Small scale, and even larger scale, real estate developers are paying top dollar for run down property in residential South Boston making it difficult for owners to say no, especially when the owner is an elderly person whose heirs want to cash in. Internationally funded real estate investment trusts are bankrolling the high rise aspect of the South Boston Waterfront that will be the foundation of an expanded neighborhood, putting pressure on the commercial fishing industry, freight, the light manufacturing and other industrial properties and may,
EDITORIAL
Marathon Bombing – Accomplice or Dumb Punk?

This punk, if possible, is giving college kids, and pot, an even worse reputation. At one time or another, most of us have said something like “I was so drunk last night I forgot what happened”. If that’s really true, stop drinking or seek medical help. In reality, however, it’s just an expression or a half baked excuse for why you were such an idiot and did whatever you did. You did it because at the time and in your condition you thought it would be cool or funny. You, however, knew exactly what you were doing.

For this weasel friend of the Marathon bombing suspect, after over 260 people were injured, a cop, two women and an eight year old little boy were murdered, to text “it was kind of fun hanging out with a terrorist”, and to claim he didn’t know is disgusting. It also gives an insight into what cowards he and all his kind truly are. When it was strangers, it was “fun”. Now he’s on the hot seat and he was just a “high college” kid. What garbage!

“My touchstone for every question is the Constitution” - Texas Senator Ted Cruz
In last week’s South Boston Today, we led with a front page story about the looming increase of electric rates from National Grid. The average increase in those rates will be 37%. And it’s not just National Grid that plans to hit consumers with huge hikes, it will be just about all of them. Typical of the reaction to this news was the following question by readers: “Are they INSANE?” Good question, but we doubt it. They apparently know exactly what they are doing and have all kinds of excuses to justify this. But one of our readers, Fred Guerriero wrote in to us with a very good point. Said Fred, “…so with LED’s, wind turbines ruining the skylines and solar panels everywhere, buying power saving appliances and using CLF’s to save energy, rates are still going sky high!” Go figure.

Spending all that extra cash on energy saving washers, dryers, AC units and all those ‘through the roof’ expensive weird looking light bulbs in the effort to save energy and of course money on your already high bills in the long run is a scam it would seem.

It’s 2014 and in Obama’s America, the radical environmentalist green types wield tremendous power and influence over White House policy. They are working hard to block oil production, stopping the Keystone Pipeline from being built, putting the coal industry out of business, prohibiting new nuclear power plants and throwing up roadblocks at every opportunity to make it difficult for the production of natural gas. These fanatics are opposed to fossil fuels so the rest of the country must suffer. Their willing dupes in Washington go right along with them. And it boils down to these people arrogantly being not the slightest bit concerned that the average American’s energy costs will put a huge dent in the budgets of working families. They just don’t care. Obama himself, when first running for president said that under his plans, energy costs to Americans “will necessarily skyrocket”. Again, why should he care? The taxpayers foot the bill for his extravagant lifestyle and every other expense he and his family have.

With all the talk of alternative ‘clean energy’ sources, you would think the technology has already been perfected and is able to solve all of our country’s energy needs. But the reality is that technology is still in its infant stages, as far as being able to provide what America requires. And reality has never been a strong point of the radical environmentalists. Like children, they live in a fantasy world that does not yet and may never exist. But, because they have the ears of Obama, Pelosi, Reid and the Gestapo-like dictators at the EPA, the rest of America must pay through the nose and fall on hard financial times, so that all of the eco-kooks can feel good about themselves. Is it November 4th yet?

Moving now to the topic of Ebola, this is another ‘crisis’ that brings the crazies out of the wood work. Is anyone really surprised that Nation of Islam leader Louis Farrakhan stated that the Ebola virus is a “race targeting bio weapon created by White people to kill off Blacks”. Perhaps, he doesn’t want to be out done in the race baiting business by Al Sharpton and Jesse Jackson and felt the need to say something even more moronic than what the other two were shouting during the Ferguson rioting. Or maybe, Farrakhan is stressing out because all the other radical Islamists are getting so much attention lately, as they behead reporters and slaughter women and children in Iraq and Syria. There was a full moon this week. Could this be one possible explanation for Farrakhan’s statements?

