What About A Tax Break For The Rest Of Us?

SOUTH BOSTON TODAY
Staff Report

In a New York Times article September 19 2013 titled - In Boston, Mayor Builds a Legacy With Construction Cranes - the reporter celebrated the building boom in Boston and the construction of 80 million square feet of new commercial development, not including thousands of college dormitory units, during Tom Menino’s reign as Mayor. He is widely considered by those in the real estate and building trades sector as the ‘Build It Mayor’.

And if the mayor has his way over his final 3 months in office, there will be much more. One quoted source, a real estate consultant said, “Developers, property owners, builders have 20 years invested in this relationship (with the Mayor). There’s a sense of, let’s get this stuff done because you don’t know what’s around the corner.”

The reporter goes on to comment on a vintage example of Menino’s exercise of his power as Mayor, stating first that, “After two decades in office, Mr. Menino’s hold over every aspect of city life is complete and his power to make or break any construction project is legendary.” The example cited was the way the Filene’s site in downtown Boston was dealt with. The first developer, who was from New York, having had no relationship with the Mayor, and finding itself in a deep recession in 2008, chose to try to force the mayor to help the project with a tax break. Given the economics, it would...
EDITORIAL

THE RESPONSE TO THE NEWS OF BOSTON POLICE COMMISSIONER ED DAVIS RESIGNING HAS BEEN MIXED. FROM THE OUTSIDE, MANY, IF NOT MOST, OF THE VIEWS OF HIS TENURE AND HIS HANDLING OF MAJOR ISSUES SUCH AS THE MARATHON HAVE BEEN POSITIVE. INTERNALLY, THE RANK AND FILE HAS BEEN LESS THAN SUPPORTIVE BELIEVING THE COMMISSIONER WAS TOO OFTEN EAGER IN DISCIPLINING OFFICERS INVOLVED IN HIGH PROFILE CASES. MINORITY POLICE OFFICERS HAVE EXPRESSED FRUSTRATION WITH WHAT THEY CONSIDER THE COMMISSIONER’S FAILURE TO PROMOTE MINORITIES TO SUPERIOR POSITIONS.

While all three views have merit, with his resignation they become past history. Our view then has to be toward the future. The recent attack on a shopping mall in Kenya should instruct us on the qualities needed in the next Commissioner. Political affiliations, race or gender should have no part in choosing the next Commissioner. Rather, someone experienced in the new realities of security in “soft targets” like shopping areas, as well as the more traditional areas of law enforcement and community policing.

Above all, it should be from within. It is beyond insulting to assert that not one of our dedicated men and women already serving and defending us is qualified to lead. This choice will be our new Mayor’s first and perhaps most important appointment. Perhaps, something to consider as you ponder your voting choice.

“Man is not free unless government is limited” - Ronald Reagan

Last Week’s Poll Results

How Close Were The South Boston Today Readers To Tuesday’s Actual Election Results?

Your Vote Counts – Who Do You Think The Next Mayor Of Boston Should Be?

Felix Arroyo 1% | Charlotte Golar Richie 2%
John Barros 1% | Mike Ross 1%
Charles Clemens 0% | Bill Walczak 1%
Dan Conley 6% | Marty Walsh 40%
John Connolly 39% | David Wyatt 0%
Rob Consalvo 9% | Charles Yancey 0%
You don’t need me or this newspaper to tell you that over the last couple of weeks the nation has witnessed more deadly shootings where innocent people have been killed and wounded. Though many of the circumstances in each incident are very different, there is one thing about them all that is the same. I think most of you know what I’m going to say but we’ll get to that in a minute.

In Washington DC, the shooting at the Navy Yard took close to a dozen lives with others wounded. In Chicago last week, the shooting in the playground was said to be gang related but a 3 year old child was hit just the same. We’re sure this little girl was not a gang recruit. She was just an innocent bystander out having some fun on a swing set who was caught in the crossfire.

The news of these two incidents rekindled the memories of other massacres such as the Newtown, Connecticut elementary school, the Aurora, Colorado movie theatre attack and of course, still very much in the headlines because of the court case, the Fort Hood killings committed by Nidal Hasan. Now, most of our readers are smart enough to know what all of these incidents had in common and it’s pretty much the low information people out there who either cannot figure it out or are in deep denial about what draws these mass shooters to choose these specific types of locations. Bingo!! Yes, they are all ‘gun free zones’. Let’s take the feds to scrutinize? The DC Navy Yard became a target. Any terrorist in the world who didn’t know that our military personnel are not allowed to be armed on base sure know it now.

In Newtown, the targeted elementary school was a designated and highly publicized ‘Gun Free Zone’. I’m sure the ‘progressive thinkers’ at the Newtown school board who came up with the idea of making it such felt all warm and fuzzy inside, not to mention, enlightened and superior for making that politically correct designation. But many believe it was precisely for that reason that the active shooter was able to go in there and do so much damage.

The Navy Yard shooting in Washington was on a military installation. By definition, you’d think it would be suicide to try attacking one of those. But with the rules in place prohibiting military personnel from being armed on their own bases these installations too become attractive targets to terrorists and other crazies. After the Fort Hood shooting, also a ‘gun free’ zone where soldiers are not allowed to be armed, Nidal Hasan knew he could kill and wound many before police from outside the base arrived. After the Fort Hood shooting, the Pentagon and the feds said they would ‘scrutinize’ that policy and see how best to tighten security as a result of that attack which took the lives of 13 of America’s finest. Well, it’s been 4 years since that attack. How long does it take...
Walsh and Connolly Will Face Off In November

State Representative Marty Walsh of Dorchester and City Councillor John Connolly earned the top two spots and will face off against each other in the Nov. 5 final election for Mayor of Boston. Approximately 113,000 ballots were cast, as 30 percent of Boston’s registered voters went to the polls on Tuesday. Charlotte Golar Richie and Dan Conley finished third and fourth respectively. Felix Arroyo, John Barros and Rob Consalvo each made respectable showings. In South Boston, Walsh had a strong showing, as expected, given his 16 years representing Dorchester. Connolly, of West Roxbury, finished second here and is expected to aggressively reach out to supporters of Conley, Roxbury, finished second here and is expected to aggressively reach out to supporters of Conley, Consalvo and others to join his campaign.

Walsh and Connolly had been leading in the polls through the last few weeks going into the election and it appears that Walsh’s union member rich volunteer organization and Connolly’s education message, as well as his jumpstart on the field by challenging Mayor Menino, paid off for each of them. The challenge now will be whether Walsh can put forth a winning message for his organization to deliver, and whether Connolly can build his organization to deliver his winning message.

The further challenge now is where the runners-up will go. Geography will be one factor. The support of communities of color and other minority communities is another. Whether Tom Menino will get involved is yet another. Whether their visions for the future of Boston are in sync with either Walsh’s or Connolly’s and whether there is room in either camp for them to have significant influence or impact.

