Several hundred residents filled the Tynan Community School on Wednesday evening, April 2nd and expressed their opposition to the high-priced luxury condominium project at the site of the vacant Gate of Heaven School. Elected officials including State Representative Nick Collins, Boston City Councilor Michael Flaherty and Clerk of Court Michael Donovan were present.

CONTINUED ON page 11
EDITORIAL

Do the people or their opinion matter? It’s a question being asked after last Wednesday’s meeting at the Tynan School.

The subject was the future of Gate of Heaven School and the overwhelming community desire was obviously for a charter school.

An attempt, usually by those in a developers employ, to justify a need for yet another massive influx of condos and the resulting parking nightmare fell on deaf ears.

The obvious need for a quality school to meet the demand of a burgeoning school age population is glaring. Just as obvious is the over-saturation of condos being built with dispensation or “variances” from allowed zoning law.

The people have spoken. Is the city or archdiocese listening?

“We don’t need to fundamentally transform America. We need to restore America” - Former Governor Sarah Palin

This Week’s Poll

Do You Agree With The Attendees Of The Gate Of Heaven School Meeting – That Enough Is Enough When it Comes To The Over Development Of South Boston?

YES or NO

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We are not Alone/NH
Firefighters Praise Boston

SOUTH BOSTON TODAY
John Ciccone

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

We are not alone. If you are a fan of wildlife, you do not have to travel to far off locations or hire a guide or take that trip to the woods. Because as of late it seems we don’t even have to venture outside the city limits any longer. Grab a camera or just use your smart phone lens and take a tour of South Boston and you might be surprised at the variety of what non city type creatures are being spotted everywhere. We’re way beyond just the squirrels, pigeons and seagulls of old.

After last week’s downpour rainstorm, there had to be a flock of Canadian Geese several hundred strong swimming in the pond size puddles at Moakley Park. A walk by N Street Beach last Tuesday had many locals surprised to see 2 huge swans sitting just offshore staying wet and getting some sun. But what really had people talking last week were the giant wild turkeys that were popping in up in area back yards. And rounding off the winged contingent are the numerous hawks that cruise above searching for dinner. What’s that? You haven’t seen the hawks? Well, if you think of it sometime, glance upward and the odds are you’ll see these magnificent predators gliding effortlessly high above. If you were wondering why there are far less pigeons and sparrows in the area, this influx of hawks may have something to do with it. Can we train these hawks to chase off some of the seagulls that hang around the picnic tables at Castle Island and lately have been dive bombing people to get their French fries and sandwiches?

My neighbor got a bit of a scare over the weekend when she went to put a bag of trash in one of her barrels only to be startled by an adorable little raccoon cub rummaging around inside looking for some discarded goodies. Later that evening she reported that there is a whole family of these masked bandits living behind her shed. Then of course there is the increasing number of the not so adorable possums or opossums that roam around at night that keep the skunks company. We’ve already had a few coyote sightings and reports of a fox near Andrew Square have folks asking what the heck is going on. Some residents are not too comfortable with all these critters creeping around but for the most part, people seem to prefer the influx of the new wildlife over the invasion of all the developers that continue to come out of the woodwork messing up this town worse than any scavenging wild animals. A word of caution: keep an eye out for your small pets when you let them outside.

A late follow-up to the tragic death of two of Boston’s finest Fire Fighters: I received an email from Steve Robbins, a friend from northern New Hampshire; also a Fire Fighter. Eight of their guys; members of a squad of Fire Fighters who protect the area of the small towns of Woodsville and Haverhill New Hampshire and beyond when necessary, made the trip to Boston last week to pay their respects to Boston’s fallen heroes, Lt. Edward Walsh and Fire Fighter Michael Kennedy. Though all volunteers, as are most of the Fire Fighters in that part of rural New Hampshire, every one of them has the same dedication and sense of duty as do Boston’s fine public servants and first responders. These are good people who felt the need to show their support to the Fire Fighting Family here in Boston. In the email, these NH Fire Fighters expressed to me how impressed they were with the coordination and the planning put together in just a few short days, of the wake, the funeral, the procession and the entire ceremony. They were also very appreciative of the excellent way they, as visiting Fire Fighters, were treated by the City of Boston. They were received warmly and thanked for taking the time to come. They had high praise for the police, as well, who made moving through the city very easy and because they were in their uniforms; they were not even charged fares to ride the ‘T’. The message they wanted conveyed in their email was “Well done Boston”.

And finally for this week, Iran has selected Hamid Aboutaleibi as its Ambassador to the UN. The plan is that he will move to New York, take up residence here in America and do Iran’s bidding at that most corrupt

CONTINUED ON page 4
Letter to the editor
Residents should come before profits

A proposal to sell the Gate of Heaven School building property to high end condominium developers would be reckless to the South Boston community and especially those, like me, who live in and around Gate of Heaven Parish. The school building symbolizes stability in a town that is under siege by developers wanting to take advantage of this wonderful neighborhood.

Just last week, at a public meeting at the Tynan School, I witnessed a room packed with hundreds of parishioners and South Boston residents in unanimous opposition to a high priced luxury condo proposal.

Additionally nearly 1,000 South Boston residents have signed a petition in opposition to building luxury condos.

I am aware that more than one charter school is interested in locating its education facility at the Gate of Heaven School building, which is zoned for that purpose. Luxury housing is not a needed commodity. The area is already too dense with not enough parking as it stands now. This high-end luxury condo proposal will bring area density beyond a breaking point.

What is needed is an institution that supports the growing family population that is such a welcomed sight as I walk up and down Broadway and along the beach. In reality, the net effect of luxury housing is the profiteering of private real estate developers at the expense of our community.

As both a resident and elected leader, I have an important responsibility to my community to secure those services that are so vital to our quality of life. Schools, libraries, places of worship, parks and historic sites are fundamental to the long term security of our neighborhood.

Maintaining the Gate of Heaven School Building as a place of learning adds more value to our property and our neighborhood than any high priced condominium development ever could. It is time to take a stand and say ENOUGH is ENOUGH. If this luxury condo project gets approved – then it is because profits trumped the residents of our community. And that is not something any of us should tolerate.

Michael Joseph Donovan
Suffolk County Clerk of Court – Civil Business
South Boston Resident

Continued on page 6

A Message from the Gate of Heaven Civic Association and Friends of Gate of Heaven

Last week a BRA sponsored community meeting was held at the Tynan School on the future of the Gate of Heaven School Building. The meeting room was filled with hundreds of South Boston residents, parishioners and direct abutters to the property who are in public opposition to the project. Twenty or so people took the floor to speak out against the proposal. Not one person publicly supported the project.

