

What's Good For Eastie Wasn't Good For Southie!

What A Difference 15 years Makes! Where Is The Outcry For Sharing The Wealth? Staff Report

FINANCING ELSEWHERE

years ago, when the MA Convention and Exhibition Center was seeking to locate in South Boston, the South Boston elected officials at the time agreed to allow a new convention center in a cleared industrial section of the community in exchange for negotiated community benefits including. housing, jobs, management training, small business partnerships, discounted use of facilities and other such opportunities, as well as the creation of a community-based 'Trust' empowered to negotiate further benefits from developers, especially related to affordable housing for South Boston residents and beyond. The South

Boston Betterment Trust was formed as the vehicle to engage in those negotiations.

The first of such agreements was a \$6 million community benefits package with Starwood Hotels, the developer of the Convention Center Headquarters Hotel, the Westin. Following that residential developer Cathartes Investments (their ownership has since been sold) also made a deal with the Trust. In exchange for letting Cathartes build luxury housing on a large parcel near the site of the future convention center in South Boston, the Trust would be given land and seed money to build 120+ units of affordable housing.

The Betterment Trust, which was organized by South Boston

elected officials and Mayor Menino had the authority to vet the Cathartes project because of a "memorandum of understanding" signed by the late City Councilor Jim Kelly and the Mayor in 1998, which set up the Trust and empowered it to negotiate with developers of South Boston real estate for concessions to the South Boston community. In 2000, the MOU had been under siege, since it supposedly contravened the spirit of linkage agreements mandating that developers' concessions to affordable housing be shared equitably by different neighborhoods. It is important to note that the 'linkage' formula was never intended to be touched, inasmuch as the authority granted

DUTH BOSTON TODAY aff Report

MEANDERING OF UNDERSTANDING

to the Trust was for 'negotiated benefits'.

In the face of mounting public criticism by the Boston Globe and community activists around the City, especially from communities of color, the Mayor and the BRA reneged on the deal and joined in a chorus of criticism of the Trust, Councilor Kelly and local citizens who were associated with it. The Betterment Trust was portrayed in the media as a bunch self-serving extortionists. of notwithstanding the fact that the purpose of the Trust was to insure that residents of South Boston, being asked to accept extensive commercial and high income residential development in both

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This Week's Poll On Page 2

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EDITORIAL

s pointed out last week in assessing the goals and accomplishments of the last twenty years under this administration, there often is a large gap between the two.

"I will not Manhattanize South Boston and the waterfront" was the Mayor's response when critics voiced fears of high rise encroachment and overdevelopment smothering the town. Fears based on a 1993 study citing South Boston as having the third highest respiratory ailment rate the in the country and the EPA under the Clean Air Act in 1996 thus instituting the South Boston parking freeze. This "freeze", which is still in effect, sought to limit pollution in South Boston by placing a Federal limit on the number of parking spaces allowed in South Boston thus reducing the vehicles and accompanying exhaust. In fact a cap on the number was placed and a "parking bank" was created.

Initially, with Boston's cooperation, the plan showed promise. Boston helped with a requirement that every new unit created had to have at least one parking space. The solution worked hand in hand with preventing overdevelopment and pollution.

There is, however, only so much space. Greed began its incessant clamoring.

"Parking Freeze?"

First it was that developments by MBTA stations were exempt from the parking requirement. Then we were told residential parking on the waterfront did not count and they were exempt from the freeze. As if pollution from residents' vehicles was not harmful.

The first two of possibly seven hotels has been approved for D Street with the community acknowledgement that at least some hotels are needed for the BCEC to be successful. This of course has led to the proposal of a "Boutique" hotel at Broadway Station. This "Boutique" will be 146 feet which is taller than those by the BCEC. In fact most feel if it is allowed at all it's about 50 feet too tall.

Now in the waning "last call" moments of the administration the City is pushing through virtually every proposal in the pipeline, parking or not. In fact, the potentially ludicrous "innovation district" is just a cover to create tiny 500 square feet apartments under the guise of "creating more housing and the false assertion that the green generation doesn't use cars like before". Therefore, they're all built with no parking. Funny, but about 6 months before we began our 500 square foot innovation apartments, New York City began allowing 300 square foot apartments in Manhattan. Starting to see some similarities?

It would seem to me that if we try to bridge the gap between the goals and accomplishments we'll be back on that famous "bridge to nowhere".

"I don't know that there are any shortcuts to doing a good job" -Sandra Day O'Connor



Publisher John Ciccone

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College Students: Beware of Agenda Driven Professors

SOUTH BOSTON TODAY

believe that all the evils of the world

are somehow the fault of the United

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

think we've all noticed that there is an occasional touch of Fall in the air. The days are getting shorter and many of our young South Bostonians are preparing to enter college as freshmen. It is this time, every year when we direct this column to those new freshmen to prepare them for something that they won't ever get in any university brochure or curriculum guide. And that is a heads-up about the very distinct possibility that they will run into what are often called 'Nutty Professors'. Let me explain.

Surveys show that a number of American colleges and universities; both public and private, have for years been filled with certain professors who are, well, there really is no nice way to put this - America hating, left wing radicals. In some cases, the entire administration at the schools leans the same way. These are people who feel it's their duty not to teach but to indoctrinate their young students. They have a political agenda and they intend to force feed it to them, some in a subtle way but in the case of others, blatant and in your face. Back in the Stone Age, when I went to college, it was starting to take hold. But now it has become so wide spread and that to call it an infestation would be right on the mark. It's not to indict all of them, but there are quite a few and they are in nearly every school now.

They will work hard to make you

States of America. They will try their best to convince you that religion (especially Christianity and Judaism), patriotism, love of community and even close family ties are trivial core values. They will slowly but methodically attempt to revise history and make it sound as though our country's Founding Fathers were evil tyrants and unenlightened bigots. They consider their classrooms their own personal captive audiences to mold into their leftwing image. Does this sound kind of far-fetched? Just ask some of your older brothers and sisters and friends who went before voii

Over the years we have received many complaints by South Boston students about some of these professors who aggressively put down everything most Americans cherish. If you disagree with them, you are ridiculed in front of the other students sometimes to the point that students are intimidated into not giving a differing opinion. In some of the more serious cases, a student who challenges a professor's point of view will notice his or her grades suffer because of it. These same complaints are common all across the nation now at many institutions of higher learning. Some students have even gone so far as to file law suits against this practice.

So, who are these professors and why do they feel they can act this way? Some are actually real life leftover hippies; relics from days gone by and philosophies that were hatched back in the 1960's who never grew up or outgrew their warped sense of values. Others are younger radicals who for whatever reasons have developed hatred and disdain for the traditional American

way of life and want to pass their beliefs onto a new generation. They would like nothing better than to use you, their students, to help them tear down and destroy America's greatness. It's who they are, it's what they believe and it's what they live for.

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Letter To Editor Dedicated Bicycle Lanes on Broadway? Not the answer.

SOUTH BOSTON TODAY By Ed Flynn

Following last week's meeting at the Condon Community School, which I attended, a number of people in the community expressed skepticism at the City of Boston's proposed bike lanes on Broadway.

I concur with one Boston Firefighter who strongly expressed his opposition when he told us, "Broadway is too narrow to add bikes lanes on that much too busy commercial street." He also said it would be very difficult for public safety vehicles to navigate their heavy and large vehicles on such a busy street with all the constant automobile and pedestrian traffic. Additionally, he also talked about the frequent stops by M.B.T.A. buses and construction and utility trucks regularly on Broadway. "The Boston Fire Department just received a new fire truck that is wider, which would complicate the safety of automobiles, bikes and pedestrians." This same respected firefighter and South Boston resident clearly stated that it will have a negative impact on public safety if bike lanes are installed on Broadway.

An elderly woman, who walks Broadway daily, expressed her concern that it is already difficult and often dangerous to walk across the street on Broadway. Many drivers do not stop at the crosswalks to allow pedestrians to cross the street, as required by law. Adding more bikes to Broadway and cutting down the automobile lanes will only enhance the possibility of more accidents. We have seen so many cases on Broadway of near misses of the elderly and mothers with children crossing the street by distracted drivers.

While at Castle Island on Friday with my wife and children, I was talking to another concerned Lower End resident, who stated that the neighborhood was not properly notified about the meeting by City Hall. At the very same time, another controversial community meeting about the proposal to build a big hotel on Broadway was taking place at 50 West Broadway. The Boston Redevelopment Authority's controversial plan to build a large hotel on West Broadway is meeting with strong opposition in South Boston.

As a community, we have to take a stand and fight City Hall. Some obvious problems must be addressed by the city, before any plans get approved. What is the public safety plan for Broadway and how will it be implemented? Has an engineering study taken place and what are the results? What is the traffic plan and how will it impact drivers and pedestrians? What impact will this have on the business community on West Broadway and East Broadway? Additionally, several times a week on West Broadway, massive delivery trucks take up most of the street to conduct deliveries for their stores. How will this situation be addressed if bike lanes are built? How will added bike lanes impact public parking that is already a major quality of life to the neighborhood? Will their plan limit any additional parking spots in South Boston? If a hotel is approved on West Broadway, what impact will bike lanes that have on the neighborhood?

Finally, building dedicated bikes lanes on Broadway will have a profound impact on this neighborhood for years. With a new mayor and new administration taking place in January, and at least two new city councilors that will be sworn in, we should allow the incoming city administration to weigh in on these radical changes, since they will have to implement them and will have to deal with the many outstanding ramifications. The South Boston community deserves respect and more answers.

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Councilors Linehan and Murphy Announce Council Backing for Police Jurisdiction Law Supports Passage of Representative Collins' House Bill

City Councilors oston Bill Linehan and Council President Stephen Murphy are proud to announce the adoption of a resolution to support State Representative Nick Collins' bill to provide the Boston Police Department with concurrent jurisdiction along the South Boston Waterfront. If this bill is passed, both departments will have the authority to patrol and make arrests in an area that is now covered exclusively by the State Police. The Council voted unanimously to adopt this resolution last week. Councilors' Linehan and Murphy held a hearing on this matter back in 2011; arguments regarding potential problems with BPD's lack

of jurisdiction were made, and have now come to realization.

A recent sexual assault that began on the South Boston Waterfront once again brought the police jurisdictional issue to the forefront. It became evident that, in the absence of concurrent jurisdiction, critical public safety information was not being shared with the Boston Police in a timely manner. This lack of communication severely hinders the Boston Police's ability to appropriately protect and notify the public.

Boston is the only major city that does not have at least concurrent jurisdiction within all of its



ReadingBetween TheLines

n July, a story titled "Aunt Mary" appeared in this column. It was intended as a memorial tribute to a number of well known and beloved South Bostonians, who had died during the previous month. The dearest to me was Mary, who captured the best traits of all those recently passed. I wrote the column that early afternoon, put my black suit and tie on, and went up to O'Brien's to Mary's wake. After saying a good-bye prayer and passing through the long receiving line of Mary's family, I went into the adjoining room where mourners sit, and where photographs of happy times of the deceased are displayed. One from last year's Evacuation/St. Patrick's Day pictured Mary's Clan in a family circle, in front of the West Broadway Mt. Washington Bank, with Aunt Mary, at 92, sitting in her chair in the center. Leaning in to give Mary a kiss from the street where he was marching was Representative Marty Walsh. Like many in this town, when Marty first announced, I said to myself, 'I know who I'm voting for'.

When I looked at the picture in a melancholy mood, I had a nostalgic flashback to those childhood days of the 50's into the early 60's before air conditioning, and to those neighbors, young and old, up and down the street, who would sit on their stoops until well past midnight seeking relief on those stifling summer nights. It was then that we learned the history of Southie and the family tales of our immigrant grandparents. I remember hearing how the Walsh parents stayed at Aunt Mary's house on West Third when they first came over. I think that they are cousins.

