Back in January, the Boston Globe penned an editorial questioning the BRA’s sloppiness ‘in applying its own procedures and internal controls’ and recommended that affordable housing funds be administered elsewhere in City Hall. The problem is that no one knows exactly how much in developers’ linkage funds or community benefit and mitigation funds were agreed to and how or if they were spent and to whom they were given. The recently released BRA audit wisely called for by Mayor Walsh has referred to various aspects of the agency’s policies and procedures. On the local level, given that South Boston reportedly

CONTINUED ON page 10

Last Week’s Poll On Page 2

South Boston Today

@SBostonToday

Go to our South Boston Today page to vote on our weekly poll. Make sure you like & share

3rd Annual Tiki Week
August 18-24

149 P Street  617.269.0900
EDITORIAL “Enough”

Population-wise, the number of citizens from the Netherlands murdered, when their plane was shot down over Ukraine by Russian Separatists, is closely comparable to the number of Americans killed on 9-11. Our response to that attack resulted in a military response against the nations that housed those killers. The Netherlands response has been to assure Russia this “incident” would not affect the multi billion dollar oil deal between the nations.

No one is suggesting that the Dutch bomb Moscow, but if they’re not going to even stamp their feet, why are we getting involved? Why are we the voice demanding tougher sanctions? And if increased sanctions cause things to heat up, who feels the heat? Our military - a military so respected by this administration that when the disgraced soldier Bergdahl deserted his comrades and they spoke out about it, the administration called them liars. An administration that cuts living allowances for our veterans to provide for illegals.

When will any of our so called leaders stand up and say “Enough! Americans First”?

“A nation that cannot control it’s own borders is not a nation” - Ronald Reagan
Troops to the Border? It’s About Time

SOUTH BOSTON TODAY
John Ciccone

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

Finally, someone is taking action. In the absence of any serious response from the White House to stop the invasion taking place at this country’s southern border, Texas Governor Rick Perry will act on his own. He announced that he will send troops to the border to beef up security and help the US Border Patrol try to bring things under control. This is something the feds should be doing, but there is a total lack of leadership on their part and what seems like a desire to let this invasion continue, so Perry acted on his own. Good man, but what took him so long?

Americans are watching in disbelief as tens of thousands of illegals are swarming over that border. And, as we’ve all seen from live newscasts and reports from the scene, it’s not just unaccompanied children. It’s gang members from MS-13, drug cartel thugs, people with known terrorist connections, and every other criminal who has wanted to get here for years and now they easily can. Just last week, cartel members were shooting 50 caliber machineguns at our border patrol people and nothing was done. The invaders are in control down there. Meanwhile, the two top Democrats in Congress, Harry Reid and Nancy Pelosi, are telling everyone not to worry, the border is secure. Someone should throw a net over those two.

There is no other country in the world that would tolerate something like this, nor should they. We’re being told by some politicians, the media and the usual Hollywood airheads that it’s impossible to secure our border. Not true. Put 20,000 armed US Marines down there and that place will be locked up tighter than a drum. No one would get through. At least, if it were done right now before Obama takes away the Marine’s weapons and tries to turn them into social workers.

Here in Massachusetts we have a Governor who continues to think/hope that people are so dumb they will still believe what he says. When it was discovered that the feds were sneaking hundreds of illegals into this state under the typical shroud of secrecy, Deval Patrick claimed he knew nothing about it and that it was all a big surprise to him. Bunk. Hardly anyone, even some of the most naïve liberals bought that lie (yes, you read that right, lie) for a second. It’s now believed that Patrick knew exactly what was going on and that those illegal children were being shipped here and being housed in various locations. It is now also believed that he was working with his buddy Obama to do it all the time. Is it any wonder that people are more distrustful of politicians all the time when among so many of these elected officials, it is no longer any big deal to blatantly lie to the people? The concept that they, public servants, work for we, the people and not the other way around is out of style these days.

And now, the new, predictable phase of this situation has begun. The effort by the news media and their ‘bleeding heart’ allies to label anyone who speaks out against what’s going on as heartless racists and bigots is kicking into gear. Have we as Americans no compassion for the less fortunate who are coming here to escape oppression, poverty and gang violence, they lecture. If we protest in any way, we are haters and if we call them ‘illegal’, we are engaging in hate speech they insist. We are selfish and cold, if we complain that this invasion is costing American taxpayer’s money we do not have, over burdening our school systems to the detriment of America’s children and allowing violent criminals, gang members and even terrorists into our country which puts all of us in danger. It’s all the usual blah blah drivel that the leftists use to attempt to change public opinion to go their way. The truth is that the leftists in this country, which certainly includes many of Washington’s Democratic politicians, want this invasion to continue on. They want America over run by illegals. It’s all part of their game plan to take America down and transform it. Obama said that was his exact goal when he was first elected president. Now, there are millions of Americans who voted for the guy who are shocked that he’s actually trying to do it.

