



“When one man inside City Hall sets the rules, there really are no rules”

SOUTH BOSTON TODAY
Staff Report

The title of this article is a quote from an opinion piece written about Mayor Tom Menino in the Boston Globe this past Tuesday by Paul McMorrow, an associate editor

at Commonwealth Magazine. Given the persistent and lonely reporting by South Boston Today about South Boston’s own experience with the heavy hand of Mayor Menino, both

the quote and the article fit well with this newspaper’s coverage.

In his article, titled “An Unpredictable Mayor When It Comes To Zoning”, he describes what can be categorized by some city hall observers as the highway robbery that has come to define Mayor Menino’s 20 year reign. McMorrow describes specific situations and then the flip flops by Mayor Menino when it comes to following or not following zoning and development rules and regulations. McMorrow describes in detail where and when he has favored some developers, and essentially buried others, conferring millions of dollars of wealth with a wink and a nod.

McMorrow opens up the article with this cold observation in this paragraph.

“... It isn’t the city’s job to make a developer’s bottom line work — but

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EDITORIAL

SOUTH BOSTON TODAY
staff report

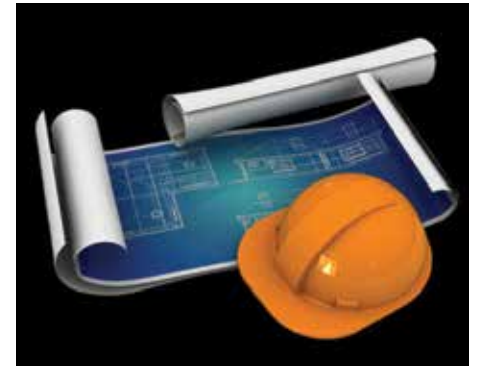
Remember way back when the current City administration was fresh and new and had grandiose plans to revitalize the economic development of Roxbury? To that end, police headquarters was moved to Roxbury. The former “Ferdinand’s Department Store”, that beautiful ornate six story building that dominates Dudley Square is still slated to be the new school department. Some

major business concerns were enticed to relocate in support of the Mayor’s vision - all good and appropriate moves by the Mayor and his administration.

Then politics, as usual, got in the way. Walmart did everything but sue to be allowed to establish on Roxbury’s Bartlett Street – they were rebuffed and the site remains vacant. Now, Suffolk Construction is moving from Allenton Street Roxbury to City owned property on Tide Street in South Boston’s Marine Industrial Park? It’s

not like we’re having a hard time attracting developers. Tide Street, (which was originally funded for a South Boston Youth Center) sits on the waterfront. No doubt, in 20 years, Suffolk will move to the suburbs and end up with control of this South Boston prime real estate.

Consider this: 10 years ago South Boston residents led by Councilor Jimmy Kelly were flat out turned down in an attempt to relocate an industrial use from a dense South Boston residential area to the Industrial Park. And by the way, since at least 1996, Federal Law (The Clean Air Act) forbids locating any new



industrial uses in South Boston. Isn’t a construction company considered industrial?

Meanwhile, Roxbury steps back economically rather than forward. So has the Mayor and his administration finally dropped all pretenses – is there now a rush to “cash in their chips”?

“A better world shall emerge based on Faith and understanding” -General Douglas MacArthur

Last Week’s Poll Results

Should The City of Boston and the BRA Notify South Boston Residents When South Boston Waterfront and Marine Industrial Park Development Proposals Are Being Considered?

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respondents said YES!**

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To The Folks On Duck Dynasty 'Facially Profiled' Does Not Offend

SOUTH BOSTON TODAY
John Ciccone

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

Last week in New York City, an incident took place involving a celebrity that made major news in many parts of the country. It made headlines in media outlets because it was actually a 'non-issue' as far as the victim was concerned. In this column on at least 2 other occasions I mentioned the Reality TV series mega-hit called 'Duck Dynasty'. Yes, I'm one of the nearly 12 million viewers that tuned in to watch the show's 4th season opener. Call me a Red Neck if you want; I don't consider that label to be an insult, but I too like this show that is so popular among Americans that it has shattered records for audience size. For those not familiar with what happened to Jase Robertson, one of the stars and leading characters of Duck Dynasty it went as follows.

Mr. Robertson and the other members of the Robertson Family who are also costars of the series were in New York to promote the show's new season. They were staying at a 5 star, top of the line hotel in that city. In fact, it's one of the Donald Trump owned hotels. Well, Jase Robertson was walking through the lobby dressed like he always does. He was wearing camouflage clothes and sporting a long mountain man type beard. He looks like he could be part of the ZZ Top band. In the hills of Louisiana; he fits right in, but in the lobby of one of New York City's swanky hotels; he was mistaken for a homeless guy and politely escorted out the door when he asked a hotel employee where the men's room was. Now bear in mind, Jase Robertson is a multi-millionaire many times over. The guy is rolling in

cash not only from his TV show, but mostly from his Duck Call businesses which as many of you know is what the show is about.

Anyway, when the hotel realized their mistake they were embarrassed; especially when so many witnesses leaked the story to the press. When asked by reporters who rushed to the scene if he was offended by his treatment, Robertson laughed, made a joke of it and said "Well, I guess because of my scraggly beard, I must have been the victim of 'Facial Profiling'". Then followed it with "No, of course not. I'm absolutely not offended and I hope the guy who so politely escorted me out the door doesn't get in any trouble. It's no big deal, lighten up people".

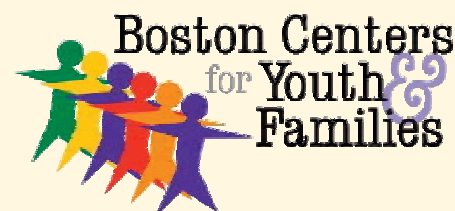
This reaction stunned and disappointed the hyperventilating reporters chomping at the bit for an "I'm offended and outraged" reaction. Because isn't that how so many people react now to the slightest reason to feel they have been wronged? Political Correctness has turned millions of people into over sensitive, whiney victims, who almost go out of their way hoping to be offended.

Oprah Winfrey last week got upset and complained on national news because she said a salesperson in a handbag shop in Switzerland offended her in an act of 'racial profiling'. The salesperson categorically denies it. But it's not just Oprah. Half the pampered Hollywood so called A-listers are always getting offended by something someone says or does or they become offended on behalf someone else who they feel are not capable of being offended themselves.

Many are convinced that the vile Al Sharpton and Jesse Jackson wake up every morning and turn on the news hoping that someone, somewhere in America did or said something to offend African Americans. Their bags already packed, they'd be on the first flight to the area to call a press conference. At Christmas Time as we all know,

there are some who cannot walk by a Nativity Scene or hear the words Merry Christmas without becoming offended. Even in this town, we have a few loons afraid to call a Christmas Tree what it is and instead refer to it as a 'holiday tree' or a winter shrub or some other such PC nonsense. You have ridiculous white

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Curley Community Center End of Summer - Beach Party Wednesday, August 28, 2013

The BCYF's Curley Community Center, Mayor Thomas M. Menino & Massport present the Curley's Center's End of the Summer Beach Party, on Wednesday, August 28, 2013 from 6:00PM to 9:00PM on Curley's M Street Beach.

All are invited to come together and celebrate L Street Night on our clean and beautiful South Boston shoreline and all that it has to offer!

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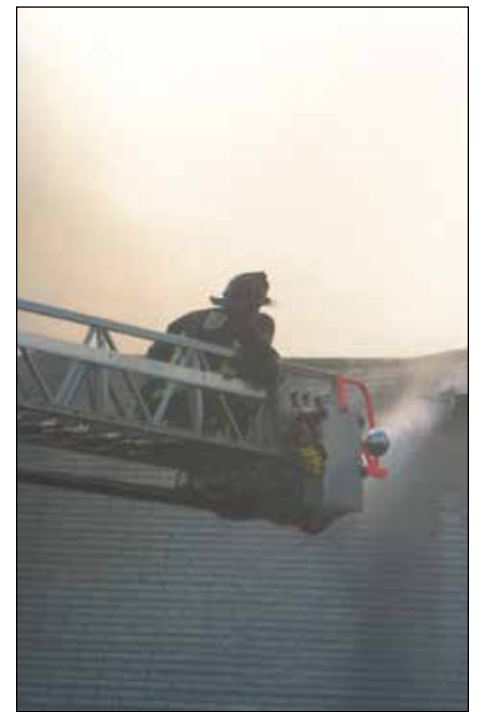
Historic Church in South Boston Burns

SOUTH BOSTON TODAY
staff report

Commuting workers and early risers were first alerted to an acrid smell in the air at approximately 8:40 Wednesday morning. In rapid succession, the crystal blue summer sky went misty, foggy, and then a thick billowing smoke emerged at F and West Broadway as shocked onlookers realized the origin was St. John's Albanian Church.

Our own firefighters from D and 3rd and K and 4th arrived almost simultaneously just before 8:45.

Boston police on patrol responded instantaneously and were already cordoning off the street. EMS units too were standing by to assist but there were no immediate injuries. F Street, Athens Street, Dyer Ave., and West Broadway were all used as conduits to bring the apparatus as close as possible. Combined with the nearly 90 degree heat a block and a half distance was still too close and hot. The stubborn fire was still burning three hours later at noon and had risen to 5 alarms. All of Broadway,



including the offices of South Boston Today, had to be evacuated to escape the sickening smoke.

The church itself originally the Broadway Universalist Church was built in 1872. The aged wood, tar coating surely combined to produce the noxious smoke. At this writing no cause had been identified. Even through the smoke at least one firefighter remarked "the damage was extensive". Please pray for the clergy and faithful parishioners of Saint John's parish.



Reading Between The Lines

“Are You Kidding?”

SOUTH BOSTON TODAY
Brian R. Mahoney

Note: talk back to Brian by email at bmahoney@southbostontoday.com

An incredulous Connie Leonard, one of murder victim Buddy Leonard's two daughters, uttered those words in the courtroom when the jury returned a verdict of not guilty in the murder case against Whitey Bulger. Confusing is the word that describes the jury's reasoning when they found guilt for Tommy King's murder, but not the murder of his best friend Buddy Leonard the same night.

