenge in my life, accepting a partnership position at the distinguished and growing Boston

law firm, Nelson Mullins Riley and Scarborough.

To President Murray, for the leader that you are for all of us, for giving me the chance to serve on your leadership team from the start, and for the extraordinary example you have set for women around the commonwealth, especially my four daughters who see in you the endless possibilities for themselves. Your strong and compassionate leadership has served us well.

As American author Leo C. Rosten wrote, "The purpose of life is to count, to matter, to stand for something, to have made some difference that you lived at all". Madame president, because of your work to date and the things you will continue to accomplish, your purpose in life is complete, it is fulfilled because of what you've done, and what this body has accomplished that has made such a difference in the lives of others.

To my Senate staff, Jennifer Jackson, Tommy Butler, Mike Moynihan, Karen Crowley, Michelle Lavoie

and others who are here today like Rosemary Powers and Nathan Pham, I am eternally grateful for your efforts on behalf of the people of our district and for representing me so well here at the statehouse. You have managed to accomplish great things in our office through your dedication and compassion for your work, and along the way, in the neighborhoods and in the halls here at the Statehouse, you have made me look good. But much of the credit belongs to you. Each of you has a bright future and wherever you land in your new endeavor, they'll be lucky to have you.

I've always repeated the same theme to the people who worked in our office. When someone calls upon us from the neighborhoods in our district looking for help, whether it be an elderly woman who is being evicted from her apartment and needs housing, or somebody who has a family and was laid off from his/her job and is looking for work, a parent who needs substance abuse treatment for one of the kids, or a veteran who needs an understanding of the benefits and services available to him; if these people are calling our office it is likely because they have nowhere else to turn. So let's treat them accordingly and with dignity, with each of those calls treated as if they were the most important call of the day that we were dealing with. And our staff did that, fielding countless calls every day, perhaps as well as any office here at the Statehouse. You will always be like family to me and I can't thank you enough for everything.

As for family, my sisters, Teresa, Maureen, Susan and Ellen and I, hit the parents' lottery. My parents, John and Ellie Hart were the best parents we could ever have imagined. They taught us all we needed to know about faith, hard work, kindness, and decency by the simple eloquence of their example. It was how they carried themselves and how respectfully they treated other people no matter who those people were or what situation in life they found themselves in.

My mother and father spent every waking moment of their married lives doing things that would make our lives better. It's a debt to them we can never

fully repay. It is said that "Having gratitude without expressing it, is like wrapping a present and never giving it". So, today, on behalf of my four sisters and the thirteen grandchildren, I simply say thank you. You are the greatest!!!

We grew up in South Boston, and if you know South Boston, you know that politics was of paramount importance. Politics was in our blood and Election Day, my father would say, was the most exciting day of the year, even more exciting than Superbowl Sunday.

So when an opportunity arose in 1996 to run for an open House seat, after much discussion with family and friends, I decided to get in the race. I was newly married at the time. No children. My family and friends literally gave up a large part of their own lives, and still do, for the sake of my political career and, I have to say, as many of you well know, it is an incredibly humbling experience, to have so many people giving of themselves to us in the political arena.

Each night after a long day of campaigning my family would meet at Youville Hospital in Cambridge to visit my father who was stricken with lung and heart disease to keep him apprised and to recount the day's activities.

My fondest memory was my first victory on September 17, 1996. We gathered after the polls closed to be with my father at a common room at the hospital and we took the polling numbers over the phone from my headquarters. We were tallying the numbers on the back of a pizza box, which I still have framed in my office. It was a moment my family had together with my father, before heading off to our victory party, celebrating our first win that we will always cherish as he passed away a few months later. Politically, it was a dream come true for me and even bigger dreams came true 5 years later with an opportunity here in the Senate.

It has been a great ride now for more than 11 years and I can't begin to describe how wonderful it has been to meet people throughout my

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CONTINUED ON page 13

DINING AROUND TOWN

SOUTH BOSTON TODAY staff report

This week in our DINING AROUND section we will profile on a South Boston hidden gem- the Galley Diner.

‘Hidden’, because its location on P Street, between 1st and 2nd St., is not on most folks daily travel route. A ‘Gem’, because if you’re looking for the true qualities that make Southie famous, like a welcoming smile and a warm ‘everybody is welcome’ atmosphere with fantastic food and more than reasonable prices, you’ll find it at the world-famous Galley Diner.

The owner is Paul Scudris, who now lives in Quincy, with his wife, Colleen and two daughters, Ilene and Mary Lou, but, of course, traces his roots to Southie. The Scudris family was part of the original Lithuanian community that helped build South Boston over 100 years ago. His grandfather, Bill, opened South Boston Supply some 85 years ago. Paul, like other successful entrepreneurs, had humble origins in

the food business beginning in the food cart trade almost 30 years ago. Being in a business that he both liked and brought a smile to people’s faces, Paul saw an opportunity to expand. 20 years ago he started the Galley and instantly had a permanent cast of local diners, Congressman Joe Moakley, called it his favorite spot and would insist that both constituents and pinstriped suit businessman alike met him there for coffee.

Anthony Bourdain, host of the TV travel guide show, featured Paul and the Galley in one of his episodes. Fitted with 10 tables and a 20 stool lunch counter, it always seems to have a crowd, but somehow Paul always finds room. With good reason, the Galley is known as a breakfast shop. Virtually any omelet you can think of, western or eastern, sandwiches, eggs anyway you like them, the hand carved ham right off the bone is to die for. Corned beef hash, sausages, linguica, steak, bacon, they are all



available. Home Fries are actually that, homemade and the best.