The Ebola virus is apparently very serious and it is deadly and has the potential to spread everywhere. While some countries are closing their borders to prevent the spread, our leaders refuse to do any such thing. In fact, Barack Obama sent 3,000 America soldiers to Africa; and into harm’s way, to the heart of the outbreak, to ‘fight the disease’. American generals are not happy about this and we’re guessing that neither are the troops being sent in. Our soldiers are trained to defend our country. They didn’t sign up for this. If and when they are exposed to this virus, will they return home in a contagious condition? It seems no one really knows the answer to that question, which is another reason America’s finest should not be used in this manner. The stated goal is to help stop the virus and to build 17 hospitals in Africa for this purpose. And yet, we are told by the UN that America is not doing enough, we need to do more. How’s that for gratitude?
Funding helps recipients “not have quick release and were joined by Sylvia Burwell calling for the bipartisan letter addressed to Health and Human Services Secretary both Democrats, signed onto a energy bills. Warren and Markey, Program), the funds help low-income home energy assistance funds. Known as LIHEAP (Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program), the funds help low-income households and seniors pay energy bills. Warren and Markey, both Democrats, signed onto a bipartisan letter addressed to Health and Human Services Secretary Sylvia Burwell calling for the quick release and were joined by 44 of their Senate colleagues. The funding helps recipients “not have to choose between paying their energy bills and paying for other necessities like food or medicine,” the letter added. The block grant program was first established in 1981. - G. Dumcius/SHNS MASS. GAS PRICES HIT LOW FOR 2014 Gas prices in Massachusetts have dropped to their lowest levels this year. AAA of Southern New England reported Monday that prices fell 6 cents per gallon over the past week, to an average of $3.32 per gallon. In February, the average gas price was $3.34. Prices are down 13 cents a gallon over the past month. A year ago this time, gas prices in Massachusetts averaged $3.43 per gallon. In a statement, AAA spokeswoman Mary Maguire said, “Oil prices have dipped to an 18-month low, and that’s pushed down prices at the pump.” The prices are falling as voters prepare to rule on a Nov. 4 ballot question repealing the state law that indexed the state’s gas tax to inflation. - M. Norton/SHNS UMASS BOSTON CELEBRATES 50 YEARS The University of Massachusetts Boston campus celebrated its founding 50 years ago with a ceremony full of pomp, circumstance, and local dignitaries held on the Boston Common Tuesday morning. University officials and state lawmakers, including former UMass President William Bulger, former state Senate President Robert Travaglini, and current UMass President Robert Caret, marched from the State House steps to the Common, where speakers described the “humble” beginnings of the urban campus in 1964 on the site of a former landfill and the transition to a campus where students “realize the American dream.” Protestors stood outside the ceremony, criticizing UMass officials for not supporting union employees. - C. Quinn/SHNS MBTA RESTORING WEEKEND COMMUTER RAIL SERVICE Weekend commuter rail service to points south of Boston that had lost it will be restored later this year, MassDOT announced Tuesday. Riders will be able to travel between Boston’s South Station and stops on the Plymouth/Kingston, and Greenbush Lines beginning Dec. 27, according to MassDOT. Saturday service on the Needham line will also be restored. The trains are set to run on timetables similar to schedules that were cut over two years ago after cost-saving measures and fare hikes brought on by a transportation reform law. “While we often must make difficult decisions in balancing the system we want and the system we can afford, I’m pleased that today we can once again provide weekend service to these communities,” MBTA General Manager Beverly Scott said in the statement. - M. Deehan/SHNS EMERGENCY ACTION CALLED FOR TO PROTECT COD The New England Fishery Management Council recommended an emergency action Wednesday to protect the stock of Gulf of Maine cod in the current fishing year, which ends May 1, 2015. Specifies of the plan to protect the species would be worked out by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and a final vote will not occur until a mid-November meeting in Newport, R.I., according to the NEFMC, which said the request for emergency action passed 14-3. “NOAA Fisheries must act to protect cod in the short term. But for cod to truly come back what’s needed is broader protection for the habitat they need to recover from chronic overfishing,” Pew Charitable Trusts Director of Northeast Oceans Peter Baker said in a statement.” Unfortunately, the council is still considering reductions in habitat protections, a move that would perpetuate failed policies of the past. The New England council should move promptly to ecosystem-based fisheries management in order to bring the best science into decisions about our ocean resources.” - A. Metzger/SHNS TAX COLLECTIONS NOT MEETING STATE BUDGET BENCHMARKS Massachusetts taxpayers paid
One of the most aggravating aspects of politics is the endless campaigning. The President is elected in 2012 and by 2013 opponents have already begun campaigns. Here in Massachusetts we have an election coming up in November, so the first week of October seems like the proper time to focus our attention on the issues. Along with individuals seeking office there are a couple of major questions.

Question three on whether to allow gambling is one of the major issues. The building of casinos and the accompanying infrastructure, such as roads and restaurants will create many jobs. A single mother might be able to provide for her children, plus begin to get ahead and stabilize. A construction worker might be able to get the job that funds his children through college, so that when they are adults they’ll have a career and not have to work out in the open.

These are great things. New development and construction are almost always good for society. Almost always. A nuclear reactor might provide cheaper energy, allowing people to save money but would you want one near you? Sure, there will be some that become financially secure and make their career as a result of the plant, but how many? Probably less than one tenth of one percent and most of them will move away from the reactor area, so as soon as they make enough money. The rest will have to stay and deal with whatever ill effects emanate from the reactor.

Proponents of question three are very cute and careful not to mention what the question actually is. Gambling, as in do you want state-sanctioned gambling? Figures of 3,000 construction jobs and 500 permanent jobs are tossed around, and they’re probably accurate and maybe even higher.

