Menino Flap Flop

SOUTH BOSTON TODAY
Staff Report

The Boston Herald is reporting that Mayor Thomas M. Menino, in an interview last week with the New York Times, said that he would ‘blow up’ the city of Detroit to fix the city’s problems. The Mayor of Detroit, Dave Bing, responded by saying, “I would think the mayor of a city that recently experienced a deadly bombing attack would be more sensitive and not use the phrase ‘blow up.’” Menino went on to state that it takes a police officer 90 minutes to answer a call, forty percent of the streetlights are out, and most of the buildings are boarded up. Why? Inaction, that’s the problem – leadership.”

This generated a response from Detroit’s mayor Dave Bing. Bing said Menino’s remarks were “regrettable.” He said Menino “did not get his facts right,” denying Menino’s allegations. He went on to say that “Since taking office more than four years ago, there has been tireless action on the part of my administration to improve the quality of life for our citizens. In fact, I invite Mayor Menino to visit Detroit to see our city for himself.” Mayoral candidate Benny Napoleon also expressed his displeasure in

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EDITORIAL “War or Peace”

Congressman Mike Capuano stated the case as simply and as well as it’s ever been said “the most important vote an elected official can ever make is the one to decide War or Peace”. There is no room for political affiliation when considering sending our citizens into harm’s way.

If we are going to attack a nation that has done America no harm, Congress must ask why. Yes, chemical weapons are a concern, but why are they only America’s concern? Where is the rest of the world’s outrage?

When a group of killers, primarily from Saudi Arabia, used planes as missiles to attack Manhattan, we were justifiably outraged. We attacked the nation of Afghanistan in retaliation, which later morphed into an attack on Iraq. Damascus is not a couple of tents in the middle of the desert. It is a modern city with skyscrapers, just like American cities.

Under what possible rationalization are we going to drop missiles into the middle of a city in a sovereign nation? Because they disobeys the command of an American President? If there is ever a time for killing and death, now is not that time. America should not attack.

“The Constitution only gives people the right to Pursue Happiness, you have to catch it yourself” - Benjamin Franklin

An Apology

My intent in last week’s column was to defend the good name of all South Bostonians, past and present. In so doing, I offended a family that has been my family’s friend for at least two decades before I was even born. I have been told I disappointed and damaged that friendship and should be ashamed; and I am. Upon reflection, I now realize that I intruded on a family’s grief. I apologize.

- Brian R. Mahoney
Two topics will fill this week’s column. One of them a local concern to many South Bostonians, the other on the minds of just about every American across our land. The first one is the proposed ‘Bike Lane’ for Broadway. My good friend Tommy Flaherty summed it up perfectly at the recent bike lane meeting when he said “South Boston is getting victimized by stupid ideas and this is right up there.” Just because some group or organization, however well-intentioned comes up with what some call a ‘New Southie’ or ‘progressive’ idea does not mean it should automatically be looked upon as a positive change this community should embrace. And just because Mayor Menino wants to see more bike lanes all over Boston, doesn’t mean that this town should indulge his vision for the future. It’s not a bad thing the mayor wants; bike lanes are good in certain locations, but they don’t work everywhere and certainly not on Broadway. He’ll soon be gone, back to his home in Hyde Park and local residents will have to live with our main drag being negatively impacted forever.

Ed Flynn laid out clearly and precisely in his letter to South Boston Today last week all the reasons that bike lanes on Broadway are not a good idea. Chief among them were safety concerns and the adverse effect it would have on our already struggling local businesses. He was correct with every concern he cited. Technically, double parking is illegal on East and West Broadway. But this is not Cambridge or Brookline (I often thank The Lord for that); it’s South Boston and in this neighborhood we deal with reality, not feel good fantasy and naiveté. To some in this town, even a few long time locals, making South Boston more ‘trendy and upscale’ is a passion to them. Their desperate craving to be “hip and happening” is embarrassing. And they might be surprised to learn how many new residents have emailed us to say the proposed Broadway bike lanes are not a good idea at all. In order for business to be conducted in our business district; whether a quick run to the bank, picking up a takeout order for the family or paying those overdue bills before the utilities or cable is shut off, short term double parking is a must; even a way of life. It’s a tradition that has been working just fine for generations. Adding bike lanes would end that, no matter what the advocates say. Yes, there are some people who want bike lanes. Well, it’s been said that people in Hell want ice water. Maybe they can be considered for other streets and roads but as Tommy Flaherty said, it’s a stupid idea to put them on Broadway.

The next topic is of course is the possible US attack on Syria. It looks like our country could be bombing that country soon. Most Americans will usually rally around our government; whether the administration is controlled by Democrats or Republicans when the possibility of war becomes a probability. But this time, polls show just the opposite. The majority says no. Personally, as a father with a son in the United States Air Force, I’m concerned. When he was sent to the Middle East on prior deployments, I was, of course, still nervous, but at
The news last week was about the military jury in the Fort Hood massacre recommending the death penalty for Nidal Hasan. It took the 13 member jury just 2 hours to come to their decision, as the facts were clear with plenty of witnesses to testify to Hasan’s guilt. He has now been convicted of killing 13 unarmed soldiers and wounding more than 30 others in a shooting spree that brings into question the method that the federal government uses to determine what is considered a terrorist act. Hasan will be transported to military death row at Ft. Leavenworth. The sentencing ends a nearly 4-year ordeal through the legal process that has left emotional scars with the surviving victims and all of the families involved.

As testimony for the prosecution went on for days, it was proved that Hasan, a US Army Major, was yelling ‘Allah Akbar’; as he was indiscriminately shooting people. He was also known to have ties with militant Islamist groups, as well as to terrorist organizations. Yet, the government had determined that this shooting was not an act of terrorism and instead labeled it ‘work place violence’. And herein lies an issue that looms almost as large as the killings themselves. Because the government still refuses to call it a terrorist act, the families of the dead victims, as well as the wounded, have been left to fend for themselves, as far as compensation and medical treatment is concerned, since work place violence does not constitute combat related action.

Family members have now launched a campaign seeking help from members of Congress and legal organizations to get the decision not to call the action and injuries combat related overturned. Speaking for some of the families involved was Gail Hunt, the mother of one of the victims, JD Hunt, who said “Nidal Hasan is a coward and an unrepentant murderer.” She is urging the public now to focus on the wounded and the victim families, including her son, who was killed during the attack. The goal is to get the attack re-classified to combat related, which would enable surviving victims and their families to qualify for combat related benefits and assistance. The victims, to this point, do not even qualify for the Purple Heart medal; which is given to military personnel killed or injured in the line of duty. At this writing, a bill, sponsored by six Republican lawmakers, would give the victims and their families these benefits and is now before the House Armed Services Committee.

Many of the wounded still require quite a bit of care. One victim still has two bullets in him, another lost an eye and still others are completely unable to work at a job because of their wounds. No government assistance is going to them or their families. A civil law suit filed on behalf of 83 of the Ft. Hood survivors and families alleges that government has treated them in a manner substantially inferior to the treatment given other terrorist attack casualties.

So, between the help they are seeking working through Congressional channels and the law suit filed on behalf of the victims and families, it is hope that relief will come to the innocent in the form of what most Americans believe is deserved compensation and much needed financial assistance. During his nearly 4 years of being in prison for the crime, Nidal Hasan was still collecting his full military pay and benefitting from the finest medical care available. He was given the use of recreation facilities, good food and areas to pray to ‘Allah’. All of this, while the victims and families were treated with indifference by government agencies. These agencies should have had, as their priority, the best interest of those who lay their lives on the line in defense of this country in mind, as well as the families who support them and sacrifice right along with them. This does not look to be an issue that will go away or be forgotten - nor should it be.
I read the other day that there’s big doings in your town over a billion dollar development definitely something to sit up and take notice over. The possibilities for the future are fascinating.