The truth is most Americans want to save this country. This is the greatest nation in the world and we want to see it remain so.
Senator Forry Secures Legislation For A ‘Commission to Prevent Gun Violence’

On Thursday, July 17, the Massachusetts Senate passed legislation to reduce the impact and prevalence of gun violence in Massachusetts. The bill is designed to increase safety and among the provisions are: stricter background checks, enhanced penalties, new gun-related crimes and increased protections in schools. As part of the legislation, Senator Linda Dorcena Forry and State Representative Jeffrey Sanchez authored an amendment that creates the ‘Commission to Prevent Gun Violence.’ The commission will be charged with reviewing programs and recommending interventions to reduce gun violence; specifically, focusing on the following areas:

1) Promote gun violence education in schools as well as reducing inequalities in gun violence and prevention programming
2) Identify best practices in continuing research and education on gun trafficking and straw purchasing
3) Foster healthy, working relationships between law enforcement and community members
4) Improve services for homicide victims’ families and families of perpetrators including trauma and rehabilitation services aimed at reducing the cycle of violence
5) Improving post-prison planning and rehabilitation services for offenders

“In order to effectively break the cycle of violence plaguing our communities, we must work collaboratively to identify best practices and programs that are effective at preventing gun violence and educating the public on the dangers associated with gun trafficking and straw purchasing,” said Senator Forry. “I am proud to join my colleague Representative Sanchez, Chairman of the Joint Committee on Public Health, in crafting legislation to create the Commission to Prevent Gun Violence, a critical first step in addressing the exact needs for implementing a comprehensive gun violence prevention strategy,” continued Senator Forry.

“I applaud Senator Forry’s work to bring together a commission of public health and mental health experts, law enforcement representatives, government officials, and survivors to see how preventive measures can be developed to end gun violence in our communities,” said Representative Sanchez. “Using primary prevention strategies, we can address social factors that are at the root of violence. This commission will guarantee the longevity of our efforts and ensure that we are continually improving upon our policies and programs to stop gun violence in its entirety here in Massachusetts,” concluded Representative Sanchez.

The Commission to Prevent Gun Violence will be chaired by an expert on public health and gun violence who is appointed by the Governor and will include representatives from the state’s departments on public safety and security, correction, public health and mental health; the attorney general’s office, the parole board, experts in the fields of public and mental health, victim advocates, the House and Senate Chairs of the Committee on Public Health, Committee on Mental Health and Substance Abuse and four public members from communities that are affected by gun violence.

The law mandates that the Commission submit a report at the end of each legislative session to the Governor and Legislature and will submit a final report on December 31, 2018. These reports will include data on gun violence and prevention programs in the state, specific recommendations for designing, implementing and improving gun violence prevention programs and services as well as proposals for statutory or regulatory changes needed to reduce gun violence and promote peace across the Commonwealth.

The Senate and House will now produce a compromise bill for final passage and consideration of the Governor.

Union Leader Jay Hurley Makes A Good Point

Publisher’s Note:

In response to a front page story in our July 3 edition, the well-respected union leader and South Bostonian, Jay Hurley, New England Ironworkers Council President, took issue with the characterization of the role that the building trades should be playing in the growing costs of construction. Mr. Hurley first pointed out that the 2008-2012 recession was very hard on the trades and we take him at his word, since he dealt with it intimately and daily. His union has also invested its pension funds in housing trusts. Another point he made was that the large and small developers cannot be held harmless, and the union trades should not bear the brunt of the effects of the housing boom on construction costs. Efforts by union leaders like Hurley to strengthen the middle class, and providing a career track for many men and women, particularly from this community, have not gone unnoticed. Neither have their charitable contributions and efforts in various forms over the years, and for that they should be commended.

This newspaper has been singular in its coverage of the free hand that many developers, and others close to the past mayor, had been given by the previous administration in driving up the prices of housing in South Boston through the manipulation of the BRA and ZBA. Rules applied to most were manipulated by others at the expense of longtime residents. In addition, very little or nothing of any consequence was done to demand affordable, workforce and middle class housing over the last 20 years, leaving Mayor Walsh with a city on the verge of being made up of haves and have-nots.

The story was not intended to lay the burden directly on the unions. The story pivoted off of the coverage by the Boston Business Journal of the recent
This is a distorted example of the phrase “an abundance of riches”. In this instance “an abundance of calamity” is a far better description. It’s just a case of reeling from one crisis this week, to the next crisis the following week. At times, it really is almost overwhelming trying to write about and cover all of it. For the writer, it’s necessary to do the job. For us as citizens, though, it’s our lives and future.

In our latest crisis, the “coyotes” are being called murderers, rapists, kidnappers, drug dealers, pimps and thieves, which you’ll get no argument on that assertion here. Maybe they’re liars also, but no one has called them that publicly. Perhaps because at least one part of what they’ve been selling to the poor in the villages is true. If you get to America, you will get in and you can stay. To listen to some on the left, the coyotes are the ones who created this problem. That’s not true.

Over a year ago, Obama was told the coyotes were going to villages organizing a “human cattle drive”. At about $9,000 a head, this little cottage industry was organizing to bring children to our borders. In response, the President ridiculed those expressing concern about the border’s security. Maybe they want a “moat and crocodiles”, the President suggested, while declaring that modern technology was securing our southern border. A lie. Just another lie to add to all the other lies told to further weaken America; to intentionally weaken America.

We are constantly being scolded that it is the desire for drugs by Americans that creates drug smugglers. Isn’t it the desire of this President and his wing of “Charlie Manson” democrats to swamp the precincts with illegal voters who can’t be checked because voter identification requirements are “racist”?

Immigration problems are not the creation of this presidency. Both parties share a long history of neglecting immigration. However, we do have a policy. We aren’t enforcing it though because Obama and his party don’t like it.