Connie's words might be even more appropriate to characterize the Federal "Victory Tour" press conference that they held outside the court house. Besides acknowledging every federal agency, except the Fish and Wildlife Agency, and ignoring the Boston Police Department (who did as little as the Feds over those years), the Feds were either blissfully or willfully ignoring their responsibility. At least Boston Police Detective Frankie Dewan led a group of colleagues who were frustrated, in large part because of Federal interference, in their attempts to bring down Bulger. Did he have a crusading FBI counterpart we haven't heard about? Just one agent in all those years who said something is wrong here and has to stop? No. Not one.

Remember this sordid relationship between Bulger and FBI agent Rico might extend as far back as a railroad bridge at B and Athens Streets in 1951. Some believe his informant status began in 1956. Using this informant practice as a shortcut, of course, began when the Boston office 'made' hit man Joe Barboza, the first member in the history of the witness protection program. This program is like a finishing school for rats. It's also a quick way to make headlines

and gain notoriety for ambitious agents, as opposed to hard legwork. Somewhat similar to the response of the State Police, when drag-racers were using the beach road out to Sullivan's as a late night drag strip.

The State Police simply barred everyone, good and bad, from the Island, which made it much easier for them to arrest those pesky lawbreakers than have to patrol. Even if the rest of us might want to stroll or drive out there, we get screwed.

On a much more harmful scale, the Feds do the same thing time after time. Before he was murdered, Barboza was under suspicion for a murder in his "new life" in San Francisco. Sammy "The Bull" Gravano informed on John Gotti, and has been busted twice for selling heroin in his "new life" in Arizona. Most recently, FBI local informant Mark Rossetti has been accused of numerous crimes similar to Bulger. The pattern repeats, over and over. As long as the Feds get the limelight, any harmful spillover to the rest of us is just "collateral damage".

Remember, the Feds are not real cops. They're basically political appointees. Do you think John Connolly was accepted to the FBI because he scored so well on a test; or because the Speaker of the House sent a letter of recommendation to J. Edgar Hoover? Do you think its different today?

This mentality becomes part of the FBI operating procedure so when other agents saw Connolly dressing like a gangster and other questionable activities everyone looked the other way. No one wanted to get involved. Politics you know. The same FBI politics that prevented anyone from stepping forward and

stopping the Marathon weasel when he was in Russia. Instead using "regulations" as an excuse for their inaction in that case.

When you step back, the realization strikes that the Bulger and Flemmi reign began, was supported, and in

the end was covered up by the Feds, right from the start. This was their creation. If this is where it ends, on the back of a decrepit monster, with no prosecution of any Feds, then Connie had it right. "Are you kidding?"



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City Hall Commission Throws Beach Bash After Laying Off Employees

The Boston Public Health Commission, a city public health agency, is run by a 7-member board, all of whom are appointed by Mayor Thomas M. Menino. Only a short time after laying-off some of its longest serving employees, the BPHC threw a summer beach bash paid for the agency. The situation seems to be raising eyebrows.

EMS union president James Orsino

was appalled at the situation. "I find it hard to believe that anyone would find it appropriate for the BPHC to be holding a celebration, six weeks after laying-off some of its longest serving employees. Doing so during a time in which they claim that fiscal restraint requires reductions to the city's Emergency Medical Services not only defies logic, but illustrates a thorough disconnect between the

commission and its mission."

Boston's EMS department also seems to be understaffed. Priorities also appear to be misplaced. Through attrition as well as layoffs, the number of EMTs has shrunk over the past few years. Some 320 respond to over 100,000 911 calls per year.

Orsino believes that the submitted budget shows that EMS isn't seen as a top priority by the BPHC. "They continue to support some bizarre programs. They own a flock of free range chickens on Long Island that lay organic eggs. They call it a 'job training program.' Orsino went on. 'I'm not aware of any emerging market for chicken farmers in the city, but it is fully funded in the budget.'

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for the right developer, the city will put millions of dollars on the table. ...There aren't many rules governing Boston development. There's the stuff that municipal lawyers put to paper, the stuff that regulates building height and density and form and a thousand other little details, but those details aren't all that important.... The real rules rest with Tom Menino, the man who has ruled over the mayor's office for the past two decades ...The rules only exist in the mayor's head, and they seem to change day to day."

McMorrow then highlighted the absurd tax breaks, given by the city to major corporations who, economically speaking, don't need them. He pointed out how Menino often "sweetens the pot" for favored developer friends of his.

McMorrow crystallizes the feelings of the overwhelming majority of Boston's residents in the last line of his article. "It's maddeningly arbitrary, and it's the way Boston has built for the past two decades."

Unfortunately this way of doing things seeps into every decision city hall makes. This past Tuesday there was a city hall sponsored public meeting that had no public meeting advertisements from city hall. The classic disinformation strategy -nothing to see here folks - move along. However there is something going on. The Boston Redevelopment Authority in coordination with the mayor has decided that we should have less off street parking and more housing units per development. And who does that benefit? The goal is to continue to run roughshod over zoning rules and give his allies sweet heart deals. Another example is the "sell" on bike paths. It smells of a feeble attempt to justify not needing off street parking. This is inane. But it doesn't matter to this 'lame duck' administration. They have one goal in mind. Rob the house until the guards show up in January. The citizens of Boston are looking forward to seeing the guards back on duty.

Councilor Linehan Works to Crack Down on Public Consumption of Marijuana

City Councilor Linehan has filed an order that would prohibit the public use of marijuana in public parks. During the City Council Meeting to be held on Wednesday, August 21st, the Council will be presented with

provisions to the already existing laws against marijuana, which will now make it illegal for anyone to smoke, ingest, or consume the drug while in the Boston Common or any public park owned by the City of Boston. The Boston Police

Department will have the authority to issue fines of three hundred dollars for each offense, if this order is passed.

Councilor Linehan filed this order after receiving numerous complaints from residents regarding the large amounts of marijuana being consumed in public parks and the type of atmosphere it is creating. "This ordinance will make all of our beautiful public parks in the City of Boston cleaner and safer for residents of all ages. While I understand decriminalization, the families of this City should be able to bring their young children to any public park for a fun day without having to worry about illegal acts such as public drug use occurring around them. This provision is a big step forward in that process." If you have any questions you may contact the office of Boston City Councilor Bill Linehan at 617-635-3203.

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Rep. Collins Continues Comprehensive Approach To Public Safety

Joins Linehan in call for 200 more police officers on Boston's streets

State Rep. Nick Collins continues to push for additional resources and applauds the proposal to put 200 more police officers on our streets. "I commend City Councilors Rob Consalvo and Bill Linehan for their call for these much needed resources. We share the concerns of police officers and citizens alike, who agree on this need. South Boston is a community and Boston is a City that needs enough law enforcement resources to keep our citizens safe. This action would be a big step in the right direction."

Since 2010, Collins has made Public Safety his top priority. The plan included continuing the war on drugs, promoting a local police confidential tip

line, encouraging neighborhood watch groups, supporting community policing and creating better communication between the community and the police.

In 2011, that agenda sharply focused on securing a dedicated daytime drug unit in South Boston, to let the drug fueled criminal element know that South Boston was prepared to fight back for control of its streets and the lives of its children. In the fall of 2012, after Collins, Cong. Stephen Lynch and other South Boston elected officials met with Police Commissioner Ed Davis, DEA and State Police teamed up with Boston Police to activate warrants that resulted in over 400 arrests. Then, backed by his superintendents and command staff, Davis instituted

a citywide day time drug unit with significant attention to South Boston.

In January of this year, Rep. Collins filed legislation to authorize joint police jurisdiction between both the Boston Police and the MA State Police of the South Boston Waterfront. On July 29th 2013, at a public safety meeting called by the elected officials of South Boston in the wake of the tragic death of Amy Lord, Commissioner Davis publicly announced that a dedicated daytime drug unit has been permanently assigned to South Boston.

Shortly after learning of the criminal history of the suspect in Ms. Lord's murder, Collins called for a citywide 'warrant sweep' of violent offenders. The hope is that

by rounding up all suspects with outstanding warrants that have a violent history, those most likely to commit violent crimes would be off the streets. Collins has also teamed up with his House Republican colleague Rep. Dan Winslow to file legislation to provide law enforcement, across the Commonwealth, with the tools and access to evaluate the criminal history of an individual right from their patrol cruiser.

"With the rapid increase in population and development our city is experiencing, and the increased revenues that come along with that, it is imperative that our public safety infrastructure not only catches up, but gets ahead of the curve." Collins added.

Bicycle Lanes & Facilities Public Meeting Held at Condon School

SOUTH BOSTON TODAY
Staff Report

On Tuesday night a public meeting was held by Boston Bikes of City of Boston with about 75 Southie residents for a presentation and discussions concerning bike lanes in South Boston. Nicole Freedman, the Director of Boston Bikes City of Boston, provided a slide presentation on the current conditions, bike route tracking and facilities in South Boston.

The presentation continued with proposals, explanations and rationale for installing bike lanes and facilities. It also included a proposed 5 year plan map and Goals for Broadway & West Broadway (with graphics on current and proposed conditions), Design treatments for the streets including dashed lines to show bike lanes, signs bike boxes at intersections, way-finding signs and an educational campaign. All in all, a pretty comprehensive presentation.

The meeting was then opened up for discussion by the audience which consisted of both bike riding and non-riding residents, business owners, members of the police department and community leaders and officials.

While it was obvious the bike riding community far outnumbered the non-bike riding residents, the discussions provided interesting, informative and passionate insights from both sides.

There seemed to be two overall themes:

1. What will be impact on South Boston businesses if bike lanes are installed?
2. What will it mean to bike riding safety and accessibility if bike lanes are installed?