I returned home still thinking these thoughts but had a frantic sounding phone message waiting for me. "Brian, Marty Walsh sent an email calling you

SOUTH BOSTON TODAY Brian R. Mahoney

a bigot", was the agitated message. Naturally, I thought to myself, 'that doesn't make sense'. Why pick a fight with me? There must be some mistake. I like Marty. I'm going to be a supporter. So, the next day I received a copy of the email that voice was talking about. I wasn't the only recipient nor was it actually originally sent to me.

It turns out that it was an official response from Marty Walsh to a question posed by a known extremist protest group. This radical group was asking Marty if he would march in the Evacuation/St. Patrick's Day Parade. Mind you, the parade has been described by a member of this group in the following ways: "the parade is a war parade", "celebrating violence", "presenting an Irish Saint and church giving blessings to our children to become murderers, rapists, torturers, destroyers of life on this planet", "children told to march in this war glorifying parade become tomorrows enemies of humanity". The tirade continues, but you get the idea.

In response to the original actual e-mail from the group itself, Rep. Walsh replied, "I will not march and will work with parade organizers to make it inclusive". As the 2014 Chief Marshal of the parade and in regular contact with fellow Allied War Council Members, this statement is disingenuous. Neither I, nor other members, have ever been contacted by Rep. Walsh regarding this issue or by any of his representatives. He goes on to say... "I am proud to celebrate my Irish heritage every St. Patrick's Day, but Ireland's history and Boston's Irish history inform my beliefs about how people should be treated ... "

For clarification, the parade is not a celebration of Irish nationalism; it is a celebration of the Irish struggle in Boston in overcoming the prejudice

"Buffaloed"

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



and discrimination that had prevented them from publicly celebrating St. Patrick, an Irish Catholic Saint, until March 17, 1902. Ireland itself never even began celebrating a St. Patrick's Day parade until sometime in the 1990's, after witnessing the large American parades. More to the point, the puzzling ignorance and insensitivity in the Rep's statement was hard enough to believe coming from someone with deep Irish roots. But that he now considers the parade an example of "*bigotry*" and would not march as Mayor, blew my mind.

Bigotry? Was it bigotry last year when he marched? Was Aunt Mary, my Sunday school teacher, who probably never missed a parade in her 90+ years a bigot? Was she supporting bigotry? Is it me personally? Am I the bigot? Are just the veterans bigots? Or everyone from South Boston? Or perhaps the million or so spectators and marchers? Perhaps they are the bigots.

In the hope of getting an answer to these questions swirling in both my head and others, several calls were made by South Boston Today to Marty's scheduler and others in his campaign, in an attempt to get either a clarification from him or a retraction.

Are our history, traditions, culture and the sacrifice of veterans just another item for political calculation in the quest for votes? How dare anyone denigrate the very right fought for on the battle fields and in the courts by the veterans of South Boston?

As Chief Marshal, I fully expected and realized at some point that the parade issue would arise, as usual. However, I thought that the month of July, just 4 months after the last parade and 8 months before the next one, might be a little early to start the war, considering the real life and death problems we have in this city on a daily basis. Then again, we all have the right to take whatever position on the issue we'd like.

What we don't need is the next city administration to treat us the way we've been treated for the last 20 years - telling us one thing, only to throw us under the bus, as soon as it's politically advantageous. I never expected Rep. Walsh to be a panderer, but it sure feels like we've gotten a taste of what the pursuit of power can do to a person. I still don't know who I'm voting for, but I know it won't be for someone who calls me and my friends and neighbors bigots, just for a few votes.

And actually, Mayor or not, I am the Chief Marshal and I can say truthfully that no one has been invited to march in the parade just yet.

Take care till next week.

Tale of Two CitiesPoverty, Not Just Wealth, SkyrocketedDuring Menino EraSouth Boston todaystaff report

f James Michael Curley and Ray Flynn were known as mayors of the poor, Thomas M. Menino may become mayor of the rich.

A few weeks ago, The Boston Globe highlighted the great divide in our city that has grown over the last 20 years. The article, written by Don Gillis, the former executive director of the Economic Development Industrial Corporation of Boston and Andy Sum, director of Northeastern University's Center for Labor Market Studies, detailed how, over the last twenty years, city hall's policy focus has been toward real estate development, sparked largely by tax breaks to high end condo, office and apartment projects that have been focused

in certain neighborhoods, and on one half of the city. The other half, when it comes to housing and economic development, has basically been ignored. Instead, swaths of the inner city are dealing with crises that include foreclosures, crime, lack of investment and barren land.

The article reviewed an analysis bv Northeastern University's Center for Labor Market Studies. The analysis found that income inequality was growing dramatically. While the incomes of the wealthiest Bostonians grew exponentially, poverty was rising as well. The study said that the top 10 percent of Boston income earners took in more income than the bottom 75 percent combined.

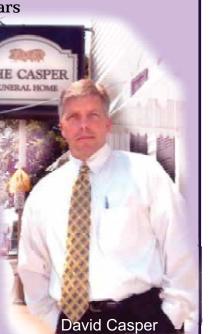
They state, "After 30 years with the most progressive linkage

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Funeral Directors: Joe, Dave & Ken Casper program in the nation, and strong growth downtown and in the Seaport, fueled by tax breaks, now is the time for developers to reach deeper to promote greater opportunity and equality in Boston for jobs, housing, and training. It could have a big impact on the lives of thousands of poor families."

The article also shed light on the lack of enforcement on the Boston Residents Job Policy. Bear in mind that city hall has a department set up for this exact reason. The city ordinance holds that 50% of workers in the city must be residents of the city. Nonetheless, "the percentage of Boston residents working on projects subject to the Boston Residents Jobs Policy has averaged only about 30 percent". Why hasn't city hall fully enforced this ordinance?

These numbers are alarming and need attention. Could not The City of Boston and its residents have benefitted from an enforced the Jobs policy? Would this not have helped improve the situation economically for all of those living in our city?

Gillis and Sum seem to believe that keeping an eye on the interests of all neighborhoods, not just those who can produce big dollar real estate deals, is an important part of the equation.

Gillis and Sum added, "Yes, Boston's prosperity depends on openness to new possibilities, but this prosperity must be shared. Before we worry too much about access to late-night bars, might we for a moment focus upon reducing joblessness and poverty? The candidates for mayor who do not address these issues do not deserve to lead the next stage of the city's history."

Hail Mary Prayer

Pray 9 Hail Mary's for 9 days. Ask for 3 wishes, 1 involving business and 2 impossible. On the 9th day, publish this article and your wishes will be answered, even though you may not believe it. Thank you Sacred Heart of Jesus, St. Anthony, St. Jude and St. Padre Pio. **K.B.**

CONTINUED FROM page 1

its front and back yard, would have the chance to stay and live here. Sound familiar?

Fast forward 15 years, and along comes a Casino Operator and now East Boston will receive a one-time, "up front community fee" of \$33.4 million for schools, a senior center and other benefits. Where is the outcry for 'sharing the casino revenue equitably by different neighborhoods'? The Boston Globe hasn't called any of the East Boston elected officials extortionists. Will the communities of color other neighborhoods, and who have endured unfulfilled promises over two decades, share directly in the \$52 million annual casino payout in the same way they insisted on linkage funds back in 1998.

In the end, the net effect of the brutal personal and political assaults on the character, motives and integrity of Jim Kelly and those associated with trying to preserve the fabric of South Boston and secure affordability in the housing stock, has nearly achieved its objectives, intended or not. Developers are reaping fortunes; older residents are being priced out of apartments and our children cannot afford to live here. Even the new First Street zoning agreement has no provision for affordable housing (not that it would matter anyway) and the beat goes on.

Maybe those brave citizens back in 1998 were prophetic. Maybe they were naïve. Maybe they were 'really good negotiators'. Maybe Menino made a mistake. In hindsight, they just wanted what Eastie wants. Maybe Tom Menino owes his old friend Jim Kelly and the South Boston neighborhood a posthumous apology.

The cartoons and portions of this article were taken from past reports, including that of cartoonist Nick Thorkelson.

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Meet Mayoral Candidate Robert Consalvo

SOUTH BOSTON TODAY Staff Report

e continue our series of profiling the mayoral candidates before the upcoming primary election. South Boston Today is doing this at the request of many of our readers who want to get to know more about the candidates' positions on the issues and about who they are personally. This week South Boston Today features six-term Boston City Councilor Robert Consalvo.

Robert Consalvo was elected to the City Council in 2002 and has been reelected five times, without opposition. That's usually a sign that constituents are happy with the job an elected official is doing in office. Mr. Consalvo is a graduate of Catholic Memorial High School and Xavier University. He worked in Washington DC as an aid to the late Senator Edward M. Kennedy and later, when he returned to Massachusetts became the legislative aide to State Representative Angelo Scaccia of Hyde Park. Some of the many issues Bob Consalvo has been concentrating on while in public life are those pertaining to public safety, increasing the access and the level of technology available to help improve the quality of life for all Bostonians, maintaining a strong fiscal foundation that encourages job growth in the area and improving education in Boston's Public School System.

Councilor Consalvo lives in the Hyde Park section of Boston with his wife Michelle and his three young children Amanda 10, Anthony 9 and Austin 3. Amanda and Anthony currently attend Boston Public Schools and Austin will follow his siblings when he gets a bit older.

On Schools

As parents of two children in Boston Public Schools, this issue is personal for Michelle and me. I respect the hard work our teachers and school staff do every day to help our children learn and grow, but I know that there are some things BPS can do better.

The first thing we need to do, as grownups, is end the divineness and nasty tone that too often characterizes discussion of our public schools. In my administration everyone – parents, teachers, students and other stakeholders – will have a seat at the table. There is nothing more integral to our city than our public schools and everyone's opinion matter, but I will never stand by while outside groups try to demonize our public school teachers.

As mayor, I will revive the Boston Compact – which was first established in the 1980s – to get businesses, colleges and universities and other institutions and organizations to partner with individual schools. We need to harness every good idea – old and new – as well as the collective energy of the many people from all walks of life.

My priorities for make our schools stronger include:

A renewed focus on helping special needs students and English Language Learners; A plan to maintain and repair our school buildings; Making every school a K-8 school that wants to be one; Implementing a 'green curriculum' to teach our children the importance of fighting climate change, recycling and preparing for a green economy; Expanding STEM and Voctech programs to prepare students for jobs in fields like renewable power and other green technologies; Ensuring that there are quality public schools in every neighborhood and that every child has the opportunity to receive a first-class education

On Real Estate Development

Boston's growth has been very strong, and that's a good thing. Growth has kept residential real estate taxes down, created jobs, and made Boston attractive for businesses to locate and grow here. Boston's growth allows us to invest resources back into our neighborhoods.

The Innovation District has produced jobs, increased technology and promoted business opportunities, but it's time to move that focus out into our neighborhoods. I want every neighborhood in Boston to be an Innovation District.

As good as continuing development is for Boston; we must try harder to make process more transparent and to make sure that everyone has a seat at the table when decisions that affect our neighborhoods are made.

On Crime and Drugs

My public safety plan calls for the addition of 200 new police officers and it has a keen focus on preventing violence against women and girls. We will build on the BPD's strong tradition of valor and excellence that we all saw demonstrated so nobly during and after the Marathon Bombings to create a comprehensive approach to making our neighborhoods safer by focusing on preventing crime, intervening in the lives of offenders and using innovative technology to enforce the law and put criminals on notice.

Drug use can catch people up in a cycle of addiction and violence that is hard to escape. Stronger enforcement is important, but locking up addicts and throwing away the key doesn't help. We must have community-based drug use prevention and treatment programs that help people stay on the right track.

I will create measureable public safety objectives and disseminate quarterly report cards to Boston residents to show our progress on meeting these objectives. My new Office of Ideas and Innovation will house a citywide effort to target violence against women and girls and a program aimed at confronting gun violence.

As a City Councilor, I led the implementation of a "ShotSpotter" technology system that allows Boston police to respond to the scene of shootings within minutes and help get guns off the streets. I've also proposed a felony gun offender registry and pushed gun companies to install GPS chips in handguns that could help us locate lost or stolen weapons in Boston.