Steady customers know that it doesn’t end at breakfast. Lunches are traditional, yet diverse, South Boston American cuisine. Pork chops, meatloaf, franks and beans, kielbasa, knockwurst, liver and onions are just a sampling of all that the galley offers. During the week Paul’s dad

Bill is there, most days, to seat customers and to make sure that their orders are quick and with no hassle. On the weekend, it is even more of a family affair when daughter, Mary Lou helps out. Along with everything else, they have a quick takeout. You have to try the famous Rumpy’s Roast Beef. Discover this gem, any day, 7 a.m. to 2 p.m. at 11 P St.

Young Kids Shoot for the Stars

SOUTH BOSTON TODAY GUEST CONTRIBUTOR Raymond L. Flynn

Well their I was once again, standing in the middle of a gym while young kids were learning the skills of shooting a basketball. But this time it was me giving the lesson. “Keep your palms off the ball, hold the ball with your fingertips, complete concentration, bend your knees slightly, arms by your side loosely, complete eye contact with the front rim, but most of all, follow through.” Personal attention to each kid. Looking directly in their eyes, but trying to reach their heart, because that’s where an athlete learns the game.

This is the only kind of instruction that really works. Make the successful free throw shooter feel comfortable holding the ball. Look at the ball, talk to it, make it your friend. Make the shooter feel like he or she is learning something very important. That each kid is important. Well, that’s what I was doing this past Saturday

at the Mc Donough/Walsh Gym on Broadway in South Boston. Showing 8,9,10,11 and 12 year old kids the very same techniques I was taught more than 60 years ago being ball boy for the Celtics and the great Holy Cross teams at the Boston Garden. Yes, I learned from the greatest and I carried those lessons with me my entire life.

You see, shooting a basketball, throwing a football and baseball wasn’t just a game with me, it was my life. As a kid, its all I ever wanted to do. I didn’t want to be a politician or a lawyer. I practiced for hours every day and later taught kids at the Boys Club, M Street Park, Stonehill College, Red Auerbach, Dolph Schayes, Kutchers Country Club, and Joe Mullaney basketball camps. I taught kids the same things I learned. Some might say after reading this story that I was obsessed with playing sports, well I

won’t argue with them. I spent hours and hours listening and watching some of the greatest to ever play the game, Bob Cousy, Oscar Robertson, Jerry West, and Bill Sharman as a young boy, just to name some of them. I even taught a few great ones myself, like “Pistol Pete” Maravich and Jimmy Walker and played with and against other great players like Rick Barry and even guarded “Mr. Basketball” in his last game as a Boston Celtic, Bob Cousy.

This all came back to me last week on that gym floor in Southie. Their was no place in the world I would rather be, and no people in the world I would rather be with, and nothing in the world, I would rather be doing than teaching young kids how to play basketball. I can’t believe they were so attentive and respectful. I could even see the little girls looking up at me with anticipation, the same way I did as a kid when I

learned the game. For me, its better than winning the lottery or even a big political election.

The Pere Marquette Knights of Columbus Council certainly do a great job with their volunteer work in the community. And to see all those caring parents there, looking out for their children, was a pleasure for me to see. They are doing the right thing for their child, and I admire them.

But I have to admit that I was moved to tears while walking out of the gym, a young Dad came up to me and said, “Mr. Flynn, I was too young to know much about you as a star basketball player, but I’m sure proud that my son and the other kids had the opportunity to hear you tell them how to shoot. You learned from some of the greatest and today our kids are learning from you. This was a special event. Thanks, Mr. Flynn.”

Ray Flynn, is the former Mayor of Boston

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881 E First St UNIT 202 Condo	\$562,000	1/31/13	2	1	1362
557 E Fourth St UNIT 3 Condo	\$541,125	1/31/13	5	2	1500
203 K St UNIT 1 Condo	\$537,500	1/31/13	4	2	1404
606 E Fourth St UNIT 5 Condo	\$525,000	1/23/13	4	2	972
501 E Fifth St UNIT 2 Condo	\$485,900	1/22/13	5	1	936
212 L St UNIT 2 Condo	\$457,000	1/25/13	5	2	1102
563 E Seventh St UNIT 1 Condo	\$433,000	2/5/13	4	1.5	1082
236 Gold St UNIT 1 Condo	\$430,000	1/15/13	4	2	1563
936 E Fourth St UNIT 1 Condo	\$429,000	1/30/13	5	1	1082
819 E Sixth St UNIT 1 Condo	\$418,000	1/31/13	5	1.5	1074
381 W. Fourth St Single Family	\$409,000	1/31/13	8	1	1605
180 Tudor St UNIT 180 Condo	\$405,000	1/23/13	6	2	1386
138-138A D St Single Family	\$337,000	2/1/13	8	1.5	1656
404 W First St UNIT 41 Condo	\$250,000	1/24/13	3	1	703



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JACK HART CONTINUED FROM page 10

district, from South Boston, Dorchester, Mattapan and Hyde Park.

My approach in life is in line with my mother's advice to us as we were growing up. She always drove home this message that "It's nice to be important, but it's more important to be nice". That's the way my sisters and I have tried to lead our lives over the years. And that's the way I've dealt with people in politics, trying to build consensus in a reasonable and decent way in order to get things done and accomplish good things for people.

I am very proud of all that we've been able to achieve in this body and there are many accomplishments that I can point to that benefitted the people who I represent. When I first got elected, we had over one hundred community meetings in developing a master plan for the South Boston Waterfront. You remember there was an attempt to build a football stadium, baseball stadium and a convention center, all a part of what they called the megaplex, which, as leaders, we flatly fought against. We thought we could do better and we have.

Sixteen years later, with great thanks to our mayor, Tom Menino, it's the hottest piece of real estate in the country, dubbed Boston's Innovation District and home to thousands of new jobs and tens of thousands of additional jobs for the people around the region a few years down the road.

