



Boston.com’s Patrick Russo’s report on the acceptance of the Pilgrim Church in Dorchester onto The National Register of Historic Places is interesting for two reasons. One is that the South Boston Historical Society has planned a lecture on the topic of Historic Landmarks this week at the Public Library. The second is that despite the efforts of local residents and the case made in a commentary by SBHS historian and well-known professor of history, Bob Allison, Saint Augustine’s Church did not garner such a designation.

In fact, a year ago almost to this very day, Bob Allison made the case for the historical significance of ‘Patrick Keely of Kilkenny Ireland, the architect who designed the red brick St. Augustine’s Church, and was the foremost Catholic architect of the 19th-century. He became one of the most prolific church architects in his adopted country. Keely designed

CONTINUED ON page 8

What Did The Trinitarian Congregational Church Know That The Catholic Church Did Not? *Or Did They?*

SOUTH BOSTON TODAY
Staff Report

Last Week’s
Poll On
Page 2

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EDITORIAL *Beaches R Us*

South Boston is a seven minute bus ride to downtown Boston. It has some of the best restaurants in the region. It is minutes from an international airport and has access to every major transportation route out of Boston. It has an enviable community fabric that continues to be woven. It has commerce and history within walking distance. But, the exclamation point that punctuates the attractiveness of Southie is its shoreline access to the recreation opportunities afforded by our beaches and the Harbor Islands.

Rep. Nick Collins, a member of the Metropolitan Beaches Commission, represents not only South Boston and Dorchester but the Harbor Islands

as well. In the summer and fall of 2013, the Commission and Save the Harbor/Save the Bay held public hearings at the Massachusetts State House, as well as in South Boston and Dorchester.

Over 700 people participated in the hearings, both in person and online, and offered opinions. Sometime this year, the Commission will issue its final report. Before releasing the report, the Commission will hold a public meeting at the UMass Boston Campus Center from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon on Saturday, February 1, 2014, to share its preliminary findings and recommendations.

These gems that nature has

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Please join the Metropolitan Beaches Commission at a Regional Meeting to review our preliminary findings and recommendations for public beaches from Nahant to Nantasket.

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granted and that we have enjoyed and sometimes have taken for granted are resources that need our guardianship for future generations. South Boston Today joins Rep. Collins in encouraging

everyone interested in our beaches to attend the final meeting at UMass Boston to contribute your final thoughts and help make sure that the commissioners get the final report right.

"Based on what our country stands for, we can't fail to stand for democracy"
-US Senator Kelly Ayotte

Last Week's Poll

Last Week's Poll Asked :

Do you think Mayor Walsh's appointments to the command staff at the Boston police department reflect a change for the City?

Here's how you answered:

- **Yes, major change from previous admin 69%**
- **Yes, but only slightly 15%**
- **No, not enough 8%**
- **No real change 8%**

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PO Box 491 • South Boston, MA 02127

Publisher
John Ciccone

Editor In Chief
Brian R. Mahoney

Managing Editor
Brian P. Wallace

info@southbostontoday.com • ads@southbostontoday.com

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The Information Center



Home Invasions/New York Finally Gets it/Rand Paul, Good Samaritan

SOUTH BOSTON TODAY
John Ciccone

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

We'll start this week with a word of caution. Recently, there have been a series of home invasions in Boston. Up to this point, with this recent outbreak, South Boston has escaped being victimized by this serious crime. Dorchester and Roxbury have not been as lucky. In one Roxbury incident last week, the home invaders broke in; pistol whipped the occupant, and made off with the family's flat screen TV. Another incident in Dorchester had a very different outcome. The armed intruders broke in but were met by the resident who also had a gun. One intruder was shot and killed; the other ran off, but was arrested a short time later. The alleged home invader, who lived to be arrested, may or may not try to commit the same type of crime when or if he gets out of jail. His alleged accomplice however, it's safe to say will not be breaking into homes ever again.

Home invasion is a hideous crime usually committed by swaggering punks who think that at their whim, they can just break into a family's home, assault the occupants and take what they want. As I said above, there is now one less, but there are plenty more out there. It's most important that all of us take the necessary precautions to defend against home invasions. There are many ways to do this. Alarm systems, dogs, buying a gun as the resident from Dorchester did; these are all viable options. But at the very least, locking our doors and windows and looking out for our neighbor's property as well as calling police at any sign of

suspicious activity will help stop this crime from spreading here and will hopefully discourage others who might be thinking about going into that line of work. Compared to some other parts of the city, South Boston is a relatively safe area. But that saying "better safe than sorry" has merit.

If you pay attention to national politics and the economy you know that some states have high taxes and plenty of them, such as our own Massachusetts, California, New York, Michigan etc. Other states keep their taxes low and tend to have fewer of them, such as Texas, The Dakotas, South Carolina and even our neighbors north of the border in New Hampshire. The economies in the low tax states are strong and the unemployment rate is usually lower than the norm. Because of this, Americans by the millions are leaving the high tax states for those with lower and fewer burdens. Businesses too are relocating and taking the jobs with them. The high tax states are usually run by liberal or so called "progressive" politicians who think the answer to every problem is to keep on raising taxes on individuals and business. They really can't help themselves. Tax hikes are all they know. But this practice just makes the situation worse and people and companies continue to leave those states.

But finally, it seems the state of New York; one of the places with the most oppressive tax burdens finally gets it. They've been watching their people and business leave at an alarming rate. The higher they hiked taxes, the more

jobs were lost to places like Texas, New Hampshire and other more Conservative states. Realizing they had to do something quickly, the place was going down fast, New York has embarked on a new ad campaign to try to lure business and people back, you can see their commercials on TV day and night. They are promising not to tax any new business for at least 10 years, if they will just relocate to New York. It's a desperate move on the part of New York. Politicians there, much

like here in the Bay State, seem to need to raise taxes as much as the rest of us need oxygen to breathe and survive. If anything will turn things around for New York, this could be it. Here in Massachusetts, with a governor like Deval Patrick, a tax and spend fanatic if there ever was one, that won't happen while he's in office. But when he leaves next year, whoever takes his place might want to follow New York's example. I know many are

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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.