Vision For Boston

My vision for a better Boston includes making our neighborhoods safer, our schools stronger and maintaining the fiscal health of our city. I will establish the Mayor's Office of Ideas and Innovation to scour the country and the world for good ideas that we can adapt to work in Boston. I will hire 200



new Boston Police Officers and focus on preventing crime, intervening in the lives of offenders and using technology and innovative ideas to enforce the law and put criminals on notice. In the Office of Ideas and Innovation, I'll have programs dedicated to preventing violence against women and girls and firearm violence. We need to expand technology like ShotSpotter to every neighborhood and establish a felony gun offender registry so we all know where violent criminals are.

A strong fiscal foundation is the bedrock for a strong city. It's what makes companies want to stay here and grow or come here from someplace else. It's what generates jobs for Boston residents. I want to make sure that the city maintains its high bond rating so we can continue to invest in capital improvements in our neighborhoods all over the city. I want to make sure that we continue to build on today's successes by investing in our neighborhoods and our people to guarantee a stronger tomorrow.

Who Was The Best Mayor In Boston's History?

Boston has been blessed with great leaders over time, but no one is more responsible for the good direction we're heading in now than Tom Menino.

South Boston Today sincerely thanks candidate Robert Consalvo for taking time from his busy schedule to allow us to let our readers get to know him through this newspaper's Mayoral Candidate's Profile series. We wish him and all the other candidates for mayor the best of luck in their quest for Boston's highest municipal office.



Flaherty Receives Key Union Support for His Boston City Council At-Large Candidacy

n his candidacy to to be elected as an At-Large Boston City Councilor, Michael F. Flaherty has received endorsements from a variety of unions.

Teamsters Local 25 President and Principal Officer Sean M. O'Brien, in endorsing Flaherty, stated, "Michael has shown great leadership on the Boston City Council and has always been a voice for working families. We're proud to endorse him to return to the Boston City Council and look forward to working with him on the campaign trail on through victory in November." Local 25, the largest Teamsters' union in New England, was founded in 1903 and currently represents 11,000 men and women from throughout Massachusetts and southern New Hampshire.

One of the first unions to endorse Flaherty when he first ran for public office is Teamsters Local 122. John F. Murphy, Secretary-Treasurer, stated "Local 122 is pleased to endorse the candidacy of Michael Flaherty for Boston City Council At-Large," adding, "we are proud to back his return to the City Council."

Rich Paris, president of Local 718, in his endorsement of Flaherty, highlighted Flaherty's "commitment to public safety and to the health and welfare of our members and their families". Paris also stated his pleasure that Flaherty wanted to continue "to work with our local to face the challenges ahead is welcome and needed".

During a time of contract disputes, when bold resolutions were needed, Flaherty proudly stood with the men and women of Boston Firefighters 718 for their contract negotiations. Coming from a strong family commitment to public service - including judicial, law enforcement and public safety, as well elected office - Flaherty appreciates and respects the hardworking men and women of Boston Firefighters Local 718 who risk their lives every day for this city.

Walter J. Novicki, delegate for the Carmen's Union 589, said, "The Boston Carmen's Union 589 of the Amalgamated TransitUnion, AFL/CIO-CLC, who represents over 5,900 workers at the MBTA, feels very fortunate to have a friend of Michael Flaherty's stature and integrity running for the Boston City Council. He will be a great asset to the working men and women in Boston. It is with great pleasure that we endorse him."

IBEW Local 2222's Myles J. Calvey, Business Manager/Financial Secretary, has said, "The men and women of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 2222 are proud to endorse Michael Flaherty. It was an easy one for us because Michael has always been there for us, shoulder to shoulder at meetings, rallies and on our picket lines as he has for all organized labor in the City of Boston."

In his endorsement of Flaherty, Lou Mandarini, Business Manager of Laborers, stated, "Michael is a friend of Laborers, he is a friend of labor and he has always been there for us. Laborers proudly support his return to the Boston City Council."

"As a former member of Teamsters Local #25, I have always been guided by union consciousness and have never failed to support organized labor, including, when necessary, on the picket lines. During my ten years on the Boston City Council, I fought in support of workers' rights to choose a union by sponsoring and championing the Employee Free Choice Act", said Flaherty. "While union, for the past several years, have been in the political crosshairs across our nation, I remain steadfast in my belief that every worker is entitled to the fundamental rights representation, collective of bargaining, and workplace dignity that unions work so hard to ensure. Nothing will ever shake my faith in that position."

J. Ciccone...CONTINUED FROM page 3

NOW SHE IS A TEACHER!!!

SOUTH BOSTON TODAY

staff report

ne of our readers sent this facebook post and hope others feel the same way she did when she read it.

In September of 2005, on the first day of school, Martha Cothren, a History teacher at Robinson High School in Little Rock, did something not to be forgotten. On the first day of school, with the permission of the school superintendent, the principal and the building supervisor, she removed all of the desks in her classroom. When the first period kids entered the room they discovered that there were no desks. 'Ms. Cothren, where are our desks?'

She replied, 'You can't have a desk until you tell me how you earn the right to sit at a desk.' They thought, 'Well, maybe it's our grades.' 'No,' she said.

'Maybe it's our behavior.' She told them, 'No, it's not even your behavior.'

And so, they came and went, the first period, second period, third period. Still no desks in the classroom. Kids called their parents to tell them what was happening and by early afternoon television news crews had started gathering at the school to report about this crazy teacher who had taken all the desks out of her room.

The final period of the day came and as the puzzled students found seats on the floor of the desk-less classroom. Martha Cothren said, 'Throughout the day no one has been able to tell me just what he or she has done to earn the right to sit at the desks that are ordinarily found in this classroom. Now I am going to tell you.'

At this point, Martha Cothren went over to the door of her classroom and opened it. Twenty-seven (27) U.S. Veterans, all in uniform, walked into that classroom, each one carrying a school desk. The Vets began placing the school desks in rows, and then they would walk over and stand alongside the wall. By the time the last soldier had set the final desk in place those kids started to understand, perhaps for the first time in their lives, just how the right to sit at those desks had been earned.

Martha said, 'You didn't earn the right to sit at these desks. These heroes did it for you. They placed the desks here for you. They went halfway around the world, giving up their education and interrupting their careers and families so you could have the freedom you have. Now, it's up to you to sit in them. It is your responsibility to learn, to be good students, to be good citizens. They paid the price so that you could have the freedom to get an education. Don't ever forget it.'

By the way, this is a true story. And this teacher was awarded Veterans of Foreign Wars Teacher of the Year for the State of Arkansas in 2006. She is the daughter of a WWII POW.

Do you think this is worth passing along so others won't forget either, that the freedoms we have in this great country were earned by our U.S. Veterans?

..... I did.

Let us always remember the men and women of our military and the rights they have won for us.

Blessings abound in our USA!

CONTINUED FROM page 4

city's boundaries. The lack of concurrent jurisdiction also raises some serious problems regarding the regulation of bars and restaurants along the waterfront. Currently the BPD, without the appropriate jurisdiction, is unable to check for potential license violations such as over serving of patrons or overcrowding of establishments. Additionally, the state police have no jurisdiction related to liquor licenses in the City of Boston, including the South Boston Waterfront. Without concurrent jurisdiction, these bars and restaurants are operating in a regulatory gray area. This common sense legislation should be passed by the state legislature to provide appropriate protection and oversight of these establishments.

Councilor Linehan said, "I commend Representative Collins on his efforts. As the waterfront

area continues to grow, we need to make sure we have the proper protections and services in place to prevent any further problems. This is about the residents, employees and patrons in the area, not the police. "

Council President Murphy added, "The South Boston Waterfront has been a crucial part of the development of this City for some time now. It is no longer the noman's land of shipping containers. It now contains bars, restaurants, businesses, entertainment and residences. All these are historically protected and regulated by the City of Boston within its own boundaries, but because of a loophole in the legislation that enabled MassPort to own the land down there, the South Boston Waterfront was exempt from this. This legislation will put licensing, regulation, and protection back in the hands of the City of Boston. Our

police department will be able to properly serve this part of the City. I applaud Representative Collins and Councilor Linehan for taking action on this important issue."

If you have any questions you may contact the office of City Councilor Bill Linehan at 617-635-3203 or the office of City Council President Stephen Murphy at 617-635-4376.

The reason for this column and for this annual message to our local freshmen is not to try to mold your beliefs the way we feel they should be. No. The purpose is to make you aware that the odds are that you will come into contact with those who will try. All we suggest is that you keep an open mind, make your own decisions and form your opinions based on facts, not on what some self-serving, agenda driven, left wing radical professors feed you. Don't allow yourselves to manipulated or intimidated by them and you'll do just fine.

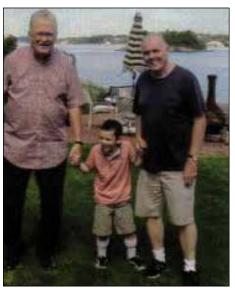
And it should be noted again that there are many excellent professors who sincerely have your best interests at heart and will work hard to give you the best education possible. These are teachers who are dedicated to seeing you succeed. But it's important to be aware that, believe it or not, some of them are not. It's just that simple.

College, by the way, isn't for everyone. There is much to be said for those who choose vocational trades, but for those who choose to take college and university road, it can be a wonderful experience. To all of our locals entering college this year, South Boston, your community wishes you the best of luck, all the success in the world and a heck of a lot of fun while you're there.

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



Braeden Loves To Make New Friends



St Brigid Church in South Boston, we met our friend Fr. Jim Flavin, who did a lot of great work while in Boston. He was filling in for the weekend for Fr. Bob Casey. Fr. Flavin now runs St. John Vianney Center outside Philadelphia. My 7 year old grandson Braeden and I then took a nice stroll around Castle Island where we saw many friendly old faces, and some just as friendly new faces, as well.

We then took a ride up to Phil

The Benefit For Maynard (Wil) Willey

To all who attended, bought tickets, and all those who contributed in any way...

Thank you 1,000 times over!

Sincerelu, Maynard Willey & Family

fter the 8 am Mass at and Carol Moran's waterfront home in Salem for the 76 birthday celebration of long time pastor of Immaculate Church in Salem, but now retired priest Fr. Tim Murphy. Father Murphy and I go way back to our younger days when I was a Boston City Councilor and he was a curate at St. Angela's Church in the changing Mattapan neighborhood of Boston. Once the Jewish section of the city, the 1968 riots and real estate "red lining" practices drove many families out of the neighborhood to the suburbs. I had played a lot of sports and worked in this very same neighborhood as a youth street worker, Boston school teacher, and probation officer, before I got into politics.

At the small outdoor birthday party, Father's former parishioners were sitting all around him exchanging pleasant old stories. The people have a lot of love for the man they affectionately call Fr. Tim. I was watching Braeden walk over to where Fr. Tim was seated. He was trying to pull a small lawn chair over so he could sit

SOUTH BOSTON TODAY By Ray Flynn

next to Father, but because of his neurological and balance problem, he kept falling down. Nobody noticed what he was trying to do, but I did. Finally, he reached his destination. He managed to find the space to pull his chair in next to Father. He had a little red toy car he was carrying. While Father was attentively listening to the conversation, Braeden put his little fingers on Father's hand and held it. The priest looked down in surprise and saw that Braeden wanted to show him his little red toy car. Braeden knew a friendly face the moment he arrived at the birthday party.

Yes, it was Father's special day, but Braeden quickly realized that Father Murphy was a special man and he wanted to hang out with him. It was a special day for me too. I got the chance to be with two wonderful priests whom I haven't seen in a while, good friends from Salem, and watch Braeden make more friends wherever he goes.

Ray Flynn is the former Mayor of Boston and U.S. Ambassador to the Vatican.