I am proud of my co authorship of the 2008 Life Sciences Bill, and of the nation's most ethical stem cell research bill, of the millions in capital dollars that I was able to bring to UMass Boston. The Boston Convention and Exhibition Center, funding for Boston's branch public libraries, four renovated red line stations in Dorchester, a new Mattapan T station and three or possibly four new stations on the Fairmount commuter line in Dorchester and Mattapan.

Thanks to the millions of dollars in state investment that I championed, we have, around metropolitan Boston, the cleanest beaches in urban America. And Charter schools are providing hope, especially in the inner city, for parents and their children for a better future. Also, I am proud of the work we are doing in

the city around substance abuse and addiction. While we have made significant progress, we still have work to do.

Finally, my support for veterans' benefits, the most generous of all fifty states here in Massachusetts, has been my greatest priority, as it is one of the most important things we can do as a society.

To my incredible family who I am sure is relieved that they no longer have to call volunteers, to organize fundraisers, or work at the polls, what can I say but I love you and thank you. To Harry Uhlman, who has been, to me, like a second father, my eternal gratitude. To Michele, my extraordinary wife, who has been a real partner for me in this game of politics, it wasn't always easy with me being out all the time and for, incredibly, surviving my four years of law school at night when our four daughters were little. I don't know how you did it, but you have been remarkable and I love you more each day.

To my children, Kathleen, Maggie, Emily and Mary Kate, I am very proud of the work you do in school and the kind and decent girls that you have become.

Lastly, to my friends and supporters and to the residents throughout my district, thank you for believing in me and for allowing me to follow along this amazing journey. As General Grant said to Abraham Lincoln upon victory, "I was successful for one reason, because you believed in me". I too was successful because all of you believed in me. We were able to accomplish together many things during the past 16 years and I have loved each and every minute of it. You have given me a remarkable gift - one that I will always remember. And as a result of your unwavering trust, confidence, and support, I remain humbled and eternally grateful.

Finally, back in the old country, in Ireland, there is an old saying, "If you are lucky enough to be Irish, you are lucky enough". Let me re-phrase that saying here today by stating, "If you're lucky enough to have had the privilege of serving here in this body and to have family and friends as I have had to support you along the way, then you are lucky enough". And I certainly am lucky enough.

Thank you for this wonderful and glorious time of my life. Godspeed and Farewell.

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South Boston Citizen's Association to Kick Off Events

SOUTH BOSTON TODAY staff report

The South Boston Citizen's Association will kick off its annual season of events on Saturday, February 23, 2013. The "Jimmy Flaherty" Kick-off Breakfast, will begin at 10:00AM at the Cornerstone. The event honors the memory of Jimmy Flaherty, and holds the presentation of the Henry Knox "Unsung Hero Awards".

Tryouts and training are already underway for the boxing competitions to be held the week before Evacuation Day. Among the events held, the SBCA and South Boston Historical

Society partner in putting together an essay and poster contest geared toward South Boston's Youth. The purpose of the competitions is to educate our youth about the meaning of Evacuation Day.

The South Boston Citizen's Association is the nation's oldest neighborhood civic association. Its competitions and memorial events that lead up to Evacuation Day have inspired and excited Citizens of South Boston and beyond for longer than two centuries. This year looks to be no different.

Below is a list of events that will be held over the next eight weeks.

- Jimmy Flaherty Kick-off Breakfast
- Ice-O-Rama:
 - Figure Skating Competition
 - John Cunniff Shamrock Shootout
- South Boston Special Shamrock Event
- Basketball Free-Throw Competition
- Bowl-A-Rama
- 131st Evacuation Day Banquet
- Swimming Competition
- Evacuation Day Memorial Mass
- Dorchester Heights Memorial Exercises
- Boxing Show
- Senior Salute
- Essay & Poster Contest

Stay tuned for dates and details. You can also follow the South Boston Citizen's Association on facebook. www.facebook.com/pages/South-Boston-Citizens-Association



Go to our facebook page to vote on our weekly poll.
www.southbostontoday.com

Jimmy Flaherty Kick-off Breakfast Set for Saturday February 23, 2013

The South Boston Citizens' Association President Tom McGrath is pleased to announce that on Saturday, February 23rd, 2013, at the Kick-off Breakfast, The Henry Knox Award Presentation will take place. Family, Friends and Neighbors are respectfully invited to attend this wonderful event. A small donation is requested at door to help off-set costs. This year's event will once again feature great music of Bob Fowkes and Curragh's Fancy.

The event Chairman will be South Boston City Councilor Billy Linehan, who has led the fight to preserve the historical importance of Evacuation Day. "As president of the Association, it is an honor for me to appoint Billy to kick-off the festivities. Bill's commitment and involvement with the SBCA, as well as the community has been a tremendous asset to me and the Executive Board." Said McGrath. The awards are presented to everyday volunteers in the community who seek no recognition, who are considered "Unsung Heroes".

Check back next week as we announce the Henry Knox recipients. Tickets for the buffet breakfast, which will be served by The Cornerstone's Chef Carlos, will remain the same as years past \$10.00. Please come by and support your friends and neighbors.



Gate of Heaven C.Y.O. Annual Fundraiser

SOUTH BOSTON TODAY staff report



On Saturday, February 23rd, the Gate of Heaven C.Y.O. Annual Fundraiser/Cocktail reception will be held at Anthony's Pier 4, from 5:30 p.m. until 7:30 p.m. During the event, the Rev. Paul V. Donovan, Rev. A. Paul White and Jack McDonough Awards will be presented.