The discussions covered a broad range from making South Boston more appealing to non-automobile owners, to shopping will be harder since double parking will be eliminated where bike lanes are installed, to bike lanes will naturally reduce accidents and injuries to bike riders, to will bike lanes actually work, to bikes will reduce the car traffic, to why not put bike lanes where they won't affect other people and businesses. Asked about impact studies, Ms. Freedman quoted some statistics that she knew of, but promised to provide further actual studies by email to the attendees and

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The Assault at the South Boston Waterfront: What is an 'Unlicensed Taxi'?

SOUTH BOSTON TODAY

staff report

Is it a good idea to accept a ride, spontaneously, from a so called unlicensed taxi; and what exactly is an unlicensed taxi?

This is an issue that has become major news recently after media outlets reported last week that on August 6th, a 21 year old woman was picked up by one of these vehicles in the South Boston Waterfront, driven to a dark road in Newton and was assaulted and raped. A more recent but similar attack occurred in Allston/Brighton. Few knew about the South Boston incident until more than a week later, as there was no public notification or alerts put out right after the incident. This was not a common occurrence. The South Boston Waterfront is usually

considered to be very safe.

Police and media reports tell us that the alleged victim left a popular pub on Seaport Blvd and Northern Avenue after midnight where she spent time with a friend and waved down an unregistered taxi seeking a ride. According to a Boston Globe report, the vehicle was described as a black car with a Livery Plate but no official taxi medallion. When she entered the vehicle, the driver ignored her demand to be taken home and instead took her to a location on Nonantum Road near the City of Newton and assaulted and raped her in the vicinity of a Department of Conservation and Recreation skating rink. After putting up a struggle she said she was thrown from the car and

left on the side of the road.

Unlicensed taxis have come under some criticism from officials at the Boston Taxi Driver's Association. The BTDA insists it is not saying they shouldn't be allowed to operate, but that they should come under stricter regulations; especially when it comes to mandating that drivers go through thorough background checks. A car with a 'livery' license plate is not considered to be a licensed taxi, but they are licensed to operate. This seems to be a gray area in the minds of some public officials. It is illegal for any driver to take money for giving rides, unless they are licensed to do so. Livery vehicles are registered by the Registry of Motor Vehicles and are authorized to carry passengers for commercial purposes, but do not have Taxi medallions issued by the Boston Police Department and are not required to have background checks or regular safety inspections. They also do not fall under the purview of the Boston Police.

So, why was there a delay in alerting the public after the incident? It seems there were jurisdictional questions and a mix up between the State Police and the Middlesex District Attorney's office as to which authority should have handled it. These questions have apparently been worked out and all involved are said to know the proper procedure. Officials have promised to issue public alerts after such incidents, as soon as they become aware of them.

This incident at the South Boston Waterfront adds to a string of violent attacks on women that have been taking place in the South Boston area, but the fact that this attack began in the Waterfront area highlights the problem and people need to be on alert in every part of the area and in every neighborhood in Boston; not just South Boston proper.

As they have been doing all summer after each violent incident, police patrols have been beefed up in the Waterfront area. The word has gone out across the city about the potential problems that exist and the added precautions that should be taken when going out for a night on the town or just simply walking in one's own neighborhood. City officials are concerned about the

recent rash of incidents that have made news. When problems like this are highlighted, there is always the possibility that it could have an adverse effect on tourism during the summer months - Boston's biggest tourist season.

The advice to residents remains the same. Be aware of your surroundings at all times. Keep your guard up, and if you feel comfortable doing so, carry with you items that will help protect you or at the very least, can summon help if you feel threatened. Other safety measures, of course, include contacting companies providing safe and licensed transportation such as taxis or the new Southie Shuttle, which provides both free rides to and from its member restaurants and paid rides to its individual members in and around South Boston. Other tips include texting a photo of or otherwise contacting family or friends with the taxi or livery license plate, and try to travel in pairs or a group.

It's not the ideal way to have to enjoy yourself when out for a little R and R and fun, but to use a tired and true cliché, it's always better to be safe than sorry. Getting home safely is the perfect end to a good night out.

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on the Boston Bikes web page.

Commissioner Thomas Tinlin of the City of Boston Transportation Department provided a summary of the meeting by stating that this is the start of a process that his department was asked to explore to determine what to do. It must be recognized that bikes are a mode of transportation to many people and we must find a way to share the road. You don't build a business plan around double parking. That's why there are 2 hour parking limits so that there is car turn over to enable more customers to shop on Broadway. There needs to be a balance for all concerned, to work together to find a better way.

South Boston Today has been made aware of the fact that bike lanes are already planned and underway on A Street, B Street, D Street, and Old Colony Ave and First Street.

Please submit comments and requests to Nicole.Freedman@cityofboston.gov



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South Boston Around The Globe

SOUTH BOSTON TODAY

By Brian R. Mahoney

My wife and I have this ongoing discussion. She is bursting with pride, as I am, for our son, Brian, (attending Cornell) and she thinks I should write a column about him. I've said it wouldn't be right to use this column for personal reasons. It is, however, that time of year when parents, aunts, uncles, grandparents and friends all share in that personal pride that comes with watching our young adults creating their future. This is the pride my wife and I share in.

I opened a shoe box the other night looking for something and on top was a photo of a group of six - five year old rug rats in oversized soccer jerseys. Funny enough their team name was "Rug Rats". I attended a high school award ceremony a couple of years ago and smiled to myself as each rug rat, now a young adult, was called to the stage to receive scholarships and awards for their school achievements. And there were achievements. Perhaps more today, than ever before.

It wasn't just pride that caused my wife to urge a column. Nor was it really just about my son. We both felt that there are plenty of bad stories written and spoken about Southie Kids. We seldom hear of the vast majority of kids who are not just succeeding, but thriving.

As a coach in soccer, football and baseball, I've watched with their families a generation of South Boston youth, the same age my son, grow up before our eyes: John, Brian, Phil, Kevin, Richard, Mike, Brittany, Allison, Kelly, Conor, Christian, Miles, Owen, Anya, Cate, Brighdy, Kylie, Matt, Cameron, Paul, Elsa, Marissa, Nick, Johnathan, Erin, Stephanie, Ryan, Colin, Joel, Leo and Ashley. All real local kids.

B.U., B.C., Harvard, Colby, Quinnipiac, Curry, UMass, Tufts, Cornell, Wheelock, UNH, Wentworth, Northeastern, Roger Williams, Regis, are just some of the colleges they have received some type of scholarship for. Florida, California, Kentucky, Connecticut, New York, are just some of the states they'll be studying in. So far, the U.S. Airforce, the U.S. Army, U.S. Navy and the U.S. Marines are branches some of them have joined. This is America's



future and it looks good.

If it was tough for us to be good growing up, we can only imagine the temptations and obstacles these good kids had to overcome in this day and age to be good. But they did and perhaps the next time someone wants to talk about "These Southie Kids" or "These Southie People" they'll actually learn something before they speak. If they did they might realize a thank you is in order and not a criticism. No one, however, can take away what they've already achieved and what some of them have overcome: family crisis, illness.

Brian arrived at his present situation

the proven Southie way -worked hard in school and toughened up on Southie sports fields of football, baseball and soccer. Beginning at St. Peters School, he received the educational foundation that allowed him to achieve the National Honor Society at Boston Latin School. He captained the track team two years in a row. He was accepted to Cornell University where last year he made the Deans List with a 3.76 GPA. This past Sunday he returned to begin his junior year. Naturally, I had to wait for him to be out of town before I could write this.

There are many individual stories of

CONTINUED ON page 12

J. Ciccone...CONTINUED FROM page 3

liberals who get offended on behalf of American Indians demanding that the long standing names of sports teams like 'Chiefs' or 'Braves' be changed because they are offensive to 'Native Americans'. Now we have news stories about silly activists who demand that the words committeeman or congresswoman no longer be used because it might offend a transgender person. When's the last time you heard your president use the words Terrorist or Islamic Extremists? How about never? Can't offend Al Qaeda now can we?

If people are illegal immigrants they are undocumented Democrats, oops, I mean workers. If someone is heavy, they are calorically challenged, if they are short, they are vertically challenged, if they are tall, they are horizontally challenged. If they are bald, they are follicle challenged. It's now to the point that half the country is tip toeing around, walking on egg shells afraid to say anything for fear of somehow offending some thin skinned protected group or overly sensitive professional victim. I say half the country because the other half has just about had enough and is refusing to play this infantile game. Seriously folks, could this possibly get any sillier?

And this brings us back to what happened to Jase Robertson of Duck Dynasty in the snobby New York City hotel. He just laughed it off and found it all so amusing that people are still dumbfounded and shocked that he didn't take offense at all. As he said, "What's the big deal? Relax people; life's too short to take these things and ourselves so serious.

The Robertson Family and the entire cast of Duck Dynasty are not actors. The show is about how they live. They have their Duck Call business and their hunting but most of all they have their families, their friends, and their faith in God and live the lifestyle they choose. They are generous, good and decent folks who don't go out of their way to offend others and do not take offense at things that really don't matter a heck of a lot in the grand scheme of things. Many people find that refreshing. And that's why Duck Dynasty is so popular. The high strung among us could learn a lot from them.



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Stepping Up and Stepping Out:

Your Guide to the Southie Scene and the “Southie Senses”

South Boston Today begins a regular series about life in South Boston and all that it has to offer. Southie is a vibrant and growing community and there are so many ways for residents to become connected and involved. Here are some of the best ways to see, hear, taste, touch and smell all that is Southie. From City Point to Fort Point to the South Boston Waterfront, there are so many opportunities to put your senses to good use!

Stepping Up: *View from the Top*

Living in the city, we can see the effect pollutants have on our environment, both personal and public. “L” street is a straight shot into the city and is a well-traveled road so add that outside traffic to the amount of car exhaust residents already produce, that’s a whole lotta nitrogen oxide. Also, as convenient as it is to have Logan Airport just a tunnel ride away, airplanes also increase the volume of exhaust. And I know the higher the hair, the closer to heaven, but aerosol hairspray is both bad for your ‘do’ AND the environment. Not to mention, the surgeon general has been warning us about the harmful effects of cigarettes since the ‘60s, yet so many of us are still puffing away. All of these contain some sort of poison that has an impact on our personal health but also the health of our trees, plants and animals. Here are some “grassroots” examples of how South Boston peeps and businesses are giving back to the environment some of what we have taken.