Contributing To Create A Safe Morning Environment For South Boston Women Free Round Trip Transportation From Home To Any South Boston Fitness Center 5 - 7:30am Through August 31, 2013

> To Reserve a FREE Ride Call the Southie Shuttle Prior to 11pm the Previous Evening at 617-268-4110

Southie shuttle

com · 617-268-4110

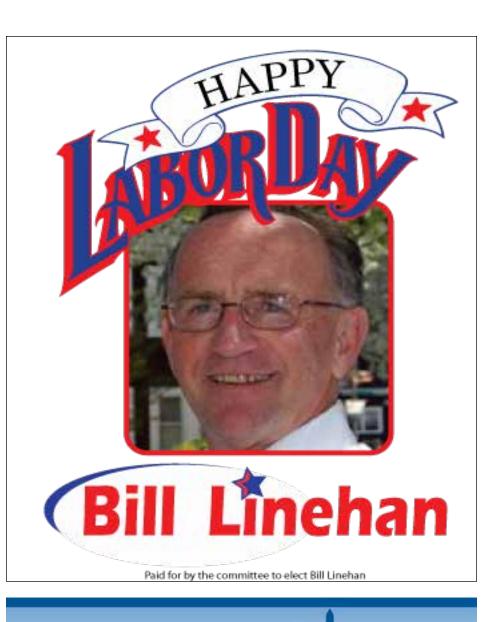
What Does Labor **Day Really Mean?**

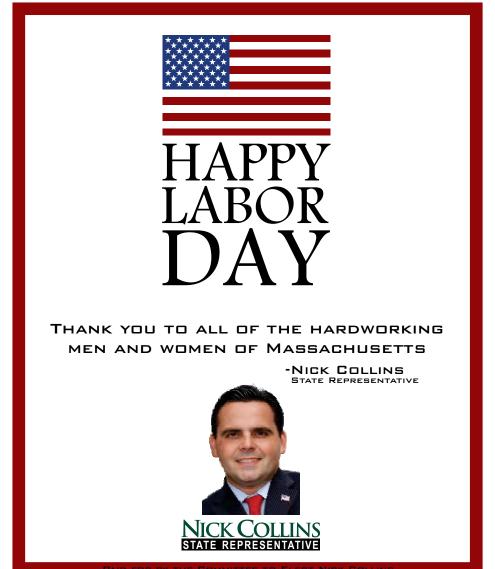
to find the perfect description of Labor Day, we were amazed to find so many expressions. So, we've settled on our own blended version. Growing up, it basically signaled the official end of summer and outdoor barbecues. We were usually heading back to school soon afterwards, although these days most kids have already returned to school. The Labor Day three-day weekend has become a chance to spend quality time with family and take rare, much-needed time away from work to bring family and work instilling those values that life back in balance.

Labor Day was more about children will be better for it.

researching providing a holiday to honor the economic and social achievements of our American workers. Its intention was and still is to pay tribute to what our workforce gives to the prosperity, strength, and overall well-being of our wonderful country. Sometimes that gets lost in the general celebration of having just another holiday.

So enjoy your Labor Day with your family, rest, relax, barbecue, play, and have fun. But remember why it was established and use a small part of the weekend to start a conversation about or begin have been so neglected in our But the original intent of society in recent years. Your





Wishing you and your family a happy, healthy, and safe Labor Day Weekend!

| Michael Flaherty | • |
|--|---|
| Candidate for Boston City Council At-Large | |

To Date Endorsed By:

| Carmen's Union Local #589 | | | 1 | |
|---|-------|------|---------|----|
| Glaziers and Glassworker's Local #10 | 44 | | 100 | |
| Hotel Worker's UNITE HERE! Local #2 | 26 | | - Carl | |
| I.A.T.S.E. Stagehand's Local #11 | | | and the | |
| I.A.F.F. Boston Firefighter's Local #718 | В | | | |
| I.B.E.W. Local #2222 | | | | |
| Ironworker's Local #7 | | | | |
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| National Association of Government Employees | | | 211 | |
| New England Regional Council of Carpenters | | | | |
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Please Vote on Tuesday, September 24th!



Country Fest 2013 Rocked Gillette Stadium Last Weekend

t has become a late summer tradition; one that literally thousands of people of all ages, but mostly young, look forward to. In fact, to many, summer just is not complete without attending the annual 'Country Fest' headlined by the great Kenny Chesney; one of America's top Country Music artists and the pride of Nashville. Each year Chesney arrives to perform and brings other big name Country Music acts along with him. This year's event was called the 'Brothers of the Sun' tour and included Tim McGraw, his famous wife Faith Hill, Grace Potter and Jake Owen. They were all part of what had to be one of the best Country Fest's ever. How big was the show? Big enough to sellout Gillette Stadium in Fox borough, both days, quickly and easily. That's

nearly 55,000 people each day. And that doesn't count the thousands of people tailgating in the parking lot, who could not even get tickets.

It was an honor to be selected to cover this concert for South Boston Today. But the pleasure was all mine, because it had to be one of the best concerts at any venue, ever, and this writer has been to many concerts. To the loyal Country Fest fans, it did not disappoint.

The show started off fast with Jake Owen and Grace Potter who stepped onto the stage almost a bit late since they were out in the parking lot tailgating with fans like the regular down home people that they are. They had a good time hanging out with their fans and it showed as they opened the concert with pure energy. Then came the great Tim McGraw singing new

SOUTH BOSTON TODAY By Jessica Grande

songs, as well as his standby hits like 'Down On The Farm', 'Where The Green Grass Grows' and 'Just To See You Smile'. But what really brought the crowd to its feet with raucous cheers was when wife Faith Hill joined him on stage and performed a duet with the song 'I Need You'. He closed his set with his latest chart topping single called 'Truck Yeah'. Ordinarily, McGraw's performance this day would have been the perfect end to a super concert. But this was Country Fest after all and the best was still to come.

The crowd was pumped and ready and in a fever pitch awaiting the main attraction and then out he came. Kenny Chesney arrived with his outstanding backup band and singers and then it all really kicked into high gear. But he didn't arrive



to start his set on stage. He showed up in the middle of the field and began with 'A Beer In Mexico'. Then he was lifted up by ropes and a swing and flew to the stage above the crowd and set everyone off into near hysteria. When he landed on stage he went right into his hit song 'Summertime'. From then on it was a mix of hard driving Country rockers, alternating with ballads like 'That's Where I Come From' bringing the crowd right along with him.

But the best part of the show was even still to come. For the encore, Chesney was joined onstage by Tim McGraw and the two of them brought the crowd into a near frenzy and a sustained standing ovation even as they were singing their hits; Chesney's 'She Thinks My Tractor's Sexy' and McGraw's 'Indian Outlaw'; two Country Music, Southern Rock favorites. This closed the show and pretty much brought down the house.

As the massive crowd began to disperse, it was clear that a good time was had by all at this biggest of all annual end of summer bashes. Ask anyone who's ever attended a Country Fest at Gillette Stadium and they will tell you that it's not just a concert, it's so much more. It's a concert, a festival, a party and a unique experience. It is an event so big, so good and so much fun it makes people want to keep coming back year after year. Country Fest 2013 was this writer's first time. I was thrilled to have been able to attend it and do this review for South Boston Today. I intend to return in 2014 and beyond. Yes, it was that good.

The Artists' Studio

SOUTH BOSTON TODAY Deb Putnam

s an artist just starting out Ryann Lynsky is still in the discovery stage, but her young age belies the mature thought behind her paintings. Born and raised in South Boston, Ryann's interest in art began as young teen when she went to work at the Artist's for Humanity in the summer of 2009. It was in the painting studio at AFH where she began using acrylics and started on her journey to become an artist. She credits the value of learning from her mentors, and other painters at AFH, for her choosing art as a career and explained, "I don't think art school would ever have been in my future, if it weren't for AFH."

Agraduate of Elizabeth Seton Academy, Ryann has just completed her first year at Massachusetts College of Art. Massart, as it is more commonly known, is not only painting. Her work is intended to elicit an emotional response, whether or not it is the response she intended. "I just want people to feel something. What that is, I haven't



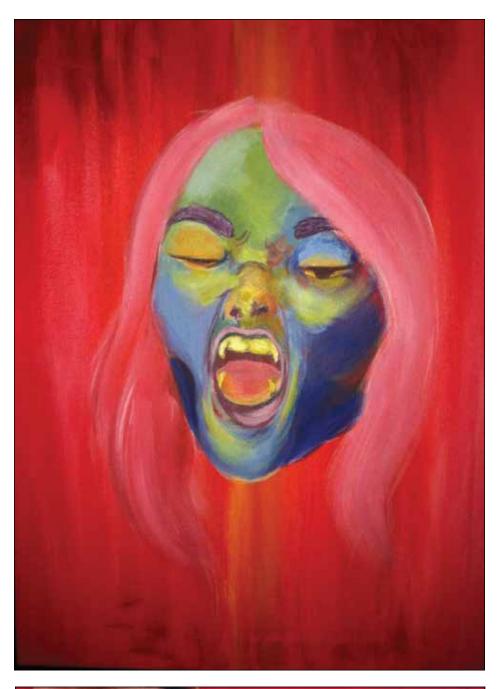


one of the oldest art schools in the country, but is also the only publicly funded freestanding art school in the United States. This fall Ryann will be returning to Massart to major in animation.

Ryann sees her paintings as a learning experience, where she can hone her skills and experiment with color. Each painting exists in its own right; a window into an idea or mood which she had at the time of the painting. In these paintings, she uses color as a tool for capturing fragments of memories and thoughts, feelings, smells and textures. For her, color can juxtapose the subject matter, as well as highlight the mood of the decided quite yet." In her paintings, her emotive use of color becomes a symbolic vocabulary for the viewer to translate.

This summer, I had the pleasure to meet Ryann at the Artists for Humanity where she had returned to serve as an assistant mentor. I am certain that she will have a very successful and productive art career ahead of her and that, under her mentorship, many more students at AFH will be inspired to follow their dream to become an artist.

. Deb Putnam is a local artist and regular contributor at South Boston Today. Her work can be viewed at www.dputnamart.com





SOUTHBOSTONTODAY · www.southbostontoday.com



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: "Lend me some sugar, I am your neighbor!"-Outkast

Tis the season for many young adults to bid Mom, Dad and Fido adieu, say BUH-BYE to the homestead and HELLO to city-livin'. Many young professionals and families flock to South Boston because it is close to major points in the city and near the highway. Others love the parks and beaches; places to play and relax. But many more find themselves in this urban oasis because it reminds them of where and what they left: home. There is a main street where you can buy groceries and glasses, gloss your nails and hair, grub and guzzle lots of food and grab anything else one needs to survive in this maze of a city. People are out walking/ chasing/pushing their kids AND dogs up and down Broadway - Waiting patiently in long lines for their favorite coffee, gassing up at local stations and chatting with local merchants who remember your name. These reasons may not be why people come to reside here but it certainly is the reason why they stay. The definition of neighbor living in close proximity to another - does not have to be taken so literally; extending yourself to those who are moving in next door, above or below broadens that meaning and creates community. Southie has a small

town feel, but is a big city environment and can be hard to maneuver. So this weekend, address those at the new address. And share some pertinent information about the leisure and legalities in Southie.

• "I saw the sign..."

Famous last words. Who hasn't begged the tow company to let your car go for a small fortune or chased the truck for blocks? Remembering what day/time/week the street you parked on is exhausting. Trash day- same thing. If you are lucky enough to live near an intersection of two streets, forgetting to put out your waste may allow you another day to drag the buckets out. Throw in holidays or a fifth week in the month, and your head is spinning. The City of Boston has a "Residents" section on their website where people can plug in their address and be informed about the facts and figures. Sharing is caring. cityofboston.gov

• Wake Up and Smell the Coffee.