The Rev. Paul V. Donovan Award for the parish's Outstanding Catholic Youth is presented annually to a person of our community who exemplifies the best of what it means to live out the Catholic faith in today's society. The criteria used in selecting the recipient are based on participation in parish C.Y.O. activities, on church attendance, and on personal characteristics, which evidence a commitment to the Christian faith. This award is presented as an expression of our pride in the youth of our parish. Among all the concerns and pressures of their lives, we hope that they will always recognize in the Church a concerned and true friend, a true home.

The Jack McDonough Award is presented annually to the Outstanding Men's Alumni Member of the Year who exemplifies Christianity in

today's society and the goals of the Gate of Heaven C.Y.O. and its Alumni Association.

The Rev. A. Paul White Award is presented annually to a woman in our community whose dedication and commitment has had a positive impact on the youth and families of the Gate of Heaven Parish and South Boston Community.

This Fundraiser is the C.Y.O.'s financial backbone. With your continued support, we will be able to provide the services needed to point the youth of our community in a positive direction. There are still tickets available for this annual event, which is a great night out for a good cause. Our thanks to all our friends, sponsors, coaches, and parents who have continually supported the Gate of Heaven C.Y.O. programs. We look forward to working together in the future to continue building a great program for our youth and hope to see a full house on Saturday, February 23rd. You can contact any coach, C.Y.O. Director Kevin Lally, Commissioner Sean Monahan or Touchie McDonough for more info or tickets at 617-792-8570

Free 'Young at Arts' Painting Sessions

SOUTH BOSTON TODAY staff report

'Young at Arts' painting classes will resume on Monday February 25, 2013 at St. Vincent Church rectory, (across from the Church's main entrance on E Street). The sessions are free to youngsters from seven to 12.

The sessions will be held on Monday afternoons from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. All painting materials will be supplied. The youngsters will be painting in acrylics.

This is the fourth year of free painting classes for youthful painters and is co-sponsored by the 'Young Ambassadors' of the South Boston Community Health Center and the South Boston Arts Association. All paintings from last year's classes were dedicated to the "Art for Wounded Marines" and placed on exhibit in the in the Wounded Warrior Wing at the National Naval Medical Center, in Bethesda, Maryland. This year's paintings will be displayed at the Annual Community Day hosted by the South Boston Community Health Center at the Iron Workers Hall on Saturday May 18, 2013 – save the date!

For further information contact Mayra Rodriquez Howard: 617 464-7423, Linda Doran: 617 464-7463 or Dan McCole: 617 464-4237.





Donations Needed For St. Patrick's/Evacuation Day Parade

SOUTH BOSTON TODAY John Ciccone

Well, that time of year is fast approaching. The South Boston Citizen's Association and the South Boston Allied War Veterans are busy making preparations for all the big events that help make our neighborhood a very special place this time of the season. There are the banquets, the sporting events, the talent contests and art shows, the Miss South Boston event and of course on the big day itself, The Breakfast, which this year will be hosted by City Councilor Bill Linehan, followed by one of the biggest and best parades anywhere. And big it will be. Some years the parade boasts well over 10,000 marchers. The St. Patrick's Day/Evacuation Day Parade seems to get bigger and better every year thanks to the tireless efforts of the Allied War Veterans.

Long hours are spent by many dedicated volunteers lining up marching bands from all over the country and often times from as far away as Canada and Ireland. As many as 30 plus such bands often grace our streets along with color guards, military units, cartoon characters, movie celebrities and of course some of the most creative floats seen in any parade. Is it a loud procession? You bet. It's loud and filled with glitter, pomp and ceremony, waving flags and smiling faces. There have been years when easily over a million spectators have lined our streets to watch and enjoy. Favorites among the kids are the fire trucks, which bring in firefighting contingents from around the country. The children also smile at the sight of the horses, the clowns and an incredible array of other attractions that seem to keep coming for hours



as the 'line of march' winds its way through our town. And when you least expect it, you could be startled by the sounds of firing muskets carried by soldiers dressed in authentic Colonial uniforms or a cannon being dragged behind. Many of our neighborhood associations sponsor and build floats and our elected officials are prominently in attendance as well. And always a big hit is the emerald green float carrying St. Patrick himself.

Making sure this year's parade lives up to the standards that South Bostonians and their guests have come to expect takes money; a lot of it. And like everywhere, money

is often in short supply these days. And that's why the parade committee is asking the community to help them raise the funds needed to pull it all off. Thousands of dollars must be raised to pay for such a large scale parade. A post office box has been set up to accept any donation and contribution that is sent in by a community whose people are famous for their generosity; especially for festive neighborhood events.

Donations can be sent to South Boston Parade Committee, PO Box 351, South Boston, MA 02127. Any donation sent, large or small, will help and all will be greatly appreciated.