The general election is always much different that the primary. In the primary, especially among such a crowded field, candidates must identify their targeted audiences based upon geography, probable core constituencies, past experience, track record and messaging borne of polling data. From this narrow target, the Election Day GOTV (Get out the Vote) operation has to deliver. In the general, the target audience obviously broadens and the candidate’s primary message is scrutinized by a voting electorate whose criteria are not as narrow. Whether a candidate can appeal to this next level of scrutiny is the challenge. Campaign commitments must measure up to track records and in the case of both Walsh and Connolly, there are plenty of recorded votes and actions that will come under the microscope.

Money is important to get the media attention the candidates will need to reach the maximum amount of voters in a short period of time. Each candidate will be able to raise enough money, it appears. Where it comes from, and what it is used for, will surely be examined.

This campaign is too important to sit out. The low primary turnout is no indication of what the general will be. This looks to be a hard fought race to choose the best candidate to lead the City for the foreseeable future.

Welcome

Dr. Philip Barber and the staff of South Boston Dental are pleased to announce Dr. Andrew Luccio has joined their multi-specialty practice in South Boston.

Dr. Luccio is a resident of South Boston and a native of nearby Milton, MA. After completing a Masters of Science degree in Biology at the University of Richmond, Dr. Luccio studied dentistry at Tufts University School of Dental Medicine in Boston, MA. Upon earning his Doctorate of Dental Medicine degree, he was awarded with the American Academy of Periodontology Achievement Award for academic and clinical excellence in Periodontics.

29 Farragut Road • South Boston, MA 02127
617-268-1030 • www.southbostondental.com

We’d love to have you join our dental family! Please call today. Your new smile awaits.

SOUTH BOSTON TODAY
September 26, 2013
If you believe in reincarnation the perfect “next life” has been revealed. A “background investigator”. What a life these people must live. They get to work in their own office. They have the power to look into anyone’s records. Best of all they don’t have to perform any work. They must sit around and watch “Jerry Springer” episodes all day. By now it has to be obvious all they do is stamp “ok” on personal files they’re supposed to be reading and reviewing.

How else to explain that while the Washington Navy Yard shooter was virtually still exchanging gun shots with the police the news media had already learned and was reporting the shooters record. Shooting out tires in Seattle, two separate in incidents of “accidental” discharges inside dwellings. This information was discovered in hours yet the background checkers found nothing. Heres another shock. This is the same company who performed the background check on Eric Snowden. You remember our pal Vladimir Putins new “house guest” don’t you? The best was yet to come when the same security company, within 24 hours emailed the Navy Department. First they offered condolences on the tragedy then hit them with a sales pitch for “new, improved security investigation”.

It’s everywhere we turn the easy way out. Whether it’s Border Control or a City Hall Department enforcing zoning. Pass the buck, let someone else be responsible. Major Hassan in Fort Hood was an open and obvious nut but nobody wanted to point it out. The murderer of Amy Lord was observed and cited for selling EBT cards but our police are ordered not to enforce that law.

Our diplomats and personal in Ben Ghazi for months called for security upgrades. When they were attacked they pleaded for help but were refused and we can’t even find out who gave the refusal order. Our diplomats in Ben Ghazi for months called for security upgrades. When they were attacked they pleaded for help but were refused and we can’t even find out who gave the refusal order. We can’t even get a list of the wounded witnesses. Too bad for the dead and wounded but those who were in charge have higher ambitions. Can’t have the responsibility for something like this on the resume. If today’s Americans were in charge of wagon trains we wouldn’t get any farther West than the Charles River.

It’s not in any one segment of society it’s at every level and every occupation. It’s something we all shrug at but it is destroying our country. We are decaying from within. Who knows what the solution is but it must be found.

I have to apologize because the intent today was to take a brief respite from politics now that we’re down to our final two for Mayor and City Council finalists and I end up getting political after all. “All politics”, as Tip O’Neil famously started, are local”. With that in mind our only hope for a better future is to be involved locally. One by one, if we keep trying, can make a difference. Take care until next week.

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

Reading Between The Lines

“It Starts Local”

SOUTH BOSTON TODAY
Brian R. Mahoney

THE DORCHESTER HEIGHTS ASSOCIATION
BAZ A R AND YARD SALE
September 28, 2013 (Rain Date 9/29)
9 am to 2 pm
56 Thomas Park Driveway/Backyard
Come Enjoy tables laden with household treasures, art and unique merchandise.

Choose To Play in:
Downtown Boston
South Boston
SIGN UP TODAY!

Fall Season starts Oct 16 In South Boston / Oct 17 In Downtown Boston

MAJORLEAGUEBOCCE.COM/BOSTON
The Best Fall Foliage: Where and When to Go

The passing of summer sometimes brings a bit of sadness to people who really enjoy spending their free time outdoors. We tend to get used to the easy living and all those activities that the warm months encourage. The good news is, to many, that sadness doesn’t last all that long because once late September hits - and especially when we roll into October - New England explodes into a kaleidoscope of magnificent colors as the leaves turn into one of nature’s wonders and we still have a good dose of nice weather. That’s right, it’s fall foliage time and ‘leaf peepers’ are in their glory.

The Northeastern part of the United States is among the most picturesque areas in the world this time of year. When peak foliage hits, and it comes in waves; depending on what part of the area, enjoying one of the season’s best features is anywhere from a 20 minute drive to the edge of the Blue Hills just outside of Boston to a weekend getaway to the Maine Wilderness; whatever makes you happy. While some have their favorite spots to view autumn’s splendor, others are always looking for suggestions as to where they can see the best colors and really get into the spirit. For those of you who DO want some suggestions, South Boston Today might be able to help. The following locations are said to be some of the best places to see the brightest colors of the season.

**Baxter State Forest, Maine:** If you like long drives into some of north east’s true wilderness, and it’s soon you want to make the trip, Baxter State Forest in the state of Maine is one of the finest locales around for early leaf watching. It’s a long drive; between 5 and 7 hours; not something you’d want to try on a day trip. This requires at least two days; preferably a full weekend or more. There are many package deals and bus trips that will make it a great vacation destination. This is also a good place to view wildlife as the area is teeming with moose, deer and black bears. It’s a great place to watch birds as the eagle and hawk populations there are thriving. And the scenery is breathtaking. Thick forests, rivers and lakes fill thousands of square miles of beauty. And the colors; in early October are incredible. The area peaks early. Now is the time to go.

**White Mountains, New Hampshire:** As the calendar pushes deeper into October, New Hampshire’s White Mountains come alive with brilliant red, orange and yellow trees looking almost like a sunburst. This is a trip that can be made in just 3 hours to get the best effect. The ride up along Rt. 93 will show some great color once you get into the higher elevations. But if you want to see the White Mountain’s color at its absolute best, take some of the smaller country roads and really be impressed. The small towns along the way will often have Fall Festivals to add to the experience and this is an area too where the odds of seeing deer and other wildlife are very good. The best time for foliage viewing in the White Mountain’s area is usually around the Columbus Day weekend.