Senate Forms Pane To Examine Drug Addiction, Treatment, Commitments

by Matt Murphy

State House News Service (SHNS)

The Senate formed its own special committee Thursday to study drug addiction and treatment options in Massachusetts with a focus on the civil commitment process to address what Senate President Therese Murray described epidemic of opiate addiction in Massachusetts. Murray announced the initiative and senators then quickly adopted an order creating the committee to be chaired by Leominster Sen. Jennifer Flanagan. Flanagan said the committee will review addiction “from detox to treatment” and analyze the effectiveness of the current Section 35 process in which courts can commit an addict for up to 90 days for detox from drug addiction.

Workers See ‘Silent Crisis’ Among Elderly With Mental Health Needs

By Colleen Quinn
SHNS

There is a growing “silent crisis” among the elderly of undiagnosed and untreated mental health conditions that often spiral into other health problems and housing difficulties, according to social workers, legal services attorneys, and elder advocates. Elderly individuals across Massachusetts are not getting services they need either because services are unavailable or older people shy away from seeking help because of stigmas attached to mental illnesses, according to several advocates who work with the elderly. Social workers told lawmakers recently they are seeing increased rates of depression and suicide – particularly among white men. “Most seniors, the vast majority, are falling through the cracks in terms of mental health services,” said Dale Mitchell, executive director at Ethos, a non-profit aging services organization in Jamaica Plain.

Mitchell described mental health care as the “biggest unmet” need for the elderly.

Returns Propel State Pension Fund Balance To Nearly \$58 Billion

Led by a 24 percent return on global equity investments, the state pension fund’s bottom line surged \$7.9 billion last year, capping 2013 with a record \$57.9 billion balance. The Massachusetts Pension Reserves Investment Management Board reported Tuesday that the fund returned 15.2 percent last year and outperformed its benchmark index by 2.64 percent. The fund’s investment managers met or exceeded their portfolio benchmarks in five of seven asset classes, according to the PRIM Board, with the returns helping to reduce the fund’s long-term unfunded liabilities. PRIT’s hedge fund portfolio was up 12.6 percent last year and its real estate investments generated a 10.8 percent return. PRIT’s three-year return rate is 9.54 percent, its five-year return is 11.94 percent and its 10-year return is 7.65 percent. - M. Norton/SHNS

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how long it has been since
you have seen them or
the amount of time
since you have talked...
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when you are doing something
and wishing they were there
with you ...*

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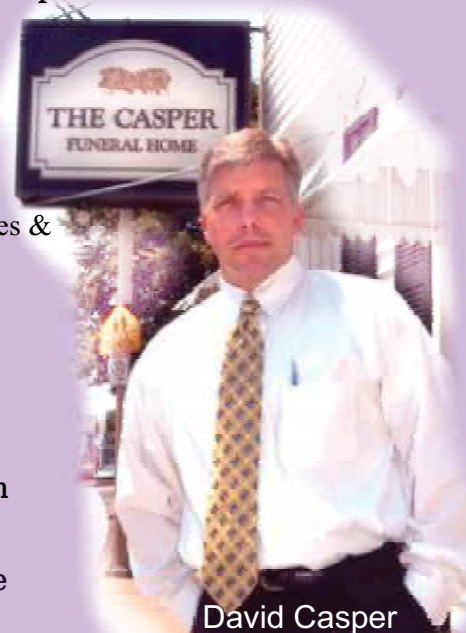
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Reading Between The Lines

SOUTH BOSTON TODAY
Brian R. Mahoney

“People Not Profit”

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

Development or more accurately, how development is managed and allowed going forward will determine Boston’s “livability” for the future. Once known as a center for education, arts and science, Boston more and more, is becoming known as a place where real estate can be flipped for a quick buck. Like Vegas, Manhattan or L.A. is that the type of city we want?

In our recent Mayoral election both candidates made the BRA and development a centerpiece for their campaign. Mayor Walsh stated one of his reasons for attending the U.S. Mayors Conference was to ask other Mayors how they deal with development. The mayor realizes a balance must be struck between profitable economic development and maintaining a city open to a quality of life that will keep its citizens here.

As Mayor, he can institute guidelines and rules on city property. On private property, it is not as clear.

It is an important distinction especially in a place like South Boston, a place where the Catholic Church has a lot of property, built in the center of the neighborhood, for religious services. Over the last 10 years, the Church has made the decision to close many of those properties. Unlike city property, most church buildings have been built and maintained by funds generated, in large part, by specific parishes. As such most feel a sense of ownership. St. Matthews, Saints Peter and Paul and most recently, St. Augustine’s have been rebuilt or remodeled or plans are pending.

Despite the best efforts of loyal and dedicated parishioners today these parishes no longer exist. Gate of Heaven, considered by many to

be the crown jewel of our South Boston churches, exists in a curious netherworld. 10 years ago, when this church was in dire straits, many loyal friends stepped forward, among them Sean Monahan, Kevin Lally, Richie Evans, Touchie McDonough and former Senator Jack Hart. Through their efforts and many others “Gatey” was buffed up and appeared ready to serve for another hundred years as a sanctuary for our souls. However nourishment for the whole body is needed and made the Gatey CYO Hall and Gatey School an integral part of the entire Gatey religious complex. So there was much shock, confusion and sadness when it was learned the CYO Hall and Parish Rectory would be sold for condos. Now the same fate is proposed for the Gatey School and parishioners have said enough!

To inundate that area, intended for three-deckers, with condos would destroy the quality of life in that neighborhood, especially when there are alternatives. The Archdiocese maintains they have a policy of not allowing non-religious schools to purchase or rent church owned property. Yet, in Quincy, a new school sits on a former catholic school site. Here in Boston, in Brighton, St. Columbkille shares its school building with a non religious musical school that has international students and reputation to match.

These same dedicated Gatey parishioners have devised a proposal that would re-open the school as a charter school. The annual finances paid by such a school would maintain Gatey as well as provide consistent financial support for all the remaining South Boston Churches, yet the people who built

and maintained the church are being told they have no voice. That profit, in the short-term, not people, is the new bottom line of the church and not the potential for a top flight charter school improving the quality for all.