Pajama Day

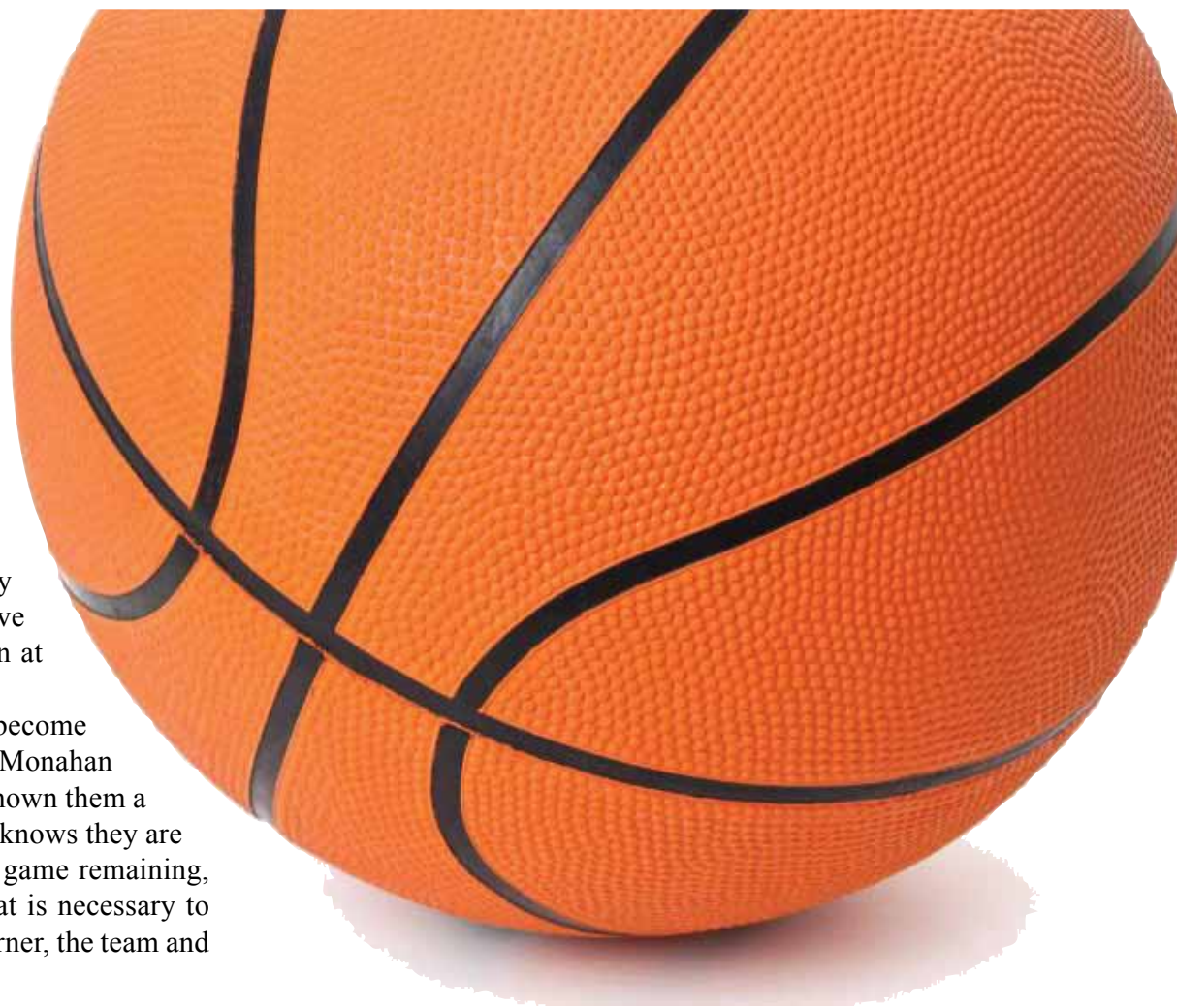
One of our favorite days at St. Peter Academy is pajama day. Every January we plan a day where everyone in the school can wear their pj's, slippers and robes to school. We couldn't have picked a better day this year because it was bone-chilling outside but we were all cozy and warm inside. After lunch many of the classes enjoyed popcorn and a movie which was the best way to end a great Pajama Day.

Gatey Fourth Grade Travel Team Undefeated

SOUTH BOSTON TODAY staff report

Last year, the Gate of Heaven Third Grade Travel Team had its ups and down. They won some and lost some, but showed some real potential. This year, the potential has come full circle. At 11-0 this fourth grade travel team seems to be unstoppable. Out of the 11 games played the closest margin of victory was by 5 points the rest have been blowouts. They have played with an intensity and purpose that is rarely seen at this level.

Besides being really good athletes, they have become extremely good basketball players. Their coaches, Sean Monahan and Marc Iannaco, practice them really hard and have shown them a work ethic that has made them what they are. The team knows they are good, but also they know they can be better. With one game remaining, they know what is at stake and are prepared to do what is necessary to bring it home. With tournament time right around the corner, the team and their coaches are ready to take on the challenge.



South Boston Catholic Academy

SOUTH BOSTON TODAY Coach Marc Iannaco

South Boston Catholic Academy opened their fourth year of basketball for boys and girls in the South Shore Parochial School League for the 2012-13 season. The S.S.P.S.L. runs a basketball program for full time students in the 3rd thru 8th grades, attending Greater Boston's "South Shore" parish/catholic schools. The program is administered by the Archdiocese of Boston CYO program. With a record of 5 wins and 8 losses, you would think the SBCA boys basketball team had a rough season,

In 5 out of the 8 losses, the boys took the winning team down to the last minute. A couple of breaks, bounces, or baskets here or there, and the game could have been completely different. "We've been in almost every game" SBCA coach Marc Iannaco says. "The team has giving a tremendous effort every time they have taken the court".

Unlike most other programs, SBCA takes everybody who signs up regardless of skill level or ability, no tryouts. SBCA also has 4 fourth graders playing in the 5th and 6th division and are extremely

competitive. In a recent game the team had to play with 4 players because of an illness to a starter, and pulled out a victory 40-35. The determination they showed was amazing. There was no let down until the game was won. The boys were led by 2 fourth graders Jake Harrison and Marc Iannaco.

The SBCA's boys' basketball team show great example's of sportsmanship, determination, community and school spirit. It has been a very rewarding experience, coaching the children and playing teams from all over Boston and

the South Shore. And I especially look forward to coaching next year. With 8 returning players from this year's team, next year should be fun. SBCA would like to acknowledge all the players that played this year especially the sixth graders who will be moving on. We wish 6th graders John Barnes, Danny Joca, Matt Mayo, Matt McDonald, and Christian Mazzeo good luck and all the best as they move forward with their academic and athletic futures. Rounding out the rest of the roster are 5th graders Mike Kenneally, Braeden Kennedy, Danny Potember, Chris Fitzgerald and 4th graders Mark Iannaco, Jake Harrison, Edward Murray and Jimmy Dalta.