Very little talk is about Atlantic City and the catastrophe taking place there. In two years, 12 casinos have been closed with three more slated to by the end of this year. Five thousand of eight thousand workers are out of work and at 17% the unemployment is more than double the national average. Atlantic City is actually on a nice beach and the casinos are still dying. Does the “garden spot” of Everett have some hidden natural attraction?

What of all the young lives that are going to be ruined by prostitution and drugs that are always a byproduct of such endeavors? The alleged money the people will get for public benefit will be siphoned off with all the “acting deputy assistant supervisor” positions for all the connected siblings and in-laws.

And what about Question 2? Remember all the money the state would realize when they passed the bottle bill? The money came into the state’s coffers, but no one can say exactly how it was used. That was all before re-cycling eliminated the need for deposits, because bottles and cans are now picked up curbside with your trash. Yet politicians want to increase deposit charges funneling even more money into this untraceable fund used for their benefit.

If you want to take some control, it’s time to think no on question 2 and yes on question 3.

Take care till next week.
“People need to do what they need to do”. This is a quote attributed to a leading economist regarding the accelerating trend in population and economic growth in the United States. People and businesses, both large and small, have been fleeing the Northeast part of the country. They are just picking up roots and heading south and west. And one of the driving factors in this major shift is the higher taxes in states like Massachusetts and Connecticut and others. This is according to a just released survey and report by the Washington Examiner. But in addition to the negative economic impact this is having, it’s also resulting in a loss of political clout in Washington DC for the northeast region. The biggest impact comes in the form of congressional representation. As most know, while every state has two United States senators, the number of US House members depends on the population of a state as compared to other states.

The Northeast, once considered the political engine of the country that produced Presidents and Speakers of the House and influential US Senators has, since 1950, lost 40% of its house seats over that period and the trend shows no sign of letting up. Back then, the 11 state Northeast Region from Pennsylvania to Maine went from having 141 house members of congress to the current 85. Again, this trend is said to be caused in large part by ever rising taxes in the region.

While the rest of the country has grown by 41%, the northeast has had a paltry 15% growth on top of a steady flow leaving. According to surveys, the one exception to this is the state of New Hampshire, which keeps its taxes low and is considered business friendly.

So, where is it that people and businesses are going? Among the most popular destinations are the Carolinas, Texas, North and South Dakota and for the most part all other states in the country’s southern and western regions. The exception is California, which also shows a large number of exiting citizens and businesses, much of it do to its high taxation and over regulation. “The result of this is one of the most dramatic demographic shifts in America’s history. This migration is shifting the power center of America, right before our very eyes. The movement isn’t random or even about weather or resources. Economic freedom and lower taxes are the reasons and states ignore this force at their own peril” stated the Washington Examiner report”.

Many experts are convinced and have stated that unless the Northeast halts and reverses its steady increase in tax burdens it levies against its private citizens and businesses, the decline in political clout will likely continue well into the future leaving the region a mere shell of what it once was in regard to power and influence.

CONTINUED FROM page 4

$2.467 billion to the Department of Revenue in September, or 2.2 percent more than they did in September 2013. But three months into a fiscal year where lawmakers and Gov. Deval Patrick plan to spend $36.5 billion, tax collections are running $43 million below the benchmark used to build the annual spending plan. Receipts over the first three months of fiscal 2015 totaled $5.69 billion, $150 million or 2.7 percent more than during the first three months of fiscal 2014. Revenue department officials say some withholding payments anticipated in September were instead paid in August, and third quarter corporate and business estimated payments were below expectations. September collections fell $108 million below monthly benchmark. State officials estimate 20,000 taxpayers so far have participated in a tax amnesty program that enables them to pay up overdue taxes without incurring penalties. Amnesty collections total more than $13 million so far, with the amnesty period running through October 31. - M. Norton/SHNS
Celebrating the Columbus Day Weekend: A Bit of History and Fun

With the big Columbus Day weekend set to arrive, the South Boston Today staff did a bit of research on the celebration to share with some of our readers. While many places celebrate this holiday as an Italian American heritage and pride day, Americans of all ethnic backgrounds get into the spirit with parades, special church services, festivals and a wide variety of other events meant to honor the man who is said to have discovered the new world. Viking explorers were believed to have been here first, but Christopher Columbus is generally given the most credit for opening up the Western Hemisphere to the European countries of the 1400 and 1500’s for settlement and colonization. Braving treacherous Atlantic storms in what were by today’s standards, small and fragile wooden craft powered only by wind and oars, it took tremendous courage and determination to sail into the then unknown, as he did.

Today, Columbus Day is a public holiday in many parts of our country and is always celebrated on the second Monday of October and has been this way since 1971, giving many working folks that cherished long weekend. Many states require their public buildings and institutions to shut down for the day, so that people can attend the celebration of their choice. Schools in many areas are also closed for the day. The first statewide celebration was observed in 1907 in Colorado.