Gatey needs your voice and support. The entire town must speak

up and if the church won’t listen, let us tell our electeds and our new mayor. We can decide what can be built and not the developer with the deepest pockets and not a church that seems to have forgotten that the people make the church. Speak up. Call your officials.

Take care till next week.



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Stepping Up and Stepping Out:

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

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

Stepping Up: Local Yokel

Spend thrifts unite. In keeping with a long-time tradition of holding your purse close to your pocket after the holidays, there are plenty of pledges to pick off your list and keep your money where your mouth is. Here in South Boston we are lucky to have so many small (and even some big) businesses that can fulfill our every need and more. Giving back to our community while eating, shopping and enjoying, is as easy as it sounds. Look, taste and feel good doing it!

EAT LOCAL: From Their Farm to Your Table

You don't have to sell the farm to get delicious and organic seasonal produce here in Southie. Not only can one actually eat from the fruits of the earth but there is also no labor involved. Boston Collective Delivery (a S.B. business) has collaborated with Valley Green Feast and their green greens delivery is now available; I first wrote about this productive duo back in October and the dirt has been kicked up! If delivery ain't your thing, get on down to American Provisions and pick up your Enterprise Farm Share Winter Edition; there are different sized shares to choose from. While at AP, located at the corner of

'T St and Broadway, there are many amazing other local dairy, meat and meat options to compliment your veggies. americanprovisions.com bostoncollectivedelivery.com **SPEND LOCAL: Save a Little, Spend a Little, Look Good Doing It** Getting designer on a dime is the name of the game this month. South Boston is home to two amazing consignment shops: Closet Connection and Covet Boston, and are always looking for gorgeous pieces that may no longer have a place in your heart but may find it's way into the closet of another. Hey, clothes need love too. Make an appointment with them and make a few bucks for little effort. You may even use that extra dinero to get what Santa didn't get you this (ok, technically, last) year at either place. Or you can head to Habit, Ku De Ta or Pretty Reckless and make a purchase too. Closet Connection and Pretty Reckless are having a Ladies Night on 01/30, 6-8pm and are offering 10% off your acquisitions. It'll look good on ya. closetconnectionboston.com covetboston.com prettyrecklessboston.com habitshop.com kudetaboston.com

ENJOY LOCAL: Have Fun Hanging Around

Ensuring a good time will be had comes as second nature to South Bostonians; here two isn't a crowd it's good company and adding more just makes it that much better! What's better than getting together with a crowd who have made memories together as far back as they remember and are using this night to continue the tradition, while inviting new people to join in? Head on down to the Andrew Square VFW

Post on Saturday 01/25 and hang with some 'Club Kids'; no, not the ravers you are thinking of, though I was both at a time. The South Boston Boys & Girls Club Alumni Council is holding their 4th Annual Winter Benefit; raffle tickets will be sold and all donations benefit the SBBGC kids and programs. There will be plenty of people, prizes and PM Dawn playing. If you can't get down and boogie, please donate online. donate.bgcb.org/pages/event-Winter_Benefit



Stepping Out: Unlock Your Inner Foodie

Sustenance comes in many forms. One needs to feed not just one's belly, but mind and spirit as well. Food is not just physical; it comes in many forms- actions, activities. But there is nothing wrong when the mental, emotional & physical needs are met all at once, right? Achieve another one of your goals (ok-my goals) and enjoy life in new and exciting ways that fuel all of you. Incorporating all of these into stimulating experiences is just the icing on the cake of life. South Boston is stuffed with so many chances that your plate will be chock full.

Never Too Many Cooks in the Kitchen

Take a peek inside and see how it

comes to be at “A Taste of Menton Kitchen Tours”. On Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday nights through the end of January, guests can enjoy a 3-course tasting menu and sneak a peek into the back of the house. Who knows, maybe you will catch either Chef Kish or Chef Lynch in the midst of magic. If you cannot make it this month, check out the Full Plate series, a chance to dine and dish with other dynamo divas during lunch. Now that's something I can swallow. mentonboston.com barbaralynch.com

Mix, Sip, Stir

Want a more hands on approach?

Trying to gather friends and loved ones or need to host a professional event? What a better way than to get everyone in the heart of the home? Or in this case, hotel? The Action Kitchen at the Seaport Boston offers up many programs on a platter suited for your culinary and cerebral needs. The kitchen can facilitate conversation, collaboration and celebration. actionkitchenboston.com

Seafood Diet

The newest member of Southie's restaurant repertoire, Row 34, is joining forces with another amazing marine institution, the New England Aquarium, on Monday 01/27, and holding the “Celebrate Seafood Dinner”. Many experts in the field, like oyster farmers and fishermen, will go in deep and be attending as well. Ask and you may get some food for thought. row34.com



Go to our facebook page to vote on our weekly poll.

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Southie Senses:

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



Touch: *Hit the New Year Hard*

Getting fit requires a change in behavior. One way: acquire a new habit that can become routine. Southie boasts two great centers of training and will have you kicking the same ole gym routine to the curb. Both Ultimate Self Defense and Broadway Jiu Jitsu & Fitness offer many types of skill building forms of exercise for you to try; check out groupon.com for deals. ultimateselfdefense.com • broadwayjiujitsu.com



See: *Wait... Watch For It*

We are fantasizing about warm weather and longer days ahead. That's why I love movies- they can transport you to another time and place and make you forget about the black snow and lack of sunlight. Check out the 5th ICA International Children's Film Festival Saturday 01/25, 10am-4pm, which features films made by both adults AND kids. There are also some workshops for a hands-on experience. Grab your kids, the neighbors kid or your kid-at-heart.

icaboston.org/programs/families/play-date/Childrens-Film-Fest2014



Taste: *Last Bite?!?*

Sometimes jumping into the pool of resolutions, for me (probably because it's overflowing) isn't the best approach. So dipping your toe in one promise at a time maybe best. January is not over yet, so you still have time to hit all the stops before the first month of the New Year has passed. Take a nibble on this: 75 on Liberty Wharf offers dessert for half-price on Tuesdays. That way, you can satisfy your sweet tooth one last time and keep your bargainista status.