Cup half empty. You have just moved in (2 weeks ago) and can barely find the kitchen, nevertheless a mug. But coffee shops are a Southie staple. Located along major bus routes 7, 9, and 10, there are a plethora of joe

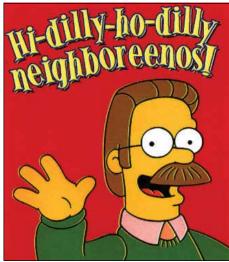
joints to grab one to go. Sidewalk Café and PS Gourmet are most known for their iced brews. Baileys, Cranberry Café and Java House put flavored, hot coffee on the map. If you run on Dunkin's, there are several locations along that same route. There's a new Starbuck's too. Fill 'em up!

• Hop, Skip and a Bark

Woof! Moving to a new place means you have to go on a dog hunt and track down a new best everything. "Paws"-Southie has plenty of places to provide for your pooch. Dewberry Dogs and Broadway Dog Spa have professional groomers that freshen and fluff your canine companion. B.Y.O.D. has the capability for you to shampoo and suds your pup. The S.B. Bark Park is where you and your four-legged friend can make acquaintances. And there are many local dog walking services that will treat your baby as their own when an extra run around the block is needed. See - you can teach an old dog new tricks!

byodwash.com - dewberrydogs. orgbroadwaydogspa.net - sbbarkpark.org petiquettesouthboston.com





Stepping Out: *Red*, *White and BBQ*

Ready, Set, Grill! Labor Day typically translates to parties full of friends, fun and food. The bonus day that gives us a threeday weekend was established not just to cure the manic Monday blues but also to honor those who have worked so hard to make America a prosperous and strong country. To pay tribute to the women and men who have 'labored' for the welfare of their fellow citizens. From blue-collar to white-collar, all deserve to enjoy this holiday. That being said, let's get back to celebrating. Here are some places in Southie where you can grab the essentials that are needed to partake in the festivities.

• "The smell from a grill could spark up nostalgia."-Will Smith

Guests won't just want to kiss the cook when they taste what you have brought to the shindig. Freshly butchered meats and homemade sausage found at K & 8th market are unmatched in Southie. See how quick the tables turn!

K & 8th Market 362 K Street

• "Tap the bottle and twist the cap."-YBT What's worse than a lukewarm longneck or tepid tin can of beer? Not much, especially when you are the one supplying the brews for the bash. Thirst not! Miller's Market located on K St in Southie claims and has proven to supply us with the "Coldest Beer in Town." Just make sure you stock more than a six-pack.

Miller's Market 336 K Street

• Here's the scoop...

I scream, you scream, we all scream for: ICE CREAM! There is no better way to cool down in the summer than with this sweet treat. Café Arpeggio offers a multitude of flavors that they will gladly hand pack into quart and pint containers for take-out. The ice cream is homemade and upon request, special flavors can be whipped up into five gallon portions. That certainly puts the cherry on top. Café Arpeggio 398 West Broadway cafearpeggio.com

• One potato, two potato, three potato...

Whether mixed with minced onion and celery or fused together with mustard and Miracle Whip, potato salad is the perfect accompaniment to your grilled goodies. The quintessential side for any warm weather get-together. Foodie's on West Broadway sells 'Patriotic Potatoes' that add great color and flavor to the dish and show your American pride; that's no small potatoes.

Foodie's Market 230 West Broadway foodies-market.com

Southie Senses:

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

Touch - Finger-Lickin' Good

Don't want to cook out but want some classic Americana-type food? And what's more American than BBQ? No road trip required!!! Larry J's BBQ Café located at 600 D St. in the South Boston Waterfront serves up lunch and dinner, Texas-style. Larry J's follows the Texan tradition of beef, slow roasting and sides. The menu offers the customary accompaniments of potato salad and cowboy beans; the beef brisket, beef ribs and other delicious meats are smoked for 12 hours over hickory wood. Beef up! with Larry J's and kick back and enjoy this long weekend. Sticky fingers guaranteed! larryjsbbqcafe.com

See - What Lies Ahead (or Behind or Beside)?

Stay-cations are all the rage but there is something about the vast and diverse American landscape that makes you want to hit the road. And summer time seems to be most logical time to do so; the days are longer and the nights are hotter. At Atlantic Wharf Gallery, 15 artists use varying mediums to portray this great American pastime. Whether it's over the river and through the woods, all the way to Wally World or to the shore you go, these displayed pieces take you back to the days when it was summer time and the living was easy. **ROAD TRIP** Atlantic Wharf Gallery, fortpointarts.org

Taste - Somethins' a-Brewin'...

From the tip of the Cape to the top of the North Shore, Labor Day celebrations abound. One way you can enjoy all Massachusetts has to offer this holiday weekend is to head to the Mass Brewers Fest at the World Trade Center. Kick off your 3-day vacay and throw back a few local brews on Friday August 30th, from 6-9:30pm. There will be over 80+ beer samples and live music to enjoy. Tickets go fast, so grab a six-pack of friends and head on down. Stay Thirsty Southie. massbrewersguild.org Seaport World Trade Center

Smell - I Can Smell Whatcha Cookin'!

If the beach is where you want to spend your last days of summer, South Boston has plenty of that, from the Lagoon to the Bay and everything in between. And sun and fun abound. Whether you spend your day paddleballing or doggy paddling, you are going to work up an appetite. What better way than to end your seashore excursion with a trip to Touchie's? The \$8 after Beach Burger & Beer cannot be beat! Just a hop, skip and a beef (ha-ha) from Day Boulevard, Touchie's Shamrock Pub is the place to go. No beefs here! Touchie's Shamrock Pub 501 East Eighth Street 617-268-0007

Hear - Sound Off

Bing, Bang, Boom. To end the season of all seasons, Mayor Menino and Summer on the Waterfront give us one last hurrah with a magnificent fireworks display on Boston Harbor this Saturday August 31st; the parade of color will begin at 9 pm. This event of vibrant and lively pageantry is a grand way to close the Boston Arts Festival. Get down to the Harborwalk, grab some lawn/concrete/bench, and watch with flying colors as this summer goes lights out.

summeronthewaterfront.org tbha.org

Embrace All Of The Southie Senses: 💿 💿 🚳 🔘

"From sea to shining sea."

The sea has a life of its own. Some of its days are clear and bright with smooth and soft waves. Others filled with briny winds, choppy movements and rocky ground. As a gateway to life here in America, the sea, much like the individuals brought here over its wide and open range, forges ahead, continuing to grow in strength and prosper for the well being of all. So this Labor Day weekend, get out on the water and pay tribute to all it offers. Hear the call of the ocean, smell that salty air and take a dinner or dancing boat cruise. Drink in the beauty of your surroundings during a daytime row or dragon boat excursion. Feel the wind at your back as you speed around the harbor. Sail away into the horizon and see the stars on a sunset sail. The majesty and wonder of the ocean is all around us, so get out and embrace it Southie!

Dinner/Dancing: spiritofboston.com • odysseycruises.com • bostonharborcruises.com • bostonfuncruises.com **Rowing:** bostonrowingcenter.org •livingroot.org **Speedboat Ride:** bostonsealightening.com • Sailing: worldoceanschool.org

Who is Laela?

Born and raised in this town, Laela believes that contributing to your neighborhood through volunteer work and socializing within the community are inborn in the people of South Boston. Those innate characteristics are interwoven into every fiber of a South Bostonian's being. Continuing the traditions that the South Boston community has always practiced, the features Stepping Up and Stepping Out are two ways in which old AND new residents can find opportunities to do what Southie has always done: give back. Both "born and raised" and the new Southie generation will be able to carry on these practices.











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.

Sponsored by Castle Island Association Representative Nick Collins and the Sullivan Family



In Your Corner

SOUTH BOSTON TODAY staff report

co-hosting public fter on-site meetings, the City Side Neighborhood Association and St. Vincent's Lower End Neighborhood Association (SVLENA), voted to support a proposal by Lincoln Tavern to introduce live background jazz type music to "enhance the dining experience". Unlike an establishment such as Lucky's at A and Congress Street, which offers music as their main attraction, the Lincoln Tavern's intention as stated above is to make dining more pleasurable and the music is strictly background.

In their brief time here, the Lincoln has been cooperative and sensitive to neighborhood concerns addressing any problems brought to their attention in a timely manner. That attitude naturally went a long way in gaining neighbors confidence and support.

Due to, what is hoped to have been, a misunderstanding in the notification process between the city and the community organizations, a proposal to develop residential units at the former New England Auto Body at Dorchester and Dresser Streets and a second development proposal on Dresser Street itself, was held without community notification. We are unable, at this time, to accurately report what was proposed or residents' comments.

We can report the "Boutique Hotel" proposal seemed to breakdown to those opposed to any hotel and a larger group that was split between those in support of the proposal and others in support, but reduced in height. Folks may recall a prohibition to build hotels south of Summer Street was required for community approval for the construction of the BCEC. This would seem to eliminate Broadway as a hotel site. The recently relaxed hotel prohibition only pertains to the area from First Street to Summer Street and from Haul Road to the Reserve Channel. Furthermore. when the redevelopment of St.'s Peter and Paul Church was contemplated, the community saw the potential for future developments and insisted on some protections. Recognizing the church historical significance, and more to the point it's architectural dominance of the block, it was determined to be the focal point. As such, all development would be shorter in order to preserve that focal point, resulting in the A and Fourth Street and Dorchester Avenue and Fourth Street developments rising only 65 feet, the Broadway Station development at 80 feet, the 50 West Broadway at 65 feet. Even the Macallen Building is 6 stories on Dot. Ave. rising to 11 stories as it leaves Southie toward the highway. All of these factors are reason some question the proposal.

Finally the bike lane meeting was well attended considering the amount of meeting activity that night, there was no dispute on the merits of bike travel. Its positive health and environmental benefits are undeniable. However, the 800 pound canary is the viability of such bike lanes through the heart of the main business area of South Boston. It is no secret that double parking on Broadway is virtually indispensable for the business community to survive. Coupled with the availability of nearby malls and snow mounds on Broadway limiting parking even more, the business district is close to life support already. Adding to the burden of commuting on Broadway are serious questions that must be answered first.



Recent South Boston Real Estate Sales

| | Price | Sale Date | Rooms | Baths | Sq Ft |
|---------------------------------------|-----------|-----------|-------|-------|-------|
| 69 I Street Three Family | \$800,000 | 8/19/13 | 12 | 3 | 2622 |
| 720 East Second St UNIT 1 Condo | \$740,000 | 8/25/13 | 6 | 2.5 | 2000 |
| 637 East First St 305 Condo | \$680,000 | 8/22/13 | 4 | 2 | 1239 |
| 133 I St UNIT 1 Condo | \$675,000 | 8/23/13 | 6 | 2 | 1845 |
| 532 East Broadway UNIT 1 Condo | \$669,000 | 8/19/13 | 4 | 3 | 1600 |
| 415 K St UNIT 1 Condo | \$645,000 | 8/23/13 | 7 | 2.5 | 1711 |
| 637 East First St UNIT 303 Condo | \$624,000 | 8/21/13 | 4 | 2 | 1306 |
| 8 Covington St UNIT 2 Condo | \$609,000 | 8/22/13 | 4 | 2 | 1102 |
| 637 East First St UNIT 106 Condo | \$592,500 | 8/19/13 | 4 | 2 | 1270 |
| 35 Gates St UNIT 1 Condo | \$559,000 | 8/19/13 | 6 | 2 | 1454 |
| 509 East Eighth St UNIT 2 Condo | \$551,250 | 8/20/13 | 6 | 2 | 1141 |
| 150 M St UNIT 3 Condo | \$515,000 | 8/19/13 | 4 | 2 | 919 |
| 252 West Broadway UNIT 3 Condo | \$505,000 | 8/22/13 | 4 | 2 | 1159 |
| 472 East Eighth St UNIT 3 Condo | \$465,000 | 8/19/13 | 5 | 2 | 1173 |
| 39 Swallow St UNIT 1 Condo | \$463,300 | 8/20/13 | 6 | 2 | 1100 |
| 154 O St UNIT 1 Condo | \$455,000 | 8/22/13 | 4 | 1.5 | 1002 |
| 66 Athens St UNIT 2 Condo | \$410,000 | 8/20/13 | 4 | 1.5 | 685 |
| 148 West Third St UNIT 3 Condo | \$410,000 | 8/23/13 | 4 | 1 | 895 |
| 549 East Third St UNIT 3 Condo | \$393,000 | 8/19/13 | 4 | 1 | 728 |
| 120 West Seventh St UNIT 102 Condo | \$381,000 | 8/21/13 | 2 | 1.5 | 828 |
| 34 F St UNIT 3 Condo | \$295,000 | 8/23/13 | 3 | 1 | 608 |
| 143 West Eighth St UNIT 1 Condo | \$225,000 | 8/19/13 | 3 | 1 | 467 |

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South Boston Italian Pride Night SOUTH BOSTON TODAY by staff

The annual South Boston Italian Pride Day was held last Thursday at Medal of Honor Park at M Street and as expected, it brought together people from all across the community. And as is always the case, some former residents returned to take part in the celebration where everyone is an Italian American for the day. People of every age group showed up to enjoy the live music of the great band called 'Strictly Sinatra' that had people up and dancing.