**Woodstock, Vermont:** Peak viewing for the Woodstock, Vermont area is probably also right around the Columbus Day weekend. Here the Billings Farm and Museum gives an added attraction. You not only get to see the autumn leaves in all their glory but you get a taste of the Revolutionary War era culture that still holds on here. Old farm houses and country stores make you feel like you’re visiting a bygone time. A drive through the forest lined roads leading to and from Woodstock can put you in awe of nature and make you forget the fast pace of the city while you’re there. And yes, here too, wildlife is abundant but you also get to see horses and dairy farms as well.

**Berkshire Mountains, Western Massachusetts:** You don’t have to travel north to see the sights of the season. A trip west, here in the Bay State will bring all the colors and festive autumn feel as the northern states do. The drive or bus trip a few hours along Route 2 heading west in mid to late October is absolutely beautiful. The farther west you go the higher the elevation becomes until you are in the Berkshire Mountains with all its scenic views. If you travel far enough you’ll come to the Mohawk Trail area known worldwide as a destination to many tourists looking for that special fall atmosphere with all its history even before the American Revolution. This is an area rich in farmland and dotted with lakes and ponds. The apple picking is excellent here. Orchards are everywhere and the sweet aroma from those apples will make you want to bite into one.

**Blue Hills, Canton/Milton, MA:** And finally, if you want to get to see the fall foliage but really don’t want to spend too much time getting to where the peak sights are, as we mentioned early on, there is always the Blue Hills, just a 20 minute trip from Boston. The colors in the Blue Hills peak late in the season, so when other more distant areas have become past peak and faded, the Blue Hills, especially along Chicatawbut Rd. are still bright and fresh. In fact, some years you can still see great foliage in the Blue Hills as late as Halloween and beyond.

Well, there you have it folks. South Boston Today’s picks for fall foliage viewing for those who love being outdoors and seeing Mother Nature at its best this time of year. We hope these tips are helpful and that if you go, you have a great time. Oh, and be sure to bring a camera.
reason, the shooter picked that school to attack; knowing he could cause the most mayhem in the shortest amount of time. And the same holds true with the Aurora movie theatre shooting. This was another highly publicized gun free zone was just too tempting for that shooter to pass up. The same goes for Columbine and Virginia Tech and others.

Here’s another old saying that rings true: “There are none as blind as those who will not see”. Is there an obvious pattern in all of these shootings? Does an elephant have a trunk? Will our liberal officials ever learn or are we destined to have what’s going on continue forever with feel good, hand wringing press conferences the only response? President Barack Obama can call the news cameras in so the nation can watch him console the families of the victims on prime time all he wants. And he can blame Wayne Lapierre and Rush Limbaugh as he desperately searches for scapegoats. And he can whine and bluster about the Senate Republicans and Democrats who won’t give in to his agenda of taking the Second Amendment away from law obeying Americans which is his real goal. But until he and others of like mind come up with real solutions to a real problem; these attacks will continue.

Armed guards at schools work. Those schools that have them are never attacked. Allowing our highly trained military personnel on their bases to be armed will deter terror attacks of at least drop them dead in their tracks if they try. And allowing the defenseless law obeying citizens of Chicago to exercise their Second Amendment right to keep and bear arms will give them a fighting chance of survival in a crime infested city far too long run by liberal Democrats. Polls show that a majority of Americans understand this and the number is growing with each incident. Unfortunately, too many of those lawmakers who the people elect to public office really don’t seem to care what the American people want or need or what will work and what has been proven to fail. They have an agenda which always seems to be more important than what the public wants and needs.

Though a life-long Democrat, he ran as an Independent for the U.S. House of Representatives in 1972, defeating incumbent Louise Day Hicks. He represented South Boston in the House until his death in 2001. Joe Moakley rose to become one of the most powerful members of the U.S. Congress, chairing the Rules Committee. Throughout his career he focused on a few important issues: improving economic opportunities for his constituents, helping constituents navigate the federal bureaucracy, and cleaning up Boston harbor. But in the 1980s, he was drawn into the conflict in El Salvador, where a civil war had devastated the country, and brought thousands of refugees into his district.

Motivated by his Catholic faith and an application of the Golden Rule, to do unto others as you would have them do unto you, Moakley pursued peace in El Salvador and helped restore democracy to that troubled land.

Mark Schneider’s book traces Joe Moakley’s life, from his family’s origins in Italy and Ireland to the Lower End of South Boston. Join us for an opportunity to remember one of South Boston’s most notable sons. Copies of the book, Joe Moakley’s Journey, will be available for purchase.

Joe Moakley’s Journey at the South Boston Library

The South Boston Historical Society invites you to our next meeting, Monday, September 30, 6:30 pm at the South Boston Public Library. Historian Mark Schneider will discuss his new book, Joe Moakley’s Journey, a biography of life-long South Boston citizen and public servant Joe Moakley.

Born on Dorchester Street in 1927, Joe Moakley spent much of his childhood in the Old Colony Housing Project. Dropping out of South Boston High School at the age of 15 to enlist in the Navy, he served with the Seabees in the South Pacific in World War 2. He was elected to the Massachusetts House of Representatives in 1952, to the State Senate in 1964, and after losing a bid for the U.S. House in 1970, he served a term on the Boston City Council. Though a life-long Democrat, he ran as an Independent for the U.S. House of Representatives in 1972, defeating incumbent Louise Day Hicks. He represented South Boston in the House until his death in 2001. Joe Moakley rose to become one of the most powerful members of the U.S. Congress, chairing the Rules Committee. Throughout his career he focused on a few important issues: improving economic opportunities for his constituents, helping constituents navigate the federal bureaucracy, and cleaning up Boston harbor. But in the 1980s, he was drawn into the conflict in El Salvador, where a civil war had devastated the country, and brought thousands of refugees into his district.

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James T. Brett, President of the New England Council and former State Representative, was awarded the first in the nation Chair in Disability and Workforce Development at the University of Massachusetts Boston. The establishment of the Chair was given to Mr. Brett for his longtime work on behalf of people with disabilities. In the photo: Chancellor Keith Motley and James Brett.
Citywide Support Propels John Connolly to Victory

Vision for Transforming Schools Garners Support in Every Neighborhood

John Connolly advanced to the final election for Mayor of Boston with broad support from every neighborhood in the City. Connolly advanced to the final election with 17% of the vote. Connolly separated himself from the pack by relying not just on a core group of supporters in one area, but by earning significant support in every Boston neighborhood.