Along with nearly 1000 signatures in opposition, the following elected officials are publicly opposing the high-end condo proposal and support maintaining the use of the building as a school:

- City Councilor Bill Linehan
- City Councilor Michael Flaherty
- State Senator Linda Dorcena Forry
- State Representative Nick Collins

Clerk of Court Michael Donovan
State Senator Linda Dorcena Forry
City Councilor Michael Flaherty
Representative Nick Collins

Please call and email the following elected officials with your concerns:

Mayor Marty Walsh: 617.635.3151 mayor@cityofboston.gov
Liaison Eric Prentis: 617.635.3485 eric.prentis@boston.gov

City Councilors:

Michael Flaherty: 617.635.4205 Michael.F.Flaherty@boston.gov
Bill Linehan: 617.635.3203 Bill.Linehan@cityofboston.gov
Frank Baker: 617.635.3455 Frank.Baker@cityofboston.gov
Steve Murphy: 617.635.4376 Stephen.Murphy@cityofboston.gov

Michelle Wu: 617.635.3115 Michelle.Wu@boston.gov
Ayanna Pressley: 617.635.4217 Ayanna.Pressley@cityofboston.gov

State:
Senator Linda Dorcena Forry 617-722-1150
Linda.DorcenaForry@masenate.gov

Representative Nick Collins 617-722-2080
Nick.Collins@mahouse.gov

Appointments Available with
Dr. Rae R. Huang O.D.

TWO OPTICIANS
394 W. Broadway, So. Boston, MA 02127
617.268.9999
twoopticians.com

If you need a ride we’ll send Southie Shuttle to pick you up.
A “hearing” is being held at the State House today to discuss an almost $2 billion expansion of the Convention Center or B.C.E.C. The word “hearing” implies that people are actually listening and making decisions based on facts and information that they indeed hear, but one has to wonder if the decisions are made before any hearing takes place. Sort of a “done deal” feeling - a feeling based on past experience. To the general public, chapter 152, the legislation allowing the funding and building of the B.C.E.C, was passed in November of 1997. For South Boston, the groundwork and pattern began back in April of that year.

That’s when Saint Menino sent a few of his disciples to community meetings to announce his plans for a South Boston teen center to combat the suicide and drug crisis destroying South Boston’s youth. He got the $600,000 to build it but the money disappeared and the center was never built. The theme of making promises to build, then breaking them after construction is allowed, is a constant refrain.

The actual language of Ch. 152 cites the South Boston community as specifically impacted and trumpets the economic benefits to the residents. Seventeen years later over 85% of those residents are gone. The majority forced out. No doubt it has been an economic benefit for developers.

A prohibition on hotels/motels south of Summer Street was the law. Until the B.C.E.C, once again, requested the South Boston community to void the law in order to create contiguous hotel space to enhance the B.C.E.C amenities and attract more conventions.

The community agreed to support a “development zone” boarded by the Haul Road, Reserve Channel and First Street and Summer Street. Four to six hotels would be spread through this zone and the community would negotiate a community benefits package. After agreeing and thanking the community, the B.C.E.C promptly disregarded that agreement and has confined high end development abutting the B.C.E.C only, and is relegating E Street to the Reserve Channel as an industrial area.

The community negotiators rejected a benefits package that contained $630,000 and fifteen 3-year summer internships. The community panel feels this woefully inadequate for two multimillion dollar hotels that will change quality of life forever and furthermore, absolutely rejects the industrialization of any part of the agreed to “development zone”.

Despite the lack of a required community benefits agreement ground has been broken for the hotels.

Over two years ago, the B.C.E.C proposed expansion was rejected out of hand by the community, if it included the relocation of the State’s repair garage from D Street to B and First Street. At the time, we were told that proposal was “off the table”. Now the latest report is that the businesses from B to D on First Street have received letters of eminent domain seizure for just that purpose.

So, after nearly seventeen years, the final result will be gleaming high end development in and around the B.C.E.C. An industrial “Berlin Wall” will separate us from them, complete with a trailer truck route up E Street heading to and from the popular and growing Westside.

With all of this wonderful promotion of economic nirvana, a T.V. report states that the heroin problem in New England has reached a crisis. Vermont is cited as the worst. We can be thankful because, without them, Massachusetts would be the worst.

There’s a hearing, but is anybody listening? Where is the teen center? Where are economic benefits for the residents? Double dipping retirees with connections and no children don’t need these jobs. Young people starting out do. All these billions being spent and made and where is the benefit to the community?

After attending the wake of a Marine Sgt, who came back only to confront frustration, lack of opportunity and the easy availability of heroin, it’s time for our leaders to stand up and scream. No more expansion or development, until we actually set aside funding to deal with this and other important neighborhood challenges. Children and families, not hotels or expansion are the future. Development must support that long term future and not gratify and benefit the “get rich quick” schemers.

Take care till next week.

**MOVIE CASTING CALL**

**C.P. CASTING IS HOLDING A CASTING CALL FOR THE FEATURE FILM**

**BLACK MASS**

**WHEN:** Saturday, April 12 AND Sunday, April 13, 2014 1:00 PM until 6:00 PM

**WHERE:** Boston Teacher’s Union / Carson Place Dorchester, MA 02125 [NEAR THE BAYSIDE EXPO] 180 Mount Vernon Street Entrance is off William Day Blvd. www.carsonplace.net FOR DETAILED DIRECTIONS

**WHAT:** Background extras and speaking roles needed for a feature film that will shoot in Boston May 19 thru August 1

We are looking for men, women, and children of all ethnicities and types ITALIAN WISE GUYS, IRISH TOUGH GUYS, POLITICIANS, SOUTHIE ON ST. PAT’S DAY, PEOPLE W/ CARS FROM THE 70’S/80’S to represent people in Boston in the 1970’s and 80’s

**STORYLINE:** “Black Mass” tells the story of James “Whitey” Bulger, an Irish street punk who rose to power in organized crime by using his FBI informant status to bring down the Italian mafia in New England

**MORE INFO. @ [www.CP Casting.com](http://www.CP Casting.com)**
Rep. Collins pushes for passage of Domestic Violence Bill

Representative Nick Collins joined House Speaker Robert A. DeLeo and his House colleagues in voting for a comprehensive domestic violence bill which creates new criminal offenses and elevated penalties, boosts prevention efforts and seeks to empower victims.

The legislation establishes a first offense domestic assault and battery charge that will allow officials to immediately contextualize charges as domestic in nature and take appropriate punitive action. It also creates a separate and specific charge of strangulation and suffocation, actions that statistically indicate an abuser is more likely to commit domestic violence related homicide in the future.

“We, as public officials and as a society, must do everything in our power to stem the tragic tide of violence against women,” Speaker DeLeo said. “This legislation represents some of the strongest, most comprehensive domestic violence legislation in at least a generation. I thank the Attorney General for her collaboration on this bill and offer my sincere gratitude to the advocates and individuals who so courageously shared their experiences.”