It is the President who refuses to work with the Republicans, because they rightly demand border security, before even discussing any ideas of legalization. This solution doesn’t cut it for the “Manson wing” trying to game the system.

Our history has many instances where both parties have an almost criminal or at least a “dirty tricks” wing that engaged in many border line criminal activities to further their candidate or party. In the past, they’re usually kept in the basement out of sight. The Democrats have been taken over by their criminal element - the Manson wing -where everything and anything goes.

We knew the coyotes bring them to the border, but how do they move after that? The Mayor of Laredo, Texas said the most recent problems started near the end of May when 54 of these immigrants were “dumped” at the bus station. Since then, he states, Laredo expenditures have cut elderly services and left veterans homeless. This Mayor is not an “O’Brien or Murphy” but named Raul Salinas and he believes the Feds “dumped” those immigrants.

The TSA denied a report by border patrol officials that those “immigrant” are being allowed on commercial flights with no screening while U.S. citizens are forced to be virtually strip searched. The border patrol repeated and refused to rescind the charge. In Lynn, a 35 year old “immigrant child” was discovered to have been admitted as a teen age high school student. Under Obama, the Feds make it a crime to ask age, instead requiring U.S. officials to accept “what ever documentation the immigrant supplies.

The Manson Democrats got their start in the 60’s when they wanted to change America through violent revolution. Fortunately, they were a minority. They went underground and emerged with ideas to change the system from within. The Democratic process was too slow, so they decided to bring in “ringers” to bag the election, and once in power, do what they want. What they want is chaos and collapse. Obama is a useful tool for that goal. That goal is that they will make all decisions for everyone and everything. After all, they’re better and know more than you and I, and their future America doesn’t include us.

Take care till next week.
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!

The Southie Scene - Stepping Up: - Stepping Up: Give It, Live It

It has been said poetically, can be told prophetically, shared emphatically. But, however eloquent and poignant the language, the base message is still the same: you get what you give. Doing for others not only gives those who are on the receiving end of your goodwill a boost but I don’t think I have ever heard of any “givers” who felt worse afterward. Though it may sound selfish, there is nothing wrong with the good feeling one gets after volunteering time and efforts, especially when one sees how great and far those efforts reach. With the long, lazy days of summer here take a few moments of your free time and do something for someone else. A little good juju never hurt anyone.

Thursday July 24th
Channel Center Block Party, 12-3pm, Channel Center Street
Who doesn’t love a party? Especially one in the middle of the day: it’s the definition of summer fun! Join our neighbors at Gilbane, Barlow’s and The Club by George Foreman III, along with the United Way, and show them how Southie LIVE(s) UNITED. Enjoy some lunch, a workout and assemble back-to-school packs for our SB kids. A reason to gather and grab for good.

supportunitedway.org

Thursday July 24th
7th Annual MSCPA-Angell Party Animals, 6-9pm, Blue Hills Bank Pavilion
Dog-gone good! Grab your friends and Fido and head down to the Pavilion to champion a better life for our four-legged friends. Music, raffles and treats for your palate and that of your pooch, are all on the agenda. Hit it up with your hound.

support.mspca.org/site/Calendar/1828145068

Sunday July 27th
The Greg Hill Foundation Summer Boat Cruise, 1-4pm, Bay State Cruise Company
Sail the high seas and share what you have on the 4th Annual Greg Hill Foundation boat cruise. The focus of the foundation is helping those who have been affected by tragedy and they need our help. Live music and even livelier people will be aboard the cruise and tickets are only $20, with proceeds to benefit the foundation. So sign up some peeps and soak up all that is summer.
eventbrite.com/e/the-greg-hill-foundation-summer-boat-cruise-tickets-12043750181 thegreghillfoundation.org

The Southie Scene - Stepping Out: Sea-ing is Believing

Living by the water all of my days, I am quite guilty of forgetting how lucky I am to live by such an amazing source of life. The ocean provides so much: it is the gateway to connecting life, a source of sustenance for the body and soul, a living, breathing, giving entity. It has provided me much joy and fulfillment, both in and out of it’s rolling waters. Boston and New England are well known for delicious and abundant fish food supplies; how easily we forget how good until a bad fried oyster incident in Chi-Town can leave you worse for the wear. South Boston sings it’s praises the loudest: we are home to many well-known and championed spots to pick up some favorite, summer seafood eats. Swing by one of these events this week and remind yourself what Mother Ocean is made of.

Saturday July 26th
Lobster Festival, 5-11pm, 75 on Liberty Wharf
Stop by this shore side destination for the last Saturday of innovative and creative lobster dishes and offerings. Dine on the dock with some of your favorite people while eating some of your favorite dishes.