• No Shrinking Violets Here: The Macallen

Building, located at 141 Dorchester Avenue, was built with a conscience. It was constructed with nontoxic and recycled product, as well as an awareness of lowering energy consumption with large, insulated windows. But their crowning glory is the roof top terrace garden and sloping green roof. Not only is it pleasant to look at from the units, but also increases the healthy oxygen/carbon dioxide being depleted by the major roads and highways that surround the development. The members of the West Broadway Neighborhood Association work hard at also maintaining their space, and have even extended the green goodness to a garden that is flourishing on the adjacent Foundry Street. And the WBNP is also working on a plot of land at West 4th street and Dot Ave. Thanks to them, the grass really IS greener on the other side!

West Broadway Neighborhood Association
wbroadway.org
macallenbuildingcondominiums.com

• Busy as a Bee: The Seaport Hotel has

been working very hard at maintaining their status as an “eco-friendly and green hotel”; they call the initiative “Seaport Saves”. From top to bottom, inside and out, the Seaport employs a sustainable approach in the daily operations of the hotel; eco-friendly cleaning products, water and energy conservation and locally sourced food are all part of their program. One of the foods is SO local, it is cultivated on premise. Since 2011, the Seaport Hotel has been keeping their own bee sanctuary in a space on the fourth floor rooftop, where honey is harvested for consumption in the hotel’s restaurants as well as sold in the gift shop. And with a shortage of honeybees on the rise, the Seaport Hotel sees how important bees are to maintaining a balanced ecosystem. As of now there are potted plants surrounding the hives for pollination; soon the hotel hopes to build a garden near the hives. Now THAT is something to buzz about.

Seaport Hotel
1 Seaport Lane
seaportboston.com • 617-385-4000

• Fruits (and vegetables) of Their Labor: The Boston Design Center is a mecca of up and coming, as well as established furniture designers. Their wares range from tables and chairs to lamps and sconces. But there’s also another type of ‘design’ in the works that is not seen in the showrooms. At 1 Design Center Place, Higher Ground Farm is slowly but surely cultivating its way to a fully functioning city farm on the top of the building. This spring began the first phase of their mission: to become a space where South Bostonians can benefit from all the farm has to offer. Residents can learn about tending to the farm, reap the benefits of locally grown produce and engage in aiding in the reduction of air pollution. Higher Ground Farm is looking for volunteers, sponsors and buildings wanting to lend their time and/or space to making the farm a viable and desirable addition to South Boston. I can’t wait to watch this grass grow!

Higher Ground Farm
higher-ground-farm.com
info@higher-ground-farm.com

Stepping Out: *Drink Like a Fish*

This week’s heat wave makes me think not all is lost and maybe it is still July (fingers crossed). Even though Mother Nature is playing Jedi-mind tricks on me, I am going to take advantage of her wicked ways and get out and sample some classic summer cocktails with a Southie twist. With those sips go the snacks, and what better than seafood! Whether you prefer it battered and deep-fried, shucked fresh, minced with spice and citrus or rolled and doused in soy sauce, here are some spots in South Boston where the pairings of cocktails and cuisine are ready for consumption. With so many choices, it’s like shooting fish in a barrel.

• Bigger Fish to Fry: The biggest fish in the sea, Legal Seafood, did not get that way just by sheer luck. Their recipe for success comes from the freshness of all their ingredients, not only in

their dishes but also in their drinks. They are a Massachusetts business that likes to support other small and local purveyors by using their products to create an interesting and delicious menu. Legal Harborside brings the best of all the Legal’s empire has to offer. From your traditional calamari and fried whole bellied clams to wild mushroom and lobster pizza and buffalo shrimp, Legals appeals to most, if not all. When paired with their delicious “Blueberry Thyme Collins”, an adult like lemonade with a twist, you will be happy as a clam. Cold River blueberry vodka hails from Maine and the summer seasonal flavors of lemon, blueberry and apricot shows how Legals keeps it local.

Legal Harborside • 270 Northern Avenue
legalseafood.com • 617-477-2900

• One Fish, Two Fish, Red Fish, Blue Fish: Striped

bass, scallop and shrimp, red snapper, bluefish; add some citrus and spice, and everything turns out nice. Ceviche is created by taking raw fish, dousing it in some sort of acid (usually lemon or lime) and seasoning it with spices, and sometimes a cooling agent like avocado is added for balance. Though it is a South American dish, it is also very popular in Mexican cuisine. Papagayo on Summer Street serves up a delicious version that includes tuna and shrimp, and the marriage of texture and flavor pairs wonderfully with anyone of their signature margaritas. Their ingredients are fresh and seasonal, and the same goes into their drinks. One favorite is so savory the balance of sweet and spicy keeps your taste buds guessing. The “Watermelon Habanero” margarita uses the cooling agents in watermelon to soften the zing that their house infused habanero pepper tequila brings to the drink. Papagayo’s seared fish tacos, a delicious alternative to the more commonly fried,

also never disappoint. Never does this food stop have to fish for a compliment.

Papagayo Boston • 283 Summer Street Boston
papagayoboston.com • 617-423-1000

• Fish Out of Water: On the South Boston Waterfront, there are plenty of fish in the sea. Countless casual and fine seafood dining options, two major steakhouses, many more Italian and Mexican options too. Not since the sad closing of Eastern Pier and Easter Pier II has there been a place on the waterfront to enjoy delicious Asian cuisine. Now there is one who conquers quintessential Asian cuisine with a twist: Empire. And the place certainly lives up to its name, both in provisions and potions. Their wide variety of sushi (maki and nigiri) and other Asian delights combine interesting flavor combinations with traditional ingredients. Their play on a New England tradition of a fried fish and chip plate comes in the form of a sushi roll- tempura fried

cod, crispy pieces of Yukon gold potatoes and a malted vinegar –tartar sauce. Pair that salty delight with a sweet and cool classic Mai Tai and bottoms up!

Empire

1 Marina Park Drive

empireboston.com • 617-295-0001

• Under the Sea: Which way to “Mussel Beach”? Located on West Broadway, Lincoln Tavern has so much to offer, not just pizza and beer. Lincoln doesn’t have a waterfront address, but they do have access to same delectable offerings of seafood. One dish they do best is the “Bloody Mary Mussels”.

The mussels are simmered in tomatoes that are sweet, horseradish that gives it a kick and some gremolata that has a little citrus and herb to add flavor. Order it up with a Leinenkugel’s Summer Shandy on draught and it will help put out the fire just as the Bloody Mary does for our Sunday mornings. Lincoln also offers plenty

of other mouthwatering, Southie inspired cocktails like the “M St. Peach” and the “Sugar Bowl”, if beer doesn’t do it for you. So get out and hit that sauce!

Lincoln Tavern and Restaurant

425 W. Broadway

lincolnsouthboston.com • 617-765-8636

Southie Senses:

Things to see, touch, taste, smell and hear in Southie



See - Within Eyeshot

• You don’t have to travel far to take part in the Massachusetts Department of Conservation’s “Movies in the Park” program. The DCR has a summer program called “Free Friday Flicks” which is held Friday evenings in the summer at the Hatch Shell on the Charles River, but also extend viewing opportunities to other sites across the city. And since “there’s no place like home”, this Saturday August 24th the DCR is screening “Oz the Great & Powerful in South Boston. The movie starts at dusk which is around 7:10 pm these days (yikes!) and all are welcome to grab some ground, bring friends and snacks and enjoy the show. Just follow the yellow lined street down to Oz (aka Marine Park).
mass.gov/eea/agencies/dcr • 617-626-1250



Touch - • Give a Hand.

• What do Leonardo, Michelangelo, Donatello and Raphael have in common besides being walking, talking, ninjutsu-kicking butt turtles that live in a city sewer? They were also famous Renaissance artists AND at one time, young. Artists for Humanity, located on West 2nd street, is chock full of budding young artists, all whom have put their heart, soul and hands into some inspiring work. And now they would like to share those creations with us. On Thursday August 22nd, AFH is having a “Summer Art Exhibition & Celebration”. Come by to mix and mingle with your neighbors, fellow artists and talented youth. Stay to secure and procure the next Dali, Picasso or O’Keefe piece. That’s how one hand washes another.

Artists for Humanity • 100 West 2nd street • afhboston.org



Taste - Holy Guacamole!

• In honor of this summer favorite, I have been convinced to share a very coveted recipe for this nutritious and delicious concoction which can be eaten with, on top of, to the side, even as: a meal. The ingredients of guacamole are also in their peak of season freshness; summertime is when spicy peppers, avocado, tomatoes, limes and cilantro are ripest in New England. And many of these necessary components can be found at the South Boston Farmer’s Market (located on West Broadway) which runs every Monday, 12-6pm, until November. This is also stone fruit and berry season, so if you are feeling up to it, make a peach salsa or spicy raspberry-pepper jam! “Guac” on!

** Guacamole Recipe:

- 5 ripe avocados
- 1 red jalapeno
- 1 small red onion
- 2 roma tomatoes
- ½ bunch cilantro
- 2oz of lime juice (5 limes)
- 1 ½ teaspoons ground cumin
- 1 ½ teaspoons ground cayenne
- Salt to taste

1. Cut avocados in half & de-seed. With a small knife, make cuts to the meat of the avocado both vertically and horizontally and then scoop out into a bowl
2. De-seed and de-stem the jalapeno; dice small. Add to bowl.
3. Also dice small the red onion and tomatoes. Add to bowl.
4. Pull cilantro leaves off stems and chop fine. Add to bowl.
5. Mix all ingredients in bowl
6. Chill for 1 hour and serve with corn tortillas



Smell - Nose in the Air.

