Get Out To Vote — Don’t Complain If You Don’t

After 20 years, this political cliché is actually true – This is the most important election of our generation. Although we elected two new US Senators, Washington DC is still in gridlock and we can do very little about that. The election of our city leaders has the most direct effect on our quality of life. The election for Mayor of Boston on November 5 is the first one without an incumbent in the 21st century. During those twenty years, the City has plodded along, doing lots of stuff, some good, some not so good, depending upon whom you ask. In 2013, and likely for the rest of the first quarter of this century, doing good will not be good enough. Boston has to be great at what it does.

If Boston is to compete on a global scale, it needs great talent. If Boston is to welcome back the middle class and keep our educated talent here, it needs affordable middle market housing. If Boston wants families to stay here and raise their children, it needs great schools with great teachers. If Boston wants safe and healthy neighborhoods, it needs great leadership. If Boston wants to embrace its burgeoning diversity and insure that economic prosperity reaches all neighborhoods, it needs great vision.

Getting from ‘Good to Great’ will require a mayor with vision, capacity,
EDITORIAL  

In order to be editorially responsible we should use this week to urge you to VOTE and we do. However the confluence of election, Halloween and printing deadline compel us to combine the two events.

When you see the kids on Broadway in costumes this weekend and on Halloween, first of all, keep an eye out for them and slow down, if you’re driving. At the same time, when you see the kids all dressed up with innocence, hope and belief on their faces, remember this is what the election is about.

It’s what it’s always about. What’s best for the future- for their future. This is about the election of a mayor and city council that creates a Boston which offers a ‘sense of place’, where our children and their families can fully expect to have a bright future. So if for no other reason, vote for what will make this a better city for our children. They are what we are all about.

“Loyalty is the holiest good in the human heart; it is forced into betrayal by no constraint, and it is bribed by no rewards.”

- Seneca

This Week’s Poll

Should State and City tax breaks be given to large corporations in exchange for:

1) A promise to invest in and boost our economy;

2) Performance based measures of increased employment and monetary contributions to our economy

3) I don’t agree with giving large corporations tax breaks
Remember when Halloween used to be fun? Well, for most people, especially the kids, it still is. More on this topic below. But popping up in certain places are the Politically Correct loons who for years have been trying to ruin Christmas, Thanksgiving, Columbus Day, Easter and every other holiday loved by the overwhelming number of Americans. And now, they are even starting on Halloween.

But first – Next Tuesday is Election Day. As we say every time it comes around – “If you don’t vote on Tuesday, don’t complain on Wednesday. It needs bringing up every election cycle that neighborhoods without big voter turnouts get much less respect and attention than those areas that vote in large numbers. Politicians watch for turnout percentages. If a certain section of the city, county or state shows even the slightest sign of apathy, you can almost count on constituent services suffering as a result. Over many generations, South Boston has been famous for massive voter participation and political activism. But not as much in recent times. If the powers that be; whether they are elected officials, rich developers or outside special interest groups sense weakness or a lack of will by neighborhood people to get involved, like vultures, they will circle above, move in and take what they want. Voting is power. No matter what the weather, please come out and vote on Tuesday. South Boston has good men running; men who have worked hard on this town’s behalf. City Councilors Bill Linehan, Stephen Murphy and former councilor Mike Flaherty who need our support are on the ballot. This is not a newspaper endorsement. It is a suggestion from me, personally. Like every other area, we need to support those who have a proven track record of supporting South Boston. Polls open at 7am and do not close until 8pm.

Back to Halloween – It is being reported on mainstream news outlets that there are some grade schools and college campuses that are trying to ban many types of costumes people can wear. The most recent to make the news is a Seattle College campus that is demanding that students refrain from dressing like American Indians, because it might offend Indians. No dressing like cowboys because that too might offend Indians. You can’t dress like a rap singer. It might offend African Americans. Duck Dynasty outfits are not allowed because Red Necks might retaliate. Can’t wear a Sombrero either. Mexicans might take it as a slap to their culture. There is a list now of so many costumes these Looney libs want to ban, it would be easier to make a list of what is acceptable to them. I’m guessing they think if you dress as a Viking, Norwegians will take offense. If you go as a tree, environmentalists will be upset. Thinking of getting your kid a Scooby Doo costume? Better think again. PETA might say you are exploiting animals. The word is they took shark costumes off the shelves because Green Peace threatened to protest. And the Reptile Anti-Defamation League is said to be out gathering signatures on petitions to ban snake skin boots for those thinking of going as Crocodile Dundee. If you go as an Angel, some atheists might get traumatized. Dress as the devil and Christians could complain. Oh wait, to the PC crowd It’s always ok to offend Christians. And yet there are people who are actually following these stupid rules, because they think it’s the right thing to do. But we’re happy to report that the backlash has started. On that Seattle College campus, a group of students said that they will wear anything they darn well please and they dare the school administrators to try and do something about it. Said one student fed up with the nonsense “If I feel like dressing up like Robert E. Lee and carrying a Confederate Flag while riding a horse, I’ll do just that. Said another student, “We just might go dressed up like the nutty Assistant Dean making these stupid rules and go as a cuckoo clock. Everyone will know...
Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor,

I first became interested in John Connolly when he had the courage to run against Mayor Menino. He didn’t wait for the nod or the clear sailing. He showed that same type of courage when he challenged the Boston Public Schools to bring back the option of attending school close to home.

As someone who has been concerned about runaway development for some time, I look forward to the day when a neighborhood voice is actually heard. John pledges to give us a voice so that developers have to listen. There is housing for the rich, the short termers and for the poor. We need housing for the families that will help stabilize our neighborhoods as well as for our seniors on fixed income so that they can remain in the communities they helped build. John pledges to make that one of his top priorities.

Tying education together with public safety and jobs makes sense. One needs the other in order to make our community stronger and better.

John has also committed to support our youth sports and after school programs. In my opinion, he is the best candidate to keep families in this city.

Respectfully,
Kevin Lally

Dear Editor:

I am voting for Marty Walsh for Mayor. I resonate with Marty on many personal levels. He is dedicated to: neighborhoods, working men and women, healthcare and education. He doesn’t talk about it, or dream about it; he lives it.

He is a city guy, a neighborhood guy, a people-first guy. Raised in Dorchester … he knows the happiness, struggles and distress that exist in the everyday life of every neighborhood family.

His personal strength was forged by his parents and through his friends, his co-workers and from the streets of our city.

Marty knows first-hand the ravages of disease and the value of good and innovative health care. He knows the pain, the tears, the uncertainty of life and the joy of survival as a childhood cancer survivor. He will be a great health advocate.

I have been living too long in a district wherein the only contact we have with the city government, outside of the parking fines and fees, is through the ‘oh-yea-by-the-way’ public-meetings to announce what city hall has Okayed for our community without input from residents.

Like many friends I know, I am what I refer to as, an abandoned Democrat, growing up in South Boston. But as a fiscal conservative and a believer in small and efficient government, I determined that the Democratic Party became a very singular one-way street. I was left behind. I now vote as ‘Unaligned’ or ‘Independent’ or whatever they want to call it.

And, as an artist, I’d be less that transparent if I didn’t mention that he will be a champion of the arts in Boston. I resonate with Marty Walsh for many reasons and found solid answers in his make-up, experience and plans as mayor.

As this is why I am voting for Marty Walsh for Mayor of Boston.

Respectfully,
Dan McCole

Growing up in South Boston, I have always admired Bill Linehan for the decent family man he is and for his decades of dedication to our neighborhood.

As senator, I had the privilege of working alongside Bill on the many issues that affect our town and I know that we need his experience and leadership on the City Council now more than ever.

I know Bill Linehan, I trust him, and I believe in him.

I hope you join me in voting for Bill Linehan
On Tuesday, November 5th.

Sincerely,
Jack Hart

Paid for by The Committee to Elect Bill Linehan
Unlike most media tripping over themselves in trying to outdo each other in heaping praise on the outgoing administration many of us here at “ground zero” see the last 20 years through a different prism.

Recently it was recounted here the 1998 approval and funding of a South Boston Youth Center that was never built with the disposition of its $400,000 unknown. This was the first of what has become a pattern of promising residents benefits for supporting large developments, only to renege on the promise after the development approval.

In March of 1998, the lead story on the evening news and front page news the following day was the signed agreement by the City and South Boston residents creating 120 units of housing at D and First Streets in exchange for support to build the Convention Center. There were smiles all around. Not a discouraging word was heard from politicians, media or residents. Fast forward two years to May 24, 2000. The ground breaking has already started and the deal with the developing company is signed that day. The very next day the Boston Globe prints the first of an almost daily attack of editorials calling South Bostonians greedy extortionists. The same day, the Mayor announces he is tearing up the deal. His stated reasons were “he heard some of the people involved were unscrupulous”, which was absolutely untrue, but typical of the bullying tactics back then. Not an ounce of any kind of proof emerged then or since but approximately 400 or more South Bostonians were denied an opportunity to continue to live here - a form of “economic genocide”. Even though no housing was built, the area was rezoned for housing. Conveniently, the proposed new hotels on D Street are able to take advantage of that residential zoning.

We are not alone in this administration’s game of ‘promise them anything’ until the project is built. Residents around Fenway Park grudgingly agreed to close Yawkey Way during game day events - not insignificant when realizing this is the only intersecting street between Commonwealth Ave. and the Fen area of Boylston Street. Landsdowne Street is always closed on game day.

Now in a closed door agreement, Yawkey Way is being “rented” to Fenway Park allowing them to close and control the street every day. The Sox owners are happy, but the impacted residents less so, which brings us, oddly enough, to the Suffolk Downs announcement that Caesars Gaming was being forced out as a partner because the Massachusetts Gaming Commission had discovered that organized crime, through the Russian mafia, is allegedly involved in some fashion.

This casino is a big deal, let’s not kid ourselves. Lots of big powerful money and interests involved. This column would argue the most important interest is the future of the city and its people. They should have all the facts. They should not have information about the proponents held from them. It turns out that while he was promoting the casino over the last month, Mayor Menino knew of the Russian connections and chose to remain silent. When asked why, his response was they were only “rumors”. Weren’t they only “rumors” when he blew up a deal for 120 units of affordable housing?