The South Boston Catholic Academy girls' basketball team which is made up of 4th, 5th and 6th graders has had a great season. The girls: Kate Donovan, Caroline Flynn, Stephanie Hogan, Catherine Murray, Amy Ortiz, Casey Shoulla, Jenna Splaine, Riley Sullivan, Emma Tirabassi and Madelyn Whelan have made great progress and have given 110% at all practices and games!

It has been a fun-filled, challenging, learning season for the girls. The last game is Saturday, February 16th, at 5:15 at Quincy Catholic Academy. Go Sea Serpents!



Quote The Raven Once More

SOUTH BOSTON TODAY Brian P. Wallace

I can tell you, one place I don't want to be next Thanksgiving is at the Harbaugh home for dinner. Before the cranberry sauce is passed, there could be a battle. I just hope it is as good as the one we witnessed last Sunday at the Super Bowl. The Ravens held on to win 34-31. And, held on is the right word. To the entire world it looked as if the Ravens were going to run away and hide and put this game away early. They led 28 to 6 after Jacoby Jones' 108 return to open the second half, I'll bet a lot of people turned off their TV's and went to bed. I'll also bet that a lot of people turned off their TV's and went to bed after Beyonce finished her show.

Then a funny thing happened, the lights went out in the stadium. I don't know if it was Beyonce's show or the time it took to get the lights back on, but when the 49'ers took the field when there was light, they were a different

team. Colin Kaepernick led the San Francisco team on a 7 play 80 yard drive which culminated with a 31 yard touchdown pass to Michael Crabtree making the score 28 to 13. A six yard run by Frank Gore, who finished with 110 yards, closed the gap to 28-20 and we had a game all of a sudden and the 49'ers weren't through. A Frank Akers 34 yard field goal after a Ray Rice fumble had the Ravens on their heels with a 28-23 lead.

The Ravens didn't get there however by playing on their heels and they soon realized that they could actually lose this game after playing complacent in the third quarter. Up stepped Joe Flacco and Anquan Boldin and the game, again, began to shift to the Ravens. Boldin, in my opinion is one of the best receivers in the game and Flacco found him time and time again. A 30 yard pass to Boldin set up a Tucker field goal in the fourth

quarter to make it Baltimore 31 and San Fran 23. Kaepernick wasn't impressed as he hit Randy Moss with a beautiful 32 yard strike and capped the drive by running 15 yards into the end zone untouched making the score 31 to 29. San Fran tried for a two point conversion which would have tied the game but Kaepernick couldn't connect with Moss. The Ravens came back with a field goal from Tucker with 4:19 to go increasing their lead to 34-29. San Francisco drove all the way down the field and had a first and goal at the Baltimore 5 yard line when the wheels fell off.

They couldn't get the ball into the end zone although we are going to hear about an uncalled interference that drove Jim Harbaugh completely out of his mind and will be a subject at the next Thanksgiving dinner. Kaepernick floated a ball to the corner of the end zone for Crabtree but Ravens safety

Jimmy Smith was draped all over him and Crabtree could not get to the ball. In my eyes it was clearly pass interference but it wasn't called. The Ravens then ran out the clock and took a safety instead of attempting to punt making the score 34 to 31 for the Champion Ravens, who survived.

In my eyes, the 49ers lost this game because of poor coaching and clock management. They never gave the ball to their best ball carrier Frank Gore when they had a first and goal at the Ravens 5 yard line in the closing minutes. They wasted two timeouts which would have given them the ball back in decent field position to make one last run at it with over a minute on the clock. So they can complain all they want about the non-interference call, but they didn't help themselves when they needed it. All in all, it was a great game and oh yeah did I tell you that Beyonce sang?



Northeastern, Boston College to meet in Men's Beanpot Finals

SOUTH BOSTON TODAY staff report

After beating Boston University men's hockey team 3-2 in the opening semifinal game on Monday night, the Northeastern University Huskies will face-off against the No. 13 Boston College Eagles in the Beanpot finals next Monday night at the TD Banknorth Garden. Boston College beat the Harvard University Crimson 4-1 in game 2 on Monday. The Huskies are 1-2 vs. the Eagles this year, snapping a 19-game losing streak to them on the first game of the season.

While they were outshot 34-26 by BU, the Huskies came out on top due to great systematic discipline.

Northeastern hasn't won a Beanpot title since 1988. Despite the history, Northeastern feels confident. Huskies head coach Jim Madigan had this to say about their chances.

"There is a confidence, regardless of our record. We're not going [to UMass] with an underdog mind-set. When we go in Monday night against BC, we're not going in with an underdog mind-set. We're going in with the [idea] that we have a chance to win the game if we execute our systems."

Northeastern is currently two points out of playoff contention. A Beanpot Championship victory would be a great moral boost in helping them get to the post season.





New Sox veterans flank younger stars

SOUTH BOSTON TODAY staff report

Red Sox General Manager Ben Cherington took a new approach to building his team this year. His approach seems to follow the motto of “aim small, miss small”. The Red Sox have dramatically decreased both their payroll and long term obligations. The conventional way to cut payroll is to trade or decline to resign high priced players in favor of younger more inexperienced players. Cherington did the exact opposite. This past offseason the Sox signed the following veterans:

Closer - Joel Hanrahan, First Base/ DH - Mike Napoli, OF -Shane Victorino, RHP - Ryan Dempster, SS - Stephen Drew, Backup Catcher - David Ross
OF - Johnny Gomes

All of these players have displayed varying degrees of success and have consistently been contributors to major league ball clubs. They are all, by most accounts, great clubhouse guys. The Red Sox will not doubt be looking for its star players like LHP Jon Lester, RHP Clay Buchholz, second basemen Dustin Pedroia, DH David Ortiz, and centerfielder Jacob Ellsbury to contribute at their highest levels.