Since last summer, when a crime wave hit South Boston, particularly violence against women in his district, Rep. Collins urged House leadership to strengthen anti-violence laws.

“This bill empowers law enforcement to break the cycle of violence against women by repeat abusers,” said Rep. Collins. “We have an obligation to protect our families from domestic violence and to provide victims of violence with the support they need. This bill gets us one step closer to fulfilling that commitment.”

The bill gives law enforcement officials, attorneys, judges and medical professionals updated resources to help balance prevention and punishment. The legislation streamlines and standardizes records to ensure that officials have the most accurate information and that parties across the jurisdictions have access to an offender’s complete history.

The bill abolishes the antiquated practice of allowing accord and satisfaction in domestic violence cases and establishes the following crimes:

• Domestic assault or domestic assault and battery near a court house; and
• Domestic assault or domestic assault and battery with the intent to intimidate or prevent access to courts.

The bill also includes the following provisions:

• Delays the issuance of bail for offenders providing the victim with time for safety planning and authorizes the revocation bail in certain cases;
• Establishes employment leave for victims of abuse;
• Increases victim confidentiality by prohibiting information regarding domestic violence complaints from being included in daily police logs which are public record;
• Broadens court authorization to issue limited custody and support orders; and
• Makes it easier for women to obtain pepper by removing the requirement of obtaining an FID card.

CONTINUED FROM page 4

problem disregarding this country’s immigration laws and ignoring our Constitution whenever they don’t like what’s written, but to tell a terrorist who took Americans hostage to keep out of our country? Oh no, America can’t do that. It might offend the Muslim extremists who rule Iran.

Luckily, we have fearless Conservative Senators like Ted Cruz of Texas who stand up and say “NO!”, he can’t come to America. Cruz is working on passing a law right now to block this guy. Can you imagine any other President willing to let this Iranian terrorist come here? Reagan? Either President Bush? And even Clinton would draw the line. Of course, Jimmy Carter said he has no problem with it but he’s in a tight race with Obama for the title of America’s worst president and apparently doesn’t want to settle for second place. What we need is a real American president once again; an adult, who as soon as Hamid Aboutalebi sets foot on American soil, would have him clamped in iron and thrown in jail. 444 days sounds about right for a minimum sentence.

Council President Linehan Works to Fund Recovery Programs

City Council President Bill Linehan recently introduced a Home Rule Petition that would implement a 6.25% tax on “off premise” alcohol purchases within the city of Boston. A hearing was held on April 7th in the Boston City Council’s Iannella Chamber regarding this proposal. If passed, this proposal would raise approximately $9 to $15 million to support addiction prevention and recovery programs in Boston.

In 2010 a referendum known as Question 1 suspended the statewide 6.25% tax on “off premise” alcohol, passing by a 52% to 48% margin, however within the city of Boston voters overwhelmingly opposed eliminating the tax, by nearly a 2 to 1 margin. Question 1’s passage resulted in the loss of approximately $93 million in yearly revenue for state prevention and recovery programs. This loss of funding has come at a time when the need for treatment services remains high.

Recently Governor Patrick declared a public health emergency regarding opiate addiction in Massachusetts, committing additional resources to the problem and banning the new powerful painkiller Zohydro in the commonwealth until measures are taken to prevent abuse. Opiate overdoses in Massachusetts have risen 90% over the last decade. The majority of people who seek detox services identify alcohol as the first substance they abused, most at a young age.

“We need to find a way to close gaps in recovery services. I’ve heard from families who have struggled to get their loved ones the treatment they need because of a lack of detox beds. I’ve heard from treatment providers that are unable to provide post detox care because of lost funding. We’re talking about an extra dollar on a twelve pack of beer. Given the extraordinary need for recovery services in our communities, I believe this makes sense.” – Council President Bill Linehan

At the hearing alcohol retailers felt they were being targeted unfairly to resolve this serious problem. They felt the burden needs to be shared with others in the economy. Councilor Linehan listened to their concerns and will work with the Council to take their issues into consideration.
## Recent South Boston Real Estate Sales

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- Friday to Friday

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### MCM Properties

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Stepping Up: Child’s Play

They say that youth is wasted on the young. Sure, I have reached an age where I know and recognize past mistakes and misgivings and have a better understanding of who and what I am (not by much though) and if given the chance, a la 17 Again, I would bring jean tuxedos, Crystal Pepsi and shell toes back with a vengeance. But even if I stumbled upon a magic lamp and was propositioned for 3 wishes, because you know nothing is for free, I don’t think I would go back. Young adults get a lot of flack these days that they are not doing enough for themselves, their communities and families. Too wrapped up in acting amiss, eating sugar until their teeth fall out and becoming all thumbs as a result of video games (that most adults create). Ummm, if you could, a result of video games (that most adults create). Ummm, if you could, wouldn’t you being doing the same? That being said, there are so many young adults in our neighborhood that challenge those assumptions and “surprise” their accusers by continually serving themselves and others in most things they do. Head to one of these events and show these kiddos that you know they are doing an awesome job and support their future.

Thursday April 10, 6-9pm
The Furniture Trust Fourth Annual Eco-Carpentry Challenge
Young carpentry students have repurposed old, unused office furniture into works of useable art and will be on display at District Hall. These young men and women have used innovative skill and imaginative thought and brought new life to the pieces that will go to a good home where it is needed. Most recently, Boston Green Academy was a recipient of some of the gear. Build a better future, together.

TheFurnitureTrust.org
eventbrite.com/e/the-furniture-trust-fourth-annual-eco-carpentry-challenge

Friday April 11, 6-10pm
The House Is Where the Heart Is
The South Boston Neighborhood House, or the Ollie to most of us, holds their 27th Annual Benefit this weekend. Live auctions, drinks, dancing and other delights will abound. The Ollie has served people of all ages in our community; programs for toddlers, dance classes for the young at heart, groups for the elderly. But a huge focus is on our youth and occupying their free time to keep them off the streets through focus on fun and education; I used to love the ski trips, open gym and dances. The SBNH keeps expanding but need our help to keep our neighborhood and youth strong and steadfast on a path to betterment.

ollieauction.eventbrite.com/?aff=efbevent

Friday April 11, 8pm-12am
Casino Night
The Young Professionals Group of Big Brothers Big Sisters of Mass Bay is holding a 2nd Annual Casino Night and invite all to celebrate with them. The event is being held at the AFH Epicenter and the price of admission includes open bar, casino chips and snacks. Let’s give them a full house.

fundraise.com/big-brothers-big-sisters-of-massachusetts-bay-ice/2nd-annual-casino-night

Stepping Out: Think This is All Just a Game?