Remembering back about 16 or more years ago when a billion dollar convention center was proposed for Southie we too had doubts and hopes.

To help us make our decision the law required three community meetings hosted by the Boston City Council and held in South Boston in order to answer questions and concerns of residents and to gauge resident’s support or opposition. Although, unlike what is proposed for you, we never got to vote. The entire City Council made that decision to allow the BCEC in Southie, so get as many opportunities to ask questions that you can.

For instance I see Eastie will get a one-time payment of over 30 million up front. Very good, we only got 10 million. I just hope you can spend it more freely than we could. When they ripped up the streets and sidewalks around the BCEC site to put in water, sewer, gas, electrical pipes and conduits they had to replace them. Guess whose money was used to pay for the new sidewalks? If you said the BCEC site to put in water, sewer, gas, electrical pipes and conduits you can spend it more freely than we could.

At the meetings themselves the community was adamant that “gate shows” and hotel/motels be prohibited. The gate shows would allow “event day ticket sales” which raised a community concern of a massive influx of traffic and hotels might create a “walling off” of the community. Well, time has passed and as will happen a suburban Representative from Webster, MA introduced a resolution supported overwhelmingly by suburban legislators and crushing the 10 or so opposing city or urban legislators.

Now we have “gate shows”. To placate us a provision which requires one dollar per gate show ticket be contributed to a fund to be awarded to applying South Boston non-profit organizations. Funny thing but the year before the BCEC had “gate shows” there were about 5 non-profits in Southie. Today there are approximately 128.

Having seen how the gate show provision faded, when the local community leaders were nicely asked if they would “consider” meeting with a hotel developer to discuss the “possibility” of removing the ban, we saw the writing on the wall.

So now we are engaged in negotiation for community benefits derived from hotels being built in the former “prohibited” zone and the “prohibited” zone is no more.

Don’t get me wrong, the BCEC has created many opportunities for related developments to be created which naturally leads to jobs. This is the most important area for providing actual benefits for residents. The problem in Southie is it seems you have to be on the “A” team to get a job. Too many at the BCEC seem to have 50-70 grand a year pensions and really don’t need the job but they’re connected while struggling Southie people could use a hand are given a one way ticket out of town instead. Pick one of your own to be a jobs Czar. Whichever one of your community leaders tells you “this is a win-win for everybody” is not the person to give out jobs. Like Don Corleone told Michael “whoever brings you the deal, that’s the traitor”. I have to go but this could be a good thing if you keep your eyes open and trust but verify. If they tell you the sun is shining, check with the weatherman.

Take care till next week.
Linehan Calls for Suspension of Rental Inspection Ordinance

City Councilor Bill Linehan has called for the immediate suspension of the recently enacted Rental Inspection Ordinance. Councilor Linehan voted against this ordinance, when it was brought before the Council, but it passed by a 9-4 margin. Since its enactment, there has been much confusion regarding its implementation. Linehan’s office has been inundated with calls and emails from constituents since notices began being mailed to affected property owners.

Councillor Linehan joined several of his colleagues in writing a letter to Mayor Menino asking for the ordinance to be suspended until it once again goes before the City Council. Councilor Charles Yancey called for a hearing on the matter at a recent City Council meeting, which Councilor Linehan supported.

The original deadline for registration was extended to August 31st because of the confusion around who was required to register, who was exempt, and what the fees were.

Councilor Linehan added, “When this ordinance was first proposed, I voted against it. I felt then, as I do now, that this is an unfair tax on property owners, who already pay their fair share in property taxes. The way in which this ordinance has been implemented has been confusing and problematic. I would like to see this ordinance repealed and will continue to work toward that end. We owe it to the taxpaying residents of Boston to provide a clear explanation of the consequences of the ordinance, which has not been provided as of yet.”

“The City Council hearing on this matter should be held soon and we will spread the word throughout the district so those affected can attend and testify”, Linehan added.”

If you have any questions you can call Councilor Linehan’s Office at 617-635-3203. You can also follow him on facebook, Bill Linehan and Twitter @Linehanbill.

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Boston’s mayor. “I’m sure Mayor Menino hasn’t visited Detroit in any length of time, if he’s ever been here.” Menino’s office then shot back. Mayor Menino’s spokesperson, Dot Joyce said the mayor was “absolutely correct” and that “he would love to help them in any way possible to correct themselves.” Was this a slip of the tongue? Or just the Mayor Menino being candid on the way out? I guess we will never know.
Representative Nick Collins Endorses John Connolly for Mayor of Boston.

Statement from Nick Collins:

Today, I am pleased to endorse John Connolly for Mayor of Boston.

John has made transforming the Boston Public Schools his top priority. Last year, I took the opportunity to work with John on a plan to reform the current student assignment system. During that time, I witnessed his focus and dedication to guaranteeing that every child can attend a high quality school close to home. It is indisputable that the quality of our education system is fundamental to the stability and prosperity of neighborhoods in the City of Boston.

John’s commitment to our neighborhood doesn’t stop there. John and I strongly believe that residents of South Boston should have a say in what goes on in the community - especially as it relates to development. We share the need to institute a development process that is fair and consistent and that protects neighborhoods and residents. John and I also share the view that having increased police presence and public safety resources in South Boston will deter crime.

Providing quality schools close to home, giving people a real voice in neighborhood concerns like development, and increasing public safety are the active ingredients that will help us achieve what we all want - the opportunity for families to stay in the community that we love.

For these reasons, I am joining John Connolly in this effort of commitment to both the needs of our neighborhood and of the City of Boston. I ask you to join me in voting for John Connolly for Mayor on Tuesday September 24.

Boston mayoral candidate John Connolly held a reception to officially announce the opening of his South Boston campaign headquarters. The office is located on the corner of L and East First Street.

This Week’s Poll

Do You Support Bike Lanes On East & West Broadway?

YES / NO

www.SouthBostonToday.com  South BostonToday  @SBostonToday
Councilor Linehan Announces Grand Opening of South Boston Headquarters

City Councilor Bill Linehan’s re-election campaign will be holding a grand opening of their South Boston Headquarters this Saturday September 7th at 10am. The new headquarters is located by K & East Broadway between Dorgan’s Liquors and Broadway Haircutters. Come up to show support for Councilor Linehan as he prepares for his re-election bid on November 5th.

The campaign will be registering voters, recruiting volunteers and distributing bumper stickers at the grand opening. Immediately after the grand opening the campaign will be holding a standout between L St. and the Headquarters. Please spread the word!
The Artists’ Studio

By Dan McCole

SOUTHBOSTONTODAY • www.southbostontoday.com

Only Mad Dogs and Englishmen Go Out In The Mid-Day Sun

By Dan McCole

N

oel Coward wrote the song about … only ‘Mad Dogs and Englishmen going out in the midday sun’, and Joe Cocker picked it up and named his band after the title. The words of the playwright and the musician didn’t fall lightly on the members of the South Boston Arts Association, who set out to paint a mural on the side of the storage shed on the beach at the L Street Bathhouse. Prematurely the painting group planned the time from 2 pm to 7 pm, but the music would be going out in the midday sun, and the members would be going out in the midday sun.