Why discount rumors from an official government agency, which has since caused Caesar’s exit, when so much is at stake? Even well regulated and licensed gambling venues are proven to cause many different societal problems and family strife. Why keep people in the dark on such an important choice they have to make? Why do the interests of developers whether variance approvals or tax breaks always come before the interests of the people with this administration? This upcoming election offers a choice for a different future. Both candidates seem to be competent, earnest and likable. Both seem to be good men. There is, though, a distinct difference in their visions. Both say the right things about quality of life and city services. Both recognize development is essential to growth. So the choice is simple, yet important. It’s a choice of a new way or a continuance of the old. Who makes that case?

Choose wisely and hopefully a new day will dawn on election day.

Take care till next week.
Vertex Gets A Reality Check

Vertex Pharmaceuticals says it plans to eliminate about 15 percent of its worldwide workforce, including about 175 positions in Massachusetts.

Just two weeks ago, Vertex, which is expanding to the South Boston Waterfront and vacating its multi-building offices in Cambridge, announced a new partnership between the University of Massachusetts and Vertex Pharmaceuticals that aims to support South Boston high school students at the Green Academy with Science Leaders Scholarships, as they pursue degrees in the science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) fields. In announcing this, Mayor Tom Menino stated, “It’s so important that our young people are encouraged to pursue careers in STEM fields. These are the jobs of the future, especially in Boston.” This is not expected to be affected, but the surprise layoff announcement points out that market forces and competition are the key factors in economic growth. Public stimulus in the form of tax incentives must be matched by the reality of Global competition.

The Cambridge-based biotechnology firm made the announcement on Tuesday, saying that sales of Incivek, a drug to treat Hepatitis C, were expected to continue to decline as other treatments become available. An advisory committee to the U.S. Food and Drug Administration recently recommended approval of a competing hepatitis C drug from Gilead Sciences.

More than any company, Vertex Pharmaceuticals Inc. has symbolized the explosive growth of the Boston area biotechnology industry. It won back-to-back approvals over the past two years to sell drugs for hepatitis C and cystic fibrosis, emerging as a stock market favorite. Vertex acknowledged that it misjudged the market for what had been its best-selling drug.

Because of the cuts, company officials said, Vertex will return $4.4 million in tax incentives it received from the state for creating jobs in Massachusetts.
It’s Not Just About You, It’s About Us.

A voter, if you vote in your self interest, you certainly will find initial satisfaction that you’ve somehow protected yourself. Sometimes, self interest has its place, especially when it comes to personal safety and national security, for example. Self interest in its other forms, however, has been on unabashed and unfettered display over the last decade all around this City.

The time has arrived when the urge to vote simply on self interest may have the unintended effect of continuing the same old, same old and stymie the vision of a more inclusive Boston. Each candidate has committed to a City where diversity will be a factor, but differ on the how. Is it diversity for diversity sake, or an equation where diversity and talent intersect?

The final debate between City Councilor John Connolly and Representative Marty Walsh held on Tuesday has put the pre-finishing touches on a campaign sidetracked, legitimately, by questions about the impact of nearly $2 million of outside money from special interests supporting Walsh that were negative.

These diversions aside, the final imprint these candidates put on their message is the more important and the question is – who has the vision, capacity and experience to manage and lead a $2 billion enterprise with a board of directors of between 100,000 and 600,000 depending on how many people vote.

Connolly’s responses in the debate pointed to his record of being independent enough to better manage the city’s finances, non-traditional enough to make the kind of changes in the city bureaucracy to insure better services and programs in education, public safety and housing and progressive enough to bring economic opportunity to all neighborhoods.

Walsh’s responses in the debate pointed to his record of being able to negotiate union contracts on behalf of the building trades to prevent the need for binding arbitration, build consensus among constituencies, bring government officials onto his team and use his life experiences to help guide his vision for the city.

In the final analysis, what kind of City do you want, not just for yourself, but for all Bostonians? As with many issues facing the city, we are all in this together. This may be the time to choose a mayor whose election will allow your self-interest and the public interest to intersect. Then, we will have a city that will benefit all.

Why I Support John Connolly for Mayor of Boston

By Rep. Nick Collins

My decision to endorse and support John Connolly for mayor is based on his courage to stand up and take on the tough issues.

We need that courage to create more housing for seniors and middle market housing for middle class families so that they can remain in our community. We need that courage when it comes to bringing more public safety resources to the war on drugs. We need that courage when it comes to giving our neighborhood a voice on development.

I also believe that for the first time in a generation, we have an opportunity to put our city on a pathway to providing quality schools close to home. Whether you are a parent or not, quality schools close to home will lift our community up.

But to do so, I believe we need a leader who has the courage to stand up for families in this city. I stood with John last year when he fought to improve the schools. John Connolly took the lead on student assignment reform and quality schools close to home, which will provide safer and healthier neighborhoods and keep middle class families in Boston.

What Boston needs now is a leader with the courage to make the tough decisions. I believe John Connolly is that leader.
BOSTON – James E. Rooney, executive director of the Massachusetts Convention Center Authority, was honored last week by the Massachusetts Building Congress and received the group’s Skyline Award for Outstanding Achievement. The rare award was presented at MBC’s 93rd Annual Dinner October 17 at the Westin Boston Waterfront Hotel.

The Massachusetts Building Congress Outstanding Achievement Award has been presented only six times in the organization’s 93-year history. This award is given only by unanimous approval of the Board of Directors and officers of the MBC, and only when an individual in our industry achieves extraordinary lifetime success.

“We recognize Jim’s career shows extraordinary accomplishment,” said Ben Goldfarb, MBC president. “Our membership spans many ages, backgrounds and disciplines, and it is a tribute to Jim that his contributions are so widely known and appreciated across the entire MBC community and its member companies. In Jim’s career, he has proven that there is power in collaboration: on the team leading the construction of the Boston Convention & Exhibition Center, in his civic pursuits, and in his leadership at MCCA.”

Rooney previously served as director of development and construction for the MCCA, overseeing construction of the $850 million BCEC and the renovation and expansion of the $71 million MassMutual Center. The BCEC project was later hailed as one of the best-run public works projects in the country, and both projects were completed on schedule and within budget. He and his team are currently planning the construction of several hotels near the BCEC as well as the possible expansion of development and construction for the BCEC and Hynes Convention Centre Authority (MCCA) owns and oversees the operations of the Boston Convention and Exhibition Center, the John B. Hynes Veterans Memorial Convention Center, the MassMutual Center in Springfield, MA and the Boston Common Parking Garage. The BCEC and Hynes have earned a rare gold standard from the International Association of Congress Centres (AIPC), making Boston only the fourth city in North America and the 12th worldwide to have been awarded this top standard, the highest certification level a convention facility can achieve under strict AIPC guidelines.

In 2012, the MCCA hosted 245 events at the BCEC and Hynes with 654,119 attendees, generating 561,279 hotel room nights and $656 million in economic impact. The MCCA is currently in the midst of its Top 5 campaign to launch Boston into the top five convention destinations in North America. For more information, go to www.massconvention.com.

Jim Rooney Honored by Massachusetts Building Congress

Press report

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• Accredited by the New England Association of Schools and Colleges
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• Graduating classes have achieved high acceptance rate to area Catholic High Schools & Independent High Schools
• Hot Lunch program

For more information and to tour our campus, please call the school office at 617-227-3143
Easily accessible by public transportation

Believe It! Voting is the first step. Don’t complain, if you don’t vote.
John Connolly’s Plan to Create Housing Options For Everyone

Every person who chooses to live in Boston should be able to confidently say that it is the best decision he or she ever made. City Hall must work to ensure that our communities are vibrant and diverse, welcoming and valuing the contributions of each resident. Affordability is the lynchpin to this aspiration, and a strong and stable mix of housing types that provide options for all residents is a start. While John will continue to support and expand Boston’s good work around affordable housing, expanding middle market housing for seniors, young families, young professionals, and young artists must be the centerpiece of our efforts.

As mayor, John’s priorities for strengthening neighborhoods by Creating Family-Friendly and Workforce Housing will include:

• Building more 3 bedroom units for young families;
• Ensuring safe affordable housing for our seniors;
• Increasing the supply of micro lofts to create affordable options for recent graduates, young artists, and young professionals; and
• Expanding programs that increase home ownership among our city workers.

To ensure that a variety of price ranges and sizes are available to meet the needs of our diverse population, we also must expand our stock of housing options. We must develop a middle-market housing strategy that allows families and our workforce to live in the city. As mayor, John would leverage the resources and influence of the Department of Neighborhood Development, the BRA and the Housing Trust to prioritize three-bedroom construction, artists’ lofts, and affordable “micro-units” for our young families, seniors, and young professionals.

We must push for more units for low-income households, including people who were formerly homeless. Additionally, John will promote the production of new affordable homeownership and rental opportunities by getting already-foreclosed properties into the hands of Community Development Corporations who can remarket units to eligible families. These partners can create mixed-income, mixed-use developments on vacant and underutilized properties that promote transit-oriented and smart-growth principles.

As mayor, John will lead a conversation with banks and financial institutions, urging them to work on creative solutions to our city’s foreclosure problems. Concurrently, he will urge cooperation with organizations such as Boston Community Capital, whose innovative programs are responsible for purchasing homes that are at risk for foreclosure. BCC has already reduced housing payments by 40% for hundreds of citizens across the commonwealth, and the expansion of such programs is crucial to assisting Boston homeowners who are behind on their payments due to predatory mortgages and unemployment.

Since it is significantly more cost-effective to utilize existing housing rather than build new units, John Connolly will fight to preserve affordable housing across our city for working families and seniors. Much of our affordable housing was built in the 1960s and 1970s with 40-year restricted periods that required building owners to maintain affordable rents. In 2015, over 2,000 units will be at risk of losing their affordable status due to this “expiring use.” John will work with building owners, tenants, and community partners to preserve these units as affordable, using strategies such as the state’s 40T law.

John believes that we all must work together and invest in our neighborhoods to make Boston as vibrant as ever. For people who want to invest in their communities by buying a home, John will make sure we do everything we can to provide homebuyer education and ensure access to low-cost loans for first-time and low-to-moderate income homebuyers. We should also pursue programs to support Boston teachers, police officers, firefighters, and other city workers who want to live in our city. Our communities benefit when the men and women who teach our children, keep our streets safe, and make our city work are also our neighbors.
Window Into The State House

Window Into The State House provides our readers a synopsis of important issues of interest, past and current, that are being proposed, debated or acted upon by the Massachusetts Legislature. Many issues that are not related to local city government services are acted upon and have a direct impact on daily life. They are tax policy, transportation infrastructure, judicial appointments, social services and health, as well as higher education.