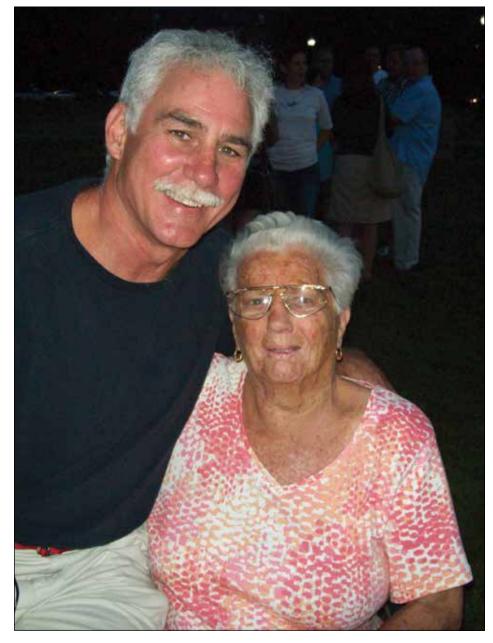
The local seniors, many arriving on City of Boston Shuttles and the Southie Shuttle, got into the music as they too danced up a storm. The kids were entertained and had a great time on the 'Bouncy Castle'. Longtime residents mingled with new arrivals and everyone got into the spirit of the evening. In fact, the REAL new arrivals were on display as several lifelong residents were seen walking among the crowd with their newborn babies in tow and who certainly seemed to be



enjoying the festivities.

Tom McGrath gave out so many cups of slush on this night that he actually ran out of cups. No surprise there, it was cool, refreshing and tasty and hit the spot just right on this beautiful warm summer's night. The weather could not have been more perfect.

Barbara Caputo Kelly was this year's recipient of the 2013 South Boston Italian American Woman Award and all agreed that it could not have gone to a more deserving person. When the night ended, participants all seemed to be in agreement with the following sentiments: "Ho avuto un buon tempo". Translation: "I had a good time".

















South Boston Italian Pride Night Continued...





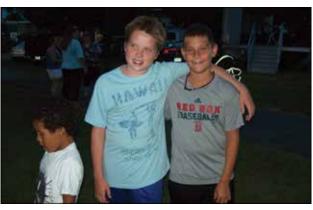




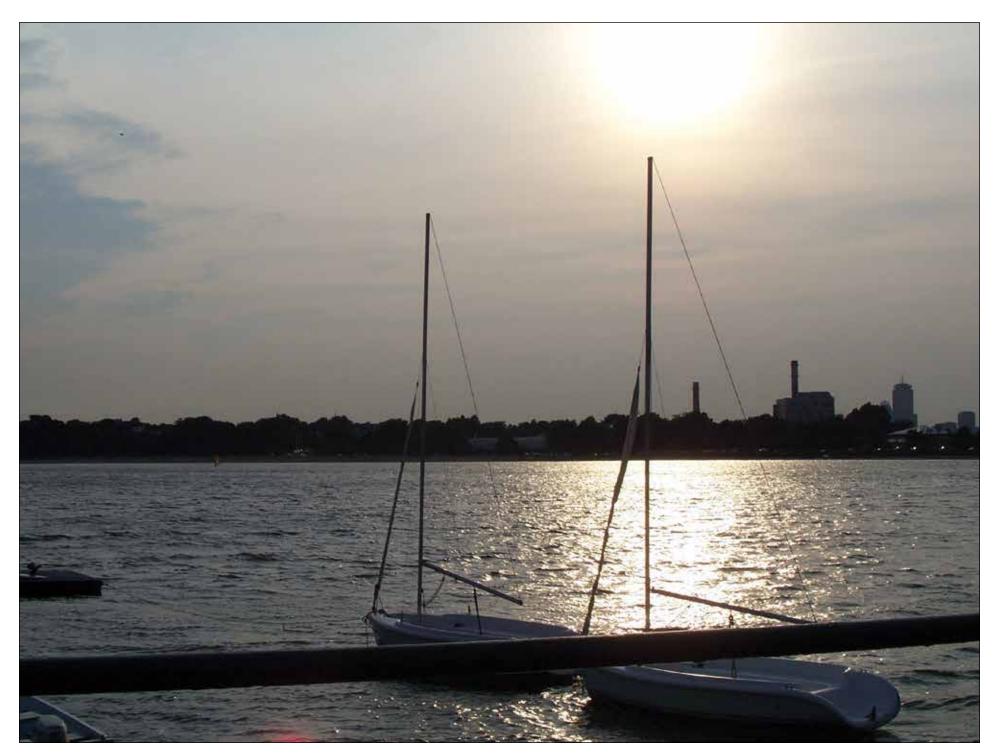












Leadership Initiative Fundraiser A Rousing Success

SOUTH BOSTON TODAY by David Pollard

he South Boston Leadership Initiative held their first fundraiser last Thursday at the Harry McDonough Sailing Center in the hopes that the organization will begin to gather community support. It was a rousing success. Guests began filtering in to the Sailing Center at about 6-o'clock and were greeted by members and supporters of the South Boston Leadership Initiative. Attendees were suggested to make a donation of \$20 upon entering the fundraiser - where food and beverages were being served under near perfect weather conditions for the outdoor event. By 7PM, the Center was full and the festivities kicked off with a live band called "Tom Baker and the Dons". The South Shore band played a few popular hits before members of the South Boston Leadership Initiative took the stage to deliver their message.

First, State Representative Nick Collins introduced Sean Regan, a Southie native who graduated from UMass Amherst, is Mayor Menino's South Boston Liaison, and a co-founder of the South Boston Leadership Initiative, who talked about how the program was conceived. "What I wanted to create... was that internal network that we've had in South Boston for so long," Regan said. "At the end of the day, the majority of people who live in South Boston are great people, and they care about their community."

"The thought behind it was to give the teens and young adults of South Boston positive role models." Regan added, "Through fitness, through mentorship, through educational workshops, we want to create an environment that cultivates success. We want to help these kids identify their goals in life, and then we want to give them the means to achieve [those goals]."

Next, Program Director Ryan Sweeney spoke about the programs of the South Boston Leadership Initiative. Ryan described the numerous partnerships that the organization has within the community. They have teamed up with nonprofit organizations such as the South Boston Neighborhood House, as well as the Harry McDonough Sailing Center and others in order to facilitate workshops for the youth involved in those programs. Sweeney said, "We also want to partner with Southie Youth Hockey, and Southie Little League. We have created a partnership with the South Boston Stars, the AAU South Boston Basketball team."



On top of this, the South Boston Leadership Initiative will conduct Math and English S.A.T. Prep in the Fall, and again in the Spring.

As confident as all the members of this organization are, they understand that it's up to the community to determine how successful the Initiative can become. Chair of the Board Sarah McGarrell said at the fundraiser, "we really look forward to what we're doing, but that's not enough... we need [members of the South Boston community] to get involved. You come with networks, you come with experience, and those are things the kids in Southie need to hear and talk about, and to have the opportunity to engage in."

The mission of the South Boston Leadership Initiative is to "help develop the youth of South Boston and to assist in their efforts to reach educational and professional goals" through the use of "workshops, programs, and a strong, vast network of volunteers we will strive to achieve those goals." Any information about upcoming events or info in general













for the South Boston Leadership Initiative can be found on the organization's Facebook page.

In a further statement to South Boston Today, Program Director Ryan Sweeney said, "We consider it a huge success and a testament to what the people of South Boston can do when they join together for a common cause. Southie has always been about loyalty, pride, and a strong sense of community and we believe that was on full display at the Harry McDonough Sailing Center the other night. Over the last few weeks, we have been promoting a strong network of supporters and volunteers, so it was important for us to prove to people in Southie that we were serious about being available to assist with youth development in this town. We want to offer opportunities in the coming months that may have not been there in the past. And based on the showing Thursday night, our ever-growing network will be there to help in any way they can; whether that is helping with resume writing, volunteering at an athletic clinic, or aiding in a health and fitness presentation."

Any information about upcoming events or info in general for the South Boston Leadership Initiative can be found on the organization's website www.southbostonleadership.org









With Gratitude and Thanks from South Boston Catholic Academy Summer Program

ur summer camp program wrapped up its last week with a great celebration of pizza, ice cream, dancing, face painting, arts and crafts and a movie. The children loved having their face painted by our artistically talented Sara Mitchell, who made it an extra special for them. Camp helper, Emily Harris, provided the music and made goodie bags for the kids to take home with them.

Our camp was a tremendous success this summer thanks to the wonderful children, parents, families, our dedicated teachers and staff who love working with the students from South Boston Catholic Academy. Thank you to Ms. Emily Meyer, this summers Children's Librarian at the South Boston Branch Library, the children enjoyed her Storytime and making crafts based on this summers reading theme, "Digging Into Reading".

Running two programs geared toward age appropriate activities have played into our kids smiling faces each morning. The administration from South Boston Catholic Academy would like to recognize and thank the following people for their commitment this summer; Karen McDonald, Mary Powers, Janice Hynes, Teresa DeAmicis, Barbara Joslin, Emily McGilvery, Sara Mitchell, Marie Laundry, junior workers, Jackie McDonald, Kaleigh Litchfield and Emily Harris. Special thanks to our inhouse photographer, Teresa DeAmicis. Our Principal, Mrs. Carr, is grateful to everyone who helped make the SBCA Summer Program a success. "It was so much fun to have children in the school all summer long who were always busy playing and learning too!" she observed. We would also like to thank our neighborhood newspapers for printing our articles, including photos, each week and all those who helped to make it a wonderful summer for the children.

South Boston Catholic Academy is a pre-school through grade six catholic elementary school run by the Archdiocesan of Boston. Registration is on-going. Please feel free to email Mrs. Barbara Koehane with any questions at b.keohane@ sbcatholicacademy.org.







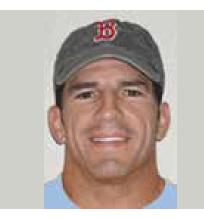












M STREET SOFTBALL PLAYOFFS SET TO BEGIN

SOUTH BOSTON TODAY By Mark Senna

As the league entered week six of the season the standings were far from settled but that would soon change. Shennanigan's sat at the top and were trying to fend off the likes of The Warehouse and the Lincoln Tavern squad while a couple of other teams were looking for a much needed win that would earn them the very last playoff position.

With eight teams qualifying for this year's playoffs, the Cranberry Café had to win against the Brewers on Monday to give them a shot at making it into the big dance. But it was the Brewers instead who saw their ticket punched as they pulled away from Cranberry in convincing fashion, 14-8. Brothers Sam (2 hits, 4 RBI) and Nick (2 hits, 4 RBI) Devito carried the offense for the Brewers while another pair of brothers did the same for Cranberry. Brian (3 hits, homerun, 4 RBI) & Mark Goodman (2 hits) both enjoyed a fine night at the plate for Cranberry but it was one tough inning (5th) that would close the curtains on their season.