Fred Ahern, director of the L Street bathhouse, Curley Recreational Center, wondered if the Arts Association painters could do something with the storage shed next to the handball courts on the beach at what I call the “Boys Side”. That goes back to the days when it was actually the boys’ side. It was back when people could tell the difference between the boys and girls, I guess. Although … there are many of us that never seemed to have a problem with that.

So anyways … In gratitude to the kindnesses and space offered for our Arts Association meetings … we agreed.

Fred asked for a beach scene and the painters agreed on a replica of a painting titled “Landfall – Slea Head” by Irish painter John Skelton. The boat shown in the painting is a curragh … the Irish version of a fisherman’s dory. And … to be filed under ‘Unintended Consequences’, it was discovered that the beach and facilities were used last Sunday to hold the local Irish Labor Day Curragh races.

So what are we talking about here …? Fred Ahern, director of the L Street bathhouse, Curley Recreational Center, wondered if the Arts Association painters could do something with the storage shed next to the handball courts on the beach at what I call the “Boys Side”. That goes back to the days when it was actually the boys’ side. It was back when people could tell the difference between the boys and girls, I guess. Although … there are many of us that never seemed to have a problem with that.

Artists, who painted and sweated on the mural include: Bill Frew, Deb Putnam, Paul Conley and Suzanne Lee … as well as this writer.

The mural was ready for viewing at the annual L Street Day celebration held last week as well as by the Irish Curragh group on Sunday.

There are a few other finishing touches to be administered to the work, but in the meantime a reception will be hosted at the site by the South Boston Arts Association, Wednesday, September 25 from 7 to 8:30. Entrance is at the M Street entrance. The general public is welcomed to attend.

A mural for a great view of John Skelton’s work … google his name and see some marvelous paintings.

The next meeting of the SBAA will be Saturday morning Sept. 21, at 9:30 am. Guest artist will be our own Bill Frew, who will show some of his work and read a few paragraphs from an autobiography that he is writing. Refreshments will be served. As always, the meetings are Open and free to the public. Come on down and bring a friend.

How it began. Deb Putnam and Dan McCole. Bill Frew took time off to take this photo. Finished Mural from John Skelton’s painting, Landfall – Slea Head

J. Ciccone...CONTINUED FROM page 3

least the cause was fairly clear and so too was the enemy pretty well known. I was proud that he served and he was proud of his service. But, this time, who are we coming to rescue? On one side, there is Assad, the brutal dictator, who kills his own people; and on the other side are rebels backed by Al Qaeda. Both sides would like nothing better than to see America destroyed. Why should US lives be put in jeopardy to help either one? It has been said that civilians were gassed. If that’s the case, let the Saudi’s or all the other Arab countries with big armies (thanks to US aid) step in.

Many find it interesting that these same liberal activists and politicians; especially some members of the Massachusetts Congressional Delegation would be bellowing about Bush or Reagan, calling them war mongering cowboys, if it were they threatening military action. But because it’s this president; a man so inept and indecisive that he has all but killed what respect our country had left in the eyes of the world, these same liberals are making excuses about why we should yet again go to war. Want to know what else is interesting? When Bush was president, Kerry, Clinton, Hagel, Biden and then Senator Obama supported Assad and hailed him as a ‘Great Reformer’.

Obama has an ego the size of the moon. Putin of Russia, Assad, and other leaders all around the globe, are ridiculing him and disrespecting him at every occasion. And in Putin’s case, even making fun of him using derogatory insults. He can’t stand it, so he now risks sending America’s military, the military he has been gutting and weakening regularly, into battle to soothe that ego. It will put the lives of our servicemen and women in danger for a questionable cause, cost taxpayers billions we don’t have, will probably get Israel bombed in the process, but that’s ok, anything to make Obama feel better.

Note: Talk back to John Ciccone by email at jeiccone@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: Out with the Old & In with the New

Fall Up…September is a chance for beginnings, a time to start fresh and anew. It’s also a time for football, sweatpants and frizz free hair, but that’s another story. So, now that you are all moved into the neighborhood, which usually means you got everything off the truck and sidewalk and past your front door, it’s time to make your new place feel like home. When you finally OPEN the boxes and reflect on why you decided to move your combo TV/VCR from freshman year in college and keep your receipts from Jones’ and Contempo Casuals, don’t let panic set in. This weekend there is a chance to turn over a new leaf and dispose of the unnecessary. On Saturday September 7th, people can drop off their electronics and shred private documents at the Bayside Expo Center (access from William J Day Blvd), from 9am-2pm, courtesy of the City of Boston’s Public Works department. No appointments or forms are needed to participate (just proof of residency) which is usually the norm. I know you are still creaky from last week’s move, but you can fall back on your couch after you are done.

cityofboston.gov/recycle

Needs new home? If you have any computers, TV’s and/or music players that are still viable but you just don’t have the space/want something new/decided to take up knitting, places like Goodwill will take your unwanted electronics. You can even call for a pick up. Home free!!!

goodwill.org

Design on a Dime. A fresh coat of paint, some cool pieces of furniture, even a new toothbrush holder can make all the difference. Trips to Home Depot for brushes and IKEA for end tables (and cinnamon buns, obvi) aid in making your humble abode feel like home. So you whip out the tool belt and get to work. But as you reach the home stretch and are feeling like Tim Taylor on Tool Time, the realization sets in that there is a lot of waste that comes along with being so handy. All those accouterments that helped you reach HGTV status need to be disposed of, and properly. This weekend there is a Hazardous Waste drop off at UMass Boston; held on Saturday the 7th, 9am-2pm. Drop off will be located in Parking Lot D. Household cleaning products (kitchen/laundry included), oil based paint, lawn/garden aids and auto related goods (even tires!) are all welcome.

cityofboston.gov/wastereduction

Stepping Out: Covering All the Bases

There’s no “I” in team…but there is an “m” and an “e”.

This fall presents itself to be just a chock full of events as the summer was: engagement soires, tailgating parties, baby/puppy/pet rock introductions to the world. There then are the yoga classes, dinner dates and Bachelorette viewings. There is however another set of activities that you should squeeze into your weekly repertoire: recreational sports. Getting together with old pals, meeting new friends and (possibly) attaining a new skill are all part of this process. And who doesn’t love an excuse to drink Miller Lite on a Wednesday night? Here are just a few opportunities where you can exercise you right to play, drink and be merry.

Bull’s-eye! Dash and dart down the street to Murphy’s Law which starts its fall dart league this Wednesday September 11 at 7pm. It costs $10 a week which pays for pizza and league runs until December. The teams consist of two players and there is no travel- every week games are played at Murphy’s! That hits the nail on the head. murphyslawbar.com

Strike! Bowl all your friends over and head on down to the South Boston Bowl-a-rama. They have a Monday Night Football Bowling League. Season starts in the beginning of September. Beer and refreshments are for sale at the alley and shoes are for rent. With enough practice, you could land a spot on the Saturday morning show “Candlepin Bowling”! Line ‘em up.
southbostoncandlepin.com

sbcbowl@gmail.com to register

Score! One if by land and two if by pool: The Boston Athletic Club (BAC) hosts a couple of Social Boston Sport’s activities. Registration is now in session for both Indoor and Inner Tube Water Polo. Suit up and set out to win. Whatever your uniform-Umbro shorts or Speedo suits, get in on the action. socialbostonsports.com
Southie Senses:

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

Touch - TOUCHDOWN!
Beer, buffalo wings and burgers, oh my! This Sunday kicks off the Patriot’s opener and even though the game’s away in my fave fall football food’s birthplace, Buffalo, New York, there is no reason not root, root, root for OUR home team. Barlow’s is having a tailgating party this Sunday September 8th starting at 1pm. There will be prizes, drink specials and a half time buffet. Head on down for the first official Sunday Fun-day of the season and keep your sweet parking spot by taking a ride down on the Southie Shuttle. Foam fingers welcome!
barlowsrestaurant.com • southieshuttle.com

See - Eyes Wide Open
Starting over is a feat, no matter how serious or silly the issue may seem. Molehills suddenly become mountains, making even the easiest task hard to comprehend and overcome. Just like the change of seasons, a chance comes for one to finally break away from whatever it is that holds us down/back/behind, and move forward, into the autumn of our lives. One artist has put this prospect to paper: Elisa H. Hamilton’s exhibition, To the Heart of It, is currently on display at the FP3 Art Gallery. This exhibition is a peek into Hamilton’s personal journeys and reflections of beginning again, a concept and action most of us can relate to. Look ahead.
friendsoffortpointchannel.org • fp3boston.com

Taste - In Good Taste
The season of pumpkin everything- muffins, coffee, candles and my favorite- BEER! Nothing says fall like a cinnamon-sugar rimmed pint of pumpkin beer. Branch out and add a shot of vanilla vodka. Stats, located on Dorchester Street, is offering this mouth-watering combo for your drinking pleasure. Make like a tree and leave your house, get down to Stats, and plant your behind at the bar.
statsboston.com

Smell - Smell the Change
People always say you can smell fall- not just feel it. The air is clear and crisp and the still- warm sun makes the earth smell almost sweet. One way to embrace the upcoming season is to start some planting and a great way to begin at the bottom is to start your own at-home composting. It’s a great way to give back to the earth- taking kitchen and other home waste that you would otherwise chuck out with yesterday’s trash and turn it into gold. Within a few months you will have soil that will make your neighbors green with envy. Just use your soil for planting and share the fruits (and veggies) of your labor.
bostonbuildingresources.com

Hear - Say that Again…
Put those thinking caps back on because school is back in session, or at least the school of pop culture. Test your hearing skills and strengthen those muscles at trivia. Every Thursday night at 8pm, the Seapoint Bar and Grill hosts the question and answer session. Grab a seat, order up and get down to winning. Keep those ears clean.
seapointbarandgrill.com

Embrace All Of The Southie Senses: 

Remembering like it was just yesterday… This Wednesday marks the 12th anniversary of the September 11th tragedy. A day that lives on in infamy in most of our minds; I can recall the where/what/why/when and how of my day up until those fateful moments. As the date quickly approaches, we should take time to reflect on the losses of that day. Commemorate those innocent lives lost. Say a prayer/think good thoughts for those gone before us. Recall the bravery of those who risked their lives for the sake of others. But also, take time to check in with those around you. Reach out to friends and family, and remind them how much they mean to you. Sniff out someone who could use your help and give it to them. Foresee the needs of others and share your time and efforts. Listen, because you never know when the next time will be. Drink in all that is around you and be thankful for it. On this September 11, 2013, never, ever forget.

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.
“Beacon To The Dream”

Lanterns Illuminated The Night And The Human Spirit

SOUTH BOSTON TODAY
staff report

On Wed evening, August 28th, Medicine Wheel Productions honored the 50th Anniversary of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. ‘I Have A Dream’ speech at DCR Castle Island Park. The event ‘Beacon to the Dream’ drew several hundred people to Castle Island, where each carried artistically designed hand-made lanterns, which not only helped light the way, but brought a sense of solidarity, inclusion and community.

Michael Dowling, Founder of MWP, and organizer of the event, gave a few remarks, adding that “we all have dreams”, which segued into a magnificent screening of Dr. King’s speech on the walls of Historic Fort Independence. The screening was followed by a beautifully sung ‘My Country ‘Tis of Thee’….all of which was heard through a powerful sound system that resonated and echoed throughout Castle Island.

To end the evening, hundreds of adults and children from near and far, walked around the Pleasure Bay with lanterns in tow, through the dark and the thick fog, to which one participant commented, “this seems as if we are walking in a dream, it feels very surreal and spiritual.”

Congratulations to Michael Dowling and his volunteers for organizing such a huge and successful undertaking.
HDSA’S TEAM HOPE BOSTON WALK (“MARTY’S PARTY”) AT DCR’S CASTLE ISLAND ON SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 2013

The Massachusetts Chapter of the Huntington’s Disease Society of America (HDSA) announced today the Team Hope Boston Walk is being held, rain or shine, on Saturday, September 7, 2013 at DCR’s Castle Island in South Boston. The Team Hope Walk program is HDSA’s largest grassroots event and is being held in over 85 cities across the country throughout the year. All proceeds support HDSA’s fight to improve the lives of people affected by Huntington’s disease (HD) and their families.

The Team Hope Boston (THB) Walk was dubbed “Marty’s Party” in honor of 60-year-old South Boston native, Braintree resident, and Fenway Park Greeter, Marty McCarthy who, despite his HD diagnosis, still enjoys his dream role at Fenway after taking an early retirement from Verizon. Marty joined the Red Sox in 2004 and still tells everyone that his presence at Fenway helped the Red Sox capture their historic World Series win that year!

Marty’s sister, Terry, finally found the courage to be tested for HD a few years ago, and tested negative. In thanks, she joined Marty’s wife, Kathy Hackett, on the HDSA Mass Chapter Board and they co-chaired last year’s Boston Walk and moved it to Castle Island to help showcase one of their favorite hometown treasures. It was important to them not to inconvenience local residents, and the Walk does not close any roads and is approximately a 3-mile loop from Castle Island out to Head Island (“Sugarbowl”), around Day Blvd., and back to Castle Island for a BBQ inside the Fort until 2 p.m. Sponsors and volunteers of the Castle Island Association, and especially President Bill Spain, were instrumental in making last year’s event a success by raising much-need funds for research and family services and creating awareness of this rare, horrific disease.

To be sure, there are lots of horrible diseases in the world, and one of the primary differences between HD and others is that members of multiple generations in the same family can be diagnosed at the same time, causing devastation on many levels—emotionally, financially, etc.

Due to Marty and Barbie’s diagnoses, 4 members of the next generation are now at risk for HD, so family members are going all out to raise awareness and funds to find a cure for HD. Relatives, friends, and co-workers have been super supportive, and the “Marty’s Party” Team consists of 40+ members who work with Marty at Fenway Park. They walked last year and have pledged to do the same this year.

Marty’s sister, Terry, finally found the courage to be tested for HD a few years ago, and tested negative. In thanks, she joined Marty’s wife, Kathy Hackett, on the HDSA Mass Chapter Board and they co-chaired last year’s Boston Walk and moved it to Castle Island to help showcase one of their favorite hometown treasures. It was important to them not to inconvenience local residents, and the Walk does not close any roads and is approximately a 3-mile loop from Castle Island out to Head Island (“Sugarbowl”), around Day Blvd., and back to Castle Island for a BBQ inside the Fort until 2 p.m. Sponsors and volunteers of the Castle Island Association, and especially President Bill Spain, were instrumental in making last year’s event a success by raising much-needed funds for research and family services and creating awareness of this rare, horrific disease.

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Walk registration begins at 9 a.m. near the McDonough Sailing Program on Castle Island, and the kickoff is at 10 a.m. After the Walk, registrants are welcome to attend a BBQ of donated food inside Fort Independence on Castle Island where they will have the opportunity to meet other HD families and learn more about Huntington’s disease, local services, and research updates. Music, children’s activities, and Fort tours by volunteers of the Castle Island Association will ensure a fun-filled day for all!