We will excerpt reports from the gavel-to-gavel coverage of House and Senate sessions by news sources focused on this important aspect of our lives. These sources include a look ahead at the coming week in state government and summaries and analyses of the past week, re-caps of a range of state government activity, as well as links to other news.

E-CIGARETTE REGULATION BILL CLEARSD COMMITTEE

E-cigarettes would face the same tobacco control laws that prohibit sales to minors and prevent their use where smoking is banned, under a bill recommended favorably Tuesday by a legislative committee. The Joint Committee on Public Health voted in favor of the bill (H 3639), filed by the committee co-chair, Rep. Jeffrey Sanchez (D-Jamaica Plain). Forty-four cities and towns, including Boston, have imposed regulations on e-cigarettes, but state law is silent on the increasingly popular products. E-cigarettes are battery-operated products that deliver nicotine by vaporizing it. Proponents of restrictions have decried that young people can walk into a store and legally purchase the products. “I filed this legislation to prevent that, and hopefully prevent the creation of a new generation of nicotine addicts,” Sanchez said. During a hearing earlier this month, Steve Ryan, executive director of the New England Convenience Store Association, said store owners in his association shy away from selling to minors. They support restricting sales to minors, but think “restrictions on where products may be used is more complicated,” he said. – C. Quinn/SHNS

SENATE SUPPORT UNANIMOUS FOR BILL TO IMPROVE VETERANS SERVICES

The Senate unanimously approved legislation Thursday extending to veterans and their families enhanced property tax relief opportunities, employment support services, and new types of medals and license plates honoring military veterans. The bill (S 1876), which packaged 14 different proposals into a single bill, was written by Sen. Michael Rush (D-West Roxbury) and Rep. Carlo Basile (D-East Boston), who co-chair the Committee on Veterans and Federal Affairs. Rush said the bill builds on a law passed last year, known as the VALOR Act. The new legislation, dubbed VALOR II, will help veterans receive the benefits they deserve, he said. The bill would allow veterans enrolled in college and called away to active duty to delay their classes without penalty or withdraw with a full refund. A local program created by the 2012 VALOR Act allowing cities and towns to offer property tax discounts to veterans that volunteer services to the community would be expanded to include spouses of deceased or disabled veterans.

ONLINE PUBLIC MEETINGS UP FOR DISCUSSION

The future of boards and commissions conducting some of their discussions online is unclear, as advocates on both side of the issue voiced their opinions of a bill that would permit the practice. Public boards and commissions must hold posted meetings in a physical place under the current law, which Norfolk resident David Rosenberg said has prohibited boards in his town from participating in an online forum to prepare people for Town Meeting. Robert Ambrogi, an attorney and executive director of the Newspaper Publishers Association, argued against the change in Open Meeting Law, saying that great numbers of seniors, low-income people, people with disabilities and people in rural areas either don’t have or don’t use the Internet.

CONTINUED ON page 16
The Artists’ Studio  The Arts and the Red Sox

By Dan McCole

Yep, we’re in the middle of the Red Sox and the World Series … however there are lots of ‘Art’ things going on in and around the area. But until the Sox take their fourth win (hopefully when the paper comes out on Thursday we’ll be celebrating the champs) let’s settle back and quiet our nerves and contemplate the calming influence of creative art.

Coming up, over the weekend (Saturday, November 2 and Sunday, November 3 – from noon to 6 p.m.) South Boston artists and craftspeople in the Distillery building – 516 East Second Street, Medicine Wheel - 110 K Street and the Thomas Young Studio - 469 W. Broadway will open their studios and share their work with visitors. It’s all free to the public who can spend some time schmoozing with creative types, tour their studios where art is produced and just might make a purchase directly from the artists … without obstruction … yeh. ‘without obstruction’ … like the phantom call of ’obstruction’ that lost the game for the Sox Sunday night, when it was absolutely a bad call. But let’s not dwell on that.

There is no use crying over an umpire who, last year with two outs in the ninth with a pitcher throwing a no-hitter, couldn’t see that a runner was clearly out to everyone in the park and throughout the television world and ruined the pitcher’s no-hitter.

But I’ve slipped off my message. So, now we move on to other things in the art world.

How’s this? Saturday, November 2, 1:30 at 3:30 the public can catch a ‘Poetry Reading’ at the South Boston East Broadway Branch Library. The event is sponsored by the South Boston Arts Association under the direction of Dorothy Morris and Susan Mahan. The theme is peace and joy and adults and teens are invited to come and read some of their works, or just listen. The event is free and light refreshments will be served.

And speaking of catchings … how about David Ross … the back-up Red Sox catcher, known primarily for his work behind the plate, who hits a run scoring (winning) double on Monday night. Another in the line of back benchers who step up and deliver … for the Red Sox like Jonny Gomes, (home run to win Sunday’s game) and ailing Shane Victorino (winning home run in game three and taking a 98 mile and hour fastball in the thigh for the team in game four.). And rookie Xander Bogaerts, second in hitting to Papi who is hitting like a man possessed.)

But … that’s just a little boys game … creative at times but a little boys game nonetheless. So back to the Arts. So, John Singer Sargent’s Watercolor Exhibit is still at the Museum of Fine Arts and the three Wyeths – N.C., Andrew and Jamie, three generations of one of the most influential families in modern American art, are featured in an exhibition at the Shelburne Museum and Shelburne, Vermont. Still can catch a bit of the fall foliage on the drive if you hurry.

There’s some other arts stuff going on … but I don’t have the time to go over it. I’m trying to get tickets for tomorrow’s game. I’ll drop in at the MFA for another look at the Sargent watercolors before the National Anthem. -Dan
SOUTHIE HALLOWEEN PUB CRAWL

Join the frightening fun on Southie’s first ever Halloween restaurant & pub crawl on All Hallow’s Eve, Thursday October 31, 2013 featuring some of the best pub and restaurant venues in Southie.

Suggested Crawl Schedule

6:30PM 7:30PM
Lucky’s Lounge Lincoln Tavern & Restaurant
Lucky’s Lounge Lincoln Tavern & Restaurant
Serving Specialty Serving Specialty
Cocktails & Appetizers Cocktails, Appetizers & Photo Booth Fun

8:30PM 9:30PM
Franklin Southie Barlow’s Restaurant
Franklin Southie Barlow’s Restaurant
Serving Specialty Serving Specialty
Cocktails, Appetizers & Best Costume Prizes Cocktails, Appetizers & Treat Bag

10:30PM
Murphy’s Law
Murphy’s Law
Serving Spiked Cider & Pizza

Don’t Want to Follow A Schedule? We’ll Take You to the Venues of Your Choice!

Tickets are limited so don't wait too long and stay tuned for more hauntingly fun event updates on our Facebook page and website. We’re sure to have a screamingly fun time!

Tickets at:
SouthieHalloweenCrawl.Eventbrite.com

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Stepping Up: Reuse, Reduce, Recycle

Mother Nature. She’s something else. This time last year, we felt the earth shake, rattle and roll with Hurricane Sandy. A lone sailboat washed ashore Carson Beach and stayed for the duration of the winter and into spring. Though the change of season brings a certain expectation of weather, there is always a twist thrown in where a snow squall halts the city. But, it’s not all bad. The natural environs can also work in our favor.

By doing our part to recycle approved goods, use non-toxic cleaners and walk more, our quality of life, and that of the earth, can improve drastically. And by reigning in some of those faculties, we can reuse for energy and heating. Check out this opportunity to do just that.

Stepping Out: Cheers Dears!

It seems only yesterday I was sticking my toes in the sand and reading trashy novels at M St. beach. Alas, this morning I awoke at the un-Godly hour of 6 am to move my precariously parked car and saw (actually did NOT see because it was PITCH BLACK) my breath and frost on my vehicle. I have resigned myself that it’s here to stay. But cold weather doesn’t just translate into low temps, snow and ice. It also means the holiday season of giving is upon us. That, and any excuse to get out of the house, wear something sparkly & PARTY! Here are two fun times to kick off the season of hangovers! Be the first to arrive and the last to leave!

We’ve Only Just Begun…

What better way to get a jump on the holidays than to start the first week of November? By Thanksgiving- you will be a pro. You will have learned your water-to-drink ratio, the right time to take Advil and exactly how much sleep you actually need in order to not resemble your Halloween zombie costume. BostInno, an online website that publishes local news and events, is putting on their holiday soiree and blending celebration and competition, Wednesday November 6th. There will be a cocktail throw down between four mixologists; you will get to sample all four and bedeck the champion with first prize! BostInno is also unveiling their first craft brew- with a contest currently running for the best name. I can drink to that!!

What’s Good for the Goose is Good for the Gander

You’ve hit the trifecta- batch brews, decadent dishes and gourmet goodies. I can honestly say, it doesn’t get much better than those three. On Thursday November 7th, Goose Island Beer Company is BBQing and consumin’ down on the South Boston Waterfront at the the Exchange Center at the Boston Fish Pier. From 6-9pm, some of Boston’s best chefs will be cooking up some finger lickin’ good food to pair with the 7 Goose Island beers offered. Top it all off with some chocolates from Wild Ophelia, and your goose is golden! Birds of a feather flock together.
Touch: *Have a Hand in It*

Cue the Christmas carols. With Thanksgiving ads to start @ 1:00.01 am on November 1, why not start off the season of giving on the right (or left) hand? This Friday 11/01, 7-10 pm, the Urban Art Bar is hosting a fundraiser for the Crohn’s & Colitis Foundation, where $20 of EACH spot purchased will be donated to the cause. “Winter in Boston” is the masterpiece that will be created, and we all know that season is also on it’s way. Lend a helping hand.

theurbanartbar.com  cefa.org (info about Crohn’s and Colitis)

See: *Bump in the Night*

Who knew that Broadway ended in Fort Point? B.U.M.P.: Boston’s Unscripted Musical Project, is an improvisation theater troupe that takes an audience suggestion and turns it into a NYC-worthy musical. Located at the site of the Boston Button Factory, the Ministry of Theater groups invites you to B.Y.O.B. (think Bota box with a straw & ID) and join in on the fun; there is a production being held this Friday 11/01, at 9pm. “They say the neon lights are bright on Broadway,” and the new street lamps on Melcher Street!