75onlibertywharf.com

Sunday July 27th
3rd Annual Boston Seafood Festival, 11am-6pm, Boston Fish Pier
Swing by and support sustainable fisheries and the fine friends who support the cause. Nosh on nautical nibbles and watch Boston’s finest chefs shake-it-out, all for this worthy cause. Bring on the brine.

bostonseafoodfestival.org

Tuesday July 29th
Dining Tour of the Seaport, 6-9pm, Meet at Long Wharf
Dining seaside doesn’t require a ship here in South Boston. Join Amy Traverso of Yankee Magazine and dine down in the Seaport. Bivalves and bubbles are sure to be on the list.
education.bcae.org/classcalendar.html

Tequila and Sushi Dinner, 6:30-9pm, InterContinental Boston
What doesn’t bring people together like food and drink? Keep up with your see-food diet and have the only liquor that is an upper. A Don Julio ambassador will guide you through the paired fish-fest. From the bottom of the ocean to the bottom of your glass.
intercontinentalboston.com/dining/dining-specials.aspx

*** On the go and want a quick and easy sample of the sea? Stop by Row 34, Yankee Lobster or James Hook for a lobster roll. Thrillist.com gave these 3 Southie spots top ranking in their short list of the best rolls ’round. ***
Southie Senses:

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

**Touch: Pick of the Crop**
Check out the Farmer’s Market every Monday, 2-6pm, on West Broadway, located in front of the muni lot and grab fresh foods on your way home from work. Working in the Seaport? Head over to the Fresh Truck and choose from some choice crops on your lunch break, Mondays and Thursdays, 11am-2pm, Seaport World Trade Center.

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

**See: My Future’s so Bright, I Gotta Wear Shades**
Saturday July 26th is Sun Safety Day at the Boston Children’s Museum. Take the kids down to the museum and they can participate in some activities while learning about the effects of the sun and the importance of protection. With many more weeks of summer fun in the sun, it’s worth a stop.

[bostonchildrensmuseum.org/calendar/sun-safety-day](http://bostonchildrensmuseum.org/calendar/sun-safety-day)

**Taste: Feast at the Newest Food Fortress**
Word of mouth says that Bastille, located at 49 Melcher Street, is slated to open on Monday July 28th. The menu boasts fine, French fare with a wine list to keep the thirsty satiated. Even though Bastille Day was Monday 07/14, better late than never to celebrate.

[bastillekitchen.net](http://bastillekitchen.net)

**Smell: YSomething Smells Fishy**
Join Save the Harbor, Save the Bay and the Boston Children’s Museum and learn how to fish. Children are taught how to cast a line and get to observe and touch mini sea creatures in this daily class, Monday-Friday through August 22nd. Send out a line and sign ‘em up.

[bostonchildrensmuseum.org/calendar/fishing-101-0](http://bostonchildrensmuseum.org/calendar/fishing-101-0)

**Hear: One if by Land, Two if by Sea**
Relive your father’s younger days with him and take him to Hall & Oates at the Pavilion, Crave some time at sea but don’t have a minute to spare? The Boston Rowing Center, located on Sleeper Street, can fix all that. Mondays and Wednesdays, 11:30am-1:30pm, boats are available to rent for $15/hour per boat and can hold 2-4 people. Whether you want to dine in aqua or squeeze in some arm work, this is for you.

[http://www.bostonrowingcenter.org](http://www.bostonrowingcenter.org)

CONTINUED FROM page 4

symposium referenced, featuring 3 major commercial developers. The intent of the SBT story was and is to report the middle market housing dilemma faced by our new Mayor, and highlight all of the parties necessary to help him solve this. Developers, owners, product suppliers, skilled and unskilled labor, banks and other lenders, all have a stake in Mayor Walsh’s vision for a City that is affordable for all income levels and in all neighborhoods.

The expectations are high and he needs help if the building boom is to continue and be sustainable. Otherwise, we will remain the City of just the haves and have-nots... and that is something the people of the city of Boston won’t stand for.

CONTINUED FROM page 3

Immigration should remain legal but controlled just like in every other nation in the world. There are millions of our people out of work; they don’t need to be competing with those here illegally for the few jobs there are. Americans need to support their own families and whether the news media and Harry Reid like it or not, that is priority. To remain safe from enemy attack, our borders need to be secure. National security is what keeps us protected from those on the outside who want to destroy us. Our economy is anything but strong under this current regime in Washington. The influx of so many people pouring in - a lot of them here to take advantage of all the “free stuff” - will make it much worse. To coin an overused saying, here’s the bottom line: The most important thing right now is to protect this country and that starts with securing our borders. Governor Perry has it right. Use military force if needed, but securing those borders must be the priority. If that makes him and every other American who wants to save this country “bad people” in the eyes of the news media and the White House and the rest of them, well, that’s just the way it going to be.
The Revival Of Downtown Crossing

In an article appearing in Real Estate Bisnow, the story of the revival of Downtown Crossing indicates that with the fit up of the historic former Filene’s department store starting soon, it signals the district’s stunning revival.

At one time during its heyday, downtown Crossing was the benchmark PV1 (Peak Value Intersection) for urban planners. But over the last several decades, city residents fled to the suburbs, trailed by key Downtown Crossing businesses, especially retailers. Even 10 years ago, this neighborhood on the edge of the Financial District was struggling; dark and quiet after 5 o’clock, according to Boston Redevelopment Authority senior planner Jonathan Greeley. It had tourist attractions like the Old South Meeting House, but was burdened by perception as drab and unwelcoming. Recently, $4B in private real estate investment, a push from the City, nearly 2,000 new housing units being developed in walking distance, new tech company office tenants and retail has turned Downtown Crossing into a comeback phenomenon.

Institutions like Emerson College and Suffolk University moved in and grew. They restored old theaters including the Emerson Paramount, built academic space, dorms and created additional demand for retail. With 200,000 people a day walking through its main intersection, Washington and Summer Streets, the ready-made retail market is being rejuvenated by an infusion of youthful energy. A Business Improvement District, Boston’s first and only, has helped with lobbying, maintenance, security, and community events.