One year for Christmas, my mom and dad gave their darling, dear offspring a Nintendo system. This was strange because Mom and Dad never gave us gifts— they were strictly from Santa. What wasn’t was Mom’s threat that if we fought over the machine, it would be taken away and disposed at an unknown location where no one would be able to crawl, climb or use any other investigative tactics to find it. We smiled with shining, hopeful eyes and pinky-promises that this would not go on. Less than a week, many threats and black eyes (given to each other) later, the game was GONE. I tried to play Mario Bros but was so chastised about not keeping my hands steady on the controller and moving my arms in sync with the characters (I am a natural born dancer) that I was happy it was gone. My brothers and sisters enjoyed it to a certain extent, but it never morphed into Xbox, Super Nintendo or PlayStation addictions. So many of my generation, however, went the opposite way and still play, alone and in groups, today. Some were even talented enough to take it to a professional level playing or creating the games themselves. This weekend at the BCEC, PAX East hits Boston. It’s a 3-Day gamers dream; free play, new product samples, revealing of new games. The days are jam-packed with events and activities for little and big kids alike. Too many things too list, the website gives a break down of the what/where/when happenings, color-coded by theme-named locations. If you are all in for this occasion, there are a few other options for fun too. Laugh Boston is taking part in PAX East and opening its door for a gamers’ takeover. They are also, true to their comedic, Boston roots, presenting the Dirty Donkey Kong Show, at midnight Friday and Saturday, as a relaxing and lighthearted way to end a long and physical day. All are encouraged to wear costumes and prizes will be awarded for the best ensemble. Harpoon Brewery is the first stop on a PAX East Bar Crawl that is already sold out and a drink-up, meet-up party on 04/11, 7-10 pm, hosted by IGN, who is hosting some sick sessions at the convention. The Boston Convention & Exhibition Center may be on the outskirts of the Innovation District but helps maintain a Boston that is in tune and on the forefront of contemporary advancements in society through hosting events such as PAX East. The technology behind gaming: the programs, equipment and the people, are all growing at a fast and intense pace and Boston is doing a fine job at keeping that pace, as evident in all aspects of South Boston partaking in the festivities. This is no novelty, but here to stay.

east.passite.com

laughboston.com/events/ign.com/articles/2014/03/26/party-with-ign-at-pax-east-2014
Southie Senses: Things to touch, see, taste, smell and hear in Southie

Touch: Pass It Over
Unbeknownst to many, there is a significant Jewish population in Latin, Central and South America. RHOBH husband, Mauricio, is a Mexican Jew and his wife converted for him; not gonna lie, I probably would have too. To celebrate Passover, Rosa Mexicano is offering a prix fixe menu April 14-22, from first course, to dessert to a tequila drink. Chag Sameach (KHAHG sah-MEHY-ahkh):
josyafestival.
rosamexicano.com/file/16097/Passover%20Sample.pdf

See: Caught My Eye
I can’t seem to stop drooling on & on & on about how spring has sprung up on me and I am totally unprepared. I’m sure you are all hoping I can’t stand myself either and have taken it to the streets and the gym and cut the crap already. My first stop- Habit, Thursday 04/10, 6-5pm, to check out the Stella&Dot trunk show, where drinks will be served and a 20% discount on Habit clothing is offered. I will be squeezing in cardio by trolling Broadway’s best boutiques and working on my forearms and biceps through swiping and sipping!
habitshop.com

Taste: Savor the Flavor
Winos and Foodies: rejoice and unite. There are some opportunities to fill your glass and your belly this week. Legal Harborside is hosting an Emiliana Wine Dinner 04/17, 6:30-9:30pm, 4 courses with pairings and hors oeuvres. TR Street Food is at it again and with a Chef’s Studio dinner with Chef Jade Taylor (Sous, Bondir) and offers a dinner worth sitting down for, Monday 04/14, 7-10pm. And WeWork is even getting in on the action; “Budget vs. Benjamins: How to Speak and Buy Wine” is a hands on tutorial that will learn you the lingo and help differentiate the good, the bad and the ugly grapes. Chin-chin.
Legal Harborside Event: legalseafoods.com/index.cfm/cid/45598/pid/43564
TR Street Food Event: eventbrite.com/e/chefs-studio-dinner-with-jade-taylor-bondir-tickets-11009079453
WeWork Event: bostonweetup.com/calendar-2/budget-benjamins-speak-buy-wine/?

Smell: Winner, Winner Chicken Dinner
Who doesn’t love the sweet smell of victory? But sick of living vicariously through the Red Sox and Bruins? Head on down to the Stadium in Southie and check out their Bocce league and Bar Pong Games during the workweek. Good way to blow off some steam and claim a W for the win. Bar pong on manic Monday nights and bocce on thirsty Thursdays is a recipe for success.

Hear: Extra, Extra
The Mass Bay Credit Union is hosting a Children’s Book Drive through the end of April. The South Boston branch located at 147 W 4th street will gladly take your donations. With some much other stimuli available, reading is becoming a lost pastime and devalued skill. Give kids a chance to make the decision whether or not they want to become bookworms by giving them access. Catch my drift?
massbaycu.org

Embrace All Of The Southie Senses:
Embracing All of the Southie Senses: Retention
South Boston is growing by the minute: in population and popularity. Our community has something for everyone and it is evident in the variety of people and faces we see on a daily basis. Our locale has been and still is a destination for young professionals due to the proximity to downtown and work, the variety of activities and nightlife offered in our town and that sweet, salty ocean breeze. Investing in our people has always been the hallmark of South Bostonians. Many, but new and old have put down roots on these streets and are here for the duration. But too often we lose our younger, novice neighbors to other places and housing opportunities. Whether it’s confusion about city living while raising a family, purchasing a condo vs. renting or other limited prospects, we want to keep you around. There are many resources that the city and other agencies have to offer, free of charge, to help guide you through to the other side. And by the other side, I mean the other side of your street to say hi to your neighbors! Check out these chances to help you stay put! Onein3 Boston, a City of Boston agency geared towards assisting the 1/3 of Boston’s population (20-34 year olds), will be holding office hours every Thursday, 10am-12pm, at District Hall. Please bring your comments, questions and concerns and work together with Onein3 to be here to stay. onedevelopmentauthority.org/news-calendar/calendar/2014/04/10/onein3-office-hours
The National Association of Real Estate Brokers is hosting a FREE Home Ownership Expo Day at the Courtyard Marriott on Boston Street, Saturday 04/12, from 9am-4pm. Everything you need to know about purchasing, financing and inquiring about buying a condo or house, will be addressed at this event. Take advantage and have an advantage. nareb.org

**See the Change:**
There will be a viewing at the Midway Gallery, Thursday 04/11, which gives some insight into where South Boston was and where it is going, through art. See what was and is, and where it can go. http://midwaychannelgallery.com/shows.html
Excerpt From Brian Wallace’s “A Southie Memoir”

SOUTH BOSTON TODAY
By Brian Wallace

First of all let me thank the people who have already bought “A Southie Memoir” on Amazon. I have been getting a lot of e-mails about a particular chapter that has to do with “Southie Nicknames”, their origin and the reasons behind many. So, I thought I would share part of that chapter with you.