For Walk Information or Registration: visit www.hdsa.org/thwboston

About the Huntington’s Disease Society of America

The Huntington’s Disease Society of America is the largest 501(c) (3) non-profit volunteer organization dedicated to improving the lives of everyone affected by Huntington’s disease. Founded in 1968 by Marjorie Guthrie, wife of folk legend Woody Guthrie who lost his battle with HD, the Society works tirelessly to provide the family services, education, advocacy and research to provide help for today, hope for tomorrow to the more than 30,000 people diagnosed with HD and the 250,000 at-risk in the United States.

For more information about the Walk site, DCR’s Castle Island, visit www.BostonFortIndependence.com
SOUTH BOSTON VIETNAM MEMORIAL
32nd ANNIVERSARY
SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 2013
MASS: 10:30 AM ST. BRIGID’S CHURCH
REDEDICATION CEREMONY: 11:30 AM
MEDAL OF HONOR PARK
GUEST SPEAKER
Lieutenant General Robert E. Milstead, Jr
Deputy Commandant, U.S. Marine Corps
RECEPTION – Michael J. Perkins Post
South Boston Vietnam Memorial
32nd Anniversary

The South Boston Vietnam Memorial Committee extends an invitation to the South Boston Community and friends to attend the Thirty-Two Anniversary of the South Boston Vietnam Memorial on Sunday, September 15, 2013. We dedicate this year’s ceremony in memory of George Egan, Marine Vietnam Veteran and member of the South Boston Vietnam Memorial Committee.

Thirty-Two years ago, the promise we made to the Twenty-Five of our fallen friends and to the community as a whole, were realized. The people of South Boston were among the very first to recognize the sacrifice the Vietnam Veterans made in the name of freedom. We will forever be proud of this.

The people of South Boston built that monument. Building it, however, was only half of the pledge we made to ourselves. The other half is inscribed across the face of the memorial: If you forget my death, then I died in vain.

The days’ activities will begin with a Memorial Mass at St. Brigids Church at 10:30 am followed by the rededication ceremony at Medal of Honor Park at 11:30 am. Our guest speaker will be Lieutenant General Robert E. Milstead, Jr., Deputy Commandant U.S. Marine Corps.

Please join us on this special day of remembrance.

32nd Anniversary of the South Boston Vietnam Memorial

South Boston will celebrate the 32nd Anniversary of the South Boston Vietnam Memorial located in Medal of Honor Park on Sunday, Sept. 15, 2013.

A Memorial Mass will be held in St. Brigids Church, 841 East Broadway, South Boston, at 10:30 a.m., followed by an 11:30 a.m. rededication ceremony at the South Boston Vietnam Memorial in Medal of Honor Park. Our keynote speaker will be Lieutenant General Robert E. Milstead, Jr., Deputy Commandant of the U.S. Marine Corps.

Also attending the rededication ceremony Sunday will be the families of the 25 men from South Boston who were killed in action during the Vietnam War, along with many of the South Boston Vietnam Veterans. We are dedicating this year’s ceremony to George Egan, Marine Vietnam Veteran and member of the South Boston Vietnam Memorial Committee.

The South Boston Vietnam Memorial was among America’s first formal memorial for Vietnam Veterans – predating the dedication of the national Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington, D.C. by 13 months - and honors 25 men from South Boston who gave their lives during the Vietnam War. South Boston suffered the highest loss of KIA for a community of its size in the country.

The South Boston Vietnam Memorial was dedicated on Sept. 13, 1981, and a rededication ceremony is held every September.

The 25 men honored on the South Boston Vietnam Memorial are: Joseph J. Agri, LCpl USMC; Charles A. Bazzinotti, IstLt USA; Richard J. Borovick, SP4 USA; John C. Calhoun, LCpl USMC; John H. Cole, PFC USMC; Paul M. Daley, SP6 USA; Ronald L. Delverde, PFC USMC; Joseph F. Desmond, PFC USMC; Joseph W. Dunn, PFC USMC; John P. Jacobs, Cpl USMC; John G. Joyce, Cpl USA; Edward W. Milan, Sgt USAF; James O’Toole, PFC USA; Burton Peterson, LCpl USMC; Paul H. Sheehan, 1stSgt USMC; James J. Stewart, PFC USMC; Edward Stone, PFC USMC; Edward M. Sullivan, PFC USMC; Joseph Thomas, E. PFC USMC; Donald J. Turner, LCpl USMC; James K. Wheeler, SP6 USA.
Annual Street Festival Saturday September 14th

The South Boston Chamber of Commerce is pleased to announce that the 14th Annual South Boston Street Festival will take place on Saturday, September 14, 2013. It is the Chambers goal to connect long time residents, new comers and visitors with the neighborhoods business community. This year’s festival will feature over 100 local businesses, restaurants, vendors, artists and community organizations that will fill East Broadway from 11:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. Live musical acts and performances will take place on two stages providing festivalgoers with entertainment throughout the day.

Free transportation to and from this year’s festival will be provided by The Southie Shuttle. The Shuttle will be making stops throughout the community including Fort Point, The South Boston Waterfront, Andrews Square and the Broadway T Stations.

At the festival, enjoy a great selection of food options from some of South Boston’s favorite food establishments. Outdoor seating will be available at The Cranberry Café, Café Porto Bello, Moko Japanese Restaurant, The Playwright and the Boston Beer Garden. Take away options will be available from, The Sausage Guy, Sal’s Pizzeria, The Paramount, Larry J’s BBQ Café, Lincoln (wood burning oven Pizzas) and Lucky’s Lounge.

Shop ‘til-you-drop with outstanding bargains from local retailers including; Bringing Up Baby, The Closet Connection, Habit, Karen’s, Ku De Ta, SB Running Emporium, The Spot, Stapleton Floral and others.

FREE Children’s activities include face painting, balloon twister, caricature artists, street performers and several surprises:

An early visit (only from 11:00am – 11:45am) from Red Sox Mascot Wally, The New England Aquarium tidal pool exhibit from 12 – 5pm.

Keep an eye out for a band of Pirates that will be roaming the Festival site throughout the day.

This year’s entertainment highlights include:

- Thomas Park. Lead by front man Paul Eastman, who is a South Boston business owner, drummer Joe Tobias and the rest of the band will be performing a wide range of music that includes rock, dance, R&B, and top 40.
- Adam Herbert’s Sinatra Band Featuring Boston Garden Organist Ron Poster on keys. Playing all the classics from Frank, Dean, and the rest of Rat Pack. This lineup of local musicians pays tribute to Ol’ Blue Eyes every Saturday & Sunday night at Lucky’s Lounge. It’s a swingin’ good time!
- B-Capp Brandon Cappiello is an up and coming performing artist from the Boston area. His style is Pop Hop named after what he thought his music reflected on, Which ties in Pop, Hip Hop, Mid Tempos, and Rap.
- RedKat Rockers Featuring Bob Dunlap, Kathi Taylor, Ted O’Brien and Leo Stapleton along with special guests.
- The Weydt, a trio of and talented local musicians lead by a young South Boston singer and guitarist Joseph Weydt.

Making her debut at the Street Festival this year in 19-year-old Kate Cameron who has soulful country flair with a driven Boston edge. There will also be performances by: The Fourth Church Singers, Peggy Wood’s School of Irish Step Dance, Miss Linda’s Dancers, Ultimate Self Defense and more.