75onlibertywharf.com



Smell: *Don't Hold Your Breathe Because They Won't Last Long*

The season for these treats is far too short- but it's probably for the best. It's Girl Scout Cookie time! I am sure that many of you (myself included) can argue about favorites- Caramel deLites/Samoas float my boat. Though you have until March 5th to place your order, they sure do go fast. Log on to girlscouts.org and plug in 02127 to see where and when you can grab 'em.



Hear: *Aloha Means Hello*

Bring me to paradise. This Sunday 01/26, 9-11pm, Drink will be hosting Tiki Sunday. Wear your best Hawaiian dazzler or flower in your hair and imbibe in a Painkiller to ease your shoveling woes. See you at 5 o'clock Hawaii time! [facebook.com/DrinkFortPoint](https://www.facebook.com/DrinkFortPoint)



Embrace All Of The Southie Senses: *Stay-of-the-Art*

Culchah is not only a set of shared beliefs and values of a group of peoples who share commonplace and common space but it also defines the finer things in life. Art is more essential to everyday life than given thought to and surrounds us in everything we do. But sometimes in the hustle and bustle of our everyday lives, we don't take the time to enjoy and appreciate it enough. Take sometime this week and check out some events going on in Southie to keep art alive.

Touch: The Urban Art Bar hosts daily paint events with themes and instructors to show you the way. Why not go when UAB donates most of their proceeds to an amazing charity? Thursday 01/23 event gives benefit to the Pan Mass Challenge, Sunday 01/26 has a session where most of the money goes to the American Heart Association and Tuesday 01/25 will find you brushing it up for the MS Society. theurbanartbar.com

See: All eyes on the BCEC and their Art on the Marquee series where 8 new

artists LED pieces will be displayed on the big screen on Thursday 01/23. eventbrite.com/e/art-on-the-marquee-opening-reception-round-8-registration-10065962565

Taste: Wanna see some art and eat too? Tavern Road is launching a monthly series called "Eat Your Art Out". You can stimulate yourself visually with an art display as well as taste it in the crafted culinary and cocktails. [facebook.com/TavernRoad](https://www.facebook.com/TavernRoad)

Smell: Smell of the Ocean? You can almost do so when you witness the beauty and realness of the

"Drawn to Water" art exhibit at the Atlantic Wharf Gallery. The opening reception is Thursday 01/23 and viewing is open through March. The mixed media show will have your nose itching for the sweet scent of the sea. fortpointarts.org

Hear: Did your ears prick up? Check out Penn's Sunday School in session on Sunday 01/26 at 1&3pm at LAUGH Boston and school yourself in the skill of the spoken word. Word of mouth says this show is going to sell out fast. laughboston.com

Companies Continue To Migrate To SB Waterfront District SOUTH BOSTON TODAY Staff Report

This week, the Boston Business Journal's Thomas Grillo and Susan Castellanos reported that from start-ups to American trademarks, companies have been flocking to South Boston's Waterfront District.

Gunderson Dettmer, a business law firm specializing in early stage companies and venture capital firms, inked a ten-year lease to take up 27,000-square-foot of space at One Marina Park Drive in South Boston's

Waterfront district. With the new lease, the BBJ reports that the building is roughly 75% occupied. Gunderson Dettmer will take the ninth floor of the building this coming September. The 18-story building is located on Boston's Fan Pier site. The site boasts one of the most dynamic mixed-use developments around and has the potential to run 21 acres.

Another company, WeWork, which provides common office

space to startups, will open up shop on February 1, on Melcher Street. Their Waterfront district location will feature amenities such as "high-speed Wi-Fi, sports bar, free beer and lounges," according to the company website. While the concept of WeWork is cutting edge, it's not their first location. WeWork also has office operations in the following cities: Seattle, San Francisco, Los Angeles, Washington,

D.C., Chicago and New York City. The company spokesperson told the BBJ that with their company motto, "collide and collaborate", their goal is to "provide elegant and well-appointed workspaces in close proximity, with daily networking events, meet-ups, and regular office hours with influencers and venture capitalists designed to encourage both shared purpose and the benefits of unexpected discovery."

CONTINUED FROM front page 1

sixteen cathedrals and over 700 churches, including the cathedrals in Chicago, Hartford, Providence, Brooklyn, and of course the Cathedral of the Holy Cross in Boston.

Keely is to the design of Catholic churches what Charles Bulfinch was for the design of Protestant churches. He created the model for worship in the 19th-century. These are not great buildings because Keely was a great architect—Keely was a great architect because he created extraordinary buildings. His churches were primarily places of worship, but they were also gathering points for a community becoming part of American society.'

- See more at: [http://southbostontoday.com/did-](http://southbostontoday.com/did-you-know-3/#sthash.Gzq5yJxY.dpuf)

[you-know-3/#sthash.Gzq5yJxY.dpuf](http://southbostontoday.com/did-you-know-3/#sthash.Gzq5yJxY.dpuf)

As reported by Russo, the red brick Pilgrim Church in Dorchester has been permanently recognized for its significance and opening it up to funding sources specifically designed for historic structures. Construction of the church, at 540 Columbia Road in Uphams Corner, began in 1890. It was designed by Stephen Carpenter Earle, who also designed the University of Massachusetts Amherst's Old Chapel and Memorial Hall in Canton, among a number of other notable structures.

"It's really great that the federal government is saying that a building in Dorchester is important to the nation," said John Odams, the reverend of the Pilgrim Trinitarian Congregational Church. "It's an important building that should be preserved. The

registration will hopefully open it up to a lot more funding sources." "The church is a source of pride beyond the congregation," Odams said. "It shows the history of the neighborhood and the restoration is for the community as a whole." Highlighted for its age, design, and architect, Odams said the church, which still has regular services, is a marker for when the neighborhood of Dorchester switched from a rural community to suburban neighborhood of Boston.