Monday's nightcap saw another masterful pitching performance by Shennanigan's pitcher, Nick French. The lanky left hander cruised through seven innings while yielding just one run and picking up ten strikeouts against the Southside Tavern in a 6-1 win. Joel Kerschner (homerun and double) was his only nemesis tonight as French was dominant. Southside's got a strong outing from pitcher Joey Burke who certainly pitched well enough to win but French was just too good.

Tuesday's early action saw the Brewers back at it but this time their opponent was the red hot Warehouse squad who were looking to keep pace with first place Shennanigan's. As far as pitching matchups go this wasn't supposed to be much of one. In one dugout you had the hard throwing, strikeout specialist Joey Venuti and in the other clubhouse you had the scrappy veteran Jack Flanagan who uses everything in his arsenal to record outs.

Folks, on paper the Warehouse were the heavy favorites but games are not won on paper and this shows us why you have to play the game. Flanagan had matched Venuti through four plus innings of play and was locked in a 0-0 tie when Guido Bascani stepped into the batter's box with two outs and a runner on second base. Bascani, by the way, was making his first appearance in the M Street League and had a very tall task in front of him in trying to get a hit off Venuti. On a 2-1 offering, Guido smashed a singe to right center which scored Brad Cole from second giving the Brewers a 1-0 lead. Venuti helped himself in the fifth when he drove Bill Corcoran (3 hits) home from second to tie the game, 1-1.

Flanagan and the Brewers would weasel their way out of jams in the seventh, eighth, and ninth innings by turning an amazing three double plays. In fact, Flanagan had anchored two of the double plays - one when he snared a liner hit back to him and then threw to first to double off the runner. The other was a professional (3-6-1) double play that saw the veteran race from the mound to cover first to complete the tail end of the play. With a play like that the softball gods saw reason enough to reward Flanagan and the Brewers as they plated a run in the ninth to pull off the biggest upset of the season, 2-1. Mercy!

After watching the Warehouse fall to the Brewers and pretty much end their hopes of catching Shennanigan's, the Lincoln Tavern were hoping to avoid doing the same against the Telegraph Hill in their nightcap.

Through four innings of play, Telegraph's Jason Atton had kept his

team in the game as they trailed by just a pair of runs. But Lincoln's bats went to work in the fifth when Mike Briggs led off with a towering homerun to left field making it 3-0. The next five batters would reach base safely and before you knew it Lincoln had built a commanding 7-0 lead. However, Atton and the Hill would battle back with a pair of runs in the home half of the inning on a double by Mark Preziosi, 7-2. The onslaught would continue in the sixth as Telegraph would send nine batters to the plate while scoring four more runs, 7-6. A pitching change brought in Jimmy McNiff who got Preziosi to line out to end the late rally. Bill Davis (2 hits) and Mark Campbell (2 hits) had struck the big blows for the Hill who were now locked in a heated battle. The Lincoln responded in the seventh when Andy Hillier (3 hits) led off with a double and would score later in the inning making it 8-6. The two run lead at this late stage of the game was now more than enough for McNiff as he breezed through the seventh to earn the save.

With little time to rest, the Lincoln Tavern took the field on Wednesday to face Shennanigan's in a game they desperately wanted to win. Lincoln was the last team standing in the way of Shennanigan's quest to win the division so it was expected that this game would be a tightly contested affair. Instead, Lincoln could only muster two hits against Mike Hoadley and were shutout 6-0. Steve Stalcup was the hitting star for Shennanigan's as he picked up two hits and two runs batted in.

Speaking of little time to rest, Shennanigan's stayed on the field to face the Playwright in the second game of their scheduled double header on Wednesday and it turned out to be quite a pitcher's duel. Nick French took the ball in game two and only gave up three hits in six innings of work, while striking out ten batters. On the Playwright side, Keith Zeweiy was just as effective as he scattered five hits while allowing only one earned run. The lone earned run came in the first when Al Martin tripled and scored on Mike Hoadley's sacrifice fly. Shennanigan's added a pair of runs in the second and then held off the Playwright, 3-0 to complete the sweep which clinched the division title.

For the third time this week, the schedule maker had a team playing back to back nights as the Playwright

looked to try to put the tough defeat to Shennanigan's behind them when they faced the Islanders on Thursday. Like his previous start, Zeweiy yielded runs in the first inning (doubles by Chris Miller and Ryan Turgeon) and another in the fourth (Turgeon RBI double) but then pretty much shutdown the Islander offense. Pitching with the slim lead, the writer of this article was on the mound for the Islanders and carried a no hitter into the sixth inning. However, Sean Morgan quickly put an end to that with a leadoff double but was then stranded at third and the score remained, 3-0. Morgan's hit must have sparked something with the Playwright offense as they woke up and went to work in the seventh. Anthony Abdelehad and Danny McElaney opened the frame with singles and would later score on Mike Mercier's hit. Suddenly, the no hitter was long gone and the outcome of the game was now hanging in the balance. But the Islanders defense came through as Jeff White and Brian Foley put away the last two outs to prevent the Playwright from completing the comeback. It was a well played game for both clubs and was perhaps a sneak peek at a possible playoff series.

With all of the great pitching performances we saw this week it was only a matter of time before another slugfest would take place. Cranberry Café and Telegraph Hill did not disappoint the offensive minded softball fans as they combined for 31 runs in an 18-13 win for Telegraph on Thursday. Mark Goodman, who is in the race for the league's batting title, collected two hits in the game to raise his average to .615

With just six games to play in the regular season, here is the updated League Leaders. As mentioned above, Goodman (Cranberry Cafe) leads all batters with a .615 batting average followed closely behind by Ryan Martin (Warehouse) at .600. Mark Hindman (Playwright) leads the Runs Batted In chase with 16 followed behind by Garrett Hauck (Warehouse) 14 and Max Vigliotti (Lincoln) 14. Ryan Turgeon (Islanders) is the hit leader with 20 followed by three others who are tied with 17 hits. Out on the mound, Nick French (Shennanigan's) will win the Earned Run Average title as he sports a 0.88 ERA. French will also win the strikeout title (57 strikeouts) as he came from way behind to clip teammate Mike

Hoadley (Shennanigan's) who finishes with 55. Hoadley is the leader in wins (5-0) and is trailed by Jimmy McNiff (5-1) and French (5-1).

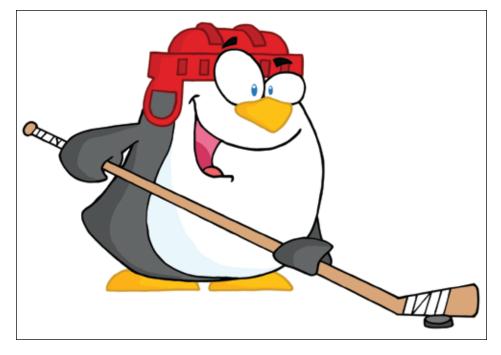
That closes the book on week seven of this abbreviated season as we look to one last week of games before the playoffs begin on September 3rd. A few league notes to share...the league members are wishing for a speedy recovery for the Brewers Marc Montesano who has been out of action recovering from surgery. Montesano is the second all-star caliber player the Brewers lost this season the other was Garrett Hauck who left a couple of weeks ago to attend medical school in Virginia. Congratulations Garrett! Congratulation goes out to Mike Hoadley of Shennanigan's. Hoadley received "All World" honors at the NAFA Fastpitch tournament in Des Moines, Iowa. In one game, Hoadley set the tournament record when he hit two grand slams while collecting 10 RBI. Mercy!

As of this writing, the playoff pairings were not all set at press time. We will outline each series in next week's article and might even get some bold predictions from our top handicapper, Jim Sullivan.

| Standings | W-L-T |
|--------------------|--------|
| Shennanigan's | 10-1-1 |
| Lincoln Tavern | 7-3-0 |
| The Warehouse | 6-3-1 |
| Nix Mate Islanders | 6-4-1 |
| The Playwright | 5-5-0 |
| Telegraph Hill | 4-5-1 |
| Brewers | 4-8-0 |
| Southside Tavern | 3-6-0 |
| Cranberry Café | 1-11-0 |
| | |

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. The playoffs begin on Tuesday, September 3 and will continue all week long (including Friday) with games starting at 6:30 and 8:10pm. Have a great Labor Day weekend and we look forward to seeing you at the park.





South Boston Youth Hockey

The newly-expanded South Boston Youth Hockey League Board of Directors is hosting a parents meeting Wednesday September 4th at 7pm at the South Boston Neighborhood House (136 H Street). The meeting will explain our new league, new programs, the budget, and will detail the new payment plans for the 2013-2014 season. Both returning parents, and parents of new players, are strongly encouraged to attend. For additional information please visit the South Boston Youth Hockey Facebook page or email SBYHL@Yahoo.com





Disney In South Boston

Boston Public Schools, Tufts & Radio Disney To Host Disney's Magic of Healthy Living Tour

ufts Health Plan today announced it will join with Radio Disney AM 1260, part of the #1 radio network for kids, tweens and families, for Disney's Magic of Health Living tour, an interactive road show designed to encourage schoolchildren and their families to lead healthier lifestyles. The six- event tour kicks off September 10th and will make stops at six local public schools in Massachusetts and Rhode Island. The tour makes its first stop in Boston on September 10th at 9 am to visit the Condon Elementary School on D Street in South Boston.

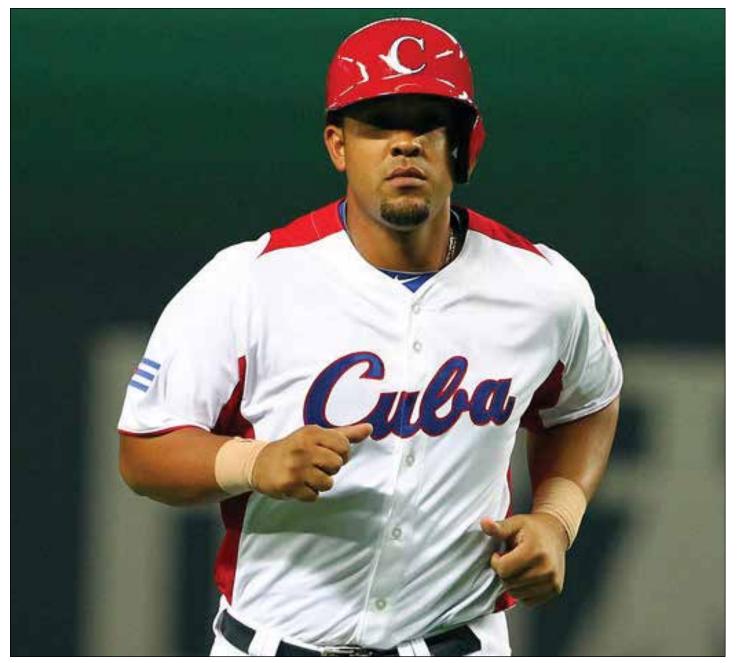
The Magic of Healthy Tour aligns with Tuft Health Plan's commitment to wellness in people of every age. Inspiring children to lead healthier lifestyles helps to establish healthy habits that can last a lifetime. Tufts Health Plan and the Radio Disney AM 1260 Road Crew team members will be onsite at each event with interactive entertainment, prizes focused on being healthy and staying active and the hottest music from today's biggest artists. Activities include the sport jump freeze, healthy fun facts and trivia, dancing, sit-up and hula hoop contests, three-legged relays and more. Disney's Magic of Healthy Living is a company-wide initiative that inspires kids and

families to lead healthier lifestyles by making nutritious eating and physical activity simple and fun. Disney's Magic of Healthy Living partners with parents to inspire kids to lead healthier lifestyles.

Through engaging content, useful tools and unique experiences, this initiative helps parents by making nutritious eating and physical activity more appealing and more fun. Radio Disney is the #1, 24hour radio network devoted to kids, tweens and families, and is widely recognized as a first home for many of today's most popular young artists including Selena Gomez, Cher Lloyd, Justin Bieber, Taylor Swift and Austin Mahone.