ministryoftheater.com  bumpwithfriends.eventbrite.com

Taste: *Big Mouth*

I don’t know about you but my Halloween costume was so creative & expensive that I want to wear it one last time. If that’s the case for you as well here’s your chance. Tavern Road is having a 1st Annual “362 Days ‘Til Halloween Lamb Roast” on 11/03. Just like you, the whole roasted American lamb will be dressed in its best marinade and accompanied by its most complimentary and tasty sides. Dress up and Eat up!

tavernroad.com  eventbrite.com/event/8983314335

Smell: *Trick or Treat, Smell My Feet, Give Me Something Good to Sip*

All Hallows Eve is not your last chance to chase the Boogey Man away. On All Saint’s Day, come as a saint and party like a sinner at Stat’s “Spooky Stats Halloween”. Rattle dem bones from 8pm-1am on 11/01; tickets may be purchased in advance. I smell a good time!

statsboston.com  spookystats.eventbrite.com

Hear: *Give ‘Em a Peace of Your Mind*

Listen up. This Saturday 11/02, the South Boston Branch of the Boston Public Library and South Boston Arts Association are hosting a poetry reading, 1:30-3:30pm. The theme is peace and joy and all are welcome to recite their penned piece or a favorite verse in the genre. I know I’m all ears!

southbostonartsassociation.org  facebook.com/pages/South-Boston-Branch-of-the-Boston-Public-Library

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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._
Department of Housing and Community Development and $8.1 million for the Secretary of State William Galvin’s office to cover the costs of special elections. The appropriations are part of a $74.6 million spending bill endorsed by the House Ways and Means Committee and will be up for debate on the House floor Wednesday afternoon. - M. Norton/SHNS

WESTERN TURNPike TOLLS ARE BACK

The Patrick administration reinstated tolls overnight on the western end of the Massachusetts Turnpike, between Interchange 1 in West Stockbridge and the junction of I-291 at Interchange 6 in Springfield. The state estimates it will collect $12 million from the tolls, money that by law may not be spent on turnpike construction or maintenance east of Interstate 95/Rte. 128. The state Department of Transportation says the funds could pay for bridge deck replacement and resurfacing, bridge cleaning and painting, and bridge and culvert repairs, as well as service plazas and maintenance depot roof projects.

CONTINUED FROM page 3

exactly who we’re supposed to be.

The reason for this story is to highlight the insanity of Political Correctness running amok. These people need to be leashed and Correctness running amok. These highlight the insanity of Political exactly who we’re supposed to be.

CONTINUED FROM page 10

start preparing for Christmas now and put all those who decorate their ‘Holiday Trees’ on notice.

Oh, and finally, a word to the wise for all of those running for office. You would do well to have your voting booth monitors and attorneys at as many, if not all, polling locations. Because if you think voter fraud and ballot tampering doesn’t happen in Boston you are a bit naïve.

Note: Talk Back to John Ciccone by email at jciccone@southbostontoday.com
Recent South Boston Real Estate Sales

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Price</th>
<th>Sale Date</th>
<th>Rooms</th>
<th>Baths</th>
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Pre-Market Offering

2 Bedroom 2 Bath Condominium Units with Garage Parking and Outdoor Living Space

Starting at $499,000

South Boston Skating Rink
Sunday 5PM Starts Nov. 3

Quincy Shea Rink
Sunday 11AM Starts Nov. 3
Wednesday 4PM Starts Nov. 13

781-890-8480
www.BayStateSkatingSchool.org
AUTUMN IN TUSCANY

All over Tuscany, the grape harvests have been over for several weeks now and for Tuscan reds, the time of separating the juice from the skin of crushed grapes is just about here. For the region’s better wines, the next step will be the most important—decisions about what the fermentation will involve and there are lots of decisions to be made. For example, some of the more important ones are what temperature will be maintained, what kind of extraction process will be used and what type of fermentation vessel (stainless steel or wood) will be chosen, not to mention the type of yeast agent that will be used.

Fortunately for us, the Tuscans have been at this for centuries, so the guesswork is minimal and the wines are more varied and delicious than ever, with one region in particular being at the forefront of trying new ways to make better and more varied wines than almost anywhere else in the region. That place is Maremma. Like the Caneros region of California’s Napa Valley, Maremma is a region within a region and as recently as 35 years ago was considered the “wild frontier” of Tuscany, with little more than the natural beauty of its gently rolling hills, olive groves and simple vineyards to recommend it.

Today there are many, both inside and outside the region, who think it may one day soon become the Napa Valley of Italy. One of the pioneers in this region is Erik Banti, whose vineyards in and around the town of Scansano are producing great drinking wines at attractive prices. The big reason for the quality of the wine and its price is that Banti’s wines, like those of the whole area, are able to use a lot of latitude regarding how their wine can be blended.

*His Morellino di Scanzano (~$13.99)* is made using 80-85% Sangiovese, small percentages of Canaiolo and Malvasia Nera and 10-15% Alicante (the local name for Grenache). The resulting wine is lush, complex with a hint of black cherries and violets in the nose. It has an excellent balance and a very satisfying finish. Try it out with grilled Black Angus burgers and some smoked Gouda cheese; you won’t be sorry.

Another great producer, Carpineto, makes a wine called Dogajola (~$12.99) and this wine is based on the original combination that created the “Super Tuscan” category of red wine—Sangiovese and Cabernet Sauvignon. The nose is fruity with hints of cherry, coffee, vanilla and spice. It’s full and soft on the palate with complex and well-developed flavors and tannins. If you’re having friends over for dinner, serve it with a Hanger steak, garlic-infused mashed potatoes and sautéed spinach with white beans and pine nuts; it’ll be memorable.

As autumn keeps coming on, do what the Tuscans do—gather family and friends together and have some refreshing wines and good food to welcome the crisp days and cool nights of autumn.

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Jamie Driscoll, a wine consultant, is the proud son and grandson of South Boston families and has been involved in various aspects of the wine business for over 35 years. Working in the restaurant business before and after attending Georgetown University, he was introduced to wine by an Englishman, Robyn MacAuley, who bought the wines for the restaurants. He would travel to Europe every year and buy directly for the family’s importing business. On Sunday afternoons, a group of us would try Robyn’s selections and he was hooked on the wine business and has been learning ever since.

Jamie states, “I hope that, in the coming weeks, you’ll look forward to learning with me and thank you in advance for your interest.” You can send questions to: jdriscoll@southbostontoday.com.

Finally, his only rule with respect to learning about and enjoying wine is that it must be fun!
Most people have fond memories about their years growing up. Things like holidays, summer vacations, maybe going to a fair or to an amusement park, playing with friends at the park. All of these memories can bring a smile to the faces of most. But we’re willing to bet that among the things we’d all rather forget would be those occasional trips to the dentist office. Just the days, maybe weeks, leading up to that dreaded date marked on the calendar would be enough to cause the jitters and anxiety and possibly you might have come up with some creative excuses why you were just not feeling well enough to go. But it’s now 2013 and boy have times ever changed, at least the dental visit experience certainly has, especially if you go to South Boston Dental Associates Inc. on Farragut Road. When you walk in the door of SBDA for the first time, it’s nothing like you might have been expecting. The office itself is bright and cheerful looking. You’re greeted by smiling faces eager to put you at ease and who have a pleasant way of assuring you that you have nothing to worry about; everything will be fine and you’ll be glad you came. Yes, this really is a dentist’s office that puts you at ease. They do exist. Here you will find exceptional care with a gentle touch. It’s been said that SBDA Inc. even caters to cowards. No need to fear the dentist visit here. Who would have thought?

No matter what your dental related concern, SBDA has a specialist to take care of it for you. Because here, there’s not one, not two, but seven dentists. This is certainly a multi-specialty operation. Whether you need a specialist in endodontics, periodontics, orthodontics or an oral surgeon, they are all here under one roof for your convenience. Some of the finest dentists that can be found anywhere are Philip Barber, James J. McDermott, Andrew Luccio, Peter Rider, Michele Crohin, Robert Lincoln and James Buechel; all of them can be found right here in South Boston at 29 Farragut Rd.

South Boston Dental Associates Inc. is now well known for being in the business of helping everyone. Whether you have been a lifelong South Bostonian, whose family has been here for generations, or a new arrival who just recently became a resident, South Boston Dental Associates Inc. is here to serve. Its practice dates back to the 1960’s when the business was started by Dr. Barry Siegel. It was later bought by Doctors Edward Friedman and Philip Barber. Dr. Barber is now the sole owner. And Like the popular TV series Cheers, one of the mottos of SBDA is ‘Where everyone knows your name’. It is that welcoming, you feel that comfortable when there.

Ellie Fusco, the Practice Administrator has been here for 27 years. She is a true professional who certainly likes what she does and is very proud of the service SBDA Inc. has provided to the community for so long. She explained in detail how this is a company that prides itself on high standards, uncompromising safety and making sure that every patient and client has a positive experience. She is typical of the wonderful staff here, all of whom seem to genuinely enjoy their jobs and like interacting with neighborhood people. It’s easy to see that this is a pleasant working environment; which helps explain the longevity of the staff - most have been here for decades. The fact that they are so happy working at South Boston Dental Associates Inc. does much to make this such a welcoming environment for so many returning as well as new patrons. And the fact that it IS such a positive experience is the reason so many patients return year after year.

To learn more about South Boston Dental Associates Inc. you can log onto their website at www.southbostondental.com., call them at 617-268-1030 or better yet, why not stop in and see for yourself what a true state of the art dental care facility with that personal touch really is. They are located at 29 Farragut Rd., right here in South Boston. You are sure to be impressed. And the odds are, you too will become one of those satisfied patrons who actually looks forward to their dental visits.
The Castle Island Association’s Children’s Magical Halloween Castle A Great Success!

The Castle Island Association’s 31st annual Children’s Magical Halloween Castle at Fort Independence was held this past weekend. Almost 8700 visitors enjoyed the Haunted Castle, storytellers, magician, and free popcorn, cookies and apple juice. Judging by the smiles and comments of the visitors as they left everyone had a great time!

This event would not be possible without the support of time and money from the members of the Castle Island Association, their family and friends, our South Boston community and some of our local businesses. About 100 volunteers each gave up 4-5 hours of time on Saturday or Sunday or both days, to help host the event. Over 2000 hours over the past month was spent by 45 volunteers changing Fort Independence into the Children’s Magical Halloween Castle. In addition, 57 volunteers spent a morning stuffing over 8000 Trick-or-Treat bags which were given out to the visitors as they left.