Perhaps, Ellen Lipsey of the Boston Landmarks Commission will enlighten the neighborhood on what the Trinitarians were able to do that the Catholics were not. Come to the South Boston Library (646 East Broadway) on Monday, January 27, 6:30 p.m. and learn.



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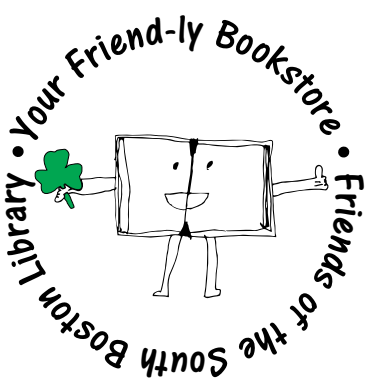


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Suffolk Construction CEO named Chamber of Commerce Chair

John Fish, Chairman and CEO of Suffolk Construction Co., has been named the new chairperson of the Greater Boston Chamber of Commerce. Chamber Board Chairs serve for two years, according to both the Boston Globe and the BBJ. His term will begin May 14. Fish's business success speaks for itself. The Founder and CEO of Suffolk Construction, one of the region's largest builders, Fish began the journey 30 years ago. Active in area charities, Fish also serves on a number of boards for prominent Boston-area institutions. Fish is also a board member of the Olympic Evaluation Commission which has been tasked to evaluate Boston's ability to host the 2024 summer Olympics.

The Chambers current Chair, Karen Kaplan, CEO of the advertising firm Hill Holliday, believes Fish's experiences will serve him well as the Chamber's new leader.

The mission of the Chamber of Commerce to promote and advocate on behalf of the businesses it represents. The three goals of the Chamber as outlined on its website are Strategic Networking to help make strategic connections with other professionals, both in person and online; Business Advocacy to help shape the policies that support and improve the business climate and competitiveness of the region; Leadership Development to cultivate the business leaders of today and tomorrow.

CONTINUED FROM page 3

snickering at that thought. Fish will ride skateboards before the typical Massachusetts politician would consider offering tax free incentives for anything. But hey, if New York finally learned the folly of its ways, maybe it could happen here too.

Speaking of politicians, we so often hear about the 'disconnect' and arrogance of so many in Washington. Stories about scandals, abuse of power, extravagant spending at the expense of the American tax payers make the news regularly. But little is heard of the ones who do good deeds and give selflessly to help others. Senator Rand Paul (R. Kentucky) is a much maligned official who bears the brunt of not only media attacks, but also attacks from some of his fellow senators. He is often targeted as an obstructionist because he works hard to block many of what he considers the radical plans, like Obamacare etc. by the Administration and its supporters. But Senator Paul should be praised for the type of person he is and how the man lives his life. While some others in the position of power in DC conduct themselves like the world revolves around them, Senator Paul, a doctor, spends his vacations quietly

volunteering in hospitals helping sick people, particularly children who otherwise would not get the care they need.

Senator Paul does not spend his vacation time (and our money) constantly playing golf, dining at the finest restaurants and hanging out with the world's so-called elite at Hawaiian Resorts and on Martha's Vineyard like the Obamas or travelling to exotic places like so many other senators during his free time. He works hard and uses his medical expertise and other talents to make a difference and help real people in need. This is the type of person he is. So the next time we hear our two Massachusetts senators, Warren and Markey and other lawmakers, ranting on about how terrible, almost evil, Senator Rand Paul is; or the crazies on networks like MSNBC calling him a TEA Party extremist, we should ask them all how they spend THEIR vacations.

We'll close with an appeal to some of our local dog owners from quite a few of our readers. They ask that you please, PLEASE start picking up after your pets. It's getting pretty bad out there. In case you didn't know, there is a \$50 fine in Boston for not doing it and some residents have even threatened to video scofflaws they catch in the act and post it on YouTube.



Want to act smart in front of your friends? *Geeks Who Drink Trivia* is heading to Local 149! Come show your friends how many random facts you really know starting Monday, January 27th from 9-11pm.

If late nights aren't your thing, Local 149 has happy hour from 4-6pm Monday through Friday! Treat yourself and your friends to some half-priced oysters and charcuterie and make your work week a little better.

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PreK classes are offered 2-5 days a week, with a 1/2 day or full day option. Children are accepted from age 2.9 years (potty trained.)

Class size is limited to 20 in the upper grades and 16 in the lower grades.

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Contact 617-268-0750 or spacademy2004@yahoo.com for more information.

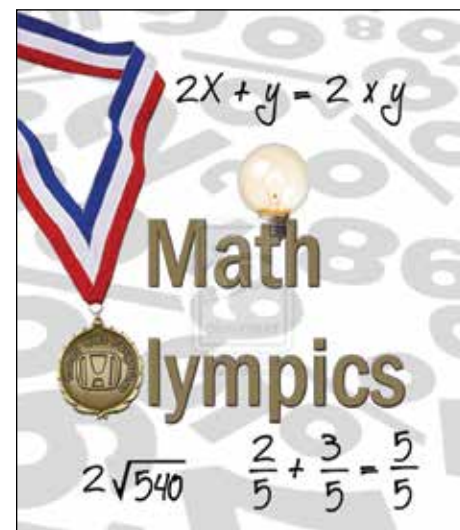
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Math Olympics Returns to South Boston

The South Boston Leadership Initiative is proud to announce that it's bringing back the Math Olympics for students in grades 4-8 beginning Tuesday February 4, 2014, and lasting for a total of twelve weeks. Groups of students will meet for one hour per week and be divided into two sessions (grades 4-6 and 7-8). The program is free and open to South Boston residents, and will be held at St Peter Academy and South Boston Catholic Academy.

The late Dr. Ken Preskenis, longtime Little League coach and mentor in the South Boston community, formerly instructed the Math Olympics. He created a great tradition and opportunity for students to participate in this unique program. The South Boston Leadership Initiative wants to offer the same experience to today's students. Concepts, strategies, and teamwork will spark the interest of South Boston's youth in this advanced style math competition.