“It’s gratifying to see that our message resonated in every neighborhood in the City,” Connolly said. “I’m running to be Mayor of all of Boston because every child should receive a high quality education, and every person deserves to live in a safe and healthy neighborhood,” he continued. “Together we can make that happen.”

“I also want to congratulate Marty Walsh on his success today, and in particular I want to thank each of the candidates for running great campaigns full of ideas and energy and for keeping the debate positive and focused on Boston’s future,” Connolly said. “I’ve learned from every one of them, and I look forward to working with each of them.”

Connolly’s constant efforts to champion improvements in the Boston Public Schools during his years on the City Council have generated a dedicated network of supportive young families, parents, and educators across the City with whom Connolly has worked directly on school issues. This network served as a critical element of Connolly’s grassroots campaigning efforts.

Connolly is a former teacher and also a parent of a BPS student (his 5 year-old daughter Clare attends the Trotter School). He is the Chair of the City Council’s Education Committee Connolly and has made transforming Boston Public Schools the cornerstone of his campaign.

Connolly and his wife, Meg Kassakian Connolly, live in West Roxbury with their three children – Clare (5), Teddy (4) and newborn MaryKate, who was born in August.

Customer Appreciation Day

PS Gourmet Coffee would like to invite all of our customers to our Customer Appreciation Day

Friday, October 4, 2013

“BOGO”

All Coffee’s & Tea’s Buy 1 Get 1 Free!!!!!

It’s our way of saying thanks for being so wonderful!

Two Locations:
106 Dorchester Street
South Boston
758 Adams Street
Dorchester

South Boston Reunion
remembering
Melissa Hardy

October 5, 2013
7:00 p.m. - 12:00 a.m.
Florian Hall
55 Hallet Street, Dorchester

Tickets: $25
Reserved Table: $250
Raffles - DJ - Dancing

COMMITTEE
Table Reservations:
Malena Luongo (617) 592-6432

Tickets available at the door, or in advance:
DoDo Nee (617) 799-9901
Vanessa Luongo (617) 438-6009
Joy (Jankowski) McCaffrey (781) 964-1979
Taryn Baker (617) 572-7638
Meghan (Long) Clougher (857) 389-7289
Erin Ferris (617) 596-6432
Quencher Tavern (617) 765-0470
Kelly’s Landing (781) 335-9899

Donations can be made to:
The Melissa Hardy Memorial Fund
c/o Mt. Washington Bank
708 East Broadway, South Boston
Stepping Up: Local Yokel

In the morning on your commute to work or making your coffee, you can turn on the radio or television and be constantly reminded the value of EVERYTHING local: politics, real estate, economic stability, civic duty, food sourcing and community responsibilities. That’s if you haven’t started blocking out the commercials/announcements because of the annoying ‘Cars for Kids’ commercial. That aside, South Bostonians encourage buying, selling and eating local. There are many shops where you can get your appetizer, dinner and dessert ingredients as well as your beer, spirits and wine that have been cultivated, harvested and crafted within a 50 mile radius. Keepin’ it local doesn’t just apply to how you feel on the inside. Gotta look fresh on the outside as well. SB residents take much pride in maintaining their homes, streets and neighborhood parks. Whether it’s sweeping up and down your block, weeding or planting in the tree beds, placing barrels at your corner to avoid littering, even taking the MBTA to work when you want to drive (though not losing that sweet parking spot in front of your apartment is incentive enough)- keeping up appearances is important. Not for superficial reasons- if it’s yours or you use it like it is- take care of it, plain and simple. Here are two bona fide examples of this homegrown gratification.

Green Thumb

What’s clean, green and seen all over: the winners of this year’s First Annual Southie Green Globe Awards. Planet Southie marks the 3rd year of celebrating all that hard work South Bostonians do dedicating themselves for the greater good this Thursday September 26th at the Distillery. So many individuals and agencies work from the bottom, up, concerning themselves with overcoming and improving environmental obstacles our community is faced with, while engaging our youth to contribute in the same way. Congrats to all who make Southie a brighter and fresher place to be. planetsouthie.blogspot.com

Be the Change You Want To Sea

Fish out of water…Living by the water my whole life, I have taken for granted all the advantages of coastal living. Principally, fresh seafood. Not that I assume all people can have fried whole belly clams, fresh oysters and lobster dinners at every turn as I have. As time passes, the changes in climate and atmosphere have brought limitations to and the extinction of some species of under water life. The Boston Seafood Festival brings us a day full of fun and food this Saturday September 28th; your $10 entrance fee goes towards the Boston Fisheries Foundation. The Foundation educates and informs about sustainable practices and preservation of native marine life. Just keep swimming… bostonseafoodfestival.org bostonfisheriesfoundation.org

Stepping Out: State of the Art

“The object of art is to give life a shape.”-William Shakespeare

Finding the beauty in things can be hard sometimes- especially living in the city. Sometimes you can’t hear the bird over the sirens, see the sun rise and set through the skyscrapers. Sure, there is the MFA and the ICA, the Science Museum; the beautiful architecture of old Boston, the Public Garden. Starting September 27th through October 6th, ArtWeek Boston is painting its way across the city streets. There are musical and theatrical performances, forums that mix visuals and innovation. But sometimes it’s the obscure, the obtuse and inanimate object that turns into a work of art. On the streets of Southie is where you can create your own masterpieces. Takin’ it to the streets.

Dundundun…

Another ditty on the hit parade of the worldwide piano tour, Boston is the next note in a song of unity. Street Pianos, a project that started in the U.K. in 2008, follows the belief that music brings people together. In a big city like Boston, people live and work side-by-side but sometimes never touch each other’s lives; Street Pianos is the convergence of people and playing. There are 75 ivories spread across the metropolis with a slight right here in South Boston. Piano man. streetpianos.com/boston2013

Outside the Box

They’re on every corner, dull and gray, invisible yet ominous: the utility box. Familiar to the trained eye, one can only imagine what is underneath the heavy metal exterior. Answer- we don’t need to know. The Boston Art Commission is inviting you to take the guesswork out of wondering what is inside and push people to focus on the outside. The commission uses the boxes as part of an art installation and adds some color to the pathways of the city. Getting a glimpse of one of those beacons of brightness could change your day. Apply online and get to work. Paint the town red, or blue, or yellow… publicartboston.com

Go to our facebook page to vote on our weekly poll.
**Southie Senses:**

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

**Touch: Lift A Finger**

Need a pick-me-up? Sometimes a little changin’ and rearrangin’ is all you need. Big or small, Neatly Nested Décor, located at 373 West Broadway, has the solution. Their unique and lovely furnishings will give you and your domicile a face-lift. Want a whole new package? NN also offers in-home consultations for a bigger overhaul. Let Neatly Nested lend a hand.