The Castle Island Association is looking forward to next year’s 32nd Children’s Magical Halloween Castle on October 25 and 26 (save the date!) and also is looking for more volunteers to assist with this great, fun event. Anyone who is interested can contact the Castle Island Association at 617-268-8840 or drop a note to P.O. Box 342, South Boston, MA 02127
Last Friday at the “L”, renowned magician and comedian Matt Roberts brought his amazing talents to a packed Curley Community Center. The crowd, made up of all ages, was amused and thrilled by Roberts’ comedic timing and sleight of hand. It was a great family Friday night filled with audience participation, original illusions and an impressive Houdini-like straightjacket escape while drinking orange juice! Astonished by having their minds read, making objects disappear and witnessing the popular magic rings and ropes tricks had everyone on the edge of their seats cheering.

Special thanks to the Retired Boston Police Officer’s Association for sponsoring this great event!

Also, watch for the Grand Opening and Membership Drive announcement for the Curley Community Center’s Youth & Teen Center with combined new Teen Fitness Center included offering after-school hours, Homework Help, tutoring, community service opportunities for high school students, a newly furnished lounge with giant flat screen TV, teen workshops and seminars, scheduled field trips and more. For more information please call Barbara Kelly, (617)635-5104.
Jim Kelly Memorial Blood Drive This Saturday

This coming Saturday, November 3rd from 9:30 am till 2:30 pm, the annual blood drive in memory of James M ‘Jim’ Kelly will be held at South Boston Catholic Academy located at 866 East Broadway. Use the O Street entrance.

This year’s drive, sponsored by the American Red Cross and the family of Jim Kelly will also remember the legendary coach of the Harvard University’s Baseball team Mr. Joe Walsh, who was not only Jim Kelly’s son in law, but his friend.

For more information, you can call 1800-773-2767 or log onto the American Red Cross website at www.redcrossblooddrive.org

Kevin Cellucci Foundation Benefit on Nov 2nd

It can never be said that the people in this town don’t rise to the occasion when someone is the victim of a serious injury, fire or other such tragedy. For generations the generosity from locals has been an established fact defining the deep rooted caring for neighbors in need of assistance that is so common here.

Once again, tragedy struck an innocent, good and decent person; in this case a young father of three very young children. This time it was Kevin Cellucci. Kevin has been married to Tina Lamonica Cellucci for 5 years and has 3 boys. Stephen is 4, Declan is 3 and Paul is 3 months old.

Kevin is a finish carpenter and on September 6th was driving to a job when an SUV travelling in a different direction jumped the medium strip and crashed into the vehicle that Kevin was driving. His injuries are critical and very serious.

On Saturday, November 2nd there will be a benefit to support the Kevin Cellucci Foundation. It will include entertainment as well as a live and silent auction. It will be held at the IBEW Local 40 Hall on Freeport Street in Dorchester starting at 7pm. Support is needed for medical and living expenses for this wonderful young family and this will be a fun way to help out friends and neighbors who find themselves in need of that support.

If you cannot attend the benefit in person but would like to make a financial donation or donate something to raffle, you can contact Pete Alvarado at www.kevincelluccifoundation.com

You can also contact Pete for information about tickets to the benefit as well as any other questions you might have about ways to help out.

Tragic accidents like this can strike any one of us and they always come without warning. Once again, friends and neighbors and all concerned citizens are asked to help out with a worthy cause. Helping the Cellucci family in a time of need certainly qualifies as one of those.
That’s what the members of the JET SETTERS Senior Citizen Bowling League say every Tuesday morning from September through May at the South Boston Candlepin Lanes on East Broadway. According to Margaret Hurley who is the league President, Secretary and what seemed to be the lead cheerleader, the league has 34 Senior Citizen members ranging in age from 65 to 85 years old. All the members are or former South Boston residents and are also members of The South Boston Senior Center. The SB Senior Center sends a special thank you to the Southie Shuttle team for providing transportation to and from league bowling.

While the real purpose of the league is for socializing and to have fun, they do have 8 teams of 4 people and they do keep score and know their team and individual standings. Cheering each other on during the two hours of bowling is the norm as all the members have also become friends. But there is also a competitive spirit that is realized at the end of the year banquet where awards and prizes are given out for the winning teams and also individual honors. The JET SETTERS are definitely about fun!!!!
St. John School Poised for Academic Success and Future Growth

St. John School is a private Catholic elementary school serving grades K3-8 and is located in Boston’s historic North End, Massachusetts. Since 1873, it has touched the lives of generations of children in the heart of a dynamic city. Reaching beyond the border of a storied neighborhood, St. John School serves students from all backgrounds and from all parts of Boston and beyond. The school cherishes the diversity of its student body and takes full advantage of the cultural and educational resources of an urban setting.

St. John School has experienced an increasing enrollment over the last several years which prompted a number of renovations to take place over the past two summers. Classrooms were renovated to make room for our two new three year old programs as well as an additional Kindergarten class, an additional first grade class and an additional second grade class. Along with new classrooms a wireless network has been installed and the first floor of the school is undergoing a transformation with new flooring and newly painted walls.

The 2013-2014 school year saw a number of academic enhancements being introduced. These academic enhancements are vital to St. John School’s ability to continue providing high-quality opportunities for learning to our students with the goal of providing the skills necessary for academic success at SJS and in high school. Some of our new academic enhancements are funded through proceeds raised at our fundraising events such as our “Dare to Dream Gala” while others are funded by grants and neighborhood programs.

A few examples of the academic enhancements included a $50,000.00 grant for the purchase of technology (iPads) for the students and to fund technology professional development for our teachers (four of our teachers were selected to attend the Summer Tech Program offered at Boston College at the end of June to learn more about the technology for the iPads); Kahn Academy will work with our middle school students in the computer lab to use technology to research and problem solve; our Supers Kids Reading Program will now be utilized in Kindergarten through Grade 2; the Latin and Greek Roots Program will be taught in Grades 2-8; we have a partnership with NEMPAC (North End Music and Performing Arts Center) to provide music programming to our students as well as choral instruction, private violin and piano instruction for our afterschool program and; our students will be attending classes at the North Bennet Street School for wood working, which has been funded through a grant we received from the Catholic Schools Foundation.

An afterschool program is offered at St. John School for parents who need it. There are many different extracurricular activities and programs in place for children to enjoy themselves in a structured and fun environment. Such activities include non-competitive sports, arts and crafts, drama, dance, yoga, fitness, board games, piano and violin instruction and field trips to local points of interest.

As we look to provide the best education for our students so that they achieve their full potential, we have been blessed with the hiring of several new teachers to our faculty. Our new hires include Brother Gregory Day, OFM, second grade teacher; Ashley Goldflam, third grade teacher; Ben DeWart, social studies teacher; John Cafferty, art teacher; Marilyn Fissora, K3 classroom aide and Co-Director of our afterschool program; Morag White, educational technologist; and Eryn Callahan, K5 classroom aide.

St. John School is in a truly a wonderful position to move into the future and to provide the best education for our students so that they achieve their full potential.
The Gavin Foundation, Inc.

The Gavin Foundation, Inc. held their annual Gratitude Dinner on Thursday October 24, 2013 at Florian Hall in Dorchester. There were over 400 in attendance celebrating the 51st anniversary of the Gavin House and the 14th anniversary of the Cushing House.

Honorees included City Councilor Bill Linehan, who was presented with the Resident Award, given to an individual whose work directly impacts the health and well-being of the individuals in treatment through the Gavin Foundation. His tireless work behind the scenes has saved countless lives in the recovery community. Past recipients have included Congressman Stephen Lynch and Representative Marty Walsh.

Additional information about all of the Gavin Foundation charities can be found on their website at gavinfoundation.org. News, photos and updates can also be found on Facebook/GavinFoundation and Twitter @gavinfoundation.

Cardinal Sean O’Malley Honors Mary, Gate Of Heaven

More than 500 people gathered as Cardinal Sean O’Malley concelebrated a Mass marking the 150th Anniversary of Gate of Heaven Parish founded in 1862. His Eminence, welcomed by the Very Reverend Robert Casey, pastor of both Gate of Heaven and St Brigid parishes, presided at an altar filled with former curates and deacons, several of whom were communicants of the parish and attended the schools. This included Bishop Hennessey, Deacon Ken Ryan, Deacon Kevin Martin, Reverend Rouse and others.

The Cardinal offered an eloquent homily focused on the meaning and power of prayer and the importance of the church in the community. His voice had a calming tone to it as he praised Pope Francis for his leadership in embracing all Catholics and his efforts to making reconciliation and tolerance keystones to his Papacy.

Former Ambassador to the Vatican, Ray Flynn, offered remarks by reminiscing of the role the church has played in the lives of those who called Gate of Heaven their parish. He touched upon the notion that, whether one knew it or not, our neighbors and the religious of the South Boston community always kept one another in their prayers.

The Mass was followed by a luncheon in the Lower Church dining area where the Cardinal took photos with many of the attendees and folks further reminisced about days gone by.

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
New From South Boston Catholic Academy
Using one of many resources provided by the Lynch Foundation Project, the SBCA K1 scientists took the classroom outdoors to observe the changes in the world around us.

To learn more about educational opportunities at South Boston Catholic Academy contact Barbara Keohane at b.keohane@sbcatholicacademy.org.
South Baptist Church Welcomes Little Logan Gaudette

On Sunday, South Boston’s South Baptist Church, located at the corner of L Street and E. Fourth held a very special ceremony welcoming with a ‘Dedication to God’ - 7 month old Logan Langevin-Gaudette. Handsome little Logan was the picture of patience and happiness during his Dedication and was all smiles throughout the entire service. Marci Lynn Langevin-Gaudette and Jeffrey Alexander Gaudette; little Logan’s Mom and Dad proudly accepted Logan as a gift from God and acknowledged their faith in Jesus Christ and responsibility that God places on them in bringing up their child. Logan has now been received into the love and care of the Church in the hope that hereafter he may choose to be baptized as one of Christ’s faithful servants.

This was a happy and festive ceremony; administered by South Baptist Church Pastors Patti and Gene Langevin as family members and the Church congregation looked on. The South Baptist Church holds Services each Sunday morning at 10:30 am. All are welcome to attend.