The plan offers members and employers an array of health management programs, which support evidence-based approaches to health and wellness. Tufts Health Plan is one of the few health insurers in Massachusetts to participate in the commercial, Medicare and Medicaid/subsidized markets. offering coverage across the life span regardless of age or circumstance. Its HMO and POS are ranked second in the nation by the National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA)*. Its Tufts Medicare Preferred HMO earned a 4.5 star rating from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services for 2013.





Cuban Slugger Could Be Solution At First Base For Sox

SOUTH BOSTON TODAY By Conor Ryan

es, I know the Red Sox season is still in full swing with over 30 games left to play. But, it's never too early to look ahead at what's in store for the team in the upcoming offseason and how the Sox plan to build off of an extremely successful 2013 campaign.

One area in particular that the Sox will have to look at this winter has to be first base. After reports of a chronic hip issue lowered his contract from three years to just one year, Boston 1B Mike Napoli is set to hit the open market this season. While he has been a solid piece in the middle of the Sox lineup, his age (31), inconsistency, and plate discipline (160 strikeouts in 115 games) might make the Sox hesitant to shell out a long-term contract for the slugger. Unfortunately for the Sox, the rest of the 2014 free-agent market looks pretty barren and the farm system is lacking an impact prospect at first, which might force the Red Sox into a corner, as the team's only option would likely be Napoli. However, the Sox potentially have another option in Cuban star first baseman Jose Dariel Abreu.

The imposing 6-3, 240 lb slugger has been arguably the best hitter in Cuba over the last few years, as the 26-year-old hit .382 in Cuba's Serie Nacional, Cuba's top baseball league, last season. He averaged an incredible .423 batting average, 34 home runs, and 96 RBIs over the two prior seasons. In those two seasons, Abreu hit a total of 68 home runs and drove in 192 RBIs in just 153 games.

The rest of the baseball world was able to get a good look at Abreu

during the 2013 World Baseball Classic, where the first baseman was 9 for 25 with 3 home runs and 9 RBI in six games. In an interview with Grantland.com regarding Abreu's potential, David Forst, the assistant general manager of the Oakland A's had high praise for the Cuban slugger, stating, "There are legitimate comparisons to (Phillies 1B) Ryan Howard."

Despite the hype and potential surrounding Abreu, signing the promising first baseman is not a simple process. Abreu was born in Cuba and has played his entire career on the Caribbean island, a place that is hard for MLB teams to scout due to travel restrictions, making Cuba one of the most barred, but promising areas of baseball talent in the world.

Abreu cannot sign with an MLB team while in Cuba, so the slugger

made the decision to defect from his home country in early August and is working to set up residency in Haiti. Once his residency has been established, Abreu will need to seek clearance from both MLB and the U.S. Office of Foreign Assets Control before he can officially become a free agent. While it is a complicated process, it has been the same procedure taken by other Cuban players such as LA Dodgers OF Yasiel Puig.

Because he is over 23 years old and has played multiple years in Cuba's top league, Abreu is not held back by any international free agency spending rules and could possibly sign a contract with an MLB team for around \$60-70 million, according to Hardball.NBCSports.com.

While shelling out that kind of money for a player unproven in the Majors might seem like a bad move for the Sox, the track record over the last few years shows that Cuban players have made a big impact in MLB. The Cincinnati Reds signed Cuban defector Aroldis Chapman in early 2010, and has already emerged as an All-Star closer for the team, as well as the record holder of the fastest recorded pitch in MLB history, as the 25-year-old threw a 105.1 mph pitch in 2010. The Oakland A's signed Cuban OF Yoenis Cespedes in January 2012, and he was named the runner-up of the AL Rookie of the Year Award that season. He then won the 2013 Home Run Derby the following year.

Cuban players have also played a big part in the National League this season, as the top two candidates for the NL Rookie of the Year award are both Cuban defectors. OF Yasiel Puig signed with the LA Dodgers in June 2012, and has led all rookies in batting average this year with a .342 line, while Marlins P Jose Fernandez has been perhaps the only bright spot this year for Miami The 21 year old has struck out 165 batters in 152 innings and has a 2.30 ERA this season.

There certainly is a risk in the Sox signing Abreu to a big contract, but with money freed up due to the 2012 BOS-LA deal, as well as Abreu's enormous potential, the reward might be too high for the Sox to pass up.



*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 gave his 2013 NFL Predictions:

--For the record, I did not predict the Baltimore Ravens to win last year's Super Bowl. And for the record, I am not picking the Ravens to repeat. In fact, Baltimore might not be anything more than a Wild Card team in 2013, if they'll even be that. As for the NFC, slowing down team that lost to Baltimore in the Super Bowl -- the San Francisco 49ers -- is going to be a tough task. Here's what I predict it will all go down:

Division Winners

AFC East: New England Patriots --The Patriots have plenty of question marks on offense, thanks to all the new faces that Tom Brady will have to throw to until Rob Gronkowski returns. Still, Brady is Brady, and he'll continue to make the young receivers around him better. New England's defense will have a ferocious pass-rush this year. And with Agib Talib in town for an entire season, something tells me they'll be a whole lot better than "bend but don't break." Oh yeah, and there's no competition in the division.

AFC North: Pittsburgh Steelers --The sexy pick here will be the Cincinnati Bengals. Not just because of the Andy Dalton to A.J. Green connection, but also because, well, they are on HBO's Hard Knocks. People will fall in love with their passion, and combined with some very good young talent -- and a Ravens team that lost several key pieces in the offseason -- most NFL "experts" will pick the Bengals to win the division. But I'm going with the Steelers. They missed out on the playoffs last year after back-to-back 12-win seasons. Look for Big Ben and Antonio Brown to be a force on offense

and get the Steelers back into the playoffs.

AFC South: Indianapolis Colts

--As I wrote after last year's playoff loss to the Patriots, Houston Texans quarterback Matt Schaub is the elephant in the room. He isn't an elite quarterback when it comes to winning the big game. Therefore, Houston won't win the division this year. Not with Andrew Luck making his biggest leap from year one to year two. Flip last year's standings. This time, Indy wins the division with 12 wins, and the Texans come in second with 11.

AFC West: Denver Broncos

--This is pretty much a no-brainer, isn't it? Peyton Manning is back for his second year as Denver's quarterback, and Wes Welker was added to his offense. Factor in Demaryius Thomas as an absolute street beast, and the Broncos are scary good. Even with Von Miller's six-game suspension to start the season, Denver could follow up last year's 13-win season with a 14-win season.

Wild Cards: Houston Texans, Cincinnati Bengals

NFC East: New York Giants

--It seems as if you have to at least think about calling it "Dallas' year" every year. But the more likely scenario is that Tony Romo disappoints once again. The Giants have some injury concerns entering the season, but apologies to Robert Griffin III; Eli Manning is the best quarterback in the division. Manning will find a way to get back into the playoffs after missing out last year with a 9-7 record. Once again though, these NFC East will beat each other up, and it will only take 10 wins clinch the division.

NFC North: Detroit Lions

--Those here in New England got a glimpse in the preseason of what the Lions are bringing to the table in 2013. I know what you're saying. "It's only the preseason." And you're right. But Matthew Stafford will benefit from the presence of Reggie Bush, which will also open things up for Calvin Johnson. They went 4-12 last year. That's six less wins than Minnesota had. Things will be much better for the Lions this season. They very well could end up being the best storyline of the season, going from last to first, from 4-12 to 12-4.

NFC South: Atlanta Falcons

--The Falcons will be just as good as they were last season, but with New Orleans and Carolina being a bit more of a test in 2013, it could just be a 12-win season for Atlanta. Still, that'll be good enough for them to win the division, with Steven Jackson getting back to his scary self out of the backfield.

NFC West: San Francisco 49ers --Sure, Michael Crabtree might be injured for most of the season, but Colin Kaepernick has Anquan Boldin to throw to now. Boldin probably should have shared Co-MVP honors with Joe Flacco in the Super Bowl, but apparently Boldin's efforts were overlooked. Boldin was the real hero of last year's postseason run for Baltimore. Now, he's in San Fran. Combined with a ferocious defense once again, the 49ers will win 13 games.

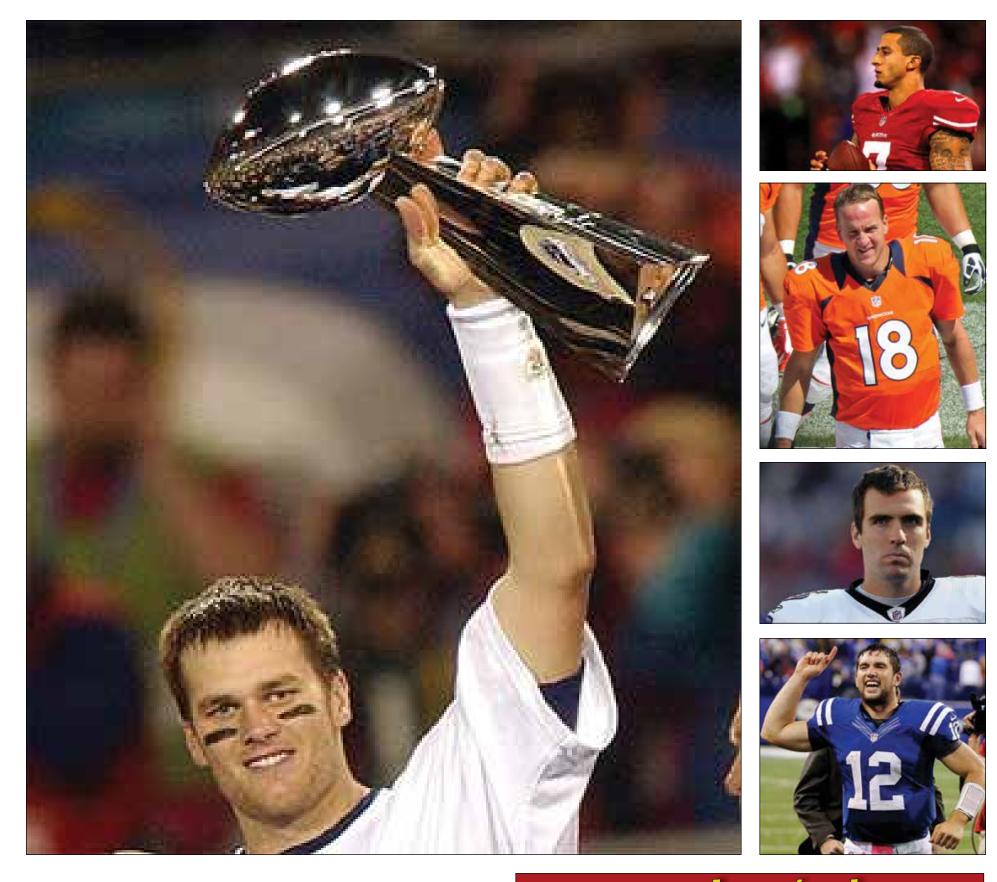
Wild Cards: Green Bay Packers, New Orleans Saints

NFL Playoffs

AFC Wild Card Round --COLTS over Bengals --STEELERS over Texans

AFC Divisional Round --PATRIOTS over COLTS --BRONCOS over STEELERS

AFC Championship --PATRIOTS over BRONCOS



NFC Wild Card Round --LIONS over Saints --PACKERS over Giants

NFC Divisional Round --LIONS over Falcons --49ERS over Packers

NFC Championship --49ERS over Lions



SUPER BOWL XLVIII --PATRIOTS over 49ers

It's going to be a cold one at the Meadowlands, as Tom Brady will hoist the Lombardi Trophy in the Jets/Giants building. The 49ers will be out of their element for a freezing cold Super Bowl. But more importantly, the Patriots' will boast one of the league's best defenses to match what San Fran's D will throw at the Pats. So who do you pick in an outdoor Super Bowl in the Northeast in February, Brady or Kaepernick? I'll go with Brady.



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