In 1937, Columbus Day became a holiday across the United States. In the Northeastern part of the United States; especially in our own New England states, the Columbus Day weekend is often a time to celebrate all things Italian, while combining the magnificent beauty of peak fall foliage season. Day and weekend trips are often taken by the entire family into the mountains of Maine, New Hampshire and Vermont and in the Berkshire area of Massachusetts to view the splendor of this colorful time of year. Freshly harvested pumpkins, Indian corn and the sweet smell of Apple cider add to the autumn atmosphere to give the weekend a uniqueness found only here.

When you combine the best that the Fall has to offer with the vibrant Italian American enthusiasm for their special day, it’s no wonder the Columbus Day weekend is among the most popular times of the year: “Avere una miragrivliosavacanza”. May everyone have a wonderful holiday.

Please Join the Collins Committee for a Countdown to Election Day Event

Wednesday, October 15
5:30–7:30pm
Cornerstone Pub and Restaurant
16 West Broadway
South Boston

Suggested donation: $25, $50, $100
Please make checks payable to:
The Committee to Elect Nick Collins
P.O. Box E-51
South Boston, MA 02127
or visit www.repnickcollins.com to make an online donation

Come enjoy great food and friends as we rally towards Election Day on November 4

Nick Collins
STATE REPRESENTATIVE
New Temporary Public Art for Fort Point Channel: Don Eyles’ PYR 2014

In 1998 Fort Point artist Don Eyles floated his first pyramid in Fort Point Channel, marking the water as a venue for art and opening the doors to the years of temporary public art installations to come. The installation was a bold move, made independently, and completely self-funded.

FPAC is pleased to announce that Don Eyles was selected to create a new floating sculpture, PYR 2014, for this fall’s Public Art Series in conjunction with the Fort Point Arts Community’s 35th Annual Open Studios. The launch of PYR 2014 also marks ten years of FPAC’s collaboration with Friends of Fort Point Channel on temporary public art in the Fort Point Channel. PYR 2014 will be approximately sixteen feet square at its base, and ten feet high. Built from polystyrene (EPS), the surface will be finished to resemble granite cobbles, the sculpture will float in the Art Basin (between Summer and Congress Street Bridges) October 12th through November 15th. The piece will then move south of the Summer Street Bridge.

Says Eyles, “Consider the history has passed along the cobbled streets of Boston — all the men and women, famous or unremembered, who have walked and rode here, crossed our bridges, gathered in our public spaces, imported and exported, bought and sold — always with granite cobblestones beneath their feet and wheels. I have long dreamed of making this history tangible, by constructing a great pyramid from the cobblestones uprooted by the City’s recent development. The first embodiment of this train of thought — on a modest scale — was the stone pyramid that I constructed in 1988 in the open area across from 249 A Street. It was built from over 1600 cobblestones borrowed from a pile that fortuitously appeared nearby.”

We look forward to the return of the newest version of Don Eyles’ iconic piece to the Fort Point Channel, and are working to extend the installation to last for up to five years, in varying locations along the southern end of Fort Point Channel.

Don Eyles has been a photographer and a builder since childhood, and a Fort Point artist for more than thirty years. Overlapping that period he worked on NASA projects at a MIT laboratory. He does not see a hard line between art and engineering, and that is evident in much of his art. As a photographer he exhaustively documented Boston’s biggest construction project, the Big Dig. His floating sculptures follow the procedures of a space mission: first a long period of design and then fabrication, then the launch (at a moment determined by the movement of the Moon and the tides it produces), and then the “mission,” a period of unknown length, filled with unknown vicissitudes. It is the entire process, not just the physical object that results, that interests this artist.
PYR 2014 was selected by a jury made up of arts professionals, artists, and community members.

This year’s jurors were:

Louis DiBiccari Chef-owner of Tavern Road and TR Street Foods, and the founder of CREATE, a project which bridges the gap between visual and culinary arts in the city of Boston and helps foster visibility for the city’s arts community.

Lisa Knox An FPAC member artist and educator, Lisa is also the founder of Fort Point Studio School, specializing in workshops for artists and educators developing their creative potential.

Karin Goodfellow has a background in visual arts, museum education, community outreach, and project management. As Director of the Boston Art Commission for the City of Boston, she oversees both temporary and permanent public art projects in addition to educational and informational programming.

Meredyth Moses is the founder and former director of Clark Gallery in Lincoln MA. Meredyth is also an independent curator and art consultant, and a new resident of Fort Point.

Danielle Pillion has been the Executive Director of the Friends of Fort Point Channel since 2009, engaged in activating Fort Point Channel as a year-round destination. She has worked with FPAC on floating art in the Fort Point Channel for the past 5 years. Danielle also serves on the board of the Fort Point Arts Community.

Fort Point Art Community’s 2014 Floating Art Series is made possible by the generous support of Friends of Fort Point Channel and the Fort Point Operation Board.

Friends of Fort Point Channel is a nonprofit organization committed to making the Fort Point Channel an exciting and welcoming destination for all of Boston’s residents, workforce and visitors. Friends of Fort Point Channel has partnered with The Fort Point Arts Community for the past ten years to activate the Fort Point Channel with temporary displays of public art.