• Diving- bombing is not just for the birds. In its fifth year, the Red Bull Cliff Diving competition brings its spectacular show to ICABoston. There are 10 divers dedicated to 4 dives at determined degrees of difficulty (say that five times fast); the height and technique of dives are determined by the judges and HDA (High Diving Alliance). The event is this Sunday August 25th; tickets are free but need to be reserved. Competition starts at 2pm, but doors open at 1pm. These are professionals so don’t try it at home!!!

redbullcliffdiving.com



Hear - Sounds of the Spoken Word

• This heat wave brings me back to July, when the summer was hot, happening and not yet (but not this close) over. Let the Brown Box Theater take you back one more time to that steamy yet serene and stirring place. A free performance of Shakespeare’s “A Midsummer Night’s Dream” is happening this weekend at the Boston Children’s Museum. Brown Box Theater’s philosophy about theater is that it should be accessible to everyone, not just shown on NYC’s Broadway; by the people, for the people seems to be their practice. There will also be an additional showing Labor Day weekend at Carson Beach. This third annual tour includes two other states and if the ball keeps on rolling, the tour will grow. As big Willy Styles says “Though she is but little, she is fierce.”

brownboxtheatre.org



Embrace All Of The Southie Senses:



Castle Island- Hold on to your hats!

This Friday August 23rd is national "Ride the Wind Day". It is a reminder that with these sweet, summer days winding down, we should all take advantage of the weather and get out and savor it. There are so many things you can do at Castle Island to engage all the senses. You can spend the WHOLE day doing them. Get there by taking a leisurely (or speed) walk around the Sugar Bowl or bike like Lance Armstrong along the newly named parts of South Boston's Irish Riviera know as the Harborwalk. Next, hear experts share the story of Castle Island with a free, guided tour around Fort Independence. You can cast a line with novice and seasoned fisherman at the mouth of the lagoon. Witness the grandiosity of the USS Constitution as it sails to the island and gives a 21-gun salute in honor of the fort. Grab lunch AND dinner at Sullivan's, starting with a snapper-dog and finishing with a soft serve cone and relax on the grassy knolls surrounding the fort. And look around: you will see so many young people, families and older couples; you will get a whiff of love in the air. Finally, you can end the day with a Twilight Sky Viewing atop Fort Independence. So get out and enjoy all Southie has to offer. And remember to thank your lucky stars!

bostonfortindependence.com

Mayor Thomas M. Menino - City of Boston

SOUTH BOSTON

ITALIAN PRIDE

featuring

Michael Dutra

&

The Strictly Sinatra Band

Children's Activities

Thursday, August 22, 2013

6 - 8pm

Medal of Honor Park
(M Street Park)

617-635-3911
www.cityofboston.gov/arts

Dorchester Heights to Receive Park Improvements

SOUTH BOSTON TODAY
Staff Report

Boston National Historical Park Superintendent Cassius Cash announced today that work will begin this week on improvements to Dorchester Heights National Historic Site in South Boston. The \$240,000 National Park Service-funded capital improvements include replacement of lights and fixtures that illuminate the monument at night and a new spotlight to illuminate the site's American flag. "We expect the new lighting on the monument will improve public safety in the neighborhood after dark," said Superintendent Cash.

The lighting, which will wash the monument evenly on all sides, will celebrate this historic icon and help it reclaim its rightful place in the Boston skyline, he said. The white marble Georgian-revival tower, dedicated on March 17, 1902, is a towering and prominent landmark that is highly visible throughout Greater Boston and to the many commuters and motorists who pass it daily while traveling on the Southeast Expressway.

In addition to the new lighting, a new water fountain will replace the old damaged one, new bollards that allow easier pedestrian access but limit vehicular access will be placed at the north and south entrances, and the irrigation system will be repaired and updated with new, more energy and water conserving fixtures and controls.

"These improvements will benefit the environment and the South Boston community for many years to come," Superintendent Cash said. "We are grateful to Congressman Stephen Lynch and his staff for their encouragement and support in getting us to this point. Today, as part of Boston National Historical Park, Dorchester Heights offers a broad perspective on the city of Boston, past and present," he said.

The site will remain open during construction, which will be limited to 7:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on weekdays, so there will be minimal disruption to residents and visitors. The work is being done by Cornerstone Construction Services, LLC, of Reading, Massachusetts. Trees along the main walkway will be replaced with a double row of disease-resistant American elms and a few other trees will be replaced along the other walkways. Planting 16 new trees will require the removal of 8 trees that have not thrived on the site. To ensure the long term survival of the trees, planting will take place in October under the supervision of arborists from the National Park Service's Olmsted Center for Landscape Preservation. Removal of the old trees and preparation of the soil will take place earlier so there will be a period of about six weeks between the removal of the old trees and the planting of the new.

CONTINUED FROM page 9

success of this generation of South Boston youth. This is just one example of what can and has been achieved by our youth. I would like to give every graduate a grant, but unfortunately, the "Mahoney Foundation" is tapped out this year. Words of advice, though, are free.

So congratulations to all the graduates. Keep working as hard as you have been. Most importantly, you were all given a good foundation to know right from wrong. You all showed you learned by the caliber of friends you chose. The support you gave to each other over the years is what allowed you all to flourish. You are about to encounter a whole new lifestyle of young adult choices. As long as you use that same good judgment in picking the right caliber of new friends, success is yours. Thank you from all your families for being good kids and have a great, fun-filled college career and be safe whether you're at college or in the military.

P. S. Brian, we're renting out your room.

South Boston Today congratulates Brian and all of his successful South Boston colleagues and looks forward to the next chapter.

Recent South Boston Real Estate Sales

	Price	Sale Date	Rooms	Baths	Sq Ft
637 East First St UNIT 301 Condo	\$740,000	8/14/13	4	2	1416
656 Dorchester Avenue Two Family	\$720,000	8/15/13	10	2	2668
637 East First St UNIT 201 Condo	\$667,000	8/15/13	4	2	1416
537 East First St UNIT 3 Condo	\$665,000	8/16/13	4	2	1410
637 East First St UNIT 202 Condo	\$639,000	8/16/13	4	2	1360
304 Athens St UNIT 2 Condo	\$616,000	8/9/13	5	2	1250
637 East First St UNIT 206 Condo	\$610,000	8/16/13	4	2	1270
532 East Broadway UNIT 3 Condo	\$599,000	8/9/13	4	2	1100
637 East First St UNIT 304 Condo	\$594,000	8/16/13	4	2	1269
532 East Broadway UNIT 2 Condo	\$575,000	8/9/13	4	2	1032
637 East First St UNIT 104 Condo	\$575,000	8/14/13	4	2	1269
17 Dixfield Street Single Family	\$550,000	8/8/13	5	2	1500
150 Dorchester Ave. UNIT 109 Condo	\$529,000	8/14/13	4	1	973
443 East Seventh St UNIT 3 Condo	\$520,000	8/15/13	5	1	1188
168 West Ninth St UNIT 3 Condo	\$455,000	8/15/13	5	1	1007
534 East Eighth St UNIT 2 Condo	\$434,625	8/15/13	5	2	1000
176 L St UNIT 2 Condo	\$423,000	8/16/13	5	1	869
505 Rear East Fifth St UNIT 1 Condo	\$364,800	8/10/13	3	1	700
5 Shepton Terrace Single Family	\$335,000	8/15/13	4	1.5	750
311 Emerson St UNIT 11 Condo	\$330,000	8/16/13	3	1	709
43 Baxter St UNIT 1 Condo	\$312,000	8/14/13	3	1	460
253 Gold St UNIT 3 Condo	\$310,000	8/16/13	3	1	575
15 Vinton St UNIT 3 Condo	\$298,000	8/15/13	3	1	661
14 Burrill Place UNIT 2 Condo	\$265,000	8/15/13	3	1	446



14 Story Hotel Proposed For West Broadway

SOUTH BOSTON TODAY
Staff Report

Well over 200 residents attended a BRA sponsored meeting on Tuesday August 20 to hear a proposal from Pappas Enterprises to construct a 14 story 87,000 square foot building to be located on a site owned by Pappas located between Dorchester Ave, West Broadway and Athens St. The proposal would include a 156 room “boutique” hotel, as well as retail, a restaurant and bar, conference rooms and an underground garage for 50 cars.

Residents express concerns with density, traffic and a proposed roof top bar. Tim Pappas, Principal of Pappas Enterprises, stated that his firm will work with the City to redesign the crosswalks on all three streets, as well as to do a slight alteration on Athens St., in an effort to improve pedestrian safety. Pappas also stated that “he has and will continue to work with the local abutters to address concerns and welcomes comments”. Nonetheless, Pappas did not seem to adequately answer questions regarding the impact on traffic by employees and guests and other impact concerns.

The group gathered was divided in the support of the proposal; however members of West Broadway Neighborhood Group have expressed complete support for the project. Bill Gleason, President of West Broadway stated, “This project has been very well received in terms of looks and aesthetics.” Other residents were not as enthusiastic, commenting that the size of the hotel would have an impact on their quality of life, if not scaled down. Still others, not on the record,

were discussing that fact that the management company contemplated to run the hotel, Thompson Hotel Group, was non-union and has had issues on other developments. The public comment period on this project will close on September 6, 2013.

Research done by South Boston Today staff, gleaned from the applicant’s Letter Of Intent (LOI) and Project Notification Form (PNF), as well as the Article 80 standards and St. Vincent’s Neighborhood District Zoning (NDZ), indicate the following: the PNF and LOI was filed on August 2nd and calls for the comment period to end September 6 at 5PM. According to the St. Vincent’s NDZ, in place since 1996, hotels are a forbidden use. In addition, height is allowed at 35’. This hotel is seeking 142’. The allowed Floor Area Ratio (FAR) is 1 to 1 and the hotel is seeking 7.2 to 1. The Impact Advisory Group (IAG), which has the responsibility for negotiating mitigation and community benefits, has been formed, but none of the members has been disclosed.

Interestingly, it was reported that a slip of the tongue by Project Manager Lauren Williams regarding the BRA board ‘vote to approve’ is scheduled for September 12, raised more than eye brows and, while possibly Freudian, it is clearly apparent that the article 80 process is being dramatically accelerated.