New York-based Millennium Partner’s $210M Millennium Place mixed-use residential project that opened last year tested how housing would fare in the heart of this commercial neighborhood. All of its 256 condos sold by year-end priced from $550k to $3.5M. As one of the first Boston condo developments to be completed since the recession, it showed that buyers would put down stakes in the commercial business district, permanently changing the character of the historic neighborhood. Oxford Capital’s $60M redevelopment of 59 Temple Place into a 240 room Godfrey Hotel is helping to further transform Downtown Crossing. More than any other project, Millennium Partners’ 1.4M SF $630M Millennium Tower complex, which includes the former Filene’s building, dramatically reflects the resurgent economy. Havas Media’s agreement to be the Phase I anchor elevated the cache of the Downtown Crossing and Financial District office markets. Later this summer, when Arnold Worldwide begins the interior construction for its 2015 move, the revival of Downtown Crossing will be on the way to being complete. Truly mixed-use, it will have 600 residences—condos and apartments—142K SF of retail and 125k SF of office. Walgreen’s move into 24k SF of multi-story retail space at the corner of Washington and School Streets was a big step in Downtown Crossing’s rebirth into an 18-hour neighborhood. For their first stores in the US, popular Dublin-based clothier Primark and London-based espresso aficionado Caffe Nero, chose Downtown Crossing. The Tower has also signed up Roche Brothers for 112k SF, which includes a long-awaited downtown supermarket slated to open in 2016. A real neighborhood needs a grocer.
## Recent South Boston Real Estate Sales

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July 24, 2014

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SHERIFF TOMPKINS SPEAKS AT MASSACHUSETTS ASSOCIATION FOR MENTAL HEALTH

W. Tompkins recently sat on the sidelines of the initiative by the Massachusetts Association for Mental Health (MA-MHI) to present information and educational opportunities to communities, particularly those impacted by mental illness. The event, which was held at the Westin Hotel in Boston, aimed to highlight the importance of mental health services and to raise awareness about the challenges faced by those living with mental illnesses.

Sheriff Tompkins, along with other notable speakers, emphasized the need for more mental health care professionals and consumers to have access to the resources available. "We do our best with the limited resources that we have available to us," he said. "We need to continue to improve these services, especially in underserved communities." He also spoke about the need for more education and awareness about mental illness, as well as the importance of prevention and early intervention. "We must work together to create a more mentally healthy society," he added.

The Massachusetts Association for Mental Health is a non-profit organization that provides resources and services to individuals and families affected by mental illness. Their mission is to create a society that values, accepts, and cares for people with mental illness and their families. They offer a wide range of programs and services, including counseling, support groups, and educational opportunities.

In the end, when the dust settled, it was clear that the need for more mental health care professionals and consumers to have access to the resources available was greater than ever. Sheriff Tompkins and others emphasized the importance of continued efforts to improve these services, especially in underserved communities. "We must work together to create a more mentally healthy society," he added. "We have a long way to go, but we are making progress."
South Boston Resident Damon Vaughn Set To Ride Pan-Mass Challenge

Damon Vaughn, of South Boston, is a Pan-Mass Challenge cyclist and cancer survivor who was honored by the Boston Red Sox on Sunday, June 15 during PMC Day at Fenway Park. Vaughn was among other cancer survivors who rode their bikes around the warning track in a pre-game ceremony during which the PMC’s 35th anniversary logo was unveiled on the Green Monster.

On August 2 and 3, together with 5,800 cyclists, Vaughn will ride up to 190 miles across Massachusetts in the 35th annual Pan-Mass Challenge. This year’s goal is to raise $40 million for adult and pediatric patient care and cancer research at Dana-Farber Cancer Institute. The PMC is a pioneer of the athletic fundraising industry and today raises more money for charity than any other single event in the country. The PMC is a model of fundraising efficiency and contributes 100 percent of every rider-raised dollar directly to the cause.

About the PMC:
The Pan-Mass Challenge (PMC) is an annual bike-a-thon that today raises more money for charity than any other single athletic fundraising event in the world. The PMC was founded in 1980 by Billy Starr, who remains the event’s executive director, an annual cyclist, and a fundraiser. The PMC has since raised $414 million for adult and pediatric patient care and cancer research at Dana-Farber Cancer Institute (DFCI) through the Jimmy Fund. In 2013, the PMC gave a record gift of $39 million. The PMC pioneered the $4 billion athletic fundraising industry and is today a model of fundraising efficiency. The event donates 100 percent of every rider-raised dollar directly to the cause.
In 2013, the PMC generated more than 50 percent of the Jimmy Fund’s annual revenue and was Dana-Farber’s single largest contributor. More than 230,000 individual contributions were made to last year’s event. In 2014, PMC cyclists will ride with the goal of raising $40 million for DFCI.

The Ride:
The Pan-Mass Challenge is a fully supported bike-a-thon — with food and water stops, mechanical and medical assistance, luggage transportation, and lodging — that runs through 46 towns across Massachusetts. More than 5,800 cyclists registered to ride in 2013. Cyclists choose from 12 routes of varying mileage designed to cater to all levels of cycling strength and fundraising ability. There are six two-day routes that range from 132 to 190 miles and six one-day rides.