[neatlynesteddecor.com](http://neatlynesteddecor.com)

**See: See Something. Say Something: LOUDLY**

In anticipation of Fire Prevention Week (10/06-10/12), the Boston Children’s Museum, in collaboration with the Boston Fire Department, Boston Firefighters Burn Foundation and Shriners Hospital for Children/Boston are working together to teach children how to “Stop, Drop and Roll” and other fire safety methods. On Saturday September 28th, kids can also check out a BFD fire truck, create bandage art and bring their most prized stuffed toy to the Teddy Bear Clinic. Teaching little ones to be aware and keep their open to danger is something we all see eye to eye on.

[bostonchildrensmuseum.org](http://bostonchildrensmuseum.org)

**Taste: Drink To Your Health**

After calculating how many calories, fruits & vegetables, grams of fiber, protein and ounces of water you are supposed to ingest in one day, you are already exhausted and starving. Why not knock some off your list? Bee’s Knees Supply Company is now offering a slew of concoctions at their new juice bar. A variety of additions like wheatgrass, maca powder and hemp protein knock a few off the register. Taste the rainbow!

[beeskneessupply.com](http://beeskneessupply.com)

**Smell: Breathe a Sigh of Relief**

The people have spoken! After many requests, the Barrington Coffee Roasting Company is now offering their brews in the more traditional 12-ounce size. There are 26 types of beans for you to choose from. Order online or head on over to their Fort Point store and try for yourself. That’s what you get when you add in your two “scents”.

[barringtoncoffee.com](http://barringtoncoffee.com)

**Hear: All Ears**

Listen up all you Chatty Kathys! In 2003, Pecha Kucha (slang for chatterbox in Japanese) was developed as a forum where young innovators and designers could present their ideas and concepts in a short, concise and interesting way. On Wednesday October 2nd, in conjunction with ArtWeek and IdeaWeek, presentations will be held to demonstrate the intersection of ideas and art. Sound off people!

[artweekboston.org • pechakucha.org](http://artweekboston.org • pechakucha.org)

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**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.
33 New Affordable Apartments For Rent

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*Rent is subject to change when the BRA publishes the annual rents.

The Maximum Income Limits for Households is 70% AMI which is as follows: 1 Person - $46,250*; 2 Person - $52,850*; 3 Person - $59,450*; 4 Person - $66,100*

*Income Limits subject to change when the BRA publishes the annual Income Limits

From Oct 7th to Oct 16th applications can be requested by phone (617.782.6900) or email (seb.housing@gmail.com).

Applications may also be picked up at the South Boston Branch of the Boston Public Library (646 East Broadway, South Boston) on Tuesday Oct 8th (8 AM to 1 PM) and Wednesday Oct 9th (3 pm to 8 pm) and Saturday Oct 12th (9 AM to 2 PM)

Applications can be dropped off to the SEB Office between 10 AM and 4 PM on Oct 23rd and Oct 24th.

The deadline for application drop off at the SEB Office is 4 pm on October 24th, 2013.

Applications can also be mailed to the SEB Office but must be postmarked by October 24th, 2013.

The SEB Office is on 165 Chestnut Hill Ave #2, Brighton, MA 02135.

Selection by lottery. Asset, Use & Occupancy Restrictions apply. Handicap households have preference for 8 accessible units. Preference for Boston Residents. Preference for Households with at least one person per bedroom.

For more information or reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities, call 617.782.6900

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Boston Finance Commission Wants Menino To Stop Red Sox/BRA Deal

As reported by boston.com (Business Updates), in a letter dated Sept. 24, The Boston Finance Commission wants Mayor Thomas M. Menino to block a vote on a $7.3 million deal between the Red Sox and the city for use of two public streets near Fenway Park, saying the agreement has been not sufficiently vetted and “will shackle generations of Bostonians to an agreement that over time will prove to be financially irresponsible.”

The agreement was unveiled last Friday by the Red Sox and the Boston Redevelopment Authority, the agency that controls the portions of Yawkey and Lansdowne, six days before a scheduled vote by the BRA’s board of directors this Thursday. The Finance Commission does not have the authority to block the agreement from being finalized.

BRA director Peter Meade told the Globe last week that the agency believed a predictable revenue stream would be better than a revenue sharing arrangement in which the city’s take would fluctuate from year to year. BRA spokesman Susan Elsbree said Wednesday that the agency has attempted to explain the rationale behind the deal to the Finance Commission, but has been unable to set up a meeting with Cahill since he wrote the letter Tuesday.

The Newsbriefs Section will print breaking stories that are reported just prior to SBT going to print if relevant.

---

White Mountain, NH Condo For Sale by Owner

Modern One BR, Furnished, Balcony, LOW CONDO FEES, on Main Street in North Woodstock, Walk to Downtown, Near All White Mountain Attractions.

contact: admin@mostlycocoa.com or 603-728-3921

Priced to Sell at $99K

---

STORAGE SPACE

Secure storage space with easy load-in to 24-access building in central East First Street location. 12’ ceiling height, easy access to DT. In a multi-use building w/professional offices and studios. Freight elevator and limited parking access. Building equipped with fire alarm, sprinklers and CC security monitoring. Perfect for local contractor, start-up or general storage.1,000+ SF - Second Floor Location $925/month 635 SF - Lower Level Location $600/month

Contact: 617/268-6414 or cahillbuildingsb@gmail.com
## Recent South Boston Real Estate Sales

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South Boston Community Health Center

South Boston Community Health Center’s Harbor of Hope Auction & Cocktail Reception was a wonderful success last week. The Boston Harbor Hotel was the backdrop for the annual event to raise funds for the programs and services of the health center, South Boston’s only provider of primary care services and one of the neighborhood’s largest non-profits.

Chris Herren and Senator Elizabeth Warren were this year’s outstanding honorees and although Senator Warren was unable to leave Washington in time for the festivities, her office was well represented by Jason Burrell who received the McCole watercolor of the Health Center on Senator Warren’s behalf.

Chris Herren accepted his award and spoke with grace and eloquence about his mission of helping others, particularly young people, to live sober, authentic lives. A former professional basketball player, Herren has shared his story of his struggle with drug addiction in the hopes of helping others to achieve sobriety and the restoration of personal dignity.

The evening was underwritten through the generosity of Boston Medical Center and Partners HealthCare. Thanks to everyone who participated and supported the South Boston Health Center.

First Annual Green Globe Awards Three-Year Anniversary Celebration!

Planet Southie announces the winners for the First Annual Green Globe Awards and Three-Year Anniversary Celebration! Nominated and selected by South Boston residents, 2013 Green Planet Awards will go to the following South Boston residents and organizations whose contributions have helped build a greener, healthier South Boston.