The Math Olympics will be instructed by lifelong resident and former Math Olympian, Patrick O'Brien. "I'm really looking forward to leading the teams in South Boston," O'Brien stated. "and, hopefully, helping to instill the values of teamwork and open communication. Solving math problems in this type of setting can benefit all types of students no matter how interested they are in math. This healthy competition certainly helped me gain an interest



in math while eventually leading to my current career as a teacher in the Boston Public School system."

O'Brien, a graduate of Boston Latin School and the University of Massachusetts, is currently a math teacher at a middle school in Hyde Park. Ryan Sweeney, the Program Director for the South Boston Leadership Initiative, believes that the time is right to reintroduce this program and that Patrick O'Brien is the right person for the job, "We are excited about the prospects for the Math Olympics program and the significant effect it will have on the students from all across South Boston who choose to participate. Mr. O'Brien intends to create an environment designed to promote good teamwork and apply it to solving math problems."

For more information, and to sign up for the Math Olympics and other programs, please visit: www.SouthBostonLeadership.org

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Despite The Ending, Patriots Overachieved In 2013

SOUTH BOSTON TODAY

By Conor Ryan



Well, it certainly wasn't the result that any of us were looking for. As the New England Patriots limped off the field in Denver following their 26-16 loss to Peyton Manning and the Denver Broncos, it was hard for any Pats fan not to be disappointed with the team's showing on Sunday: New England could never establish

the run, Tom Brady missed some great opportunities while the pass rush could not come close to even breathing on Manning.

Now, as the Patriots clear out their locker room and already start focusing on the 2014 campaign, it certainly is hard to move on from such a loss, especially considering the fact that New England has

been stymied from another Super Bowl appearance over the last two seasons. However, as difficult as it is to do, we need to take this loss with a grain of salt. While many of us would rather walk around all day in a Welker Broncos jersey than see Brady lose to Manning, this loss obviously doesn't come close to stinging as much as Super Bowl XLII and XLVI, and in my opinion, the loss to the Jets in 2010 AFC Divisional playoffs. (Remember Bart Scott's "Can't Wait?" Ugh.)

Yes, as spoiled Patriots fans who have seen our team go on to the playoffs in 11 of the last 13 seasons, it's rough to see any season fall short of a Super Bowl victory. But we can't deny how truly remarkable this season was. If I was to tell you going into this season that the Patriots were going to lose Vince Wilfork, Jerod Mayo, Tommy Kelly, Sebastian Vollmer and Rob

Gronkowski to injury and the team were STILL going to make it to the AFC Championship game, would you believe me?

If I told you that Tom Brady would only throw for 25 touchdowns and post his lowest passer rating since 2003, and New England would still have a top-3 offense, would you believe me? Simply put, the odds were against the Patriots all season, whether it was injuries, a depleted and inexperienced receiving corps or the shocking arrest of tight end Aaron Hernandez this previous summer. Distractions and injuries to such key members of a roster would seemingly derail most teams, but New England stood tall and once again stood on top of the AFC East with a 12-4 record, delivering incredible memories along the way, including miraculous comebacks against the Saints and Broncos during the regular season.

While this team may not have a chance to hoist the Lombardi Trophy in two weeks, it's showed something we have not seen for this franchise in years: grit and resilience. They may not have had the flashiest players, but this team never quit, displaying the kind of tenacity present in the dynasty teams of the early 2000s. While the team has decisions to make in free agency with Julian Edelman, Brandon Spikes, LeGarrette Blount and Aqib Talib all out on the market, the team still has a solid foundation in place with Ridley, Vereen, Gronkowski, Mayo, McCourty, Ryan and obviously, Brady.

As it is every year, as long as Belichick is on the sidelines and Brady is calling plays, there's always a good chance that the Patriots will once again be favored to make it back to the big game. Thanks for another incredible season, Belichick, Brady and Co. We'll see you in September.



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Patriots Moving Forward

SOUTH BOSTON TODAY

by David Pollard

Talk back to David at DPollard@SouthBostonToday.com

The Patriot's agonizing loss to the Denver Bronco's in Sunday's AFC Championship game is still fresh in the minds of New Englanders; a game in which the Pat's defense surrendered 507 yards, and Tom Brady spent most of his day on the New England bench. With the frustrating loss and subsequent end of the season begs the question: was the 2013-14 season a success?

The team that was put onto the field each Sunday overachieved for the majority of the season. The Pats found ways to win at each juncture, and found ways to overcome numerous injuries throughout the season. It was the New England defense that was most responsible for their 5-0 start. When the defense began dropping like flies, Rob Gronkowski returned to the lineup - and the Pats offense was the best in the league.

Without key components on the defense like Vince Wilfork, Jerod Mayo, and Tommy Kelly, players like Jamie Collins and Dont'a Hightower were forced into bigger roles. At times the backfield had to survive without Aqib Talib; against a great offense like Denver the drop-off in tight coverage was highly noticeable when Talib exited the game. Bill Belichick deserves credit for getting the production he did out of the players he put on the field. However, is this the team that's going to get you to the promise land moving forward?

When Wes Welker left New England, the organization seemed content to replace him with Danny Amendola. Sure, Danny Amendola is a similar player, with similar quickness and similar body type; but Amendola was never going to be the player Wes Welker was here. The Patriots first mistake was underestimating Welker's value.

Obviously, nobody could have suspected that Aaron Hernandez



would have been incarcerated prior to the start of the preseason. With Rob Gronkowski out to begin the season the Patriots opted to wait for him to return rather than make a move for a productive tight end to fill the hole left at that position. At this point, can you really bank on Gronk being on the field?

Still, it's hard to blame the Patriots for losing two star tight ends in 2013. But they also lost Brandon Lloyd and Deion Branch last season; was the rookie combination of Thompkins and Dobson really the best the Patriots felt they could put onto the field? Is it not Super Bowl or bust for this team every year? And if so, shouldn't this season be deemed a failure based on the organization's inability to surround Tom Brady with viable weapons on offense?

The Brady window is closing fast. He will be 37 before the start of the 2014 regular season. Realistically, Brady may have 2 more years as an elite QB in this league, and perhaps another 2 when his career is winding down - he will be less than elite. If the

Patriots want to capitalize with Brady and win another Super Bowl, they have some decisions to make, and the decisions need to start now. Who from this team should the Pats keep around? What should they look for?