South Boston Mourns the Loss of Kathy Morrison

Suddenly and unexpectedly, a true ‘Daughter of South Boston’ was taken from this neighborhood and her passing has caused many heavy hearts and a tremendous sense of loss to countless residents and nonresidents alike. Kathy ‘Kate’ Morrison epitomized the term ‘compassionate’. Her years of tireless work on behalf of those in the community who needed her the most were well documented, but not because she wanted or ever sought recognition for it. In fact she made it a point of often working behind the scenes and shunned the spotlight. As it was so often said by many, she worked hard for others out of love, devotion and dedication.

Kathy Morrison, along with other concerned South Bosonians, helped create the South Boston Special Needs Kids and Young Adults. The wonderful young people who were and still will be served by this organization, Kathy Morrison’s organization, knew firsthand what it was like to be cared about and loved and helped. They in turn, from participating in this program became helpful caring people in their own right.

Two Saturdays ago, St. Brigid Church was filled with Kathy’s Family members, her friends and her admirers. Some in attendance did not know her personally, but came just the same to show respect for the memory of this great woman who so many had heard about over many years. Former Boston Mayor and Ambassador to the Vatican Ray Flynn said it best: “A good and loyal daughter of South Boston, who always spoke up for what she believed. The big turnout at her funeral Mass at St. Brigid Church on Saturday demonstrated the love and respect the people had for her. The entire congregation was singing ‘That’s what friends are for’ as

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Save the Harbor Announces 2014 Better Beaches Program Award Winners

Recently, Save the Harbor / Save the Bay awarded $31,500 in Better Beaches Program grants to 18 groups to support dozens of free public events in nine beachfront communities from Nahant to Nantasket this summer.

The Boston Harbor region’s public beaches are important assets to the region’s residents and visitors alike,” said Patricia A. Foley, President of Save the Harbor/Save the Bay. “We are proud to support our partners in the city’s waterfront neighborhoods and beachfront communities as they work to share their beaches and the harbor with the region’s kids and families.”

This year’s Better Beaches Program events include sand sculpting competitions, beachfront concerts, environmental education programs, family fun nights, reading nights, art festivals, beach yoga, and other beach programs in Lynn, Nahant, Revere, Winthrop, East Boston, South Boston, Dorchester, Quincy and Hull.

Save the Harbor’s Better Beaches Program leverages the energy and enthusiasm of local volunteer organizations that are so important to the success of the Boston Harbor region’s metropolitan beaches,” said DCR Commissioner Jack Murray who was on hand for the ceremony at Boston’s Fish Pier.

This season, Save the Harbor’s Better Beaches Program community partners from Nahant to Nantasket will have leveraged $214,000 in small grants from Save the Harbor with $816,000 in cash and in-kind donations from local government and small businesses for a total investment of more than $1 million dollars to support more than 200 free beach events and programs in Lynn, Nahant, Revere, Winthrop, East Boston, South Boston, Dorchester, Quincy and Hull.

Nancy L. Girard, Commissioner of the City of Boston’s Environment Department said, “The City of Boston is lucky to have great public beaches, and we appreciate the hard work of the Department of Conservation and Recreation, Save the Harbor / Save the Bay and volunteers from our waterfront neighborhoods to provide great free programs for our residents.”

Save the Harbor / Save the Bay launched the Better Beaches Program in 2008 to help local communities and formal and informal beaches Friends Groups jump-start free events and activities on public beaches from Nahant to Nantasket with the support of The Boston Foundation.

Today funds for this program come from the annual “Harpoon Helps Cupid Splash” pledge fundraiser, and Save the Harbor’s Better Beaches Program funding partners at Harpoon Brewery, JetBlue Airways, National Grid, Comcast Massachusetts, the Harold Whitworth Pierce Charitable Trust, Russo Marine, and P&G Gillette.

“This volunteer effort has created innovative events and programs that increase the value of these beaches to their communities” said Save the Harbor Board Member David Spillane of Goody Clancy. “For them to become truly sustainable, it will require additional investment in programming by state government as well.”

This year the “Harpoon Helps Cupid Splash” raised more than $30,000 from nearly 500 splashers and supporters to fund this year’s Better Beaches program grants, as participants competed for JetBlue Airways tickets and great gifts from Harpoon Brewery.

“Harpoon started brewing beer on the waterfront 27 years ago. We couldn’t have imagined then how Boston Harbor has been transformed into such a wonderful place” said Charles M. Storey, Sr. V.P. of Marketing at Harpoon Brewery. “Nor could we imagine that we would have so much fun plunging into clean, cold water and having a cold beer! We love being a part of the Cupid Splash and supporting Save the Harbor/Save the Bay and the Better Beaches Program.”

Ronda Ivy McLeod, Manager of Regional Marketing, Northeast at JetBlue Airways, whose team raised more than $2,500 at this year’s Splash said, “We are always happy to partner with Save the Harbor/Save the Bay. Core to our mission is inspiring humanity, whether it is in the air or on the beach!”

Save the Harbor would like to thank our Better Beaches Program partners at the BCYF Curley Community Center, the Department

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that range from 25 to 110 miles. Cyclists are required to raise between $500 and $5,000 to ride in the PMC, depending on the chosen route.

When:
The 35th annual PMC is Aug. 2 and 3, 2014. The ride has three starting lines Sturbridge, Wellesley and Bourne, and five finish lines in Provincetown (2), Bourne, Wellesley and Foxboro.

Who:
Cyclists travel from 38 states and five countries to ride in the PMC. More than 300 riders are cancer survivors or current patients. Some PMC cyclists are weekend warriors, others are trained triathletes. Most PMC participants ride in honor of a family member or friend fighting the disease.