South Boston Flag Football League

2013 CO-ED Flag Football League
Non-contact Recreational flag football program designed to teach fundamental skills, Teamwork, Fair play, and fun! League includes; 8 games, jersey, and participation award

Final Registration will be at Pop Warner field this Friday Night at 5pm Nov.1st
All games Friday night at 6pm under the lights

Teams Are Made up by Grades
1-3rd Boys and Girls
4-6th Boys and Girls
7-8th Boys and Girls

Teams will be made up of 7 players per team
League format will be 7 on 7 Air it out style
1-3 grade teams will have an adult QB
Cost per player is $75 dollars
We are trying to get four teams for each division
We will keep playing as long as the weather permits. Hope to get 8 full weeks this session then start back up in March again.
Make all checks payable to SBFFL
Any Questions you can contact Bob Ferrara at rwferrara@gmail.com

Sal’s Ristorante & Pizzeria
2 LARGE CHEESE PIZZAS ONLY
$15.49

NOW OPEN SUNDAYS!
10:00am-2:00pm
DELIVERY AVAILABLE
617-268-5800 ORDER ON LINE AT: Salsofsouthie.com
205 L STREET, SOUTH BOSTON (CORNER OF L STREET & 8TH)
Serving South Boston Authentic Homestyle Italian Food Since 1986
Specializing in Breakfast Omelettes!

ALL OMELETTES ONLY $6.75

Egg White Special
-Egg Whites, Potatoes, Peppers, Provolone
Greek Omelette
- Olives, Spinach, Feta Cheese
Sicilian Omelette
-Prosciutto, Roasted Red Peppers, Provolone
Vegetable Omelette
- Spinach, Tomatoes, Onions, Mushrooms, Mozzarella Cheese
High Protein Omelette
- Egg Whites, Bacon, Chicken, Feta Cheese
Western Omelette
- Ham, Peppers, Onions, Am. Cheese
Southie Omelette
-Tomatoes, Mushrooms, Garlic, Am. Cheese
Steak, Egg & Cheese Omelette
-Extra Lean Shaved Steak, Am. Cheese
Meat Lovers’ Omelette
-Bacon, Sausage, Ham, Meatball, & Cheese

BREAKFAST SANDWICHES
SMALL: $5.00  LARGER: $5.75

Potato & Egg
Pepper & Egg
Ham & Egg
Bacon & Egg
Sausage & Egg
All Sandwiches Come On Your Choice Of A Sub Roll, Bagel, English Muffin Or Wrap (Plain, Wheat, Tomato Or Spinach)

THE BREAKFAST SPECIAL
Eggs Served Any Way You Like!
3 Eggs with home fries, toast & choice of ham, bacon or sausage $6.00
2 Eggs with home fries, toast & choice of ham, bacon or sausage $5.00
Bay State Skating School, Still Going Strong

Being on ice skates is almost second nature to anyone growing up in South Boston. This is a hockey town by any standard. The South Boston Youth Hockey League has produced legions of top-notch players over their many years in operation. And public or recreational skating at the Murphy Rink has been popular for generations. Figure skating too is a sport taken seriously by many of our local athletes; both kids and adults. And countless locals have received their training from the one of the finest ‘learn to skate’ programs in the entire country. Of course, we’re speaking about Bay State Skating School. But for so many readers who had the benefit of being taught by this fine organization, you probably could have guessed who we meant before the name was even mentioned.

Bay State Skating School has been in operation for 45 years. Few organizations of any kind can boast that much experience. And the amazing thing is, with each passing season, they just keep getting better. South Boston Today had the pleasure of talking at length with Rosemary Cloran recently. She is the founder, director and president of Bay State Skating School. She was kind enough to give us much of the history and tell us what made this program the success story it is today and why it is so popular not just in South Boston but all around the Metropolitan Boston area. And one of the most important things that makes it so popular, part of the foundation that it’s all built on is that people of any age have a heck of a lot of fun while learning a skill that will stay with them far into the future.

Bay State Skating School offers a highly structured learn-to-skate plan taught by some of the best instructors and coordinators in the business. Highly trained professionals who love what they do, immediately put their students at ease, make them feel welcome and comfortable and go about the business of teaching; using techniques proven to be successful. They will take students as young as 4½ years old up to 9 years old at the Murphy Rink. Children only at The Murphy Rink, as all lessons are given in the small rink. But grownups need not be sad. At other rinks in the area, adult lessons are offered. Many adults from the neighborhood have travelled over to the Shea Rink in Quincy. Instruction is made so interesting and enjoyable that students of all ages look forward to their next lesson.

The seasons are broken up into semesters with the first semester beginning at the Murphy Rink in October with lessons available right into mid-March. If you miss the first semester, the second starts on December 1st. But entering a semester that has already begun is ok too and they will pro rate the fee for those who do.

Bay State Skating is well known for teaching recreational and figure skating. And many a hockey player first broke in his or her blades in this program as well. It teaches the skills needed for any skating activity and the great thing is, you learn the correct way, the safe way and after going through their course, it’s onward and upward from there.

Bay State has been teaching people to skate for so long that it’s quite common for grandparents who learned to skate in the program to return with their grandchildren and sign them up. The fond memories of so many adults lead them to write testimonials praising the experience they once had. Bay State Skating School’s success story is so special that they were even featured on the ‘Chronicle’ television show. In fact, Bay State will be playing a role this January when the United States Figure Skating Competition Nationals comes to Boston to celebrate its 100th Anniversary.

To Rosemary Cloran and her incredibly talented and dedicated staff, running Bay State Ice Skating School is truly a labor of love. Rosemary is proud of its accomplishments, the wonderful reputation it has built up over the years and the fact that they are providing a positive, skill building experience while promoting a healthy and fun sport and activity.

For more information on the program or to sign-up you can call them at 781-890-8090 or log onto their website at www.baystateskatingschool.org Can you think of a better way to have fun during the coming months?
Congratulations to the Bantam A’s, coached by Tim Murphy. The bantams won their first play down this past week. This win sends them to the States in March! Way to go Southie!

The parity round for the valley hockey league is complete & the teams are now placed in their divisions for the remainder of the 2013-2014 season. There was a lot of hockey being played around town this past week and here’s a quick recap:

The Peewee A team finished their game vs Danvers Peewee in a 3-3 tie. The Peewee B team had the weekend off.

The Squirt A team had a tough outing vs Wilmington in a 6-1 loss. The Squirt B’s had back to back games on Saturday and again on Sunday. They finished the weekend with one win and one loss. The Squirt C’s also had back to back games. Both were great, close games, but the C’s weren’t able to record a W.

The Mite A team continues on their winning streak and defeated Arlington 24-6.

Don’t forget: Learn to Skate kicks off this Sunday, November 3rd @ 4 pm. There is still time to register your child.

The Southie Reunion to Benefit the SBYHL is Saturday, November 30th @ Carson Place. Tickets are currently on sale along with a chance to win $10,000 & many other great items! Music is provided by Thomas Park & word has it that this is going to be a night of great fun!

Log onto www.sbyhl.org to find out more & purchase your tickets today!
Can you believe we only have two weekends left in the regular season and then it’s on to the playoffs for the Under 10, 12 & 18 Divisions? Before we get started with a recap of the games just a few reminders:

**COACHES:**
This is a reminder that when playing soccer, players cannot touch the ball with their hands. The only player to touch the ball is the goalie. 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 are no parents or children (that are not playing the game) near the nets during the game. It is a distraction for the goalie.

**PARENTS:**
The weather is beginning to change and it is getting chillier at the field. Please dress kids accordingly. Maybe put a sweatshirt, long sleeve jersey or sweater under their soccer shirts. I know they stay pretty warm when running around, however, when they are on the sidelines they are cold. Remember all children need to wear shin guards. If your child does not have them, they cannot 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 goalies while they are playing as it is a distraction. All parents should be on one side of the field and the players on the opposite side. If you have not turned in a concussion certificate, please do so as soon as possible. In order to receive your certificate you can logon to: http://www.cde.gov/concussion/headsup/training/headsupconcussion.html. For children ages 3 to 10 years old you can access another site http://brain101.org.ercscine/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 and your child have completed this class. This is not the rules of the South Boston Youth Soccer League. It is mandatory for any youth who are involved in activities on City of Boston properties to take the class. So please make sure you go to this website.

**SNACK BAR:**
Please patronize the snack bar. All monies that are brought in at the snack bar go right back to the local sports teams that use the park, which helps defray some of the expenses to the league.

**NEW SOCCER BANQUET DATES & TIMES:**
The Banquet will be held on Saturday, November 23rd at the South Boston Boys & Girls Club, 230 W. 6th Street, South Boston. Parents are asked to bring desserts. See times and age groups below:

- **UNDER 4: 12 noon**
- **UNDER 6: 1:00 p.m.**
- **UNDER 8 & UNDER 10: 2:00 p.m.**
- **UNDER 12 & UNDER 18: 3:00 p.m.**

And now on to a recap of the games:

**UNDER 8 DIVISION:**

**SMALL FRIES / GREEN LIGHTNING**
The Small Fries sponsored by Sullivan’s played an awesome game. Kylee O’Connor scored two goals and Zion Sequeira scored a single goal. Sean O’Keefe, Aidan George and John Olevitz played one terrific game. The Green Lightning sponsored by Congressman Stephen Lynch played a very impressive game. Will Reidy and Elizabeth Stoddard each scored a goal. Kieran McGarry and Stella Slater did a great job bringing the ball up and down the field.

**HAPPY MONSTERS / PAL**
The Happy Monsters sponsored by Massport played to a tie when Danny Lee kicked in a goal. Quinn Beem, Abby Winters, Finbar Starosky, Regan Lee and Ryan Bailard displayed some great teamwork. The team sponsored by PAL kept the game even. All the players did a terrific job.

**WOLFPACK / GREEN NINJAS**
The Wolfpack sponsored by John Hancock Insurance played a fantastic game. Liam Colton was the goal scorer for his team. Logan Jackson, Hayden McQueen, Gavin Eckman and Sophia Kinney were the MVP’s for their team. The Green Ninjas sponsored by Councilor Bill Linehan did a great job. The entire team turned in a super performance.

**SHARKS / SCOPS**
The Sharks sponsored by FNISport were victorious this week with goals by Jake Greetley, Michael Quinlan and Nicholas Sherburne. Sara Doyle, Selina Shpeck and Cameron Stevens put in a terrific effort. Jeremy Bradley played an outstanding game. The Scops sponsored by South Boston Today played a great game. All the players did an awesome job.