Individuals:
• Mary Cooney and Lucky Devlin (Legacy Award)
• Jon Ramos, Southie Bikes (Newcomer Award)
• Mary Lou Rosher, South Boston Farmers Market/WIC (Heart of Kindness Award)

Organizations:
• South Boston Grows (Seeds of Hope Award)
• The Youth Ambassadors (Daring Dreamers Award)
• The South Boston Neighborhood Development Corporation (Connector Award)

Date/Time: Thursday September 26, 2013; 6 - 9pm (Awards Ceremony at 7pm)
Location: The Distillery Building, 516 East Second Street South Boston, MA
The Celebration is open to the public, but requires an RSVP. To RSVP for this event or for more information, please visit planetsouthie.org or click here.

We are neighbors uniting to build a greener and healthier South Boston, MA. Planet Southie is an all-volunteer organization.
Christian Initiation Classes  
Gate of Heaven and St. Brigid Parishes  

If you are interested in becoming a member of the Catholic Church and want to learn more about what the Church teaches, please consider enrolling in the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) through Gate of Heaven and St. Brigid Parishes in South Boston. The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults is a program for those 18 years of age or older who seek full initiation into the Catholic Church. RCIA classes begin in October and are held on Sunday evenings at St. Brigid Church from 5 to 7 pm.

The program is designed primarily for those who have never been baptized in any faith, those who have been baptized in another Christian denomination and wish to become a member of the Catholic Church, and those who have been baptized in the Catholic Church but have not received the sacraments of Reconciliation, First Communion, and Confirmation.

The 21st century world in which we live is an exciting place, full of hope and promises, but at the same time, living in today’s society can be confusing and even frightening. Often we just don’t know how to face life’s many challenges. Countless voices compete for our attention, each claiming to offer answers to our many questions. How can we know what is true? How can we find the way to a fulfilling life? Two thousand years ago, Jesus Christ said, “I am the way, the truth, and the life”, and he established a Church to carry on his teachings.

To register for the classes or to obtain more information, please contact Steve Fahrig at sdfahrig@gmail.com

This Week’s Poll  
Should Mayor Menino immediately initiate a tax break to residential homeowners who struggle to pay rising real estate tax bills caused by the development boom?

YES / NO

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

www.SouthBostonToday.com  
South BostonToday  
@SBostonToday
St. Peter Academy

“Back Together” Barbecue

SOUTH BOSTON TODAY
by David Pollard

The St. Peter Academy “Back Together” Barbecue is always a great event as many families, new faces and old, come together to celebrate the beginning of another exciting school year. This year was no exception. The turnout was amazing and the school yard was packed with parents, teachers, board members, neighbors and children coming together to meet new people and reconnect with old friends. A big thanks to Olga Markos, who planned and organized the barbecue, with the help of many parents. Thanks to Harry Markarian, Amrheins, Bill Linehan, Jared Winters, Olga’s Kafe, Blasi’s, Land of Pizza and everyone who donated to this event!

New teachers, Miss Carozza (K2) and Miss Hurley (Gr.1), pose with their students, Mairein Condon and Thomas Germain.

580 – The cooks, Bobby Picard, Dan DeMichele and Derek Baszkiewicz.

Miss Collins (Gr.2) and Miss Chapin (Gr.5) reunite with Mary Walsh.

New friends, Evv Kacvinsky, Jacki Antonelli, and Greta Svencionis.
Miss Sawyer (K1) poses with Cormac Ryan.

Brett Jackson and Miss Tia (PreK-B) had a great time. The Maddens and the Kellys enjoyed the fun.

Neal Correia flipped burgers all night.

The DJs, Declan Callahan and Evan Markos.

The Maddens and the Kellys enjoyed the fun.

Meghan and Matt Clapham manned the gate.
Beach Volleyball Begins

The BCYF Curley & Tynan Community Centers’ Fall Beach Volleyball league kicked off last Friday September 20. It’s for boys and girls, ages 7 to 14 with 2 divisions. There is an Instructional League for 7-10 year olds to learn the basics; and League Play for 11-14 year olds. It all happens on Friday afternoons at 3:30pm on the sands of the Curley’s M Street Beach!

Help raise funds for South Boston Pop Warner! And learn how to save money on your light and heat bills! Come to a “Weatherize Southie” workshop at South Boston library (646 E. Broadway) on Thursday, October 3rd, from 6pm till 7:30 and sign up for a no-cost Home Energy Assessment or a Solar Assessment. Bob Ferrara will speak briefly about his own positive experience getting a no-cost Home Energy Assessment through Renew Boston, Mayor Menino’s initiative to help Boston residents save money on their energy bills and make their homes more comfortable. You’ll also get tips on how to save money on your heat and light bills from Mike Zhe, home energy specialist with Next Step Living. Next Step Living has kindly offered to make a $10 contribution to SBPW for every attendee whose household receives a no-cost Home Energy Assessment! If you can’t make the workshop, you can also support South Boston Pop Warner by requesting a Home Energy Assessment or Solar Assessment at http://www.renewboston.org.
Are we having fun yet?? Just a couple of reminders before we begin a recap of last week’s games.

COACHES: Remember it is important to turn in score sheets. If you do not pass one in there will not be any write up for your team and that is not fair to the children who show up week after week or the Sponsors. Remember all score sheets must be turned in by Monday morning at the latest. Also please fill all score sheets out correctly. For the coaches who have the last game in the Under 8 Division on Sunday, please remember to put the equipment away. Also make sure there is no parent or children (that are not playing the game) near the nets during the game. It is a distraction for the goalie.

PARENTS: Remember all children need to wear shin guards. If your child does not have them, they can not play. No hats, or jewelry can be worn while playing – this is for the safety of the children. Also, if you have any problems at the field, please see one of the officers of the league and we will take care of all concerns immediately. And remember to stay away from the goalie while they are playing it is a distraction. All parents should be on one side of the field and the players on the opposite side.

Please remember that all players (no matter what age) and coaches must turn in a concussion certificate. In order to receive your certificate you can logon to: http://www.cdc.gov/concussion/headup/training/headupconcussion.html. For children ages 3 to 10 years old you can access another site http://brain101.onca.com/5000.com. It is a cartoon site and should hold their attention. After you have gone through this info you can go to the other site (see above) and fill out the info saying you have gone through this info you can go to the other site. For children ages 3 to 10 years old you can access another site http://brain101.onca.com/5000.com. It is a cartoon site and should hold their attention. After you have gone through this info you can go to the other site (see above) and fill out the info saying you have gone through this info you can go to the other site. For children ages 3 to 10 years old you can access another site http://brain101.onca.com/5000.com. It is a cartoon site and should hold their attention. After you have gone through this info you can go to the other site (see above) and fill out the info saying you have gone through this info you can go to the other site. For children ages 3 to 10 years old you can access another site http://brain101.onca.com/5000.com. It is a cartoon site and should hold their attention. After you have gone through this info you can go to the other site (see above) and fill out the info saying you have gone through this info you can go to the other site. For children ages 3 to 10 years old you can access another site http://brain101.onca.com/5000.com. It is a cartoon site and should hold their attention. After you have gone through this info you can go to the other site (see above) and fill out the info saying you have gone through this info you can go to the other site.