The new veterans should make sure that the Sox stay grounded focused and consistent. How “star players” perform will dictate how far they go this season.



**Every week, we will run an interview from Danny Picard's daily sports-talk show "I'm Just Sayin", which can be heard LIVE every weekday at 9 a.m. on BlogTalkRadio, with every show available on iTunes. He can also be read on Comcast SportsNet.*

This week, Danny talked to Jerry Thornton from Barstool Sports:

DANNY PICARD: One of the most embarrassing moments in Super Bowl history was when the lights went out. Jerry, what's going through your head when that happens?

JERRY THORNTON: I'm currently at my day job, and I'm trying to get them to turn the lights out for 34 minutes. I'm promising them I'll be more productive. I'll be like the 49ers, and I'll just wake up. You know what, my first thought was, this is going to be Bane, and he's behind this. Any minute now, a masked man is going to come out and say, "This is your day of reckoning!" How is it that we can spend billions to rebuild New Orleans, and they can't pay the electric bill with it? It's the most damaging thing I've ever seen. This is like the old Boston Garden or something. It's inexcusable. And they don't have a backup generator? I have one. You pull the cord on it, you get the gas going, and the lights come back on. But no, not the Super Bowl. They never thought of that.

DP: And Terrell Suggs, the guy can never shut his mouth. He's yelling at people to turn the lights back on. Look, it's not that easy. You've got John Harbaugh, and I thought this was an embarrassing moment for John Harbaugh; he was throwing F-bombs at an old guy in a suit with a walkie-talkie. John, what do you want this guy to do? You think he walked in the room and tripped over the cord and pulled the plug? To me, that was embarrassing, but John Harbaugh wasn't the only one yelling [Sunday]

night. Jim Harbaugh was yelling at the end of the game after the corner fade route. he was mad that there was a hold.

JT: Those guys get such a free pass for the way they act. That theatrical, demonstrative, they're like real housewives of the NFL. They're constantly making that pissy face. And Belichick declined to [interview on CBS after the AFC Championship]. He told them two days ahead of time that he would decline. Steve Tasker didn't have a problem with it. The CBS Network knew it was coming. But it ends up being like this major scandal somehow. The Harbaugh's act like complete jerks all game long, every game. Jim Harbaugh walks off and stiffes Steve Tasker. Where's the outrage? Where's the righteous indignation now? It's like these guys just get a pass that somehow Belichick doesn't, because they're talkative, because they play grab-ass with the media. I'm cooking to the point where I can't stand either one of them. And I would like to point out, Danny, that, combined, those guys now have one Super Bowl ring. Belichick and his dog have five.

DP: That's a good thing to point out. But Jim Harbaugh was complaining [Sunday] night on that last play that Crabtree was held. I thought they could have thrown a flag on Crabtree for giving a stiff arm and trying to get to the ball. But what the 49ers should really be upset at is the play. I mean, when the Super Bowl is on the line, is that the play that you're calling? A

corner fade route?

JT: Not only that, but Baltimore didn't disguise the blitz. They didn't all of a sudden come with pressure that no one could see coming. They telegraphed that this is it, that, "We're sending the house, and you're going to have man coverage on everybody." The Niners just weren't ready for it. Kaepernick gets a bit of a pass, in that he's only got like eight or nine starts under his belt. But as a team, they were unprepared for it. The clock management towards the end was lousy. They've got some to answer for too, having nothing to do with whatever Harbaugh was upset about, the call or whatever. Because like you said, there was plenty of contact there. If it's September, they're probably going to call that. But you've got to be aware, they're going to swallow their whistles. Nobody wants to be the ref, unless it's really egregious, nobody wants to be the ref that puts you first-and-goal at the one, with the championship on the line. So, yeah, Harbaugh can stick it.

DP: When you look at this game as a whole, Ravens are the Super Bowl Champs, they win by three. When you look at this game, what was the difference to you? Why are the Ravens the Super Bowl champs, and the 49ers aren't?

JT: I guess I'm going to give it to, I mean, the obvious is Flacco. We should talk about him, because clearly this guy has arrived and planted his flag among the elite quarterbacks in the game. But a little bit more in-depth

I think is the Ravens' offensive line. They just kept him clean, and what's the Niners' claim to fame? The pass rush, that great front, and they just got nothing on him. Justin Smith was just invisible, and I know he's coming off injuries or whatever, but the middle of that line was phenomenal. And while everyone's talking about Ray Lewis, they're not talking about Matt Birk, who is quietly riding off into the sunset, and he just played his ass off. McKinnie was great. Michael Oher got beat one time, but that was it. They made running lanes for Ray Rice, and they gave Flacco all day. That's not an easy thing to do against San Fran. So, credit to them. That's an offensive -- we don't know what the defense is going to look like -- but the Baltimore offense has every reason to be solid for the foreseeable future, for the next five-or-so years.

DP: I brought up the point before you came on, that Flacco's the MVP, okay, he deserved to be MVP. You look at his numbers, great numbers. I mean, this guy just didn't make mistakes at all down the stretch. I give all the credit in the world to Flacco, of course, because when he gets into the red zone, the touchdown pass to Boldin -- the same play that he made against the Patriots for those two touchdown passes, those are great passes. I'm not trying to take anything away from Flacco when I make this next comment. But if there was ever a time in which I thought there should be co-MVP between two guys on the offense, I thought it should be Joe

Flacco and Anquan Boldin.