For additional information visit www.southbostonstreetfestival.com.
## Recent South Boston Real Estate Sales

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Foggy Weather No Damper On End Of Summer Beach Party

South Boston community members young and old joined one another on Wednesday for end-of-the-summer festivities at the L Street Beach Party held at the Curley Community Center and generously sponsored by Mayor Menino and Massport. It was foggy when the party kicked off at 6PM, but that did not stop Southie residents and beach party faithful from coming out to enjoy a day at the beach with an assortment of activities, free food, and beverages. A live band supplied hit music to party goers. The band included Bob Dunlap, Kathi Taylor and Ken McLeod, members of Southie’s own “Slocum’s Window”, along with Southie native’s Rich and Bill Linehan, and Leo Stapleton. Two more lifelong South Boston residents,
Paul and David Duffley of ESP Sound Systems allowed the music to be heard as they ran the switchboard.

Despite Wednesday’s cool climate and foggy overcast, the beach became crowded in a hurry. Many broke out their lawn chairs and sat down to enjoy the live music with an Italian sausage from “The Sausage Guy” and a slush or hoodsie. Others were fraternizing with friends or meeting new people, all in an effort to enjoy what little is left of the summer. Lifelong Southie resident Dolly Crane was confident that the beach party would be packed just like it always has.

“I’ve been coming here since [the
first] beach party,” Dolly said with a laugh, “[People] will show up, as long as they’re giving away free food they’ll show up. Even though it’s foggy, I think people love coming to the beach, and the kids always have a good time even though it’s not sunny.”

Youngsters were treated to a wide open beach, some tossed a football around, some raced across the beach, while others had their faces painted or had crazy balloon hats made special for them.

Bill Watts and John Pollard, two
buddies who grew up in South Boston didn’t mind the weather. “It’s like a big air conditioner,” John said. “I love it. Southie people don’t care about the weather, I hope it doesn’t rain but we don’t care... as long as there’s free food and entertainment.” Bill added, “The weather won’t affect our good time.”

Freddy Ahern, the Administrative Coordinator for the L Street Bathhouse, has been working with Boston Centers for Youth & Families Curley Community Center for 10 years as of this past May. Fred is always impressed with the turnout at The L’s End of the Summer Beach Party. “The good thing about it is that everybody comes out and has a great time. We haven’t gotten
rained out in the ten years I’ve been here,” Ahern said, “It’s just a great night for the family.” “I think people find out that this place is a gem,” Ahern said of the bathhouse, “for the fee that we charge to belong here for a whole year, and what you get out of it. You can’t beat it anywhere in the city, it’s a beautiful place right on the beach... This is just a great place and I’m fortunate to be working here.”

Despite the chilly late-August weather, community members new and old jumped at the opportunity to join in the festivities at the End of the Summer Beach Party. Young or old, whether there to have their faces painted or just to sit down and enjoy the food and entertainment, a good time was had by all.
South Boston Catholic Academy

First Day Welcome

South Boston Catholic Academy welcomed back K2-Grade 6 students, faculty and staff on Tuesday, September 3rd. We are excited for all that is planned noted Mrs. Carr (Principal). “Teachers spent the summer preparing for their students return by attending a number of professional development training courses and through a grant provided by the Catholic Schools Foundation our students will be using iPads to enhance their learning and strengthen their technology skills. Our new Education Technologist will be working with all teachers to integrate curriculum with technology. “We are very excited to be starting our 5th year with a strong student population and dedicated staff. Our Early Childhood program opens on September 9th-with a number of changes and enhancements to the program through a generous grant provided by the Lynch Foundation for Early Childhood initiatives. We will be sharing more information on this program as the year moves forward.

South Boston Catholic Academy is now accepting applications for Preschool-Grade 5 and adding Grade 6 students to our waiting list. Contact Mrs. Barbara Keohane by phone (617-268-2326) or e-mail: b.keohane@sbcatholicacademy.org with any questions about our new Early Childhood program or to schedule a tour.

Welcome to our new teachers and staff:
Ms. Kelly Lawton-Grade 3B
Mrs. Anne Sullivan-Grade 2B
Mr. Chris Weigel-Music Teacher (not pictured)
Mr. Sean Sweeney-Education Technologist (not pictured)
Ms.Kristen Lacourciere - Counselor
Ms. Sarah Gusselli-K2 Aid
Ms. Molly Maguire-K1Aid

www.southbostontoday.com
SOCCER PARADE TONIGHT AT THE STADIUM

Tonight Thursday September 5th at 6:00 p.m. the South Boston Youth Soccer League will be holding its annual “Parade of Champions” at Moakley park in the Paul Saunders Stadium. This is the official kickoff for the fall season in which over 800 of Southie’s finest – it’s kids, will participate in a fun filled opening night parade.

Coaches don’t forget to have signs with the team name and sponsors name on them and remember to dress the kids in costumes that go with the sponsors name.

Brian Wallace will be the Master of Ceremonies and he will provide all of us with a fun filled night of merriment with his wit. The Boston Parks and Recreation Department will be providing the marching music for the kids. The Boston Police Honor Guard will lead the slowest parade in town as they lead the kids on their route around the track. Some of the officers have been involved with this parade for over 29 years and tell me that this is the one event they look forward to every year where they get to be right up close with all the kids. All players should be at the stadium by 5:30 and line up with their team for the start of the parade. Look for the age group and team number on the signs on the fence outside the stadium. Any player who registered but has not been contacted by a coach and does not know their team should go to the clubhouse at 4:30 where an information table has been set up. If you forgot to register your child for this season there will be a waiting list registration with no guarantee that there will be a place for the child on a team. It will be held on Saturday September 7th from 9:00am to 10:00am at the clubhouse at Saunders Stadium in Moakley Park. Please do not come down on the night of the parade to register your child as we will not be taking any applications at all. Coaches should be at the clubhouse at 5:00 pm to pick up their jerseys and line up with their teams and have their team sign all set and great costumes on the kids. So if you want to have some fun and cheer on the kids then make it a point to be at the stadium Thursday September 5th at 6:00 pm for the “PARADE OF CHAMPIONS”.

CASTLE ISLAND ASSOCIATION SENIOR SHUTTLE SCHEDULE
SATURDAY AND SUNDAY WEATHER PERMITTING
JUNE 15 - NOVEMBER 2, 2013

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
**M STREET SOFTBALL PLAYOFF PAIRINGS**

By Mark Senna

Standing on the mound is John Gregorio who smacks his glove as the final out is caught. It’s John’s third victory in three nights as he puts the Southside Tavern on his back and into the playoffs. Pitching in the M Street League is a challenge for anyone but dominating three teams in three nights is very impressive. What’s more impressive is after 33 years of pitching softballs at M Street, John is still very competitive and on top of his game. That’s right readers; John started his softball career at M Street in 1979 and is still playing and winning games against opponents who at times are half his age.

In an interesting twist, John and the Southside (6th) will be facing The Warehouse (3rd) and pitcher Joey Magee in the playoffs. Magee is the son of Joe Magee Sr. who was a longtime teammate of Gregorio’s on the championship winning Sam Moran Club. Young Joe used to attend all of his dad’s games and always had a dugout view of Gregorio honing his craft on the mound. One can’t help but think that those experiences have aided Magee and his own quest to pitch his team to a championship. The first game of the series was scheduled for Wednesday (Sep 4 @ 6:30pm) with game two following on Friday (Sep 6 @ 8:10pm). If the series goes the distance then game three will be played on Monday (Sep 9). The Warehouse is the only team to beat the defending champion Shennanigan’s this year and are the favorite to win this series but at times their offensive attack has been silenced. Gregorio will be looking to keep them quiet for a couple of more games this week.