So here goes:

“I honestly think that South Boston should be called the nickname capital of the world. Just about everyone in Southie has a nickname or has a friend who has one.”

Some nicknames are given to people because of their profession: Meathead Murphy was a butcher. Every Campbell family had a soupy. Every Owens family had a poison, although I’m not really sure why. There were particular parts of Southie where nicknames were the rule rather than the exception.

Old Harbor project particularly stands out. You could tell if a lid was old from Old Harbor due to the unique nicknames. Walter Mahoney was called Waz, Jerry Lynch was called Jaz, Tom Flynn was known as Baz, Mickey Fraine will forever be known as Fraz, Janice Cavanaugh (Yes, even the girls) was called Caz, Larry Tobin was called Laz. You get the idea. The kids from Old Harbor were very industrious and good ones. They were the Dillon Southie family all had nicknames and good ones. They were the Dillon family and there was Snuffy, Chopper, Snoopy and Monk. Banana Hayes had a little scar on his face that resembled a small banana. Twilight Kellywas credited with putting on the first night baseball game under the lights. Flash McCann talked so fast you could barely understand what he was saying. Whitey McGrail had blonde hair. There was also another Whitey, but he is in the latter part of the book. Tuffy O’Hare was always looking for a fight.

But there were also almost a thousand Southie nicknames that I have no clue as to their origin. Names like Yogi Cummings, Gypo Curtis, Puffy Driscoll, Mooney Devlin, Chinky DeGrandis, Shoo Shoo DeGrandis, who happened to be Chinky’s wife. Others included Hanky Estabrook, Dada Flaherty, Hokey Farrell, Champ Foley, Dodo Nee, Dudley Freehette, Bulky Gallagher, Tinka Gaughan, Gasha Gerharty, Yacka Harrington, Bunka Imbruglia, Poison Kane, Flappa Lyman, Loonie Linehan, Harzie Larvey, Lappa Larvey, Lopsie Lydon, Bubba Cahill, Cupcakes McDonough, Touchie McDonough, Cookie Comeau, Windy Mahoney, Smacka McCarthy, Slip Moran, Ducky Mullvaney….. for the next couple of hundred you can see them all in “A Southie Memoir” on Amazon.

Bobby Fisher had a great hook shot on the basketball court, hence was known as “Hooker”.

And then there were nicknames nobody could explain. Bob Flynn was always known as “Peaches” although nobody can explain why. There was one family who lived in Old Harbor who had four brothers. Each one of the brothers had a nickname. Their real names were Thomas, Francis, Richard and William, but they were known as Jabber, Dukie, Duba and Sleepy. All the nicknames I mentioned were from Old Harbor, but you knew you made it in Southie when you only needed one name to be identified. Some of these legends were Wacko, Injun, Mocha, Stretch, Snuffy, Satch, Happy, Rabbit, Tuffy, Toppa, to name a few. And if I had a dime for every Obie, Sully, Walshie or Murph, I would be a rich man.

Some were indicative of a person’s ability. Killer Crowe was tough as nails, Wacky Jacky Callahan, after a few beers, was just that. Another famous Southie family all had nicknames and good ones. They were the Dillon family and there was Snuffy, Chopper, Snoopy and Monk. Banana Hayes had a little scar on his face that resembled a small banana. Twilight Kelly was credited with putting on the first night baseball game under the lights. Flash McCann talked so fast you could barely understand what he was saying. Whitey McGrail had blonde hair. There was also another Whitey, but he is in the latter part of the book. Tuffy O’Hare was always looking for a fight.

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Doubleback Vineyards’ Drew Bledsoe

SOUTH BOSTON TODAY
By Jamie Driscoll The Wine Guy

I was fortunate enough recently to have the opportunity to sit down with former New England Patriot and current vineyard owner Drew Bledsoe to talk about his latest personal success, Doubleback Vineyards. For those of you who haven’t been able to buy it, you should know that while there is a Massachusetts wholesaler, Carolina Brands, the allotment wasn’t large, by any means; Doubleback Cabernet Sauvignon, 2011, is just hard to find here. Drew (he told me I could call him Drew) and a number of other winemakers belong to a group called Free The Grapes (www.freethegrapes.org), which is dedicated to removing barriers to direct sale to consumers, which is the case in just 10 out of the 50 states. Massachusetts is one of them. If you’d like to have more purchasing options, please go to the site to see how you can make a difference.

Wine Guy: Tell me a little bit more about your “Signature Series” wines; what are your plans for the future?

DB: Well, our Stolen Horse Syrah was named after my mom’s great-uncle, who was falsely accused of horse theft after helping what he thought was a stray horse out of a snow drift during a snow storm in Montana. It’s a part of our wine business that we want to have some fun with; this year, we’re going to be offering wines under the “Bledsoe Family” name and the wine will essentially be like a second label for the wine that didn’t quite make the cut for Doubleback. Still great wine, but more affordable; we’ll put it in a 1-litre carafe, like you’d see in an Italian restaurant and offer it to our List members.

Wine Guy: Speaking of the List, I’d love to be on the List, but I can’t, because I live here. Do you see anything on the horizon that might change with respect to direct buying in the remaining 10 states?

DB: Well, there has been a lot of progress over the last 20 years, to the point where, as you mentioned,
CONTINUED FROM Front Page...

in opposition to the condo development and were in public support of the charter school option. City Councilor Bill Linehan and Senator Linda Dorcena Forry are also publicly opposing the condos and are instead in favor of maintaining the building’s use for a charter school.

The meeting was sponsored by the BRA. This was the third time a developer has proposed to create high-priced luxury housing units for the Gate of Heaven building. Each time, the development has received near unanimous opposition. One parent who attended the meeting said, “The building is zoned for a school and should stay that way. A school would be a great way for the people in this community who want to raise a family and educate their kids here.”

At the meeting it was learned that several charter schools are interested in leasing the space. Members of the parish and financial professionals agree that leasing the building to a school is the best option for the community which is fed up with the rampant over-development of luxury housing for the wealthy only.