The Fort Point Channel Operations Board supports FPAC’s public art series with funds from the Chapter 91 Waterways Regulations License #11419 for Russia Wharf; now Atlantic Wharf. The Fort Point Channel Operations Board is made up of representatives from the City of Boston, the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs, and the Fort Point Channel Abutters Group, who oversee the implementation of public benefits required from private development along the Fort Point Channel.

You can follow the progress of PYR 2014 on a tumblr page: Photographer and FPAC member Denise Bosco is documenting the piece as it takes shape: http://pyr2014.tumblr.com

Call for Entries

South Boston Studio Artists

Be a part of the next Greater Boston Community Art Exhibition. Our rotating schedule of community art exhibits has become very popular for thousands of people attending conventions in Boston. We offer you a chance to showcase your art for four months of unsurpassed exposure to international, national and local viewers.

The Exhibition
The MCMA Art Program at the
Boston Convention & Exhibition Center
415 Summer Street, Boston, MA 02210

Deadline for Entries
November 2, 2014

Exhibition Dates
November 20 - March 2014

How to Apply
Send 46 jpeg, resume & bio to
Stephanie Dvareckas, MCCA Art Program Coordinator:
artprogram@massconvention.com

Facebook: /MassConvention
Twitter: @MassConvention
MassConvention.com
### Recent South Boston Real Estate Sales

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Can you believe we are halfway through the regular season? Weather wasn’t too bad this weekend. It was good for the Sunday games. It’s getting a little cooler now. Hopefully the weather stays good till the end of the season (wishful thinking).

REMINdERS:
# NO SMOKING/NO DOGS ON SIDELINES OR FIELD/SMOKE OUTSIDE STADIUM #

COACHES: Remember it is important to turn in score sheets by Monday morning at the latest.

PARENTS: All parents should be on one side of the field and the players on the opposite side. Please remember that all players (no matter what age) and coaches must turn in a concussion certificate. In order to receive your certificate you can logon to: http://www.cdc.gov/concussion/headsup/training/headsup concussion.html.

For children ages 3 to 10 years old you can access another site: http://brain101.orcasinc/5000/.com.

It is mandatory for any youth who are involved in activities on City of Boston properties to take the class. So please make sure you go to this website.

SNACK BAR: Please patronize the snack bar.

RE-CAP:
UNDER 4 DIVISION:
THE SHARKS MASSPORT
The Sharks sponsored by Congressman Stephen Lynch played an awesome game. Mason Lane and Claire Shields each kicked in a goal. Luke and Patrick did a super job sharing the goaltending duties. Hannah played an awesome offensive game and Emerson was dazzling on defense. The Massport team did a terrific job. All the players were great.

JIM CAHILL CLUB SULLIVAN’S
The Jim Cahill Club beat out their opponent with six goals by Liam Long and single goals by Gianna Tassi and Lukas Amado. Michael Hughes did a great job manning the net and Campbell Welsh and John Maximillian Olevtiz was superb on defense. The team sponsored by Sullivan’s played a fabulous game. At the time of print no score sheets were available for the teams sponsored by John Hancock Insurance, Councilor Bill Linehan, P.A.L., and South Boston Today.

UNDER 6 DIVISION:
GREEN FLASH MCDONUGH POST
The Green Flash sponsored by J.F. O’Brien & Sons beat out their opponent with two goals each by Grant Sullivan and Zion Sequeira along with single goals by Drew Dirstein and Estelle Corbitt. Joe Wallace, Maddie Minucci, Cameron Stevens, Tess Dirstein, Jack Kane and Gigi Rouf played an excellent game. The team sponsored by the McDonough Post Women’s Auxiliary played an all-around great game.

At the time of print no score sheets were available for the teams sponsored by City Councilor Mike Flaherty, Boston’s Firefighters Credit Union, Metro Energy and Mt. Washington Bank

UNDER 8 DIVISION:
LUCKY CLOVERS PANTHERS
The Lucky Clovers sponsored by Boston Home Inspectors played to a tie with single goals by Kate Greene and Jahloni George. All the players turned in an awesome performance. At the time of print no score sheets were turned in for the teams sponsored by Donahue & Associates, Joe Pace & Sons and Billy Flaherty’s Gang.

UNDER 10 DIVISION:
LEMONHEADS 5 O’CONNELL INSURANCE 0
The Lemonheads sponsored by Stapleton Florist was back on the winning track with Patrick Harman scoring a pair of goals, and one goal each by Eddie Tirabassi, Christian Sintron and Jerry O’Neil. Ethan Long, Thomas Harman, Deven Dunlap, Jarrod Williams, Megan Harrison, Molly Keenan, Molly Walsh, Madison Anastas and Nicholas Jacobs played an all-around great game.

SHARKS 2 STINGERS 2
The Sharks sponsored by Eastern Bank tied this week after winning the previous three games. It was a great game by both teams and

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This article is picking up where last week’s left off. For those of you who missed it, I will quickly try to summarize what was shared. I had been a fairly successful (played in college, won individual awards, etc…) goalie in the past but was now struggling to make saves on a very young and athletic team. I had lost my way in the net and decided a goaltender camp just might help me find my game again. This series of articles details my camp experience.