Cyclists range in age from 13 to 90. The average PMC cyclist is 45 years old, trains for three months, solicits 40 sponsors, and raises more than $6,500. During PMC weekend and throughout the year, more than 3,000 volunteers donate their time, and 200 corporations provide more than $4 million in products and services each year. The PMC is presented by the Red Sox Foundation and New Balance.

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her casket was being led down the aisle by special needs people. This was one of the most moving scenes ever”, said Flynn.

As a distinctly unique community, South Boston has always been very fortunate to have truly great people walking among the people doing good things for so many folks. Though they certainly exist in other neighborhoods as well, this town has always been blessed with what seems to be more than its share of good Samaritans, who spend so much of their own lives working hard to make the lives of others that much better. Kathy Morrison was certainly one of the greats.

It is said that good people too often pass from this life at far too young an age. Those sentiments can apply to Kathy Morrison. The way she lived her life on earth, in unfailing and dedicated service to others, would in the opinion of most, guarantee a special place in Heaven for this truly wonderful woman. Kathy ‘Kate’ Morrison is in a far better place now and if anyone deserves to be, it is her.
After enjoying a rain free summer, the skies opened up and washed away half of the schedule last week. The league did manage to play on Tuesday and Thursday where two of the best games of the season took place.

On Tuesday night, the Playwright continued their torrid pace as they ruined the appetites of the Village Pizza crew, 13-2. It was the Playwright’s six win in a row and they are looking very good in the Feeney division. Jack Rogers picked up the win while Shuyne Knowles provided the punch at the plate (homeron, triple, two singles, 4 RBI). The victory moved the Playwright past the idle Cranberry Café and into first place.

Tuesday’s late game saw the cellar dwelling Harp & Bard give the division leading Southside everything they had and then some. This was a classic M Street Softball battle with neither team giving an inch. Trailing 2-1 and entering the bottom of the third, Harp’s offense sprung to life by plating three runs. Rob Costello provided the clutch hit in the inning when he cleared the bases with a double to right center. Southside answered with three runs (Tony Deramo triple) in the fifth to take the lead again, 5-4.

In the seventh, Harp loaded the bases and scored the tying run on a sacrifice fly. Jim McNiff would then pitch his way out of a jam to preserve the win, 6-5.

Erwin delivered another clutch hit giving Southside the win, 6-5. Going against some manager’s strategy, Southside decided to pitch to Erwin and it would cost them the game this time as Erwin delivered another clutch hit giving Shennanigan’s the win, 6-5.

Thursday’s late game saw the Islanders jump on a depleted Harp & Bard squad who were without their pitcher, Rob Costello. John Buckley and Chris Miller led the Islanders attack with three hits each.

By the time this article hits the newsstands there will only be a week left in the regular season. With that said there are a couple of can’t miss games coming up on the schedule. On Monday, July 28th @ 8:15 Southside and the Lincoln Tavern will lock horns with first place in the Lucas division on the line. The following night, (7/29) the Cranberry Café and STATS will play for a share of the Feeney division title. The last can’t miss game happens to be the final game of the season and it might be a classic as Lincoln Tavern tries to block Shennanigan’s from stealing a playoff bye (top two in each division receive first round playoff byes). M Street Softball games are played weeknights, Monday through Thursday at M Street Park. The Lucas (A) division plays on Monday’s (6:30 & 8:15) and Thursday’s (6, 730, & 9pm) while the Feeney (B) teams battle it out on Tuesday’s (6:30 & 8:15) and Wednesday’s (6, 730, & 9pm).

As always, supporting fans can follow the league through our website (www.sbsports.com), right here in the South Boston Today, or experience the league up front and personal by taking in a game or two. Have a great week everyone!

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DANNY PICARD: So the Red Sox returned from the All-Star break by sweeping the Kansas City Royals and essentially winning 7-of-8. My reaction to this is, it’s encouraging, it’s good to see this team play some good baseball in every aspect of the game. [As of Monday], I don’t think they’re back in the playoff race just yet, but I do think that they can get back in it. Where do you stand with this ball club? Do you think the Red Sox’ season is still over, or do you think they can get back in the race?

JOE MCDONALD: I think they can get back in the race. They needed some timely wins, and they’re getting it. Obviously the schedule and the opponents that they’ve faced has helped give them that confidence that they can possibly get back into contention. But winning 7-of-8, as you said, it’s a good sign. They got some strong pitching and some timely hitting and some superb defense. The biggest thing is that, in the clubhouse, these guys believe that they’re still in it, or that they can get back into it at some point. And they have an opportunity here over the next few series to make that push, playing divisional opponents. They can win all the games out of the division that they want, but they need to win games in the division, because that’s where they can only make up ground. If you look at the standings [as of Monday], yeah they just won 7-of-8, but they’re still in the basement of the AL East. So they need to make a push here in the next 14 games. This is where they need to make the push. And we’ll know, before the trade deadline, I think, which direction the Red Sox are going to go. And if they can get back into it, then maybe Ben Cherington tweaks it a little bit or keeps everything the same. But if they start to fall against these divisional opponents, then maybe they become sellers again. It will be interesting to see which Red Sox team shows up here in the next two weeks.