Now on to a recap of the games:

UNDER 4 DIVISIONS:

SMALL FRIES SCOPES
The Small Fries sponsored by Sullivan’s scored the only goal off the foot of Zion Sequeira. Grant Sullivan, R?ylee O’Connor and Patrick Redinger were the MVP’s for their team. The Scoops sponsored by South Boston Today did not score but kept the game within reach. All the players did a terrific job.

NINJAS MASSPORT
The Ninjas sponsored by Councilor Bill Linehan was victorious today when Liam Colton and Logan Jackson each scored a goal. Eva German and Noolee Haddad did a terrific job bringing the ball up and down the field. The team sponsored by Massport played an excellent game.

WOLFPACK DOLPHINS
The Wolfpack sponsored by John Hancock Insurance beat out their opponent when Colin Rogers went on a scoring spree and scored five goals. Noah Vaughan also contributed with a goal. Andrew McGonagle did a terrific job manning the net. Cormac Ryan and Stella Cate played a superb game. The Sharks sponsored by Finisport did not win but played a great game. Jake Greeley scored a pair of goals. The team did an awesome job bringing the ball up and down the field.

GREEN LIGHTNING PAL
The Green Lightning sponsored by Congressman Stephen Lynch played to a tie with the team scoring two goals. The PAL kept the game even with Gus Dresher and Nariah Depina both scored goals. Will Reidy and Kieran McGarry were fantastic on the field.

MOOSE ROCKETS
The Moose sponsored by McDonough Post Ladies Auxiliary played a tough opponent but came up victorious when Michael Clark kicked in a goal assisted by Tessa Joyce. Some strong plays were made by Harry Minucci and Rocco Blasi. Nice hustle by Ryan Collins and Logan LaBreen. Great teamwork shown by Karte Kelly, Brian Allen and Karen Allen. Good job Moose! The Rockets sponsored by Massport played a superb game. The entire team gave it 100%,

UNDER 8 DIVISION:

HOT SHOTS BLUE DEVILS
The Hot Shots sponsored by Boston Home Inspectors played to a tie with Tristan Pecevich scoring a goal for his team. Ronan Amour and Aiden Garcia played a superb game bringing the ball up and down the field. The Blue Devils sponsored by Joe Pace & Sons kept the game even with a terrific goal by David Dunlap. Tiana Fisher-Lez and Taylor Spence did an awesome job sharing the goaltending duties. Mario Blasi was great on offense and Marin Beem and Liana Flood were dazzling on defense.

SILVER HAWKS BILLY FLAHERTY GANG
The Silver Hawks sponsored by O’Connell Insurance scored to a victory with goal by Joseph Greene, Dylan Picard, Ryan Shields and Jolohni George. Riley Joyce, Marguerite Greene and Kayleigh O’Connor were awesome on offense. Maeve Applegate played a spectacular game on defense. The Billy Flaherty Gang team played a superb game.

GREEN NINJAS MASSPORT
The Green Ninjas sponsored by Donahue & Associates played a great game. Sonny McColgan scored four goals and Jonathan McCarthy kicked in one goal. Meghan Harrison, Teagan Fitzgerald and Cate Greene played brilliantly. The team sponsored by Massport scored three goals. All the players did a superb job.

UNDER 10 DIVISION:

HORNETS LIGHTNING 1
The Hornets sponsored by Jeffrey Chubb Associates beat out their opponent when Brandon Clark scored a hattrick. Michael Lentini, Jake Harrison, Patrick Steele and Henry Gailingus were great on offense. Samantha Bowen and Brianna Mikshenas were terrific on defense and Thomas Conlon played an excellent game in net. The Massport Lightning did not win but gave it their all with a goal by Patrick Harmon. Grainne McBride, Caitlin Fitzgerald, Andrew Menjin, Thomas Harmon, Fijna Kyne, Fijna Gilmarin, Jack Schwartz and Tyler Morrill showed some great teamwork on the field. At the time of print no score sheets were available for the Boston Firefighters Credit Union Flames and the Stapleton Florist Southie Strong.

UNDER 12 DIVISION:

HOT TOTTIES MONSTERS 0
The Hot Totties sponsored by Massport shutout their opponent when Kristian Dharro, James Arlauskas and Madison Kennedy each scored a goal and an assist went to Declan Walsh. Chloe Powers and Cole Keenan made some great saves while sharing the goaltending duties. Samuel Holder was awesome on defense. The Monsters sponsored by Eastern Bank did not score but it was not from lack of trying. Rose Harman, Grace Tinlin, Rebecca Donovan, Juliet Fitzgerald, Daniel Murtagh, Jacob Downey, Cormac LaFerry and Andrew Devlin played a great game.

JETS 2 LIONS 1
The Jets sponsored by the Michael J. Perkins American Legion Post #67 kicked in one better than their opponent for the win. Eric Pance and John Goodline each scored a goal. Nolan Connor, Connor Kiely, Sophia Long and Alison McGough played an outstanding game. The Lions sponsored by O’Brien’s Funeral Home just came up short with Kyle Murphy scoring a goal. Rachel Rans and Linda Stefanov played an all-around great game.

UNDER 18 DIVISION:

At the time of print no score sheets were available for the teams sponsored by Iron Workers Local #7, Massport, Yankee Bus Line and Deco Leasing.
Boston is a city where the people sure do love their sports. Famous for top rated baseball; gotta love those Sox. The New England Patriots are clearly a Boston favorite. The Bruins; yes Bean Town is certainly a hockey town and can’t forget those Celtics. But Bocce??!! Oh yes, Bocce. Major League Bocce is coming to town. It’s in Boston already and now it’s even heading to Southie. Get ready for Major League Bocce – Boston.

South Boston Today spoke with Rachael Preston; who along with Sarah DeLucas is one of the founders of the growing league to find out what all the excitement was about and she was glad to fill us in with many of the details and information on how South Bostonians could take part in what is clearly a Bocce revival nationwide. First a little info on what exactly Bocce is for those who may not be familiar with the game/sport.

Major League Bocce was formed back in 2004 in Washington DC with just 60 participants the first season. It has since grown far beyond the DC area and arrived in Boston in 2012. League play has been taking place on the Esplanade, at Boston College and near Kenmore Square so far. There is no gender requirement so it is open to as many girls and guys who want to participate.