**UNDER 6 DIVISION:**

**DOLPHINS / MOOSE**
The Dolphins sponsored by Marian Manor played a terrific game. Jack Daley scored two great goals. Reilly Nee and Emily Ramirez played great defense. Peter Sullivan, Derek Sullivan, Christopher Allan and Cole Rattican did an awesome job on the field. The McDonough Post Ladies Auxiliary Moose played an awesome game. Katie Kelly and Deacon Evrivides were the goal scorers for their team. Michael Clark, James McFarland and Aidan Kelly did great keeping the ball out of our half. Logan LaBreck, Tessa Joyce and Jaelise Novicki had some big kicks down the field. Hayleigh Morrison and Ryan Magrarel were great team players. Rocco Blasi was all over the ball and had some great shots on net. Thanks Moose for another great game!

**HEAT / ROCKETS**
The Metro Energy Heat were hot this week with goals by Aidan with two and single goals by Andrew, Ben and Jack. Michael, Robbie Vas and Dimitri did a great job with assists. Pierce, Ian, Dennis and Aaron showed great teamwork. Audrey, Mia and Leila had some big kicks and Griffin showed super hustle on the field. Thanks to Danny Vaughan for co-coaching. The Rockets sponsored by Massport had a goal kicked in. All the players did a great job.

**UNDER 8 DIVISION:**

**HOT SHOTS / THE GANG**
The Hot Shots sponsored by Boston Home Inspectors beat out their opponent with goals by Derek Martinelli, Roman Armour, Tristan Pechevich and Cormac Armour. All the players showed great teamwork. The Gang sponsored by The Billy Flaherty Club played a tough opponent and gave it their all.

**BLUE DEVILS / FLYERS**
The Blue Devils sponsored by Joe Pace & Sons played a terrific game. Devin Dunlap and Nolan Young each scored a pair of goals and Ryan McDonald scored a single goal. The field Anaustas had an assist. Zara Ratanica made some great passes. Madison Jones had good footwork. Maria Beem and Mave Corbitt were strong on defense. Sarah Tracey, Arianna Capellano and Olivia Daly played a strong game. The Flyers sponsored by Massport played a good game. The entire team did a great job.

**SILVER HAWKS / NINJAS**
The Silver Hawks sponsored by O’Connell Insurance played a superb game. Maeve Applegate, William O’Connell and John Olevitz each scored a goal. Kieran McGarry and Stella Slater did a great job bringing the ball up and down the field. The Ninjas sponsored by Donahue & Associates played a good game.

**UNDER 10 DIVISION:**

**KICKERS 1 / LIGHTNING 0**
The Kickers sponsored by the Jim Cahill Club played a tough opponent but ended up victorious. Evan Markos scored the only goal of the game assisted by Owen Anastas. Well-played game by all! Great defense by Thomas Walsh! All around good play by Josie Correia and Eddie Tiranassi. The Lightning sponsored by Massport never gave up until the final whistle. They did not score but it was not from lack of trying. Will Ahearn did a superb job in net. Ethan Long, Thomas Harman, Jake Swartz, Finbar Kyne, Jon Gilmartin, Fionn Gilmartin and Dylan Murtagh turned in a very strong performance.

**HORNETS 5 / SHAMROCKS 2**
The Hornets sponsored by Jeffrey Chubb Associates were victorious this week with Jake Harrison scoring four goals and a single goal was scored by Brandon Clarke. Thomas Conlon made some great saves while maintaining the net. Henry Galinaus and Michael Lentini were awesome on defense. Diego Alzamora and Pablo Alzamora did a terrific job on defense. The Shamrocks sponsored by Mt Washington Bank played a great game. All the players did a good job. At the time of print no score sheets were available for Southie Strong sponsored by Stapleton Florist and the Flames sponsored by the Boston Firefighters Credit Union.

**UNER 12 DIVISION:**

**HOT TOTTIES 2 / LIONS 3**
The Hot Totties sponsored by Massport played to a tie with goals by Declan Walsh and Samuel Holder with assists going to Kristan Dhmao and Chris Fitzgerald. Elizabeth Powers and Jacqueline Powers did a terrific job on defense. Anna Lysakowski was awesome in net. Chloe Connors did a fabulous job on offense. The Lions sponsored by O’Brien’s Funeral Home kept the game even with goals by Drew Garcia and Ani Palulace. Walter Steele, Rachel Rans, Tari Pecivich, Kamiyah Gang and Kaleigh Flaherty turned in a stellar performance.

**JETS 3 / MONSTERS 0**
The Jets sponsored by the Michael J. Perkins A.L. Post #67 shut out their opponent with two goals by Brennan Schlalmo and a single goal by Eric Pance. James O’Brien did a great job in net. Laura Wallace, Kaia Goncalves, Abigail Gwynn and Sinead Mulligan displayed some great teamwork. The Monsters sponsored by Eastern Bank did not score but gave it their all. Tyler Errico did a great job bringing the ball up and down the field. Rebecca Donovan, Cormac Lafferty, Andrew Devlin, Peter Gaulinias and Tasia Horne did a great job.
Boston Bruins forward Loui Eriksson left the game last Wednesday (Oct. 23) with a head injury after receiving a shot to the head from Buffalo Sabres left wing John Scott in Buffalo.

Scott will have an in-person hearing with the NHL Department of Player Safety for the illegal check on October 31st. An in-person hearing is required by the provisions of the Collective Bargaining Agreement with the NHL Players Association for any player who commits an infraction that could result in a suspension exceeding five games.

With 14:11 remaining in the 3rd period and the Bruins leading the game 4-2, Loui Eriksson moved through the neutral zone and dumped the puck behind the Buffalo net; Scott came to the defense of his teammate. Scott was then ejected from the game; he will have missed 3 games already. Since, the bruins have reported that the winger will be out indefinitely with a concussion. The hit is the exact type of hit that the NHL and Brendan Shanahan of the Department of Player Safety are trying to eliminate from the game.

The Bruins are not a team to shy away from a guy like Scott either, but in this scenario, Scott takes out one of the B’s star players, who had no opportunity to avoid the hit. The fact is, this hit was easily avoidable, but it was up to John Scott to either pull up because the hit was coming late, or deliver a legal check without making the head the principal point of contact. There will be a suspension for this play, the only thing in question, is for how long? Shanahan needs to get this one right. Scott’s intent was to injure - no two ways about it - the egregious nature of the hit is deserving of at least 15 to 20 games, despite Scott having no prior offenses. Shanahan needs to get this one correct and set a precedent for hits like this which have no part in the game.

When Scott has his hearing on the 31st, he will have missed 3 games already. Perhaps a suspension to a player like Scott should be dependent on the amount of time the injured player is forced to miss, for the most part - the hitter returns from a suspension well before the injured player recovers. Scott drew some attention to himself during the preseason when he tried to fight Toronto’s Phil Kessel, because nothing says “I’m a tough guy” like going after Phil Kessel. John Scott is a fraud and there is no place in the National Hockey League for players like this, who compromise the integrity of the sport with complete disregard for fellow player safety.

An indefinite suspension and in-person hearing is not a good sign if you’re John Scott, as an it only occurs when a player will potentially miss more than 5 games. Scott said after practice Thursday, “I kind of feel really upset... I was sick to my stomach last night knowing what happened. And watching the video, I kind of regret the whole situation.” He also made sure to mention that he apologized to Loui Eriksson via text message. The problem with that is Eriksson may not be able to see straight enough to read small print at this point. The hit was unnecessary and downright cheap.

With concussions, the recovery is always different, but the approach to treating one is always the same - take it slow. The only good signs for Eriksson, first: he was able to get to his feet and get off the ice with the assistance of a few teammates - it would have been
far more ominous had he needed the medical staff and a stretcher. Second: he was able to travel the day after the hit. We still do not know the severity of the concussion, but based on other hits we have seen of this nature and the events that have followed, Eriksson might be missing out for 2-4 weeks. The problem with estimating how long it takes to recover from a concussion is that every player is different; some take longer to recover than others.

Prior to this season, Loui Eriksson had only missed 3 regular season games in the past 5 years (since becoming a full time NHL forward), playing 373 of a possible 376 games. Just another point of interest as the league determines the fate of John Scott. Is there really room for a guy like John Scott in this league? Let’s compare a guy like John Scott to the guy whose career he just threatened with his cheap shot yesterday:

Loui Eriksson is 28 years old; he has played 509 career games (the Bruins are just the second team he has played for), has 152 goals and 208 assists for 360 points. He has 116 penalty minutes in 7+ NHL seasons. His best season came in the 2010-2011 season, when he scored 27 goals and had 46 assists for 73 points. He also had a 36 goal season in 2008-2009. Eriksson’s best years may still be in front of him. These are the stats of a productive professional hockey player, who is a difference maker for his team.

John Scott is 31 years old; he has played 187 career games (for 5 different NHL teams), has 1 goal and 4 assists for 5 points. He has 324 penalty minutes in 7 NHL seasons; he has never played more than 51 games in a season. His most productive year came in the 2009-2010 season with the Minnesota Wild, where he played 51 games and scored a whopping 1 goal, adding 1 assist for a career high... of 2 points.

How is it that John Scott and Loui Eriksson play in the same league? Is it the goal of organizations like the Buffalo Sabres to employ players that you can expect a maximum of 2 points in an 82 game season? Having a tough guy on your roster is widely practiced throughout the NHL.

The Boston Bruins fourth liner Shawn Thornton has 691 penalty minutes in 6+ years with Boston, more than doubling John Scott’s number. In those same 6 years, Thornton has scored 30 goals and has 39 assists for 69 points - on top of producing (about as much as you expect any fourth line player to produce) he plays the game with an edge, he brings energy and physicality to his team, and he stands up and fights when the occasion calls for it.

There is room for players like Thornton, who despite have more than twice as many penalty minutes as Scott, is one of the most respected players and most feared tough guys in the league.