DP: Where talking here 10 days before the July 31 trade deadline, is there something the Red Sox can do before then, that can maybe change the mindset of Ben Cherington, or do you think Cherington already has his mind set as to what he’s going to do before July 31?

JM: No, I think he has probably two blueprints in front him, saying, “You know, ok, maybe if we can get back into contention here and cut our deficit in the division,” then I think he’s got plan A. And if they somehow go on some type of losing streak, or if they’re not able to make some headway in the division over the next 10 days, then maybe he goes with plan B. I’m sure he has both scenarios ready to go. Ben is obviously a smart guy and he knows what he needs to do. I’m sure there are some things in his mind. Look, going into this season, they knew that they were going to have certain challenges, just given everything that they went through last year. I don’t think Ben expected all of this to happen the way it’s unfolded this season, but he also knows that this team has the ability, has the personnel to get back into this. So I really think that it depends on what the Red Sox do, just from a standings standpoint here in the next 10 days, before Ben really kind of either blows it up or just goes with the young guys. This team won the World Series a year ago. I mean, it’s the same guys, the same team. Injuries have really had an effect on them. Losing Shane Victorino for a couple months certainly had an effect. I really believe that if this team can kind of continue the upswing here, I think they can get back into contention and maybe make a push here.

DP: The idea of going with the young guys, I guess my reaction to that is, well, if it’s the right young guys, I don’t really have a problem with that, because I actually think some of the younger guys give this Red Sox team a better chance to win. And I think you might know where I’m going with that. If the Red Sox make any move, I think they trade Jake Peavy in order to get Brandon Workman into the rotation full-time. I’m a big Workman guy, and I actually feel more comfortable with Workman on the mound than I do with Peavy. I know Peavy doesn’t get run support, but at the same time, we can’t ignore the fact that Peavy has a 4.59 ERA and that he hasn’t been great this season. I like Workman better than Peavy in that spot. So if you say, “Go with the kids,” and that’s the position you’re talking about, I have no problem with that.

JM: I would even go with that scenario right now.

DP: Me too.

JM: Whether they get back into contention or stay where they are, I would go with that right now. I agree with you. I really believe that Workman is going to be part of this rotation moving forward. John Farrell has said that in the past, that this is a kid that they’re going to rely on in the rotation in 2015, maybe even earlier than that. And right now, that should happen. I believe that this kid should be in the rotation. He’s shown the ability to pitch at the Major League level, he really has. In any role, whether it’s been out of the bullpen, in the rotation, he’s pitched well. So I agree with you. I really think that, despite where they are on July 31 -- and Jake Peavy fits perfectly in this clubhouse, he’s a great teammate and a good guy -- but if you’re really concerned about where this team is in the future, then I think right now you go with Workman. Get him up here, get him into the rotation, get him comfortable, and let him do his thing.

DP: There’s been a lot of talk about Jon Lester’s contract because I think some people have their eye on the July 31 non-waiver trade deadline, and they say, “Hey, if the Red Sox and Lester aren’t going to get something done, then why not just get trade him and get something for him instead of just losing him for nothing?” I don’t take that mindset because I just think that Lester is going to be back. I’ve heard some people say, “It hasn’t got done yet, so there’s no way they’re going to get anything done.” Some have just been down in the dumps over the fact that there’s no new contract yet. And I look at it as a negotiation and say, as long as the Red Sox have money to spend -- and they do -- and as long as they are willing to spend it -- which they will -- and as long as Jon Lester wants to stay in Boston -- which he does -- then they’re going to get something
done, right?
JM: I agree with you 100 percent. You know that the Red Sox -- I’m sure that Ben Cherington, Jon Lester, and his agent have been dealing with this since the offseason. They talked during the offseason, they talked during spring training. Personally, I really thought it was going to get done during spring training. But it hasn’t. Jon Lester has gone out and he’s pitched very well this year. He’s on this streak right now where he’s probably pitched the best that he has all season. Now it gets to a point where you’ve got to get it done. He’s one of the most dominant left-handers in the game. He wants to be in Boston. You have to get it done. And I think they will. I think they’re probably a little further along than most people think. I’ve known and have covered Jon Lester since he’s come up through the minors. He’s obviously a very competitive guy, and he wants to focus on pitching. He doesn’t want to focus on this other stuff. And he knows that, in order for this team to get back into contention, then he’s going to need to be at his best to set that table. And that’s what he’s doing currently. Based on that, sure, he wants to get his contract done, but he also wants to win. And I wouldn’t be surprised if, at some point he or his agent had told Ben that, “Look, it’s going to get done, let’s just hold on here and see what happens.” But if I had to put money on it, Danny, I would absolutely say that it gets done and that Jon Lester is back next season with the Red Sox, with a long-term contract. Because I don’t see this guy going anywhere else. If they rely on pitching as much as they do, and they’ve won because of that pitching, why would you let one of the best left-handed pitchers in the game walk away? That’s not going to happen.
DP: So it sounds like you’re on the same page as me, that, before July 31, you don’t see anything major happening with this Red Sox team.
JM: I don’t think they should [do anything major]. If anything, like we talked about, maybe move Peavy to get that spot to Workman. But I really believe that this is a good team, and if they can get rolling here and get some confidence, we’ve seen in the past what this team can do. The young players, they’re starting to get rolling here and see where it takes him. --Listen to entire conversation by subscribing to “I’m Just Sayin” on iTunes. Also, be sure to follow Danny on Twitter and Facebook.
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