The running game proved that the Patriots can succeed while being a balanced offensive attack. With Bolden, Vereen, and Ridley signed through next season, the Patriots need to make a choice on LeGarrette Blount. This may be contingent on what they spend in other areas of the roster. Blount had an outburst in the last few weeks of the season, but the Pats will not overpay for his production. At the wide receiver position the guy to bring back is Julian Edelman. Though it was Amendola brought in to replace Welker, he sustained a groin injury and caught just 54 balls for 633 yards and two TDs on the year. Julian Edelman didn't receive much attention last year on the market, but his 105 catches for 1,056 yards will surely increase his value.

Problem is, Amendola is signed through 2017 - will the Patriots pay

to keep them both? They should. Edelman was highly impressive this year and deserves a solid pay day; the Pats can look to trade Amendola for another receiver who can play outside the slot. They need a sure-handed receiver who can stretch the field while Dobson and Thompkins are still developing. At the tight end position, something has to be done. Whether it's bringing back Matthew Mulligan or Michael Hoomanawanui who are both free agents this year, or going after a tight end like Eric Decker, their needs to be a contingency plan for Rob Gronkowski being out of the lineup.

The defensive line is strong if it can remain healthy. Players like Chandler Jones, Chris Jones, Tommy Kelly, Rob Ninkovich, and Joe Vellano are signed beyond 2014. Andre Carter will be a free agent, and Vince Wilfork will become a free agent after 2014 - so approaching him about a new contract may be in the works. Dane Fletcher and Brandon Spikes are free agents as well. Fletcher plays well on special teams and is a consistent player



for the Pats who will likely be re-signed. Brandon Spikes may be let go depending on the type of money he's looking for - it's likely he will want to test the market.

The biggest decision for the Pats comes in the back field. Aqib Talib is a free agent and the franchise tag for cornerbacks is likely to reach \$11 million for the upcoming season. It's obviously how much the backfield needs Talib for it to thrive. He is an elite corner who can cover most other teams' best receiver. Though his hip had been ailing him constantly, you are far

worse off without him. But will the Pats offer him the franchise tag for such a high price?

One thing is for sure, the Patriots are still very close, but they aren't there yet. Three straight years in an AFC Title game does not equal success for this team though. It is Super Bowl or bust in New England, and the window for Tom Brady is closing. This needs to be a productive offseason for the Patriots in terms of filling the holes in their roster - otherwise we may see the era of Tom Brady and Bill Belichick come to a lackluster end.



AAU Basketball Open Tryouts for 5th & 6th Graders

The South Boston Stars, a boy's AAU basketball team, will be holding open tryouts for their 5th and 6th grade Spring Tournaments Team.

**Tryouts will be held at SBCA on
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Every week, we will run part of an interview from Danny Picard's daily sports-talk show "I'm Just Sayin'", which can be heard LIVE every weekday Noon-2pm on the new DigRadio at DigBoston.com, and on the TuneIn app, with every show available on iTunes. He can also be heard hosting "The Danny Picard Show" weekends on WEEI-93.7 FM. This week, Danny talked Patriots with Comcast SportsNet's Mike Giardi:

DANNY PICARD: With the aftermath here now, the Patriots' season over, losing in the AFC Championship on Sunday, the news [on Tuesday] is that linebackers coach Pepper Johnson is out. He's leaving the organization. His statement sounds, to me, like this is a guy who clearly has goals larger than being a linebackers coach in the NFL, and wants a larger role. Maybe the only way he can get that message out to other teams is by leaving the Patriots organization. Is that it, or is there something else behind him leaving?

MIKE GIARDI: I don't think he ever really was okay with Matt Patricia becoming the defensive coordinator when Dean Pees left. It was basically, the in-house candidates were Patricia and Pepper. And Pepper, between his playing days and his time spent with Bill, he probably thought that he was going to be that guy, and he wasn't. And to his credit, he shuffled some roles since then. Linebacker, defensive line, he's done some different things once Patricia got that post. But it's pretty clear that Patricia is not going anywhere. And I think that if you're Pepper, you're looking at the situation saying, "Alright, well, I don't want to be a position coach anymore and the clock is ticking now. I've been doing this for a long time for this guy and I'm not getting any further." I don't think anybody believes Patricia is a head-coaching candidate yet, or maybe ever. So, yeah, I think it behooves him to get the hell out. It's already been speculated that he could go join the Houston organization, where Romeo Crennel just signed on to be the defensive coordinator for the next three years. Romeo's not a young man, and [Texans head coach]

Bill O'Brien and Pepper have been on the same staff. So that might be a logical place where he could slide into and be sort of the understudy to Romeo and still have success there. And if Romeo decides after two or three years that he's not doing this anymore, then maybe Pepper would slide into that spot, because it doesn't look like that spot is going to open up here anytime soon.

DP: Houston wouldn't make sense to me because he wouldn't be defensive coordinator right away, and they just hired Mike Vrabel to be the linebackers coach. In that case, wouldn't Johnson be leaving to take a lesser role with the Texans? And if you look at the linebackers coaching position here in New England, the Patriots had a lot of injuries this year. We saw what Jamie Collins is going to bring to the table in the near future. I mean, this is still a pretty good job that he's walking away from.

MG: I agree. I just think he sees it as a dead end at this point. Maybe Vrabel's not built for the NFL world. Or maybe Vrabel sees himself as a head coach real soon in college, adding to the diversity of his resume. We'll see, but I just think Johnson looks at this situation and says, "It's time to leave the nest, and it's time to go somewhere else, where I can carve out my real identity." Because people are always going to look at him as "Bill's boy." And that only gets you so far.

DP: Early in the week, all the talk down at Gillette Stadium was that Bill Belichick called out Wes Welker, saying his hit on Aqib Talib on that rub play or pick play, whatever you want to call it, was deliberate. He said it was one of the worst plays he's ever seen. Your reaction to Bill Belichick's comments.