JT: Yeah, and if they had “star of the games” like they do in hockey, your third guy could be Jacoby Jones. Those 108-yard kick returns don’t just fall off of trees. When Desmond Howard did that to the Patriots, he got the MVP and it made his career. But yeah, Boldin has really emerged. He’s really shown that he’s a tough guy to cover. You can match him up against a physical corner, and he’s going to overpower him and be stronger than him. There’s a lot to admire about Baltimore, not the least of which is Flacco. He’s the first quarterback ever to have four straight postseason games of a passer rating over 100. That’s impressive. And me, I’m a disinterested observer of this game. Better yet, I’m a neutral observer. I really like football history, and I like watching the game evolve and figure out where it’s going to go. And I thought this might be a referendum on, is the running quarterback now going to take over football? And based on this, no. I know it’s a small sample, it’s one game, but give me the pocket guy any day. I’ve always said that, and every so often, another guy comes along and they say, “Okay, this is going to be the future of quarterbacking. This is going to be the guy who’s going to revolutionize it.” And you can draw a line back, from Kaepernick to RGIII to Newton to Vince Young, Vick, Steve Young, I mean, you can just keep going back. And I was thinking the other day, there was a bit I saw once on the Daily Show, where they had Obama saying, “We’re going to reduce our dependence on foreign oil and we’re going to have clean energy.” Then they had Bush saying the exact same thing. And then they had Clinton saying it, and then Bush senior, and then every single President, all the way back to Eisenhower saying the same thing. Well, it’s analogous. It’s the same thing we keep hearing about running quarterbacks. And again, I’m not buying it. Give me a pocket passer like Flacco. Give me a guy who can look over a defense and know where to go with the ball. And I’m not knocking Kaepernick. He’s got a great arm, he’s accurate as hell, he’s going to be really good, but it’s going to be because of his arm and his head, not because of his feet.



DP: And there were times where, when Kaepernick couldn’t get anywhere [Sunday] night, and he was waiting for routes to be created and guys to get open, he just looked lost out there. And I thought in that final possession, when the 49ers did get down into the red zone and they got 1st-and-goal, once the Ravens started -- and like you said, they weren’t disguising it, they were sending the house on this kid -- and he couldn’t run anywhere, he seemed like somebody that really didn’t know what to do in moments. That had to be concerning. But one moment to me, a strong picture, was, as the lights were out and the power outage was out, and they trailed 28-6, Harbaugh was playing catch with Kaepernick. And there’s this shot during the highlights that they keep showing, and it’s Harbaugh looking at Kaepernick throwing the football. And he looks into his eyes, and you know he’s thinking to himself, “Is this the kid I want? Do I want to throw Kaepernick back out here?” Do you think there was a thought that goes through his mind, that maybe he wants the pocket quarterback, in Alex Smith, to go out and finish that game? Do you think there was a thought there, going

through his head?

JT: Boy, it would have taken some serious cast-iron testicles, but he showed he’s had it before. I saw the stats from the two games Alex Smith had before they replaced him, and he was lights out, no pun intended. His quarterback rating was like 104, he hadn’t thrown a pick, but Harbaugh had the cohunes to make the move anyways. So, you know, it might have been in his head. But ultimately, I always go back to what Parcells said, which is, coaches are selfish and that they’re going to play the guys that give them the best chance to win. I’m sure [Harbaugh] asked himself which quarterback it was going to be, which is a question not many coaches are going to ask themselves in the Super Bowl. But apparently he made the right move, because they were a couple of plays away from pulling that game out. Whether Smith gets them to within three points or not, I guess I doubt it, I don’t know. Kaepernick gets a little bit of a pass for not making the right reads. Baltimore, they’re strength on defense is, it’s hard to get touchdown passes against them. They had like 15 on the year, and Atlanta led the league with 14. So that’s the one thing that they do really well. And

they tightened up big time once the 49ers got in that red zone. Credit to them I guess.

DP: What was your favorite commercial?

JT: I saw the first 20 minutes of the one where they talked about farming. And then I got interrupted. I assume that was for agriculture or something. And again, I usually ignore the commercials, but this is the year where, without the Patriots in it or without any kind of pressure, I said, “Screw it, I’m going to be that guy, talking during the game, shushing people during the commercials.” The one that bowled us over the most was the old people going nuts, getting the tattoos, making out in clubs, that was fine. I’m still traumatized by Bar Refaeli. Was it Walter? I actually Walter is the MVP of that game. It’s something you can’t un-see. Bleach my eyes. I just watched Bar Refaeli get defiled by a guy who’s actually less attractive than I am. And that’s saying something.

DP: Before I let you go, next year at this time, are we sitting here talking about Tom Brady going into the Giants’ and Jets’ building on a cold Super Bowl night and winning a championship?

JT: The Patriots have to be considered a favorite. Maybe not the favorite, because there’s still going to be that doubt. Can they get over the hump against an average defense in the playoffs? But it mostly comes down to their defense tightening up, and them getting a second-year bounce out of guys. They’ve got a lot of rookies on that D. They’re extremely young, and if they can get the bounce you normally expect from talented guys, the kind of leap that J.J. Watt made in his second year, or Jason Pierre-Paul. If they can get that out of Jones, Hightower, Dennard, Tavon Wilson, Jake Bequette, then they’re definitely in the conversation for next year. You know me, I’m dreaming big. I’d like to think that Ed Reed went into the locker room, checked his phone, and there was a text, “Hey, what do you say to three years, \$27 million?” Signed, “BB.” I can dream, can’t I? But it would be a good time for him to ride out of Baltimore, cash in on the fact that he just had a Super Bowl pick, and start fresh with a coach that loves him.

Dear Letter to the Editor,
To my friends and neighbors,
Thank you for the extraordinary experience I have had serving on your behalf. Below find excerpts of my Farewell Address to my colleagues in the Senate Chamber.
I am eternally grateful. **-Jack**

Jack's entire letter begins on page 10