On a bright sunny Friday morning in July, I left my hotel and jumped into my SUV for the short drive to the rink where Mitch Korn’s Goaltender camp was being held. Performing those two simple actions alone set me apart from the others as most of the goaltenders lived in the area and were not of legal driving age. I was also about to start a camp that was designed to assist those goalies who were on their way up in the ranks but here I was just trying to hang on.

From the moment I carried my goalie equipment into the “Grand Pavilion” ice rink I could feel the eyes upon me. Although I was another goalie looking to improve my game, the difference in age had me feeling like an outsider. Brushing that thought aside, I took my seat among the youthful goalies and awaited further instructions.

Mitch then called the room to order and delivered an inspirational and sometimes humorous opening speech. He told us what it was like to play goalie as one of the very few Jewish goaltenders in the Brooklyn, New York area. He then shared his experience as a goalie coach at the University of Miami (Ohio) and told us how he got his big break when the Buffalo Sabres came calling. He finished by reminding each goalie about how fortunate they were to be playing such an expensive position. He said “you probably have brothers and sisters who are getting less just so you can play goalie and attend this camp.” He had each goalie turn and thank their parents for not only their financial backing but also for their time commitment. This hit home with all of the parents in the room and they certainly appreciated the coach pointing it out.

Once the speech ended and the applause concluded, the next order of business was taking attendance. Mitch makes this a fun time for everyone as he usually will call out your name and ask you a couple of questions. He does this to start the
process of remembering everyone’s name. At times, he even assigns you a camp nickname. ‘Goldberg the Goalie, Benny and the Jets Smith, Sweet Caroline Jones’ are just a few of the names he assigned. When he got to my name, I raised my hand and said “right here.” My adult voice alone drew attention. Many of the goalies turned and looked at me and I’m sure were thinking, “what is he doing here.” The parents (I was older than most of them) who lined the perimeter of the room looked on with approval. I’m quite sure many of them wondered if I would be able to keep up with this youthful and energetic group. Mitch said, “Welcome Mark. You’ll be in group five.” He didn’t assign me a nickname but as the camp went on I would hear his thoughts about my game and work ethic. He called out forty-four names who were all here for the same reason, to become better goalies by learning from one of the best in the business.

Once roll call was complete, Mitch instructed us to make our way to the “classroom” for a one hour off-ice session. The Grand Pavilion doesn’t have a meeting room big enough to house all of us so one of the lockers doubles as our classroom. We file into the space and take a seat. Mitch, who is standing at the front of the class, tells us that we will spend about an hour covering the different butterfly saves. This is news to me as I thought there is just one - drop to your knees and angle your legs out to the sides, almost frog like. He then demonstrates the half butterfly, the full butterfly, the rebound control butterfly, the blocking butterfly, extended butterfly, and the lateral step butterfly. Within an hour I can already see how these new techniques will help me improve my game. Mitch drills home the point about choosing the proper technique to make the save. He tells us we need to read the play and in an instant know which save technique to use. We conclude the session by watching a video of NHL goalies under pressure but quickly selecting the save that keeps the puck out of the net. I’m already pumped up and looking forward to getting on the ice.

We then head to our prospective locker rooms to get dressed for our first on ice session. Each one of us is assigned to a group of four goalies which is based on age and ability. I’m with two teenagers and one other adult goalie who hails from New York City. I quickly make friends with him as I know he will be my partner in the drills where we need to pair up.

We hit the ice and begin stretching out. I’m full of energy and know this is going to be a great day. Before you know it we are called upon to use each of those butterfly saves in drills. Pucks are flying at me and I’m holding my own while using my quickness and athleticism to push myself through each drill. The day ends with a story about Dominick Hasek. Mitch tells us about the first time he realized Hasek was going to be a great goalie. The Sabres were doing three on two drills and Hasek was in the net. His teammate, Donald Audet, was standing in the corner waiting for his turn in the drill. Audet decides he’s going to fire one past Hasek when his back is turned. Hasek, who had a competitive battle going on with the Frenchman, is aware of his presence in the corner. With the next drill in progress, Audet fires the puck behind Hasek and it’s heading towards the top corner of the net. Hasek turns and bats it away with the paddle of his stick and then turns towards the oncoming three on two rush and makes that save too. Korn knew right there and then that Hasek was going to be something special. We all wanted to make saves like Hasek too and eagerly anticipated what day two of the camp was going to throw at us.

This four part series will continue here in South Boston Today next week with days two and three of the camp. I really hope you come along for the ride as it was a good one. Until next week, stay healthy and keep skating!

In closing, I learned of Jay Lebedew’s passing just after I submitted last week’s article. My thoughts are with his family and friends at this most difficult time. Jay and I were teammates on the South Boston Marshalls traveling street hockey team and he was always one of my favorites. I have played with many players over the years and although they have been great teammates, I can’t really recall learning anything from them that I would use in situations throughout my goalie career. Jay, on the other hand, taught me a couple of things which have stayed with me over the years. Both “lessons” occurred during one game where he took over my position and played goalie. I was helping him put on the equipment and noticed that he had tied the plastic Myleec goalie pads to his legs in a way that put the bottoms of the pads dragging on the ground. He said, “Yeah, I have them on this way so the low shots can’t slip by me.”