MG: I thought it was a lot of horse crap, really. Obviously it was calculated on his part, because he wasn't even prompted. That was part of his opening statement [on Monday]. I don't believe that that is one of the worst plays he's ever seen. If that's the case, he's got something with his memory going on, because I've seen a lot worse. I also think that if you go look -- and I've looked at it so many times now, but I just saw another angle that I hadn't seen before -- I'm pretty sure Talib sees [Welker], not just once, but twice. The analogy was made that, two guys riding a bicycle on the same side of the sidewalk, and neither guy knew which way the other guy on the bike was going to go. And they were riding right at each other. Is he going to go left? Is he going to go right? And they both went to the same place. I think absolutely, positively, Welker set out to get a piece of Talib. But I don't believe for a minute that he set out to hit him that hard, to hit him dead on. Borderline whether that's a penalty or not. The first rule of running the rub, running those pick plays is, you don't want to make contact too excessive. And obviously the result turned out to be incredibly excessive. Look, I think Bill is letting some sour grapes get involved here. I think Bill is seeing red over the guy that was the one who put Talib out. And I think he's also, maybe, to a certain degree, deflecting from the fact that they got their ass whooped on Sunday, and he would rather not talk about that.

DP: Here's where I go with Belichick's comments. And I know it's easy to look at his history with Welker, and how Welker's time in New England ended, and what happened between these two when

Welker was here. It's easy to go to that. But I'm thinking that, we always give Bill Belichick credit for having a method to his madness, right? There's always a reason. And when he's not even asked a question about this [on Monday], that's the first thing that I see. Okay, there's a method to his madness, if he's just going to come out on his own and talk about this. Bill Belichick never looks into the past. He's always, "Well, you're going to have to talk to the league about that. We've moved onto the next thing." And him calling out Welker, that doesn't benefit him or the Patriots. Nothing he says about Welker benefits the Patriots. But what does benefit the Patriots, or what might, and maybe it's a long shot that it benefits, is that, he has now publicly defended his number one defensive free agent. He's publicly and strongly defended Aqib Talib. And there's going to be a point and time this offseason, where, Aqib Talib might get offered more money elsewhere than what is fair market value for Aqib Talib. And as we know, as good a player as you could be, the Patriots are no going to go above and beyond fair market value. So I think Belichick is sort of playing this off to say, "Aqib, I have strongly defended you. I don't ever do this. This is how I feel about you." And maybe he can get into Talib's head, where Talib says, "I want to stay and play for this coach. This is where I want to be." Is it crazy to think that Bill Belichick, the method to his madness, is to somehow begin a public contract negotiation with Aqib Talib.

MG: I don't think that is crazy at all. I think you're absolutely right in the sense that, I would say 98.9 percent of the time, Belichick says



something with a purpose. I do feel like, to a little bit of a degree, yes, the Welker thing has a sour grapes aspect to it. But that fact that, in that same breath, he talked about how he felt bad for Aqib. I think that is a clear, early, send out the balloon to him that says, "We want you back." And as you know, Talib raves about being here. He said he wasn't in the NFL until he got here to New England. So yeah, I think it's a really good theory, and I think there's a lot to it. Because he had the night to

sleep on it. He had the plane ride and he had the night. And he had all this time to sort of manufacture what he wanted to come out and say in his opening remarks, and that's where he chose to go. He chose to point to the receiver with the nasty play, and he also wanted to make sure that he told everybody that he felt bad for Aqib. Yeah, I think there's a clear message there.

DP: Where are you pointing the finger, where are you putting the blame for this loss to the Denver

Broncos? We've had a couple days now, and even after a couple days, for me, I point the first finger at the quarterback, at Tom Brady. Because if you told me the Patriots would only allow two touchdowns to the Broncos in Denver in the AFC Championship, and that they would allow 26 points and the Patriots wouldn't turn the ball over once, I would have told you that I assume Brady would be great because he needs to be. And I do think that we'll eventually look back on this year and call this a great year for him, based on his weapons. But when they needed Brady to be great, in the first half, he wasn't anywhere close. I'm pointing the finger at Tom Brady. Where are you pointing it?

MG: Yeah, that's where it largely goes for me, because I think you just look at the first half. And there are three plays I'll just bring up. Matthew Slater down the sideline, and I know everybody says, "It was 3rd-and-3, what are you throwing the fade route for?" Hey, you can question the play call, but Matthew Slater was open. He had a step on the defender. Brady threw a duck, the ball hung up in the air, and ended up getting knocked down. If Tom Brady is the quarterback that you pay him to be, you can deal with one misfire here or there. So there's that one. Then, of course, you have the play action to Edelman. A better thrown ball and Edelman waltzes into the end zone. He'd probably still be running. There's a touchdown. That would have changed everything. And then the third one, before the half, Austin Collie was running down the sideline, he's open.

And he didn't even give Collie a chance. At least Slater had a chance. Edelman sort of had a chance, kind of. Collie didn't even have a chance. And you're paying this guy, he's your franchise quarterback, you're paying him a ton of money. And in big games, your big players have to make big plays. And I know that's cliché, but it's fact. Look at teams that win championships, and you can't tell me the teams that win championships, that they're best players play poorly in those games. It just doesn't happen. Your best players have to play well. And Brady is, by far and away, their best player. That game, there was no question in my mind, they could have been up at halftime, they could have had the momentum completely change in that game, and I think other guys looked around and were like, "Man, our guy doesn't have it today. And if our guy doesn't have it today, what chance do we really have?" And then you get the Talib injury on top of that. You've got to put Dennard on Thomas. And the whole trickle down effect, you go from having matchups you liked to not having a single matchup you wanted. And you saw that pay big dividends for Denver throughout the second half of that football game. So, yeah, point the finger right at the quarterback. He has to play better, and this isn't the first time. You start looking at some of these playoff losses in the last three or four years, and you come back to the quarterback almost every single time and say, "That's not what you're paying him for, that's not how he has to play in big games."

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230 West Broadway
South Boston, MA 02127
617-269-4700

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Two Opticians
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South Boston, MA 02127
617-268-9999

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