Scott contributes nothing; he has fewer points in 7 NHL seasons than nine of this season’s NHL rookies, none of which have played more than 10 games. He is not gifted offensively, he is slow on his feet, he is a career -9 so he gives you no extra jump when he is on the ice, and he can’t defend. John Scott is large, he can drop the gloves, and hit - but he’s no role player. Buffalo has him on the roster to be a GOON, and though he has never been suspended before... let’s be serious, it was only a matter of time. If the league wants to have their players take head injuries seriously, to keep their players safe, keep this guy off the ice, and get players like him out of the game.
*Every week, we run an interview from Danny Picard’s daily sports-talk show “I’m Just Sayin”, which can be heard LIVE every weekday at 9 am on BlogTalkRadio, with every show available on iTunes. This week, Danny talked with MLB pitcher Bronson Arroyo:

**BRONSON ARROYO:** I heard [Curt] Schilling talking about it on TV the other day, and I thought he put it pretty well, that, you know, in this type of weather, in cool weather, most guys need something out on the mound in order to have some sort of grip on the ball. Whether it’s a bit of shaving cream, or whatever it is that you might want to put on your fingers, mixed with a little bit of rosin to give you a little bit of stickiness. Just as the hitters do with putting pine tar on the bat. I think the real thing is, you don’t want anybody having the ability to cut the baseball with a piece of sandpaper, or putting vaseline or something slippery on the ball that makes the ball do funny things in the air. Getting grip, I don’t think anybody wants a guy like Jon Lester throwing 93-94 without a grip in October in cool weather, and letting one go and hitting somebody in the head. So, something out there that nature isn’t a problem. I think it’s just a problem if you’ve got guys out there who are loading the ball up to make it dance and move funny.

**PICARD:** I mentioned Clay Buchholz right before you came on, and in Game 4 he made a start, and he clearly is not himself. They’re calling it a “dead arm.” When a starting pitcher is so good in the regular season, then gets to the postseason and says “dead arm,” is that an injury issue, or is it just fatigue? We’re trying to figure out what’s wrong with this guy. Did you see Game 4? Did you see him pitch, and what do you see when there’s a guy who has, I guess, a “dead arm” in the postseason?

**ARROYO:** Traditionally, the dead arm thing, you know, honestly, for me, I’m not really sure exactly what that means, to tell you the truth. But over the years, I’ve heard people talk about that. It’s usually related to just fatigue. If you have an injury, you’re talking about something totally different. When I hear that, over the years, that a guy has a dead arm, it’s usually that he’s going through a period where he’s not pitching well, his stuff isn’t quite the same, but he doesn’t have an injury. And so we call it this “dead arm” thing, and just maybe he needs a little bit of a break. But I don’t think that’s the case with Clay. I think -- after watching him throw and seeing him toss a little bit on TV and stuff -- I think he’s babying the ball a little bit. His velocity is definitely down. There’s definitely something going on there that -- he’s just not 100 percent. And you can go out there and pitch the way he id the other night and be successful and get away with it in a short amount of time. You couldn’t pull that off for two or three months, but if you just need to do it for two or three starts, you can pull it off if you have command and you have some other pitches you can rely on. But there’s definitely something going on there that’s uncomfortable for him. It’s not just fatigue.

**PICARD:** And when a guy like John Lackey, who’s going to start Game 6, when he comes out of the bullpen two games before that start, that won’t affect the type of stuff he’ll have in his Game 6 start, just for coming out of the bullpen for one inning, right?

**ARROYO:** No, it shouldn’t at all. Had he gone two or three innings, that’s a different story. But one inning, it’s about the equivalent to a bullpen, with a little bit more adrenaline in there. It wasn’t like he was laboring through the inning, so he should be fine. A lot of times, to be honest with you, late in the year like this, I think, getting on the mound a little bit more frequently like that can keep you really tuned up, keep you sharp. And sometimes in big games, especially late in the season or something like this, it’s not good to sit four, five, six days, and have to go out there and try to find your stuff on a big stage like that. I think it’s better to be out there to get the nerves out, to be on the mound a little bit more. It’s kind of like being a position player. You play every day, you go out on the field on the big stage in the World Series, and you feel good in the box because you’ve been out there a lot. But sitting on the bench four or five days in a row and just getting that one start, it makes it very difficult to go out and have everything click. So I would think that would be good for Lackey, what he did the other night, coming out of the ‘pen.

**PICARD:** David Ortiz is an impossible out. Why do you even pitch to this guy?

**ARROYO:** It’s definitely amazing what he’s doing this year, and what he’s done for such a long time in the postseason. And putting them in a position where it’s crunch time and he can do some damage, they’re obviously not going to pitch to him the rest of this series. But I think he’s come up to bat a lot of times with nobody on base, or not in damage spots with runners in scoring position. And a lot of times you just have to think that if a guy’s got seven hits out of 10 at-bats, that he’s not going to stay that hot for the rest of the series. And so, [the Cardinals] just keep going after him, and hoping that he’ll make some outs, and he’s just not. He’s led off some innings with doubles that have turned out to be big innings for the Red Sox and have turned some of these games around. But I think in Games 6 and 7, you’re going to find that, especially being in Fenway and being a bit short in right field, I think you’re going to see David Ortiz probably walk a few times more than he has in the first five games.

**PICARD:** You were a teammate with Jonny Gomes for about two-and-a-half seasons in Cincinnati, and when he came here to Boston, a lot of the talk was about him being a great clubhouse guy, and that’s what...
everybody seemed to think this team needed. But really, he’s come up with some huge hits off the bench this season. And now in the postseason, he has that home run in Game 4 of the World Series that gave the Red Sox a 4-1 lead. Talk a little bit about this guy, and what he’s actually like, both on the field and off the field, having been a teammate of his.

ARROYO: Jonny brings a lot of things to the table, not just what he does on the baseball field. You talk about a few guys I’ve played with, Kevin Millar, a guy like Paul Bako, those guys bring such a great swagger to the clubhouse and bring guys together. They come to the park with energy every day. They usually come up with some sort of stick for the year, which obviously this year it’s the beards for those guys. And year-to-year that changes. But Jonny always brings that energy to the park. He’s just a fun guy to be around. You want to be at the party with him, you know? And outside of that, he’s also a big clutch guy. He’s a guy who’s a big swing-and-miss at times, but he hits enough homers every year where he’s dangerous in the lineup. He also finds a way to just put a lot of RBIs on the board. I don’t know if people talk about that with Jonny, but, Jonny will go a season where he’s playing off the bench, and he doesn’t get to play every day, and it’s not easy to go out there and put up a lot of RBIs. And a lot of years, he’s been on teams where he’s had more RBIs than all the other outfielders, and he’s had two-thirds of those at-bats. And he’s just always been that guy. I’m glad to see he’s doing well, because he hasn’t had a lot of opportunities in his career to play every day, and he’s getting to play not on the big stage and show what he can do. And also, having a multi-year deal in Boston, I think helped. Because he’s always been on a year-to-year deal. And he finally got a two-year deal with a team who wanted to invest some good money in him and felt like, “Hey, you’re going to be here for a couple of years and get comfortable in this uniform.” And you can see that it’s paying off.

PICARD: Do these guys remind you of the ’04 team?

ARROYO: Yeah, a bit. In the last few years, since ’04, I think that Red Sox team is very similar to the Cardinals team, and that’s why I think you see those guys in the playoffs so much. They just have so much grit to them, you know? There’s so many guys in the lineup that foul off pitches, they work starting pitchers, they look like they just came from a 9-to-5 job. You hear all the stereotypical things, the “blue-collar” guys, and it’s just something about both of those clubs. They just grind out at-bats, and they find ways to win ball games. And those are the teams that wind up winning championships, and that’s why you see them year-after-year playing for a chance to win a division.

PICARD: You’ve seen this Cardinals team obviously a lot. You’re in their division. Going into Games 6 and 7 [if necessary], if you had to give advice or if you’re looking at it from afar, and you’re saying, “Don’t pitch to this guy in the Cardinals lineup. If you’re going to get beat, don’t let this guy beat you,” who is that guy in the Cardinals lineup?

ARROYO: Given the lineup that they have, where [Allen] Craig’s not as healthy as he has been, I mean, he’s hit over .400 with runners in scoring position the last two years, which has been astonishing, and as a ball club, they hit over .300 this past year with runners in scoring position, which is crazy. But I think [Carlos] Beltran has got to be the guy, just because he has done so much damage in the playoffs, he’s done damage in this series, and I think you just have to stay away from letting him hit the long ball. Keep the ball down and away to him, and let him serve you to left field and not let him put some RBIs on the board.

PICARD: You look back at those Games 3 and 4, and those crazy finishes. You had the “obstruction” call there on [Will] Middlebrooks, who was laying down at third base, and the Red Sox lose. Then the next night, you get the pick-off, Kolten Wong picked off at first base and the Cardinals lose that game. What would be a tougher way to lose, a guy getting picked off, or having an “obstruction” call on your third baseman?

ARROYO: Yeah, those are both tough, and those are both weird endings to games. But for me, I think the pick-off would be worse, only because I think the obstruction call was just a play that just happened. There wasn’t a whole lot that anybody could do about it. And Middlebrooks was laying flat down on his face. He didn’t necessarily know that the back end of his legs were up in the air and were going to trip a guy up, so it really wasn’t anybody’s fault. But being picked off in a big situation like that is just a mistake that can’t be made. I thought a lot of times this year that we made base-running mistakes with the Cincinnati Reds, and you just feel like those are giving outs away. And so, I think the pick-off, to me, would be a bit frustrating.

PICARD: But what about the rule on “obstruction”? I think the rule itself is worded a little silly, because the rule says, “Intent or not, it’s obstruction.” Does this rule need to be revised, maybe to talk about “intent”? And obviously next year we’ll get into, I mean, managers will be throwing challenge flags next year for this one. But do they need to revise this rule a little bit?

ARROYO: Yeah I think it probably does. I heard a little bit about it on TV, and it makes sense. Obviously intent means everything. And there’s other parts of the game where I feel like umpires do have that leeway to use their judgement, on whether you’re intentionally throwing at hitter or not, and there’s other parts of the game where that happens. So I think they should have a little bit more room to say, “This was on purpose” or “This wasn’t on purpose.” And it definitely, it matters. So on a play like that, you never want to see a game end on something silly like that, but as the rule stands, I thought they made the right call. And if roles were reversed, I think Red Sox fans would want that win. When it happens to you, it’s obviously terrible to end a ball game like that. But they definitely need to look at the rule, make it a bit easier for umpires to say, “You know what, that was a complete accident. The shortstop was trying to cut the ball off and ran into the guy coming around second base, and that’s not going to be obstruction.”
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