If you have any information or questions, email South Boston Today at info@southbostontoday.com



Barbara Caputo Kelly Named Italian American Woman of 2013

SOUTH BOSTON TODAY
staff report

Tonight, Thursday, August 22nd is a special night in South Boston. It's the annual South Boston Italian Pride night and festival to be held from 6 -8pm at Medal of Honor Park at M St. And as is the custom each year at this event the South Boston Italian American of the year will be named and presented with the award. This year's recipient is none other than lifelong resident Barbara Caputo Kelly.

Many around town know Barbara well. Others have heard of her because of all the work she has done over the years for the benefit of her neighbors and fellow residents. But for those who may not be familiar with this outstanding citizen; hopefully you'll have the pleasure of getting to meet her.

Born and raised in South Boston she has been married to her husband Joe for 26 years. They have three children; Christine, Brendan and Patrick. She is the daughter of Barbara and Joe Caputo and her brothers are Joey

and Michael. She is proud to count the Caputos, Harts, Cappellanos and Kellys as her extended family. She is currently employed at the Curley Recreation and Community Center, aka 'The L' as a youth worker where she is helping to put the finishing touches on a new youth and teen center to open this Fall.

Barbara has been active in the Gate of Heaven CYO girls Basketball program as a coach and volunteer and was the recipient of the 2012 CYO Catholic Woman of the Year Award. She's been an ADSL and BNBL Coach, as well as a volleyball and softball coach. With all of this on her plate over so many years she still has time to be the best wife and mom in the world to her family. How do we know this? Just ask her husband Joe and their three kids.

South Boston Today had the opportunity to speak with Barbara about how she felt being selected as this year's Italian American Woman

of the Year. Here is what she said: "This special award and my Italian Heritage are very important to me. My grandparents and my parents Joe and Barbara Caputo have instilled in me the importance of giving back and doing my best to make people smile. I've always felt lucky being an Italian girl growing up in the close knit and loving community of South Boston. I am humbled and honored to receive the Italian American Woman of the Year Award. South Boston, past and present, always has had an abundance of people who go above and beyond to serve their neighborhood. I am blessed to be a tiny part of that."

Barbara Caputo Kelly, staying true to form when given an honor she so richly deserves and she deserves many for all the good work she does, is quick to pay tribute and give credit to others for what she has accomplished. This is just one of the many characteristics that make her such a great lady. South Boston is fortunate to have wonderful residents like Barbara. She is a true 'good neighbor' in the finest sense of the term. The South Boston Today Team joins all of South Boston in congratulating her for being named Italian American Woman of the Year and thanking her sincerely for all the fantastic work she does on behalf of the entire community.

End of Summer Beach Party Next Wednesday Night at the BCYF's Curley Center

SOUTH BOSTON TODAY
staff report

The BCYF Curley Community Center's End of Summer Beach Party will be held next Wednesday evening, August 28th from 6-9 pm at the beach at the 'L'. The event will be sponsored by the BCYF Curley Center itself, along with Mayor Thomas M. Menino and MASSPORT.

This end of summer bash promises to be a great time and all are invited to join in the fun. It will be loaded with some fine entertainment as live music will fill the warm summer's night air. And we're talking about some fine music to be sure. The Linehan Brothers Band along with some special guests will have their talent on display for the enjoyment of the crowd. And wait till you hear what's on the menu! For this, you'll really want to bring your appetite to feast on summer favorites like chowder, sausages, hot dogs and hamburgers all cooked up just the way you like it. Oh, and don't forget the ice cream for dessert.

But to keep the night moving with that extra end of summer

flow will be games and competitions, face painting, a sand castle contest and a lot more. Does this sound like a good way to spend a summer night or what?

The Curley Recreation Center has for years been the site of some of the greatest activities and programs in Boston. A large variety of activities geared for all age groups makes the 'L' one of the most popular recreational destinations for miles around. Organized and run by a great city crew, the BCYF's Curley Center staff is a hardworking and creative group if there ever was one. These are people who put their hearts and souls into the job because they are dedicated to making sure residents have the benefit of the best Boston has to offer. The End of Summer bash should be no different and be right up there with the other fun activities at the 'L'.

So bring your appetite, your beach chair and bring a friend to the Curley Center's clean and beautiful South Boston shoreline and enjoy all it has to offer.

Join Your Community at the SB Leadership Initiative's First Fundraiser

SOUTH BOSTON TODAY
by David Pollard

The South Boston Leadership Initiative is having its first fundraiser on Thursday, August 22 between 6pm and 10pm at the Harry McDonough Sailing Center to generate awareness and deliver information to the community about their expanding youth programs and workshops. The aim of the South Boston Leadership Initiative is to work with other community organizations to give South Boston youth between the ages of 12 and 18 the opportunity to attend various workshops which will focus on education, professional networking, and fitness.

Ryan Sweeney, a South Boston native, and the Program Director of the South Boston Leadership Initiative says the goal of the organization is "to work with kids in Southie, and through workshops and programs that we will run, to help them identify their goals - whether they be educational or professional. And then work with a network of local professionals to try to make that happen."

This growing organization hopes to become an integral part of the community, particularly with regards to South Boston's youth. Participants will have access to educational workshops, including S.A.T. Prep for Math and English, as well as fitness workshops that will teach the youth how to keep in shape and feel healthy. Beyond this, the participating youth will begin to create a network for themselves, with the South Boston Leadership Initiative acting as a conduit for kids to be exposed to professional or educational opportunities.

"It's not going to be that we can just hand kids jobs," Sweeney said, "but we want to help them to have the opportunity to network for themselves... maybe to help them get a job, or a summer internship."

It's well known that in this world, you need to be educated, but it remains true that it's not always what you know, it's who you know. Young people don't always have a chance to make themselves known;

this organization aims to educate, but also wants to give these youngsters access to their strong network of local professionals, college alumni, and members of vocational trades.

Already, the South Boston Leadership Initiative has held a variety of workshops and clinics, which have been attended by youth from the South Boston Neighborhood House and the Harry McDonough Sailing Center. Amber Fetzer of Boston College's Financial Literacy Program Successful Start gave two hour-long workshops aiming to advise participants on budgeting, saving, and credit. Amber will be holding another workshop called Interview Do's and Don'ts; any youth trying to find a job can brush up on their interview skills at this workshop Wednesday, August 28. William Wilson, who has been involved in fitness programs and South Boston youth sports since he was young, is holding four fitness workshops at the Harry McDonough Sailing Center. Jackie Owens and Andrew Collins along with other high school and college coaches organized in a Little League baseball clinic last Saturday. Sarah McGarrell, the Chair of the Board for the South Boston Leadership Initiative, is holding a racing and instructional program with an MIT sailing coach at the Sailing Center Tuesday, Aug. 20 and Thursday, Aug. 22 of this week.

Other programs that one might look forward to as Fall approaches, in addition to the aforementioned workshops, include S.A.T. Prep for English and Writing. Jane Kelly, another lifelong Southie resident, went to Boston Latin and Boston College and is currently teaching at Latin Academy, will run these English S.A.T. Prep workshops. Patrick O'Brien will be running S.A.T. Prep for Mathematics. This in an effort to get kids interested in Math, much like the successful Math Olympiads. Both the English and Math S.A.T. Preparatory

programs will have sessions this Fall, and again in the Spring.

When broken down, it is easy to see that the people involved in the South Boston Leadership Initiative care about helping Southie's youth gain knowledge, drive, and direction. Many involved in the organization were Southie youth themselves at one point, and this Initiative is about assisting this generation of kids - however they possibly can.

"We would have those set [educational] programs," Sweeney said. "We want them to come to our programs based on Math and English, and we also want them to be a part of the fitness programs. Through all of this we want to talk to each individual and ask them what they want to do." The South Boston Leadership Initiative is determined to get involved with today's youth, and anyone

interested in more information or getting to know the people involved in this organization should find the time to come to their first ever fundraiser this Thursday.

Again, that fundraiser will take place on Thursday, August 22, between 6pm and 10pm at the Harry McDonough Sailing Center, located at Castle Island. Free transportation from any South Boston location is being generously provided by the Southie Shuttle - simply call the Southie Shuttle prior to 4:00pm on Thursday to arrange for your ride. There will be food and refreshments. \$20 is suggested if you attend, however if you don't have the \$20 to give, simply give what you can and hear what this growing organization has to offer the youth of South Boston.

Talk back to David Pollard at DPollard@SouthBostonToday.com


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A Sea of Smiles

744 Kids Make A Very Big Splash

What does it take to make a very big splash on Boston Harbor?

“It takes clean water, live lobsters for the touch tank, 1,200 hot dogs and buns, 1,800 bottles of water, 10 boxes of fresh fruit, carrot sticks and cheese, dozens of volunteers, 12 lifeguards - and 744 kids,” said Bruce Berman of Save the Harbor / Save the Bay, which hosted its 3rd Annual Kids Beach Bash and Splash on Thursday August 15th at the Boston Centers for Youth and Families Curley Recreation Center at M Street Beach in South Boston. Youth and teens from 15 youth groups from 11 communities, including South Boston, Braintree, Chinatown, East Boston, Everett, Dorchester, Fenway, Haverhill,

Jamaica Plain, Roxbury and the South End took part in the celebration.

The party included traditional beach activities such as kite flying, fishing, face painting, sand castles, touch tanks and Frisbee. It also included a performance of the classic sea chantey “Haul Away Joe”, led by Save the Harbor’s maritime historian David Coffin and the official Save the Harbor rap led by Save the Harbor lead Boston Harbor explorer Will Clark.

“What a great way to spend a beautiful summer day,” said Save the Harbor’s President Patricia Foley, who joined the group on the beach in South Boston for the fun. “And it is a great way to celebrate the success of the Boston Harbor Clean-

up, which has made these beaches among the cleanest urban beaches in America.” That sentiment was echoed by volunteers from Goulston & Storrs, who were on hand to help serve hotdogs and make sure that all the kids had a great time as well.