Roughly 20-25 people spoke out at the meeting, with not a single person speaking in favor of the project. The opposition was unanimous. At every mention of the charter school option the crowd cheered in unison. When members of the community spoke out about how fed up they are with the overdevelopment, cheers would consume the auditorium. The theme “enough is enough” was repeated throughout the night. This was echoed by Councillor Flaherty and Representative Collins. Neighborhood activist Edward Flynn who was interviewed after the meeting said “Many parents are now working two, three and in some instances four jobs just to send their children to private schools which provide them with a quality education. Having a decent charter school is an important part of the future of South Boston and it is desperately needed.”

No one was more impassioned than neighborhood leader and Suffolk County Clerk Michael J. Donovan, who lives around the corner from the development. Donovan, who brought the crowd to its feet several times, called on City Hall and the Archdiocese to axe the current proposal and accept proposals from charter schools, citing the joint benefit to the parish and the community.

Kevin Lally, of the Gate of Heaven Neighborhood Association stated after the meeting that “It was made

CONTINUED on page 12

I think that, as social media comes to play a larger part in our lives, especially with the younger people, networks, especially for friends with things in common, like wine, it will become more trusted than all the wine critics and their scores are today. While I believe that scores will always serve a purpose, I believe that network credibility will become a more trusted and used source by more people.

Wine Guy: Drew, thanks very much.

DB: Great to visit with you; thanks.

Talk back to Jamie at wineguy@southbostontoday.com

CONTINUED FROM page 10

there are just a few states that still prohibit direct buying. There is a Bill here in Massachusetts, House Bill 294, that’s stalled in committee. I bet that if it was allowed out for a vote, it’d pass.

Wine Guy: Well, anything that would allow us more access to more great wines, like yours, would be a good thing, it seems to me. Last question: what do you think the next “big thing” in wine will be? Will it be a wine a whole country, like Brazil or China, will produce or will it be a trend?

DB: That’s a great question and

I think that, as social media comes to play a larger part in our lives, especially with the younger people, networks, especially for friends with things in common, like wine, it will become more trusted than all the wine critics and their scores are today. While I believe that scores will always serve a purpose, I believe that network credibility will become a more trusted and used source by more people.

Wine Guy: Drew, thanks very much.

DB: Great to visit with you; thanks.

Talk back to Jamie at wineguy@southbostontoday.com

Big Dig Nostalgia at Gallery 14
Opening Reception Thursday April 10, 6-8pm

In addition to the growing restaurant scene in Fort Point, there are new galleries appearing in this thriving artists’ community. The latest is Gallery 14 at the 249 A Street Artists’ Cooperative. For the month of April, Gallery 14 features works inspired by the Big Dig.

“It has been ten years since the Big Dig departed from Fort Point, and some of us look back with nostalgia to the time when Fort Point was still ‘owned’ by the artists and we were stimulated every day by the muscular art of civil engineering as it took place around us.” says Don Eyles, artist and curator of this show.

The 249 A Street Artists cooperative was literally “touched” by the Big Dig. The building was the closest residential abutting building to go through the Central Artery Tunnel Project, with the tunnel foundation just 10 feet from its foundation. Construction took place on all four sides, over a period of many years.

The show features photography, painting, drawing and installation.

Artists:
Rebecca Leviss Dwyer
Don Eyles
Anton Grassl
Dan Osterman
Lenore Tennenblatt
Nan Tull
George Vasquez
Valda Zalkalns

Location
249 A Street, Fort Point, South Boston

Open by appointment, contact: Rebeca L. Dwyer 617-423-6852
Lenore Tennenblatt 617-513-5718

About Gallery 14

Gallery 14 is the newest art space in Fort Point, featuring rotating art exhibitions and special arts events. The space is an evolving project of the 249 A Street Artists cooperative, Massachusetts’s first limited-equity live/work cooperative for artists. The building has served as a model for artists’ housing nationwide, and was key in the growth of the Fort Point Arts Community (FPAC). Gallery 14 was the home of the FPAC Office for its first eleven years.

249 A Street celebrates its 30th anniversary with the opening of this new gallery space.

More about the history of 249 A Street here: http://249astreet.com
More about Fort Point Arts Community here: www.fortpointarts.org

Press contact: Gabrielle Schaffner, gsos@rcn.com

www.fortpointarts.org
Free Tree Planting Program

Southie Trees and the South Boston Neighborhood Development Corporation are happy to announce the return of the Plant-A-Tree Program, a neighborhood wellness and beautification initiative to get more trees planted in South Boston. Through the program, Southie Trees will provide interested and qualified residents (on a first come first serve basis) with a tree, planting supplies, and the know-how to ensure long-term health and growth (up to a $200 value!).

The application deadline for Spring 2014 is April 21, 2014. Selected applicants will be notified no later than April 23, 2014 if they have been chosen to receive a tree.

There will be a mandatory training session/planting day on April 26, 2014 behind the Laboure Center on D St. We will be planting two trees around the parking lot and also use this as an opportunity to teach proper planting methods and tree care. Tree recipients will be able to pick up their trees and supplies after the planting at the SBNDC office, approximately 1 block away from the planting site at 365 W Broadway.

Who Can Apply

Any resident living in South Boston can apply to the Plant-A-Tree Program. Residents must be able to plant the tree on their property, in a yard or adjacent green space.

How to Apply

It’s easy! Just fill out the one page application found at southietrees.techboston.com, or on our facebook page at www.facebook.com/southietrees, and email to southietrees1@gmail.com or hand-deliver to SBNDC at 365 West Broadway by April 21, 2014.

What are Eligible Projects?

* Trees must be planted on the applicant’s property by the applicant, who must attend our mandatory training session. There are many types of eligible trees that can be planted in South Boston and we encourage you to choose the type that works best for your yard! You can select your preferred tree type on the application and make a suggestion for a specific species. (All trees are subject to availability from the nurseries, but we will work with you to find the perfect tree for you).
* You can find the list of approved trees here: www.cityofboston.gov/parks/streettrees/
  Tree_species.asp

In addition to a free tree, Plant-A-Tree will provide you with all the supplies needed for planting. Contact: Maggie Poyant Program Coordinator Southie Trees Southietrees1@gmail.com 617-268-9610

South Boston Sports Hall of Fame Scholarship Trust Fund

The South Boston Sports Hall of Fame Scholarship Trust Fund announces their program for the year 2014. The fund will award up to eleven (11) fifteen hundred dollar degree scholarship grants and one (1) non degree scholarship grant for one thousand dollars. Of the ten academic grants, one will be funded by Massport, one by the South Boston Youth Hockey Association in memory of John Cunniff, one in memory of Attorney William McDermott Jr. and one in honor of Frank Seluk. Up to five additional grants will be funded by the Hall of Fame Trust Fund, one in memory of Bob Nichols. The non-degree grant will be funded by Massport. The academic grants are for those students who reside in South Boston (02127), will graduate from high school in 2014 or have earned a GED certificate since January 1st, 2014 and plan to attend a school of advanced education or training in 2014.