Jack Flanagan is another cagey veteran pitcher who will be facing an uphill battle when he and the Brewers (8th) take on the four time defending champion Shennanigan’s (1st). If the Brewers and Flanagan can perform the way they did when they defeated The Warehouse (2-1) on August 20 then they could make this an interesting series. But the thoughts here are that Shennanigan’s is simply too deep in talent and will run over the Brewers in two straight games. Nick French and Mike Hoadley lead a pitching staff that yields less than two runs a game which makes beating them in a series a very tall task. This series gets underway on Wednesday (Sep 4 @ 6:30pm) and Friday (Sep. 6 @ 8:10pm) with game three (if needed) slated for Monday (Sep. 9).

Keeping with the theme here, the Telegraph Hill (7th) and their two experienced pitchers in Jason and Uncle Jack Atton will face the very talented Lincoln Tavern squad in a best of three series that gets underway on Tuesday (Sep. 3 @ 8:10pm). The Atton’s are scrappers and will give everything they have but the depth comparison between the two teams will prove to be too great. They will also have their hands full in trying to solve Jimmy McNiff (most victories), who has enjoyed a fantastic year on the mound for Lincoln. McNiff is in that small group of M Street players who have given 20+ years of service to the league. Like Gregorio before him, McNiff still has “great stuff” and seems to be improving with age. Game two of this series will be played on Thursday (Sep. 5 @ 6:30pm) and if there is a game four it will be played on Monday (Sep. 9).

The final playoff pairing has The Playwright (5th) taking on the Nine Mate Islanders (4th) in a best of three series that gets underway on Tuesday (Sep. 3 @ 6:30pm). A match between the two closest teams in the standings is expected to be the best and this one should not disappoint softball fans. Leading The Playwright will be their ace, Keith Zewey, who is a workhorse and has shut down some of the best offenses the league could throw at a pitcher. He was a game away from leading The Playwright to the 2009 championship and is looking to recapture some of that magic. On the other hand, the Islanders will hand the ball to the only female pitcher in the history of the M Street Softball league, Shayne Lotito. Shayne enjoyed a record setting softball career at Boston University and is now the head coach at Bryant University in Rhode Island. If Shayne isn’t available to throw then the Islanders will hand the ball to…well, this writer. Writing about oneself is not easy especially when you play a pivotal role in the outcome of a game or series. Let’s just say that I belong to that small group of M Street veteran pitchers (Gregorio, McNiff, Flanagan, Tommy McGrath, and Jay Malley) and will be drawing on the many years of playoff experience to give the Islanders a chance to win every game. Folks, this should be a great series that can truly go either way. Game two is scheduled for Thursday (Sep. 5 @ 8:10pm) with a possible deciding game three set for Monday (Sep. 9).

We asked our league handicapper, Jim Sullivan, what he thought about the upcoming playoffs and this is what Jim had to say. “Aside from the talent levels, you have to take into account how tough a road each team will likely face. For instance, I like the talent on my Southside squad, but by virtue of finishing in 6th place we face a tough uphill battle. Knowing that, the odds are set to stimulate action on all propositions. Finally, I’ll end this with the same
statement I made last year, which I know full well that a team made up of nine of me would be the longest of long shots.”

The Odds
Shenannigans     2 - 5
The Warehouse     3 - 1
Lincoln Tavern     7 - 1
Nix Mate Islanders   15 - 1
Southside Tavern   15 - 1
Playwright    40 - 1
Telegraph Hill             100 - 1
Stats Bar & Grille             250 - 1

In closing, this season we employed an official scorekeeper for all of the regular season games. The game statistics were then used to determine the individual awards for the season. Leading the way with the highest batting average in the league was Mark Goodman of the Cranberry Café. Mark enjoyed a fine season at the plate batting .615 (26 at bats/16 hits). Way to go Mark!
The Earned Run Average winner is Nick French of Shenanigan’s. In 40 innings pitched, French allowed a miniscule five earned runs which equates to a sparkling 0.88 ERA. That is a league record that may stand for some time. French also collected top honors for leading the league in strikeouts with 57. Congratulations Nick! The hit race proved to be the most competitive as several players (Ryan Turgeon, Dan Pencinger) took turns at the top of the leader board. However, it was Tom Resor of Telegraph Hill who snagged the honors in the last two games of the season when he connected for six hits against some of the best pitchers (Zeweiy and Gregorio) in the league. Resor finished with 24 hits. Well done Tom! Over in the Runs Batted In (RBI) race we saw a pair of Mark’s share the title - Mark Prezios of Telegraph Hill and Mark Hindman of The Playwright each knocked in 17 runs this season. Honorable mention has to go out to Garret Hauck of the Brewers who played just half a season and finished just three RBI’s short of the crown. One wonders just how many he would have finished with if he had played the entire season. Awards will be handed out to all of our winners this week at the field. Once again, congratulations to all of our winners.

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 will get heated this week but it’s still worthy of a night out. M Street Softball games are played Monday through Thursday with games starting at 6:30 and 8:10pm. Best of luck to all of our players and teams, have a great week and we look forward to seeing you at the park.
South Boston Pop Warner
Pep Rally – Friday, September 6th

Friday, September 6th at 6:30 PM will be our annual Pop Warner Pep Rally at the Pop Warner field. At the pep rally, each player and cheerleader will be introduced to the community for all their hard work that they put in during summer camp. The cheerleaders and players have been practicing since August 1st.

This season marks our 16th season. The season is being dedicated in memory of Coach Jim Higgins. Jim was instrumental in getting South Boston Pop Warner started back in 1998. He served as the program’s attorney getting all our legal filings in order and he served as a coach in the program for many years. Jim also coached and volunteered in many other youth and civic organizations in the community and we want to recognize all his work he did for the community. So hopefully you can stop by and honor the work Jim gave to South Boston.

Following the Pep Rally, our F teams which consists of 5 & 6 year olds, will play their first game. So please come out and support the boys and girls of our community.

The season kicked off on Labor Day with a great effort against Ashland. The D & E teams came away victorious.

On Saturday, SBPW will open our home season against Randolph. The E team starts it off at 4:00 PM, followed by the D team at 5:30 PM and the C team will get the 7:00 PM start time. We will be home again on Saturday, September 14th, Saturday, September 21st and Saturday, October 5th. Game times will be 4:00 PM, 5:30 PM, and 7:00 PM on each Saturday night.

Public Service Announcement - Pop Warner Field and Practice Area
Dog owners: Please refrain from walking your canines on the Pop Warner field and practice area at least until the season ends. Players are coming home from practice with the excrement of man’s best friend on their cleats and pants. Thank You, Pop Warner Parents and Coaches.

South Boston Girls Softball offers “Fall Softball”

When:
Starting on Sept. 11, Wednesday, 4:30pm - 5:30pm; Sept. 14, Saturday, 1:00pm - 4:00pm
(and continuing to play every Wednesday & Saturday in September & October)

Where:
Players will meet at “N” Street Little League Field (we have 3 fields available, “N” St. Little League, “N” St. Softball Field, “M” St. Softball Field)

Who:
U8 Division

Born in 2003, 2004
U10 Division

Born in 2001, 2002
U12 Division

U16 Division

Practices will be held on Wednesdays and scrimmage games on Saturdays.

Please stop by (don’t forget to bring your uniform) and take advantage of some “Fall Softball”.