Nice, I had been wearing these pads for years and always put them on the same way. The next lesson Jay taught me was a dandy. We were trailing by a goal and had pulled him out of the net for an extra attacker. While we were pressuring deep in their zone, the ball had come loose and one of their players had a step on our guy and was about to deposit the ball into our net. Well, Jay sees this and quickly decides he is going to stop him. He jumps off the bench and slides in front of the shooter to make a spectacular save. The only problem is he is now the seventh player on the court – we have too many men. The referees catch on and declare a penalty shot (the rule has since changed). Jay of course makes the save and we continue on. I asked him about the play afterward and he said, “Hey, what did we have to lose? The game was over if they scored.” Awesome!

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the opposing goalie, Dylan Picard played awesome. Henry Pulake and Stephen Flynn both scored a goal for the Sharks and both provided steady offensive pressure all game. The Sharks goalie rotation was great as usual, which included Zach DeMichele, Jared Fritan, Pat Steele and Aidan Garcia. The Sharks displayed great teamwork this week and was the best overall game played all season. The defense communicated very well and Finn McCusker and Pat Steele were awesome and both made great defensive plays. Also, Mia Brown, Mia DeMichele, Trevor Pyne, Kathryn Baszkiewicz all played a great defensive game. Bella Thomas, Brenna Hynes, Nolan Baszkiewicz, Nolan Young, Chris Yebba and Zach DeMichele all played a great two-way game as the Sharks midfielders. The Sharks displayed great passing and unselfish teamwork. Great job. At the time of print no score sheets were available for the teams sponsored by Michael J. Perkins A.L. Post #67 and O’Connell Insurance.

UNDER 12 DIVISION:

EAGLES 4
CHIPOTLE 2

The Eagles sponsored by South Boston Dental Associates beat out their opponent with Chris Fitzgerald and Drew Garcia each scoring a pair of goals. Brianna Bulkley and Owen Leahey turned in a stellar performance. Special thanks for the Massport team for loaning us some of their players so that we could all play.

BLUE PANTHERS 2
SHARKS 2

The Panthers sponsored by Abacus Builders played to a tie with Kristian Dhamo scoring both goals for the team. Owen Anastas, Aidan Young, Madison Kennedy and Jake Harrison played a great two-way game. Great skill and sportsmanship by all the players. The teams sponsored by Massport and Salsas did not have score sheets turned in at the time of print.

UNDER 18 DIVISION:

At the time of print no score sheets were available for the teams sponsored by Iron Workers Local #7, Massport, Yankee Bus Line and Deco Leasing.
DANNY PICARD: The Johnny Boychuk trade surprised me. Even though we had heard his name in trade rumors recently, I just thought we were to the point where, now that they signed Smith and Krug, if there was any trade, it would maybe be a smaller move than this. But they end up trading Boychuk to the New York Islanders and get the $3-plus million off the books in return for a couple draft picks.

What was your reaction to this deal?

BRIAN MCGONAGLE: Originally, upon first glance, I was a little underwhelmed. You see draft picks that are probably going to be somewhere in the middle of the second round. The third conditional pick might not even show up, they might not even get that. But then you kind of look at it a little further, and you realize that the other GM’s had Peter Chiarelli by the short and curleys. He really didn’t have much wiggle room. And also, teams know that by dealing with the Bruins, they’re going to kind of help them out. And other teams don’t necessarily want to do that. So I think he had to do the best he could in the situation he had. And after Garth Snow’s Thomas Vanek debacle last year, Chiarelli was able to get a couple of picks out of Snow, it makes you wonder what kind of offers were out there from other GM’s. I don’t know that they would have been as good. It’s basically a straight salary dump. They needed to dump his money. They knew that they weren’t going to be able to sign him at the end of the year. I know people say the money could have worked, or that they should have traded this guy or should have traded that guy, but if teams don’t want to take other guys back in trades then you can’t trade them. People forget that I think. It’s not as easy as just trading a guy. You need to make it work, and a lot of teams might not want to take on a good player for $1.5 million when they have a minor leaguer who can do the same thing for a third of the money. Or they might not want Chris Kelly for $3 million. So if other teams don’t want these guys, then they’re not going to get them and in turn help the Bruins. So it’s a tough day. He was a great soldier, great Bruin. I think also, he is a top-four defenseman, but he’s not irreplaceable. It’s not like they lost Chara or Seidenberg. It’s not the end of the world. It’s still October. There’s still plenty of time to tinker with this team.

DP: There is time to tinker with this team, but let’s be honest, the Bruins got worse with this trade tonight. And I guess that’s where I get into, sure, they can sit here and talk salary cap implications all they want, but they didn’t have to trade Boychuk right now. Let’s say they couldn’t trade any of those smaller pieces, because like you said, teams know the Bruins are strapped against the cap and they know they might have the leverage on them. But the Bruins didn’t have to make this move right now.