So far this year Save the Harbor / Save the Bay’s free summer youth programs have brought more than 6,000 youth and teens from area community organizations and youth groups on free day trips to the Boston Harbor Islands. Since 2003, Save the Harbor has connected nearly 75,000 youth and teens to Boston Harbor, the Boston Harbor Islands and our region’s public beaches from Nahant to Nantasket.

Save the Harbor’s youth environmental education programs

are made possible with Leadership Grants from Bay State Cruise Company, Distigas/GDF SUEZ, The P.I. Garden Fund, The Coca-Cola Foundation, The Ludcke Foundation, and Yawkey Foundation II. Save the Harbor’s free Better Beaches programs are made possible with Leadership Grants from Harpoon Brewery, JetBlue Airways, P&G Gillette, and the Harold Whitworth Pierce Charitable Trust.

To find out more about Save the Harbor/Save the Bay, visit their website at <http://www.savetheharbor.org>, their youth blog, “Sea, Sand and Sky” at <http://www.blog.savetheharbor.org>, and their Boston Harbor Facebook page at <http://www.facebook.com/bostonharbor>.



The Big Splash



A Sea Of Kids From Across The City & Beyond



South Boston Boys & Girls Club



Save The Harbor Save The Bay In Full Song



The South Boston Neighborhood House



South Boston Curly Community Center Kids



A Major Lunch Spread

Color Week at St Peter Academy Summer Program

One of the best weeks the children had at St Peter Academy this summer was the week we investigated and experimented with primary colors and secondary colors. Of course, mixing colors is much more fun when you use fingerprint or colored shaving cream. The children even mixed different colored frosting using pretzel rods, which was even more fun to snack on. All of the children made colored birds with feathers and colorful foam t-shirts as well. Color week culminated with a trip to Brookline to visit The Clayroom. First we went to a nice park and had a picnic lunch, then it was off to paint our own pottery at the Clayroom. The girls were painting mermaids and animals, while the boys chose to paint fire trucks and baseball bats. They had a great time and can't wait to see their masterpieces when they are ready to be picked up!

St Peter Academy, South Boston, is an independent private school with a Catholic focus offering unique programs enhancing the educational experience for all of its students in grades Pre K through 8.



Ruth and Elizabeth waiting for the trolley.



Fun with colorful shaving cream.



Budding artists at work.



The children worked very hard on their creations.



Molly and Evy mixed colored frosting with pretzel rods



Joaquin and Colby worked on their blue feathered birds.

CASTLE ISLAND ASSOCIATION SENIOR SHUTTLE SCHEDULE

SATURDAY AND SUNDAY
JUNE 15 - NOVEMBER 2, 2013

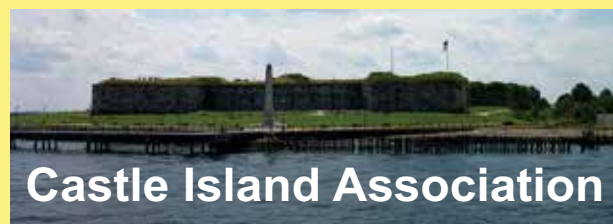
WEATHER PERMITTING

10:00a - 24 Bellflower St.
10:10a - Devine @ Old Colony Ave. (Task Force Building)
10:15a - 185 West Ninth St.
10:20a - Telegraph St. @ Dorchester St.
10:30a - Farragut Rd. @ East Broadway
10:35a - Drop off Castle Island
10:50a - Castle Cove (Bolton St. Side)
11:00a - 200 D St. (Condon School)
11:10a - 120 H St.
11:20a - 199 H St.
11:25a - Farragut Rd. @ East Broadway
11:30a - Drop off @ Castle Island
11:45a - 1380 Columbia Rd. (Compass Bay)
11:55a - 120 L St.
12:05p - Farragut Rd. @ East Broadway
12:15p - Drop off @ Castle Island

12:30p-2:00p Shuttle from residential locations in South Boston to Castle Island (seniors may call the shuttle company 617-268-4110 the day prior to schedule a ride during this time period).

Return Trips: 2:30p-4:00p. Shuttle from Castle Island to various drop off locations in South Boston. Shuttle vehicle will return every 20 minutes. Departure times are as follows (subject to traffic delays at the Island) 2:30p, 2:50p, 3:10p, 3:40p, 4:00p. THE LAST DEPARTURE FROM CASTLE ISLAND WILL BE AT 4p.

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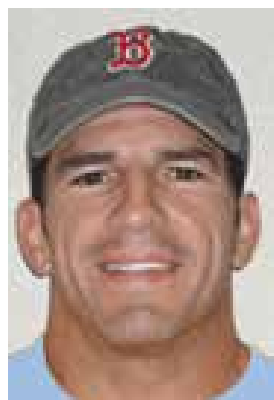


Castle Island Association

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M STREET SOFTBALL – RACE TIGHTENS

SOUTH BOSTON TODAY

By Mark Senna

With little more than a week of games to play the M Street Softball League is entering the stretch drive of this shortened season which means teams should be playing their best. The four time defending champion Shennanigan's has been on top in the standings from the first week and are certainly the team to beat but three additional teams have entered their hat into the ring of serious league contenders. The Warehouse, The Playwright, and Lincoln Tavern (combined 11-0 record) have been red hot lately and have joined the race as the league's elite. Only a handful of games remain for each team until the start of the playoffs which are scheduled to begin on Wednesday, August 28th when the action will intensify.

Before we get into the details of last week's action I want to thank Jim Sullivan for covering the games last week and for writing the great article that appeared in this space while I was on vacation. My vacation was spent on the Carnival Splendor with port stops in San Juan, St Thomas, and Grand Turk. Folks, cruise vacations are a great value for the family and always offer something for everyone in your group. Whether you enjoy Broadway style shows, play mini golf, watch

movies on a wide screen TV outside, workout in a state of the art gym, enjoy time in a spa, sing karaoke, or just want to lounge around the sun filled decks you can find it on a cruise ship. I'm thinking next year we organize a M Street Softball League cruise and play a couple of games on one of the islands maybe even against a local team. Stay tuned on that front.

Looking back to last week's action, on Monday we saw the Nix Mate Islanders snap their two game losing streak and upend Cranberry Café, 18-5. Joey Fabiano (3 hits, 2 RBI) and Brian Foley (4 hits, 3 RBI) paced the attack for the Islanders while Shayne Lotito shook off a rough first inning on the mound and pitched effectively to earn the win. Greg Horne (2 hits, homerun, 4 RBI) led the charge for Cranberry's offense.

Monday's nightcap featured a slugfest between The Southside Tavern and Lincoln Tavern with Lincoln holding on for the 13-8 victory. Unfortunately, game information wasn't available at press time but I can report that Jim McNiff pitched five very effective innings in relief to earn his fourth victory of the season.

Tuesday's early action saw the reinforcements arrive for the

Playwright squad which spelled trouble for the floundering Brewers team and the results were what were expected, 17-6 Playwright. One of those reinforcements was Mike Mercier (5 hits, 3 RBI) who quickly proved that he will be a welcomed addition to the suddenly very talented and championship worthy Playwright. As with most teams in the league they will go as far as their pitcher (Keith Zeweiy) can take them and history shows he is one of the best so they should plan on playing late into September.

Playing back-to-back night's coupled with a conflict in another league spelled doom for the undermanned Southside squad as the Warehouse squeezed out a 10-8 win behind the pitching of rookie Tom Destefano. Southside had battled their way to a 7-4 lead entering the fifth inning but a bases clearing triple by Dave Blandino quickly tied the game and the Warehouse would never look back.

Wednesday's action saw the Telegraph Hill take on the Brewers who were trying to snap a seven game losing streak. After falling behind 4-0, the Brewers fought back to tie it in the second inning but then their bats went silent against pitcher Jack Atton and Telegraph Hill. Tom Resor (4 hits) who was batting leadoff for the injured Ross Maguire paced the attack for the Hill gang as they cruised to an 11-4 win. The league wishes Ross a speedy recovery.

One has to feel for the Brewers who started the season 2-0, had a lineup that featured three of the league's best hitters (Sam Devito, Garrett Hauck, and Marc Montesano), and were on their way to becoming a league title contender. Now, they will play the Cranberry Café on Monday (Aug 19 @ 630) in a game that will determine who makes the playoffs and who starts making plans for the off season.

Wednesday's nightcap saw the best pitched game of the year between the Warehouse and Shennanigan's. For those folks, like Timmy Fitzpatrick, who made the trip to M Street that night to watch a softball game were instead rewarded with a masterpiece.

The Warehouse took the field and was looking to revenge an earlier season tie with the defending champions. On July 10th, the Warehouse had the champs

on the ropes but allowed a couple of late runs and then couldn't score in extra innings. To a player it felt like a loss but the Warehouse also knew they would have another crack at them later in the season.

Well, the game lived up to its billing as the league leaders for the lowest earned run average in lefty Nick French and righty Joey Magee were on full display with each carving up the opposing lineup. The hitters were faced with the task of hitting every kind of pitch imaginable - rises, curves, changeups, drop balls, and fastballs were all fired at the plate with such power and location that they had little chance to connect. In fact, French began the contest by striking out the side in the bottom of the first inning and would finish the game with eleven punch outs. But it wouldn't be enough tonight as his counterpart, Joey Magee, threw the game of a lifetime by allowing only two hits (both to French) in throwing a complete game 1-0 shutout.

With the score tied 0-0 in the bottom of the seventh, French struck out the first two batters he faced but then yielded a walk to the fleet footed Dan Pencinger. Ryan Martin then laced a single to put Pencinger in scoring position for Kevin Snow. Snow who was having a tough night at the plate (2 strikeouts and a pop out), slapped a lazy flare to left that the outfielder couldn't collar and which sent the speedy Pencinger racing home from second and setting off a wild celebration at the plate. What a game!