Applications must be received by May 10th, 2014 and must be forwarded to:
Fred Ahern, South Boston SHOF Scholarship Trust Fund
Curley Community Center, 1663 Columbia Rd, South Boston, MA 02127
The Bruins have clinched the Prince of Whales Trophy as the team with the best record in the Eastern Conference for the first time since the 2008-09 season. Just over a month ago the Bruins were down five points in the standings to the Pittsburgh Penguins, but after a 15-1-1 month of March, the black and gold have seized the top spot, and home ice advantage through the Eastern Conference Finals, should they get there.

How have they done it this year? Of course, goaltending and defense are the focus for Claude Julien’s team, but there is a new offensive element this year that has put the Bruins over the edge in terms of consistency. The Bruins success this year can be broken down into categories of what’s new, what’s old, but consistent.

Same Ole, Same Ole:
Zdeno Chara: Big Z is a player that only one team has, and he’s a defensemen like no other. He should be up for yet another Norris Trophy nomination when you consider he leads all Bruins defensemen with an average 24:43 time on ice, while sporting a +25 rating playing against the opponent’s top line. He also leads all Bruins defense with 17 goals on the year, good for fourth among D-men in the NHL. His new position in front of the net on the power play has increased his goal numbers, as well as the productivity of the power play overall... but more on the power play later.

Patrice Bergeron: Bergy has rediscovered his offensive skill-set this year, in addition to remaining a lock-it-down two way forward who is all but a shoe-in for the Selke Award as best defensive forward. Bergeron is a team best +38, and his 28 goals is the most he has scored since the 2005-06 season, when he was just 20 years old. Following his memorable concussion induced by Philadelphia’s Randy Jones, Bergeron’s offensive prowess simply was not the same. Since 2005-06, his high was 22 goals, which he achieved three times. This year is different though - as he closes in on 30 goals, it’s apparent that the second line center has regained a nose for the net. A welcome re-addition to his game.

Goaltending: Before it was Tim Thomas, and for two full season’s now, the Bruins are Tuukka Rask’s team. However, the Bruins always get the best out of their goalies - this season is no different. There were questions surrounding Tuukka’s ability to take the reins for a full 82-game schedule, but he has been more than equal to the task. He’s another player on this roster that will be nominated for some individual hardware in the form of the Vezina Trophy. Rask is the only goaltender in the NHL who has broken the top five in the four major goaltending categories: he is fourth in GAA at 2.03, third in save percentage with .930, fifth in wins with 35, and first in shutouts with seven. He is the anchor between the pipes, and the B’s will go nowhere without him at the top of his game.

The Merlot Line: The energy unit, the guys that boost momentum, the guys that drop the gloves - it’s the best fourth line in all of hockey and the Bruins still own it. Greg Campbell, Shawn Thornton, and Daniel Paille have been together on this unit since the 2011 Stanley Cup run, and they always provide the spark you expect your role players to provide. At times, they can be dominant, like when they took over the Rangers series in round two of the 2013 postseason. At all times, they give the B’s the jump they need to get their feet moving. This fourth line matches up well against any other in the league, and it’s a huge reason why Claude Julien is able to keep his team in better condition than the opponent the deeper the game goes.

New and Improved:
Jarome Iginla added to first unit: The offseason pickup of Jarome Iginla heard some groans from B’s fans after the 2012-13 trade deadline saw Iggy choose to play for the Pittsburgh Penguins over the Boston Bruins. Perhaps the B’s four game sweep of the Penguins in last year’s Eastern Conference Final showed him the light, and despite the sour taste in the mouths of some fans, no one in Boston is second guessing the acquisition now. In addition to reaching the 30 goal mark for the 12th time in his career, he has strengthened the consistency of David Krejci and Milan Lucic, who have been known to coast for stretches over the past few regular seasons. Not this year. The first unit has combined for 71 goals on the year, averaging just under a goal per game on the year.

Carl Soderberg, Riley Smith, and Loui Eriksson: These three additions to the Bruins offense have strengthened their depth exponentially. Soderberg has great hands and a big body; he’s put up 16 goals and 30 assists in his first true NHL go-round. The “one-eyed-Swede” has solidified the third line as a true goal scoring threat whenever they step onto the ice - third line scoring is something this team lacked against Chicago in the Cup Finals. Reilly Smith came as a surprise bonus in the deal that brought Loui Eriksson to Boston and left Tyler Seguin in Dallas. Smith won the Bruins 7th Player Award on Saturday as the player on the B’s who has most exceeded expectations of the Boston faithful, with 19 goals and 30 assists on the year, he is a great fit on the line with Bergeron and Marchand, or can provide an extra spark on the third line with Soderberg and Chris Kelly.

The Power play: This Bruins power play is a force to be reckoned with. Once something they lacked but did not necessarily need, the B’s power play has jumped from a success rate of 14.8%, the fourth most inefficient man advantage last year, to 20.8% this year, good for the third strongest power play in the NHL. There are numerous options for Julien with (at least) two strong units on the advantage. The first unit will consist of David Krejci, with Zdeno Chara parked in front of the net, and Lucic, Iginla, and Torey Krug shooting for the goal. The second unit has been Bergeron, Loui Eriksson, and any combination of Brad Marchand, Carl Soderberg, or Reilly Smith, with Johnny Boychuck, Dougie Hamilton, or deadline acquisition Andrej Mezaros blasting from the point. All of these players have impacted the power play, and it’s why rather than being a crux, the PP is now a weapon.

Of course, on paper, the Bruins are a favorite to represent the East in the Stanley Cup Finals for the second year in a row. It is a long road ahead, and in order to win the cup, you need consistency from your goalie, then your defense, then your forward. It also takes a ton of will, a ton of resilience, and a little bit of luck. The other advantage that the B’s have over some other teams in the postseason, they have been there, they have done that. Most of this team has already won a Stanley Cup, and the players they have added this season should be hungry for that same taste of glory.
DANNY PICARD: Jackie Bradley Jr. had another big game [on Monday night]. You know how high I am on this kid, and I thought he should get a chance to start the year on the Major League roster. Obviously some injuries allowed him to get this opportunity. What have you liked from him so far. When you look at the scouting report, he’s shown some of what you read, great defense, a guy who can run the bases, and right now, it looks like he has a whole lot of confidence at the plate.