BM: Probably not, but I’m speculating that, with the season starting Wednesday, if they were going to do it, do it now, get it over with, don’t do it once the season starts. Because then maybe you disrupt the room, disrupt the team a little. I think they kind of just want to go into the season with what they have right now. I think it was just a case of, “If we’re going to do it, let’s just get it done.” So the guys in the room know that’s who’s on the team and that’s who they’re going to start the year with, rather than waiting two weeks or a month and then doing it. I think it would be more of a bigger deal then, as opposed to doing it before the season.

DP: I would have held onto Boychuk, and I would have tried to make that smaller move. And you still would have been playing hockey this year. Sure, you would have been up against the cap, but you still could have played and put your best team on the ice. I want to see this this team go for it this year. So I would have held onto him and let him walk at the end of the season. But I guess I’ll ask you this: Do you think that Chiarelli is setting himself up for another move? Is that really the major reason he made this trade?

BM: He kind of alluded to that in his press conference, that there could be something down the line. Personally, I think he’ll probably keep that money, like he referred to it as flexibility. I think he might even hang onto that up until the trade deadline. That’s kind of been their M.O. the last few years. Obviously it hasn’t always worked out, getting a player at the trade deadline. But they might be holding onto that money in case they do want to add something at the deadline. And of course, that player would be a lot cheaper at the deadline because three-quarters of that player’s salary would be paid as well. Yeah, it’s frustrating because they definitely are a worse team than they were yesterday. And you do want to see what the method to the madness is here. Chiarelli is pretty deliberate, he always kind of has a plan. And you just have to remind people, it’s still only October. It’s a top-four defenseman, but it wasn’t their top-two defenseman. Whoever they
replace him with, we’ll see what they do. They might not miss a beat, or it might be a huge hole. The guys they have are pretty quality defensemen. Again, I didn’t like to see Boychuk go, but I think the writing was on the wall. He was a good soldier here, all that stuff, but it’s the reality of the NHL. You can blame Chiarelli in a sense that, if they didn’t have Chris Kelly signed -- not many people complained about that Kelly deal when they signed it -- but again, it’s not as easy as just dumping a guy. I just don’t want people to write anything off. He was a key player, an important player, but he wasn’t a perennial All-Star or a Norris Trophy candidate. He was a good, solid top-four defenseman. And it sucks to see him go, but it’s not the end of the world here. People get emotionally attached, but it’s the business, it’s the way it is. You’d think people would get used to it, but they never do.

DP: How are you feeling about the Bruins’ offense going into the season?

L: Look, I love the fact that Julien is used to it, but they never do.

BM: Yeah, I don’t think the offense is going to be a problem at all, to be honest with you. I know Iginla did score 30 goals and led the team in playoff goals, but frankly, I don’t think he was that great in the playoffs. I wrote the same when it happened. He wasn’t a pedestrian, but he wasn’t too much above average. He didn’t dominate. We knew he wasn’t the same Iginla when we brought him in. He got that crazy money in Colorado. I don’t blame him for taking that. But I think Loui Eriksson got a raw deal last year with back-to-back concessions, and the fans just beat him up because they had traded the pretty boy Tyler Seguin away, and everyone looked at Loui as his replacement, and not realizing that the Bruins got four guys for Seguin and not just Loui. So I think he had that going against him. And then he got a cheap-shot concussion, and he came back, and then he got another one right away. You can’t expect a guy to come in and just play and be a good player after a situation like that. He lost his position on the second line with Bergeron and Marchand. I think he’s going to be fine on the top line. I remember late last year when they rested Iginla for the playoffs, and Loui was great skating with those two guys. I know they haven’t got the chemistry yet. He’s a talented guy. I think he’ll be fine up there.

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CONTINUED from front page

Incidentally, the Massport land designated to be swapped is currently the site where the Pappas Properties are located. If that is so, does anyone get the distinct impression that there is a line of industrial property demarcation being established that is beginning to feel like a barrier between the residences of South Boston and the Waterfront?

Whether real or imagined, the actions of the government and quasi-government agencies doing business here seem determined to do whatever they please. They are banking on the fact that the local residents are either too pre-occupied, disinterested in or weary from the decades long assault on this neighborhood, which has tried to preserve a middle class way of life for their progeny.

Whatever the outcome, the impact on South Boston, even though South Station is a little over 2 miles away, is significant. It is yet another urban amenity, elevating the value of every square inch of property in the peninsula from South Station to Castle Island to Columbia Point.

Using a metaphor that harkens back to the early settlers, it is fair to say that there are only so many home grown soldiers left in South Boston to circle the wagons and defend the community. South Boston needs fresh troops from among those new residents, who are concerned about the ‘manhattanizing’ of their neighborhood. Short of that, it may just be that the smart move is to take charge of the future and actively support and help shape the inevitable. Something about South Bostonians suggests that in either case they are prepared to do battle.
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