Thursday's early game matched two teams who were trying to stay around the .500 mark as the Islanders took on the Telegraph Hill. Through four innings of play the game was tied 5-5 with neither team carrying a distinct advantage over the other. But RBI hits by Bill Davis and Mike Preziosi put the Hill in front 7-5 entering the home half of the seventh inning. The Islanders responded with a pair of runs of their own on RBI hits by Shayne Lotito and this writer. The game then moved onto extra innings and saw Davis put the Hill in front again when he singled home Preziosi and Tom Resor making it 9-7. The Islanders quickly cut the lead in half when Joey Fabiano led off the eighth with a homerun to right center. After a fly out, Ryan Turgeon

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tied the game when he lined a homerun to right center, 9-9. Both teams would go quietly in the second extra inning played and that's how the game would end – a well earned tie for both clubs.

The final game of the week saw the Playwright make it four wins in a row when they outslugged the Cranberry Café, 18-13. Joey Broderick (4 hits), Shane Morgan (3 hits, 4 RBI), and Dan Zeweiy (4 hits) provided the offense for the Playwright while Mark Goodman (3 hits, homerun, 3 RBI) was the bright star for the Café boys.

As we near the completion of our season we should mention the League Leaders. This year, we have an official scorekeeper (Dev Kelly) for all of the games so these leaders are accurate and have earned the right to be listed in this space. Mark Preziosi (Telegraph Hill) and Ryan Martin (Warehouse) lead all batters with a .600 batting average followed closely behind by Joey Fabiano (Islanders) at .577. Mark Hindman (Playwright) leads the Runs Batted In chase with 15 followed behind by Garrett Hauck (Warehouse) 14 and Brett Belcastro (Warehouse) 13. Ryan Turgeon (Islanders) is the hit leader with 17 followed by Dan Pencinger (Warehouse) with 16 hits. Out on the mound, Nick French (Shennanigan's) leads with a sterling 1.05 Earned Run Average followed by Joey Magee's (Warehouse) 1.87 ERA. Mike Hoadley (Shennanigan's) is way ahead in the strikeouts race with 45 in just 33 innings pitched.

In other softball news, the annual P.J. Flavin scholarship tournament was held this weekend in Dorchester. Southside's Charlie Connors organizes this tournament and it is always a great event. Charlie goes to great lengths,

spending hours upon hours of his own free time to make sure the event is successful and goes off without a hitch. The Flavin family was present during the tournament and is very proud that their son's name has been carried on in such a positive way. Over the years, thousands of dollars have been given to the Dorchester youth who have benefited from the scholarship fund. This year there were twenty teams competing for the well sought after title and next year Connors hopes to have even more participants. Mark the date in your calendar (second weekend in August) and make it a point to play or even enter a team. I guarantee you will not be disappointed in the level of competition and/or organization of the tournament.

Standings	W-L-T
Shennanigan's	7-1-1
The Warehouse	6-2-1
Lincoln Tavern	6-2-0
Nix Mate Islanders	5-4-0
The Playwright	4-3-0
Telegraph Hill	3-4-0
Southside Tavern	3-5-0
Brewers	2-8-0
Cranberry Café	1-8-0

As always, supporting fans can follow the league through our website (www.sbsports.com), right here in the South Boston Today, or experience the league up front and personal by taking in a game or two. Attending our games is always free and the action on the field does get heated at times but it's worthy of a night out. M Street Softball games are played Monday through Thursday with games starting at 6:30 and 8:10pm. Have a great week and we look forward to seeing you at the park.



South Boston Youth Soccer

Calling All Coaches - South Boston Youth Soccer
South Boston Youth Soccer will hold a coaches meeting on Thursday, August 22nd at 6:00 p.m. in the lunch room at the Curley Recreation Center. For more information contact Dianne at 617-967-8352.



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**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 from 8-10 a.m. on 1510 NBC Sports Radio Boston, and online at 1510nbcsportsradio.com, with every show available on iTunes. He can also be read on Comcast SportsNet.*

This week, Danny talked with Barstool Sports' Jerry Thornton:

DANNY PICARD: On Friday night, Jerry, I know you weren't watching Red Sox/Yankees, you were watching Patriots vs. the Tampa Bay Buccaneers at Gillette Stadium. The one thing that I look at, and again, when we talk about the preseason, let's keep in mind that we are talking about preseason. In that second preseason game, Tom Brady only played two possessions, but he came right out of the gate and drove them down the field and hit Danny Amendola over the middle for the touchdown. A perfect pass, he gets it over the top. And then to Zach Sudfeld for the two-point conversion. It backs up my statement, that, I think, and I think you agree, this Patriots offense is going to be a lot better than people think, going into the regular season.

JERRY THORNTON: Absolutely. And these are impressions, not conclusions. But how can you take away anything but positives out of how that first unit looks? Amendola is clearly the No. 1 receiver. He's athletic, he moves well, he's got better top-end speed than Welker gave you. And he and Brady are exactly on the same page. In addition, Zach Sudfeld, not just that play he made on the conversion, but then the catch he made on the touchdown from Ryan Mallett was sick. I mean, that's an elite tight end making a catch like that. I'm not saying he's there yet. I'm saying

he made an elite play. Look at this, Danny. Take the guys that they've added, just with the receivers, let's just take the skill position guys. Amendola, free agent, they signed him for about what Welker was asking for. Sudfeld cost them nothing. Kenbrell Thompson, who looks like he belongs with the starting unit, cost them nothing. Dobson was a second-round pick. And LeGarrette Blount, they traded an undrafted kick returner who is off somewhere practicing his sprints. That's the price you paid to get five skill position guys who have looked really, really good so far.

DP: The other wide receivers, Thompson, Boyce, Dobson, is there one of those three guys where you say, "Alright, he's going to stick here with the starting unit, and he's going to be a go-to for Brady." Do you have maybe two of those three? Who's the guy out of that group, that trio? Because we seem to put those three together. But who's the guy in that group that really sticks out to you?

JT: You know, it's kind of like a horse race. Someone takes the lead, someone kind of falls back, someone moves ahead. As we're standing here on Monday, Aug. 19, it's Thompson. Thompson seems to be the most consistent. He's really distinguished himself. Dobson isn't doing quite as well as he was earlier on, but you still see what he's capable of. He's

not a guy who seems like gets a lot of separation, but he's big and he's rangy, and he kind of uses his body to box people out and get position. He's a former basketball player, you can see those skills. So that's where I see it at the moment. And Boyce is a guy who seems to be, when they spread it out, when they go to four [wideouts], he's taking the field. So right now [as of Monday], I'd put them like that, Thompson, then Dobson, then Boyce. But as we've seen in the past, it's subject to change as we go forward here.

DP: Amendola's touchdown [against the Buccaneers], that pass from Brady over the middle, it's something that I think we're going to see a lot of this season. People have knocked Amendola for maybe not being a guy that can stay healthy. But I think that people were so in love with Wes Welker, that it was tough for them to move on to a new guy, regardless of who it was. But Jerry, take me back to how you felt -- not about Welker leaving -- but then about Amendola being the guy to replace him. At the time, did you buy in, and are you buying into that anymore now? Did you buy into him from the get-go? Do you remember how you felt about Amendola coming in?

JT: You know what I was good with the Amendola pick-up. And what everyone says about him, and it's

accurate to say, "Yeah but if he stays healthy." You know when you get fortune cookies, there's always that guy, who, whatever the fortune says at the end, he says, "in bed." You know, "You're going to have good luck . . . in bed." With Amendola, no matter what you say about him, you have to go, "if he stays healthy." Which, by the way, you can say about every single athlete in the world. Drew Brees is a really good quarterback . . . if he can stay healthy. Amendola's track record isn't good. It is what it is, obviously. He got hurt in like Week 3 of the season, and then Welker blows out an ACL in the last game of the season. So, they both had injuries, but one happened at a time where he then misses a bunch of games, and Welker comes back looking like he's football's Lou Gehrig. Well, if those roles are reversed, we're talking about how Welker missed a whole season. That is what it is. But you know, one thing that really opened my eyes about Amendola and what he's capable of -- because if you're like me, you don't watch a ton of St. Louis Rams -- but on draft day, [the Rams] moved up and got really the most elite receiver in the draft, in Tavon Austin. And to a person, every national pundit on NFL Network or ESPN, they all said the same thing, "Oh, this Austin move is to replace Danny Amendola. They needed to



get a guy to replace Amendola.” And that’s when it kind of dawned on me, like, the respect that this guy has, league-wide, what people think of his capabilities. And the more time goes on, from the first time I went to camp, his abilities jump right off the field at you. So, as we’ve gone forward, I just continue to ratchet up just how good I feel about him. And at the end of his five-year deal, he’ll be the age that Wes Welker is as we’re standing here today.

DP: After Brady came out of the game against the Buccaneers, we have to look at the backup quarterback spot. Right now, I guess the depth chart is obviously Mallett over Tebow. Tebow though, I’m in the locker room after the game, and they already have Tebow set up in a locker with his nameplate, two lockers down from

Brady. There’s a lot of new guys that are sharing lockers or have makeshift lockers. A lot of the new guys don’t have their set spots. It looks as if they’ve given Tebow his set spot, regardless of how much he struggles here in this preseason moving forward. They’re going to make sure that they keep this guy around for a little bit.

JT: I think so. Tebow threw, arguably, the worst pass I’ve ever seen in my life, and I’m not even talking about the interception. It was after that. He rolled up and threw a duck underneath, and it just came out of his hand sideways. It was like throwing a Nerf ball at the beach, but before you squeeze the water out of it. I was so stunned when I saw it. Like, how can you possibly throw a football that bad? I’m starting to develop this theory,

Danny, and I’m going to share it with you first. Do we know for sure that Tebow is left-handed? I’m just throwing it out there, like, maybe if tried it right-handed he’d go, “Hey, wait a minute, this is really easy!” Just start him out

signing autographs. If he’s got penmanship like Thomas Jefferson, they’ll say, “Okay, maybe all along we’ve just been under the mistaken impression.” Because nobody who’s left-handed would throw a pass like that lefty.

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