To look at a Bocce court, it may remind people of bowling at first, but that’s where any similarity ends. An outdoor Bocce court is usually 60 feet long and the balls are hard and sturdy and fairly heavy. When the sport moves indoors however, the courts are shortened to 20 feet, the play becomes a bit less aggressive, the balls are a bit softer and the games are actually self-refereed. That’s right, no hassles from guys or girls in striped shirts blowing whistles. And it’s been said that indoor Bocce is best played with “a ball and a beer, as in one hand holds the ball, the other has a beer or drink of your choice. In fact one of the mottos among some of the players is “Play, Drink, Score”. This tells us that it is definitely a more social game than Rugby or any NFL game played at Gillette Stadium. Right? Well maybe.

But from the reviews we’ve seen and the people who we spoke with, it is definitely a lot of fun. It’s a good way to make friends, meet new people and enjoy a night out. And another great thing about it is there will be a league starting right here in South Boston, upstairs at the Stadium Bar on Old Colony Avenue. How’s that for convenience?

The season starts on October 16th and ends on December 11th. Games are played on Wednesday nights. The first game of the night for the season will be played at 6:30 pm; others will follow at 7:45, 8:30 and 9:15. It costs just $40 to join the league and the price includes equipment, a team T-Shirt and an end of season party with prizes.

As we said, this is a sport that is catching on in a huge revival all across the country and why not? It’s fun, its exercise and it’s a great way to spend a night out. If you’re looking for a way to combine a workout while socializing in a party atmosphere, Why not give it a try. South Boston Today wishes Major League Bocce Boston all the success in the world.

For more information about the league and registration times you can log onto their website at www.majorleaguebocce.com/boston
Cherington’s Gambles Finally Pay Off

By Conor Ryan

It seems like it was only yesterday that the Boston Red Sox were the laughing stock of baseball. A dysfunctional team whose 2012 season looked more like a circus than a stable ballclub. Led by an overwhelmed and out of touch Bobby Valentine, the 2012 Red Sox finished the year with a 69-93 record; the team’s worst record in 47 years.

The Sox saved over a quarter of a billion dollars in payroll after a late-season trade with the Dodgers shipped Adrian Gonzalez, Carl Crawford, Josh Beckett, and Nick Pinto out of town, yet the future of the team was uncertain going into the 2013 season. This was thanks in large part to questions surrounding the starting rotation and their questionable free-agent acquisitions that seemed to value chemistry over talent.

Now, with just five games remaining in the season, I think it’s fair to say that almost everyone in Red Sox Nation did not expect what would happen this year. With 95 victories and counting in 2013, the Sox saved over a quarter of a billion dollars in payroll after a late-season trade with the Dodgers shipped Adrian Gonzalez, Carl Crawford, Josh Beckett, and Nick Pinto out of town, yet the future of the team was uncertain going into the 2013 season. This was thanks in large part to questions surrounding the starting rotation and their questionable free-agent acquisitions that seemed to value chemistry over talent.

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Last Thursday evening most of the Warehouse players made their way to the field at M Street Park to play a softball game against the Lincoln Tavern that would decide the fate of their season. Some rode bicycles, several walked the few blocks, while others carooled and took their chances on finding a parking space near the field. One of them, pitcher Joey Venuti, wasn’t able to attend at all. Instead he was receiving another round of chemotherapy while lying in a bed at a hospital not too far away from the glowing lights at M Street.

Venuti, who has been battling thyroid cancer throughout the season, amazingly found the strength to make it to the field and pitch 29 very effective innings for the Warehouse this season. He was expected to pitch in game three but instead the Warehouse handed the ball back to Joey Magee who was hoping he could carry the torch for his stricken teammate.

Magee, who got hit hard in a 14-4 loss just the night before, was facing the same hot hitting lineup but was hoping for a different outcome. There was a tremendous amount of weight put on his shoulders but the former Marine and his teammates rose to the occasion and defeated Lincoln, 5-2. Amazingly, hours after the game Venuti himself posted on Facebook that he would be ready to pitch game two of the finals.

Opposing them is the underdog Warehouse squad who finished in third place with a 7-4-1 record. They have been pushed to the brink of elimination in both of their playoff series so far. After John Gregorio and the Southside Tavern shut them down in game one of the quarter finals, they rebounded nicely and crushed their opponent in the next two games. They won game one of their semi final series against the Lincoln Tavern and were two outs from sweeping the series when disaster struck in the last inning which lost them the game. However, they snapped back and won the deciding game in convincing fashion. They are the only team to beat Shenannigans this season and in fact, they had them beat twice but had to settle on a 4-4 tie when Shenannigans rallied late in the game.

Our Jim Sullivan used the past performances of the two teams coupled with what he saw from them in their two playoff series to break down the finals and make his prediction. His take is below.

Shenannigans finished the season in first place with a 10-1-1 record and have won four straight championships (2009-2012). They swept the Brewers in the quarter finals and then dispatched The Playwright in the semi finals. They are primed and ready for this final best of five series.

The difference between the two teams is this: Shenannigans might win a game simply by overpowering the Warehouse, but the Warehouse is not going to win any games by over powering Shenannigans. The probability is that IF there’s a big inning, the defending champions will be the one having it. On the
In spite of this, the Warehouse is one of the teams that put up four runs against them. And they’ve outscored Shanny’s 5–4 in the two games they’ve played, combined. Warehouse was the only team to beat French but it was on an unearned run.

We could keep going on with more of the same because this is a fun series to think about and dissect. Nevertheless, if the pitching remains as it has been all season, for both teams, and the defenses remain solid, and nobody suddenly shows a tendency to choke that hasn’t been there before, I’m expecting some truly beautiful softball this week. If I was hard pressed to make a pick then my money would go on the underdog (Warehouse) but my true feeling is that neither pick would be worth the ulcer I would have by the time the series is completed.

“Far better is it to dare mighty things, to win glorious triumphs, even though checkered by failure... than to rank with those poor spirits who neither enjoy nor suffer much, because they live in a gray twilight that knows not victory nor defeat.”

– Theodore Roosevelt

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. We’re hoping for a great week of games during this final week of the season. Best of luck to the Warehouse and Shenannigans. Have a great week and we look forward to seeing you at the park.

other hand, if the Warehouse wins this series it will be in tight tense games, by scores of 4–3, 3–2, or 2–1. They’ll be walking a tightrope the entire way while knowing that one slip could cost them the series.

However, I still wouldn’t bet against Joey Magee pulling off those 3–2 and 2–1 victories. His stuff is good and his team’s defense is excellent. Magee has basically had ONE truly bad inning all year. Also, Shenannigans hasn’t seen Joey Venuti yet this year and he has been very sharp. He hasn’t given up more than three runs in any outing this season, including the playoffs.

On the other hand, pitching for Shenannigans is Nick French and Mike Hoadley. Neither one has given up more than four runs. They’ve combined for 132 strikeouts in 109 innings. Between them, they’ve walked only 16 batters. The ERA’s are sick, especially French’s. He’s hovering around 0.77 including the playoffs. That’s plain ungodly.
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