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Four More Years for Chiarelli

SOUTH BOSTON TODAY
by David Pollard

Peter Chiarelli signed a 4-year contract extension on Thursday that will keep him at the helm of the Boston Bruins organization through the 2017-2018 season. Chiarelli took over as General Manager in 2006. In those 7 years since his hiring, the Bruins have made the playoffs six times, including a memorable 2011 Stanley Cup run which saw the B’s conquer the Vancouver Canucks in 7 games. Yet another trip to the Finals came this past season, where the B’s fell in dramatic fashion to the Chicago Blackhawks in game 6 at the TD Garden.

The Bruins are one of the most consistent teams in the NHL. Make no mistake, the B’s are one of the league’s elite teams, and Peter Chiarelli has plenty to do with that. When Peter Chiarelli took over, the Bruins organization was in turmoil. Attendance was down, a season was lost to a lockout, and the B’s former front office had just traded away Joe Thornton, the MVP of the NHL for years with the Calgary Flames, but has never won a Cup. Iginla has been an elite player in the NHL for years with the Calgary Flames, but has never won a Cup. Iginla this offseason. Here’s why these moves are great - Eriksson is an elite player leaving a non-hockey market with a chance to play in a market full of puck-fiends, while Iginla has been an elite player in the NHL for years with the Calgary Flames, but has never won a Cup.

Under Chiarelli’s leadership, the Bruins are 291-187-62 in the regular season, and 50-35 in the postseason. Most importantly, he’s just the third Bruins GM to win a Stanley Cup, and was the first to do so in 39 years back in 2011. He’s been great for the franchise, he seems to know when to hit the gas and make a big trade, and when to hit the brakes. This Bruins team will be competing for the Cup year in and year out. Chiarelli has been a big success in his first 7 years, and his 4-year contract extension is well-earned.
DANNY PICARD: Tim Tebow gets cut, and it’s a major storyline because of his name. But the bigger storyline for this Patriots team and what they are going to do in the early weeks of the regular season, is Rob Gronkowski not being put on the PUP list. He actually is practicing. Bill Belichick telling us it’s not a significant step, it’s just the next step. And then Belichick says Gronk is day-to-day. What is the timeline that you actually think the Patriots have for Gronk at this point?

JERRY THORNTON: The day-to-day thing is a perfect thing to say. Because, one of my favorite little odd Belichick stories was, it was 2004 and they were at training camp, and writers were sitting around and they were talking about how the Red Sox had just traded Nomar Garciaparra. And the whole conversation was about when did he get hurt, how did he get hurt, did he really get hurt, no one saw that foul ball that supposedly hit him. And Belichick turned to them and said, “See, this is why I don’t talk about injuries.” Because once he puts a time frame on it and says, “Alright, 12 weeks. We’re expecting him to have surgery and he’ll be back in 12 weeks.” When you hit the 12-week mark, if he’s not ready yet, now you’ve created a controversy. People would be like, “Well, where is Gronk? He said 12 weeks. Is he dogging it? Is he not in shape?” So, that’s it, you just say “day-to-day” and when he’s here, he’s here. He just started wearing pads. I imagine he’s got to add some muscle mass. I imagine he has to get aerobically in shape, he’s got to get his heart rate down and things like that. So, best-case scenario, if I had to guess, they let him sit out a couple of these early cupcake games. I’d always rather them leave him out a few extra games and try to get him back stronger, than rush him back necessarily.

DP: So you think the Tampa game, Week 3, at Gillette Stadium, 1 o’clock on Sunday Sept. 22? Or maybe the following Sunday night, Week 4, in Atlanta, on NBC, Sept. 29? I’m actually surprised that he didn’t go on the PUP list and miss the first six weeks. Because the things that we talked about on this show about Gronk, alright, we’re looking at his back, but also, multiple surgeries on his arm. Even when he was catching passes and jogging in shorts on the side field last week, I thought they would put him on the PUP list. I’m a little surprised that they didn’t.

JT: I just took it as a good sign, that he’s about as far along as we had hoped. And the Patriots haven’t put a time frame on this, but the reason I brought up 12 weeks is, Jason Pierre-Paul got the same surgery done by the same guy, and the reports on him were 12 weeks. Well, if you do the math on Gronk, 12 weeks would have been right to Week 1. So that’s what I was thinking. But with guys injuries in general, when someone does put a time frame on it, my rule of thumb is always to add 50 percent. Because those are always the most optimistic projections. And even still, how often do guys, in all sports, come back sooner than they should have, and then you get the setback, and then the setback doubles the amount of time. So, yeah, take your time. And frankly, I haven’t seen anything out of Zach Sudfeld that tells me they can’t be productive while Gronk gets back to 100 percent. I mean, the kid has looked lights out. I’m excited to see what their offense looks like without Gronk.

DP: The other big news of the weekend with the Patriots and roster moves was that they cut Tim Tebow. What was your reaction when you heard that?

JT: My reaction was, I went right into the bunker that I’ve been doomsday prepping, because I was semi-worried that this would bring about armageddon. Finally the rapture is going to happen, and I’m going to avoid the chaos in the streets . . . I was mildly surprised. Not stunned, but, if you made me guess, I was guessing that he was going to be on this roster as a project, as a guy that they hoped they’d never have to use, but someone who they could fix what was broken with him. And, yeah, clearly that was not the case. We saw for ourselves. That second preseason game, where he went 1-for-7 for minus one yard. All kidding aside, I’m wondering with Tebow, if it hasn’t got to
the point where he’s got the yips. We’ve seen it happen with athletes before. Remember Chuck Knoblauch went from being a gold glover to not being able to throw the ball to first. It happens with guys. A really weird example, the New York Mets had a catcher in the 90’s named Mackey Sasser, who lost the ability to toss the ball back to the pitcher. Tebow, we forget, he was the most accurate passer in SEC history. he completed two-thirds of his balls playing basically in the NFL junior. I think maybe what happened with him was, he comes into the pros, and it’s so rigid where they say, “No, no, you’ve got to throw it this way. We’ve got to correct your mechanics, your mechanics have to be this.” And I think he just kind of lost the ability to do what had been natural to him his whole life. And maybe, at some point, these NFL coaches have to take a look at themselves and say, “We don’t have to fix a guy. If he throws in an unorthodox way, but he completes his passes, let’s let him just do that.” But they take these guys that aren’t broken, and they fix them, and then they break them.”

**DP:** Tebow is no longer part of the Patriots, and the Patriots will move on, and they will be just as successful as they would have been if he was still here. Week 1, Sunday in Buffalo, I’m shocked that the Patriots are only a 10.5 point favorite [as of Tuesday]. Are we already making the Patriots 2-0 this season, with games against the Bills and then a quick turnaround against the Jets?

**JT:** Oh, they have to be. If they start Ryan Mallett they’re 2-0. Unless somehow they still haven’t fixed this defense. I don’t see any scenario in which the Patriots aren’t 2-0, for sure. **DP:** So do you have a win total for the Pats? Do you have any season prediction that you want to give here, as we get ready to begin Week 1 Sunday in Buffalo?

**JT:** I’m not so much a prediction guy, as much as, broad strokes. Look at the division. At worst, they go 5-1, and may again go 6-0. The only reason I say 5-1 is because they’ve only gone 6-0 in the division like twice I think. One was the 2007 season and the other was last year. So, you put them at 5-1 in their division, and that means against the rest of football, if they even go just 6-4, which isn’t that good, that’s an 11-win season and they win their division. But I think they’ll do better than 6-4. So I think, again, we’re looking at a 12 to 13-win year. Unless something really unexpected happens.
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