BRIAN MACPHERSON: Yeah, he had a really nice night [on Monday]. Hitting the ball up the middle, and two tremendous defensive plays. That’s certainly what he can do and what he would do with regular playing time. The bat is still going to come and go, you would think, especially early on in his career. There are still some adjustments. He has good days and bad days with his swing and extending the strike zone inside. But this is the caliber player he can be, and this is why the Red Sox like him so much. And that’s why it’s always been a little misguided for people to interpret the Grady Sizemore thing as the Red Sox being down in any way on Jackie Bradley Jr. Because this is the player they see, this is the player they really like. It’s not quite the situation where they’re going to do everything they can to make sure he gets in there. You saw that originally with him not making the Opening Day roster, but this is the guy they really like, and this is why they really like him.

DP: Do you think the Red Sox know what they’re going to do with Jackie Bradley Jr. once Shane Victorino gets back. Can Jackie Bradley Jr come out here and win a spot on this roster, or is he automatically going back down to the minors when Victorino gets back?

BM: It would be really difficult [to keep him on the roster], just because they would really have to trade Mike Carp at that point. And that’s why they didn’t make that move out of spring training, because it’s either [trade Carp] or you’re sending down Daniel Nava. And they really value Daniel Nava’s ability at the plate, and his ability to work tough at-bats and get on-base, even if he’s struggled the first week or so of the season. So, yeah, I think, if everybody’s healthy when Victorino gets back, I still think Bradley probably goes back to [Triple-A] Pawtucket. But the Red Sox don’t know what they’re going to do yet, because they have no idea when Victorino is coming back, and they don’t know if Grady Sizemore is going to be healthy then, let alone, is Daniel Nava going to be healthy then and is Mike Carp healthy? [Carp] was dealing with some back stiffness the other night. Things can happen between now and then, and you just really don’t know when you’re going to get Victorino back. So for now, Bradley is here, and they’ll figure it out when the time comes.

DP: What is the update with Victorino [as of Tuesday, April 8]? And when do you think we should expect a return?

BM: The flu has sort of complicated his return from a hamstring injury. And the hamstring was already a little bit severe. Certainly the fact that they put him right on the DL showed a little bit of severity with the hamstring injury. The flu made it difficult for him just to be around the team, and to do some of the rehab that he needed to do. As you know, when you get the flu, it sort of knocks you down. You’re not exactly doing light jogging, or you’re not doing rehab exercises. You’re in bed all day with the flu. So, that slowed things down. There’s still not really a timetable. They were already going to give it 7-10 days just to let it settle and kind of build him back up from there. So now we’re getting to that 7-10 day mark, where they can kind of re-evaluate, do some tests, and see how strong that hamstring is again. And they can kind of put him through those initial exercises, do some baseball activities, those sorts of things. There’s still not really a timetable on when he could come back. He probably needs some at-bats in Triple-A Pawtucket too, because it’s already been a while since spring training, and he didn’t get that many at-bats in spring training. So they’re going to bring him along slowly. Because they really want him -- to the extent that he can be fully healthy -- they want him to be fully healthy. I don’t think [he’ll be ready to return when he’s eligible to come off 15-day DL on April 15], especially if he’s going to get at-bats in Triple-A. He really, he’s got some work to do I think, to get the strength back in that hamstring, to kind of rebuild everything, and then to get a few games worth of at-bats as well. I mean, that’s the luxury of having Jackie Bradley Jr. It’s the same reason they’ve now signed Ryan Roberts when Will Middlebrooks went down. It’s so you don’t feel any urgency to rush a guy back. You say, “If you need 21 days, or you need 26 days instead of those 15 days, take it, we’re okay. We’ll be fine. Get back when you’re healthy. Don’t get back the moment you feel borderline adequate to be back on the field.”

DP: You mention Ryan Roberts. The Red Sox have signed him to a one-year deal. This is someone who was released by the Chicago Cubs. What are we looking at with him and his playing time? Will he just split time at third base, or is there anything more...
that we should know about what he’s going to bring to the table here, while Will Middlebrooks is on the DL?

**BM:** He’s got a lot of versatility, but yeah, mostly it’s about playing third base against lefties. It’s interesting, you look at the composition of the outfield, especially with Victorino down, the outfield is so lefty-heavy. They’re going to be better against right-handers, which is what you want, but you don’t want to be totally negated against left-handed pitchers. And at this point, without Roberts, basically, the only right-handed hitters you have in the everyday lineup are Napoli, Pedroia, and Bogaerts. So, Roberts gives you another right-handed bat, who’s potent against left-handed pitching. And essentially, he’s going to platoon with Jonathan Herrera at third base until Middlebrooks comes back. He’s got the ability to play left field. He can move around the infield a little bit. But mostly, they’re looking at him playing third base.

**DP:** How concerned should we be about David Ortiz’ health? I’ve read just how healthy David Ortiz was last year. He missed the first three weeks of the season, but pretty much played every single day from April 20 or so, through the end of October, which was a phenomenal accomplishment for a 37-year-old designated hitter with the mileage that he has. And I don’t know that you can count on that happening again. So that’s why they hold onto a guy like Carp. He’s their David Ortiz insurance. At this point, yeah, Ortiz isn’t moving well. Fortunately, this is where it’s good that he’s a DH and not having to play in the field, because all he has to do is run to first base, and, you hope a lot of the time he’s hitting the ball over the fence, and he can take all the time he wants to get around the bases. But, I think it’s absolutely something that they’re going to continue to monitor and work on, because he doesn’t look good when he’s running.

**DP:** Last thing for you, just to recap what we’ve seen so far from this Red Sox team, Sizemore led off on Saturday against the Brewers, and that’s an interesting situation because if that’s a spot the Red Sox feel comfortable putting him into, then I think that’s the next step in where Grady Sizemore is in his career. I loved seeing it. I don’t think it should happen consistently, moving forward, but I think maybe we’ll see it again. How often do you think we’ll see Sizemore leading off?

**BM:** I think periodically it makes sense. There are certain days where other guys are down. Ortiz was out that game and Nava moved more into the middle of the lineup, and Sizemore moved up to the top. They certainly could have left Sizemore in the middle of the lineup and put Pedroia at the top, but they liked having Nava between two righties, because if [the Brewers] brought in a righty to face Pedroia, then Nava would be hitting against a righty from the left side of the plate. So there’s those sort of considerations. With Sizemore, I think they like him in the middle of the lineup, they like him at the top of the lineup. As long as he’s a good hitter, that’s all that matters. He’s certainly got the plate approach. He doesn’t swing at the first pitch ever. Last time I checked, he was one of the last six or seven players who hasn’t swung at a first pitch. So he’s got the approach that they like at the top of the lineup, but so does Nava, so does Gomes, so does Pedroia. They’ve got a lot of guys that can hit up there. I think John Farrell does want some consistency to his lineup, but he does have some options, and there’s not really a wrong answer in that situation. There could be some personal preference there, but Sizemore can hit for extra bases too, and that’s the sort of thing you like sometimes in the middle of the lineup as well.

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